



# Italy Wine and Food Tours

Sicily 8 – 18 October 2019



**Are you a wine and food aficionado? Would you like Master of Wine Peter Scudamore-Smith to guide you across Sicily, the pearl of the Mediterranean, in search of your sensory indulgence?**

Get ready to savour amazing wines and mouth-watering gastronomic delights on Uncorked and Cultivated's Sicily Wine and Food Tour. Peter Scudamore-Smith, Master of Wine, has explored the tastes of Sicily and is able to share his experiences with you on a sensational wine and food journey.

Peter will take you through the wine regions of the east and west coasts (six provinces) for a unique and exclusive experience for lovers of wine and food. You'll discover Taormina, Siracusa and Trapani, the high altitude Etnean slopes, visit Michelin-starred restaurants, sample the traditional reds of the south, the reincarnated whites around Trapani, modernised varieties in the south-west and have the chance to flirt with some natural and amphora wines.



What sets Uncorked and Cultivated's Sicily Wine and Food Tour apart is the introduction-only exclusive visits to wineries not generally open to the public. Better still, Peter's made sure that all of the wines tasted at the wineries and in the restaurants are available for you to purchase in Australia.

Each day you can look forward to a themed lunch or dinner to complement your winery visits. You can expect the very best history-influenced flavours of this grand island with region-specific dishes, traditional cooking styles, ingredients in season and wine varietals at each dining experience. Peter Scudamore-Smith will guide the restaurants managers in wine selection on each occasion.

We stay in luxurious old-world hotels with sweeping views of the sea, all centrally located in the cities we visit. Uncorked and Cultivated offers you quality experiences within short walking distance of your hotels. We want you to have time to explore and discover the history, architecture and traditions of Sicily including Greek temples, baroque churches and medieval fortresses when winery and restaurant visits are not programmed.

Our guests receive the best personalised attention, tasting expertise and menu explanations as numbers are limited to 12 people.





## Day 1 – Tuesday 8 October

Welcome to Sicily! Uncorked and Cultivated will collect you from Catania Airport at 2pm. We then travel north to the medieval town of Taormina, settled on a hill overlooking sweeping turquoise bays below and views of Mount Etna, Europe's highest active volcano. We deliver you to your charming hotel in the centre of the town, graced with breathtaking views of the Mediterranean Sea.

Experience Taormina's perfect combination of atmosphere, history and culture with your first passeggiata. This is an elegant and lively old-world tradition of dressing smartly and taking a walk through the main street at sundown. Afterwards we will meet in the evening to dine at a local trattoria to feast on sumptuous local seafood including the house specialty stuffed fresh sardines.

## Day 2 – Wednesday 9 October

Today we depart at 9am for the lava rock vineyards under Mount Etna's eastern side to Azienda Benanti at Viagrande. This is the home of Sicily's greatest living white wine. You'll enjoy a palmento visit, wine tasting and light brunch. In the afternoon, we head up to Mount Etna National Park to the viewing and ski lift. You can choose to ascend to 2000 metres for a closer glimpse of the mountain to experience its spectacular craters and walks. We return to Taormina at 5pm. Your evening is free.

## Day 3 – Thursday 10 October

Your morning is free to explore Taormina including the renowned Greek theatre from 300 BC, located high above a cliff overlooking the sea and Mount Etna. Be spellbound by the dramatic views while you sip a cappuccino. Meander down narrow medieval streets for pure discovery or stumble across the delights of the Greek sector in Giardini-Naxos. Why not take a chairlift to the sea level?

We will then indulge in lunch at a local seafood restaurant by the water. You'll experience new and innovative Etnean cuisine from a young but distinguished chef. Why not try the black tagliolini pasta with sea bass ragout, sweet chard roasted tomatoes and basil cream sauce? Your evening is free.

## Day 4 – Friday 11 October

We will explore the northern vineyards of Mount Etna today; this is the fastest developing sector of Sicily due to international demand for the red wines from nerello mascalese, and all major and many small producers have plantings, most very recent. Our morning stop is at Passopisciaro winery, the property of Tuscan maker Andrea Franchetti. Then we move west along the mountain at 1000 m to Randazzo for a typical seasonal and rustic lunch behind the local church; the town of Bronte is nearby, the birthplace of pistachio. Our afternoon tasting is a visit to the Rallo family at Cottanera; under a southern vista which captures Etna's twin peaks around its main crater, in the locality of Castiglione di Sicilia. We depart for the pretty seaside town of Siracusa in the south-east, arriving at our next hotel late afternoon. Discover a charming boutique hotel owned by a local family who share their private antique collection with guests. Your evening is yours to wander, including the historical island of Ortigia, the heart and soul of the area.



## Day 5 – Saturday 12 October

Today we depart Siracusa for the Chiaramonte Hills to visit the ancient Roman area Plaga Mesopotamica Sicula, home of the Jacono family at Valle dell Acate. Produced here is Sicily's sole DOCG, Cerasuolo di Vittoria, the highest level in Italian wine designation between the Iblei Mountains and the Mediterranean Sea. As an eco-friendly awardee this maker follows its VIVA sustainable wine credentials leading to its seven soils for seven wines program which we taste. We then venture into the old Baroque town of Ragusa Ibla for lunch at an exclusive local restaurant known for its chef's penchant for cooking with medieval Roman ingredients.

We return towards Siracusa via the southern Baroque town of Noto, visiting the seaside organic wine producer Marabino nearby for a tour and tasting. We return 6pm and your evening is free.

## Day 6 – Sunday 13 October

Today is yours to explore Siracusa and its surrounds including the ruins of Tempio di Apollo and the catacombs at Basilica di San Giovanni. Take a sea walk around Ortigia. Stroll down Corso Matteotti for the shops and boutiques and take an underground tunnel from the Piazza del Duomo to the harbour. We will meet to dine at a traditional local restaurant which features eastern Sicilian seafood, complemented by a selection of Ragusan and Noto wines.

## Day 7 – Monday 14 October

We depart at 9am for inland Sicily to visit the Tasca D'Almerita winery at Tenuta Regaleali in Palermo province (Vallelunga). A tasting from Tasca's diverse wine range is accompanied by favoured Palermitan appetisers: pannelle (chickpea fritters) and crocchette. Following is an estate lunch featuring true locovore style-Sicilian delights made on the premises. Tasca shines as a providore with a spectacular array of produce—the lamb, cheese, caponata, vegetables, ricotta, tomato sauce and extra virgin olive oil are all sourced and made on the estate. After lunch we venture forth to Trapani, an old town on the west coast. We arrive at our hotel in Trapani at 6pm. Your evening is free.

## Day 8 – Tuesday 15 October

Today we leave Trapani at 9am for a wine tasting and lunch at the Planeta Estate's Ulmo winery and vineyard at Lago Arancio. The Planeta family is one of the powerhouses of Sicily's wine renaissance, which spearheaded a global passion for the rich indigenous nero d'avola grape. For lunch you'll indulge in tastings and pairings with the most traditional homemade Planeta dishes such as baccala followed by fruit salad cannoli Siciliani, all prepared by Sciacca- born Chef Anhele Pumilia. On our return journey, we will stop at the Segesta archaeological site which has one of the best preserved Greek temples in the world. We return to our hotel at 6pm. Your evening is free.

## Day 9 – Wednesday 16 October

Enjoy your free day exploring Trapani and surrounds. This city has a wealth of palaces, churches and medieval fortifications for you to explore. Take the cable car up to the spectacular walled hilltop town of Erice, Sicily's oldest with narrow medieval streets and closed piazzas. Visit the famous La Pasticceria di Grammatico. Maria learned her skills in a convent orphanage. The island of Favignana is just a short hydrofoil ride from town. We have dinner at 7pm in a local osteria serving traditional foods paired with local Trapanese wine.



## Day 10 – Thursday 17 October

We depart at 10am for a wine tasting and lunch in the historic town of Marsala with its Arab- influenced buildings and history, and piles of sea salt. We visit the cellars of Donnafugata, a modern, intriguing maker of contemporary western Sicilian table wines. For lunch we will indulge at a local restaurant and enjoy what the chef recommends according to the fresh products of the day. We meet in the hotel's lounge bar at 8pm for a farewell drink.

## Day 11 – Friday 18 October

Uncorked and Cultivated's Sicily Wine and Food Tour concludes. You will be leaving at 9am for the short journey (70km) north to drop off at the airport, or central Palermo.

### Tour details

The price for Uncorked and Cultivated's Sicily Wine and Food Tour (10 nights) is \$6950 per person twin share. The single supplement is \$1600. This is a land-only price. Numbers are strictly limited to 12 people.

#### Included in the tour:

- Personalised service of tour leader by Peter Scudamore-Smith, Master of Wine, owner and director of Uncorked and Cultivated
- Accommodation in luxury four-star hotels with sea views, private facilities, air-conditioning and internet access
- Full breakfast daily and either lunch or dinner each day. Premium wine typical of the regions visited is provided with each lunch and dinner
- Wine tastings and antipasti at each winery visited
- Transfers from Catania airport and to Palermo Airport or Palermo Central. All land transfers within Sicily during the tour are by air-conditioned luxury minibus

#### Not included in the tour:

- Passport and visa fees
- International airfares, taxes and excess baggage
- Travel insurance
- Meals not specifically mentioned in the itinerary
- Mt Etna and Segesta sightseeing activities
- Sightseeing and general expenses not specified in the itinerary

#### Activity rating:

You need to be able to get around unassisted, go up and down stairs, carry your own luggage and walk on uneven cobblestone streets on flat ground.

### Contact us

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ABN: 15 054 157 685

# Book now on Uncorked and Cultivated's Italy Wine and Food Tours

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**To secure your booking, forward this booking form together with your deposit of \$700 per person to Uncorked and Cultivated, PO Box 8016, Woolloongabba Qld 4102 or fax your credit card payment to (07) 3391 1894.**

1. Title \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_

2. Title \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_

**(Names must be as per passport)**

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

City/suburb \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact person \_\_\_\_\_ Tel No \_\_\_\_\_

Room type preferred: Single  \_\_\_\_\_ Double  \_\_\_\_\_ Other  \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary requirements (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

**Sicily Price for 2019 is \$6950 per person twin share (single supplement \$1600)**

## Payment

I enclose my cheque (payable to Uncorked and Cultivated) for the registration of \_\_\_\_\_ participants @ \$700 per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I authorise Uncorked and Cultivated to debit my credit card (details below) for the registration of \_\_\_\_\_ participants @ \$700 per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Visa  MasterCard Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

(Please note the applicable credit card fee for Visa and MasterCard is 2.2%)

I have transferred to Uncorked and Cultivated's bank account (BSB: 064128 Account No: 0049 1441) for the registration of \_\_\_\_\_ participants @ \$700 per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Booking Conditions:** Price per person is based on twin share accommodation in luxury four-star hotels. Price is subject to availability at the time of booking and may vary due to currency fluctuations. \$700 deposit (non-refundable) per person is required at the time of booking. 50% of the price is due by 30/04/2019. Full payment is due by 31/07/2019. All prices quoted are based on current exchange rates with the Euro, and accordingly are subject to change without notice until paid for in full.

**This document forms the tax invoice when you make payment. ABN: 15 054 157 685**

*See next page for Uncorked & Cultivated tour terms and conditions.*

# Uncorked & Cultivated tour terms and conditions

By booking a Tour with Uncorked and Cultivated you are entering into a contract with Uncorked and Cultivated Pty Ltd of Suite 2, Unit 4/723 Stanley St, Woolloongabba QLD 4102, ABN 15054157685 (**We/Us**). These terms and conditions, together with the Itinerary and quotation We provide for your specific Tour, form the terms of the contract and your agreement with Us.

You must not confirm any booking (by providing us with a signed booking sheet) unless you understand and agree with the following terms and conditions. Once payment is made for the booking, you are deemed to have accepted these terms and conditions.

## 1. ITINERARY AND QUOTATION

We will prepare an Itinerary of the Tour and provide it to you, together with a quotation for the cost of the Tour. The Itinerary will specify the services we will provide, or will not provide, as part of the quoted price.

All prices are quoted in \$AUD unless otherwise specified. In the event any third-party increases their costs between the issue of our quotation and the Tour taking place, We may seek to recover those increased costs from you.

## 2. DEPOSIT AND BALANCE OF PAYMENT

A non-refundable deposit, in the amount nominated on the quotation/Itinerary, will be payable at the time you confirm your booking. Payment of the balance of the quoted price is required as noted on the quotation/Itinerary before the departure of the quotation by the due date may result in a late payment fee or cancellation, as determined by Us.

## 3. CREDIT CARD TRANSACTIONS

Credit card surcharges will apply when paying by credit card and will be determined by credit card type, as advised on the quotation.

## 4. EXCLUSIONS

The Tour price only includes the accommodation, transportation, services, meals and beverages specified on the Itinerary. No other products or services will be provided by Us, unless We specifically agree in writing to provide those services to you.

## 5. CHANGES TO THE ITINERARY

We will use our best endeavors to deliver the services nominated on the Itinerary. However, our Itineraries are usually prepared well in advance of the Tour and from time to time, We may have to make changes to the Itinerary prior to or during the Tour, which may incur additional cost or change the activities included in the Tour. If We have to change your Itinerary after you have paid for the Tour, We will provide you with as much notice of the change as possible and, where possible, offer an alternative arrangement and notify you of any additional cost. If the change occurs before the Tour commences, and means that the Tour is materially different from the original Itinerary, you have the right to withdraw from the Tour and all monies already paid will be refunded less any charges imposed by suppliers. If the change occurs during the Tour, We may in our absolute discretion, offer you a partial refund.

We are not responsible for any other costs, losses, damages or expenses you suffer as a result of a change to the Itinerary during the Tour, including consequential losses such as changes to your travel arrangements.

## 6. CANCELLATION CHARGES

All cancellations must be made by providing Us with written notice, and will be subject to the following cancellation charges. Cancellations advised between 120 and 60 days prior to the Tour date will incur a cancellation fee of 50% of the total quoted price. Cancellations advised less than 60 days prior to the tour date will result in the loss of all monies paid.

## 7. TRAVEL INSURANCE

We do not arrange or provide travel insurance or any other insurance. You must arrange a full comprehensive travel insurance policy to cover you and your property for the duration of the Tour. You must provide Us with your travel insurance policy details prior to departure.

## 8. MINIMUM GROUP NUMBER

The Tour is subject to a minimum number of participants as determined by Us, which will be notified to you at the time the Itinerary is supplied. If the minimum number of participants is not reached, the Tour will be cancelled and We will refund any money We have received from you; or We may provide you with a revised quotation, which you may accept or reject.

## 9. PASSPORTS AND VISAS

It is your responsibility to ensure that your passport is current and valid, with at least 6 months currency, and to arrange any necessary visas or travel permits. We are not liable for any loss or expense you incur if you fail to arrange a valid

passport, visa or permit. You must provide Us with accurate information. If you do not provide the correct information and We have to amend your booking, you will be responsible for any additional costs incurred.

## 10. SINGLE PARTICIPANT

If you are travelling alone and wish to share a room, we will endeavor to match you with another single participant. We accept no responsibility for the suitability of the rooming partner. If at any time during the tour you consider the rooming partner to be unsuitable, We will arrange single accommodation (if available) the additional cost of which will be borne by you. If We are unable to find a rooming partner prior to departure, you will be required to pay the applicable single supplement to undertake the Tour.

## 11. REFUNDS

No refund will be given for any pre-booked accommodation, coach tours or other pre-booked services or other travel which is not used by you. Participants who do not conform to the Itinerary will not be entitled to refunds for any parts of the Tour missed. No allowances or refunds will be made for lost or unused tickets or coupons.

## 12. ACCOMMODATION

Whilst every effort is made to ensure hotel accommodation conforms to your requirements and is as noted on the Itinerary, We are not responsible for any variations to the booking made by the hotel. You are responsible for any costs incurred as a result of damage or excess cleaning fees related to your accommodation.

## 13. BAGGAGE AND CUSTOMS

Any excess baggage fees for international and any domestic flights will be incurred at your cost. You are responsible for complying with any customs laws and regulations, including regarding taking particular goods on flights into and out of Australia.

## 14. PARTICIPATION, HEALTH REQUIREMENTS, MOBILITY

Subject to your Itinerary, the Tour is likely to require a basic level of fitness, including the ability to walk on uneven ground and stairs comfortably and unaided. You should be able to walk up to 2 kilometers over 1.5 hours, as most winery visits will require walking. Many Tours include visits to cellars which require participants to be in confined spaces and walk up and down steps for 20 to 30 metres below ground. To fully participate in the Tour, you must be in a physical condition to walk comfortably and unaided on terrain and steps which may be steep and/or uneven.

All participants warrant that they have the physical capacity to participate fully in the Tour without any assistance from the Tour escort or other participants. Any important health, disability (physical or mental) issues which may prevent you from participating in any of the Tour activities should be made known to Us before the booking is confirmed. We reserve the right to ask for a letter from your doctor confirming you are fit to participate in the Tour, if necessary. We reserve the right to decline any person as a Tour participant if We believe that you are unable to participate in the Tour safely because of a health condition. Unless you notify Us in writing prior to the commencement of the Tour that you wish to opt out, you agree that We may take photographs and films of you whilst you are on Tour and that those may be added to our brochures and advertising without any further consent from you.

It is your responsibility to take steps to protect your health whilst on the Tour, including any immunizations or medication that may be recommended by a medical practitioner before travelling to particular countries.

We reserve the right to refuse to allow you to continue on the Tour if you behave in a way that is dangerous, disorderly or causes discomfort to other Tour participants or third-party service providers, and no refund will be provided to you.

## 15. CONSULAR ADVICE

We recommend that you review information issued by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade by calling +61 2 6261 3305 or 1300 555 135 or by visiting their website at [www.smarttraveller.com.au](http://www.smarttraveller.com.au)

## 16. ARRANGEMENTS WITH THIRD PARTIES

We co-ordinate the arrangements for the Tour as specified in the Itinerary, which may include airfares, transfers, transportation, some meals and hotel accommodation (third parties). Those services are not carried out by Us, but by third parties such as airlines, hoteliers, transportation companies and other service providers which are not under our control. While We take all reasonable care to select the third parties and to monitor their performance, We accept no responsibility whether in negligence or contract for any accident, injury,

death, sickness, damage, loss, cancellation, delay, failure to deliver or partial or inadequate delivery of services, disappointed expectation, additional expenses or other unforeseen events caused in connection with those third parties, their employees, agents, servants or representatives. All coupons, vouchers, receipts and tickets issued by third parties are issued subject to the terms and conditions of liability contained in those documents, which may limit or exclude liability for death, personal injury, delay, and loss of or damage to baggage and are subject to the laws of the country where the services are provided.

#### **17. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

We do not accept any liability in any amount caused directly or indirectly by force majeure or other events beyond our control, including but without limitation to the delivery of services by third parties, war or threat of war, acts of government, acts of terrorism, fire, strikes, civil disturbances, quarantines, floods, weather conditions, natural disasters, incidents at sea, accidents or failure of machinery or equipment, theft, or other disturbances of any kind which cancel, interfere with, or add cost to the services requested. We recommend you obtain insurance which covers these risks, prior to the commencement of the Tour.

You take part in the Tour at your own risk. We are not liable for any accident, injury, death, property damage or loss in relation to such activities.

#### **18. OUR WEBSITE**

We make every effort to ensure all information displayed on our site is accurate; however we do not guarantee the accuracy of all information nor are we able to guarantee that the site is free of errors or faults. We reserve the right to change information displayed on our site, and withdraw offers or prices (including these terms and conditions) at any time without notice to you.

#### **19. COMPLAINTS**

If you have any complaint about the Tour or our services, you must notify us as soon as possible and we will endeavor to resolve the issue. If at the end of the Tour you feel your complaint has not been properly dealt with, you must notify us in writing within 30 days of the end of the Tour.

#### **20. GOVERNING LAW**

This contract is governed in all respects by the law of the State of Queensland and any legal action arising under the contract shall be litigated only in the appropriate court having jurisdiction in that state.

These terms, together with the Itinerary and quotation, form our entire agreement with you. No representation, term, warranty or condition can be expressed or implied by reference to any other writing, advertisement or conversation. This contract may only be varied in writing by mutual agreement.

