

# Oldways Sicily Culinaria

With Chef Kevin O'Donnell of Giusto Restaurant and Mother Restaurant

September 12-19, 2026

Ortigia • Agrigento • Palermo



## **Saturday, September 12, 2026: Benvenuto**

After arriving at the Catania Airport, check into the [Ortea Palace Hotel](#) on the island of Ortigia, part of the town of Siracusa. We'll meet in the early evening for a welcome session and dinner at the Il Cortile Restaurant in the hotel.

## **Sunday, September 13, 2026: Noto**

Today we'll drive south and experience two Sicilian products – wine and pastry. We'll start with a walking tour of Baroque Noto, followed by pastries at Corrado Assenza's iconic Caffè Sicilia in Noto. We'll continue our day with a lunch, tour and tasting at a winery near Noto. You'll be free in the evening for dinner on your own.

## **Monday, September 14, 2026: Marketing & Cooking**

We'll start the day with Chef Kevin and Chef Maurizio Moceo of [Macallè Sicilian Bistrot](#) leading us through the amazing Ortigia Market, with special emphasis on essential Sicilian ingredients like pistachios, capers and grains. We'll also enjoy a special cheese tasting at the famous [Caseificio Borderi](#). After our time in the market, you can choose free time on your own, or a guided tour of Ancient Siracusa and Medieval Ortigia. We'll meet for a group dinner at [Macallè Sicilian Bistrot](#), where before dinner, Chef Kevin will demonstrate making pasta, and Chef Maurizio of Macalle will instruct the group in the making of arancini.

## **Tuesday, September 15, 2026: Agrigento**

We'll check out of the hotel and leave Ortigia early for a 2+-hour drive to [Agrigento](#), where we'll have a guided tour of Greek archeological ruins at the Valley of the Temples. Our picnic lunch is a special one – in the Kolymbethra Garden – along with an olive oil tasting. We'll then be off to Palermo and check in at the [Grand Hotel Wagner](#), our new home away from home. After a long day, you will be on your own in the evening.

**Wednesday, September 16, 2026: Tradition**

After a rooftop breakfast, our guide will meet us at the hotel for a walking tour of the city, ending at Palermo's Cathedral. We'll then have a great treat for lunch – at [Corona Trattoria](#), with a presentation by culinary historian and cookbook author, [Mary Taylor Simeti](#), who will circulate during lunch, talking about Sicily's culinary heritage. You'll have free time in the afternoon and evening.

**Thursday, September 17, 2026: Street Food and. Cooking!**

We'll spend the morning [experiencing Palermo's street food](#), dividing into groups (each with its own guide) and sampling all the best that Palermo has to offer. In the late afternoon, we'll head to the Gambero Rosso Academy for Chef Kevin's cooking class and seaside dinner.

**Friday, September 18, 2026: Options!**

You will have a choice today! Choose between a visit to a winery close to Palermo, an art-history-focused Palermo tour, or a day on your own to do as you please. We'll have our farewell dinner at [Palazzo Branciforte](#), close to the hotel.

**Saturday, September 19, 2026: Departure from Palermo Airport**

Departures for the US or additional travel