



# BAROQUE SICILY AND AEOLIAN ISLANDS

Cycling in the UNESCO Baroque Sicily, hiking in the myth

October 6 - 14, 2024

8 nights - 9 days

## INTRO

Sicily's strategic position, in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea, lying between Europe and Africa, linking the eastern and western Mediterranean and the Latin World with the Greek resulted in it being not only the prized possession of foreign powers in its tumultuous history, but also a battleground between warring nations. Sicily's long history of foreign domination has produced an incredible mix of traditions and cultures, leaving behind some of the most remarkable works of art and architecture found in the Mediterranean world. The overlapping of cultures, languages, and technological development can be seen not only in the towns and cities, but also in countryside, as the landscape has also been modified through time, with the acquiring of new irrigation and farming techniques and the introduction of new crops such as vines, olive and citrus trees, originating from other lands.

Eastern Sicily offers a variety of fine and astonishing sceneries. Through time, nature has modeled the area. The fast flowing streams descending from the extinct cone of the Monte Lauro have excavated many deep canyons -locally called Cave or "quarries"- on the flat plateau that gently degrades towards the sea. A very important factor that modified the architectonic aspect of the area was the devastating 1693 earthquake. The towns and villages of the area were so severely damaged that most of them had to be built anew. Great architects and craftsmen were called in to design and build the new cities, using the "new" style of the times, thus the Baroque style was applied in the building of an amazing sequence of monumental cities, very much intact still today. Intricately carved portals, windows and railings, richly decorated churches and palaces will astonish all travelers.

Nature will also bring on great emotions as you cycle though the Iblei countryside, bright green during spring and autumn, turning yellow brown-under the midsummer sun. As you enter the Anapo Valley you will be impressed not only by the vast orange and lemon plantations, but also by the fact that this area was chosen by the ancient civilization that populated the area from XIII BC as their territory. The most tangible proof of the presence of these people is the impressive Necropolis of Pantalica, the most famous in the world, built along the bank of the river.

## THE SICILIAN POPULATION

The earliest inhabitants of Sicily of whom we have any written record from the Bronze Age are the Sicans in east Sicily, village dwellers that settled in the East, near Agrigento and the Sikels who probably came from mainland Italy, settling in the centre of the island and cohabiting peacefully.

**Elymians:** The Elymians arrived around 1200 BC, during the Iron Age. Not much is known of their origin, but it's believed they come from Troy. They settled in the west, and founded the towns of Segesta, Erice and Entella, where interesting ruins are still visible. Elymians laid the foundation for the temple of Segesta that was built by the Greeks when they conquered the city. It seems as well that we owe the Elymians the tradition of cereal growing in western Sicily, endless fields of which are still peculiar to this area.

**Phoenicians:** The Phoenicians were notorious sea traders who discovered the sailing route to Sicily around 1000 BC and kept it a great secret because they realized it had great potential. They founded trading colonies in the safe natural harbours on the island of Motya and Palermo thus establishing trade relations with the Elymians

**Greeks:** The Greeks arrived around 800 BC, establishing strongholds on the east coast at Naxos (735 BC) and Syracuse (734), going on into the next century with Lentini, Catania, Megara Hiblaea, Zancle, Gela, and Selinunte. The Greeks greatly influenced all aspects of everyday Sicilian life and their traditions persevered even after their downfall.

**Romans:** During the Punic wars that started in 264 BC Sicily again found itself in an important strategic position between Italy and North Africa and by 210 BC Rome controlled the whole of the island.

Under Roman domination the cities lost some of their autonomy. Extensive rural estates were established in the interior, and luxurious villas were built (typified by the villas found at Piazza Armerina, Patti, and Eloro), as well as a good road network that went around the island. In the early Imperial period Sicily lost importance as a Roman province.

**Vandals:** During the 5C AD Sicily was the successive prey of the Vandals and the Ostrogoths of Germanic origin, which invaded from North Africa.

**Byzantine:** in AD 535 Belisarius conquered the Island for Byzantium. For a short period of time in 663 AD Syracuse became the capital of the Byzantine Empire, instead of Constantinople.

**Arabs:** Under the pressure of the Saracen invasion (AD 827) fighting for possession of the Island continued for 50 years. Palermo fell to the Arabs in 831 and Syracuse in 878. A spirit of tolerance marked Muslim rule. Palermo in the 9C was one of the great centres of scholarship and art in the world, surpassed in size in the Christian world only by Constantinople. The fertility of the island was exploited to the full, helped by the construction of incredible irrigation systems, and cotton, oranges, lemons, sugar cane, etc. was cultivated for the first time.

**Normans:** In 1060 the Norman Count Roger de Hautville (1031-1101), with a handful of knights, seized Messina. By 1091 Roger was in control of the entire island. Norman rule was characterized by its efficiency, and willingness to adapt to the Arabic, Greek, and Roman traditions that already existed on the island. In 1130 Roger's son (1093-1154) was crowned King of Sicily as Roger II. At that time he was probably the wealthiest ruler in Europe, and his court in Palermo the most brilliant. Meanwhile Messina flourished as a supply base for the Crusaders.

**Swabians:** in 1194 the Emperor Henry VI of Swabia, son of Barbarossa claimed the crown in the name of his wife, Constance (daughter of Roger II) and the last of the Hautevilles was put to death. His son Frederick II, 'stupor mundi', whose reign was marked by a prolonged struggle with the Papacy, succeeded him as Emperor and King of Sicily. His splendid court in Palermo, drawing on Islamic and Jewish, as well as Christian cultures, was famous throughout Europe for its splendour and learning. The Swabian line ended with the beheading of Conrardin in 1268.

**Angevins:** The Pope invested Charles of Anjou with the crown of Sicily and Naples. The hated Angevin rule was, however, soon terminated by the famous rebellion known as the Sicilian Vespers, which broke out at Palermo at the hour of vespers on Easter Tuesday, 1282. A French officer who had insulted a Sicilian bride on her way to church by insisting upon searching her for concealed weapons was immediately killed, and every Frenchman in Palermo was massacred.

**Aragonites:** Every Sicilian town, except Sperlinga, followed suit by massacring or expelling its French garrison, and the Sicilians summoned Peter of Aragon to be their king. From that day for over four centuries Aragonites princes and Spanish and Bourbon kings ruled Sicily, a period in which the rebellious spirit of the islanders lay dormant.

**Spanish:** By the 16C Charles V had moved the centre of power towards the West of the Mediterranean. After the discovery of America, Sicily lost much of its strategic importance.

**Savoy and Habsburg:** The 18th C saw power in the island pass quickly from hand to hand, first to Savoy 1713-20 then to the Habsburg 1720-34.

**Bourbons:** In 1734 Sicily returned under Bourbons domination. After Napoleon failed to invade the island, the British took control of Sicily. In the first years of the 19C and established a constitution for a brief period, because revolution broke out in 1848 against the Bourbons of Naples.

**Savoy:** In 1860 Garibaldi fired the imagination of the Sicilian people, landing at Marsala with his "Thousands" and led an attack against Naples, thus paving the way for Italian Unification. Hard Piedmontes' rule by Cavour soon proved unpopular. The Northern Italian cities took up a dominant position over the South and the economic position of Sicily was to remain for a century, long way behind that in the rest of Italy. Violence increased in the ungovernable interior of the island. By 1900 Sicily was one of the main areas of emigration in the world. In 1931, 40% of Sicilians were still illiterate. The geographical position of Sicily meant that the Allies chose the island for their first important attack on Hitler in Europe. The capture of Sicily by the Allies in 1943 (Operation 'Husky') was accomplished in 38 days. During the Italian administration in 1944 Civil War broke out on the island.



The “quarries” and the earthquake of 1693 are two of the principal factors in the present landscape of this part of Sicily. You are in the southernmost part of the island, where quietly flowing rivers have created deep gullies “cave” out of the white rock of the Iblei hills. These gullies were inhabited as far back as the year 2000 b.C. by ancient peoples arriving from the east. The necropolis of Pantalica with its 5000 caves carved into the rock face, is the largest in Europe, here, over the millennia the rivers have eroded away the calcareous stone of these modest mountains, creating a network of gorges, the so-called “cave” (Lit. quarries), of great interest from the naturalistic and morphologic point of view.

The earthquake led to a complete rebuilding of the towns in the area, in the Baroque style, in an undulating natural landscape that, allied to the play of light on stone, lend a certain magic and charm to the buildings so that this area is called “the realm of the Baroque” and is included in the UNESCO heritage list

### SOUL OF THE TOUR

- ❖ The little island of Ortigia, historical city center of Syracuse, its narrow streets and the baroque Duomo square;
- ❖ The fascinating UNESCO Baroque architecture of the towns in south-eastern Sicily;
- ❖ The Iblei Mountains: big calcareous tableland which was excavated by the “cave”, little canyons created by the rivers;
- ❖ Ibla, the ancient town of Ragusa: another of the jewels of the baroque architecture;
- ❖ The Greek theatre of Akrai (about 300 b.C.), little known, but important nevertheless;
- ❖ Palazzolo Acreide: St Sebastian’s Cathedral and the amazing cannoli of the Bar Pasticceria del Corso
- ❖ Anapo Valley Reserve: an environment of great biological interest where the Pantalica necropolis is also located: one of the most important archaeological sites in Europe;
- ❖ Traditional Sicilian food and wine
- ❖ Hiking on Etna, the highest active volcano in Europe
- ❖ UNESCO Aeolian islands, volcanic archipelago, place of magic and mythological charm: they are the islands of the wind god Aeolus and the cradle of magic, fantasy and history. Here history and myth merge
- ❖ Hiking on Vulcano island where the Romans believed their fire god, Vulcan, had his workshop
- ❖ Taormina and its magnificent Greco-Roman amphitheater

All of the South East Baroque Sicily took profit in the last years of the fiction Montalbano Inspector. As often happens, cinema has a significant power to let the people know the places.

#### "Montalbano sono..."

That's how **Montalbano** introduces himself from the start of each text. It doesn't need other introductions, his gestures and his cases characterize him page after page, frame by frame. A grouchy and self-effacing man, in love with his land, good food and sensitive to feminine charm, the inspector has an innate ability to solve the most complicated and turbid cases. Montalbano has no other ambition, he just wants to do his job well, and his sincere and direct attitude has guaranteed Camilleri's character his current success.

**Andrea Camilleri** 1925 – 2019. Was a director, screenwriter and author for RAI (Italian national television) following some of the most known Italian television crime shows (just think of Tenente Sheridan and Commissario Maigret), as well as for the theater. The underlying theme of his entire career is writing, which became more and more of an intense commitment after he abandoned the entertainment world because of age limits. After retiring, in fact, Camilleri debuted in fiction in 1978 with *Il corso delle cose*, a text that went mostly unnoticed, followed by *Un filo di fumo*, the first in a series of novels set in the fictional town of Vigata, now known all over the world. The real success, however, came between 1992 and 1994, years in which he published *La stagione della caccia* and especially *La forma dell'acqua*, the first novel that sees Montalbano as the leading character.

From this moment onward, Camilleri became one of the most beloved and followed authors in Italy and abroad, known around the world through the actions and the way of life of his main character.

## DAY BY DAY

<b>Day 1</b>	Arrival to Catania Airport. Cumulative and coordinated transfer to Ragusa Ibla. Welcome briefing, bike fitting and dinner all together	(dinner)
<b>Day 2</b>	Bike loop: Ibla-Modica and back	(b&b)
<b>Day 3</b>	Ibla – to Anapo Valley, light lunch and shuttle to Ortigia	(b&b)+ lunch
<b>Day 4</b>	Shuttle + bike ride + shuttle to the port to the Aeolian Islands	(b&b) + wine tasting and lunch
<b>Day 5</b>	Lipari island bike loop	(dinner)
<b>Day 6</b>	Salina Island bike ride	(b&b)
<b>Day 7</b>	Hiking on Vulcano island and shuttle to Taormina	(b&b)
<b>Day 8</b>	Hiking on Etna	(dinner)
<b>Day 9</b>	End of the trip - departure	(b&b)

## HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

one extra night in Ortigia, the historical heart of Syracuse. You'll love this charming and picturesque little island connected to Syracuse by two short bridges. Take your time to explore the labyrinthine alleys, where a dilapidated mix of styles gives the place a unique personality; discover its hidden gems, local shops, and vibrant old markets, vibrant places where you can find fresh, crafts, and traditional Sicilian products. It's an excellent way to experience the local culture.

The Piazza del Duomo is the central square of Ortigia, surrounded by stunning architecture, including the Cathedral of Syracuse, a masterpiece that combines various architectural styles.

Another reason to spend time in Ortigia is the waterfront promenade, enjoyable sea breeze, and beautiful scenery.

You will not want to miss seeing the ancient archaeological sites of the town, such as the temple of Apollo, one of the oldest Doric temples in Sicily, or the Greek archaeological site that includes the theatre and the ear of Dionysius, or the peaceful spot to relax, Fountain of Arethusa, a freshwater spring surrounded by lush vegetation. According to Greek mythology, the nymph Arethusa transformed into a spring to escape the river god Alpheus.

And... you'll need to pick your favorite one in several restaurants where to taste the traditional Sicilian cuisine. Enjoy fresh seafood, local wines, and delicious pasta dishes in the intimate ambiance of charming restaurants.

And the beautiful main church, getting lost in the pedestrian area with the small laboratories of the artisans and, for those who love history, there is the Greek archaeological site that includes the theatre and the ear of Dionysius that asks no less than half a day to visit.

Ortigia is one of those places that captures the essence of Sicily. There are different reasons for this: its rich history, stunning architecture, delicious cuisine, and a laid-back Mediterranean atmosphere. Whether you are interested in history, relaxation, or culinary delights, Ortigia has something to offer for every traveller.

## DIFFICULTY LEVEL

Moderate.

## RECOMMENDED CLOTHES

Cyclist shorts/long *salopette* (depending on the season), technical wind jacket to protect from the wind and drain the perspiration, waterproof cap (both for rain and downhill stretches), helmet, bathing suit, protective suntan cream during spring or summer. Keep in mind to bring equipment for the hiking sections also: hiking boots, warm jacket, hiking rackets.

### SUMMARY OF DISTANCES OF THE TOUR

PLANNING	DATE	WHERE	BIKE RIDES/ ACTIVITIES	MILES PER DAY	Km per day	EL GAIN in FEET	EL GAIN in m
Day 1	06-ott	IBLA		0,00		0,00	
Day 2	07-ott	IBLA	Ibla loop (Modica)	33,00	55,00	3181,60	970,00
Day 3	08-ott	ORTIGIA	Ibla to Sacre Pietre	22,80	38,00	2204,16	672,00
Day 4	09-ott	LIPARI	Trecastagni - Firriato winery	24,60	41,00	2351,76	717,00
Day 5	10-ott	LIPARI	Lipari loop	16,80	28,00	1948,32	594,00
Day 6	11-ott	LIPARI	Salina loop	22,20	37,00	3119,28	951,00
Day 7	12-ott	TAORMINA	Vulcano hiking	4,20	7,00	1180,80	360,00
Day 8	13-ott	TAORMINA	Etna hiking	3,60	6,00	1312,00	400,00



## PROGRAM

### DAY 1

Arrival to Catania Airport.

Coordinated and cumulative transfer to Ragusa – Ibla.

Welcome briefing and bike fitting in the afternoon.

**Ibla** is a place able to call forth dreamy emotions. On walking, after a night-time stroll through the alleys and the laughing masks of Ibla, the visitor might feel that he has dreamt the whole thing. By the light of day the “grinning masks” carved out of stone are even more amazing, one feels one could even start talking to them! In the sunshine, the wide front of San Giorgio appears bent over our heads, like an image in a trick mirror, towering over all the area at the top of the stairs.

**Overnight stay:** in Ibla. Dinner is included all together this night.

### DAY 2

Today you have a bike loop that is about Modica another beautiful baroque town included in the UNESCO heritage list. The Cathedral of San Giorgio (again) is one of the most representative monuments in town. The cathedral boasts a magnificent facade and an impressive interior. It is situated on the town's highest point, providing panoramic views of the surrounding area.

Modica is famous also because here born a famous Italian writer: Salvatore Quasimodo.

Another reason why the town is known is because of its unique chocolate, crafted using an ancient Aztec recipe brought to Sicily by the Spanish (who dominated Sicily between 16th and 18th century). The main characteristic of Modica's chocolate is its grainy and slightly gritty texture. There are several artisanal chocolate shops in Modica; your trip includes a taste of chocolate at **Bonajuto**, the oldest chocolaterie in town.

**Overnight stay:** in Ibla. Breakfast and chocolate tasting are included.

### DAY 3

Ibla – to Anapo Valley via Palazzolo Acreide.

You'll leave Ibla and will pass through the small town of Giarratana to get soon Palazzolo Acreide.

**Palazzolo Acreide** is another of the jewels of the Val di Noto area, where the Baroque is in contrast to the ancient ruins. Akrai has been a mythological place, swallowed up by the passage of time and by the absence of documents about it. Historian Tommaso Fazello discovered Akrai at the end of 16<sup>th</sup> century. The archaeological excavations, ran at the beginning of 19<sup>th</sup> century under the direction of baron Gabriele Iudica, dug up important evidences about ancient history of eastern Sicily. Ancient Akrai was founded by the Siracusans in 664 b.c. in a strategic position overlooking the surrounding countryside and the “via Selinuntina”, the road that joined Syracuse to the coastal towns in the south of the island.

Your ride today ends at a small country house into the Anapo Valley where you'll have a light lunch before to continue by van to Ortigia. Once in town take your time to discover the place and its rich history. Visit the remains of the stunning amphitheater and Temple of Apollo. Baroque cathedrals and palaces are part of the town.

**Overnight stay:** Ortigia, breakfast is included

### DAY 4

Shuttle to the town of Trecastagni in the morning from where you will start a rolling bike ride along the East feet of Mt Etna and to a local Winery.

Wine tasting and lunch at the winery. Private shuttle to the Milazzo port to the Aeolian Islands after lunch.

Hydrofoil shuttle to Lipari Island.

The first colonists settled on the Aeolian archipelago were drove by the presence of the obsidian, a stone sharp and hard, fruit of the early eruptions, rich in silicon and lacking in gas. The rock, described for the first time by a roman traveler in Ethiopia, was extremely precious for the realization of blades, lances and various tools. For more than 1500 years, until the Bronze Age, the inhabitants of the Aeolian Islands had at their disposal the hardest material of the period, thanks to the obsidian. The power and fascination of volcanoes, contrasting sceneries lit by an lush vegetation, the obsidian and its relation with the history of these places, the sweet taste of the “malvasia” wine, the capers and their flowers, the warmth of people. The Aeolian Islands represent a little paradise where life proceeds at different rhythms, slower and relaxed.

**Overnight stay:** Lipari, breakfast is included

## DAY 5

### Lipari loop bike ride

Today you'll have a clockwise loop ride around Lipari. It includes some great views on the near Vulcano, Salina and the farer Panarea and Stromboli the so called by the Greeks the "Lighthouse of the Mediterranean Sea."

Lipari, thanks to the obsidian erupted from its volcanoes, is one of the few Italian minor Islands where the presence of humans has always been constant since ancient age.

Along the way we'll stop to see an old caolino quarry. Nowadays, the quarry is not used anymore and saves a rough beauty; here, you breathe the scent of the sea while the colors of the rocks and the music of the wind mix in a magical atmosphere.

Free time in the afternoon, dinner is all together this night at the best restaurant in the island

Kaolin is the most essential raw material for the ceramic industry. This is due to its marked plasticity, i.e., the property of mixing with a lot of water, forming a tough paste capable of receiving the finest imprints, which becomes very hard when cooked. Kaolin is used in the paper industry as a filler and is one of the raw materials for the manufacture of ultramarine; it is used also to clarify wines and other cloudy liquids and in pharmacies as an inert material in the manufacture of certain pills.

**Overnight stay:** Lipari, breakfast and dinner are included

## DAY 6

### Salina bike ride

Ten-minute hydrofoil ride will take you to the close Salina Island where you'll have a beautiful hiking on top of the main extint crater of the island.

The quiet SALINA is the second largest of the Aeolian Islands. It is easily recognizable due to its distinctive two-humped profile consisting of two peaks: Monte dei Porri and Fossa delle Felci. Its name comes from the Roman period salt marshes, now disused, located in Lingua, a village on the southern coast.

Malmsey wine, capers, raisins, figs, and olives are specialties of the island, which combines historical, naturalistic, and bathing spots.

Today we'll ride all of the coastal road and cross the island inland through the two peaks. A beautiful, quiet and panoramic road that you'll save in your memory for long time

Hydrofoil or ferry back to Lipari in the afternoon and free time in Lipari.

**Overnight stay:** Lipari, breakfast is included

## DAY 7

Today you'll leave the Aeolian archipelago to come back to Sicily. Along the way you'll have another beautiful hiking; this is about Vulcano, according to the mythology, Vulcano - nowadays a dormant volcano - is the island that in ancient time was the seat of the forge of Hephaestus, God of fire. The Romans called him Vulcano and since then all the ancient mountains spiting fire have been called "volcanoes".

The hike is easy and spectacular in the same time, it takes you to the top of the crater that you can walk around along the path and enjoy the spectacular (again) views on the archipelago.

Free time for lunch and hydrofoil back to Milazzo in the afternoon from where the van transfer will take you to Taormina.

Taormina is considered an iconic place for who comes to visit Italy. The magnificent Greco-Roman amphitheater is for sure one of the most interesting highlights of the town, from here you will get a fantastic view of the Ionian Coast, Mt. Etna, and the city. Other main sights are the Palace Dukes of Santo Stefano, the Park Giovanni Colonna Duke of Cesarò (rich of history, charm and vegetation) and the most important church of the city: the Duomo di San Nicola. Take a relaxing walk along the Corso Umberto with its classical music cafés, pastry shops, art galleries and clothing boutiques.

**Overnight stay:** Taormina. Breakfast is included



## DAY 8

The last day of the trip is about Etna volcano, this is one of the safest volcano in the world which is active from about 600.000 years! Etna is another UNESCO site of this trip, it is included into the human heritage list because of its important terrestrial ecosystems, including endemic flora and fauna. Due to its activity, the highest volcano in Europe and, actually, the highest stratovolcano (a volcano built up of alternate layers of lava and ash) in the world, is a natural laboratory for the study of ecological and biological processes.

The hiking on Etna will be a mix of off-road vehicle and hiking leaded by a volcanologist that will introduce the area.

Transfer back to Taormina and free time in the afternoon before the farewell dinner at our favourite restaurant in town.

**Overnight stay:** Taormina. Breakfast and farewell dinner are included

## DAY 8

After breakfast the tour ends.

### THE ACCOMMODATION

Day 1	IBLA	<a href="#">Hotel II Giardino sul Duomo (3*)</a>
Day 2	IBLA	<a href="#">Hotel II Giardino sul Duomo (3*)</a>
Day 3	ORTIGIA	<a href="#">Hotel Gargallo (3*)</a>
Day 4	LIPARI	<a href="#">Hotel Tritone (4*)</a>
Day 5	LIPARI	<a href="#">Hotel Tritone</a>
Day 6	LIPARI	Hotel Tritone
Day 7	TAORMINA	<a href="#">Hotel Villa Diodoro (4*)</a>
Day 8	TAORMINA	Hotel Villa Diodoro



## PRICE AND SERVICES

### SERVICES INCLUDED

- 8 nights accommodation on double occupancy basis (3 and 4 star hotels and farm)
- 8 breakfast service
- 2 lunches (D3 and D4)
- 3 dinners (D1, D5 and D8)
- Chocolate tasting in Modica
- Coordinated and cumulative welcome transfer
- All of the ferry and hydrofoil shuttles
- Volcanologist for the Etna excursion
- Nature guide for Vulcano island
- Van support along the bike rides
- Technical assistance
- Bike fitting
- GPS tracks
- Digital tour Agenda with maps and useful info for the trip
- Luggage transfer.

**SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY PRICE: €3,100 (about Cad\$4,500) per person in double room and based on a minimum of 8 participants**

Supplement for the E bike rental: €350 – Road bike: €290

Supplement for the Single room: €445

### \*NOT INCLUDED

Cost to reach Sicily

Travel insurance

Alcoholic drinks, personal expenses, and tips

Departure transfer

Everything not clearly included in the paragraph “Services included”

## BOOKING & CANCELLATION POLICY

The total for the tour package is **€3,100 (about Cad\$4,500)** per person with accommodation in a double room.

Single supplement €445 (about Cad\$ 650) per person.

Reservation Deposit: the non-refundable deposit required at the time of booking is 30% of the total price of your trip.

Balance Payment: the balance will be due 60 days prior to arrival.

CANCELLATION POLICY Up to 60 days prior to arrival: the 30% deposit will not be refunded.

From 59 days prior to arrival, or no show: cancellations will be charged 100% of the total amount.

### CANCELLATION POLICY RELATED TO PANDEMIC RESTRICTIONS:

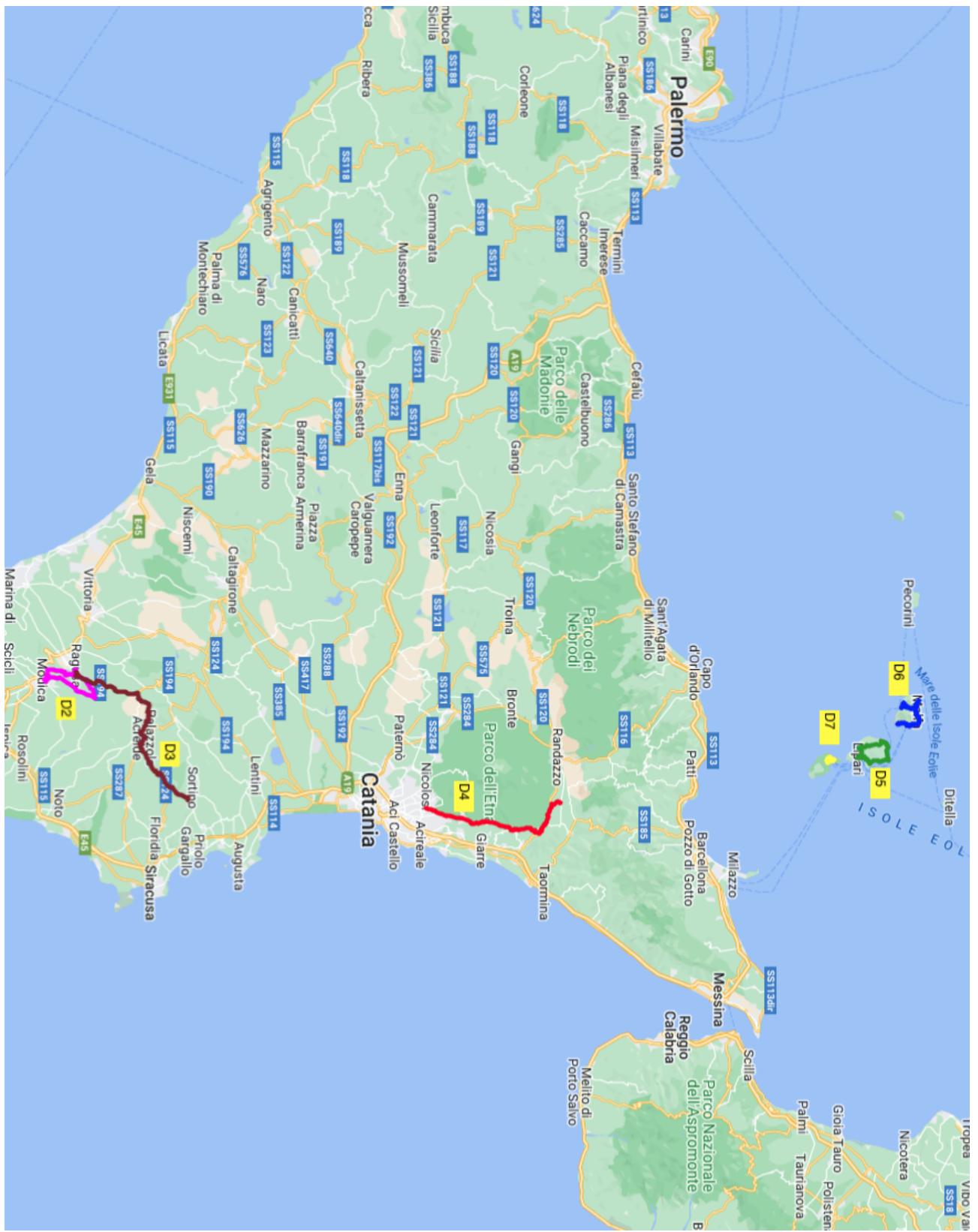
In case of unforeseen events caused by Covid or other pandemic diseases, we offer you a voucher or “credit note” which corresponds to the amount that you have already paid. It gives you the chance to re-book your tour for a later date.

We strongly advise purchasing Travel Insurance to protect your travel investment in case you need to change plans.

We can refer you to get a free quote from Manulife.

## MAKE IT A MEMORABLE VACATION

If you'd like to complement this trip with extra days in Sicily, or in another region in Italy, or Greece, I can provide you with an Itinerary.



## Trip General view