



SICILY NO MAFIA

   

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NO MAFIA

INTRODUCTION

The story of Mafia

For centuries, Sicily was ruled by a long line of foreign invaders. The residents of this island, formed groups to protect themselves from the often-hostile occupying forces, as well as from other regional groups of Sicilians. These groups, which later became known as clans or families, developed their own system for justice and retribution, carrying out their actions in secret.

By the 19th century, small private armies known as "mafie" took advantage of the frequently violent, chaotic conditions in Sicily and extorted protection money from landowners. From this history, the Sicilian mafia emerged as a collection of criminal clans or families.

In 1861, Sicily became a province of recently unified Italy. However, chaos and crime reigned across the island as the fledgling Italian government tried to establish itself. In the 1870s, Roman officials even asked Sicilian mafia clans to help them by going after dangerous, independent criminal bands; in exchange, officials would look the other way as the mafia continued its protection shakedowns of landowners.

The government believed this arrangement would be temporary, lasting just long enough for Rome to gain control; instead, the mafia clans expanded their criminal activities and further entrenched themselves in Sicilian politics and the economy.

The mafia's influence in Sicily grew until the 1920s, when Benito Mussolini came to power and launched a brutal crackdown on mobsters, who he viewed as a threat to his Fascist regime.

However, in the 1950s, the mafia rose again, and over the next few decades, it flourished, expanding its criminal empire and becoming, by the 1970s, a major player in international narcotics trafficking.

The Anti-mafia movement

There have always been persons who have opposed mafia activity, who have spoken out against it, many at the cost of their lives. Hundreds of prosecutors and other figures around Sicily and Italy merit enormous credit for their engagement, such as Rocco Chinnici, Carlo Alberto Dalla Chiesa, Pio La Torre, Gaetano Costa, Boris Giuliano. Their collective efforts, however, were most significant in light of the contributions they made to the work of Giovanni Falcone and Paolo Borsellino, who set up the biggest trial that had ever been brought against Cosa Nostra, the Maxi-Processo (Maxi-Trial), in 1986.

On May 23, 1992, Falcone was on his way to Palermo from Punta Raisi Airport when a 350 kg dynamite explosion blew up the highway underneath him, killing him, his wife, and three members of his escort. Three months later, Borsellino met the same fate, falling victim to a car bomb.

Despite the weight of the tragedies, the years immediately following have been described as a "magic moment" in the antimafia movement. Pentiti began turning themselves in to local carabinieri, while social movements started around Italy to combat the apathetic, resigned mentality toward the mafia that had apparently allowed the tragedies to occur. Prosecutors enjoyed the full support of public opinion and the power of the central government in Rome. Sicilians fed up with a cultural environment that permitted such travesty have finally opened themselves to a national antimafia discourse. Expanding antimafia sentiment has found a home in burgeoning antimafia associations and organizations, formed to provide growth and cohesive structure to an important, yet otherwise uncontained sentiment. Varying in size, location, and often even in methods, the groups maintain a common moral and apolitical goal of promoting public aversion to mafia presence and activity.

CHOOSE YOUR TOUR

1. Palermo No Mafia
Walking tour in the old town centre
2. On our legs
A journey through Palermo and Capaci
3. One hundred steps
through Cinisi and Terrasini to discover the
story of Peppino Impastato
4. Corleone
A visit to the town and the antimafia movements
5. Anti-mafia studytour - 8 days in the
Palermo area

1.

PALERMO NO MAFIA

Learn about the mafia and the civil antimafia movement whilst walking through the picturesque historic centre of Palermo. Discover a city that is finally rebelling against the mafia protection racket

We start at the Massimo theatre and will go through the streets in the old town centre of Palermo. We will see the open-air market *Il Capo*, Piazza della Memoria (Memorial dedicated to prosecutors and judges killed by the mafia), Piazza Beati Paoli, the Cathedral, the City Hall, Piazza Magione: Every stop is a moment for reflection, a chance to think over the realities of the mafia and consider the civic movement against mafioso power.

Along the tour you will meet shopkeepers who have said NO to paying the *pizzo* (the money for protection pretended by the mafia families), who have subscribed to the ethical consumer campaign *Pago chi non paga* (I pay who does not pay). This campaign is promoted by Addiopizzo to support those that have decided to rebel against the mafia.

The tour ends at Antica Focacceria San Francesco, one of the oldest restaurants in Palermo, famous for its *cibo da strada palermitano* (street food of Palermo). Here you will learn about how the owners had the courage to speak out against extortion. Lunch is not included but if you decide to stay you can taste some specialties like, *pane con la milza* (sandwich stuffed with beef spleen and ricotta cheese), *arancine* (rice balls), *panelle* (chickpea fritters), *anelletti al forno* (baked ring-shaped pasta), *involtini di melanzane* (eggplant rolls), *sarde a beccafico* (sardine rolls) and the famous *cannoli*.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Deepen your knowledge of the mafia phenomenon beyond clichés and myths
- Discover the past, present and future of the anti-mafia movement
- Walk through the streets of Palermo, a city of light and shade

 **DURATION OF THE EXPERIENCE** 3 hours

 **NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS** min 2

FIXED APPOINTMENTS 2018

Saturday at 10 am.all year round
Wednesday at 9 pm July and August.

INCLUDED SERVICES

- Tour guide
- Small contribution to the antimafia charitable organisation

NOT INCLUDED SERVICES

- Entrance to museums and monuments that are not part of the tour

2. ON OUR LEGS

Take a journey through Palermo and Capaci to learn about the anti-mafia prosecutors Giovanni Falcone and Paolo Borsellino who were both assassinated in 1992. By participating in this tour you will be helping to keep their ideas and their memory alive.

There is a slogan we use to remember them by: *Non li avete uccisi. Le loro idee camminano sulle nostre gambe* (You have not killed them, their ideas walk on our legs).

Via d'Amelio, the motorway in Capaci, Falcone's tree. These places, where bombs planted by the mafia killed the two magistrates, are not symbols of death, but of the rebellion of civil society against the violence of the mafia.

Not sterile memorials but places of living memory and focal points for the renewal of the collective energy for justice and truth.

Lead by a representative of an antimafia movement, the tour is a chance to learn about two of Italy's most prominent anti-mafia activists, and about the motive for their murders, which is still not completely clear.

It is also an opportunity to add your voice to the great shout rising in Italy. You will hear this loud cry "NO MAFIA", just as you will read it on the enormous mural on the side of the mountain of Capaci.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Keep alive the memory of those who have sacrificed their lives for a mafia free Sicily
- Reflect on the massacres of 1992-93 in light of new judicial information
- See Palermo from above whilst climbing up Mount Pellegrino
- Join the growing movement of people who are saying no to the mafia

 **DURATION OF THE TOUR** 4 hours

 **NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS** minimum 2

INCLUDED SERVICES

- Tour guide
- Small contribution to the antimafia charitable organisation

NOT INCLUDED SERVICES

- Transport
- Travel insurance

3.

ONE HUNDRED STEPS



Walk around the villages of Cinisi and Terrasini to discover the story of Peppino Impastato, a young activist who bravely opposed the mafia by speaking out publicly as well as standing up against his own family.

Peppino Impastato was a multifaceted young man. He was a journalist, political activist, intellectual, environmentalist, hippy and poet.

Although his father was a Mafioso, Peppino had the courage to rebel against the Cosa Nostra and denounce its criminal and corrupt behaviour.

His tenacity led him to setting up a satirical radio show which criticized the mafia and the infamous boss Gaetano Badalamenti who, in 1978, gave orders for Peppino's assassination.

This tour will show you the astonishing personality of Peppino Impastato. An iconic figure in the struggle against the mafia whose story captures the restless spirit of youth. You will hear his story, told by people who knew him personally.

We invite you to retrace the infamous *one hundred steps* with us, the steps that separated Peppino's house from the house of Badalamenti, the mafia boss who ordered his murder.

When the trip is over we recommend you to try the pizza at *Pizzeria Impastato* owned by Peppino's relatives, or at *Pizzeria La Stazione*, where the movie *I cento passi* (One hundred steps) was filmed.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit the places that tell the extraordinary experience of Peppino Impastato
- Hear the story of his life from people who knew him personally
- Follow the symbolic 'cento passi' (100 steps) made famous in the film by Marco Tullio Giordana
- Discover the remarkable colours and shapes of the Terrasini coast

 **DURATION OF THE TOUR** 4 hours

 **NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS**
min 2

INCLUDED SERVICES

- Tour guide
- Small contribution to the antimafia charitable organisation

NOT INCLUDED SERVICES

- Transport
- Travel insurance

4. CORLEONE BEYOND THE MAFIA

The name *Corleone* is not simply that of the Godfather.

Corleone is a small town nestling among the hills in the province of Palermo. It is famous because the Corleonesi mafia clan, led by the bloodthirsty boss Salvatore Riina, had its headquarters here. Also, the name of the town was used as the surname of the main character (Don Vito Corleone) in Mario Puzo's book and Francis Ford Coppola's film, *The Godfather*. As a matter of fact, mafia dominated the local community for decades, overshadowing everything else, but recently big segments of the population have begun to rebel against this influence, also thanks to the action of young and energetic associations such as *Libera*.

Corleone boasts some beautiful churches – the main church, the Chiesa dell'Addolorata, the Chiesa di Santa Rosalia, and the small Sant'Andrea – all with important works of art, frescoes and paintings. The waterfall Cascata delle due Rocche is also a noteworthy landmark, as well as the lookout tower Torre Saracena (11th - 12th century).

A few km from Corleone you find the Bosco della Ficuzza woods, a beautiful natural reserve with many trails where it is possible to go hiking, biking and on horseback. At the end of the 18th century, the Bourbon king Ferdinand III made Ficuzza his hunting lodge, and ordered the construction of an elegant palace, which is now open to public.

Discover this picturesque village in the heart of the Sicilian countryside, enjoy the warm hospitality of the people and their effort to struggle against the mafia.

The guided tour, lead by an activist of a local non-profit organization, will retrace the history of Corleone from the late nineteenth century.

It runs through the city center and includes the *Laboratory of Legality*. Here you can admire the works of the Sicilian painter Gaetano Porcasi, which focus on the history of the mafia and the anti-mafia movement.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the alleys of Corleone with a local activist
- Learn about the history of the mafia in Corleone through the paintings of Gaetano Porcasi
- Climb the "Rocca Soprana" to reach the best viewpoint of Corleone

 **DURATION OF THE EXPERIENCE** 3 hours

 **NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS**
min 2

INCLUDED SERVICES

- Tour guide
- Small contribution to the antimafia charitable organisation

NOT INCLUDED SERVICES

- Transport
- Travel insurance



5. SICILY BEYOND THE GODFATHER



What do you know about Sicily? What was it, and what is it now? Who are the Sicilians? And what is the mafia? A study trip targeted to foreign students, meant to propose our answers to these and many other questions. An eye-opening experience, as Sicily can be a key to interpret our present.

1st DAY

Arrival and introduction to Sicily

Welcome in airport and transfer to Palermo.
Check-in at mafia-free hotel. Presentation of Sicily and the tour. Dinner and overnight

2nd DAY

The mafia and the anti-mafia movement

“Palermo Nomafia” tour: a walk through the old town center to discover the symbolic places and most significant stories of nowadays struggle against the mafia.
Lunch in the famous mafia-free restaurant *Antica Focacceria San Francesco*.
Visit of the headquarters of an antim-mafia movement in an apartment confiscated from the local mafia boss.
Free time in the afternoon. Back to hotel and overnight.

3rd DAY

Corleone: the origins of the mafia and the Movement of the peasants

Transfer to Corleone.
Guided tour in Corleone and panoramic walk.

Visit to *Bottega/Laboratorio dei Sapori e dei Saperi*: a pictorial history of the mafia and the antimafia in Corleone
Lunch at agriturismo *Terre di Corleone*, managed by the antimafia cooperative Libera. Focus on the confiscation of the mafia assets and their social re-use.
Break in Ficuzza, the hamlet dominated by the royal palace of Ferdinando of Borbone.
Back to Palermo and dinner on your own.
Overnight in hotel.

4th DAY

The Monreale area: mosaics, wine & cannoli

Monreale: visit to the Cathedral on the list of the World Heritage of UNESCO. Lunch in agriturismo *Masseria La Chiusa* with a *cannoli* demonstration.
The Memorial of Portella della Ginestra: the mafia before, during and after the Allied invasion of Sicily.
San Cipirello: wine-tasting and visit at the winery *Cento-passi* managed by Libera.
Back to Palermo and dinner on your own.
Overnight in hotel.

5th DAY

Falcone and Borsellino: the anti-mafia martyrs

Meeting with an eyewitness of the massacre in Capaci, where the prosecutor Giovanni Falcone was murdered with a bomb in 1992.
Monte Pellegrino and the Sanctuary of Santa Rosalia.
Mondello: Lunch in pizzo-free restaurant by the beach.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Learn about the mafia and about the Anti-mafia Movement
- Immerse yourself into the old town centre of Palermo, full of charm and mystery
- Explore the allies of Corleone and see its spectacular canyons
- Enjoy the multicultural aspects of a land in the middle of the Mediterranean sea
- Meet the enthusiastic activists who work on land confiscated from mafia bosses
- Try the authentic Sicilian desserts like cannolo

 **DURATION OF THE TOUR** 8 days

 **NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS** min 25

PERIOD All year round

INCLUDED SERVICES

- 8 tour days, led by an activist of an antimafia movement
- 7 nights in 3-star hotel (twin and triple rooms with bathroom for the students, single rooms with bathroom for professors/tutors)
- Half-board (7 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 2 dinners) + 1 wine tasting
- transport via private coach and public transport, depending on the program transfer from the airport to hotel and from hotel to airport
- tourist guides as specified in the program tickets for museums and monuments when specified
- donation to the involved organisations
- 2 charge-free tutors

NOT INCLUDED SERVICES

- transport to Sicily
- lunches and dinners not specified in the program
- insurance
- tourist tax

Via d'Amelio: where the prosecutor Paolo Borsellino was killed by the mafia in 1992.

Back to Palermo and dinner on your own.
Overnight in hotel.

6th DAY

Relaxing day in Cefalù

Transfer to Cefalù.

Walk in the picturesque seaside town and free time for beach and shopping.

Lunch at *Agriturismo Guarnera*.

Siesta time by the swimming pool.

Back to hotel, included dinner and overnight.

7th DAY

The multi-ethnic Palermo: migration, racial integration and organized crime

The melting-pot community in the medieval Palermo: guided visit in the Royal Palace/Cappella Palatina, the church of San Giovanni degli Eremiti and on the roof of the Cathedral.

Lunch on your own.

Migration and racial integration today: walk through the open-air market *Ballarò*.

Meeting with experts on the phenomenon of migration in the multicultural restaurant *Moltivolti*. Included dinner and farewell party.

Overnight in hotel.

8th DAY

Departure

Breakfast at hotel.

Transfer to airport.

The itinerary outlined on these pages is subject to slight changes depending on the opening hours of museums and restaurants as well as the availability of the people you will meet during the tour.