

Plaza Travel Center

presents

Angelo's Food & Wine Tour of Italy

March 24 – April 4, 2011

Personally escorted by Angelo Mazzone



**Luxury 5 Star Hotels for 10 Nights
22 Included Meals**



Angelo's Food & Wine Tour of Italy

Highlights... Taormina * Calabria * Apulia * Amalfi Coast * Luxury Hotels * Wine Tastings * Wineries * Cooking Classes * Mozzarella Farm Tour

Per Person rates: Double \$4894.00, Single \$5969

Included in Price:

Personally escorted by Angelo Mazzone

Roundtrip group transportation from Albany to JFK Airport

All features of tour per itinerary: roundtrip airfare, 10 nights hotel, hotel taxes, 22 meals, motorcoach transportation and sightseeing.

Not Included in Price:

Optional Cancellation Waiver & Insurance of \$340.00 per person (\$445.00 if purchasing single supplement)

March 24:

Depart Albany via motorcoach to JFK Airport. Depart JFK early evening on your overnight flight to Italy. Dinner and a continental breakfast will be served enroute.

March 25: Catania/Taormina

After an early morning arrival and change of planes, arrive Catania late morning. Upon arrival at Catania we will proceed through passport control and collect your luggage inside the customs area. Outside of customs our driver will be waiting to transfer us to the deluxe **Imperiale Hotel** in Taormina. This evening enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant with wine. **(D)**

March 26: Taormina Gourmet and City Sightseeing

This morning transfer to a local restaurant to meet **Chef Antonio Orlando** and **Chef Donna Maria**. A brief walk takes us to an open air market where we will purchase fresh fruit, vegetables and all the ingredients necessary for the cooking course. Then back to the restaurant to start cooking. At the end of the cooking course, we will enjoy our scrumptious creations with the perfect compliment-a beautifully paired Sicilian wine. Dessert follows accompanied by a typical local dessert wine. **BUON APPETITTO**. This afternoon we enjoy a guided visit to the Greek Roman Theatre and the view of Mt. Etna and Taormina Bay. Later we will walk to the Public Gardens and Palazzo Corvaja. Time at leisure to rest. **(BB,L)**

March 27: Taormina/Etna Volcano & Winery/Taormina

A short drive takes us to the main visitor elevation on the slopes of Mt. Etna. Those interested in experiencing the Etna craters will have the option to purchase cable car tickets on the spot (weather and volcanic conditions permitting) to experience the lava fields and incredible landscape view from Europe's highest and most active volcano. We will then travel to a winery and farmhouse. This estate also produces olive oil, grappa, sparkling wine and artisan food. We indulge in a typical Sicilian light lunch at the farmhouse. This afternoon back to Taormina and time at leisure **(BB, L)**

March 28: Taormina

Today is yours to shop and explore this beautiful resort town. **(BB)**

March 29: Taormina/Messina Calabria/Puglia

Following breakfast at the hotel we transfer to Messina. On arrival we catch the first ferry to the Italian mainland. We will tour the Museo Archaeological Nazionale in Reggio Calabria and see the famous "Bronzi di Riace". Afterwards enjoy a nice lunch in Reggio Calabria overlooking the blue of the Mediterranean Sea. Calabria is famous for fish, white wine and nduja, typical fresh salami only available in this region. Most of the meals are served with a strong red pepper, something to taste, but of course only for those who dare! After lunch, continue to Apulia. The ride is approximately 4 hours. We arrive at the hotel **Borgo Bianco** in Polignano a Mare early evening. The hotel is located in one of the most glorious areas in Italy for food and wine. Dinner will be at a local "Cheese Festival" consisting of local fresh yellow bread and oil, olives, goat cheese, honey, burrata, ham, salami and more **(BB,L,D)**



March 30: Baroque & Wines of Salento

After breakfast meet with our local tour guide and visit the best kept secret of Italy: the baroque city of Lecce. Continue to Salice Salentino, a small village in Salento rich in vineyards and olive groves. It is on this very spot where today's cellar stands, that in 1665 Duke Oronzo, Earl of Lemons, gave birth to the Leone de Castris company. Lunch will be served at Leone de Castris Restaurant. After lunch, visit the cellar and have a look at the winemaking process, from the grapes arrival at the cellar to the bottling of finished wine. The visit will include a tour in the museum and end with a tasting of de Castris' selection of wines, matched with Salento's traditional specialties, friselline dressed with our extra-virgin olive oil "Villa La Rena". Return to Polignano a Mare. Dinner this evening will be in a local restaurant.

(BB,L,D)

March 31: Alberobello, Martina Franca & Locorotondo

After breakfast we will visit fascinating Alberobello, a UNESCO world heritage site featuring more than 1500 trulli: unique dry stone dwellings with white-washed bases and conical shaped roofs. After the visit, continue to a local restaurant where the chef will teach us to prepare orecchiette, the world famous pasta invented here. Lunch highlights are: orecchiette with rapa (a green vegetable) and cheese, burrata cheese, and white wine. In the afternoon, visit Locorotondo and Martina Franca. Locorotondo sits high over the Itria Valley, looking down on the Trulli of the nearby towns of Alberobello. The town is characterized by its whitewashed buildings and iron balconies flowing with beautiful flowers. Surrounded by vineyards, the town is also famous for its wine productions. Martina Franca sits on the hill opposite Locorotondo and is very popular with lovers of architecture due to its baroque style buildings, monuments, villas and mansions. Return to Polignano a Mare. Tonight's dinner will be in a local restaurant. **(BB,L,D)**

April 1: Matera

After breakfast we will transfer to Amalfi. We will stop enroute in ancient Matera. Dug into the tufa rock are the Sassi, stone houses that originate from a prehistoric settlement. We will tour the villages and various interesting architecture of the region. Afterwards we continue to Amalfi, arriving late afternoon. Dinner will be served in the hotel. The restaurant at Santa Caterina is one of the finest on the Amalfi coast and is famous for its Mediterranean cuisine. Overnight at the **Santa Caterina Hotel** in Amalfi **(BB,D)**.

April 2: Cetara & Amalfi

After breakfast we will discover the taste of the Amalfi coast, an area where the mild temperature, sea and rich soil create great food. In the morning, meet Pasquale, the chef at Il Convento, a small restaurant in the heart of Cetara, a fishing village. Pasquale will escort the group to the Cetara Fresh Market, a traditional open-air market, where it is possible to buy vegetables from the small local gardens and find fresh fish from the sea. Pasquale will teach us how to prepare sauce using fresh vegetables and offer an overview of local food. After the lesson, we will enjoy what we have prepared. Continue to explore the town of Amalfi. Tonight, the dinner will be served in a local restaurant in Amalfi. Return to the **Santa Caterina Hotel** in Amalfi. **(BB,L,D)**

April 3: Paestum: Wines and Mozzarella Cheese

After breakfast, we will discover the mozzarella cheese and wine of Cilento. Upon your arrival, first visit the Greek temples of Paestum, then continue to the Cavullo factory. Here we will learn how they produce mozzarella cheese and see the buffalo in their natural environment. After the visit, have a lunch and taste the best of the area: mozzarella, tomato, fresh vegetables. Continue to visit the DeConcillis Winemaker at Prignano. DeConcillis is the best wine producers in the area and is well known for wine coming from local ancient grapes. Return to Amalfi. Tonight enjoy a visit of Amalfi by night, especially the illuminated Dome. Dinner will be served in the town. Overnight at **Santa Caterina Hotel** in Amalfi. **(BB,L,D)**

April 4: ITALY – USA

After breakfast we will transfer to the Rome airport for our return flight home. **(BB)**

For more information contact

Jean Gagnon * Plaza Travel Center * 518-785-3338 or (800) 666-3404

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

SINGLE ROOMS

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

AIRPORT TRANSFERS

Should you elect to purchase your own airfare separately from the included group airfare, airport transfers are not included

PARTICIPATION

To truly experience the program and destination, you need to be able to participate in physical activities such as longer walking tours, walking over uneven terrain, climbing stairs and periods of standing. Some of the touring days may be longer, with select included activities occurring later in the evening. Some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict motorcoaches.

IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require a minimum of 6 months passport validity. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that our clients traveling abroad take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Cancellation Charges for this tour: Your deposit is nonrefundable. Final payments are nonrefundable. Purchase of the cancellation insurance allows cancellation for covered reasons only. Cancellation protection is highly recommended and must be purchased at time of deposit. Air rates are subject to change until tour is paid in full. The Waiver and Insurance does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's Traveling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. Upon cancellation of transportation or travel services where you, the customer, are not at fault and have not canceled in violation of the terms and conditions above, you will be refunded 100%. Please see your sales agent for more information, or review our brochure for details.

Responsibilities: Neither Plaza Travel Center, Inc., Angelo Mazzone or any of the affiliated entities and its and their employees, shareholders, officers, directors, successors, agents, and assigns (collectively "Plaza Travel"), own or operate any person or entity which is to or does provide goods or services for these trips. Because neither maintains any control over the personnel, equipment, or operations of these suppliers, Plaza Travel assumes no responsibility for and cannot be held liable for any personal injury, death, property damage or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience, or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of (1) any wrongful, negligent, willful or unauthorized acts or omissions on the part of any of the suppliers or other employees or agents, (2) any defect in or failure of any vehicle, equipment, or instrument owned, operated or otherwise used by any of these suppliers, or (3) any wrongful, willful or negligent act or omission on the part of any other party not under the supervision and control of Plaza Travel. Additionally, responsibility is not accepted for losses or expenses due to sickness, lack of appropriate medical facilities or practitioners, weather, strikes, theft or other criminal acts, war, terrorism, computer problems, or other such causes. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. Plaza Travel reserves the right to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their sole judgment, conditions warrant, or if they deem it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of the tour. They reserve the right to withdraw any tour announced. Plaza Travel reserves the right to decline to accept any person as a member of the tour, or to require any participant to withdraw from the tour at any time, when such action is determined by the tour manager to be in the best interests of the health, safety, and general welfare of the tour group or of the individual participant. Neither does Plaza Travel accept liability for any carrier's cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable airline or other ticket to the tour departure city and return or otherwise. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owner at all times. Arbitration - I agree that any dispute concerning, relating, or referring to this contract, the brochure or any other literature concerning my trip, or the trip itself, shall be resolved exclusively by binding arbitration according to the then existing rules of the American Arbitration Association in New York. Such proceedings will be governed by substantive New York law. Payment of the deposit to Plaza Travel constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions.

Photos shown are reflective of the area(s) visited, but may not be included in the actual tour itinerary.

Plaza Travel Center & Angelo Mazzone
present
Angelo's Food & Wine Tour of Italy!

March 24 – April 4, 2011

RESERVATION FORM

A U.S. PASSPORT valid until at least November 2011 is required.

Last Name _____ **First Name** _____ **Middle Name** _____
(Print your name clearly as it appears on your passport)

Date of Birth _____ **Passport #** _____ **Exp. Date** _____

Last Name _____ **First Name** _____ **Middle Name** _____
(Print your name clearly as it appears on your passport)

Date of Birth _____ **Passport #** _____ **Exp. Date** _____

Address: _____

Home phone: _____ **Work phone:** _____ **Cell phone:** _____

Email Address: _____

Check one: Single: _____ (Additional \$1075.00)

Double: _____ **Sharing with** _____

I wish to purchase cancellation & waiver insurance at \$340.00 per person: Yes _____ **No** _____

Insurance payment due with first deposit.

(Please note: If you choose not to purchase the insurance plane, you will incur penalties for changes & cancellations.)

Enclosed is my check made payable to Plaza Travel in the amount of: \$ _____

I understand there will be penalties & travel delays if the name given does not match my passport exactly.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

Mail your completed reservation form to Plaza Travel. **Deposit of \$750.00 per person (plus insurance if purchased) must be received to guarantee your space. Make checks payable to Plaza Travel. We have limited seats SO BOOK EARLY!**

Payments are by CHECK ONLY. Final payment is due January 7, 2011.

Minimum 30 passengers required.

CANCELLATIONS: Plaza Travel has a cancellation fee of \$100.00 per person, not covered under your insurance. Your cancellation insurance only covers cancellation for covered medical reasons. See brochures for further cancellation fees.

Plaza Travel Center, 3 School St., Latham, NY 12110
(518) 785-3338 (800) 666-3404

