

Animals

"The Flight of the Hawk"

Hawks fly to amazing heights! Watch this spectacle as the Falconer works in harmony with hawks, dogs, horses and the environment – like a conductor with his orchestra!

"The House of Butterflies"

An aviary full of butterflies unique to the south of Italy. After an introductory video and science show you then have the opportunity to interact directly with these beautiful butterflies.

"The Mountains of the Deer"

A huge protected area in Sicily where this beautiful and elegant animal lived until 1800 before it became extinct due to excessive hunting. Attempts are now underway to repopulate the Nebrodi Park with these beautiful creatures. Enjoy searching for them in the wild while enjoying the wonderful countryside

"A Friend Called Horse"

Spend one or more days as a cowboy, travelling on horse back through the woods, along cattle trails, across huge expanses of lava or between castles and hamlets. Stopping for lunch or overnight at charming farm stays.

"A Farm Breeding Female Donkeys"

Discover this farm that specialises in the breeding of these fabulous animals for their milk, excellent for people with normal milk intolerance. Enjoy a ride on one and make it an unforgettable visit.

Nature

“Visit Sicily’s Parks and Natural Reserves”

With 78 great natural reserves Sicily is truly a ‘natural oasis’. Step out and discover this beautiful and protected land – by taking just photos and leaving only footprints!

“The Guardians of Mt Etna”

Visit this beautiful and unforgettable area of Sicily. Spend time amongst huge, ancient trees that stand majestically like keepers of ancient knowledge and wisdom.

“The Volcanic Spectacle”

Etna, Paterno` Salt pans, Macalube of Aragona, the mud baths of Volcanic Sicily. Visiting these places remains one of the most interesting travel experience. Places where the earth displays its energy and nature reveals its unquestionable strength.

“Lake Gurrida”

A river that flows into a lake. A plain of alluvial origin 850m above sea level, on the slopes of Mt Etna, created by lava flows dating back 5000 years that diverted the flow of the river Flascio, in the Nebrodi mountains. Then lava flows blocked the flow to the river Simeto creating today’s alluvial basin. The water is channeled naturally to the lower areas between the lava and the alluvial ground where its natural chasms swallow up the water that sinks into the bowels of the earth. From autumn to spring the area is home to numerous species of water birds. This is truly a magical place!!!

Adventure

“Safari Parks, Aquariums and Aqua Parks”

Have fun in one of Sicily’s Amusement Parks. Choose from swimming pools, huge waterslides, slow and ‘wild’ rivers, lagoons, waterfalls and hydro sprays for a day of water play and laughter!

“Sicily by Bicycle”

Discover the natural beauty of Sicily while enjoying the great outdoors and healthy exercise. Itineraries include travelling on tracks that follow the coast, rivers and lakes. Designed to suit all levels of fitness.

“The World of Malavoglia and the Sea of Ulysses”

Take a fascinating boat trip that re-enacts the story written by Giovanni Verga. It’s the route of the last trip of the ‘Providence’, the famous boat owned by the Malavoglia family of Acitrezza, which navigated amongst huge rocks on a beautiful sea. It’s also the same sea navigated by Ulysses while escaping from the blind fury of Polifemo, the one eye Cyclops son of the sea god Neptune. You will also visit “Polifemo’s cave” where the Cyclops lived and Ulysses was kept prisoner and the famous ‘House of Medlar tree’ where the Malavoglia used to live. This tour will take you from mythology to the heart of a very courageous family of fishermen, whose story has been told in one of the greatest works of Italian literature.

Traditional Lifestyle

“Tuna Fishing”

Don't miss the spectacle of seeing strong, rugged fishermen pit themselves against giant Tuna, trapped in a system of nets that lead them to their “death chamber”. The chant of the fishermen's rhythmic song, the Tuna's struggle to the bitter end makes this ancient and tragic, yet theatrical ritual, an unforgettable experience.

“The Grape Harvest”

A much anticipated time of the year when young and old come together to harvest one of the most precious products from our land. It's a celebration of a tradition that's been going on for centuries with games, ritual and dance and culminates in creating the fine Sicilian wine. If you like you can join in the fun!

“A Village in a Cave”

As a natural sanctuary, the Mangiapane family's cave, in the hamlet of Scurati, amazes visitors for its incredible size – the cave contains houses inside it – and for its impressive beauty. During the Xmas period about 200 people re-enact the famous ‘Living Crib of Custonaci’.

“The Festival of the Grain”

Recreates the atmosphere and scene of rural life and harvesting traditions of years gone by, with wild horses separating the stubble from the grain. Enjoy in this time of social gatherings, business dealings, and wedding celebrations with song and dance.

“In the Attic of Memories”

Great activity for parents who can see again objects that were used in their youth and that now have been forgotten and for children who have an opportunity to discover what life was like for their parents and grandparents, before the advancement of technology. The program includes visits to some very interesting ethnographic museums scattered throughout Sicily.

Arts and Museums

“Puppet Theatre”

Discover the world and exploits of Orlando, Rinaldo and the Paladins of France through shows by the Masters of the Sicilian Puppet Theatre. The adventures, jealousies and heroism of these characters have thrilled Sicilian children throughout time. A great time out for young and old.

“A Train that’s a Museum.”

Unique in Europe this most original museum of Sicilian peasant art and culture displayed inside some disused railway carriages is located at the ancient railway station of Villarosa. A detailed collection of objects that were used daily in the home and in the nearby sulphur mines is both interesting and educative.

“The Rocky Village”

Almost hidden amongst the Enna hills is the village of Sperlinga. Almost the entire village and its impressive Castle are dug into the rock face. There are caves, still lived in, that have proper house numbers! A beautiful, surreal place that is not well known even to Sicilians.

“The Castles”

A number of important Castles, reminders of the indestructible power of the Arabs and Norman civilizations, are still to be found in Sicily. Some in excellent conditions still, others in ruins they are still fascinating! Visit them to discover fragments of their history and secrets to be found amongst their strong walls, crumbling towers and ruins.

History

"The Papyrus of Ancient Egypt"

'Pilucca' (dialect for papyrus), is considered the most noble and sacred plant ever. It is also called 'the pharaohs' because it thrives on the banks of the Nile. In Sicily it is found along the River Ciane, a few kilometres from Siracusa. In 700 AD, in Siracusa, Francesco Saverio Landolina re-discovered the techniques used by ancient Egyptians to make and paint papyrus paper. The visit to the place where the Ciane River is born and the boat trip along its lush banks is one of the most beautiful nature excursions you can ever have.

"A 5000 Year Old Calendar"

An impressive stone installation, created by the Druids in 3000BC stands behind Nebrodi Park. Here huge stones form an astronomical calendar that was used to celebrate fertility rites and the Spring of Venus (a rivulet flowing from the larger river Elicona). The calendar was used to determine the exact start of the spring seasons and to plan births of animals and humans. After all these years, on the summer solstice – 21st June – the sun still lines up perfectly with the Mehir (the tall, upright prehistoric stone). It is a place of extraordinary energy framed by a mystical and beautiful landscape.