



THE TRAVEL CLUB

Pre-Departure Itinerary **Summer Holiday in Taormina, Sicily**

Wednesday, August 4 – Thursday, August 12, 2010

This summer we suggest you heed Guy de Maupassant (popular 19th-c French author) who advised that a man with only one day to spend in Sicily should spend it in Taormina—"Taormina is only a landscape, but a landscape where you seem to find everything created on the earth to seduce the eyes, the spirit and the imagination." This was good counsel! An ancient town perched high above blue seas and decorated with blazing red bougainvillea framing white-washed buildings, Taormina is Sicily's jewel and a popular vacation spot for more than a thousand years. While Mt. Etna broods in the background and the 3rd-c BC Greco-Roman amphitheatre looms from its cliff-top, Taormina's quaint streets are packed with color and charm, boutiques and cafes. Spend a full week in this breathtaking paradise where history meets la dolce vita and enjoy a guided walking tour of Taormina with a visit to the amphitheatre, excursions to the archaeological Edens of Agrigento and Siracusa, a drive to the hill towns where scenes from The Godfather were filmed and two leisure days to indulge yourself.

Includes

- Round-trip, non-stop, regularly scheduled Alitalia Airlines flights from Boston to Catania, via Rome
- Seven night's three-star accommodations: Hotel Continentale, Taormina
- Buffet breakfast daily
- Welcome dinner and farewell dinner at local restaurants
- Round-trip, private airport/hotel transfers with assistance
- Services of professional local Tour Manager

Rates

\$1,999 per person double occupancy

\$2,279 for single reservations

*Triple accommodations may be available upon request.
Add \$365 for current air taxes, fees, charges and fuel surcharges. Passport required.*

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 The Godfather locales; shuttle service to beach available at a moderate fee.

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.

DAILY ITINERARY

Day 1: August 04 - Depart from Boston

Late afternoon/early evening departure from Boston to Rome, via Alitalia Airlines. Dinner will be served on board. Relax and enjoy the in-flight entertainment.

Day 2: August 05 - Arrive Rome - connecting flight to Catania, transfer to hotel

Continental breakfast will be served before landing in Rome. Clear immigration and proceed to your connecting/domestic flight to Catania. Once in Catania, retrieve your luggage, clear customs and meet our local representative who will assist you with the transfer to the Hotel Continentale located in Taormina. After check-in the rest of the day is at leisure. Tonight join your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. **(D)**

Day 3: August 06 -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. **(B)**

Day 4: August 07 - Agrigento

After breakfast at the hotel you'll depart for an excursion to Agrigento -- defined by Pindara as " the most beautiful of the Earth's cities" A visit is made to of the Valley of Temples, one of the most important archeological centers in the Mediterranean area. In the afternoon, return to Taormina. **(B)**

Day 5: August 08 - Taormina

Today is a day at leisure. You might enjoy a excursion to one of Taormina's beaches. **(B)**

Day 6: August 09 - Syracuse

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 Ortigia Island with a view of the castle of Eurialo. Return to the hotel in the late afternoon. **(B)**

Day 7: August 10 - Godfather Area

In the morning, you will be taken on an excursion to the "Godfather area": A scenic drive runs inland to Savoca which is considered one of the most attractive places in the Taormina region. You will visit the Bar Vitelli which has a gorgeous terrace and a collection of photographs taken when Francis Ford Coppola shot some scenes of " The Godfather II" here. The tour will continue to Forza d'Agro, an attractive medieval hamlet on Monti Peloritani which has a splendid view of the coast. Return to the hotel in the afternoon. **(B)**

Day 8: August 11 - Taormina

You'll have a day at leisure to explore Taormina on your own. Tonight you'll enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. **(B,D)**

Day 9: August 12 -Return flight to Boston

Early morning transfer, by private motor coach, to Catania airport, for your return flight to Boston ,via Rome. **(B)**

Proof of Citizenship: *US citizens require a passport with at least six months' validity for entry into Italy. Passports are the responsibility of the traveler.*

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.*