

MESSINA

PORT

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TOUR NAME

Sicilian Wine







Depart from Messina on a scenic drive to one of the famous estates of the Etna region. This region is characterized by a microclimate with frigid winters and temperate summers, abundant rainfall and a wide temperature range. These conditions contrast sharply with those of the rest of Sicily, which is generally drier and hotter. These climatic features influence the maturation of the grapes and flavor in the local wines, including the conservation of primary bouquets and total acidity. The particular taste of Etna wine is due to the lava soil, rich in potassium and mineral salts. You'll visit the San Michele Estate, whose winery and the cellars are situated in an ancient, traditional Etna-style building. The vineyards are in a single area, distributed across large terraces. All around is the wonderful panorama from the Taormina promontory to Capo Mulini. Mt Etna dominates this magnificent scene towering up to its summit at 11,000 feet. The vineyards cover 62 acres. The method of cultivation is the espalier system with 'hooded cordon' pruning. There is no irrigation except during initial planting. The varieties cultivated are those typical of the region—Nerello Mascalese, Nerello Mantellato, Caricante and Cataratto. On your return to the ship, enjoy a quick photo stop and view of the 1992 lava flows.

SPECIAL NOTES

TOUR INCLUDES

DRIVER & GUIDE

HALF DAY TOUR 94