

# SPIN 2015

presents you with attractive  
trips for the weekend



# **FULL DAY TRIP**

## **SATURDAY, JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup> 2015**

TRIP "A"

### **ETNA JEEP TOUR**

**ETNA TRIP with tourist guide and jeep tour or by minibus and with tourist guide**

€ 130,00 per person with lunch in a farmhouse

€ 140,00 per person with guided tour and wine tasting + light lunch in a cellar

*Min. 5 participants*

# THE JEEP TOUR

## (Half day tour - Full day lunch included excursion)

h. 7.30 Breakfast at hotel

**h. 8.30 Jeep Etna excursion** - Duration 8 hours – Easy hike

Tour Schedule:

8:30 Departure from the hotel in Taormina. Continue along the motorway for Giarre, S. Venerina Milo, and Fornazzo Mareneve Road.

9.30 back in the off-road and is surrounded by a lava flow the Valle del Bove.

10.15 Continue and visit a cave of lava flow.

11.15 Technical stop c / o Mountain Refuge Plan Provenzana.

11.45 Trekking on the craters of the Mountains Sartorius.

12.45 Drive to a farm for lunch.

13.15 Lunch at Winery «Tenuta Chiuse del Signore» - OR OTHER

14.30 Continue to Lingfield, Castiglione di Sicilia Francavilla and up to reach the Alcantara Gorges.

15:05 Visit or overlooking the Alcantara Gorges.

15.45 Departure to Taormina.

**Arrival in the hotel at 16.30/17.00 and time to refresh and relax**

**Equipment required:** boots or tennis shoes. Jacket. Cap.

Departure 08.30 am - Return at 16.30

- Transportation by 4 or 6 seats jeep;
- **English Speaking authorized guide and Driver escort;**
- Possibility of lunch at the Farm (water, local wine and coffee included);
- Using equipment (helmets, lights, cords, etc.).
- Water in bottles of 50 cl;
- Insurance;



# **FULL DAY TRIP**

## **SATURDAY, JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup> 2015**

TRIP "B"

**TAORMINA**

**Guided tour of Taormina, path of history between classical world, medieval and Arab culture, with entrance to the Ancient Theater and lunch**

€ 135,00 per person

*Min. 9 participants – Max. 16 participants*

# WELCOME TO TAORMINA – THE PEARL OF SICILY

The climate is a dream, its position, perfect panoramas, monuments and luxurious flora and fauna render **Taormina** a location admired by all who visit it. The city lies on a terrace, with a view of the ancient **Amphitheater** against a backdrop of citrus groves with **Mount Etna** engulfed in the glory of the **Ionian Sea** beyond.

**Taormina's** genesis and early history began with the Greeks who founded and named the town in 358 B.C.; travelling to **Naxos** and settling there had later extended their territory to **Taormina**. Desired for its strategic position overlooking the sea and valley, it was seized by the Romans, and later fell into Byzantine hands. The Arabs, on their arrival, enriched the surrounding countryside, building an efficient irrigation system for crops, ensuring **Taormina's** desirability and verdant beauty.

During the Sicilian Struggle for freedom from the French, and the **Sicilian Vespers** uprising, **Taormina** gave its support to the **Spanish Aragon** family, who, once established in **Sicily**, rewarded the city richly. Various Spanish and Aragon ruling families funded the building of churches and great houses in the charming **Gothic Romanesque** style.

**Taormina** has proved a source of inspiration to novelists and writers throughout the centuries from **Ovid** to **Goethe** and **D.H. Lawrence** who, whilst in **Taormina** wrote "**Lady Chatterley's Lover**", and based various aspects of his novels on his experiences in the city. **Goethe** praised **Taormina** in his "**Italian Journey**", to such a degree that it became an integral part of the *Grand Tour*, upon which fashionable English gentlemen and intellectuals embarked for purposes of education and refinement in the 1800's. Basking in its new found international popularity, **Taormina** expanded with the creation of numerous new hotels, many of which are still thriving, as **Taormina's** popularity has not waned.

**Taormina** had graduated to status and became an exclusive, high-class haunt, frequented by an array of artists and personalities. The list is somewhat inexhaustible, but to name a few: **Alexander Dumas**, **Johannes Brahms**, **Gustav Klimt**, **Richard Wagner**, **Oscar Wilde**, **Truman Capote**, **John Steinbeck**, **Ingmar Bergman**, **Francis Ford Coppola**, **Leonard Bergman**, **Marlene Dietrich**, **Greta Garbo**, **Federico Fellini**, **Cary Grant**, **Gregory Peck**, **Elizabeth Taylor**, and **Woody Allen**.

During the **Second World War**, **Taormina** was subjected to bombing raids by the allies who invaded **Sicily** in 1942, shortly before the fall of Mussolini. Damage inflicted in the town included destruction of part of the ancient (and very beautiful) **amphitheater** and St. Dominic's church. However, much of what had been damaged was restored soon after the war and **Taormina** appears to have survived relatively unscathed.





# WELCOME TO TAORMINA – THE PEARL OF SICILY





# WELCOME TO TAORMINA – ISOLA BELLA



# **FULL DAY TRIP**

## **SATURDAY, JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup> 2015**

### TRIP "C"

### SYRACUSE

**Trip to Syracuse with guided tour, entrance to the archaeological site and lunch in a local restaurant in Ortigia**

€ 130,00 per person

*Min. 9 participants – Max. 16 participants*



# SYRACUSE

## GREEK THEATRE





# SYRACUSE

The UNESCO site of ancient Syracuse includes the island of Ortigia that was the first nucleus of the city founded by Greek colonists arrived from Corinth in the eighth century BC on this city ground (Cicero said that "it was the largest and most beautiful of all the Greek **cities**") there are the remains of the Temple of Athena, later turned into the cathedral. In addition, there are the remains of a Greek theater, a Roman amphitheater and many other buildings. These testimonials attest the troubled history of Sicily from the domination of the Byzantines to the Bourbons, through the domination of Arab, Norman, Frederick II (Hohenstaufen, 1197-1250) and from the Aragonese. The ancient Syracuse represents an unique testament, in the development of Mediterranean civilization over three millennia.



Ortigia Island View ^

Dionysus Walls v



Roman Amphitheatre

Eurialo Castle v



# **FULL DAY TRIP**

## **SATURDAY, JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup> 2015**

TRIP "D"

**CALTAGIRONE**

**Calatino itinerary, guided tour of Caltagirone, famous in the world for its beautiful ceramics. Lunch with products of the rich culinary Etna tradition**

€ 110,00 per person

*Min. 9 participants – Max. 16 participants*



# CALTAGIRONE

The city has been long famous for the production of ceramics and pottery, particularly maiolica and terracotta wares.

Caltagirone is well-known for its thousand-year-old tradition. The name itself – Caltagirone – derives from an Arabic word meaning the Castle or Fortress of the Vases. Caltagirone ceramics have been used for centuries to decorate parks and churches, streets and squares. The typical colours of local pottery, sage green and yellow, are the colours of Sicily itself, of its sun and breathtaking beauty.

Testa di Moro (Moor's Head) are ceramic pots with the likeness of a human face which, by tradition, are produced in pairs -- a male and female. It's said that the tradition derives from a legend of a love story between a noble Sicilian woman and her impossible love for an Arab. The story says that they were discovered and decapitated and their heads were turned into pots for all to see.





# **FULL DAY TRIP**

## **SATURDAY, JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup> 2015**

TRIP "E"

**RAGUSA, MODICA, SCICLI**

**Guided tour of Ragusa, Modica and Scicli, included in the UNESCO World Heritage sites. Lunch in a local restaurant**

€ 120,00 per person

*Min. 9 participants – Max. 16 participants*

## UNESCO IN SICILY



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



World  
Heritage  
Convention

**Sicily is one of the Italian regions with the highest number of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites and Goods.**

### **Tangible Heritage:**

- 1. Villa Romana del Casale – Piazza Armerina (EN)**
- 2. Archaeological Area of Agrigento**
- 3. Aeolian Islands – Messina**
- 4. Late Baroque Towns of the Val di Noto (South-Eastern Sicily)**
- 5. Syracuse and the Rocky Necropolis of Pantalica**
- 6. Mount Etna**

# TOUR SCICLI AND SURROUNDING

Scicli is full of wonderful baroque architecture - in particular Palazzo Beneventano and Palazzo Fava - and framed by rocky cliffs.

It sits in a gorge just a few miles from the long sandy beaches of Sampieri and Donnalucata and is overlooked by a towering rocky mass on which the Church of San Matteo sits.

The town shares much of its history with the other UNESCO Heritage Site towns of the Val di Noto, most specifically the fateful earthquake of 1693, during which over 3,000 of **the town's population died**. Scicli, like the towns in the area, was totally rebuilt in pure Sicilian Baroque style. Today, it is a joy to wander round.

**Scicli's** history, of course, long predates 1693, and it is thought to have taken its name from its founders, the Sicels, one of the three main tribes that inhabited Sicily before the arrival of the Greek colonists. Like the rest of the island, it was passed from one invading conqueror to another, reaching its economic and cultural peak during the Arab and Norman dominations.

There is a lot to see in Scicli including a number of lovely churches such as those of **Sant'Ignazio**, San Matteo, San Bartolomeo and Santa Maria la Nova. This latter has a Byzantine wooden statue of the Virgin Mary.



# LATE BAROQUE TOWNS IN NOTO VALLEY

CALTAGIRONE, MILITELLO IN VAL DI CATANIA, CATANIA, MODICA, NOTO, PALAZZOLO ACREIDE, RAGUSA AND SCICLI

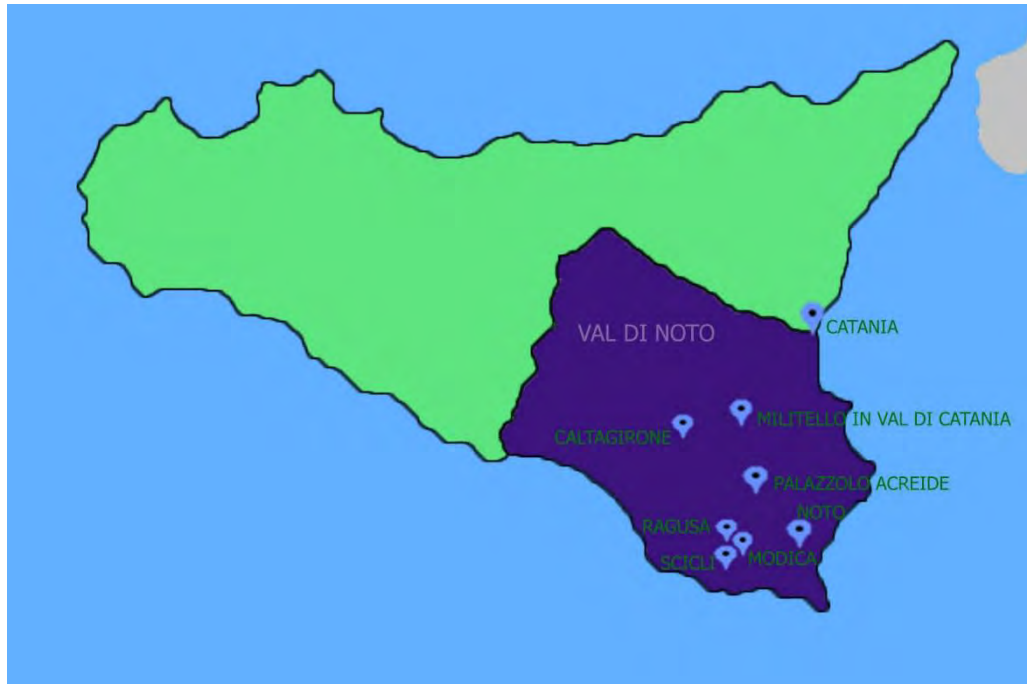
These eight towns in the south-eastern Sicily were all damaged by a massive earthquake in 1693. Hereafter they were rebuilt in the same style: the magnificent late Baroque.

They represent, in fact, a considerable collective enterprise, successfully brought to a high level of architectural and artistic fulfillment and describing particular innovations in the urban planning and construction of the city.

This compound was added to the UNESCO list of World Heritage Site in 2002.



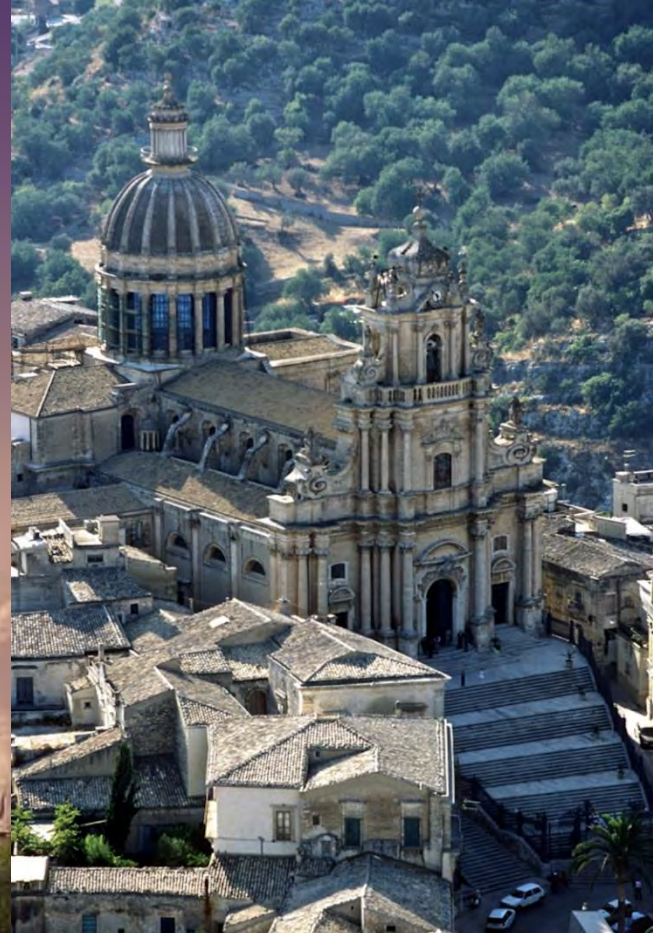
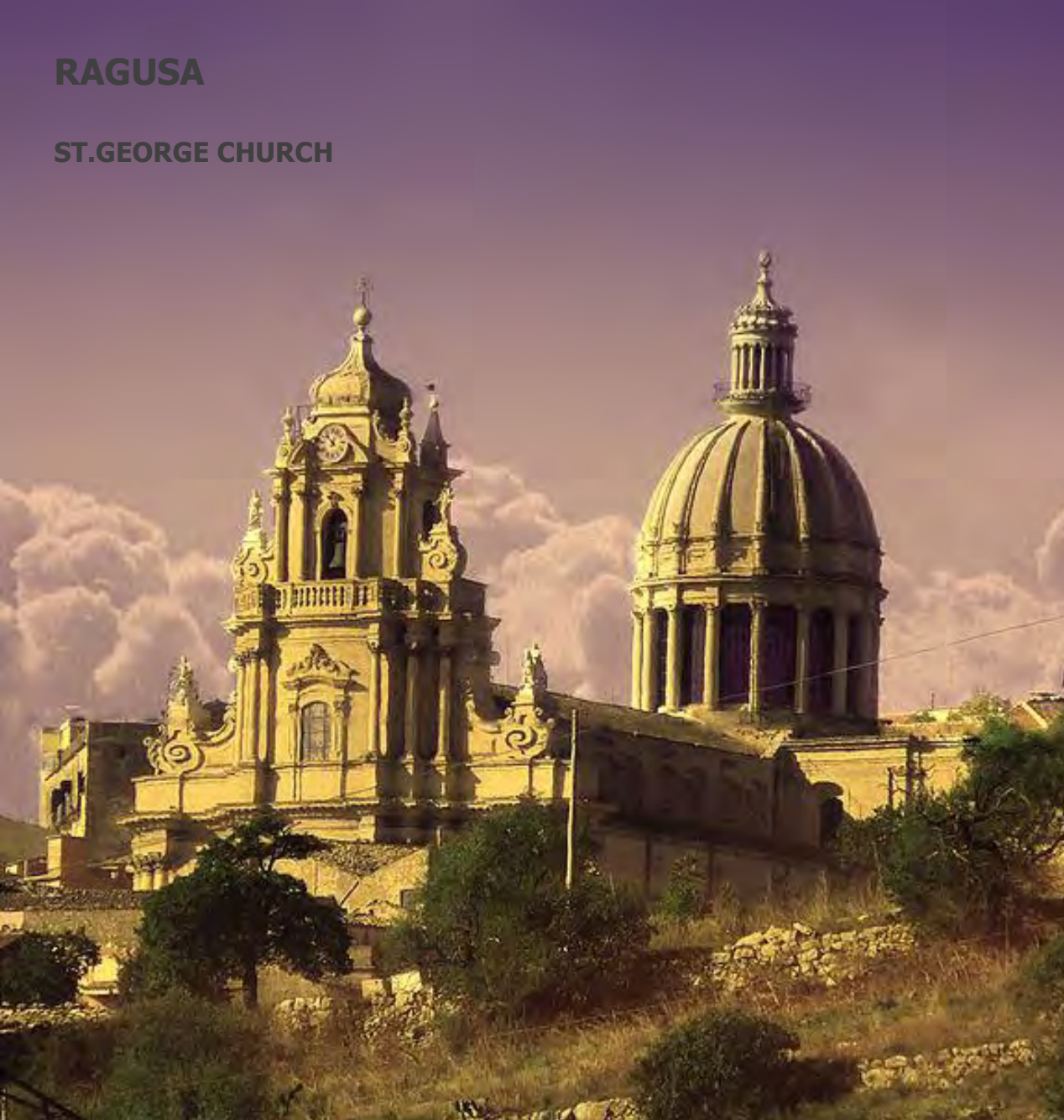
Urban details in **Noto**





RAGUSA

ST. GEORGE CHURCH





# SCICLI (RG)



St. Matthew Church



St. Bartholomew Church

Inside >

Facade v



St. Mary La Nova Church

# HALF DAY TRIP

## SUNDAY, JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup> 2015

TRIP "A"

### IONIAN COAST

**Guided tour of the Ionian coast (Acicastello, Acitrezza and the baroque Acireale) with tasting of sweet Sicilian specialties**

€ 70,00 per person

*Min. 9 participants – Max. 16 participants*



## The Cyclope's River

Lava stone, the island of Lachea, the "faraglioni" of the Cyclops – wonderful natural formations created by prehistoric submarine eruptions – and the sea in all the shades of cobalt blue: this is the Riviera of Cyclops, the stretch of coast between Catania and Acireale. Here is where myth, legends and history blend.





## The Cyclope's River

Acitrezza is where Ulysses struggled against the giant Polyphemus in Homer's *Odyssey* and it is also the natural background to Verga's novels.





# The Norman Castle



# HALF DAY TRIP

## SUNDAY, JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup> 2015

TRIP "B"

CATANIA

**Around baroque Catania with a stop at one of the typical coffee for a slush and sweet Sicilian specialties tasting**

€ 55,00 per person

*Min. 9 participants – Max. 16 participants*

# WELCOME TO CATANIA

Catania is represented by three main characteristics: its charming architecture, magnificent coastline, and the one spectator who has observed Catania's centuries of changes, Mount Etna.

Catania lies in a delightful geographical position between the Ionian Sea and the slopes of Mount Etna. Sicily's second city has always had a close relationship with the volcano. Subjected to Mt. Etna's temperament, much of Catania's history is linked to its volcanic neighbor. The city was built by natural and geophysical elements, and most of the city's buildings are made from Etna's black lava.

The city was repeatedly destroyed over the centuries by eruptions and earthquakes. In 1669, the worst eruption in Catania's history occurred when Etna buried much of the city under lava that literally ran through the streets. Catania had hardly recovered when a massive earthquake leveled much of the city in 1693, creating an economic crisis.





# CONFERENCE&EXPO SPIN 2015

Catania - Sheraton Hotel & Conference Center  
25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> June



To reserve the trips, please complete the form in all its parts (using capital letters) and [send it to info@minecompany.it](mailto:info@minecompany.it) within 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

## **BOOKING FORM**

Last Name ..... Name .....  
Address ..... City ..... Prov. ....  
Ph. .... Mob. .... E-mail .....

### **I wish to reserve:**

#### **SATURDAY, JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup> 2015:**

- TRIP "A" – ETNA JEEP TOUR**  
for no. .... persons
- TRIP "B" – TAORMINA**  
for no. .... persons
- TRIP "C" – SYRACUSE**  
for no. .... persons
- TRIP "D" – CALTAGIRONE**  
for no. .... persons
- TRIP "E" – RAGUSA, MODICA, SCICLI**  
for no. .... persons

#### **SUNDAY, JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup> 2015:**

- TRIP "A" – IONIAN COAST**  
for no. .... persons
- TRIP "B" – CATANIA**  
for no. .... persons

**NB: THE RATES SHOWN IN THE PREVIOUS PAGES CAN BE CHANGED ON THE BASIS OF THE RECEIVED RESERVATIONS.**

#### **CANCELLATIONS:**

- ✓ Within 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015, no penalties
- ✓ After 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015, in case of cancellation or no show, the total amount will be charged

#### **RESERVATIONS AFTER 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2015:**

- ✓ Rates and conditions of cancellation will be evaluated according to the availability of the trips

### **Payment method:**

**Bank transfer** to: MINE S.N.C DI CAMINITI ELISABETTA E NAVE MANUELA - Via Dogali 1/A - 98122 Messina (ME); at Banca: Unicredit, Taormina Branch; IBAN IT 93 W 02008 82590 000101309678 (SWIFT code: UNCRITM1K60).

Please send a copy of the payment to [info@minecompany.it](mailto:info@minecompany.it).

*Personal data will be treated according to the Italian Privacy Law.*

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_