



*A&A South Pacific Tour, Ltd.  
A&A S.E.Asia Tours, Ltd.  
A&A Ciao Italy Tours, Ltd.*

## **INVITES YOU TO A “UNIQUE” DELUXE FAM TRIP TO SICILY November 1 to 8, 2011**

### **Day 1- 01 Nov 2011 - PALERMO**

Upon arrival at the Punta Raisi airport in Palermo, collect your luggage and make your way outside the baggage hall. You will be welcomed by our guide and transferred to the hotel : Villa Igiea. After you check in you will have some free time to relax and recover from jet lag!

7:00 pm - Meet in the hotel lobby and start our site inspection of this magnificent hotel followed by cocktails and welcome dinner.

Overnight (D)



### **Day 2- 02 Nov 2011 - PALERMO**

Buffet breakfast at the hotel

After breakfast board the coach for a sightseeing tour of the city centre: Piazza Politeama, Piazza Massimo, Piazza Pretoria, the Forum Italic, Piazza Marina, Corso Vittorio Emanuele. Visit of the Cathedral, displaying many architectural styles, and of the splendid Palatine Chapel. Proceed to Monreale. Visit of the Duomo, magnificently decorated with Byzantine mosaics, and of the Cloister, a masterpiece of Norman artistic expression.

#### **Lunch in a restaurant.**

In the afternoon visit of “ il mercato del Capo” one of the oldest and most frequented fresh produce markets in the city. Early evening return to the hotel to freshen up.

**8:00 pm depart for a Visit of the Hotel Palazzo Sitano, where we'll be met by the director and have dinner at this beautiful venue . After dinner transfer to the hotel for Overnight at Villa Igiea (B, L,D)**



### **Day 3-03 Nov 2011 - SEGESTA – ERICE - PALERMO**

Buffet breakfast at the hotel

After breakfast leave for Erice, a nearby medieval town, located 751 meters above sea level which overlooks the whole Western region, the Mediterranean Sea and the Egadi Islands. Then proceed to Mazzara del Vallo for a visit of the **Kempinsky Hotel for a site inspection and lunch.**

After a relaxing lunch we board the coach and continue to Segesta, for the visit of this famous Greek temple. Early evening return to hotel to freshen up and change.

**8:00 pm transfer to a typical restaurant, in a nearby fishing village, for a dinner based on sea food. After dinner return to Villa Igia for overnight. (B, L,D)**



#### **Day 4-04 Nov 2011 - PALERMO / AGRIGENTO / PIAZZA ARMERINA / ENNA**

##### **Buffet breakfast at the hotel**

After breakfast the morning will be devoted to a visit of the Valley of Temples in Agrigento for a private guided tour, with a specialised guide: the archaeological ruins of the Greek domination are numerous and they were visited and narrated by Goethe in his work *Viaggio in Italy*. In the middle of the valley the most spectacular structure, the Concordia temple, rises surrounded by the ruins of the temples dedicated to Juno, Jupiter, Castor and Pollux, Hercules, Vulcan and Esculapio. After the visit continue to **Lunch and visit of Villa Athena hotel!** a 5 stars hotel located in the heart of temple's Valley, facing the beautiful Concordia temple!



Proceed onto Piazza Armerina, a small town in the south-central part of the island. Visit the Villa Romana del Casale, a Roman country villa of the 3rd century, famous for its precious mosaics.

Early evening travel to the **hotel Villa Gussio Nicoletti** near Enna and proceed to check in. After having freshened up, we will meet in the lobby for a site inspection **followed by dinner** here at the Villa Gussio Nicoletti.

Overnight **(B, L,D)**

#### **Day 5- 5 Nov 2011 - MODICA – NOTO - SIRACUSA**

##### **Breakfast at the hotel**

Departure to Modica, the ancient capital of Contea :Modica, which like the other towns in the Val di Noto, was badly damaged in the 1693 earthquake and largely rebuilt in the Sicilian Baroque style. It is divided into two



parts, “higher” Modica and “lower” Modica, which are connected by numerous flights of steps. Palazzi and houses rise from the bottom of the gorge seemingly stacked one on top of the other. Magnificent churches, with their inspiring domes, bell towers and intricate facades, punctuate the red-tiled roofs and one is struck by the uniform beauty of the whole. Stop for a visit to one of the famous Sicilian chocolateries for a taste...

Modica is custodian of a 400 year tradition of Sicilian chocolate-making. Being part of the Spanish kingdom for so many years meant that Sicily was often one of the first recipients of the new foodstuffs being brought back from South America. Cacao was one of these and today Modica still specialises in making granulose chocolate, often flavoured with chilli pepper, cinnamon or vanilla that is based on Aztec methods and recipes.

### **Continue to Ragusa and have Lunch in a restaurant in the city Centre .**

Walk around the old centre of Ibla: The spectacular Baroque Duomo di San Giorgio sits in the centre of Ibla, behind a large piazza where there are several cafes, shops, and Gelati Divini, selling ice cream made from wines. Ibla has several UNESCO churches - Santa Maria dell'Idria, San Filippo Neri, Santa Maria dei Miracoli, san Giuseppe, Santa Maria del Gesu, San Francesco, and Chiesa Anime del Purgatorio. UNESCO Baroque buildings in Ibla are Palazzo della Cancelleria, Palazzo Cosentini, Palazzo Sortino Trono, Palazzo La Rocca, and Palazzo Battaglia.



Later in the afternoon travel to Siracusa, situated on the eastern coast of Sicily Accommodation at the hotel des Esetrangers!

After check in there will be time to freshen up before a brief site inspection followed by **dinner** at the hotel .Overnight ( **B, L, D**)

### **Day 6-6 Nov 2011                    SIRACUSA – TAORMINA**

**After breakfast** a guided city tour and sightseeing of this marvellous city of Siracusa, splendid and magnificent, in the classic age was the richest and the most powerful among the Hellenic towns in Sicily and some archaeological ruins testify the former glory: the impressive Greek Theatre, the Jerone's Altar and the ruins f the Apollo, Jupiter and Athena Temples.



**After the city tour transfer to the Grand Hotel Minareto, for a site inspection and lunch.**

In the afternoon travel to Taormina, arrival and accommodation at hotel Ashbee. After check in, freshen up and relax for a bit in this lovely setting.

**8:00 pm meet in the lobby and move on for a short walk to the centre of this charming village, followed by dinner in a restaurant! Overnight at the hotel ( **B, L,D**)**

### **Day 7-7 Nov 2011 ETNA - TAORMINA**

**After breakfast** , depart for your “Special morning on Mt. Etna” one of our unique excursion. You will see the highest active volcano in Europe. You will discover many habitats and beautiful scenery, characteristic villages at its slopes and, of course, the terrific power of nature. You will see Mount Fontane ( view of Valle del Bove) ; Extinct craters of Silvestri Mounts ; the Lava flow from 2002 eruption

**Following our excursion we'll continue our drive to Tenuta San Michele, for a visit of this famous winery; Guided wine tasting tours, and lunch.**

Late afternoon, return to Taormina . You will have free time to wander this famous resort town which offers also historical and cultural attractions, such as the Greek Theatre, used as stage for many important international events. You can also admire the various buildings in Corso Umberto, the main road that in the summer evenings is always crowded and just in the middle it widens on a "belvedere", with an unforgettable view on the whole bay. In addition this lovely

town is filled with superb shops where you can have the opportunity for some last minute shopping. Early evening transfer to Catania. Arrival at the Romano Palace Hotel and check in, **freshen up and later meet for Dinner at the hotel restaurant.**

Overnight **(B,L,D)**



### **Day 8- 8 Nov 2011 CATANIA/USA**

**Early breakfast** before check out and transfer to Catania airport for your return flight home.

**END OF SERVICES**

**BUON VIAGGIO!!!!**

August 19,2011