

SICILY, ITALY

Enjoy Sicily's rich culture, scenery and delicious culinary traditions

DATES: April 11-17, 2026 PRICE: \$7250.00 US PP*

Questions?

Contact Karen Alvey
Joanne Weir Culinary Tours
Mobile: 1.415.503.8791
journeys@joanneweir.com



WHERE YOU WILL STAY

Our journey begins at a stunning private villa in the Catania Region, on the eastern coast, where the slopes of Mount Etna overlook the Ionian Sea. Perched on a hill with a stunningly panoramic position on Sicily's east coast, Rocca delle Tre Contrade features uninterrupted 360-degree views of the sparkling Ionian Sea to one side and the fertile flanks and lava peak of Mount Etna to the other.

This former aristocratic estate features a vivid green landscape lush with lemon groves, fruit orchards, and vegetable gardens. Mother Nature's magnificence is rivaled only by the spectacular 25-meter, south-facing infinity pool and the delightful interiors, which have been renovated and refurbished to exacting standards. We'll dine al fresco on panoramic terraces surrounded by luscious gardens. The views are bewitching, no matter where you look!

Situated near the town of Santa Venerina between Taormina and Catania on the east coast of Sicily, this is the perfect home base to explore all of the hidden gems in the region.





DAY TRIPS & EXCURSIONS

Sicily's finest: Wine, markets, and more!

We won't have to go far to explore some of Sicily's best, and everywhere you turn, there are streets filled with color, history, and breathtaking scenery.

While I don't want to spoil the surprises in our trip itinerary, we'll take scenic drives, taste fabulous Sicilian wines, and visit the famous fish markets in Catania. Then we'll cross the bridge to the tiny island of Ortigia, where we'll find historic architecture, fabulous



food, and tranquil, turquoise waves. We'll join our guide for a walk through the street markets and meet street vendors serving outstanding local specialties like arancini and cannoli.

With Mt. Etna and her peaks' wisps of smoke beckoning from the terraces of our villa, we'll answer her call and walk along a path that makes you feel like you're on top of the world. Afterward, indulge in exceptional wine pairings, featuring the island's flagship red, Nero d'Avola, and exquisite wines from Mount Etna. Discover how Sicily's diverse wines enhance its fantastic local cuisine, creating a paradise for wine lovers.

COOKING CLASSES

Create Sicily's diverse and delicious dishes.

Embark on a culinary journey celebrating the rich tapestry of Sicilian cuisine, influenced by Mediterranean cultures. Experience hands-on cooking classes with expert chefs, mastering dishes like Eggplant Caponata, Arancini, and Pasta alla Norma. Plus, learn to make cannolis from scratch using a traditional family recipe.

Throughout the week, we'll take advantage of Sicily's mild climate and savor our meals al fresco on our lovely terrace, with local wines, of course!





TRIP DETAILS

The price for this tour is \$7250.00 US per person*, based on double occupancy. A deposit of \$2000.00 US per person is required to register for this tour. Limited single-occupancy rooms are available, and a single supplement charge of \$2000.00 US applies for solo travelers. Please read the <u>Tour Terms and Conditions</u> for details.

We strongly recommend trip insurance. Policies vary, so be sure to review the details and make sure that they suit your needs.

Included:

- Limited group size and thoughtfully curated itinerary
- Meals- breakfast, lunch, and dinner with wine
- Luxurious accommodations in a private villa
- Hands-on and demonstration cooking classes and tastings
- Excursions and day trips with knowledgeable and friendly multilingual guides
- Private coach transportation during the tour
- Group transfer from Catania Airport to our home for the week at approximately 4:00pm on day one.
- Group transfer to Catania Airport on the morning of the final day



SAMPLE ITINERARY

DAY 1: Welcome to Sicily

Take the group transfer from Catania Airport to the property, followed by a welcome reception and Sicilian-style dinner prepared by the resident Chef, Dora, and her team.

DAY 2: Master the art of delicious Sicilian specialties

Savor a breakfast buffet at home and prepare for immersion into Sicilian cooking. Join Joanne in the kitchen to learn how to prepare sumptuous dishes. Enjoy lunch al fresco and spend the afternoon relaxing or exploring the property. Return in time to finish assembling supper together and toast with a glass or two at sunset.

DAY 3: Flavors and Views in Ortigia

Start with breakfast before an excursion to the stunning seaside! Join our local guide for a walking tour on this tiny island and discover spectacular architecture and Sicilian delicacies. Lunch is an immersive experience, as you meet local culinary artisans and sample their fare. Return home in time for a hands-on lesson in cooking and dinner.

DAY 4: Excursion to Historic Catania

Fuel up with breakfast and take a leisurely ride into historic Catania. Meet our knowledgeable guide and discover the rich history of this diverse city. Stroll through Catania's famed fish market and savor lunch at a renowned trattoria. This full-day outing concludes with dinner at home prepared by Chef Dora and her team.

DAY 5: Stunning Mt. Etna and Wine!!

After breakfast, it's off to Mt. Etna. Follow our guide on a moderate exploration (weather permitting) and prepare to be astounded by the vastness of this volcano. Quench your thirst at one of the area's finest wineries and enjoy an exclusive tasting and lunch. Return home in time to unwind and meet in the kitchen for a fun hands-on cooking class. Toast your fellow travelers as you relish in your creations.

DAY 6: Free Time and Farewell Celebration

We'll make the most of our last full day with free time to unwind at our villa, lounge by the pool. If you are hungry for more, take an optional visit to Taormina, where stunning views await! Return home in time to relax and enjoy our time before a celebratory dinner at home with surprises!

DAY 7: Departure

Enjoy breakfast before the morning group transfer back to Catania Airport, concluding your Sicilian adventure.

*sample- for planning purposes only.