



CUBA MEETS SICILY WITH JORGE LUIS PACHECO

World Renowned Cuban Jazz Artist

Where Caribbean Passion
meets Mediterranean Magic

Music, Culinary and Cultural Tour

8 DAYS & 7 NIGHTS



OVERVIEW:

Embark on an unforgettable journey through Western Sicily, where rich history, culinary delights, and world-class jazz converge. Begin in the vibrant capital of Palermo, exploring its bustling food markets, the majestic Palermo Cathedral, and iconic landmarks like Teatro Massimo and Quattro Canti. Delve into the island's culinary traditions with a hands-on cooking experience alongside a local farmer, and savor the flavors of Sicily during a sunset winery tour and tapas tasting under an olive tree at a family owned winery overlooking a castle.

Journey to the medieval hilltop town of Erice, renowned for its enchanting castle and delectable almond pastries, and unwind in the picturesque coastal village of Cefalù, known for its stunning beaches. Marvel at the ancient Greek ruins of Segesta, where well-preserved temples stand as a testament to the island's rich past.

What makes this tour truly exceptional are three concerts with Jorge Luis Pacheco—an extraordinary musical experience woven into your Sicilian adventure. This curated itinerary offers the perfect blend of culture, cuisine, scenery, and incredible jazz for an unforgettable journey.

MEET YOUR HOST ARTIST

Jorge Luis Pacheco



Dear friends,

I have been fortunate to travel the world and experience the rich tapestry of music across cultures, but few places have captured my imagination and my heart quite like Sicily, so connected also to my beloved Havana. Two islands that live between memory and rhythm, between art as refuge and celebration. The Sicily island is a blend of history and emotion, of ritual and creative freedom. An energy that cannot be seen, it can be felt.

I am thrilled to invite you to join me on this exclusive journey to immerse yourself in the heart of Sicilian culture and art. Together, we will embark on a unique experience, going well beyond the tourist facade to connect with the soul of Sicilian culture, music, and art.

We will attend intimate encounters with renowned artists and musicians, visit some of the world's most stunning ancient sites and buildings, and enjoy private performances at historic places as we soak up the purest emotion and passion. I will also perform and collaborate with some of Sicily's most revered musicians. We will also offer a special concert with the renowned Sicilian Big Band Jazz Orchestra. Your participation will benefit efforts to empower culture in Sicily. There are limited spots available so we encourage you to reserve your tour today.

We look forward to exploring Sicily's vibrant artistic and cultural tapestry with you in October.

With Love,

Pacheco



Internationally acclaimed Cuban jazz pianist and composer, Jorge Luis Pacheco is a leading figure of his generation. A two-time winner at the Montreux Jazz Solo Piano Competition, he has performed at iconic venues like Lincoln Center, Apollo Theater, Kennedy Center, and the Berlin Philharmonic. With concerts in over 30 countries, Pacheco blends Cuban and Afro-Cuban jazz with classical and symphonic influences. He has collaborated with legends such as Wynton Marsalis, Arturo O'Farrill, and members of the Buena Vista Social Club.

For more information about Pacheco, visit www.pachecopiano.com

DAY 1 PALERMO



WELCOME TO SICILY!

- AIRPORT TRANSFER AND CHECK INTO LODGING IN PALERMO
- WELCOME DINNER AT A TOP RESTAURANT WITH PACHECO

On your first evening in Palermo, you'll be welcomed with a special dinner at one of the city's top restaurants, celebrated for its take on traditional Sicilian cuisine. This is the perfect place to relax after your travels, savor unforgettable dishes crafted with local ingredients, and toast to the adventures ahead with wonderful Sicilian wines.





DAY 2 PALERMO



- **WITH A TOUR SPECIALIST:** VISIT THE MAJESTIC PALAZZO NORMANNI. EXPLORE ITS STUNNING MIX OF ARCHITECTURAL STYLES, INCLUDING NORMAN, ARAB, AND GOTHIC ELEMENTS.
- VISIT THE MAJESTIC PALERMO CATHEDRAL. ADMIRE ITS NORMAN, ARAB, AND GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE. SEE THE MOSAICS AND ROYAL TOMBS INSIDE.
- ONLY IN PALERMO AND CEFALÙ CAN YOU SEE THE UNIQUE ARAB-NORMAN-BYZANTINE STYLE— A FUSION OF CULTURES THAT CREATED A DISTINCTIVE ARCHITECTURAL LEGACY. THIS REGION WAS THE HEART OF A NORMAN KINGDOM THAT SPARKED ITS OWN RENAISSANCE NEARLY 200 YEARS BEFORE THE REST OF EUROPE. THE BEAUTY AND PRESERVATION OF THESE SITES IS NOTHING SHORT OF MAGICAL.
- EXPLORE ONE OF PALERMO'S OLDEST STREET MARKETS. ENJOY THE LIVELY VIBE AND TRY LOCAL FAVORITES LIKE PANELLE AND ARANCINI.
- STROLL THROUGH THE HISTORIC QUATTRO CANTI. TAKE IN THE CHARM OF PALERMO'S OLD TOWN STREETS.
- STOP BY PIAZZA PRETORIA TO SEE THE STUNNING PRETORIA FOUNTAIN.
- IN PALERMO'S HISTORIC CENTER, WE'LL VISIT THE MONASTERY OF SANTA CATERINA, A FORMER CLOISTERED CONVENT KNOWN FOR ITS STUNNING BAROQUE ARCHITECTURE.

We will see the monastery's famous bakery, I Segreti del Chiostro, where traditional Sicilian pastries are made using centuries-old convent recipes. Don't miss their handmade cannoli, filled to order with fresh ricotta and topped with pistachios, orange peel, or chocolate and their beautiful mosaic tiled terrace.

- ENJOY A LIVE SHOW WITH JORGE LUIS PACHECO AT BLUE BRASS JAZZ CLUB. HEAR HIM PERFORM WITH TOP MUSICIANS FROM PALERMO AND BEYOND.



DAY 3 CEFALU



- TAKE A SHORT ORIENTATION WALK AROUND CEFALÙ. VISIT THE DUOMO AND ADMIRE ITS NORMAN DESIGN AND BYZANTINE MOSAICS.
- SEE THE LAVATOIO MEDIEVALE, A HISTORIC COMMUNAL WASHHOUSE. LEARN ITS ROLE IN CEFALÙ'S PAST.
- ENJOY LUNCH AT A TOP LOCAL RESTAURANT.
- SPEND THE AFTERNOON EXPLORING AT YOUR OWN PACE. STROLL THE STREETS, SHOP, OR RELAX AT THE BEACH.
- CONCERT WITH JORGE LUIS PACHECO AND THE ORQUESTRA JAZZ SICILIANA. ONE OF THE RENOWNED JAZZ ORCHESTRAS IN EUROPE





DAY 4

PALERMO - CASTELLAMMARE DEL GOLFO



- TOUR A PALERMO MUSIC SCHOOL WITH PACHECO. VISIT THE SANTA MARIA DELLO SPASIMO COMPLEX, HOME TO THE BRASS JAZZ CLUB.
- TRANSFER TO CASTELLAMMARE DEL GOLFO AND CHECK INTO YOUR LODGING.
- LUNCH AT YOUR LEISURE.
- SUNSET SICILIAN TAPAS/WINE PAIRING AND TOUR OF AN INCREDIBLE FAMILY OWNED WINERY
- EXPERIENCE A VISIT TO A FAMILY-OWNED WINERY, WHERE YOU'LL BE GUIDED THROUGH THE RICH HISTORY AND INTRICATE PROCESS OF WINEMAKING, ALONGSIDE INSIGHTS INTO HONEY PRODUCTION AND OLIVE CULTIVATION FOR PREMIUM OLIVE OIL. FOLLOWING THE TOUR, INDULGE IN A THOUGHTFULLY CURATED SUNSET DINNER AND WINE PAIRING IN A TRULY ENCHANTING SETTING, MAKING FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE CULINARY EXPERIENCE.





DAY 5 TRAPANI



- LIVE A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A TRUE SICILIAN FARMER.

Spend an unforgettable day with a charming Sicilian farmer, where you'll immerse yourself in the authentic rhythms of farm life. Start by touring his beautiful farm, gathering fresh ingredients straight from the land. Under his guidance, you'll craft traditional Trapanese pesto from scratch. He will prepare incredible pasta using his wood-fired oven, complemented by a selection of fresh, locally sourced antipastos. For dessert, enjoy the simple pleasure of handpicked fruit from the farm. This intimate experience offers a true taste of Sicily's rich culinary traditions and its warm, welcoming way of life.

- TRAPANI – CONCERT WITH JORGE LUIS PACHECO AND FRIENDS







DAY 6 ERICE & MARSALA



- DRIVE TO THE MEDIEVAL TOWN OF ERICE. WANDER ITS COBBLED STREETS LINED WITH STONE HOUSES AND OLD CHURCHES.
- VISIT PASTRY SHOPS AND TRY LOCAL TREATS LIKE CANNOLI, MARZIPAN, AND THE FAMOUS GENOVESI ERICINE.
- EXPLORE THE DUOMO OF ERICE, WITH ITS GOTHIC-NORMAN STYLE AND INTRICATE MARBLE INTERIOR.
- STROLL ALONG ERICE'S CITY WALLS AND CASTLE FOR SWEEPING VIEWS OF THE COAST.
- ENJOY LUNCH AND A WINERY TOUR. LEARN ABOUT THE WINEMAKING PROCESS FROM VINEYARD TO BARREL.

Upon concluding our walk, we indulge in a 5 course tasting session where we pair wines with various gourmet food pairings

- VISIT THE SALT FLATS IN MARSALA DATING BACK TO 1156





DAY 7 SEGESTA



- **WITH A TOUR SPECIALIST:** MORNING VISIT TO THE TEMPLES AND GRECO-ROMAN WITH INCREDIBLE ACOUSTICS THEATER THAT STILL HOSTS LIVE CONCERTS AND HAS A 4000 PERSON SEATING CAPACITY
- LIGHT LUNCH
- FREE TIME FOR PACKING AND LAST MINUTE SHOPPING AT CASTELLAMARE DEL GOLFO
- FAREWELL DINNER

On the final evening in Sicily, the group gathers for dinner at a well-loved family-run trattoria, where the warmth of the hosts matches the richness of the food—fresh pasta, local wine, and traditional Sicilian dishes. We raise a glass to the unforgettable music, the flavors, the special towns, and the new friendships forged along the way.





DAY 8 PALERMO - USA



- TRANSFER TO PALERMO AIRPORT

“To have seen Italy without having seen Sicily is not to have seen Italy at all” – German writer Goethe, 1787.

This itinerary was thoughtfully crafted to showcase incredible music, beautiful towns, and authentic local experiences, including exclusive concerts with Jorge Luis Pacheco. As such, the schedule is subject to change based on the final confirmation of concert venues and dates. We appreciate your flexibility as we finalize these special events.



QUOTE INCLUDES:



****Our mission at The Sicily Experience is to immerse you in this passionate culture to truly have you experience Sicily just like a local****



Expert Sicilian
Tour leader



Additional
expert guides



Highly-rated
lodging



Air conditioned
transportation



All breakfasts at
your lodging



Admission to
activities listed
on your itinerary



All lunches (except
one), Welcome and
Farewell Dinners



3 live concerts
with Jorge Luis
Pacheco

PLEASE NOTE:

- TIPS FOR YOUR GUIDES AND DRIVERS ARE NOT INCLUDED. THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS (IN EURO) ARE RECOMMENDED:
 - Local city guides: 3 EURO per person
 - Drivers: 5 EURO per person per day
 - Tour Leaders: the amount is up to you, but we suggest 10 EURO per person per day
- EACH INCLUDED MEAL WILL INCLUDE ONE NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE.

FOR BOOKINGS AND INQUIRIES:

Gianfranco Salamone

 +1 (347) 728 - 4595

 Gianfranco@culturalislandtravel.com



ARRIVEDERCI!

