

Ragusa FD Excursion to Piazza Armerina and Caltagirone

Leaving in the morning together with your personal English speaking driver you will reach Piazza Armerina, The city of Piazza (as it was called before 1862) developed during the Norman domination in Sicily (11th century), when Lombards settled the central and eastern part of Sicily. But the area had been inhabited since prehistoric times. The city flourished during Roman times, infact the city The town is famous chiefly for its Roman mosaics in the Villa Romana del Casale, about 3 kilometers (2 miles) to the southwest. It has a range of significant architecture dating from medieval through the 18th century. The main landmark of the city is the 142-step monumental Staircase of Santa Maria del Monte, built in the old part of the town. The peculiarity is that each step is decorated with different hand-decorated ceramics, using styles and figures derived from the millennial tradition of pottery making. Once a year, on and around the day of the city's patron saint, (St. James, 25 July), the staircase is illuminated with candles of different colors arranged in order to reconstruct an artistic drawing of several tens of meters.





The town it's also protected by UNESCO WH program according to its artistic value of Baroque style.

You will also see the massive Baroque Cathedral and the nearby Palazzo Trigona, house of the wealthy family who commissioned the church.

Then according to scheduled time you can either have your lunch time visiting a local winery or you can choose to get it in Caltagirone, where your driver will hang around with you, for a visit of this attractive town and its famous production of maiolica and terra-cotta wares, particularly, pottery and artistic sculptures.

A collection of ancient and modern pottery and terra-cotta, dating back to the Magna Grecia period, is available in the local Museum of Pottery, created in 1965.

