

# SIMPLY STUNNING SICILY!

Your invitation to an unforgettable Italian adventure  
October 3–13 2016

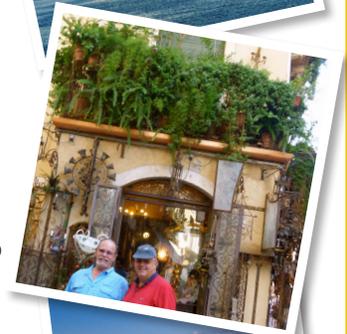
## DOLCE VITA ADVENTURES' DETAILS

Join us as we circle mystical Sicily, a most unique and beautiful Mediterranean island - starting our journey in the charming town of Taormina between Ionian sea and Mount Etna, on to a countryside manor in Agrigento, along the wild west coastline of Marsala to the medieval hamlet of Erice and finally to the 8th century port city of Palermo. Come with us and enjoy what is known in Sicilian as "BEDDA SICILIA!"

## SUMMARY AND HIGHLIGHTS:

- 11 days and 10 nights (4 nights in Taormina, 2 nights Agrigento, 3 nights Erice, 1 night Palermo)
- 10 breakfasts, 1 lunches, 6 dinners (all with wine of course)
- Discover some of Europe's the best preserved Greek ruins, visit a Marsala winery, taste your way through a famous Sicilian Pastry Shop (marzipan lesson and almond cookie secrets), meet local artisans, roll your own Sicilian pizza, marvel Monreale's mosaic cathedral, hike up Mount Etna (closed shoes!), witness how the ancient Carthaginians extracted salt from the sea using windmills, savor homegrown wines and dishes at a Sicilian Farmhouse and enjoy dinner with the Contessa in Palermo Palazzo, take an Italian "passeggiata" and several town orientation walks, stopping frequently for cannoli...
- And Sicily is still so much more! From Phoenician to Greek to African and Spanish influences, the magical island of Sicily is an extraordinary blend of colorful history, sights, scents and flavors that create one distinctly fascinating culture and one truly unforgettable adventure.
- 3 Professionally Guided tours: Taormina and 2nd Century Greco-Roman Amphitheater, Agrigento and Valley of the Temples, Monreale Cathedral and Palermo City center (and all entry tickets)
- Private transportation, full time bilingual tour director, and assistance with optional and \*separate excursions (\*In fact, the itinerary is full - yet you have 4 days free to follow your heart - explore towns such as Cefalu, boat to a Volcanic Island such as Stromboli or sit in a piazza all day with your gelato. Special assistance will be given for those researching their roots!)
- Fee for land only tour: **\$1,988** in a double occupancy room, AC and private bathroom.

**It's up to you - but why not join us a for a 3 day extension to Positano and the Amalfi Coast?  
You're already here!**



# YOUR SICILY ITINERARY



<b>SUN</b> 10/2	overnight flight from USA to Catania Fontarossa Airport
<b>MON</b> 10/3	<b>DAY 1:</b> Benvenuti! You'll be met at Sicily's Catania Airport by noon and be brought to the hilltop town of Taormina ("patch of paradise" – Goethe) to settle in to your boutique hotel right on the town's main, pedestrian street. This evening we'll begin our adventure with our first town orientation ("passeggiata" in Italian) and a Benvenuti to Sicilia welcome dinner. <b>D</b>
<b>TUE</b> 10/4	<b>DAY 2:</b> Spend your first morning discovering the town of Taormina and Sicily's history in the company of a professional tour guide. Enjoy Signor Angelo's delightful story telling from your seat inside Taormina's Greco-Roman Amphitheater, the backdrop is majestic Mt Etna stretching out to the bluest sea below. Your afternoon is free to explore Taormina's and boutique and bougainvillea lined streets, sunny piazzas, hilltop Castelmola or to cable car down to Isola Bella's beach below. This evening's dinner is a Pizza making class. Buono! <b>B, D</b>
<b>WED</b> 10/5	<b>DAY 3:</b> Enjoy a full day to discover on your own, or add an optional excursion. (Available: Cefalu, Siracusa, Lipari and Vulcano Islands Boat Tour or a private driver and assistance for those researching family roots) <b>B</b>
<b>THU</b> 10/6	<b>DAY 4:</b> Enjoy a second full day to discover on your own or add an optional excursion. (Available: Panarea and Stromboli's Aeolian Islands Boat Tour or a private driver and assistance for those researching family roots) <b>B</b>
<b>FRI</b> 10/7	<b>DAY 5:</b> Say arrivederci to Taormina's sea views as we make our way inland and up to the tallest, most active volcano of Europe, the dominating Mount Etna. Explore the smaller craters and fumaroles along the base of the Silvestri Craters, or venture the final miles to the top by cable car. After lunch we'll drive south to our countryside manor in Agrigento, arrive for a nap by the pool and a hearty country style dinner with tasty local wines. <b>B, D</b>
<b>SAT</b> 10/8	<b>DAY 6:</b> After breakfast our professional tour guide will bring the ancient Greek city to life at the "Valley of Temples" Archeological site, the best-preserved temples (in honor of Zeus, Hercules...) outside of Greece. Plenty of free time to channel your inner Indiana Jones and wander the ruins, 2,500 years ago a rich city. Return to the manor, relax and tonight enjoy another country style dinner. <b>B, D</b>
<b>SUN</b> 10/9	<b>DAY 7:</b> After breakfast we'll follow the coastline to Sicily's "wild west", the Marsala, Trapani and Erice areas. Check into Erice, a wonderful medieval hamlet set high upon a hill. This evening an orientation walk through Erice's cobblestone streets, to a world famous Sicilian Pastry shop – Almonds cakes, macarons, nougat and Marsala wines will fortify our walk to the spectacular views from the Castle of Venus and then a group dinner of more local delicacies. <b>B, D</b>
<b>MON</b> 10/10	<b>DAY 8:</b> Today we focus on the coastline below dotted with windmills, shimmering lagoons and mounds of salt drying in the sun along the sea. We'll visit the salt museum and observe ancient Greek methods of salt extraction and harvest with windmills, methods locals still use to provide their very distinct Sicilian Sea Salt. Awesome lunch in the salt pans followed by a Marsala winery visit in an internationally known cantina. Free evening back in Erice. <b>B, L</b>
<b>TUE</b> 10/11	<b>DAY 9:</b> Free day to explore Erice on your own, or take a cable car ride down to explore the sea front town of Trapani. (Optional and separate: Erice Cooking School class). <b>B</b>
<b>WED</b> 10/12	<b>DAY 10:</b> A morning drive to the gorgeous Monreale Cathedral, a vast blend of religions, art and architecture expressed one cathedral and gorgeous golden mosaics of gargantuan proportions. We'll continue to the ancient port city of Palermo where we'll enjoy a professional walking tour with our local friend Davide. Our day ends in style, in the company of a Palermo Countess in her private palazzo, and our final Arrivederci dinner. <b>B, D</b>
<b>THU</b> 10/13	<b>Day 11:</b> Tour ends after breakfast. Assistance available to Palermo airport for your return flight. <b>B</b>

**EXTENSION AVAILABLE:** Join me for an extra 3 days on the Amalfi coast! We'll leave Palermo, Sicily on the **13th** on an overnight ferry (comfy cabins and karaoke!) and arrive in Naples as the sun rises over Mount Vesuvius the morning of the **14th**. From Naples we'll drive down the coast of Sorrento and on to the Amalfi Coast to the beautiful seaside town of Positano. On the **15th** we'll visit the towns of Ravello and Amalfi. On the **16th** we'll spend the day on the island of Capri. We will depart Positano for Naples on the morning of the **17th**. From there assistance will be available on to Rome or Naples – or from wherever you are flying home.

# DOLCE VITA ADVENTURES' GENERAL INFO AND REGISTRATION FORM (2016)

PLEASE SHARE SOME GENERAL INFO, EMERGENCY CONTACT & PASSPORT INFORMATION.  
This will remain confidential and be used only for hotel check-ins and in case of personal/medical emergencies.

(Please print)

Full name, as on your passport		
Home mailing Address		
Email Address		
Your cell number and Home phone number	C:  H:	
Emergency Phone number and their Name/Relation	#:  Name/Relation:	
Date and place of Birth		
<b>*PASSPORT STATUS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes! I have one - and it's up to date! <input type="checkbox"/> I'm currently applying/renewing	*Expiration Date:
Passport Number		
City/State, Country of Passport issue		
Your nationality		

ACCOMODATIONS: Every attempt will be made to satisfy requests, based on availability, first come first served.

I'm interested in a single twin bed in a double room and I have a roommate  Yes/Name \_\_\_\_\_  No  
 I'd like a private use room, with single or queen bed. (Please contact me separately for Single Supplement info)

I am of good health and **enjoy daily walking**.

Yes  No

This itinerary is considered moderate to strenuous,  
due to location, terrain and duration of walks.

I have have been to Europe before

Yes  No

specifically, I've been to Italy before

Yes  No

\*Please list ANY/ALL dietary concerns, allergies and health related info. (ex. diabetes, high blood pressure, c-pap machine...)

I'm mailing this 2 page, signed registration and including a trip deposit check (500\$)

Yes  No

I'm including a color photocopy of my Passport photo page with my mailed registration.

Yes  No

Print, complete, sign and mail this Registration form + Deposit (made out to Dolce Vita Adventure) + Passport Photocopy to  
Sybil Haynes, Dolce Vita Adventures, 5315 18<sup>th</sup> Street North, Arlington VA 22205

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

# DOLCE VITA ADVENTURES' "GOOD BUSINESS" DETAILS (2016)

Dear traveler,

Thanks for your interest and thanks for joining our next Italian adventure! Please print and complete both Registration pages and mail to DVA along with a copy of your passport photo page and trip deposit to

**Sybil Haynes, DVA, 5315 18th Street north, Arlington, VA. 22205**

As always, I'm available for any questions, at any time, just call 571.481.8020.

**REGISTRATION** and easy \$1,820 installment schedule for "SIMPLY STUNNING SICILY!" (2016)

- July 13, 2016: Registration opens (Mail 2 page registration form, passport photocopy, and deposit).
- July 31, 2016: Registration closes (soft close!)
- August 31, 2016: \$1,488 Balance.

Checks can be made out to "Dolce Vita Adventures". You can send 2 predated checks at same time. The trip fee is calculated at a \$1.10 exchange rate. Should the dollar to Euro exchange rate exceed \$1.15 30 days or less prior to trip date, the difference will be calculated and added to the trip fee separately.

**REFUND POLICY:** Please consider the cost Dolce Vita Adventures incurs even before your adventure begins.

Cancellations before April 30th will be refunded by 75%. Cancellations after August 31<sup>st</sup> cannot be refunded, unless another traveler takes your spot.

**HEALTH AND FITNESS:** Although Dolce Vita Adventures are not overly strenuous and we don't advertise ourselves as a "walking tour", **good health and walking fitness is absolutely required** for full enjoyment. All of our walks are "optional", but the walks in the marvelous Italian countryside as well as the walks on uneven cobblestone streets are an integral part of our varied itineraries. Additionally, Italy has numerous historical centers where busses and cars are not permitted. These lovely pedestrian zones are where we live la Dolce Vita. Walking to these town centers or bus parking lots, always carrying/wheeling our own luggage (**ONE CARRY-ON PIECE**), will be our only option. Therefore, we accept bookings believing **you are able to carry/wheel your own** one piece of luggage.

If there is any doubt, it is your responsibility to provide us with a doctor's certificate approving your health and safety for the trip for which you have signed up. Please start a daily walking regiment 2 months prior to your trip.

**INSURANCE:** We advise all travelers to take out sufficient travel insurance to cover cancellation, illness or accidents. We recommend insurance for any personal belongings of value. We suggest [www.insuremytrip.com](http://www.insuremytrip.com), or any similar websites for your needs and a perfect match. Please note that Dolce Vita Adventures will not accept financial responsibility for any loss or damage to your luggage or personal property, nor for any inconvenience, delay, illness, injury, or fatality suffered by you as a result of making a reservation, or during the trip. However, Dolce Vita will act as an ombudsman and translator on your behalf, as well as seek out any and all assistance necessary in any unplanned or emergent situation.

**CODE OF CONDUCT:** When traveling with DVA, you agree by signing this form to abide by the decisions of your Dolce Vita Adventures Guide. If anyone behaves in such a way as to endanger the objective, safety and welfare of the group, our guides have the right to ask them to leave the group, with no refund. We rely on you to act safely, sensibly and prudently at all times and to comply with local codes of conduct and courtesy. You will indemnify us of all losses and/or damages arising from any act of misconduct on your part.

**CANCELLATION OR ALTERATION BY DVA:** It is unlikely that we will have to make many changes to your trip as we carefully plan and organize our schedules. We do, however, reserve the right to alter a tour itinerary (for example - due to adverse weather conditions or an Italian strike)

I accept all the above trip conditions

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(Signature)

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(Date)

*Travel through Italy with Personal Attention, Customized Service, Accountability and Commitment. If you have any questions, please call Sybil at 571.481.8020 (USA) or email [sybil@dolcevitaadventures.com](mailto:sybil@dolcevitaadventures.com)*