

THE TRAVEL CLUB

Pre-Departure Itinerary **A Week in Taormina** *Sicily's Resort*

Saturday, May 5- Saturday, May 12, 2012

The 19th-century French author Guy de Maupassant believed that **Taormina** was created “to seduce the eyes, the spirit and the imagination.” We believe it’s also a fascinating spring holiday! An ancient town perched high above blue seas and decorated with blazing red bougainvillea framing white-washed buildings, Taormina is Sicily’s jewel and has been a popular vacation spot for a thousand years. While **Mount Etna** broods in the background and the 3rd-century BC Greco-Roman amphitheatre looms from its cliff top, Taormina’s quaint streets are packed with color and charm, boutiques and cafés. So, dust off your passport and join us in this breathtaking paradise where history meets la dolce vita. You’ll enjoy a guided walking tour, excursions to the archaeological wonders of **Agrigento** and **Siracusa** and a visit to Mount Etna.

Includes

- Round-trip regularly scheduled Alitalia Airlines flights from Boston to Catania, via Rome
- Six nights’ four-star accommodations: Hotel Continental, Taormina
- Twelve meals: six buffet breakfasts, six dinners
- Escorted round-trip, private airport/hotel transfers
- Services of professional local Tour Manager

Rates

\$2,114 person double occupancy

\$2,354 for single reservations

Includes round-trip airfare and \$440 fuel surcharge.

Triple accommodations may be available upon request. Add \$125 air taxes and fees. Fuel

surcharge, taxes and fees subject to change.

Passport required. Per person deposit is \$300

Accommodations

Hotel Continental

Via Dionisio nr 2/A-98039

Taormina Sicily

Tel: 011 39 0942 23805

Fax: 011 39 0942 23806

Centrally situated on a hillside overlooking the city, this three star property offers charmingly appointed guest rooms with private bath, air conditioning and television.

Features

Half-day guided walking tour of Taormina, half-day guided excursion to Agrigento and the Valley of the Temples, full-day excursion to Siracusa with its archaeological site and Ortigia Island, half-day excursion to Mount Etna.

DAILY ITINERARY

Day 1: Departure from Boston

Depart from Boston on your Alitalia over night flight to Rome.

Day 2: Arrive in Rome, connecting flight to Catania

Arrive in Rome and connect to your short flight to Catania. Upon arrival you’ll retrieve your luggage and clear customs. You will be met by our representative who will assist you with your private

motorcoach transfer to **The Hotel Continental** located in Taormina. Check in and receive room assignments. The rest of the afternoon is at leisure to get acquainted with the hotel and surroundings. This evening join your fellow travelers for dinner. **(D)**

Day 3: Taormina

This morning after breakfast join your local guide for a half-day guided walking tour of Taormina including a visit to the Greek-Roman amphitheater. The remainder of the afternoon and evening is at leisure. Enjoy an included dinner this evening. **(B,D)**

Day 4: Agrigento

After breakfast depart for an excursion to Agrigento, defined by Pindara as “the most beautiful of the Earth’s cities.” Visit the Valley of Temples, one of the most important archeological centers in the Mediterranean area. Return to Taormina in the afternoon. The remainder of the day and evening are at leisure. Enjoy an included dinner this evening. **(B,D)**

Day 5: Day of Leisure

The entire day is at leisure to explore Taormina and the surrounding area on your own. Breakfast and dinner are provided at the hotel. **(B,D)**

Day 6: Siracusa - Ortiga Island

After breakfast depart for a full day excursion to Syracuse, which -- according to Cicero -- was the biggest and most beautiful of the Greek cities. You will have a guided visit to this truly magnificent archeological site. In the afternoon you will enjoy a stroll through the Baroque district of Ortiga Island with a view of the castle of Eurialo. Return to the hotel in the late afternoon. Enjoy dinner at the hotel this evening **(B,D)**

Day 7: Mt Etna

Today’s excursion is to Mt Etna -- the largest volcano in Europe at about 135 square miles -- still active but a safe distance from Taormina. There are many picturesque villages at the foot of the volcano where the local farmers grow citrus fruits, olives and vineyards on the slopes. Return to the hotel in the afternoon and the remainder of the day is at leisure. Enjoy dinner at the hotel this evening. **(B, D)**

Day 8: Depart for Flight Home.

Depart early this morning by motorcoach for the Catania Airport for your return flight to Boston via Rome. You will arrive in Boston in the early afternoon. **(B)**.

Proof of Citizenship is required for all trips outside the United States. U.S. citizens require valid Passport. Passports are the responsibility of each client.

PLEASE NOTE: This pre-departure itinerary is designed to give you an idea of how this itinerary is structured. We reserve the right to make any changes to your final itinerary if deemed necessary, at any time prior to departure.

PLEASE NOTE: This is not your final itinerary. You will receive final documents (itinerary, tickets (if applicable), etc.) approximately 2–3 weeks prior to departure. Although we try our best to ensure that information is accurate at the time of publication, we are not responsible for any error, omission, misprint or liability that results from the use (or misuse) of this information.