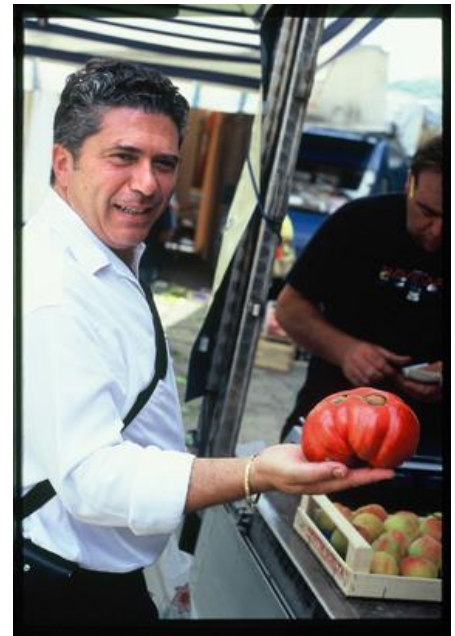


*In Italy with Antonio*  
***The Grand Tour 2017***  
*The North and the South*



## ANTONIO'S GRAND TOUR 2017

Regions - Places - Cities

Emilia Romagna - Toscana

Sicilia - Puglia - Campania

Dates

5 September 2017 - 22 September 2017



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## PROGRAMMA

### EMILIA ROMAGNA + TOSCANA + SICILIA + PUGLIA + CAMPANIA

*September – Tuesday 5 – Friday 22*

#### **05-08/09/17 4 days / 3 nights in Hotel in Parma: \*\*\*\* Hotel Mercure Stendhal**

##### **Day 1 – Tuesday 05/09/17 – Parma: Welcome**

Check-in at the hotel.

Welcome dinner at a Trattoria Il Trovatore.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

##### **Day 2 – Wednesday 06/09/17 Parma: Verdi's Places and Private Concert**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Visit the centre of Parma: Teatro Farnese, the beautiful Piazza Duomo with the Cathedral and the Baptistery in unmistakable pink marble.

Departure by private bus for 'Bassa Parmense': visit to the cellar production of Culatello and lunch at the Ristorante Cavallino Bianco.

Visit to Verdi House, then visit of Teatro Verdi.

6:00 pm Private concert at Salone Barezzi.

Dinner at your leisure.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

##### **Day 3 – Thursday 07/09/17 – Parma: Rocca Sanvitale in Fontanellato and Cremona**

Breakfast at the hotel.

8:00 am Guided tour of a typical dairy production of Parmigiano-Reggiano.

Visit to the Rocca Sanvitale in Fontanellato.

Departure to Cremona, from 11.30 am to 1:00 pm free time for shopping.

Light lunch at Cremona Osteria.

Visit of Museo del Violino.

5:00 pm Return to Parma and free time for shopping.

8:00 pm Farewell dinner at Corale Verdi.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

#### **08-11/09/17 4 days / 3 nights in Hotel in Bologna: Hotel Corona D'Oro \*\*\*\***

##### **Day 4 – Friday 08/09/17 – Bologna: Food & Wine**

Breakfast and check-out at the hotel.

Visit to a Prosciutto di Parma production with tasting.

Private bus to Bologna Hotel.

Visit to via Pescheria in the historical center of Bologna, seat of the medieval market.

Mortadella lesson with tasting.

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2.00 pm Check-in at Hotel - Time at leisure.  
6.00 pm Demonstration of pasta fresco (fresh pasta) and dinner.  
Overnight stay at the hotel.

**Day 5 – Saturday 09/09/17 – Bologna: Chianti**

Breakfast at the hotel.  
Visit to the Chianti area through a beautiful landscape of rolling hills covered by vineyards and woods.  
First stop at the village of Greve, one of the largest villages in the region and free time and a walk in the small and characteristic square.  
Continue to a prestigious winery in the area and visit the cellars and tasting of Chianti wines, accompanied by tastings of Chianti salami and Tuscan pecorino, cantucci e vin santo.  
Lunch at the most famous butcher of Chianti, to taste a menu of Florentine steak with local wine.  
Visit of Castellina and walk in the village.  
Dinner at your leisure.  
Overnight stay at the hotel.

**Day 6 – Sunday 10/09/17 – Bologna: Faenza, Modena Balsamic Vinegar, and Ferrari**

Breakfast at the hotel.  
Visit to Faenza.  
Visit to the Museum of Ceramics and the Commonwealth Cemetery.  
Transfer to production of Traditional Balsamic vinegar factory (Acetaia), visit and tasting.  
3.00 pm Visit to the Galleria Ferrari.  
Dinner in a typical trattoria of Bologna Center.  
Overnight stay at the hotel.

**Day 7 – Monday 11/09/17 – Bologna: Departure to Sicily**

Breakfast and check-out at the hotel.  
Flight Bologna Catania (AZ flight Bologna/Catania 0955 1140).

**11-14/09/17 - 4 days / 3 nights in Hotel in Sicily: \*\*\*\*\***

**Day 7 – Monday 11/09/17 – Sicily: Arrival and Catania Visit**

Transfer to Catania and walk along the historic "pescheria" (old fish market) with a stop for a "Street food" with fish specialties in the Catania fish market area.  
Visit the historic city center and its Baroque Unesco World Heritage Site.  
Countless hidden treasures of this fascinating town whose late Baroque architecture, made unique by the use of lava stone, retains vestiges of the imperial Roman period despite having been rebuilt after the earthquake of 1693. Lava and limestone are artistically combined in Norman windows in Catania of eighteenth century with an extremely elegant visual result! Catania was the capital of the Kingdom of Sicily under the Aragonese dynasty.

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Continuation towards the spectacular Piazza del Duomo with the splendid Cathedral and the lava stone Elephant (symbol of the town) and the elegant Piazza Università.

Visit the beautiful and Baroque Via dei Crociferi, with the famous Monastery of St. Benedict, announced by Verga's novel "Storia di una Capinera" and Unesco Heritage.

Transfer to Piazza Federico II di Svevia to admire the Castello Ursino, built by Federico II di Svevia in century XIII and visit of "bottega" of Napoli brothers, the oldest family of "pupari" (puppeteers) Catania style, who realize all artistic crafts related to the important tradition of the Opera dei Pupi, declared a world heritage site by UNESCO.

Departure for Siracusa for accommodation, dinner, and overnight stay at the hotel.

#### **Day 8 – Tuesday 12/09/17 – Sicily: Scicli/Modica**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Departure to Scicli, known as "Vigata" thanks to famous Montalbano fiction, for a walk in Sicilian Baroque.

Visit to "Gli Aromi di Russino" for a multi-sensory journey through herbs, ornamental plants and medicinal herbs, with a cooking demo and tasting of cooked typical local products.

Visit to Modica, famous for its decorations, pastries and the Baroque. Visit of an ancient "dolceria" producer of delicious chocolate typical of Modica and tasting.

Return to Siracusa for accommodation, dinner, and overnight stay at the hotel.

#### **Day 9 – Wednesday 13/09/17 – Sicily: Siracusa**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Visit to Siracusa, the most beautiful and greatest Greek colony in Sicily. The visit begins with Ortigia islet with the beautiful cathedral and the famous Aretusa Fountain, the cradle of Sicilian Baroque, rich in capitals, churches and palaces. Tasting of meats and cheeses to the Old Market of Siracusa. Transfer in Contrada Targia to visit with tasting and light lunch in 'Azienda Agricola Pupillo'. Founded in 1908 by Baron Antonino Pupillo and brought famous by his nephew Nino, the company is famous for the production of Moscato di Siracusa, Solacium white wine, Re Federico red wine and Cyane white wine.

Return to Siracusa and visit of Neapolis Archaeological Park where you will admire the Greek Theatre, the Roman Amphitheatre, the "Latomie del Paradiso" and the Ear of Dionysius.

4:30 pm Free time and leisure.

7:30 pm Goodbye dinner.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

#### **Day 10 – Thursday 14/09/17 – Sicily: Departure to Puglia**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Flight Catania/Bari via Rome (AZ flight 1724 Catania/Roma 1200 1320 + AZ 1613 Roma/Bari 1435 1535).

**14-18/09/17 - 4 days / 3 nights in Puglia: Hotel in Bari: \*\*\*\* T.B.C**

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**Day 10 – Thursday 14/09/17 – Puglia: Arrival and Bari**

Arrival at Bari Airport and transfer to your Hotel. Small guided visit of Bari. Free time for yourself and dinner will be an experience of Apulian meat cooked in a wood-fired oven.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

**Day 11 – Friday 15/09/17 – Puglia: Alberobello and Martina Franca**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Visit to the characteristic Apulian countryside with the beautiful centuries old olive trees that are considered real "sculptures of nature." Puglia has more than 60 million of olive trees, many of them centuries old.

Visit to renowned local farm who produces different variety of vegetables in oil. Tasting with the products of the farm.

Visit to Alberobello the capital of the Trulli, a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1996.

Free time and relaxation.

Visit to Martina Franca. Walk through the old town and a gourmet restaurant for your dinner.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

**Day 12 – Saturday 16/09/17 – Puglia: Lecce**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Visit to Lecce, the main city of the Salento area. The superb beauty of its churches and elegant noble buildings attracts a great number of visitors, because this city is the capital of the Baroque in the South of Italy. Lecce is also called "the Florence of the South". Free time for yourself and lunch at your leisure.

Visit to the most important winery in Salento area and Negroamaro wine tasting.

Dinner to be confirmed

Overnight stay at the hotel.

**Day 13 – Sunday 17/09/17 – Puglia: Ostuni, Cooking class at Masseria, and Polignano a Mare**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Sightseeing in Ostuni, best known as the "white city", for its historical downtown houses completely white painted.

Visit a beautiful and elegant Masseria of 1600 in the Apulian countryside, who produces organic vegetables, fruit and Extra virgin olive oil. In the garden of the Masseria we will arrange a hands-on cooking class where we will teach you how to prepare the typical Apulian hand-made pasta - *Orecchiette*! After a delicious extra virgin olive oil tasting, lunch with Apulian dishes and local wine.

Visit of Polignano a Mare, a characteristic Mediterranean fishing village that stands on a rocky cliff. We will walk through the historical downtown, with its houses and terraces directly overlooking the sea. During our walking tour we will go to a famous Gelateria in the town, where you can enjoy an authentic hand-made ice cream. Polignano is famous for its hand crafted ice cream!

Free time for yourself and dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

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### **Day 14 – Monday 18/09/17 – Puglia: Matera and Departure to Massalubrense**

Breakfast and check-out at the hotel.

On the road we will stop and visit Matera, a city in Basilicata region that borders with Puglia region. Matera is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, best known for the Sassi di Matera, an ancient city with houses that have been excavated in the rock and that have been lived since the Paleolithic Era.

Rupestrian churches, houses, caves, and ancient streets create a unique and suggestive landscape, where Mel Gibson chose to shoot the film, *The Passion of the Christ*.

Free time for yourself and lunch at your leisure.

Transfer to Massalubrense and dinner at La Primavera – Antonio's family hotel.

### **18-22/09/17 - 5 days / 4 nights in Massalubrense: Amalfi Coast: Hotel La Primavera**

#### **Day 15 – Tuesday 19/09/17 – Massalubrense: Dedicated to the Sea**

Breakfast at the hotel.

A day at the beach, weather permitting, during which the group will visit some of the suggestive and picturesque fiords of the coast of Massalubrense on characteristic boats.

Lunch at a fish restaurant.

Dinner at your leisure – **piazza night on request**

Overnight stay at the hotel.

#### **Day 16 – Wednesday 20/09/17 – Massalubrense: Day to Visit Naples and Pompei**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Visit Naples and its museum of art, and one of the most characteristic streets of Naples.

Lunch with Antonio, based on street food.

Back to La Primavera for a bit of rest and optional dinner at Don Alfonso Restaurant, 3 stars Michelin.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

#### **Day 17 – Thursday 21/09/17 – Massalubrense: Massalubrense Up Close and Personal**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Visit production places of some of the most traditional products of this land, such as the Extra Virgin Olive Oil, Il Limoncello, and La Mozzarella. Visit to an Olive grove and to Il Giardino di Vigliano one of the oldest lemon groves of South Italy with tasting.

In the late afternoon free time in Sorrento.

Goodbye dinner at La Primavera.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

#### **Day 18 – Friday 22/09/17 – Massalubrense: Home**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Transfer to Naples Airport.

**\$12450.00** per person per couple

**\$ 14250.00** per person per single room