

# From Rome to Sicily

Italy



## **Program Fee includes:**

- Round-trip airfare
- 7 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms; plus 1 night cabin accommodation
- Complete European breakfast and dinner daily
- Full-time bilingual EF Tour Director
- 6 sightseeing tours led by licensed local guides; Vatican sightseeing tour includes
- 7 visits to special attractions

Highlights: Isle of Capri cruise; Taormina Greek theater; Pompeii Roman ruins; Sistine Chapel; St. Peter's Basilica; Colosseum; Forum Romanum; Spanish Steps

Optional: Mt. Etna; Siracusa



Learn before you go www.eftours.com/pbsitaly



Doric temples found in Sicily's Agrigento are the most prominent Greek remains outside of Greece.

## Day 1 Flight

Overnight flight to Italy • Enjoy jet accommodations as you fly through the night across the Atlantic.

## Day 2 Rome • Sorrento

Arrival in Rome • Touch down in bella Roma, the Eternal City. Here Charlemagne was crowned by the pope in A.D. 800. After clearing customs you are greeted by your bilingual EF Tour Director, who will remain with you throughout your stay.

Transfer to Sorrento • Arrive in Sorrento and experience the unparalleled beauty of Italy's favorite resort, which overlooks the Bay of Naples.

## **Day 3 Sorrento**

Guided sightseeing of Capri • Encounter beautiful views of the Amalfi coastline on our optional excursion across the Bay of Naples to the captivating and mountainous Isle of Capri. Travel by funicular to the town of Capri and board a cruise to see the most spectacular views of Capri's coast. You'll see the Arco Naturale, a majestic stone arch on the eastern cliffs, and the famous Faraglioni, three enormous, paleochre limestone colossi that loom out of the sea. When weather conditions do not permit a cruise, groups will visit the town of Anacapri instead.

## **Day 4 Sorrento • Taormina Region**

Transfer to Sicily • By way of a ferry crossing from Villa San Giovanni to Messina, transfer to age-old Sicily, a Mediterranean island steeped in mythology. Spend the night in the Taormina region.



Number of overnight stays in parentheses.

#### **Day 5 Taormina Region**

**Guided sightseeing of Taormina** • An expert local guide introduces you to Taormina, a scenic town perched high above the sea. Pay homage to classical vistas and majestic Mount Etna, towering in the background. See the duomo and the 15th-century Palazzo Corvaia. Then visit the town's 3rd-century Greek Theatre—Goethe felt it boasted one of the world's most beautiful vistas.

Optional excursion to Mount Etna • When you join this optional excursion, travel from Taormina to Mt. Etna, Europe's highest (and active!) volcano. Ancient Greeks said Typhon, a terrifying monster they believed would be the last to fight the gods for dominion of the earth, inhabited Etna's lava-covered slopes. You'll need sturdy walking shoes and a jacket as you and your guide navigate the mountain's meandering pathways.

#### **Day 6 Taormina Region**

**Optional excursion to Syracuse** • Join an optional excursion to Syracuse (Siracusa), a town that, at the height of its power, rivaled Athens and Rome. Plato taught in Siracusa, and it was here that Archimides jumped out of his bath exclaiming "Eureka!" upon discovering his principle of displacement. Enjoy a guided visit of the archaeological park and later on the island of Ortygia, stroll through the narrow streets of the Old City, which dates back 2,800 years.

#### **Day 7 Taormina Region • Night Ferry**

Arrival in Palermo • Transfer to Palermo, situated along the Conca d'Oro (Golden Conch Shell)—this bayside city also lies at the foot of Mount Pellegrino. Guided sightseeing of Palermo • Pass the city's 16th-century palazzi on a guided tour of the capital—and chief port—of Sicily. You'll visit the cloisters and Palazzo dei Normanni, a splendid Norman palace that is now home to the Sicilian Parliament. Inside, admire the Cappella Palatina, a chamber of glittering Byzantine mosaics, before continuing on to Monreale for a visit to the town's magnificent Norman cathedral.

**Night ferry to Naples** • Board a ferry and enjoy cabin accommodations as you sail through the night to Naples.

#### Day 8 Night Ferry • Naples • Rome

**Arrival in Naples •** Disembark in Naples, a city rich with southern Italian culture.

**Guided sightseeing of Pompeii** • Learn how wealthy Romans lived 2,000 years ago on an excur-

sion to Pompeii, one of the richest archaeological sites in the world. When neighboring Mt. Vesuvius erupted in A.D. 79, volcanic ash completely buried the Roman resort. Now it is fully excavated, and you can see the ruins of villas, ancient temples and Stabian Baths. Nearby is the beautiful Bay of Naples, known for its magnificent views of the surrounding islands, capes and mountains.

Arrival in Rome • Continue on to Rome.

#### **Day 9 Rome**

Guided excursion to Vatican City • The world's largest dome is located in the world's smallest country. See both as you tour St. Peter's Basilica, erected in Vatican City on the site where the saint was martyred. Enter the basilica under the watchful eyes of the brightly dressed Swiss Guard. Inside, admire Michelangelo's Pietà and try to find the artist's signature (it is the only sculpture he ever signed). Then continue on to the Vatican Museum, where elaborate galleries packed with one artistic masterpiece after another lead you directly to the Sistine Chapel. Between 1508 and 1512, Michelangelo painted some of the world's finest pictorial images on the Chapel's ceiling. This was his first attempt at working in fresco, which he did by standing up and craning backwards from a scaffold.

**Guided sightseeing of Rome** • Visit the mighty Colosseum, where as many as 50,000 cheering spectators would flock to watch gladiator battles unfold inside. Then stroll through the grassy ruins of the ancient Forum Romanum, once the heart of the Roman Empire, and admire the enduring fragments



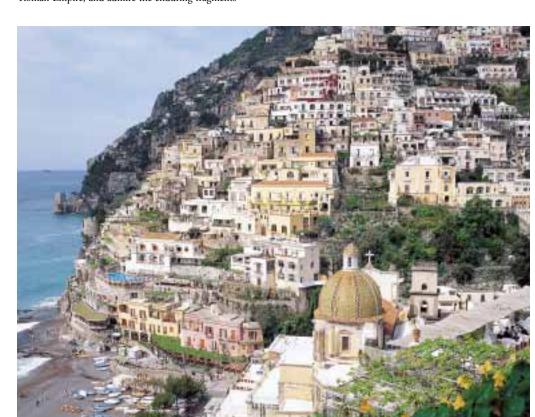
Behold the Isle of Capri!

of Rome's glorious past. It was here, on the Ides of March—March 15, 44 B.C.—that Julius Caesar was assassinated. You'll also see Piazza Venezia, where the Vittoriano monument marks the center of contemporary Rome.

#### Day 10 Home

**Return home** • Your tour director assists with the transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.



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