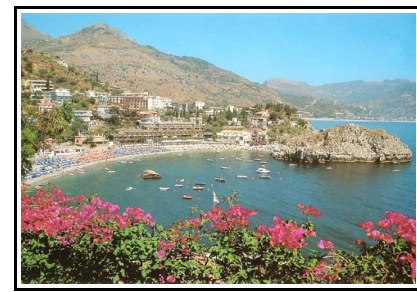




# ITALIAN & HIKING TAORMINA, ITALY

PROGRAMS START EVERY MONDAY



## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This Italian & Hiking Program enables you to combine an Italian course with walking tours for a chance to have a complete cultural experience of a language and its territory. This unique program offers 2 half-day and 1 full day walking tours, a meaningful cultural immersion, and an enriching language program.

## CITY AND COUNTRY INFO

Taormina is located high atop Mount Tauro, just above the Bay of Naxos. The magnificent Mediterranean blue bay and the not so distant, often smoldering Mount Etna offer a spectacular view which can be seen from almost any point in Taormina.

Of the possible destinations for studying the Italian language in Italy, Taormina represents one of the very few possibilities in Southern Italy, by the sea and in a beautiful town full of history and culture. Its celebrity is due to its beauty, its incredible history and architecture, and its reputation for welcoming travelers. Taormina is perfectly situated to offer students easy access to the beautiful and historically important treasures of Sicily.

The town of Taormina is also an important archaeological location. The first Greek Colony in Italy was established in its Bay of Naxos. And the town is also home to one of the most famous Greek Theaters in the world, where the main events of the summer Film, Music, Dance and Theater International Festival of "Taormina Arte" are held. There are also many more important monuments in town, from the Greek period to Roman, Byzantine, Arab, Norman, Spanish, French, Baroque, etc. With a strong vocation for tourism, Taormina offers many opportunities in the way of hotels, restaurants, bars, clubs, entertainment and sports (windsurfing, scuba diving, mountain-biking, canyoning, rafting, tennis and golf).

## HIGHLIGHTS OF PROGRAM

After participating in this Italian & Hiking Program in Taormina, students will have experienced their hobby of hiking in Taormina, greatly improve foreign language abilities, gain personal growth and confidence both nationally and internationally, and combine travel, academics, and passion for outdoors into one incredible life-changing experience.



## *What's Included*

- **Tuition and Class Materials:** 1 week minimum-group 20 Italian 45 minute lessons per week in group of 5- 12 students per class.
- **Hiking:** 2 half-day & 1 full day eco-tours
- **Lodging:** In a Shared Apartment, Pension or Homestay
- **Placement Testing**
- **1-2 Organized Activities/Excursions Weekly\***
- \* Entrance fees, transportation, etc. may be at additional cost.
- **Access to E-mail**
- **Access to Multimedia Learning Center**
- **Certificate of Completion**
- **Pre-Departure Information**
- **Planning Guide**
- **Medical, Accident and Sickness Coverage \*\***
- \*\* See policy for definitions and exclusions.
- **Medivac Coverage**
- **Other Travel Coverage:** repatriation, baggage, personal effects, accidental death and dismemberment , etc.
- **24 Hour Emergency Multilingual Hotline:** call collect from anywhere in the world

## **FULL PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

### **STUDY PROGRAM**

The study portion of the program includes 20 hours per week of Group Italian classes with a 1 week minimum. Maximum number of students per class is 5, with the average being 2 students. Groups are organized in a way that each will always consist of students possessing the same level of Italian.

All of our teachers are native speakers with university educations and are very experienced teaching Italian to foreigners. Most have learned a second language themselves and understand the student's perspective.

The method is based on the 4 language skills: listening, grammar, oral and written comprehension. No English will be used in class. Classes are 45 minutes in length.

### **HIKING PROGRAM**

Our hiking program has the goal of introducing the visitor to the island's diverse natural environments, captivating Sicily's essence as a unique cultural crossroad.

The island boasts a coastline of breathtaking beauty speckled with secret spots as yet unspoiled by the violent hands of humans.

This program includes hiking different trails during 2 half-day + 1 full day eco-tour, per week in various National Parks of Western Sicily guided by professional eco-tour guides. Transportation to the different trails is included. Personal equipment needed.

## **LODGING OPTIONS**

### **SHARED APARTMENT**

There are several apartments available throughout Taormina. All are privately owned and meet a standard level of quality. All are within a 15 minute walk from the school. Lodging includes a private room and use of bathroom and kitchen. Apartments are comfortably furnished with the basics, so as to be completely independent.

### **HOMESTAY**

Students are provided with a private room and a choice of either breakfast or 2 meals daily while living with a host family. Availability of homestays in Taormina is very limited, so early registration for this lodging option is recommended. This option is at additional cost.

### **PENSION OR HOTELS**

For those students who want total independence, accommodations in a 2 star pension with breakfast daily is available. This option is at additional cost. Three star hotels are also available upon request, and at an additional cost.

## **PRICE RANGE**

1 Week Standard Italian Classes, lodging, and 2 half-day and 1 full-day of eco-tours range between:

**\$1,561 → \$1,927\*\***

\*\*Price range depends on room and board options

## **ELIGIBILITY AND GUIDELINES**

U.S. citizens traveling with regular passports for tourism or business do not need a visa for a stay of 90 days or less. Those planning a longer visit must obtain a visa in advance of arrival. Minimum age of 18 unless accompanied by an adult.

## **ACTIVITIES AND EXCURSIONS**

Scheduled program of internal extra-curricular activities which are included in the price of the course are available and change from week to week. These activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Films
- Games
- Seminars on the Mafia
- Italian hand gestures
- Literature, poetry, film, contemporary music
- Art history, Italian history, Sicilian history
- Mount Etna - active volcano
- Dinners, theater performances and concerts

## **HOW TO REGISTER**

To register for the ITALIAN & HIKING program in Taormina, either follow the link below or call 1-888-678-6211.

<http://www.nrcsa.com/reg/online/regform.html>

When you register, \$140 USD is due to secure your place in the program.