

Grand Tour of Southern Italy: Rome, Amalfi Coast, Puglia and Sicily



Tour Description

This 10-night group tour offers an in-depth journey through Southern Italy, starting in Rome and continuing through the Amalfi Coast, Puglia, and Sicily. The itinerary combines iconic cities, coastal landscapes, historic towns, local food experiences, and guided cultural visits. Designed as a shared group experience, the tour balances structured activities with free time, allowing participants to fully experience the diversity and character of Italy's southern regions.

Tour Services

- * 10 nights in carefully selected 4-star hotels in Rome, Naples, Puglia and Catania.
- * Accommodation in double or twin rooms with daily breakfast.
- * Private coach with dedicated driver for all transfers and scheduled excursions.
- * Professional Tour Leader accompanying the group for the entire journey.
- * Licensed local guides for all major city visits and cultural sites as per itinerary.
- * Panoramic sightseeing experiences and guided walking tours.
- * Ferry crossing from mainland Italy to Sicily.
- * Private pop-opera concert with piano and voice in an exclusive hall of Saint Mary Major Basilica.
- * Hands-on cooking class in a traditional Apulian masseria.
- * Entrance tickets to Saint Mary Major Basilica, Bari Cathedral and the Ancient Theatre of Taormina.
- * Group lunches and dinners included as specified in the detailed itinerary.
- * Headsets for guided visits to ensure optimal listening comfort.
- * Tour operator insurance coverage.

Detailed Itinerary

Day One - Arrival in Rome and Welcome Dinner



Participants arrive independently in Rome and check in at a 4-star hotel. Rooms are available from 2:00 PM; guests arriving earlier may leave luggage at the hotel before check-in. The afternoon is free to relax after the journey.

In the early evening at 6:30 PM, the group meets the tour leader in the hotel lobby for a welcome aperitif, a first opportunity to get acquainted with fellow travelers. Dinner follows at 8:00 PM at a nearby restaurant, featuring Italian dishes and regional flavors.

Day Two – Rome Sightseeing and Free Afternoon



After breakfast, participants meet the tour leader and bus driver directly at the hotel to begin a panoramic sightseeing experience of Rome with a licensed local guide. The morning includes walking visits to the Trevi Fountain, the Spanish Steps, and Via del Corso, followed by external views of the Pantheon and Piazza Navona.

At midday, lunch is served in the Campo de' Fiori area, known for its lively atmosphere and historic market. The afternoon is free to explore Rome independently, relax, or enjoy personal activities. Dinner is at leisure and not included.

Day Three – Saint Mary Major Basilica, Private Concert and Panoramic Lunch



After breakfast, participants meet the tour leader for a guided visit to the Basilica of Saint Mary Major, one of Rome's four Papal Basilicas and an important site of religious and artistic heritage. The visit is followed by a private concert held in an exclusive hall inside the basilica, featuring piano and a tenor or soprano, creating a unique and intimate cultural experience.

Lunch takes place at a rooftop restaurant overlooking the basilica, offering panoramic views of the city. In the afternoon, participants enjoy a guided walk with the tour leader to admire the Roman Forum and the Colosseum from the outside, followed by free time to explore the city at leisure. Dinner is not included.

Day Four – Transfer to Naples and Guided Visit



After breakfast, participants check out of the hotel and depart Rome at 8:00 AM by private bus with the tour leader, heading south toward Naples. Arrival is expected at around 11:00 AM.

From late morning to early afternoon, a guided walking tour explores Naples' historic center, including Piazza del Plebiscito, the Royal Palace, the San Carlo Theatre, Spaccanapoli, and an external view of Naples Cathedral.

At approximately 1:15 PM, lunch is served at a local trattoria, featuring authentic Neapolitan pizza, followed by sfogliatella or gelato. In the afternoon, participants transfer to their hotel for check-in and free time. The day concludes with a group dinner at 7:00 PM.

Day Five – Amalfi Coast Day Tour: Amalfi and Ravello



After breakfast, participants depart Naples at 9:00 AM to begin a full-day tour of the Amalfi Coast. The first stop is Amalfi, where free time allows exploration of the historic center and an external view of Amalfi Cathedral, set against dramatic coastal scenery.

Lunch is served in Amalfi at around 12:30 PM. In the early afternoon, the journey continues to Ravello, with a scenic coastal drive offering views of the Mediterranean and steep cliffs.

In Ravello, known as the “City of Music,” participants enjoy free time to explore the town, relax in the main square, or browse local artisan shops. The return to Naples begins in the late afternoon, with arrival around 4:30 PM. The evening is free, and dinner is not included.

Day Six – Transfer to Puglia with Stop in Bari



After breakfast, participants check out at 9:00 AM and depart Naples by private bus with the tour leader toward Puglia (approximately 3-hour drive). The first stop is Bari, where lunch is served in a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, a licensed local guide leads a walking tour of Bari Vecchia, including key sites such as the Basilica of Saint Nicholas and the Cathedral. The visit also offers insight into daily life in the old town, where traditional orecchiette pasta is still made by hand along the streets.

Following the visit, the group continues to the 4-star hotel for check-in and free time. Dinner is served at the hotel at 7:30 PM.

Day Seven – Polignano a Mare, Masseria Cooking Class and Monopoli



After breakfast, the group departs at 9:00 AM for Polignano a Mare. Perched on cliffs above the Adriatic Sea, the town is known for Cala Porto (Lama Monachile) and the statue of Domenico Modugno, author of the song “Volare.” A guided visit introduces the town and its panoramic viewpoints.

Late in the morning, participants travel to a traditional masseria, where they tour the property and take part in a hands-on cooking class focused on fresh pasta. Lunch follows, featuring the dishes prepared during the experience.



In the afternoon, the tour continues to Monopoli, a coastal town characterized by its harbor, white stone buildings, and historic center. Free time allows participants to explore independently. Dinner is at leisure before returning to the hotel.

Day Eight – Ostuni and Alberobello



After breakfast, participants depart with the tour leader to visit Ostuni, known as the “White City.” A guided walking tour explores the historic center, whitewashed streets, panoramic viewpoints, artisan shops, and the Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta.

Lunch is at leisure in Ostuni. In the afternoon, the group continues to Alberobello for a guided visit of the UNESCO listed districts of Rione Monti and Aia Piccola, famous for their iconic trulli houses. Free time follows before returning to the hotel. Dinner is served at the hotel restaurant with the group.

Day Nine – Transfer to Sicily with Stop in Scilla



After breakfast, participants check out and depart at 8:00 AM by private bus for the journey to Catania, with a total travel time of approximately seven hours. During the journey, the group stops in Scilla, a picturesque coastal village in Calabria linked to Greek mythology.

Lunch is served in a local restaurant overlooking the sea. After lunch, the journey continues toward Sicily, including a ferry crossing. Arrival in Catania is expected in the afternoon, followed by 4-star hotel check-in and free time. In the evening at 7:30 PM, the group meets again for dinner near the hotel.

Day Ten – Taormina Guided Visit and Free Afternoon



After breakfast, participants depart at 9:00 AM for Taormina, reaching the town after approximately one hour. At 10:00 AM, a licensed local guide leads a visit of Taormina's highlights, including the Ancient Greek Theatre (interior visit) and the historic center. Lunch is served at around 12:00 PM in a local restaurant, offering Sicilian specialties. The afternoon is free for independent exploration, shopping, or relaxation. At approximately 4:00 PM, the group returns to the hotel in Catania. Dinner is at leisure and not included.

Day Eleven – Departure



After breakfast, participants check out from the hotel and depart independently. The nearest airport is Catania Airport, marking the conclusion of the tour.

Terms and Cancellation policies

Art. 1 terms and regulations:

- Group capacity: min 14 pax – max 28 people per group
- If the group tour does not reach the minimum capacity of participants by 3 months (90 days) prior the start of the tour, it will be cancelled.
- In case of the cancellation by the Great Italy Tour, the Great Italy Tour will return the amount paid by the customer via nexi payment platform.

Art. 2 – cancellation policy on behalf of the client:

Once customers pay the amount of a day tour, in the case of the eventual withdrawal on behalf of the client for any reason before departure, the client will be charged the following percentage of the participating shares, calculated taking into consideration how many days before departure he/she has requested the cancellation. From the day following the booking until:

- * 30 days pre-departure: 40% penalty : in this case Great Italy Tour will refund the 60% of the full amount paid.
- * 29-0 days pre-departure 100% penalty.

- By confirming the reservation and making the payment, you accept the regulation and the itinerary as previously described.

Art. 3 – Tour variations

The service providers (hotels, agritourisms, restaurants, chefs, etc.) At times mentioned in our tour itineraries are subject to change. In this unlikely event they will only be substituted by others of equal or better quality in order to avoid affecting the content of our services. The itineraries are subject to changes. Suggested activities may have to be substituted as a result of natural disasters, sudden atmospheric changes, temporary closures, striking or any other problems for which the tour organizers may not be held accountable. Any alterations made will be done so in order to improve the service on offer and will always be of equal commercial value.