ENTIRE TRAVEL GROUP

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ITALY

LA DOLCE VITA ORIENT EXPRESS: 2026 FROM ROME TO SICILY

(TOUR CODE: 15104)

STARTS AND ENDS	TRAVEL PERIODS	EXPERIENCE	TRAVEL STYLE
Rome to Palermo	31 May 26 - 01 Sep 26	Luxury Cultural	Rail Journeys

A coastal odyssey to Sicily's shores, venturing through Maratea, the "City of 44 churches," with its azure Mediterranean vistas and idyllic beaches.

Highlights

- Discover the picturesque town of Maratea with a range of Optional Off-Board Experiences*
- Savour a Michelin-starred lunch curated by Chef Heinz Beck with Italian-inspired, seasonal dishes
- Arrive in Taormina, Sicily, and immerse yourself in its rich history with a range of Optional Off-Board Experiences*

Embark on a luxurious journey through Italy aboard the La Dolce Vita Orient Express. Begin in Rome, with exquisite Italian-inspired dining curated by Chef Heinz Beck, before exploring scenic Maratea. Enjoy gourmet breakfasts and iconic sights, from Sicily's Taormina to Palermo's bustling streets. This unforgettable voyage combines refined flavours, vibrant culture and breathtaking landscapes for an unparalleled travel experience.



INCLUSIONS

- 24-hour onboard service and entertainment
- Table d'hôte meals featuring innovative Italian cuisine with beverages, including selected wines, spirits, mineral water, soft drinks, tea and coffee
- 2 nights private ensuite accommodation onboard the train in a Deluxe Cabin
- Round-trip transfers to and from the train station in Rome

ITINERARY

Day 1 Rome Maratea

Begin your journey with a smooth and seamless transfer from your hotel or the airport, arranged in advance to ensure a relaxed arrival ahead of embarkation. Upon reaching La Dolce Vita Orient Express' Lounge, you'll be warmly welcomed by the Guest Relations Team, ready to assist and guide you every step of the way. Shortly after, you'll board the iconic La Dolce Vita Orient Express, where your dedicated conductor will escort you to your private cabin.

As the train departs from Rome Ostiense Station, your unforgettable journey officially begins. Around midday, lunch is served in the elegant Restaurant Car. Surrounded by breathtaking landscapes, you'll enjoy an exquisite fine dining experience curated by renowned Chef Heinz Beck. Seating times are confirmed personally by the maître.

Later in the day, the train approaches its first destination: Maratea. Upon arrival, you'll have time to explore the area, whether through curated Off-board experiences* or your own leisure. For time off the train, a smart casual dress code and comfortable shoes are recommended.

As the evening sets in, a minivan transfer brings you back to the train for the next leg of the journey. Dinner is once again a highlight, with another refined menu crafted by Chef Heinz Beck. Following dinner, unwind in the Bar Car, where live music creates the perfect ambiance to close out the day.

**Off-board experiences are optional and not included in the package price unless specifically requested. Please consult our team at the time of booking or inquiry to arrange and receive a price for your chosen Off-board experience. Visit the 'Optional Extras' section to explore the range of available experiences and select the option that best complements your journey.*

Lunch, Dinner



Day 2 Taormina

Begin your day with a leisurely breakfast served either in the elegant Restaurant Car or in the privacy of your cabin, offering a tranquil start to the morning. As the journey continues south, the train boards the ferry to cross the Strait of Messina. During this unique passage between Villa San Giovanni and Messina, the train is divided into groups and carefully loaded onto the ferry. While maneuvering takes place, guests remain onboard; once complete, there's the option to explore the ferry's exclusive indoor and outdoor areas, offering sweeping views of the surrounding sea. Temporary service adjustments may occur during this technical operation.

Around midday, lunch is served in the Restaurant Car, where panoramic vistas accompany a fine dining experience crafted by Chef Heinz Beck. Seating times are arranged and confirmed by the maître.

Later in the afternoon, the train approaches its next destination: Taormina. After arrival, guests are free to explore at their own pace or take part in organised Off-board experiences* designed to highlight the beauty and culture of the region. For time spent ashore, a smart casual dress code and comfortable footwear are recommended.

In the evening, a transfer returns you to the train, where the journey continues through the night. The Bar Car comes to life with live music, offering a relaxing and sociable end to the day's adventures.

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Breakfast, Lunch


TAORMINA

Day 3

Palermo

Start the day with a relaxed breakfast, served either in the refined setting of the Restaurant Car or in the privacy of your own cabin. As the train makes its final approach, preparations begin for arrival at the last destination: Palermo. Upon arrival at the station, a smooth transfer is arranged to take you onward to your next destination, ensuring a seamless conclusion to your journey.

Please note: *No tour is offered in Palermo. However, please discuss options for adding a tour if desired.*

Breakfast


PALERMO

OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Under the Redeemer: The Heart and Soul of Maratea

Begin an unforgettable experience in **Maratea** with an exhilarating visit to the Christ the Redeemer statue atop Monte San Biagio. Standing 650 metres above sea level, this majestic monument is one of Maratea's most iconic landmarks, offering breathtaking panoramic views over the Tyrrhenian coast.

The journey continues with a visit to the Basilica of San Biagio—a site of deep historical and spiritual significance. Admired for its simplicity and charm, the church is a striking example of religious architecture. Inside, you'll discover precious frescoes and sacred artworks, immersing you in the cultural and spiritual richness of the region.

From the basilica, sweeping views stretch across the valley and out to sea, adding to the contemplative and atmospheric nature of the visit. As part of the guided tour, you'll also enjoy an authentic culinary experience, with tastings of regional specialities—flavours that reaffirm Maratea's reputation as a destination for food lovers.

Starting from $1,566 per person, with pricing subject to availability and confirmation.

Libbani & Legends: A Journey Through Maratea

Join a unique and captivating journey through the heart of **Maratea**, where history, nature, and craftsmanship converge in an unforgettable experience curated for the curious and refined traveller. Your private guided tour begins at the awe-inspiring Christ the Redeemer statue, rising 650 metres above sea level.

From there, ascend into a world of reverence and elegance at the Basilica of San Biagio. Nestled on the mountain ridge, this architectural treasure invites quiet contemplation with its centuries-old sacred art, frescoes, and panoramic views of the sea below.

The experience continues with an intimate visit to a local Libbani artisan workshop—a hidden gem where age-old traditions live on. Watch as master craftspeople breathe life into raw materials, transforming them into exquisite handmade creations. This is more than a visit—it's an immersion into Lucanian heritage, where every gesture tells a story passed down through generations.

Starting from $1,605 per person, with pricing subject to availability and confirmation.

A Refined Culinary Journey into Lucanian Heritage

Indulge in an exclusive invitation at the Santavenere Hotel in **Maratea**, where refined elegance and authentic tradition unite in a seamless celebration of the senses.

At the heart of this experience lies the signature culinary atelier—an intimate voyage into the rich tapestry of Lucanian cuisine. Guests will have the opportunity to uncover the secrets behind traditional regional dishes, crafted with fresh, locally sourced ingredients. Guided by expert chefs, the class reveals not only culinary techniques and treasured recipes, but also the stories and cultural heritage that imbue each dish with meaning.

The experience culminates with a sophisticated aperitivo, set against the panoramic splendour of the Tyrrhenian coast—a perfect harmony of taste, culture, and breathtaking beauty.

Santavenere is not merely a destination, but a sensory journey into the essence of southern Italy's most exquisite heritage.

Starting from $490 per person, with pricing subject to availability and confirmation.

Taormina & Mount Etna: Baroque Wonder and the Might of Fire

Begin your curated Sicilian experience with a leisurely stroll through the timeless alleys of **Taormina**, where ancient charm meets Mediterranean allure. The journey then ascends to the mighty Mount Etna—Europe's highest active volcano and a site of immense natural power.

Aboard a private Jeep, you'll traverse striking, lunar-like landscapes, guided by an expert local naturalist. Along the way, explore ancient craters, rugged lava fields, and panoramic vistas that stretch to the Ionian Sea. This is more than a sightseeing tour—it's a profound encounter with a living, breathing landscape, enriched by stories of geological marvel and ecological resilience.

Your day concludes with an indulgent visit to an exclusive wine estate nestled on Etna's fertile slopes. Here, traditional Sicilian dishes—rooted in the volcanic land—are paired with exceptional local wines. As you relax amidst vineyard views and refined hospitality, savour a sensory evening where nature, culture, and taste unite in perfect harmony.

This is Sicily at its most authentic and elevated—a seamless blend of discovery, storytelling, and gourmet pleasure that lingers long after the last glass is poured.

> Starting from $2,369 per person, with pricing subject to availability and confirmation.

Traditions in Bloom: Hilltop Heritage and Sicilian Sweetness

Embark on a curated journey through two of Sicily's most evocative destinations: **Castelmola** and **Taormina**, where history, beauty, and flavour converge in an immersive celebration of local culture.

Beginning in Castelmola—a tranquil hilltop village suspended above the Ionian coast—you'll continue with a guided walk through the elegant streets of Taormina, renowned for its Greco-Roman heritage and breathtaking vistas that sweep from the crystalline shoreline to the slopes of Mount Etna. As you wander its storied laneways, you'll follow in the footsteps of centuries of travellers drawn to this coastal gem.

Following your cultural exploration, you'll be welcomed into an exclusive pastry atelier for a hands-on masterclass in crafting the iconic *Cannolo Siciliano*. Led by a renowned local pastry chef, this interactive culinary session unveils the secrets of Sicily's most beloved dessert—from shaping the golden shell to blending fresh ricotta with citrus zest. A true sensory journey into tradition and sweetness.

Your experience concludes with a delightful dinner in a serene garden setting, where traditional Sicilian dishes are reimagined with elegance and care. Surrounded by aromatic herbs, gentle lighting, and sea views, enjoy a final moment of connection—with place, palate, and memory.

This is not just a tour—it's a taste of Sicily's soul, beautifully woven into a day of discovery, indulgence, and heartfelt hospitality.

> Starting from $2,344 per person, with pricing subject to availability and confirmation.

A Taste of Sicily on the Slopes of Mount Etna

Embark on an unforgettable adventure to **Mount Etna**, Europe's highest active volcano, through an exhilarating Jeep excursion and scenic walk across its awe-inspiring landscapes.

This journey takes you along some of the volcano's most captivating panoramic trails, where you'll discover ancient craters, lunar-like terrain, and a rich variety of unique flora and fauna. Accompanied by a specialised volcanologist, you'll gain fascinating insights into the geological history of Etna and the extraordinary biodiversity that thrives in this powerful environment.

The day culminates with dinner at one of the region's most prestigious wine estates, where Sicily's finest wines—nurtured by the volcano's fertile soils—are paired with traditional dishes prepared using fresh, locally sourced ingredients. It's a chance to savour the true essence of the region's cuisine, deeply connected to the land.

This experience offers a perfect harmony of nature, culture, and gastronomy—leaving you with lasting memories of an extraordinary journey into the heart of Sicily.

> Starting from $2,232 per person, with pricing subject to availability and confirmation.

ACCOMMODATION

La Dolce Vita Orient Express

UPGRADE AVAILABLE

Choose from two categories on board the Orient Express: **Deluxe** and **Suite** Cabins. Each cabin radiates sophistication and offers thoughtful

amenities and traditional room service.

The room service menu offers a tempting selection of savoury Italian delights, such as olives, fennel taralli, Italian cheese platters and breadsticks. Simply place your order with the steward via the in-room call button, and your chosen dishes will be served on trays, either at your bedside or table, allowing you to enjoy them while admiring the stunning views.

DELUXE CABIN

The 12 Deluxe Cabins are designed to help you unwind and disconnect. With carpeted floors and wood-beamed ceilings, each cabin offers a refined ambiance that sets the tone for a captivating journey. For added comfort, every cabin includes a private ensuite bathroom. As night falls, experience the “Great Transformation,” where the cabin seamlessly converts into a cozy bedroom. The sofa transforms into a double bed, and the footstools turn into coffee tables and stools. The room, measuring 7 m² (75 sq ft), offers a truly enchanting experience.



Room Upgrades

Suite Cabins

Choose from one of 18 Suites, each offering an exquisitely designed bedroom that also offers the option for a twin room layout, furnished with a sofa, table, two armchairs and a private ensuite bathroom. Measuring 11 m² (118 sq ft), these Suites boast vibrant hues of orange, terracotta, and purple, creating a warm, welcoming atmosphere. Brass accents, reflective smoked mirrors, glossy lacquered "burnt sienna" ceilings, and sumptuous carpets and curtains, along with lighting fixtures by renowned 20th-century designers, infuse the space with timeless elegance and charm.



Prices are dynamic based on travel dates. Please proceed to Book Now or Contact Us for details.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE	LOCAL CURRENCY
Italian	EURO

*Off-board experiences are optional and not included in the package price unless specifically requested. Please consult our team at the time of booking or inquiry to arrange and receive a price for your chosen off-board experience.

2026 departure dates:

- 31 May
- 14 July
- 01 September

Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fees
- Meals & Off-board experiences other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.),
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package