



TOUR ITINERARY



Europe / Italy / Sicily

Sicily Bike Tour

Warmth, Personality, and the Essence of the Old World

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Stay in boutique hotels, including a luxurious estate in Noto and a romantic retreat in Taormina
- Come to understand Sicily's unique culinary identity during a cooking class and over lunch at our friend Giuseppe's organic, family-run farm
- Discover Mount Etna's distinctive wine region both on the bike and in the glass at two paired tasting meals
- Visit the picturesque town of Vizzini, birthplace of Giovanni Verga—one of Italy's most beloved realist writers, famous for his depictions of rural life
- Taste Sicily's famous *granita* at one of the best shops in the main square of Noto



ARRIVAL + DEPARTURE

Arrival Details

- ✈ **Airport City:**
Catania, Italy
- 📍 **Pick-Up Location:**
Siracusa Algila Ortigia Hotel
- 🕒 **Pick-Up Time:**
10:00 am

Departure Details

- ✈ **Airport City:**
Catania, Italy
- 📍 **Drop-Off Location:**
Catania Fontanarossa Airport
- 🕒 **Drop-Off Time:**
10:30 am

NOTE: DuVine provides group transfers to and from the tour from the pick-up and drop-off locations stated on the itinerary. In the event your train, flight, or other travel falls outside the arrival or departure times or locations, you may be responsible for extra costs incurred in arranging a separate transfer.

Emergency Assistance

For urgent assistance on your way to tour or while on tour, please always contact your guides first. You may also contact the Boston office during business hours at +1 617 776 4441 or emergency@duvine.com.



TOUR ITINERARY

Tour By Day

DAY
1

Welcome to Sicily

Your guides will meet you in Siracusa, and then we're off to the ancient Pantalica Valley. Get fitted on the bikes and warm up your legs on the way into Baroque Ferla—named one of Italy's *borghi piu belli*, or most beautiful villages. Your first few glimpses of Sicily are overwhelming, with views of Etna and the eastern island dominating the ride to lunch. Arrive at a restaurant in the village of Buccheri that's owned by a pair of brothers who have devoted their lives to preserving local culinary traditions, foraging for wild ingredients, and generally serving one of the best meals you'll ever have. After, pedal across the Iblean plateau through Buscemi and Palazzolo, finally reaching our boutique hotel. The up-and-coming resident chef welcomes us with a memorable first dinner that showcases the flavors of this special island.

Meals: Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Ferla, Buccheri, Buscemi

Accomplished: 30 miles / 48 km, elevation gain: 2,716 feet / 828 meters

Shorter Option: 20 miles / 32 km, elevation gain: 2,125 feet / 648 meters

Accommodations: [Dimora delle Balze](#)

DAY
2

Noto and Avola Antica

Depart right from the hotel this morning, warming up our legs on the rolling terrain of the Iblean plateau. Pedal through the site of Avola Antica, an ancient settlement leveled by the earthquake of 1693. This same earthquake also destroyed the nearby fortress of Noto Antica and the rebuilding of these two towns on the plains below marked the flowering of the Sicilian Baroque age. Take in sweeping views of the Mediterranean on the descent to modern Noto as we ride through the triumphal arch to explore the stunning city center. Olive and almond trees flourish on the coastal plain, which makes an almond granita at an iconic pastry shop extra sweet. Back on the bikes, round out the day's ride with a gradual climb and some jaw-dropping scenery to lunch al fresco amidst the olive trees. Tonight meet a local chef for a convivial evening of cooking, eating and drinking together.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Avola Antica, Noto, Testa dell'Acqua

Accomplished: 29 miles / 47 km, elevation gain: 2,637 feet / 804 meters

Longer Option: 38 miles / 62 km, elevation gain: 3,024 feet / 922 meters

Accommodations: [Dimora delle Balze](#)

TOUR ITINERARY

DAY
3

The Journey North

Set out on a scenic journey across the open pastures of the Val di Noto, through Giarratana—known for its heirloom sweet onions—and into Monterosso. Stop for a Sicilian pastry and coffee among the locals just before a climb up to Vizzini, birthplace of Sicily's greatest realist writer, Giovanni Verga. Here we're welcomed onto a family-run farm for a home-cooked meal with our friend Giuseppe. Lunch is long on true Sicilian hospitality, and we'll take our warm and fuzzy feelings with us across the plains of Catania where our next hotel is located on the slopes of Mount Etna. This evening is an introduction to the elegant vintages of this unique winegrowing region during our paired tasting dinner.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Giarratana, Monterosso Almo, Vizzini, Linguaglossa

Accomplished: 35 miles / 56 km, elevation gain: 3,287 feet / 649 meters

Shorter Option: 28 miles / 45 km, elevation gain: 2,234 feet / 541 meters

Accommodations: [Villa Neri](#)

DAY
4

Etna to the Sea

Today we see an entirely new side of Sicily as we pedal through a region defined by Etna. With grapes growing out of black volcanic soil next to farmhouses built from basalt rock, it's hard to believe this is the same island we've been cycling all week. Medieval Norman castles peer down on us from the heights of Castiglione and Francavilla as we wind our way through the wild Alcantara Valley. After a tasting lunch at one of the region's top wineries, settle in for a long and gradual downhill to the coast. Hop in the van or finish with one last push up to our five-star hotel in Taormina. The rest of the day is yours to spend as you wish: wind down with a swim in the hotel pool, watch the sunset over Etna, admire the craftsmanship of the Greek amphitheater, or plunge headfirst into the city's bustling restaurant scene.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch

Destinations: Linguaglossa, Francavilla, Taormina

Accomplished: 38 miles / 62 km, elevation gain: 2,240 feet / 683 meters

Shorter Option: 20 miles / 33 km, elevation gain: 1,866 feet / 569 meters

Accommodations: [Villa Fiorita](#)

TOUR ITINERARY

DAY
5

The Godfather Ride

Right out of Taormina we're met with a scenic descent to the coast. Warm up on a road beside the Mediterranean, then turn inland to tackle a series of challenging climbs that wind deep into the coastal mountain range. If you find the string of improbably-perched mountain villages captivating, you're not alone—Francis Ford Coppola chose this area to film some of the most iconic scenes from *The Godfather*. The coastal vistas and ancient landscape of Savoca are indeed cinematic as we approach the town from above. Here, in his tiny ristorante, a passionate emerging chef will wow us with lunch. Choose to complete the loop ride this afternoon, or transfer directly back to Taormina. We'll regroup for tonight's farewell dinner and raise a glass to our week on this island unlike any other.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Letojanni, Roccafiorita, Savoca

Accomplished: 27 miles / 43 km, elevation gain: 3,785 feet / 1,154 meters

Longer Option: 40 miles / 64 km, elevation gain: 4,893 feet / 1,492 meters

Accommodations: [Villa Fiorita](#)

DAY
6

Ciao, Sicily

Bid farewell to Taormina with a last leisurely breakfast or a final stroll around town. Your guides will transfer you to the Catania airport and see you off for your journey home.

Meals: Breakfast

YOUR TOUR DETAILS

Preparing for Your Tour

Travel Services

DuVine can assist with extended reservations at the first and final hotels on your scheduled itinerary, or with private transfers to and from your bike tour. DuVine's travel advisor partners are happy to assist with flight reservations. If you are not already working with an agent, please request a referral from your **Tour Coordinator**.

Travel Protection

DuVine offers a **Travel Protection Plan** to help protect your travel investment, your belongings, and most importantly, you. The offered Travel Protection Plan is non-refundable, but it is strongly recommended in the unfortunate event that you have to cancel or leave your trip.

NOTE: Plan benefits, limits, and provisions may vary by state or jurisdiction. In order to receive full benefits, Travel Protection must be purchased within 21 days of initial tour deposit. This plan is available to citizens of the U.S. and Canada only.

Gratuities

Gratuities are much appreciated to thank DuVine guides for exceptional service, support, and expertise. The industry standard is for each guest to tip 10-15% (U.S. tours and Cycle + Sail tours) or 7.5-10% (all other tours) of their trip price. The recommended per-traveler amount is an appropriate gratuity for your guide team as a whole. (It is not necessary to tip this amount *per* guide.) Tips are customary at the end of your tour, and local currency is always preferred. We recommend bringing extra cash or visiting the ATM at the beginning of your trip.



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YOUR TOUR DETAILS

Bikes

DuVine's top-of-the-line bikes are tuned to perfection and fit specifically to you. Our performance bikes from premier manufacturers feature light frames, smooth-rolling tires, comfortable seats, and wide gear ranges for the best ride possible. Please [see our website](#) for the exact bike models offered on tour. E-bikes are available in most destinations on a first-come, first-served basis. Electric assist provides an extra boost to your own pedal power, so you can ride longer distances, tackle tougher climbs, and maintain a faster pace. Contact your Tour Coordinator if you are interested.

Electrical Overseas

If you're traveling abroad, you will most likely need an [adapter](#), which allows your device's plug to fit into foreign outlets. North American devices run on 110/125V electricity while the majority of the world runs on 220/240V. Converters and transformers change the voltage of electricity to match your device.

Training

First and foremost, get out on your bike and start logging some miles. Experience with the elements and terrain will help with your comfort level (balance, unexpected conditions, etc.) on tour. Nothing compares to the real thing, but if you can't cycle outside, consider spin classes. Always remember, training is a gradual process—don't try to overdo it or push yourself when you aren't ready. However, the most important part of training is to enjoy your ride! [Download a training guide](#) based on your Tour Level.

Travel Sustainably

DuVine is committed to sustainable travel and has been a 100% carbon neutral company since 2022. While cycling is an inherently eco-conscious mode of travel, we continuously seek ways to lessen our footprint, whether it be biodegradable water bottles or compostable gear mailers. [Read more](#) about sustainability at DuVine.



YOUR PACKING LIST

On The Bike

Cycling jerseys or athletic shirts
Cycling shorts
Cycling shoes (if you bring your own pedals)
Sneakers (if you don't bring your own pedals)
Cycling sunglasses
Athletic socks
Arm/leg warmers
Lightweight, waterproof, wind-resistant jacket or vest
Bike gloves
Bike saddle/cover (if you prefer your own)

Off The Bike

Walking shoes
Hiking shoes (if required)
Long + short-sleeved shirts
Sweater/jacket for evenings
Dinner attire (dressy casual) + dress shoes
Swimsuit

Travel Items*

Travel confirmations + tickets for air, rail, etc.
Passport, including photocopy
Local currency
DuVine Tour Itinerary (with meeting + departing info)
Health insurance information
Medications
Cycling gear (+ pedals) if riding on Day 1

*We recommend keeping these items in your carry-on

Additional Items

Cell phone + charger
Photography gear + charger
Power/plug adapter
Toiletries
Sunscreen, hat, + other sun protection gear
Insect repellent

What We Provide

- Bike saddle
- GPS (where available)
- Flat pedals
- DuVine t-shirt and jersey
- Helmet
- Water bottle
- Snacks/nutrition
- Drawstring bag

Order DuVine Gear

Want DuVine bike shorts to match your complimentary jersey? To order, contact tourcoordinators@duvine.com. Gear is shipped free of charge to DuVine guests in the U.S. and Canada. For expedited shipping and guests outside of the U.S. and Canada, additional shipping fees will apply.

Do I need to bring special gear?

- Cycling shorts are designed to provide extra padding when spending the whole day in the saddle. Don't forget the chamois cream!
- If you bring your own cycling shoes, you must bring your own pedals. If you've never used clip-in pedals before, we don't recommend using them on tour.
- Arm and leg warmers are essential for cooler weather. Wear them with your short-sleeve jersey and shorts for lightweight, easy-to-pack, and effective warmth.
- Bike gloves are a preference, but are recommended for Level 3 and 4 tours. The padding in gloves can ease arm, shoulder, and joint fatigue.

Dressing for the Weather

- The location and time of year of your tour can bring all kinds of weather, from extreme heat to relentless rain. Check extended forecasts before your trip and pack accordingly.

Before You Go

- Ensure your passport is valid for 3-6 months after return date.
- Call your bank/credit cards to notify them of upcoming travel.
- Please limit your luggage to one medium-sized suitcase and one carry-on.

BIKE SAFETY

We strongly suggest you read these simple safety instructions and watch our [brief safety video](#). They will help you bike safely before and during your tour!

- Wear a helmet—this is mandatory on tour!
- Familiarize yourself with traffic laws and obey them. Bikes do not have the right of way, but most drivers are respectful to cyclists on the road. Always ride in the direction of traffic.
- Be aware of your surroundings at all times. Knowing what is in front of and behind you may help prevent an accident.
- Alert other riders around you by announcing the presence of traffic ("car up") or pot holes ("pot hole").
- When riding as a group, maintain distance between yourself and other cyclists
- Learn the hand signals to indicate when you are stopping or turning.
- Operate your bike consistently and predictably—avoiding erratic movements.
- Keep at least one hand on the handlebars at all times.
- Primarily use your rear brake.
- Always be aware of weather and road conditions and how they may affect your ability to brake.
- Never wear headphones or use speakers during rides.
- Always listen to additional instructions from your guides on tour.

If you have chosen an e-bike, be aware that it is slightly heavier, faster, and more powerful than a non-electric bike. Therefore, you should anticipate a different reaction when riding downhill, braking, or dismounting from an e-bike. Your guides can offer further instruction during your bike fitting and safety review.

