

PALACE TOURS
Travel Like Royalty

PALACE TOURS

La Dolce Vita Orient Express: From Sicily to Rome

2 Nights • Luxury Experience

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ABOUT THIS TOUR

Overview

From Sicily to Rome in three days and two nights, travelling along the island's coast and up the shores of southern Italy. A private transfer takes you to Palermo station, where the train departs in the morning. Lunch by three-Michelin-starred Chef Heinz Beck is served as the Mediterranean unfolds, and the afternoon brings Taormina, set high above the Ionian Sea in the shadow of Mount Etna.

On day two the train is uncoupled and loaded onto a ferry to cross the Strait of Messina, one of the most unusual moments in European rail travel. You continue to Maratea, the 'city of 44 churches', where the mountains drop straight into a clear blue sea. On the final morning breakfast is served as the train makes its way to Rome Ostiense. A beautiful way to end a holiday in Sicily and return to Rome without flying.

Hotel on us: book this journey with Palace Tours and choose a hand-picked hotel in Palermo before and/or in Rome after your journey.

DAY BY DAY

Your Itinerary



DAY 1

PALERMO AND TAORMINA

Your journey begins with a private transfer from your hotel or the airport to Palermo train station, where La Dolce Vita Orient Express awaits to whisk you away in elegance and comfort.

Departing in the morning, settle into your cabin and allow the Mediterranean landscapes to unfold outside your window. At midday, the Restaurant Car invites you to a gourmet lunch curated by three-Michelin-starred Chef Heinz Beck, a celebration of Italian culinary artistry with seasonal and locally sourced ingredients.

In the afternoon, the train arrives in Taormina, a jewel perched on Sicily's eastern cliffs. Local assistants accompany you as you choose how to explore: stroll freely along historic streets and terraces, savor breathtaking views of the Ionian Sea, or select from curated à la carte experiences revealing the city's art, history, and culinary traditions. As night falls, reboard La Dolce Vita Orient Express. The Restaurant Car awaits with a refined dinner, and the Bar Car offers live music, creating a perfect evening of luxury and refinement as the train departs for Maratea.

DAY 2

MARATEA



Awaken to the gentle rhythm of the train and the aroma of a freshly prepared Italian breakfast, served in your cabin or in the Restaurant Car. The morning is yours to savor the comfort of the journey as the train continues south.

In the afternoon, witness a singular experience as the train is decoupled and loaded onto a ferry to cross the Messina Strait, a spectacle of engineering and maritime beauty. Once in Maratea, the “Pearl of Basilicata,” you may stroll freely through its charming streets or select from curated à la carte experiences, such as a visit to historic landmarks, a guided coastal walk, or tasting local delicacies. As evening falls, the train departs once again, leaving Maratea behind, enjoy live music in the Bar Car and an unforgettable rest of the night on board.



DAY 3

ROME

The final morning begins with a leisurely Italian breakfast in your cabin or in the Restaurant Car, as the train journeys through southern and central Italy toward Rome Ostiense. Upon arrival, disembark with lasting memories of Sicily’s beauty, Maratea’s charm, and the elegance of a journey that revealed Italy’s landscapes, flavors, and history.

Tips & Travel Guide

Extend your journey

You can add days in Palermo before the train and in Rome after it. Here are three suggested lengths:

- **4 days:** 2 days before the train and 2 days after
- **5 days:** 2 days before and 3 days after
- **6 days:** 3 days before and 3 days after

Before the train: Palermo

- **Day 1:** Arrive in Palermo and transfer to your hotel. In the evening, stroll the old town and try Palermo's street food.
- **Day 2:** See the Norman Palace and the Palatine Chapel, Palermo Cathedral and the golden mosaics of Monreale Cathedral.
- **Day 3 (6-day option):** Spend the day in Cefalu, with its Norman cathedral and old town by the sea.
- The next morning, transfer to the station to board La Dolce Vita Orient Express.

After the train: Rome

- **Day 1:** Transfer privately from the station to your hotel. In the evening, walk to Piazza Navona, the Pantheon and the Trevi Fountain.
- **Day 2:** Visit the Vatican Museums, the Sistine Chapel and St Peter's Basilica with a private guide.
- **Day 3 (5- and 6-day options):** Spend the morning at the Colosseum and the Roman Forum, and the evening in Trastevere.
- The next day, transfer to the airport or your onward train.

We arrange the hotels, private transfers and guides around your train dates, and we can change any day to suit you. Prices are on request, and we have special offers on add-ons for this journey.

To request an extension, send us the enquiry form on this page and tell us which option you would like, or call 800-724-5120 (toll-free in the US) or +1 786-408-0610 from outside the US. You can also message us on WhatsApp at +1 786-408-0610.

DATES & PRICING

Departure Dates & Rates

DEPARTURE DATE	CLASS / CABIN	SINGLE	DOUBLE (PP)
Apr 25, 2027	Cabin Suite	**€15,232**	**€8,960**
	Deluxe Cabin	**€10,404**	**€6,120**
	Cabin Suite Early Bird	**€15,082**	**€8,810**
	Deluxe Cabin Early Bird	**€10,304**	**€6,020**
May 23, 2027	Cabin Suite	**€20,808**	**€12,240**
	Cabin Suite Early Bird	**€20,558**	**€11,990**
Jun 21, 2027	Cabin Suite	**€18,224**	**€10,720**
	Deluxe Cabin	**€14,144**	**€8,320**
	Cabin Suite Early Bird	**€17,974**	**€10,470**
	Deluxe Cabin Early Bird	**€13,894**	**€8,070**
Jul 11, 2027	Cabin Suite	**€15,980**	**€9,400**
	Deluxe Cabin	**€11,900**	**€7,000**
	Cabin Suite Early Bird	**€15,730**	**€9,150**
	Deluxe Cabin Early Bird	**€11,750**	**€6,850**
Sep 4, 2027	Cabin Suite	**€18,224**	**€10,720**
	Deluxe Cabin	**€15,096**	**€8,880**
	Cabin Suite Early Bird	**€17,974**	**€10,470**
	Deluxe Cabin Early Bird	**€14,846**	**€8,630**
Oct 8, 2027	Cabin Suite	**€18,224**	**€10,720**
	Cabin Suite Early Bird	**€17,974**	**€10,470**

Rates shown are per person. Single rate applies to single occupancy; Double rate applies per person in double occupancy.

EARLY BIRD FARES

Book early, pay less

Plan ahead and you'll pay less for exactly the same journey. Every cabin on this tour has an Early Bird fare. Look for it in the booking calendar, right next to the regular fare: it is labelled "<cabin> Early Bird".

6 MONTHS OR MORE BEFORE DEPARTURE

Save up to €250

per person

3 TO 6 MONTHS BEFORE DEPARTURE

Save up to €150

per person

INSIDE 3 MONTHS

Regular fare

the Early Bird fare closes

CABIN	REGULAR DOUBLE (PP)	EARLY BIRD, 6+ MONTHS AHEAD	EARLY BIRD, 3–6 MONTHS AHEAD
Cabin Suite	**from €8,960**	**from €8,710** save €250	**from €8,810** save €150
Deluxe Cabin	**from €6,120**	**from €5,970** save up to €250	**from €6,020** save up to €150

Double fares per person, two sharing; "from" is the lowest fare across the departures listed above. The saving depends on the cabin's regular price per person: €250 / €150 on journeys from €8,000, €150 / €100 from €5,000, and €50 on shorter trips. It's the same cabin, the same itinerary and everything included as before. The only difference is the price. Early Bird fares are limited to the cabins on each departure and close automatically. If you already know your dates, now is the time to book.

🏷️ **Look for Coupons and Special Rates on our website.**

Visit https://www.palacetours.com/tour/ldv-sicily-to-rome for the latest information.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Terms & Conditions

Booking & Payment

- **Deposit:** 30% of the total tour cost is due at the time of booking. The deposit is non-refundable.
- **Final payment:** the balance is due no later than 125 days before departure.
- Bookings made within 125 days of departure are payable in full at the time of booking.
- Fares are per person. Your written confirmation shows the exact amounts and due dates.

Cancellation

- **125 days or more** before departure: 30% of the total tour cost (the deposit)
- **Less than 125 days** before departure: 100% of the total tour cost

Changes

- **Date change:** free of charge, subject to availability, when requested 125 days or more before departure; after that, a fee of 15% of the total tour cost applies.
- **Cabin upgrade:** only the fare difference between cabin categories applies.
- **Cabin downgrade or passenger name correction:** free of charge up to 35 days before departure; within 35 days, EUR 500 per change.

Changes or cancellation by the train operator

If the train operator cancels or materially changes a departure, you will be offered a new date or an amended booking, a credit toward a future journey, or a refund of the amounts paid.

All cancellation, change, or update requests must be submitted in writing by email to travel@palacetours.com. A request takes effect only once we have received and processed it, and we will confirm the outcome to you in writing. Timeframes are calculated by reference to local time and business days at the destination; a request received outside business hours is treated as received on the next business day.

We strongly recommend purchasing travel insurance, including cancellation cover, from the moment you pay your deposit. For information on available plans, please visit www.palacetours.com/insurance.

COMMON QUESTIONS

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the route and duration of the Sicily to Rome journey?

> It is a 3-day, 2-night journey running Palermo - Taormina - Maratea - Rome, with both nights spent on board. You board in Palermo in the morning of day one and disembark at Roma Ostiense on the third morning. The train follows the Sicilian coast before crossing to the mainland and running north through southern and central Italy.

How does the first day from Palermo begin?

> A private transfer brings you from your hotel or the airport to Palermo train station, where the train is waiting. Departure is in the morning, and as the Mediterranean landscapes unfold you settle into your cabin. A gourmet lunch curated by three-Michelin-starred Chef Heinz Beck is served in the Restaurant Car at midday.

What is there to see during the Taormina stop?

> Taormina is perched on Sicily's eastern cliffs, with historic streets, an ancient theatre and views across the Ionian Sea toward Mount Etna. The train arrives in the afternoon of day one and local assistants accompany you into town. You can wander freely or choose a curated a la carte experience before returning to the train for dinner.

Does the train cross the Strait of Messina by ferry on this route?

> Yes. On the second afternoon the carriages are uncoupled and loaded onto a ferry for the crossing between Sicily and the Italian mainland, then put back together on the other side. It is a genuine rarity in rail travel and one of the signature moments of the itinerary. You can watch the crossing from the deck.

Why does the train stop at Maratea on the second day?

> Maratea, the Pearl of Basilicata, sits between the Tyrrhenian Sea and the mountains and is one of the loveliest stretches of Italy's southern coast. After the ferry crossing you arrive with time to stroll its streets or take a curated a la carte experience such as a guided coastal walk or a visit to its historic landmarks. The train departs again as evening falls.

Where does the journey end in Rome?

> The final morning brings a leisurely Italian breakfast in your cabin or the Restaurant Car while the train runs north toward Roma Ostiense, where the La Dolce Vita Lounge is located. You disembark in central Rome, well placed for a hotel stay or an onward flight. We are glad to help arrange extra nights in Rome at the end.

How is this different from the Rome to Sicily direction?

> The stops are the same - Taormina and Maratea - but the order and the mood reverse: northbound you start in Sicily and finish in Rome, southbound you start in Rome and finish in Palermo. Northbound often suits travellers who want to end their trip in Rome for flights or a city stay. Fares differ between the two directions, so compare both on

What cabin categories are available on the Sicily to Rome itinerary?

> You can book a Deluxe Cabin or a Cabin Suite. The train is made up of 12 Deluxe cabins, 18 Suites and the La Dolce Vita Suite, all designed in the spirit of 1960s Italian style. Which categories remain open on each departure is shown on this page.

What does the Sicily to Rome journey cost?

> Fares start from EUR 6,120 per person based on two people sharing a cabin, which makes this one of the more accessible ways onto the train. The rate depends on cabin category and departure date, and the exact fare for each departure is shown on this page. Meals, selected beverages and the described off-train experiences are already covered.

Is there a single-occupancy fare for solo travellers?

> Yes. A cabin can be booked for sole use at a single-occupancy rate, which is higher than the per-person sharing rate because the whole cabin is taken out of inventory. The applicable single fare for each departure is shown on this page. Get in touch and we will confirm the rate and availability for your chosen date.

What is included in the fare?

> Included are your cabin on board, all meals with menus curated by three-Michelin-starred Chef Heinz Beck, selected beverages, the off-train excursions described in the itinerary, live entertainment in the Bar Car and a dedicated cabin steward. Everything that happens on board is effectively taken care of once you have boarded.

What costs should I budget for on top of the fare?

> Travel to Palermo and onward travel from Rome are not included, and neither are personal expenses, gratuities or travel insurance. Optional a la carte experiences selected in Taormina or Maratea are paid locally. Anything not expressly listed in the itinerary falls outside the fare.

Are meals included and can dietary requirements be handled?

> All meals on board are included - breakfast, lunch and dinner - with menus curated by three-Michelin-starred Chef Heinz Beck built on seasonal Italian ingredients. Breakfast can be taken in your cabin or in the Restaurant Car. Dietary requirements can usually be accommodated if you tell us well before departure so the galley can prepare.

What happens on board in the evenings?

> Evenings centre on dinner in the Restaurant Car followed by the Bar Car, where live music plays into the night and selected beverages are included. The atmosphere is convivial rather than formal, recalling the golden age of Italian travel. You are equally free to retire to your cabin and watch the country slip past.

How much do I pay to confirm a booking, and when is the rest due?

> A deposit of 30 percent of the tour price confirms your cabin and is non-refundable. The balance is due 125 days before departure, and bookings made within 125 days of departure are payable in full at the time of booking. Your written confirmation shows the exact amounts and the dates they fall due.

Are children allowed on the Sicily to Rome journey?

> Yes. Reduced rates apply for children under 5 and for children aged 5 up to 12, with the age taken at the departure date. Children stay in the cabin with the adults travelling with them, so cabin size is the practical limit on a family booking. Send us the ages and we will price the whole party exactly.

When does this itinerary operate in 2027?

> The season runs from 25 April 2027 through to 8 October 2027, with twelve departures currently on sale. Each one is listed on this page with its own fare and cabin availability. Spring and early autumn dates tend to be the first to sell.

Which airports work best for this itinerary?

> Flights are not included, so you arrive into Palermo and leave from Rome under your own arrangements. Palermo's airport connects to Rome and several European hubs, and Rome Fiumicino handles most long-haul services home. A private transfer from your Palermo hotel or the airport to the station is part of the journey.

How active is this journey?

> Life on board is easy, with no long transfers and meals brought to you. The stops in Taormina and Maratea involve walking on cobbles and some gentle slopes, as both are hillside towns. Nothing is strenuous, and you can stay on board or take the town at your own pace; tell us about mobility needs when you book.

How do I ask a question or book La Dolce Vita Orient Express: From Sicily to Rome?

> Write to travel@palacetours.com, call 786-408-0610 or send a message on WhatsApp at https://wa.me/17864080610, where a travel specialist or our AI assistant will answer. The departures listed on this page are bookable directly. We can also hold a cabin briefly while you confirm your flights.

Ready to Book Your Journey?

Contact Palace Tours for personalized rates and departure dates

travel@palacetours.com | 786-408-0610

www.palacetours.com

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