Sicilian Secrets Tour 2027:
St. Agatha Festival & Carnival

GUARANTEED DEPARTURE ON 3 FEBRUARY 2027

6 DAYS • 5 NIGHTS ACITREZZA • ACITREZZA

Six days to be captivated by the most vibrant soul of eastern Sicily, among popular celebrations, art cities and extraordinary landscapes. From the charm of the **Feast of Saint Agatha** in Catania to the festive energy of the **Acireale Carnival**, the journey passes through iconic places such as **Mount Etna, Taormina, Syracuse, Ortigia** and **Noto**, offering an intense experience of traditions, beauty and local flavours.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Two celebrations that symbolise Sicilian tradition
- **Feast of Saint Agatha**, the third most famous religious festival in the world
- **Acireale Carnival**, with allegorical float parades and entertainment
- **Excursion to Mount Etna**: nature and breathtaking views
- **Syracuse, Ortigia and Noto**, between Baroque beauty and Mediterranean charm
- **Taormina**, an icon of charm and beauty

6 DAYS

5 CITIES

3 UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

HISTORY

ART & CULTURE

FOOD

TRAVEL ITINERARY

DAY 1 - WEDNESDAY 2/03: ACITREZZA

Hotel in Acitrezza (Catania)

Welcome to Sicily! Arrive at your hotel in the picturesque seaside village of **Aci Trezza** on your own, beautifully set on the Ionian Sea and dominated by the striking Cyclops Rocks. A private transfer is available on request. After check-in, enjoy some free time to settle in and explore the seafront promenade and the village's charming streets, where breathtaking views, fishermen's boats and small local eateries create an authentic atmosphere. Dinner at leisure and overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 2 - THURSDAY 2/04 : ETNA - TAORMINA

Hotel in Acitrezza (Catania)

After breakfast, we begin with a visit to Catania's historic **Pescheria**, the fish market that still preserves the charm of tradition, where among stalls of fresh fish, seafood and local products, you can feel the vibrant life of the city. Departure for **Mount Etna**, the highest active volcano in Europe, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**, with its 3,350 metres of majesty. At **Rifugio Sapienza**, we will admire the first views of the craters and lava flows that tell the volcano's thousand-year history. We will visit the **Silvestri Craters**, volcanic cones inactive since 1888, surrounded by spectacular lunar landscapes. During the morning, tasting of honey and local typical products. Continuation to **Taormina**, a town famous for its elegance, crystal-clear sea and thousand-year history. Lunch in a restaurant in the historic centre. Visit to the **Greco-Roman Theatre**, symbol of the town, built in the 3rd century BC and enlarged by the Romans, from where you can enjoy a breathtaking view over the **Gulf of Naxos** and **Mount Etna**. Free walk through the medieval streets, with time for shopping for handicrafts and typical souvenirs. Return to the hotel, dinner at leisure and overnight stay.

DAY 3 – FRIDAY 2/05: CATANIA - FEAST OF SAINT AGATHA

Hotel in Acitrezza (Catania)

Day dedicated to the **Feast of Saint Agatha**, the third most famous religious festival in the world, which transforms Catania into a triumph of spirituality, folklore and centuries-old tradition. The city comes alive with lights, colours and scents, while the **fercolo** of the Saint is carried in procession by the faithful. We will closely experience the moving streams of devotees following the fercolo in procession, wearing the traditional white sack, some of them carrying lit candles on their shoulders as a sign of devotion. Guided visit of **Piazza Duomo**, with its Cathedral dedicated to Saint Agatha, symbol of the devotion of the people of Catania, and the **Amenano Fountain**, which recalls the power of the city's underground river. We will admire the **lava stone Elephant**, the historic symbol of Catania, and the imposing **candelore**, gilded wooden structures carried on the shoulders of the faithful. Walking through the streets of the city centre, we will visit beautiful **Via dei Crociferi**, the Baroque heart of the city, where the **Monastery of Saint Benedict** is located, made famous by Verga's novel Storia di una Capinera. Stop in one of the most renowned bars in the historic centre for a light lunch, tasting typical Catanese rosticceria and a traditional sweet of the festival, the "**minnuzze della vergine**" (small cassatine). Free afternoon to follow the procession, admire the decoration of white carnations adorning the coffin of Saint Agatha, and discover the goldsmith's treasures kept in the Saint's silver reliquary. Beautiful and engaging is the festive atmosphere that fills the streets of the historic centre, pervaded by the scents of freshly crystallised nougat and cotton candy. Return to the hotel, dinner at leisure and overnight stay.

DAY 4 – SATURDAY 2/06: SIRACUSA - NOTO

Hotel in Acitrezza (Catania)

After breakfast, departure for **Syracuse**, the ancient Greek city founded in the 8th century BC, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visit to the **Neapolis Archaeological Park**, with the **Greek Theatre**, the **Roman Amphitheatre** and the **Latomie del Paradiso**, limestone quarries used as prisons and natural theatres. Not to be missed is the **Ear of Dionysius**, with its surprising acoustic properties and mythological legends. Continuation to **Ortigia**, the historic centre of Syracuse, with **Piazza Duomo** and the majestic **Cathedral**, built on a Doric temple dedicated to Athena. Walk along the picturesque streets to the **Fonte Aretusa**, a place of Greek myths and legends. After lunch in a typical restaurant, in the afternoon we will continue towards **Noto**, capital of Sicilian Baroque, a "stone garden" and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Inspired by the ideal of an "open city", it is a rare masterpiece and the clearest example of the theatrical taste of 18th-century architecture.

TRAVEL ITINERARY

We will walk among elegant palaces, churches and monuments, appreciating the skill of the local craftsmen and the urban scenery that has made the city famous throughout the world. Return to the hotel, dinner at leisure and overnight stay.

DAY 5 – SUNDAY 2/07: ACITREZZA - CARNIVAL OF ACIREALE

Hotel in Acitrezza (Catania)

Breakfast and walk through the streets of **Aci Trezza**, a fishing village made famous by Giovanni Verga through I Malavoglia, to admire the lava stone sea stacks linked to the legend of the Cyclops Polyphemus. Aci Trezza is famous for its authentic atmosphere and traditions connected with fishing. After lunch in a typical restaurant, transfer to Acireale, a splendid Baroque town, to experience its famous Carnival, one of the most beautiful and oldest in Italy. The streets of the town centre come alive with allegorical floats, masks, music and street performers. One of the most eagerly awaited events of the Acireale Carnival is undoubtedly the parade of floats, true masterpieces of ingenuity and art, representing satire, fantasy and local culture. These structures, often gigantic, are animated by complex mechanisms that allow the figures to move, creating a spectacular and surprising effect. An immersive experience among colours, lights and tradition. Return to the hotel, dinner at leisure and overnight stay.

DAY 6 – MONDAY 2/08: ACITREZZA

Breakfast at the hotel and end of services. Private transfer to Catania Airport available on request.
Goodbye, Sicily!

The programme may be subject to changes.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Duration of the Tour: **6 days and 5 nights**
Departure city : **Acitrezza**
Guaranteed departure: **3 February 2027**

Rate per person in double room : € 895,00
Double room for single use supplement: € 240,00 - 3rd bed reduction: - 10%

PRIVILEGE PACKAGES

SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
City taxes	City taxes	City taxes
All entrance fees as per program	All entrance fees as per program	All entrance fees as per program
	Private transfer in/out	Private transfer in/out
		Superior/Deluxe room
€ 120,00 p.p.	**1 pax: € 229,00** **2 pax: € 175,00 p.p.**	**1 pax: € 456,00** **2 pax: € 300,00 p.p.**

THE RATE INCLUDES:

- Multilingual Tour leader and professional travel guide (English, Italian or Spanish) for the whole tour, from the 2nd day to the afternoon of the 5th day, local guides or audio-guides where necessary
- Deluxe bus form day 2 to day 5
- Whisper kit Crystal Sound for the whole trip: the latest generation, fast and light. It transmits the driving voice up to 150 meters away
- Accommodation in charming 4 stars hotels, international breakfast included:
  Acitrezza: **I Malavoglia Hotel 4* / I Faraglioni Hotel 4*** or similar
- 5 international breakfasts, 4 lunches in famous restaurants to have a taste of Sicilian traditional cuisine
- Visit of the main suggestive Unesco World Heritage Sites: Etna, Catania historic centre, Noto, Siracusa
- Entrance to the circuit of the Carnival of Acireale
- Tasting of Sicilian typical products:
  Etna (day 2): **tasting of honey and typical products from the Etna area**
  Catania (day 3): **tasting of Sicilian "minnuzze"**

THE RATE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Transfers in/out
- Meals and beverages not included by the program
- Beverages
- Entrance fees at monuments/museums
- City taxes
- Anything not specified under "The rate includes"

USEFUL INFORMATION

SUPPLEMENTS:

- Pre-night/Post-night in hotel in Acitrezza (BB treatment):
  € 90,00 p.p. in Classic double room per night; € 145,00 in Classic double room for single use per night
- Private transfer Catania airport /hotel Acitrezza: € 60,00 per car 1/2 pax
- Assistance – Medical Expense Reimbursement – Luggage insurance – Travel Cancellation Expenses Insurance: on request

MUSEUM AND SITE ENTRANCE FEES*

Syracuse Archeological Park - Syracuse Cathedral - Taormina Greek theatre
**Choose one of the Privilege Packages that best suits you to include fees entrances*

Sicilian Secrets - Saint Agatha Tour: Official Trailer
Watch the video

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