

ENJOY SICILY • ENJOY SICILY • ENJOY SICILY • ENJOY SICILY • ENJOY SICILY



## ALCANTARA GORGES

The Gorges of the river Alcantara were originated in the dawn of times, due to the eruption of the crater Mojo on the northern slopes of Etna, which sent out an enormous quantity of lava. As it became solid, the Alcantara river started to dig its way through it, freeing two high walls of basalt characterized by fascinating prismatic shapes. The name of the river and its valley dates back to the period of the Arab domination in Sicily: they called the river Al Qantarah, same name of an arched bridge built by the Romans, which was able to resist the turbulent floods of the river.

The Gorges can be visited in summer when the level of the water is low. Going down into the river's bed, it is possible to see the mouth of a magnificent cavity of lava, dug by the Alcantara River. The *Gola*, few metres large but over 20 metres deep, is awesome and wild, with two walls made of black stone rising opposite each other and running each other to the sky. The chromatic contrasts are very strong among the black of the rock, the blue of the sky and the green of the water.

The river, which have its source at 1250 mt. a.s.l., is 52 km long, while the Alcantara Gorges are about 500 mt. long. The distance between the rocky walls is on an average about 5 mt. and the height of the walls reaches 55 mt.



**NOTICE!** PLEASE REFER TO YOUR QUOTATION TO MAKE SURE WHICH ENTRANCE FEES ARE INCLUDED IN YOUR PRICE.  
OPENING HOURS MAY VARY AND MUST BE CHECKED IN ADVANCE. IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO VISIT EACH OF THE DESCRIBED SITES.