

ALEXANDER+ROBERTS®

ORIGINAL JOURNEYS SINCE 1947

Enhance Your Stay in Siracusa with Additional Privately Guided Sightseeing

Private Siracusa 🌐 Full-Day Tour – Neapolis, Ortigia + Giudecca Jewish Area: This in-depth private tour begins at Neapolis Archaeological Park, Siracusa's most important site of antiquity. Experience the ancient grandeur of this once-mighty city, founded by Greek settlers from Corinth, as you explore the ruins including the Greek theater and Roman amphitheater. Crossing a 19th-century bridge to the island of Ortigia, you'll explore Siracusa's vibrant Old Town. Admire the stately palaces that grace its Baroque squares and stroll down labyrinthine streets lined with artisans' studios. In the afternoon, your tour continues to the Giudecca, the city's historic Jewish quarter. Established in the 3rd century, Siracusa's Jewish community grew into one of Sicily's largest. But in 1492, Sicilian Jews and Muslims were forced to flee when King Ferdinand II issued the Alhambra Decree. Beneath the city streets, remnants of the medieval Jewish community endure: a miqwè, or ritual bath, lies about 32 feet beneath the surface, fed by a natural spring. Scholars believe it served as the primary bath for Siracusa's Jewish community, potentially ranking as Europe's oldest medieval miqwè. *Tour Duration: 7 Hours*

Private Ragusa 🌐 Walk + Taste Tour: Enjoy the chauffeured drive to Ragusa where you'll meet your resident guide for a privately guided tour designed to immerse you in the historic sights and flavors of this picturesque hilltop town, recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its Baroque landmarks. Begin with a stroll through the *Giardino Ibleo*, public gardens that offer a display of Mediterranean flora and lovely vistas. In the center of town, you'll have a chance to sample some of Sicily's culinary delights, starting with Cannoli: crisp shells filled with creamy ricotta and sweet honey. Typically eaten on the go, Ragusa's famous Scaccia is a stuffed flatbread filled with flavorful ingredients like tomato, olives, herbs and cheeses. Enjoy one as you continue your guided tour to visit several of Ragusa's most important Baroque treasures including the Cathedral and the ancient Portal of San Giorgio. Finish your tour with a tempting spread of Ragusa's culinary offerings: an assortment of local cheeses and cured meats, creamy ricotta, golden honey, freshly baked bread, artisanal olive oil, and, of course, a glass of fine Sicilian wine. *Tour Duration: 6.5 Hours*

Private Market Tour + Cooking Class at Fiora's: Join our engaging resident chef-guide Fiora in the lively Ortigia market. Filled with an incredible variety of freshly caught fish and seafood along with fruits and vegetables from local farms, it's a delightful place to experience an authentic slice of local life. With her deep knowledge of Sicilian cuisine and the region's fresh bounty, Fiora will guide you around the market—sharing her secrets on how to select the best ingredients. Once inside her kitchen, you'll learn how to prepare a Sicilian meal from scratch, while also enjoying an aperitif and engaging conversation. After this hands-on cooking class, sit down with Fiora to enjoy the dishes that you've helped to prepare. *Tour Duration: 4.5 Hours*

Private Full-Day Tour to Ragusa 🌐 and Modica 🌐: With your own car and driver and our expert resident guide, this in-depth tour takes you into the Noto Valley to explore two distinctive towns, both recognized as UNESCO World Heritage Sites for their wealth of finely-preserved Baroque architecture. Complementing your tour of Ragusa's Old Town, including the Cathedral of San Giovanni Battista and Portal of San Giorgio, will be a visit to a local workshop where you'll see two master craftsmen carve and paint wooden wheelbarrows of amazing detail and artistry. Then sit down to a hearty snack featuring local cheeses and freshly baked breads enhanced by Sicilian olive oil and wine.

From Ragusa, continue to Modica, a pretty town nestled within a deep valley formed by four hills. Following the devastating earthquake in 1693, the town was rebuilt in Sicilian Baroque style and many of Modica's outstanding Baroque churches date to this period. Beyond these World Heritage landmarks, your guide will also introduce you to Modica's other treasure: Chocolate! The town's chocolate-making traditions date back 400 years when the island was under Spanish rule. Conquistadors returning from the New World brought cocoa with them, and Sicily was one of the first places to receive this new bounty along with ancient Aztec methods of chocolate making. Visit one of Modica's famous chocolatiers to learn more about this history and these traditions—and sample some of their sweet confections! *Tour Duration: 8 Hours*

Private Full-Day Tour to Noto 🌐 and Marzamemi with Wine Experience: Sit back and enjoy the scenic chauffeured drive to Noto where our engaging resident guide is eager to show you the Baroque landmarks of their hometown. Following the cataclysmic earthquake of 1693, Noto was rebuilt practically from the ground up—embodying the graceful transition from Baroque splendor to Rococo opulence. Today, Noto is a UNESCO World Heritage Site that proclaims itself as Sicily's unrivaled Capital of Baroque. Join your guide along Noto's evocative streets, immersing yourself in its architecture while savoring some traditional pastries. Then continue with your car and driver to a nearby vineyard estate famed especially for its exceptional Nero D'Avola. Enjoy a tasting of this bold, full-bodied red while sampling traditional Sicilian snacks. Before returning to Siracusa, you'll also spend time in Marzamemi, a pretty seaside village that traces its history to Arab fishermen who settled here more than 1,000 years ago. *Tour Duration: 8.5 Hours*