The Kingdom of the Two Sicilies

Featuring Naples (3 nights), Maratea (1 night), Tropea (2 nights), Catania (2 nights), Palermo (2 nights) with visits to Caserta, Reggio Calabria, Castelbuono, and Cefalù

INCLUDED FEATURES

- Ten nights' accommodation in centrally located hotels
- Private car/van transfer Naples Airport/Naples hotel and departure transfer Palermo Hotel/Palermo Airport
- Daily buffet breakfast, hotel service charges, taxes
- 2 hour morning tour of Naples with English speaking guide/lecturer including a visit of the San Severo Chapel famous for "the Veiled Christ"
- Private car / van excursion from Naples to Bourbon Caserta to visit the Reggia di Caserta Royal Palace, with its formal Italian Gardens and Water Park
- DOP mozzarella tasting, lunch with wine in Casertavecchia
- Private car / van transfer Naples Hotel-Naples Rail Station and Maratea Rail Station-Maratea Hotel
- 1st class rail Naples to Maratea
- Two hour private guided walking tour of Maratea
- Private car/van transfer Maratea to Tropea
- Two hour private guided walking tour of Tropea with Castle visit
- Private car/van transfer Tropea Reggio Calabria-Catania
- Two hour private guided walking tour of Reggio Calabria including entrance fee to the Magna Graecia Museum to admire the famous twin statues "Bronzi di Riace"
- Two hour private walking tour of Catania including entrance fee to Sant'Agata Cathedral
- Private car/van transfer Catania Castelbuono -Cefalu' - Palermo
- Winery visit, wine tasting with lunch at the Relais Santa Anastasia Winery in Castelbuono
- Three hour private walking tour of Palermo with visits of the Ballaro' Market and the Cathedral
- Street food tastings in Palermo

Our Hotels

First Class Package

Naples Grand Hotel Santa Lucia ****

Maratea Locanda delle Donne Monache Hotel ****

Tropea Hotel Tropis****

Catania Palazzo Marletta Hotel****

Hotel Mercure Palermo Centro ****

Or similar

The Kingdom of the two Sicilies was located in Southern Italy from 1734 to 1860. It was the largest, most populous, and wealthiest of the Italian states prior to the unification of Italy. Nearly half of the world's Italians - in Italy and dispersed around the world, trace their roots to the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. The last dynasty to rule Sicily and almost half of the Italian peninsula as a sovereign kingdom is a branch of the royal houses of France and Spain. Come join us on this unique adventure of discovery!

DAY 1 | NAPLES

Private car/van arrival transfer with English speaking driver Naples Airport to your centrally located Naples hotel. Check in and room assignment. Time to relax and adjust to the time difference before starting your self-oriented exploration of the capital of the Campania Region, and former first capital of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, with its Greek Birth and Roman origins. The city of Naples is the third largest city of the country and its port as one of the most active in the Mediterranean Sea.

DAY 2 | NAPLES

Breakfast

Buffet breakfast at hotel and depart for a private guided walking tour of the historical center. We will discover the charm, history and traditions of this wonderful city: the Santa Lucia waterfront, the famous Piazza del Plebiscito with the Royal Palace, the Galleria Umberto, the San Carlo Opera House, the "Centro Storico", a picturesque area in the heart of Naples known for its artisan shops and the Convent of San Gregorio, one of the most important Baroque complexes in Italy. Visit San Severo Chapel to admire the "Veiled Christ", considered one of the world's most remarkable sculptures, and legendarily thought to have been created by alchemy. A life –sized marble statue, representing Jesus Christ covered in a transparent shroud carved from the same block as the statue. Afternoon is at leisure to continue your discovery at your own pace.

DAY 3 | NAPLES - CASERTA - NAPLES

Breakfast | DOP Mozzarella Lunch

Buffet breakfast at hotel and depart for a full day private car/van service to Caserta. Enjoy a private two hour walking tour of the majestic Reggia di Caserta, the Royal Palace with its formal Italian Gardens and Water Park, a mini version of the Palace at Versailles. Afterwards for your pleasure we have arranged a delightful lunch in the old section of the city, Casertavecchia, with DOP mozzarella cheese tasting, local specialties paired with wines and dessert. After this delightful venue, enjoy some time for a quick stroll in the village center before returning to Naples.

DAY 4 | NAPLES - MARATEA

Breakfast

Buffet breakfast at hotel and check out. Private car/van transfer to Naples Centrale Rail Station, Board your train for your two hour journey to Maratea, a charming resort town situated on the Gulf of Policastro, affectionately called "The Pearl of the Tyrrhenian Coast". Upon arrival, private car/van transfer to your centrally located hotel for check in and room assignment. In the afternoon, take part in a private guided walking tour starting from the highest part of the city, Mount San Biagio. Here you can admire the Statue of Christ the Redeemer in all its beauty, a symbol not only of the city, but of the whole Region of Basilicata. The statue of Maratea is 21 meters tall, with a 19-meter arm and a face measuring 3 meters. The statue was made of reinforced concrete covered with a mixture of white cement and Carrara marble, and was created by the artist Bruno Innocenti in 1965. After admiring the statue, your tour continues to the nearby Basilica of San Biagio, patron saint of the town. Popular tradition has it that this church was re-purposed to adapt to the Christian cult. The most important work you will discover in the interior is a fresco of the 15th century which portrays the Madonna with Child, commonly called Madonna of the Pomegranate. The tour then continues through the medieval center, complete with ancient houses, old arches, narrow lanes and small stone paved squares.

Palermo

Our Rates

Pricing Per Person, based on Double Occ.

Party Size	First Class
2	\$3,899.00
3	\$3,099.00
4	\$2,949.00
6	\$2,649.00
8	\$2,499.00
Single Supp.	\$3,500.00

Validity:

April 1, 2021- October 31, 2021

Larger parties welcome, contact us for a price quote





DAY 5 | MARATEA - TROPEA

Breakfast

Buffet breakfast at hotel and check out. Depart by private car/van to Tropea, Calabria, considered one of the most beautiful towns in the area. Local myth claims that it was founded by Hercules, who reached these shores from Spain. Other sources say it was settled by Scipio Africanus on his way back to Rome after having defeated Carthage. In reality, the town bears Roman, Byzantine, Norman, Suevian, Angevin and Aragonese traces. Calabria is at the toe of the boot, the extreme south of Italy - lapped by the splendid crystal blue Ionian and Tyrrhenian Seas and separated from Sicily by the Strait of Messina. The rocky coasts alternate with sandy beaches and picturesque villages dot the countryside. Calabria is also the cradle of Magna Graecia and land of ancient settlements. Check in and room assignment at your centrally located hotel. Time to relax before taking part in a private two hour walking tour with the Norman Cathedral, the most suggestive panoramic points, the Church of Santa Maria dell'Isola, and historical center with sweeping panoramic sea views.

DAY 6 | TROPEA

Breakfast

Buffet breakfast at hotel and enjoy a full day at leisure to relax at the beach of Tropea or pamper yourself at the hotel's pool with Finnish sauna, bio sauna, hammam, aromarium, ice fall, salt wall and emotional showers. We can also arrange optional visits to nearby towns or a boat excursion to the Aeolian Islands.

DAY 7 | TROPEA - REGGIO CALABRIA - CATANIA

Breakfast

Buffet breakfast at hotel and check out. Private car/van transfer to Reggio Calabria on the southern tip of the Italian peninsula. Reggio is the place where, some 3500 years ago, the name "Italy" was first used. It had been inhabited by several Ausonian-Italic people before the Greeks settled here in around 743 BC. Rhégion was a Polis of Magna Graecia and an important maritime, commercial and cultural center. Stop for a private guided walking tour including the Museum of Magna Graecia to admire the famous twin Bronze Statues of Riace, full sized Greek Bronzes of naked bearded warriors cast about 460-450 BC discovered at the bottom of the sea near Riace. Following the visit, proceed to the Straights of Messina for a ferry crossing to the Island of Sicily. Disembark in Messina and proceed to your final destination, Catania. Check in and room assignment. Time to relax and unwind. Overnight at hotel.

DAY 8 | CATANIA

Breakfast

Buffet breakfast at hotel followed by a two hour private walking tour of Baroque Catania. Stroll the city center with your professional guide who will fascinate you with the city's history. Your guide will point out monuments built centuries ago that are still standing to this day. Many of the structures you will witness date back to the Greek colonization of the city from the 8th-century B.C. Your tour will include Piazza Duomo, Pescheria, Castello Ursino, Piazza San Francesco, Via Teatro Greco, Piazza Dante, Via Gesuiti, the Scalinata Alessi, Piazza Università, the Bellini Opera House, Piazza San Placido, Sant'Agata Cathedral and the Via Etnea. Balance of the day is at leisure to continue your self-exploration of this vibrant city, or enjoy an optional excursion to Mt. Etna, the tallest most active volcano in Europe. Overnight.

DAY 9 | CATANIA - CASTELBUONO - CEFALÙ - PALERMO

Breakfastt \(\frac{1}{2} \) Wine Tasting | Lunch

Buffet breakfast at hotel and check out. Private car/van transfer to the second capital of the Two Sicilies, Palermo. We travel along the island's northern coast and stop at the picturesque village of Castelbuono. Visit the historic Relais Santa Anastasia, a country resort winery that produces organic wines from indigenous and international vineyards. Their production philosophy is based on respect for tradition, but also for the ecosystem, using modern winemaking equipment and energy that comes from alternative sources. The wines are a pure expression of the terroir that gives rise to them. Enjoy a local winery visit followed by lunch at the estate. Proceed to Cefalù, a picturesque fishing village now a seaside resort town. Free time for a stroll along the narrow little alleys and visit the historic Cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, before continuing to Palermo. Check in and room assignment.

DAY 10 | PALERMO

Breakfast | Street Food Stroll & Tasting

Buffet breakfast at the hotel, enjoy a morning private guided tour of Palermo, the synthesis of "planet Sicily," a rich hybrid of Baroque, Saracen, Norman and Spanish cultures. See il Cassaro, the Quattro Canti, Piazza Pretoria, St. John of the Hermits Cathedral, the Norman Palace, Fontana della Vergogna and colorful Ballaro' Open Air Market, where you will be enjoying a delectable street food tasting. Balance of the afternoon at leisure.

DAY 11 | DEPARTURE

Breakfast

Buffet breakfast at the hotel and check out. Private car / van transfer to Palermo Falcone Borsellino Airport for your return flight to the States, or extend your stay.