

ITALIAN TOUR AND COOKING CLASSES

ITALY



DAY 1 / Australia - Italy

DAY 2 / Rome **D**

Upon arrival in Rome, meet your driver and transfer to your hotel. Spend a free day exploring the city as a group. Enjoy a restaurant dinner.

First night's accommodation in Rome

DAY 3 / Rome **B L**

Enjoy a half-day guided tour of the Vatican City, including visits to St Peter's Cathedral, the Vatican Museums and the Sistine Chapel. In the afternoon, explore Rome with your teachers leading the group. Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

Second night's accommodation in Rome

DAY 4 / Rome **B D**

Enjoy a half-day guided tour of Rome, including visits to the Colosseum, the Roman Forum and the Arch of Constantine. The afternoon is free for you to explore Rome as a group. Enjoy a restaurant dinner.

Third night's accommodation in Rome

DAY 5 / Rome **B L D**

After breakfast, make your way to a restaurant in central Rome to enjoy your first cooking class. Your chef will take you shopping first, to get some fresh ingredients from the market. You will then learn how to cook some of the most popular Italian dishes and finally you will get to taste and eat what you have been working on so... make sure you do a good job.

Fourth night's accommodation in Rome

DAY 6 / Rome **B L D**

This morning, make your way to the restaurant in central Rome to enjoy your second cooking class. Spend the remainder of the afternoon at your leisure with the teachers leading the group. Dinner at a local restaurant

Fifth night's accommodation in Rome

DAY 7 / Pompeii, Napoli **B D**

Board your coach and transfer to Pompeii. Enjoy a guided tour of the archaeological excavations. Continue on to Napoli later in the afternoon. Check in at your accommodation and make your way to a traditional pizzeria for a pizza making demonstration.

Overnight accommodation in Napoli

DAY 8 / Montecatini **B D**

Transfer to Montecatini. Upon arrival, drop your bags at the hotel and start exploring this town well known for its spas and its tradition in the tourism and hospitality trade.

First night's accommodation in Montecatini

DAY 9 / Montecatini **B D**

Enjoy your first cooking class in Montecatini. Visit Florence in the afternoon.

Second night's accommodation in Montecatini

DAY 10 / Montecatini **B D**

Enjoy your second cooking class in Montecatini. Visit Pisa in the afternoon.

Third night's accommodation in Montecatini

DAY 11 / Montecatini **B D**

Enjoy your third cooking class in Montecatini. Visit Lucca in the afternoon.

Fourth night's accommodation in Montecatini

DAY 12 / Bologna **B L D**

Transfer to Bologna, the food capital of Italy. Upon your arrival, drop your bags at the hotel and make your way to your cooking school. Medieval town sightseeing in the afternoon. Dinner at a local restaurant

First night's accommodation in Bologna

DAY 13 / Parma **B L D**

Enjoy a full day excursion to Parma, the land of prosciutto and parmesan. Visit a dairy farm, where you will learn everything about the king of cheeses.

Second night's accommodation in Bologna

DAY 14 / Venice **B D**

After breakfast at your hotel, transfer to Venice. Spend the afternoon exploring Venice with your teachers leading the group.

First night's accommodation in Venice

DAY 15 / Venice **B D**

After breakfast, make your way to St. Mark's square. Travel on the Grand Canal and visit the Doges' Palace.

Second night's accommodation in Venice

DAY 16 / Italy - Australia **B**

Transfer to the airport by private boat for your flights to Australia.

DAY 17 / Australia

Arrive home.



SICILIAN COOKING TOUR

ITALY

DAY 1 / Australia - Italy
Depart Australia on your flights to Italy.

DAY 2 / Rome **D**
Upon arrival in Rome, transfer to your accommodation by private coach. Meet your guide and enjoy a sightseeing tour of the historical centre of town. Enjoy a gelato at Il Gelato di San Crispino in the afternoon.

First night's accommodation in Rome

DAY 3 / Rome **B L**
After breakfast, make your way to the morning market in Campo di Fiori. Meet your guide and enjoy a culinary tour of ancient Rome, finishing with a Roman banquet style lunch at a nearby restaurant. Enjoy a free afternoon in Rome exploring the sights with your group.

Second night's accommodation in Rome

DAY 4 / Rome **B D**
Enjoy a free full day in Rome. You might like to visit the National Pasta Museum! In the late afternoon, make your way to a local restaurant for a hands-on cooking class followed by your self-made dinner.

Third night's accommodation in Rome

DAY 5 / Naples **B L**
After breakfast, meet your coach and transfer to the bustling Campanian capital of Naples. Enjoy lunch at a pizzeria. This afternoon, visit the National Archaeological Museum and enjoy free time in the city. Board your ferry to Palermo this evening.

Overnight accommodation on board

DAY 6 / Palermo **B L D**
Upon arrival, transfer to your accommodation and drop off your luggage. Meet your guide and make your way to the Ballarò street market. Taste typical street food, such as panelle e sfinciuni and of course arancini. Buy the ingredients for your cooking class. Learn to prepare mediaeval Sicilian dishes in the kitchen of a 13th century

palace followed by lunch in the torch-lit Torre di Scirigno. This afternoon, spend free time in Palermo's Old Quarter.

First night's accommodation in Palermo

DAY 7 / Segesta, Erice **B D**
After breakfast, depart for Segesta. Visit the Doric temple (V century B.C.). Continue on to Erice, the birthplace of Venus. Enjoy free time visiting the city sights. This afternoon, visit a pasticceria and enjoy a tasting of almond sweets, genovesi and nougat matched with Marsala wine.

Meet your guide and travel to the Salt Pans on the coast to learn about methods of salt extraction. Return to Palermo for dinner in the city's oldest restaurant.

Second night's accommodation in Palermo

DAY 8 / Sciacca, Agrigento **B L**
Depart for Sciacca, on the island's western stretch of coast, and visit the old Jewish quarter and the bustling marina. Have a memorable lunch at a typical seafood restaurant overlooking the harbour. Continue on to Agrigento. Visit the superb Valley of the Temples, including the Temple of Juno, with its restored Doric columns and excellent views of the valley and the Temple of Concord, one of the best-preserved Greek temples in the world.

Overnight accommodation in Agrigento

DAY 9 / Sicilian countryside **B D**
This morning, visit a local dairy farm and learn about the production of pecorino and ricotta, from the milking to the cooking and maturing of the cheeses. Enjoy a cheese tasting with traditional condiments. This afternoon, visit an oil mill, which produces organic olive oil. Participate in olive picking and enjoy a demonstration of the pressing and bottling processes. Dinner and accommodation is on the estate tonight.

Overnight accommodation in Mandranova

DAY 10 / Piazza Armerina, Caltagirone **B L D**
After breakfast, transfer to Piazza Armerina for a visit of the Roman Villa del Casale. Continue on to Caltagirone for a typical Sicilian lunch. Visit a bakery and learn how bread is made according to local tradition. Enjoy a free afternoon in the town before transferring to Ragusa for dinner.

Overnight accommodation in Ragusa

DAY 11 / Ragusa, Modica, Noto **B D**
Enjoy free time in the historical centre of Ragusa Ibla this morning. Transfer to Modica and visit Antica Dolceria Bonajuto, the oldest confectionary shop



in Sicily. Taste the famous chocolate of Modica. After lunch, depart for Noto. Spend free time in the World Heritage town before transferring to Siracusa.

Overnight accommodation in Syracuse

DAY 12 / Siracusa, Catania **B L D**
After breakfast, explore Siracusa. The city was the most important Greek settlement in Sicily and a formidable seafaring power, which dared to take on both Carthage and Rome at the height of its power. Enjoy lunch on Ortigia. Catania is located between the Ionian Sea and Mount Etna, which occasionally rains ash upon the streets. Visit the town's Duomo and Pescheria.

First night's accommodation in Catania

DAY 13 / Catania **B L**
This morning, enjoy a cooking class followed by lunch. Visit the Benanti winery and vineyard, which uses organic cultivation methods. Enjoy small samples of the best wines matched with local products. Return to Catania in the late afternoon.

Second night's accommodation in Catania

DAY 14 / Cyclops Coast **B D**
Depart for Mount Etna and visit the crater by cable-car. This afternoon, drive along the Cyclops Coast, so named after it featured in Homer's Odyssey as the place from where the Cyclops hurled basalt rocks at the fleeing Ulysses. Settle in at your accommodation in Acitrezza in the early evening.

Overnight accommodation in Acitrezza

DAY 15 / Italy - Australia **B**
Transfer to Catania Airport for your flights back to Australia via Rome.

DAY 16 / Australia
Arrive home