



Food of Love Sicily Culinary Adventure with Nicky Pellegrino 3-9 October 2021

Everywhere you go in Sicily there is deliciousness – sweet treats like ricotta-filled cannoli pastries and artisan gelato, the freshest seafood and glorious pasta dishes accompanied by the native Nero d’Avola wines. You will have the foodie adventure of a lifetime on this culinary and cultural tour of the largest island in the Mediterranean. Sicily is a jewel, a unique blend of cultures wrapped in the magic of the Mediterranean. Explore the Baroque towns of the Val di Noto including the beautiful chocolate-making town of Modica. The Siciliani are passionate about their cuisine. Everywhere you go you will experience their warm hospitality, share local specialties and unforgettable hands-on meals. Discover the beauty and flavours of south-east Sicily on a tour that brings to life the best-selling novels of author Nicky Pellegrino.



Nicky Pellegrino spent childhood summers with her father’s family in southern Italy. There she learnt to love the Italian way of living and eating. When Nicky started writing it was those memories that fuelled her fiction. She is now the author of ten (soon to be eleven) delicious novels about Italy, family, friendship, passion and food including the bestselling *Recipe For Life*, *The Food Of Love* Cookery School and *A Year At Hotel Gondola*. Nicky’s stories are enjoyed by readers all around the world and have been translated into more than 12 languages. She lives in Auckland, New Zealand but regularly travels back to Italy to visit family and friends, and to research her books. This generally involves a lot of eating.

Masseria Della Volpe, Noto

This country resort is set on a plateau and offers striking views of the coastline of Southern Syracuse. Locally-owned and family-run this property offers the best of modern Sicilian design in a historical context. The rooms are spacious. The grounds are host to a large swimming pool and outdoor jacuzzi. Massage services are available at the small spa.



Castello Camemi, Vizzini

This elegant castle was previously a noble residence of the Ventimiglia Family built in the 15th century as a fortress. The central courtyard is home to an imposing carub tree. The 14 rooms are spacious and furnished with stylish antiques, exposed stone and wooden ceilings. Within the manicured grounds there is a delightful swimming pool.



3 Oct: Welcome to Sicily!

Arrive at Catania airport this morning and transfer immediately to your first gorgeous hotel, Masseria della Volpe. Dinner at the hotel.

Overnight a Masseria della Volpe (D)

5 Oct: Exploring Syracuse

Syracuse is one of Sicily's most famous cities and is steeped in thousands of years of history. This morning we will stroll through the farmer's market enjoy lunch on board a boat. This gulet-style ship is the perfect way to experience the beauty of the old city from the water. After lunch visit the old quarter of Ortigia, actually an island, but still part of the city. Back at Masseria della Volpe tonight, enjoy a private dining experience on the estate at the magnificent viewing point overlooking the countryside

Overnight Masseria Della Volpe (B, L, D)



4 Oct: The Honey Day

This morning visit Signor Agosto, a gentleman devoted to his bees, who makes some of the most spectacular honey you will ever taste. At lunch time we will stop in the beautiful fishing village of Marzememi. This simple seaside town is famous for miles around for its amazingly fresh and simple seafood, especially the tuna. For dinner tonight we head to Noto and enjoy some delicious pastries at Corrado Assenza's famous pasticceria

Overnight: Masseria Della Volpe (B, L, D)

6 Oct: The Food of Love Cookery School

Today is dedicated to beautiful Modica, the chocolate capital of Sicily and the setting for Nicky's novel! We will explore a range of locations described in the book and taste the chocolate made by the Bonajuto family who has been making chocolate since 1880. There will be some free time for shopping. In the afternoon we visit our friend Katia whose cooking school inspired the novel! Enjoy a fully immersive cooking class with Katia, a warm and gregarious expert in all Sicilian cuisine. We guarantee this evening will be a true culinary highlight.

Overnight at Masseria Della Volpe (B, D)



7 Oct: The Vineyard Day

Check-out this morning and then transfer to a local winery. Sicily has long been renowned for its excellent wines. We will indulge in a tasting and a lunch on the estate. Includes a tasting of the celebrated salami produced in Sicily from the famous Ibleo black pig. Then check in at your hotel, your home for the next 2 nights

Overnight at Castello Camemi (B, L, D)

9 Oct: Farewell

Our drivers will shuttle you to Catania Airport for your flight home or onward journey. Arrivederci!

8 Oct: The Ricotta Day

This morning we step back in time and visit an old farm where ricotta cheese is still made the way it has been for centuries. We head back to the hotel for lunch and some relaxation this afternoon before heading to the town of Catalgirone for a walk through ceramic district. For dinner we enjoy an exclusive experience at the private palace of a local noble family – a real treat behind the scenes of life in Sicily in a grand setting!

Overnight at Castello Camemi (B, L, D)

What's Included

- A truly authentic culinary experience
- 4 nights lodging at country retreat Masseria Delle Volpe
- 2 nights lodging at 5 star Castello Camemi
- Daily hosting by Nicky Pellegrino
- Local expert guides and host
- Cooking experience at the cookery school: inspiration of Nicky's novel
- Private dining experiences
- Market visits
- Visits of the region's most characteristic towns including the UNESO sites of Noto & Syracuse
- 6 special breakfasts
- 5 memorable lunches
- 6 extraordinary dinners
- Individual arrival and departure transfers

