



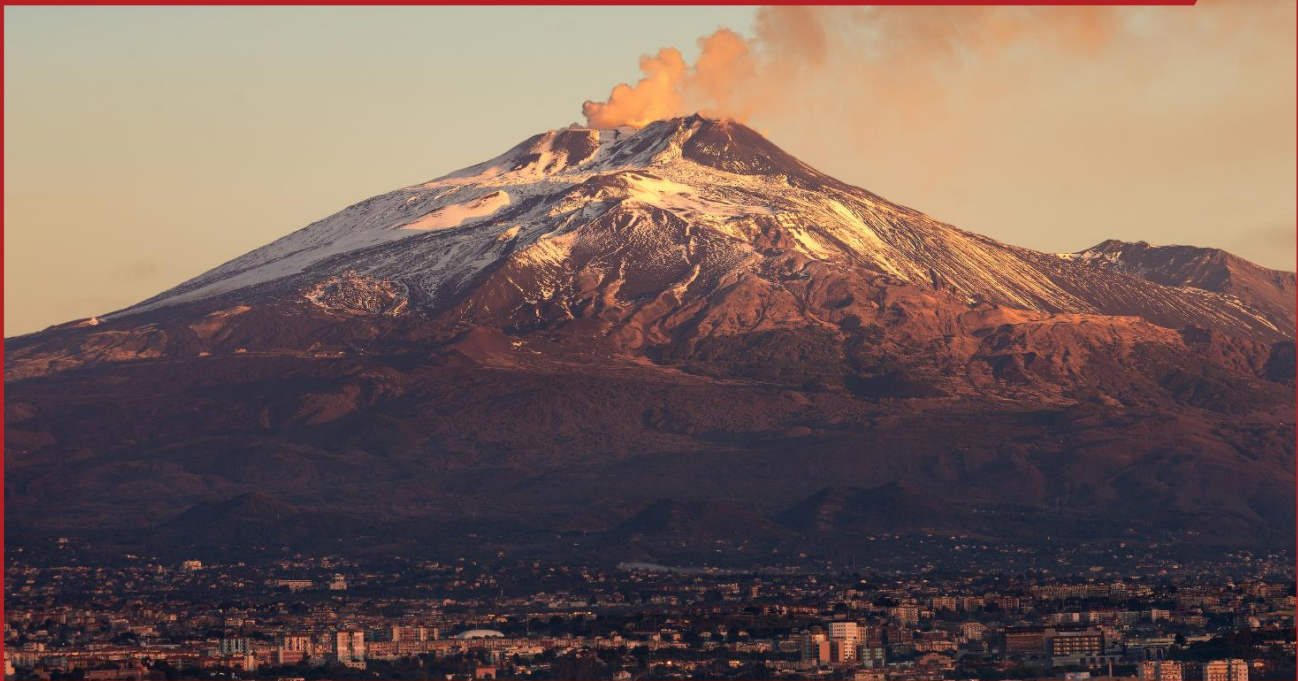
PHOENIX  
Sister Cities  
1972 - 2022



Phoenix Sister Cities Delegation to:  
**Catania, Sicily, Italy**

Syracuse, Valley of the Temples, Mt. Etna, Taormina, Agrigento

**September 29 - October 9 2024**



# PHOENIX – SICILY

## September 29 – October 9, 2024

### Itinerary (subject to change)

#### **Sunday, September 29**

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6:30 am - Arrive at Sky Harbor International Airport for an 8:20 am departure from Phoenix on Southwest Airlines flight # 1411 to Los Angeles. Collect luggage and move to the International Terminal at Los Angeles.

3:15 pm - Depart Los Angeles on ITA (Italian Air Transport) flight # 621 to Rome.

#### **Monday, September 30**

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12:00 pm – Arrive at Rome, clear customs & immigration and connect to ITA flight # 1745 departing for Catania at 1:20 pm arriving in Catania at 2:40 pm. Transfer to the hotel.

Accommodation at the Romano Palace Hotel.

- <https://www.romanopalace.it/en/>

Rest of day at leisure.

#### **Tuesday, October 1**

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(Note City of Phoenix representatives and business delegates will have an alternate itinerary at times during the first few days in Catania).

8:00 am – Breakfast at the hotel (included)

9:00 am – Depart for a half day guided walking tour of Catania.

Visit:

- Piazza Duomo
- Liotru obelisk
- City Hall
- Seminario dei Chierici
- Porta Uzeda
- Fontana Dell’Amenano
- Roman Amphitheatre
- Castello Ursino
- Via Crociferi
- Teatro Massimo Vincenzo Bellini

Lunch will be arranged in Catania City Center, location TBD.

2:00 pm – Guided walking tour of the Benedictine Monastery

6:00 pm – Dinner at restaurant Il Bell’Antonio (included)

8:00 pm – Possible performance at the Teatro Massimo Vincenzo Bellini (TBC)

## **Wednesday, October 2**

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8:00 am – Breakfast at the hotel (included)

9:00 am – Depart hotel to city center.

10:00 am – Guided walking tour of Palazzo Biscari

12:00 pm – Lunch: Attend a Sicilian cooking lesson graciously hosted by Gina Vazzana

2:00 pm – Free time.

6:00 pm – Dinner hosted by the City of Phoenix to commemorate the Sister Cities relationship with Catania at the Hotel Romano Palace

## **Thursday, October 3**

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8:00 am – Breakfast at the hotel (included)

10:00 am – Depart to the Misterbianco Tomarchio Sicilian Pastry Factory for a food and wine tasting event.

12:00 pm – Lunch hosted at Misterbianco Tomarchio

3:00 pm – Transfer to the hotel

6:00 pm – Dinner on your own.

## **Friday, October 4**

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8:00 am - Breakfast at hotel (included)

8:30 am - Depart the hotel for a full day excursion.

10:30 am – Hike to the top of Mt. Etna

- The highest Mediterranean island mountain and most active volcano in the world

1:00 pm – Arrive in Taormina

Lunch – On your own in Taormina

2:30 pm – Gather for a guided tour of the Taormina Greek Amphitheater

Free time in Taormina.

6:00 pm – Dinner with a cultural show at Restaurant La Griglia (included)

8:30pm – Coach departs to return to hotel.

## **Saturday, October 5**

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7:00 am – Breakfast at the hotel (included)

8:00 am – Depart for full day guided excursion to Agrigento.

Visit:

- Valley of the Temples
- Piazza Armenia
- Villa Romana del Casale

12:00 pm – Lunch at Restaurant Kokalos (included)

2:00 pm – Continue touring Agrigento region.

8:00pm – Return to the hotel. Dinner on your own.

## **Sunday, October 6**

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8:00 am – Breakfast at hotel (included)

9:00 am – Check-out and depart from hotel for Ragusa

11:00 am – Arrive in Ragusa Ibla for tour of the city.

- Ibla is the historic neighborhood of Ragusa, filled with late-Baroque architecture.

12:30 pm – Lunch in Ragusa Ibla (included)

2:00 pm – Arrive in Modica for tour of the city.

3:30 pm – Chocolate tasting at the famous Bonajuto Pastry Shop

- The oldest chocolate factory in Sicily. Family-owned since 1880.

6:00 pm – Arrive at Siracusa and check-in to hotel.

Accommodation at: Hotel I Monasteri

- <https://www.imonasterigolfresort.com/>

Dinner on your own.

## **Monday, October 7**

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8:00 am – Breakfast at hotel (included)

9:00 am – Tour of Cantine Pupillo:

- A family-owned vineyard since 1908, dedicated to cultivating the unique wines that flourish in the volcanic soil of the region.

11:30 am – Lunch at Cantine Pupillo with wine tasting (included)

1:30 pm – Arrive in Noto for tour of city.

- The entire Val di Noto (Noto Valley) is considered a UNESCO World Heritage Site due to the magnificence of the 18<sup>th</sup> century Baroque architecture. The city of Noto is often called the “Pearl of Baroque” for this reason.

4:00 pm – Return to hotel. Free time.

6:30 pm – Transfer to the island of Ortigia

7:00 pm – Farewell dinner at La Darsena Restaurant (included)

## **Tuesday, October 8**

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8:00 am – Breakfast at hotel (included)

9:00 am – Depart for full day tour of Siracusa.

Visit:

- Neapolis Archaeological Park: (UNESCO World Heritage Site)
  - o Roman Amphitheatre from 1<sup>st</sup> Century BC
  - o Altar of Jerone: Built by Jerone II for public animal sacrifices.
  - o Greek Theatre: still used to this day.
  - o Orechio di Dionisio (Ear of Dionysius): given the name by Caravaggio, the cave has a pointed vaulted roof that offers increased acoustics, allowing for easy eavesdropping.

1:00 pm – Lunch at Arricriati Restaurant (included)

2:00 pm – Continue tour of the Island of Ortigia

- Island of Ortigia (UNESCO World Heritage Site)
  - o Temple of Apollo
  - o Fountain of Artemis
  - o Cathedral Square

6:00 pm – Dinner is on your own. (**Note: for those on the group air package, there is a very early flight on Wednesday morning. An early check out this evening is encouraged.**)

## **Wednesday, October 9**

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4:00 am – Transfer to the Catania airport by coach. An early departure from the hotel is required due to a very early morning flight to Rome (Apologies).

6:00 am - Depart Catania on ITA flight #1722 to Rome arriving at 7:25 am.

9:30 am - Depart Rome for Los Angeles on ITA flight #620 arriving in Los Angeles at 1:15 pm clear customs and immigration and proceed to domestic air terminal.

5:05 pm - Depart Los Angeles on Southwest Airlines flight # 4540 to Phoenix arriving at 6:40 pm.

# Catania

- Sister City since 2001
- Industrial, logistical, and commercial hub of Sicily
- “Old town” is a UNESCO World Heritage Site



- Mentioned in Greek Mythology as being founded by Daedalus and his son Icarus
- Home to the Valley of the Temples: the remains of 8 different Hellenistic temples created in 580 BCE

## Agrigento

# Taormina

- Nicknamed the "Pearl of the Ionian Sea"
- Home to the first Greek colony in Italy -- one of the most important archeological sites in Italy!
- Heavy influence from the Greeks, Romans, and Arabs



- Founded by the Corinthians in 734 BCE
- Home of Archimedes and Santa Lucia
- Island of Ortigia, the city's historical center, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site

# Siracusa



**PHOENIX SISTER CITIES VISIT TO CATANIA, ITALY**

September 29 – October 9, 2024

<b>Packages</b>				
	<b>Package</b>	<b>Membership Rates</b>	<b>Occupancy</b>	<b>Price</b>
<b>ROUND TRIP</b>	<b>A</b>	PSC Friend-Level Member	Single	\$5,480.00
	<b>B</b>	Non-Member	Single	\$5,680.00
	<b>C</b>	PSC Friend-Level Member	Double	\$4,850.00
	<b>D</b>	Non-Member	Double	\$5,050.00
<b>LAND ONLY</b>	<b>E</b>	PSC Friend-Level Member	Single	\$3,900.00
	<b>F</b>	Non-Member	Single	\$4,100.00
	<b>G</b>	PSC Friend-Level Member	Double	\$3,270.00
	<b>H</b>	Non-Member	Double	\$3,470.00

Phoenix Sister City Friend Level Membership fee is \$125.00. Please speak with Rick Gerrard should you have any questions.

<b>Trip Costs &amp; Packages Include:</b>
Round-trip flights, transfers and land transportation in Catania & Siracusa
6-night stay at Romano Palace Hotel Catania & 3-night stay at Hotel 1 Monasteri Siracusa
Tours, entry fees, & most meals
Tour guides
*Cost of <b>optional</b> traveler's medical insurance is \$3.99 per day, but subject to change*

## **Trip Cancellation Insurance**

Consideration should be given to purchasing individual trip cancellation insurance. Phoenix Sister Cities has worked with several companies that provide this service. Trip cancellation insurance is different from traveler's medical insurance. Please contact Phoenix Sister Cities for suggestions.

## **Payments and Cancellations**

A \$500 non-refundable deposit to guarantee a spot in the trip is due by **June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024**. Full payment is due by August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The trip is limited to 30 participants. We urge all those interested to register as soon as possible. Any cancellations after post-ticketing on August 13<sup>th</sup> are subject to a penalty for base airfare and taxes as well as forfeiture of the payment. Prices can be subject to change depending upon currency fluctuations.

*Please sign and return the following Indemnity and Medical Release along with your completed registration form on the following page.*



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### **INDEMNITY AND MEDICAL RELEASE - Phoenix Sister Cities**

The delegation services outlined, including without limitation transportation, lodging, and sightseeing, are provided by the carrier, hoteliers, and other suppliers that are independent contractors and not agents for employees, partners, or joint ventures of Phoenix Sister Cities (PSC). PSC issues tickets, vouchers, and other travel documents for such services merely as an agent for the companies that furnish such services. Such tickets, vouchers, and other travel documents are subject to all terms and conditions of the respective suppliers (some of them may limit or exclude the supplier's liability). PSC is not responsible for any loss of or damage to property or death or injury to persons, resulting from any act or omission of any supplier providing any tour service or any other person or entity or caused by strike, war, weather, quarantine, sickness, government restriction or regulation, or any other cause beyond its reasonable control. The trip participant expressly waives all rights, which he or she may have against PSC in connection with the foregoing. Under no circumstances is PSC to be construed as a carrier under contract for safe carriage of the passenger or his or her baggage and belongings. PSC reserves the right to remove a delegate from a delegation and provide a full refund for PSC services.

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**Booking Terms & Conditions are subject to change.**

Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## REGISTRATION FORM

PERSON #1:	
PERSON #2:	

Name(s) MUST appear exactly as on passport.

Address:			
City:		State:	
Day Phone:		Cell Phone:	
Email:			

<b>Catania Trip Cost Packages</b>	
A. ROUND TRIP AIR: <b>PSC Friend-Level Member – Single Occupancy</b>	\$ 5,480.00
B. ROUND TRIP AIR: Non-Member – Single Occupancy	\$5,680.00
C. ROUND TRIP AIR: <b>PSC Friend-Level Member – Double Occupancy</b>	\$4,850.00
D. ROUND TRIP AIR: Non-Member – Double Occupancy	\$5,050.00
E. LAND ONLY: <b>PSC Friend-Level Member – Single Occupancy</b>	\$3,900.00
F. LAND ONLY: Non-Member – Single Occupancy	\$4,100.00
G. LAND ONLY: <b>PSC Friend-Level Member – Double Occupancy</b>	\$3,270.00
H. LAND ONLY: Non-Member – Double Occupancy	\$3,470.00

<b>Optional Travel Medical Insurance</b>	<b>Qty.</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Description:</b> Medical Insurance is provided by Collegiate Risk Management (Premium is calculated from the date of departure and includes the date of return). This is medical insurance only and covers trip delay, trip interruption, emergency medical, evacuation, repatriation, and baggage loss or delay.	1	\$3.99/ Day

Selection		
Qty.	Package Description	Amount
	Package #:	
	Travel Medical Insurance- \$3.99 per day. This price is subject to change.	
<b>Package Subtotal</b>		
<b>Service Fee on Credit Card Payments (Multiply by 3%)</b>		
		<b>Total Cost:</b>

Method of Payment	
Check #:	
Please make checks payable to Phoenix Sister Cities.	
Credit Card #:	
Credit Card:	<input type="checkbox"/> AMEX <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard
Expiration Date:	
Amount:	
Name as appears on card:	
Signature:	

- **All credit card payments will be subject to a 3% service charge per order.**
  - **Trip cancellation insurance is recommended. Amounts listed are subject to change based on travel conditions and fluctuation of currency.**
- Do you have special dietary requirements?**
- No    Yes \_\_\_\_\_

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**\*\*\*All delegation members MUST have a valid U.S. passport with a minimum of 6 months of validity prior to departure for travel to Italy**

**\*\*\***

Please contact Rick Gerrard with any questions:

(602) 495-5918

[rick.gerrard@phoenix.gov](mailto:rick.gerrard@phoenix.gov)

**Mail the completed registration form (Pages 10, 11, & 12) to the following address: Phoenix Sister Cities, 200 West Washington St., 20<sup>th</sup> Floor, Phoenix, AZ 85003. You may also email the completed registration form to Rick (see email above).**