Flavors of Sicily

A 9-Day Potpourri of Cuisine, Culture & Antiquities
FLAVORS OF SICILY

No other island pulls you in as tightly and feeds the soul so completely as Sicily. Dive into the complex layers of Sicilian lore forged from a marriage of contrasts.

Tour Sicily’s main attractions, admire the stunning surroundings, and relax in the comforts of 5-star San Domenico Palace Hotel, built in an ancient Dominican monastery on a rocky hillside on the east coast of Sicily.

Dear Alumni and Friends,

With Sicilian wine and cuisine as our inspiration, and a luxurious hotel as our home base, I invite you to join us to embrace the beauty of Sicily.

An intimate, small-group atmosphere and authentically Sicilian experience distinguish this 9-day program. Immerse yourself in a cultural and culinary adventure: indulge in a decadent brioche and granita for breakfast like a local; converse with winemakers and learn secrets from celebrated chefs; and taste boutique wines paired with locally renowned antipasti, secondi, and historic dishes such as iconic pasta alla Norma.

Relax under the shade of citrus groves in the coastal town of Taormina. Journey through the landscape with talented guides who will thoughtfully introduce you to the traditions of this glorious place, and return home with stories to share that will remain with you forever.

Space is limited. Our rates for Dartmouth guests represent savings of more than $800 per couple (alumni as well as family and friends are eligible). Please reserve today by calling (866) 639-0079, by visiting alumni.dartmouth.edu/learnandtravel/travel, or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Warmly,
Program Highlights:

- Enjoy seven nights in the luxury and elegance of the 5-star San Domenico Palace Hotel in Taormina.
- Work side-by-side in the kitchens of distinguished chefs, learning time-tested techniques and modern twists with ingredients grown in the mineral-rich, volcanic soil of Mount Etna’s fertile lowlands.
- Take a cable car down to the shore for a lunch beside the sea.
- Spend time exploring the coastal towns of Taormina and Siracusa—including a stop at a local outdoor market.
- Visit Benanti, a family-owned boutique winery with a strong international focus. It was selected Top 100 Winery by *Wine & Spirits Magazine USA* in 2012.
- Visit Sicily’s archaeological masterpieces—the ancient theatres of Taormina and Siracusa, and the Villa Romana del Casale mosaics in Piazza Armerina.
- Explore Mount Etna, a natural marvel and UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Day after day, experience the fusion of tradition and modernity, and see for yourself how Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Arab, Norman, German, French, and Spanish influences have formed this magnificent island of fertility.

**What’s included:** 7 nights accommodations, 7 breakfasts, 5 lunches and 3 dinners served with wine, private motor coach transportation, luggage handling, and airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.
Day-by-Day Itinerary*:

Day 1: En Route from U.S.

Day 2: Arrive Catania, Sicily, Italy / Taormina
Settle in at the San Domenico Palace Hotel, an enchanting property that’s carved into a hillside, overlooking the Ionian Sea. Explore the lush grounds and take in the magnificent views. Get acquainted with your travel companions at a welcome reception followed by dinner served with Sicilian wines and specialties of the region.
*Overnight: San Domenico Palace Hotel (R,D)

Day 3: Taormina
Spend the day touring Taormina, an idyllic town perched on a rocky hillside. With your local guide, delight in exploring the town’s network of winding streets and ancient Greek theatre—one of Sicily’s most picturesque and well-preserved. Charming streets open to stunning panoramas of popular beaches, the warm Ionian Sea, and snow-capped Mount Etna. Take a cable car down to the shore for a lunch beside the sea.
*Overnight: San Domenico Palace Hotel (B,L)

Day 4: Piazza Armerina
Today visit Sicily’s archaeological masterpiece and UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Villa Romana del Casale. Our guide will lead us on an exploration of the famous 4th-century site considered a display of the best preserved and extensive examples of Roman mosaics in the world, offering you a glimpse of a wealthy Sicilian family’s lifestyle of centuries past. Before heading back to the hotel, indulge in a lunch featuring Sicilian specialties.
*Overnight: San Domenico Palace Hotel (B,L)

Day 5: Viagrande / Catania
Learn how to cook the Sicilian way! Join award-winning chef and author Eleonora Consoli’s team in her 18th-century home in Viagrande. First, browse the colorful and culture-rich market in nearby Catania for fresh, local ingredients. Then gather in Eleonora’s spacious kitchen to prepare a complete, 4-course menu. After lunch, venture to Benanti, a local award-winning winery, for an afternoon tasting filled with delightful conversation with fellow travelers.
*Overnight: San Domenico Palace Hotel (B,L)

Day 6: Mount Etna
Today you can opt to visit Sicily’s greatest natural attraction, Mount Etna—another UNESCO World Heritage Site and the highest active volcano in Europe. Lovingly known locally as “The Etna,” at almost 11,000 feet, it has four craters at the summit and more than 300 vents on the flanks. Marvel at its enormity as you take its unique,
dominant features and view the destruction of previous eruptions and lava flows.

Guests opting to remain at the hotel in the morning to relax and enjoy the fine amenities instead of the high-elevation hike at 6,000 feet can view Mount Etna’s splendor from the hotel’s hilltop location. Later, rejoin the group for a wine tasting and a delicious lunch in the afternoon at Planeta winery. Here, focus on how the cultivation of the ancient fertile lands around Mount Etna influences the wine.

*Overnight: San Domenico Palace Hotel (B,L)*

**Day 7: Siracusa / Ortigia**
Welcome to the historically notable town of Siracusa, a 2,700-year-old seaside city founded by Greek Corinthians and Teneans. Cicero was said to have described Siracusa as the greatest Greek city and most beautiful of them all. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, it flaunts many structures from as early as the 5th century B.C. Become a part of coastal Ortigia, a small island often called the heart of Siracusa. Indulge your senses with the sights, sounds and flavors as you follow cobblestone walkways. The kaleidoscopic markets overflow with local seafood, dairy, meat, and succulent produce such as ruby-red tomatoes, tender figs, and dark green capers. In the evening, have a relaxing dinner at the hotel.

*Overnight: San Domenico Palace Hotel (B,D)*

**Day 8: Taormina**
After breakfast, embark on a brief journey to Villa Britannia and experience a hands-on cooking class of traditional Sicilian fare with celebrated Chef Carmelo U Boss. The chef chooses only locally grown, hand-picked ingredients to concoct a unique menu for our group. Create mouth-watering dishes like marinated prawns, caponata, pasta alla Norma, seafood risotto, zuppa di pesce, veal rolls, chicken alla cacciatore, plus amazing desserts such as Sicilian cassata, tiramisu, or crespelle. Your farewell dinner is a celebration at The Principe Cerami, a 2-Michelin-star restaurant run by Chef Massimo Mantarro and features his refined haute cuisine.

*Overnight: San Domenico Palace Hotel (B,L,D)*

**Day 9: Depart Sicily**
After breakfast, guests departing during the suggested times take a complimentary transfer to the airport for a flight home. *(B)*

*B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner, R = Reception*

*Itinerary subject to change*

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**ORBRIDGE WINE GIFT**

**Early Reservation Bonus**

Reserve your space early and receive six bottles of wine featuring labels by vintners in the regions you will visit during this program! This Orbridge exclusive gift is our thanks to you for joining us early.

Where wine delivery by mail is prohibited by state law, guests in those states will receive alternative specialty items of comparable value. **Please view the reservation form for more details.**

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**What’s Included:**

- Seven nights accommodations at San Domenico Palace Hotel (or similar)
- 7 breakfasts, 5 lunches, and 3 dinners served with wine
- Full services of an Orbridge Travel Director in addition to expert local guides
Intimate cooking classes with celebrated chefs

In-depth, guided exploration of Sicily’s main attractions—Taormina, Mount Etna, Villa Romana del Casale, Siracusa, and Ortigia

Private motor coach transportation, luggage handling, and airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times

Gratuities to Orbridge Travel Director, local guides, drivers and porters

Your Guide(s):

Chiara: Insider, Interpreter, Epicure, Host

Chiara’s opinion is that wine and food are the best ways to understand and get to know a country. Chiara is Milano-born and lived in Northern Italy for many years. After studying art and literature, she relocated to Tuscany where she worked with the producer of the famous Chianti Classico in the hills between Siena and Florence. In charge of export, grape harvest, and olive oil production, she is expert in her knowledge of Italian foods and wine. Having owned an Agriturismo working farm in the Siena countryside, she understands what people appreciate most about the significance of Italy’s ‘slow food’ roots. Speaking five languages and a gifted sommelier, she is among the founders of the national association “Donne del Vino” (women of wine). Catch Chiara’s enthusiasm and explore the flavors of this wonderful region with added confidence, understanding, and appreciation. Cheers!

Guide subject to change.

Program Accommodations:

San Domenico Palace Hotel

Built in an ancient Dominican monastery, San Domenico Palace Hotel’s luxurious, 5-star accommodations provide the ideal balance between style and comfort. Carved into a rocky hillside on the east coast of Sicily, this enchanting property overlooks Taormina Bay with mesmerizing views of nearby Mount Etna. Stroll the grounds and discover the fragrant gardens, and enrich your senses breathing in the fresh breeze off the Ionian Sea.

Property Amenities: Two restaurants (one is rated 2-Michelin-stars and is run by Chef Massimo Mantarro), two bars, free Wi-Fi zone, spa, and fitness center.
Classic: Spacious and bright, these classically appointed rooms overlook either the Cloisters or the town of Taormina.

Deluxe: Perched from this delightful room’s balcony, you will have spanning views of either Taormina Bay or the Greek theatre.

Room Amenities: Air conditioning, LCD television with satellite channels, Wi-Fi internet (charges apply), telephone, en suite bathroom with bathtub and shower, hair dryer, safe deposit box, mini-bar.

Activity Level:

Moderate

Activities are generally not very strenuous, however, we expect that guests on this program can enjoy two hours or more of walking, are sure-footed on cobbled surfaces, and can walk up and down stairs without assistance. Historic city centers are usually more accessible by foot than vehicle. Due to the structure of some buildings, facilities for the disabled may be limited. Also, dexterity to use kitchen tools and participate in lessons is not necessary, but adds to the enjoyment of this program.

Optional Extension:

ADD DAYS 9-12 IN PALERMO

Enjoy Sicily’s fascinating and bustling capital, Palermo. The city, which is over 2,700 years old, is rich in history, culture, art, music, and gourmet cuisine.

Itinerary:

Day 9: Depart Taormina / Arrive Palermo
Begin your panoramic tour of Palermo, including visits to the opera house Teatro Politeama, “La Cala” (the old harbour), Piazza Indipendenza, Porta Nuova, Piazza del Parlamento and Villa Bonanno Garden, and Monreale Cathedral.

Overnight: Grand Hotel Villa Igiea
Day 10: Palermo / Cefalù / Guided Sightseeing
After breakfast, enjoy a half-day, walking tour of the historical center of Palermo. Stop at Teatro Massimo, then stroll through Mercato di Capo market and the Jewish Quarter, and visit Palermo’s cathedral, Martorana. Later, travel to picturesque Cefalù for an introductory tour to see the old walls, Pescara gate, and a popular beach.
Overnight: Grand Hotel Villa Igiea (B)

Day 11: Leisure
Today includes activities at your leisure. Enjoy Palermo for all it has to offer. Visit one of the extraordinary monuments not yet seen or simply explore one of its lively markets. Or, take advantage of the lovely amenities at the Grand Hotel Villa Igiea.
Overnight: Grand Hotel Villa Igiea (B)

Day 12: Depart Sicily
In the morning, transfer to the airport for your flight home. (B)

B = Breakfast

Please note: extensions are not escorted by an Orbridge Travel Director. Included sightseeing is accompanied by a local guide. Group space may not be available within 90 days of departure.

Accommodations:

Grand Hotel Villa Igiea (or similar)

Located in the sun-soaked capital city of Palermo, the luxurious, 5-star Grand Hotel Villa Igiea was restored from a private family home at the end of the 19th century by renowned Art Nouveau architect Ernesto Basile for the Florio family and still proudly displays its original frescoes and period-themed decoration and furniture. Relax in the villa’s modern comforts and enjoy its breathtaking coastal views. Or, opt for nearby resort activities that include tennis, golf, or a romantic evening cruise (additional fees apply).

Property Amenities: Free Wi-Fi zone, outdoor swimming pool, tennis court, business center, fitness center, spa, two fine-dining restaurants and a pool bar/grill.

Room Amenities: Individually controlled heating and air conditioning, Wi-Fi Internet access (charges apply), telephone, LCD satellite television, mini-bar, safe, and en suite bathroom with shower and/or tub and hair dryer.

What's Included:

+ Transfer from Taormina to Palermo
* Three nights accommodations at Grand Hotel Villa Igiea (or similar), with breakfast each morning

* Guided sightseeing of Palermo and Cefalù, as well as entrance fees to Monreale Cathedral

* Transfer from hotel to airport with luggage handling
Reservation Form

Flavors of Sicily

APRIL 14, 2016 — APRIL 22, 2016
EXTENSION: APRIL 22, 2016 — APRIL 25, 2016

☐ Option 1: Reserve online now at alumni.dartmouth.edu/travel
or call (866) 639-0079.

☐ Option 2: Secure your reservation with a deposit charged to the credit card below, or with an enclosed check payable to: Orbridge, LLC.

Guest Information:

Guest #1 (as printed on passport): ___________________________ Class Year ________

Guest #2 (as printed on passport): ___________________________ Class Year ________

Address: _______________________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: __________ ZIP: __________

Email: ___________________________ Phone: ___________ Alt. Phone: __________

Category Preference (if applicable): 1st choice __________________ 2nd choice ______

Deposit:

(#) ________ guests joining program ($850/person)

(#) ________ guests joining extension ($500/person if applicable) = Total deposit: $ __________

Deposit Payment:

☐ Check enclosed  ☐ Online Check/ACH  ☐ MasterCard/Visa  ☐ American Express  ☐ Discover

Card #: ___________________________ Exp. date: __________ CVV: __________

Name (as printed on card): ___________________________________________

Billing address (if different from above): ________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: __________ ZIP: __________

I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at http://terms.orbridge.com and detailed in program documents; and that Orbridge LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: __________

Mail or fax reservation form and deposit to: Orbridge
P.O. Box 10339, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110
Fax: (206) 452-5655

Program Rates*

Classic Double: $4,995
Deluxe with Sea View: $5,995
Classic Single: $6,995

Extension Rate**
Standard: $1,695
Single: $2,195

Early Reservation Bonus:
Reserve by November 30, 2015 and receive a FREE Wine Gift ***

*Special group rates; limited offer. Rates are per person based on double occupancy except where noted as Single, in U.S. dollars. Single availability limited. Airfare not included. **Extension rate is per person based on double occupancy except where noted as Single, in U.S. dollars.
Terms and Conditions

ORBRIDGE® TERMS AND CONDITIONS

These Travel Guest Terms and Conditions (“Agreement”) apply to and control any travel services offered by or through Orbridge LLC or any of its Affiliates (together and in the alternative, “Orbridge”). “You” or “your” (as the context may require). For purposes of this Agreement, the term “affiliates” means any natural person or legal entity that is under common control with Orbridge. “Control” means the ability, directly or indirectly, to direct the affairs of Orbridge by means of ownership, contract, employment relationship or otherwise. “You” and “your” means each program participant.

Rates.

Rates are based on minimum participation levels, current fares (air, water, land, tariffs and currency values). While Orbridge does everything possible to maintain the listed program rates, they are subject to change effective immediately upon posting unless otherwise specified by Orbridge. In the case of invoicing errors, we reserve the right to re-invoice with the correct pricing.

Registration, Deposits and Final Payment.

To confirm and secure your reservation, a deposit of $850 per person per program and $500 per person per extension, and any non-refundable deposits are due at the time of registration payable by check, ACH, money order, wire transfer of same day U.S. funds, or major credit card. Final payment including any extension(s) and options is payable by check, money order, wire transfer of same day U.S. funds ONLY and no later than 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date. If your reservation is made fewer than 90 days prior to departure, the entire cost of the program, plus any extension and options, is due at the time of registration by check, money order, ACH or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds ONLY. If final payment is not received by Orbridge at least 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date, (a) the reservation is subject to a late payment fee equal to 2% (or the maximum permitted by law) of the total invoice amount, per week until paid in full, and (b) Orbridge may, at any time and with or without notice, cancel your reservation in its sole and absolute discretion. All payments we receive from you herein defined as “Payments”.

Reservation Grace Period.

Reservations made no fewer than 14 calendar days prior to the scheduled program departure date may be canceled at any time during the seven (7) calendar day period (the “Grace Period”) immediately following the date of reservation for a full refund of all Payments received by Orbridge as of the effective date of termination. Notice of termination must be in writing to Orbridge in the Grace Period and is effective only on timely receipt of such written notice by Orbridge. For all other reservations and cancellations, the terms of the Cancellations and Refunds section below apply.

Cancellations and Refunds.

All cancellations must be submitted to Orbridge in writing and will be subject to a cancellation fee (“Cancellation Fee”) as follows: (a) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge 151 or more days prior to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be $500 per person per program and $300 per person per program for any extension; (b) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 151 and 91 days prior to the scheduled departure date the Cancellation Fee will be forfeiture of the full deposit per person per program including any extension(s); and (c) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge 90 days or fewer prior to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full program price. In addition to and not in lieu of the foregoing, a Cancellation Fee equal to 100% of the carrier charge applies to all non-refundable airfares due to your cancellation made at any time prior to the scheduled program departure date as applicable. Refunds, if any, of any Payments in excess of the aggregate Cancellation Fee shall be processed within 30 calendar days of our receipt of your written notice.

Travel Insurance.

Orbridge strongly recommends that you purchase travel and cancellation insurance to protect your interests in the event of unexpected or unforeseen circumstances, including without limitation, force majeure events, that may cause the cancellation of your trip. In addition, we recommend that you consider obtaining a policy(ies) that will cover some or all of your losses associated with damage or loss of luggage or personal effects. If you do not have, but are interested in, purchasing travel and cancellation insurance please contact us immediately.

Cancellations.

All programs are subject to cancellation by Orbridge prior to the scheduled departure date for such reasons as, but not limited to, insufficient participation, or logistical problems (e.g., lack of roomate, weather, or otherwise unforeseen, unforeseeable, non-avoidable circumstances). In such an event, Orbridge may cancel any remaining segments of your program and refund payments by check, money order, wire transfer of same day U.S. funds, or major credit card to you in a timely manner. If your program is cancelled prior to departure, Orbridge shall refund all payments made to you by check, money order, wire transfer of same day U.S. funds, or major credit card. If your program is cancelled after departure, Orbridge shall refund all payments made to suppliers, a refund by Orbridge of such Payments held by Orbridge as of the date of cancellation, and (b) for Payments received by Orbridge that already have been advanced/paid to suppliers, a refund of $500 per person per program and $300 per person per extension, and any non-refundable deposits, less the cost of collection and other costs associated with suppliers, a refund by Orbridge of such Payments held by Orbridge as of the date of cancellation, and (b) for Payments received by Orbridge that already have been advanced/paid to suppliers, a refund of $300 per person per program and $200 per person per extension.

Not Included.

Unless otherwise specifically noted in the itinerary, program prices do not include the following expenses, which if applicable are your sole responsibility to pay and satisfy: trip cancellation insurance and passenger travel protection plans; domestic, international, and international airfares; transfers and luggage handling fees in connection with scheduled group flights; costs associated with obtaining passports or entry visas; airport departure taxes; airline ticketing fees; transfers when arriving/Departing on other than scheduled group dates; excess baggage or overweight bag fees; new or added taxes or surcharges or costs added to any of the above by applicable governmental authority, gratuities to drivers, guides, or ship’s crew not specified; meals and beverages other than those specified as included in the itinerary; sightseeing not included in the itinerary; personal expenses such as laundry, communication charges and optional activities (which are subject to availability); and ship, air, or transportation fuel surcharges, if applicable.

Health and Fitness to Travel.

Some programs include physical active elements. To enjoy the program as intended, a minimum level of fitness is required. Accordingly, you must be in good physical and mental condition to participate. You represent and warrant to Orbridge that you have no physical, mental or other condition, impairment or disability that may or will cause or create a risk of injury or other hazard to yourself or others in respect to any aspect of the program you have selected. Orbridge may, in its sole discretion, limit, restrict or prohibit participation in any aspect of any program you have selected: it considers in its sole discretion to be impaired or unsuitable due to fitness level. In addition, Orbridge may, in its sole discretion and at the participant’s sole expense, remove from the program; or restrict the program-related activities of any individual whose physical or mental condition may or is likely to cause a hazard to himself/herself or others, or otherwise impair the enjoyment of other program participants. Any physical condition requiring special attention, diet, or treatment must be reported in writing to Orbridge at the time a program reservation is made. Should you have any questions or need any clarification about a specific program, please ask for details at the time of registration. Notwithstanding the foregoing, you hereby acknowledge and agree that nothing in this Section creates any obligation or duty on the part of Orbridge to monitor, to make any decision or determination or to take any action in respect to any program participant on account of such individual’s physical or mental condition, health or otherwise.

Travel Advisories and Warnings.

It is the sole responsibility of each guest to stay informed about the most current international travel advisories and warnings by visiting the U.S. State Department’s travel website at http://www.travel.state.gov or by contacting the U.S. State Department directly. In the event of an active State Department Travel Warning (“Warning”) against travel to a specific destination or locations(s) and you elect to travel to the location(s) notwithstanding such Warning, you hereby agree, individually and on behalf of your marital community, heirs, estates, personal representatives, executors and assigns, to assume, and to defend, indemnify and hold Orbridge harmless from and against, all actual or potential personal injuries, death, property damage and other loss or casualty arising from or related to events that are the same or similar to those specified in the Warning.

Children.

Orbridge welcomes the participation of children in its programs. However, in the event you do include your children or other minors for whom you serve as legal guardian (together, “Dependents”) in your travel plans, you hereby acknowledge and agree that you and shall be at all times solely responsible for their care, actions, safety and protection during the program and any extension(s). Should you have any questions whether a particular program or inclusion is suitable for your Dependents, please contact us and we will do our best to provide you with answers.

Baggage.

Program rates include the price of two (2) pieces of policy-compliant baggage per person during the land or cruise portion of the program only unless specified in the itinerary. Please be advised that air cars often impose restrictions or limitations on the number of pieces, size and weight of luggage and may reject or impose additional fees on luggage exceeding such...