

SICILY, land of Black Sicilian Bee

Api Sicily Tour

**Catania – Zafferana “honey village” – Etna – Taormina – Cefalu –
Palermo – Agrigento – Catania**

Sicily is not only known by its' beautiful seaside, volcano Etna and ancient culture, but as well as a-must-see beekeeping destination. On your Api Tour to Sicily you will visit the most important honey cities: Sant'Alfio, Sortino and Zafferana. You will meet Sicilian beekeepers, share experiences with them and learn the best practices, you'll get to know Sicilian black bee. Of course, you will be able to enjoy Sicilian seaside and travel through history with visiting cities as Taormina, Agrigento, Cefalu, Siracusa, Palermo and Catania, satisfy your senses with delicious food and excellent wines.



Day 01 Arrival to Sicily: Catania

Arrival to Catania and accommodation in hotel. Dinner and overnight.

Day 02 Catania – Zafferana, »honey village« – Giardini Naxos

After breakfast drive to Zafferana, honey village, which is situated on the slopes of Mount Etna, on the east side of Europe's highest volcano, it is home to a host of different flower species with rich and intense blossoms, which is why it is so suited to beekeeping. It has 8000 inhabitants and 350 beekeepers. The fame of Zafferana honey also comes from the high concentration of beekeepers and the strong competition that exists between them. Over the years, this has helped to create outstanding production that today represents 15 % of the Italian product and 40 % of Italian honey derived from citrus blossoms. The production of honey is, in fact, the main source of income in the local economy; a driving force that has brought the goodness of this land even beyond national borders. We will visit the Azienda apistica with more than 1000 hives. Our visit will focus on blooming of citrus fruits (oranges, lemons, apuntia ficus-indica) on the first stand. The second stand with citrus fruits (clementines, lemons, oranges) is the property of a farm, which produces wine. Possibility for lunch in a restaurant. In the afternoon we will visit Leonardi miele with 600 hives, focusing on migratory beekeeping. Dinner and overnight in hotel.

Day 03 Catania – Etna – Cooperativa apicola – Giardini Naxos

After breakfast morning drive to Etna Mountain and visit of the tallest active volcano on the European continent, currently 3329 m high. The volcano is reachable with funicular and mountain jeeps. In the afternoon we will visit Cooperativa apicole Pistorio Nino, a migratory and bio beekeeper, who produces all kinds of bee products, breeds and sells queen bees and bee families. The beekeeper is producing a very special model of bee hive, suitable for Black sicilian bee. Dinner and overnight in hotel.

Day 04 Zafferana – Taormina – Visit to a beekeeper – Palermo

After breakfast drive to Taormina, a city idyllically perched on a rocky promontory high above the sea. Taormina has been the most popular tourist destination in Sicily for a couple of hundred of years. Beautifully

restored mediaeval buildings, breathtaking views around every corner and a giddy network of winding streets strewn with shops, bars and restaurants make for a perfect holiday spot. In the afternoon visit to Carlo Amodeo beekeeping, tour of the facility and an explanation of the work process, collecting honey, decanting the product, explanation about the breeding the bees. He is producing a very special model of a bee hive, suitable for Black Sicilian bee. Dinner and overnight in hotel.

Day 05 Palermo – wine tasting – Agrigento

Beginning the day with a guided tour in Palermo, visit of the cathedral and sightseeing of this city, noted for its history, culture, architecture and gastronomy, playing an important role throughout much of its existence; it is over 2.700 years old. On the way to Agrigento we will stop for wine tasting at local wine producer and enjoy in local wines and bread with virgin oil. In the late afternoon arrival to Agrigento and walk through the city. Agrigento was founded as a Greek colony in the 6th century B.C., Agrigento became one of the leading cities in the Mediterranean world. Dinner and overnight in hotel.

Day 06 Agrigento – Catania

Breakfast and morning guided tour in the city with visit of Agrigento archeological park. Drive to Catania in the afternoon and visit of the second biggest city in Sicily and the tenth in Italy, known for its seismic history, having been destroyed by a catastrophic earthquake in 1169, another 1693 and several volcanic eruptions from Mount Etna volcano. Drive back to Catania. Dinner and overnight in hotel.

Day 07 Catania – Solarino: Visit to a beekeeper – Siracusa – Catania

After breakfast the drive to Solarino, where we will visit a beekeeper Mr Michele Barbagallo and his family beekeeping, which is continuing the beekeeping tradition for already 6th generation now. He owns about 1500 hives and 1000 mating nucleus. Free time for lunch. Visit to Siracusa. Dinner and overnight in hotel in Catania.

Day 08 Free at leisure – Departure

Free at leisure for individual sightseeing. Departure.

Package price from:

999 EUR

Price calculated in December 2015. Price is per person, based on twin room.

Included in the price:	Not included:
✓ Transportation in air-conditional coach in Sicily ✓ Transfer from/to Catania airport in Sicily ✓ 7 nights in hotels 3-4* based on twin rooms ✓ Tourist tax ✓ 7 buffet breakfasts ✓ 7 dinners in hotel (no drinks) ✓ Entrances and fees as per program (app. 60 EUR) ✓ Professional ApiRoutes English speaking guide ✓ Organization and assistance	✓ Flight ticket ✓ Lunches and drinks ✓ Supplement for single room ✓ Medical/health/travel insurance ✓ Insurance in the case of cancellation ✓ Everything not listed in "Included"

** Final price depends on the number of passengers, on the confirmed date, hotels and services.*

**Specialised beekeepers visits are made upon your request and interests.*

Have a great Api tour!