

South East Sicily to Mount Etna on road bike



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Self guided cycling Trip South East Sicily to Mount Etna.

From February until November every Saturday

For guided options from 4 persons or more send us an email.

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Self guided cycling Trip South East Sicily to Mount Etna

This new stunning self-guided road cycling trip starts from the Baroque South East of Sicily. Inland you will cycle and experience the UNESCO world heritage sites like Siracusa, Noto, Modica, Ragusa, Palazzolo Acreide. Find numerous of baroque palaces and churches on your way. This road cycling tour on Sicily island leads you through the mountains of the South East Sicily and ends around the Mount Etna. The history of Mount Etna is not only that it is one of the most active volcanos in Europe since 2011, moreover it's also the history of Eastern Sicily itself. Daily you can choose short or longer routes.

Your cycle trip starts in Siracusa here you'll cycle into the Iblei plateau with its great Canyons also called as the "Cave". After Siracusa you go to Sortino and here you cycle a fast downhill with some hairpins in the Anapo Valley. On your third day you arrive Noto which was completely destroyed after the big earthquake of 1693. Palazzolo Acreide is the next village further more you will cycle through typical small mountain villages like Cassaro, Ferla, Sortino, Buccheri and Vizzini. The stage ends in Caltagirone. From here you cycle all the way to Valguarnera. Here you leave the plain area and cycle towards the Nebrodi mountain.

Finally you arrive at the Mount Etna that will throughout the whole day lie majestically in your sight. With a bit of luck, you will see smoke from the crater. The stage ends in Bronte, known for the vast pistachio plantations. The final stage to climb is the Mount Etna.

Cycle your holiday due to the South East Sicily and get a great cycling Trip

- Charming (3* and 4* hotels) where you'll be able to relax
- Noto which was completely destroyed by the big earthquake of 1693
- Visit the Iblei plateau with its great Canyons also called as the "Cave"
- You can choose every day to cycle the normal route or a shorter route
- Cycle in Sortino the fast downhill with hairpins of the so-called "Fusco" to the Anapo Valley
- You'll see vast plantations of prickly pears. (Fico d'India)
- And the various landscape of the Iblei plateau and 2 true jewels of baroque architecture: Ragusa Ibla and Modica

Itinerary

Day 1

Check in

Check in around 14.00 at your hotel in Siracusa. Introduction, bike fitting and description of the tour. After the briefing you can store your bikes or take a look at the bikes you may have rented.

Day 2

Siracusa to Noto 123 km - altitude 2200m or 72 km - altitude 1100m

Today you will cycle across the Iblei plateau with its numerous Canyons, called here „cave“. After having left Siracusa you will start a climb to the Climiti mountains and then along the ridge. Shortly before arriving in Sortino you will have a stunning view over the plain of Catania and in the background the volcano Mount Etna, the goal of our tour. From Sortino you start the fast downhill with hairpins of the so-called „Fusco“ to the Anapo Valley. You a continuous up and down brings you to the coast, where you start the last challenging climb to the Cavagrande del Cassibile. The stage ends in Noto, the capital of the Sicilian Baroque.

Day 3

Noto to Palazzolo Acreide 120 km - altitude 2450m or 88 km - altitude 2000m

Today's stage shows you again the various landscape of the Iblei plateau and two true jewels of baroque architecture: Modica and Ragusa Ibla. After a first climb you arrive in Noto Antica, the original city of Noto, completely destroyed by the big earthquake of 1693. You continue to Castelluccio where you start the downhill to the valley. Uphill again to Modica and Ragusa, two master pieces of baroque architecture. Don't forget to try the spicy chocolate in Modia. The stage finishes in Palazzolo Acreide.

Day 4

Palazzolo Acreide to Caltagirone 135 km - altitude 2225m or 65 km - altitude 850m

Today the route leads from the Iblei to the Erei mountains. On a continuous up and down you cross a number of typical small mountain villages like Cassaro, Ferla, Sortino, Buccheri and Vizzini. The stages finishes in Caltagirone, the center of Sicilian pottery craft.

Day 5

Caltagirone to Valguarnera 112 km - altitude 1950m or 80 km - altitude 1300m

This stages continues to the center of Sicily that is of great agricultural importance and has already by the romans been described as the granary of Italy. You will see vast plantations of prickly pears. (Fico d'India). Possibility to visit the „Villa Romana del Casale“ near Piazza Armerina with the well preserved polychromatic floor mosaics. Another highlight of this stage is a long and fast downhill after Aidone. The stage ends in Valguarnera Caropepe.

Day 6

Valguarnera to Bronte 102 km - altitude 2050 mor 82 km - altitude 1170m

This stage is a big shorter so save up energy for tomorrow's last stage. You leave the plain and cycle towards the Nebrodi mountains and finally arrive on Mt. Etna that will throughout the whole day lie majestically in your sight. With a bit of luck, you will see smoke from the crater. The stage ends in Bronte, known for the vast pistachio plantations.

Day 7

Around Mount Etna 151 km - altitude 3660m or 127 km - altitude 2500m

This final stage – the circumnavigation of Mount Etna – is the highlight of every road bike tour in Sicily and with two long and difficult climbs a challenge even for ambitious road cyclist. Passing by old lava flows you will arrive at 1900 m above sea level. We also offer a shorter version on the north side of the volcano. The choice is up to you.

Day 8

Departure day

Departure day.....Time to say goodbye, a good flight back home or a pleasant stay in Italy.
Transfers on request

Airport

- Catania is the second largest city in Sicily and has the busiest airport on Sicily Island with over more than six million passengers a year. The airport is situated 7 kilometres southwest of Catania next to highway A-19. Every 20 minutes busses leaving to Catania centre. There are regular bus services to the resort towns nearby like Taormina & Giardini Naxos. The bus ride to Palermo takes 2 hours and 30 minutes.
- In Palermo is another important airport called "Falcone-Borsellino". The airport is 32 kilometres away to Palermo's city centre and can easily reached by highway A29. Buses leaving every half an hour to Palermo Central station or Piazza Castelnuevo. There are busses running frequently to Agrigento, Trapani, Catania or Syracuse.

Booking Information

Add your start date

- All prices are based on double rooms - for bookings & inquires: send an email to info@cycleclassictours.com
- Base package per person in double room € 850
- Supplement High Season (July and August) € 110

Extra Information

1. Fill out and submit the online booking request or send an email to info@cycleclassictours.com
2. Once we receive your request we contact the local tour operator if the tour is available.
3. When the tour operator confirms to us. We confirm to you and charge you're a deposit fee of € 350 per person plus a € 15 booking fee.
4. We tend and try to send all over within 48 hours.
5. You will receive an invoice, the tour program and the terms and conditions of the tour operator.
6. Please do not make travel plans until you receive our confirmation.
7. Your confirmation invoice contains a statement reflecting of your deposit payment and the balance due.
8. The balance payment is due 60 days before the start of the tour.
9. Please be advised that we make every effort to ensure that all the information given on this site is accurate. All statements and information has been researched and supplied by third parties.
10. The information given is accurate and reliable, to the best of our knowledge. Should errors be found, we will rectify them as quickly as possible. However, we accept no responsibility for errors or inaccuracies.

Included

- 7 nights with breakfast in 3* and 4* hotels and B&B in Caltagirone and Valguarnera
- Luggage transfer from hotel to hotel
- Maps and GPS-Tracks
- Assistance by telephone

Not Included

- Lunches
- Dinners
- transfer to/from the airport
- wine tasting, entrance fees, tips
- city tax
- Supplement High Season (July and August) € 110
- Single room supplement € 200
- Single participant supplement € 300
- Road bike rental with Ultegra € 120
- Supplement € 10 per way for transport of own bike

Transfer per person, min 2 pax (to be paid on site):

- Catania airport- Siracusa € 35
- Bronte – Catania airport € 45

