

italian tours and

Travel by Diana

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f Italian Tours by Diana

Small Group tour: Italy & Sicily 2018

August 3, 2017

Day 1 Sunday June 10, 2018 Arrive Catania, Taormina

Benvenuti/Buongiorno! Welcome to La Bella Italia! Upon arrival in Catania, meet our private driver in the arrivals hall, outside of baggage claim, holding a sign with your name for transfer to your hotel in the heart of Taormina (about 50 minutes). Spend the remainder of the day unwinding and relaxing in Sicily. This evening, we will arrange a lovely welcome dinner around 7:30 pm filled with Sicilian specialties. Overnight in Taormina. PT/D/H

Day 2 Monday June 11, 2018 Taormina

Taormina



Breakfast at hotel. Our private certified guide will meet us in the hotel lobby around 9:00 am for a guided tour of Taormina, this stunning Sicilian jewel. The guide will also prearrange entrance tickets to the Teatro Greco in Taormina. The theatre was built in 300 BC by the Ancient Greeks, and then expanded and further detailed by the Romans upon their arrival centuries later. Always a very lively and attractive spot in town, the Teatro offers its modern day visitors a simultaneously spectacular view of sea, coastline and smoking volcano. From here, you will stroll through Corso Umberto, the main street that snakes through the elegant city center. After your tour, we will stop at Pasticceria Roberto for a sampling of the scrumptious pastries this humble artisan is known for. This afternoon is yours at leisure to explore lovely Taormina on your own. Overnight in Taormina. B/G/ET/H

Day 3 Tuesday June 12, 2018 Taormina, Agrigento

Breakfast at hotel. For those of you interested in the Ancient Ruins of Agrigento, we will meet our private driver for transfer to Agrigento, where we will partake in a private tour of this historic city. Agrigento is located on the southern coast of Sicily and is the capital of the province of Agrigento. It is home to some of the oldest and most significant archaeological ruins in the world.

Agrigento



Agrigento is the site of the ancient Greek city of Akragas, which was one of the predominant cities of Magna Graecia during the golden age of Ancient Greece. We will be guided back to the glory of this modern-day ruin as we stroll through the famous Valley of the Temples (Valle dei Templi). After our tour, we will return to Taormina. Spend the remainder of the day at leisure. Dinner together and overnight in Taormina. B/PD/G/ET/D/H

Day 4 Wednesday June 13, 2018

Taormina, Catania, Napoli, Sorrento

Breakfast at hotel and check out. This morning in the hotel lobby, we will transfer with our private driver to Catania International Airport for short flight to Naples (1 h).

Amalfi Coast



Upon arrival, meet with our private driver in the arrivals hall, holding a sign with your name for transfer to hotel in Sorrento (1h drive). Check in and settle. Sorrento will provide you with an opportunity to see how the locals live in the fragrant and vibrant Amalfi Coast. Off the main square, Piazza Tasso, there is a great little market area where you can sample artisan made Limoncello. As well, you can do some great shopping here. We will enjoy dinner together tonight in a historic restaurant, surrounded by lemon and orange groves. Overnight in Sorrento. B/PT/Flight/PT/D/H

Day 5 Thursday June 14, 2018

Sorrento, Capri

Breakfast at hotel. You may decide to spend a lazy day on the boat and at the beach in Capri. If you choose this option, we will board a private or a semi-private boat for a leisurely ride to the upscale Island of Capri. We will circumnavigate the entire island and visit the most spectacular grottoes characteristic of the island, such as the Blue Grotto, Green Grotto, White Grotto, and around the famous Faraglioni Rock formations. Provided the seas are calm, we will be able to go into the Blue Grotto.

Capri



A snack and beverages will be provided on board. By early afternoon, we will dock at Capri and will have time to independently visit the island or hang at the beach. Late afternoon return to Sorrento for overnight.

*This day could also be enjoyed as a down day in Sorrento. B/Boat/H

Day 6 Friday June 15, 2018

Sorrento, Positano, Ravello

Positano



Breakfast at hotel. At 9:00 a.m. in the hotel lobby, we will meet our private driver to enjoy a lovely day along the Amalfi Coast. (Sorrento to Positano is about 30 minutes. Positano to Ravello is about 1 hour). Our first stop today will be Positano, one of the most upscale and vibrant towns in the fragrant Amalfi Coast. Peppered with colorful Mediterranean houses and pebbled beaches, many artists have fallen in love with Positano, including Steinbeck, Picasso and Escher. We will enjoy a late lunch on the beach in Positano and will then continue on our way to Ravello. With a rich history and at 350m above sea level, Ravello is one of the most fascinating places along the Amalfi Coast. Its wonderful view has fascinated and inspired writers such as Gore Vidal (who lived here for years), and actors such as Greta Garbo and composers such as Richard Wagner, who composed his Parsifal here. You will surely capture some of the most memorable pictures of the coastline from this glorious spot. Return to Sorrento for overnight. B/PD/L/H

Day 7 Saturday June 16, 2018 Sorrento, Pompei, Napoli, San Giuliano Del Sannio

Breakfast at hotel and check out. We will meet our private driver in the hotel lobby for transfer to Pompeii, where we will meet with our bilingual certified guide for a two-hour walking tour.

Pompeii was a city and civilization built over 2,000 years ago. Upon arrival to the archaeological ruins, you are magically transported in to antiquity. In Pompeii, you will view homes in which mosaics and frescoes have been preserved despite the treacherous devastation sustained during the eruption of Mount Vesuvius on August 24th in the year 79 AD.

Pompei



After the tour, our driver will take us to the city of Naples for a pizza lunch along the sea. Naples, the birthplace of pizza, will offer us the most authentic pies in the world, with beautiful glimpses of the Mediterranean. After lunch, we will make our way to the tiny town of San Giuliano del Sannio. Welcome to San Giuliano, a genuine Italian “paese,” untouched by tourism. This is a scenic little place with charm and grace that of course is near and dear to my heart. San Giuliano is the home of my family and ancestors. A light dinner and then overnight in San Giuliano or Campobasso. B/PD/G/ET/L/D/H

Day 8 Sunday June 17, 2018

San Giuliano Del Sannio-Roma

San Giuliano



Breakfast at hotel. Our private driver today will assist with transportation to my home. Today we will gather to cook together. We will enjoy lunch and then the remainder of the day at leisure. By early evening we will depart for beautiful Roma for overnight. B/L/PD/H

Day 9 Monday June 18, 2018

Roma Religiosa

Vatican



Breakfast at hotel. This morning at 9:00 am, we will meet our private driver as well as our private bilingual certified guide for a 3 hour walking tour which will begin with a visit to the Pio-Clementino Museum and will

then move on to the visitation of The Vatican, The Sistine Chapel and The Vatican Museums. To save time, we will prearrange entrance tickets for you. The journey through the Vatican Museums will proceed through the Gallery of the Candelabra, the Gallery of Tapestries and the Gallery of Maps and from these Galleries; we will enter directly into the Raphael Rooms to observe the extraordinary frescoes executed by Raphael and the Sistine Chapel. The actual visit to the Basilica, the largest Christian place in the World, will include a viewing of the magnificent Pieta by Michelangelo, Bernini's bronze Baldacchino (canopy), and the throne of St. Peter. At the end of the tour, you may choose to visit the underground catacombs that house the remains of the popes. Enjoy the remainder of the day at your own pace. At 7:30 p.m., we will enjoy a delicious farewell dinner together. Overnight in Rome. B/PD/G/ET/D/H

Day 10 Tuesday June 19, 2017

Roma Antica

Rome



Breakfast at hotel. At 9:00 am in the hotel lobby, we will meet our private bilingual guide as well as our private driver for a four-hour tour of Ancient Roma in all its glory. As we plunge into the vivacious traffic of Rome, our senses will be simultaneously stimulated by antiquity and modern-day society. We will feel the heart-beat of the city as we pass through the Piazza Venezia where we will admire the monument dedicated to the first Italian King, Vittorio Emmanuelle II. Today, it has been dedicated to the memory of the unknown soldiers with an eternal flame. We will pass the Teatro Marcello and The Circus Maximus, a site of many chariot races. We will take a stroll through the Roman Forum, rich with antiquity. Through the main square of Rome, crossing the Via Sacra (the Sacred Way), the most important street in ancient Rome where many triumphant processions took place. We will see the ruins of some ancient monuments as well as the Triumphal Arches of Titus and Septimius Severus, the Curia, seat of the Roman Senate, the Basilica Emilia and the Basilica Julia which were both used for business transactions. During our visit to The Coliseum, the magnificent Flavian Amphitheatre, we will envision the gladiator duels, wild beast fights and naval battles which were arranged for the entertainment of the ancient Roman people. Entrance tickets to the Coliseum will be provided. The Arch of Constantine is visible from here as well. Enjoy the remainder of the day at your own pace. You will have time to relax at an outdoor café or discover something new in the Eternal City. You may choose to visit the Trevi Fountain or the Spanish Steps. The Jewish ghetto and the Trastevere neighborhood are amazing spots as well. There is also Castel Sant'Angelo, where parts of the film Roman Holiday were shot. Overnight in Rome. B/G/ET/PD/H

Day 11 Wednesday June 20, 2018 Rome Depart

Breakfast at hotel and check out. A private driver will meet the group in the hotel lobby for transfer to the Rome airport to board a flight back to the United States. Arrivederci, Bella Italia! B/PT

CODES: B=Breakfast L=Lunch D=Dinner H=Hotel G=Guide ET=Entrance Ticket
PD=Private Driver PT=Private Transfer TRTK=Train Ticket BR= Boat Ride WT=Wine Tasting
CL=Cooking Lesson

Your custom Itinerary to Italy Includes the Following:

10 nights in hotels
10 breakfasts
5 private bilingual certified guides
5 entrance tickets per person, skip the line
4 private transfers
6 private drivers
1 semi-private or private boat ride to Capri
1 inter-Italy flight from Catania to Naples
3 lunches per person, with wine
5 dinners per person, with wine
24/7 group leader

Price per person based upon double occupancy for the land portion of this journey w/ additional day

With 6-9 passengers \$6997.00 + international airfare

With 10-15 passengers \$6114.00 + international airfare

With 16 passengers \$5708.00 + international airfare

Once the "flow" of the itinerary is perfect for your journey, we are happy to provide a package price, per person, for the land portion only. Due to confidential and exclusive contract with our suppliers, we are unable to accommodate request for price breakdowns. Kindly note that your final quote for the land portion of this journey does not include international airfare, tipping, meals where not indicated and a city tax required by the European governments to be paid upon check out of each hotel. The tax is to be paid in cash and is approximately 1.50-5.00 euro per person per day.

Working with Italian Tours by Diana (our process) - What to expect

Step 1: **Your Profile** - We will gather your personal information. We need your name as it appears on your passport, DOB, address, phone number, email address and your travel budget.

Step 2: **Tell Us Your Dreams**...Then we will gather your travel wishes to include activities and destinations desired. Apply this formula - how many separate destinations and hotel changes would you like? This will establish the flow of your itinerary.

Step 3: **The Designing Process** - We will design an itinerary and send it to you for review. We will edit and adjust your itinerary up to two times. Any major revisions after that will be subject to a \$75 fee.

Step 4: **Receive Your Quote** - Once you approve the flow of the itinerary, Diana will price it out for you, doing her best to stay within your budget. The pricing provided will be a package price for the land portion only (per person).

Step 5: **Approval and Deposit** – Kindly keep in mind that the budget process is involved. Minor adjustments to the budget will be free of charge. For more complex adjustments, a \$75 service fee will be applied. Upon approval of budget, a \$1,500 deposit per person is required. This will be applied towards your final cost and will set us in motion to secure your reservations. The deposit can be paid either with a personal check or a credit card (no service charge applied). When all reservations are confirmed, we will send you a list of your hotels.

Step 6: **Final Payment and Terms and Agreement Contract** – Final payment is due 60 days prior to departure. *If a credit card is used for your final payment (or unpaid balance) a 2% surcharge will be added.* Kindly keep in mind that your services are prepaid before departure. We also require that all travelers age 14 and over sign our company terms and agreement contract. This must be signed within one week of receiving it. In order to receive your final package, final payment as well as a signed contract must be received by Italian Tours and Travel by Diana.

Step 7: **Peace of Mind** – You are making an investment in your dream vacation and you should protect it. We highly recommend that you purchase **travel insurance**. We have three different plans and will be more than happy to provide a quote for you. Please let us know if you are interested in purchasing travel insurance. **TO BE COVERED FOR ANY PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS, IT IS NECESSARY TO PURCHASE INSURANCE WITHIN 15 DAYS OF ANY MONIES BEING SPENT FOR YOUR TRAVEL, INCLUDING AIRFARE.**

Step 8: **Final Package** – Approximately 2-3 weeks before departure, we will meet/Skype with you to review the details of your itinerary. You will receive a final package which contains the following: your final expanded itinerary, a letter containing detailed travel tips and Diana's personal contact information, transportation or entrance tickets needed, packing suggestions, tipping guidelines, language lesson, cell phone tips, etc.

Step 9: **Concierge Service** – While you are abroad, our 24 hour concierge service will be available to you from the time that you depart.

Step 10: **Welcome Back!** - Upon your return from your trip, we kindly ask that you provide a testimonial as well as a photo for our office wall of fame and website. We would love to hear about your special journey!

Mille Grazie e Buon Viaggio!
Diana and Staff