

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

- Day 1 FRIDAY - NOTO
- Day 2 SATURDAY - NOTO - RAGUSA
- Day 3 SUNDAY - RAGUSA LOOP - DONNAFUGATA CASTLE - SCICLI
- Day 4 MONDAY - RAGUSA - CALTAGIRONE
- Day 5 TUESDAY - CALTAGIRONE - S GIOVANNI LA PUNTA
- Day 6 WEDNESDAY - ETNA HIKE
- Day 7 THURSDAY - AEOLIAN ISLANDS - SALINA - PANAREA
- Day 8 FRIDAY - AEOLIAN ISLANDS - LIPARI
- Day 9 SATURDAY - ARRIVEDERCI

Day 1: FRIDAY - NOTO

We meet at the Catania airport and shuttle to our first hotel in Noto. Founded in the IX century BC by the Siculi on "Monte Alveria" Noto was the center of art and culture for a number of different civilizations: Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Arab, Norman, Suevian, Aragonese, and Spanish.

Day 2: SATURDAY - NOTO - RAGUSA

Today's ride takes us up in the Altopiano Ibleo, a remote and beautiful area. We continue on to the modern Ragusa. An afternoon bath by the pool in the hotel's garden will soothe your legs and relax your muscles after the first full day on the bike.

Day 3: SUNDAY - RAGUSA LOOP - DONNAFUGATA CASTLE - SCICLI

We start today's ride with a pleasant downhill from the Altopiano Ibleo toward the coast. We stop for a visit of the beautiful Villa Donnafugata, then we continue among carob trees and greenhouses to reach Scicli. After lunch we climb back the valley with great views of Irminio river canyon. In the evening enjoy a walking tour of ancient Ragusa Ibla and dinner in town.

Day 4: MONDAY - RAGUSA - CALTAGIRONE

Caltagirone, built on three hillocks, was completely rebuilt in 1693 after a terrible earthquake, and has all the characteristics of a 17C Baroque Sicilian town. Take the bus into town or ride your bikes (please keep them securely locked to a post with a lock around the frame).

Day 5: TUESDAY - CALTAGIRONE - S GIOVANNI LA PUNTA

Enjoy a roller coaster ride to Morgantina and walk along the extensive excavations of one of the world's best preserved Greek cities dating back to 600 BC. The Greeks absorbed the city some six centuries later. In 211 BC, it was destroyed by the Romans during the Punic Wars and was eventually rebuilt as a Roman city.

Day 6: WEDNESDAY - ETNA HIKE

Take an early van ascent up Mt Etna to hike and see the volcanic area and absorb the magnificent views. On a clear day, see all of Sicily. In the afternoon we shuttle to Milazzo, to catch a quick ferry to Lipari, our volcanic island base for two nights.

Day 7: THURSDAY - AEOLIAN ISLANDS - SALINA - PANAREA

We have a relaxing boat ride with our native seamen through calm, turquoise blue Mediterranean waters to Salina. On bike, we explore the city of Salina.

Day 8: FRIDAY - AEOLIAN ISLANDS - LIPARI

Geologically, the island of Lipari is quite rugged, with deep caverns, steep cliffs, and splendid views. Here you'll find beautiful scenery, volcanoes, castles, thermal resorts, water sports, and, of course, magnificent beaches.

Day 9: SATURDAY - ARRIVEDERCI

From Lipari, we'll escort you back to the Catania airport on mainland Sicily to continue your travels to Italy and beyond!

Total mileage: 243
Daily average: 29

Included:

- All accommodations
- Five dinners & two lunches (1 picnic)
- Two wine tastings
- Cycling clinics
- Music by local musicians
- Guided walking tours
- Three shuttles
- Visit to Morgantina
- Hike up Mount Etna
- Boat ride with locals to remote turquoise coves

Not Included:

- A 27-speed lightweight road or 24-speed hybrid bicycle (available in Italy at additional \$170.00 rental cost)
- Transport of bike case (for guests who bring their own bike; shipping available in Italy for additional fee)
- Wine and alcoholic beverages
- Most lunches
- Airfare
- Transfers to the starting point or from the finishing point unless specified; we can assist you in planning and arranging for any necessary shuttles
- Helmets (Bring your own, can not be rented in Italy)
- Personal expenses (laundry, supplies, phone calls, etc)
- Guide tip

Price per person	Dbl	Sgl	Trl
Land Only	\$3,650	\$4,150	N/A

May 27
October 14

Special departures on request with supplement

Selected Hotels	
VILLA FAVORITA	Noto (1 night)
EREMO DELLA GIUBILIANA C.	da Giubiliiana (2 nights)
VILLA S. MAURO	Caltagirone (1 night)
VILLA PARADISO DELL ETNA	San(1 night)
VILLA MELIGUNIS	(3 nights)