

Specialists in Customised Group Travel

Opulent
JOURNEYS

Garden Tour to Southern Italy & Sicily

19 Day Tour with Angus Stewart & Tino Carnevale

17 April - 05 May 2017





Your Tour Leaders



Angus Stewart, horticulturist, gardening author and TV presenter. He has turned his lifetime of horticultural experiences to good use to lead tours to famous wildflower regions as well as some of the great gardens of the world.



Tino Carnevale, Gardening Australia TV presenter. Tino teaches gardening skills to both adults and children. He is part of the The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program and patron of the Tasmanian Weed Society.

About the Tour

Aside from the spectacular views from most of the gardens in the area of Italy from Rome south to the Amalfi Coast, there is a surprising range of plants from sub-tropical species to all sorts of plants that thrive in temperate regions. Add in the rather hedonistic culture of the locals for the evening hours, and you have all the ingredients for a very memorable trip.

The Amalfi Coast is an area of coast line a couple of hundred kilometres south of Rome. The largest city is Naples (Napoli) whose landscape is dominated by the famous volcano, Mt Vesuvius, and of course Pompeii is a 'must see' attraction nearby. For gardeners the area to the south of Naples is the real attraction, with smaller towns such as Sorrento, being the places to spend your long lunches around visits to landmark gardens.

There are a couple of 'must see' gardens that showcase perfectly the borrowed landscape of the plunging cliffs and slopes that border the spectacular sea views. We visit Villa Cimbrone, the picturesque village of Ravello, the volcanic island Ischia filled with beautiful villas and gardens and home to a botanically themed garden called La Mortella. This tour offers a rich and inspiring window into the art of Mediterranean gardening.





Rome | Sorrento | Amalfi Coast | Taormina | Siracusa

Day 1 Mon 17 April

Australia-Rome

Fly from your capital city to Rome. Overnight in flight.

Day 2 Tue 18 April

Arrive Rome

Arrive in Rome. You will be met and transferred to your hotel. Welcome dinner at hotel. (Dinner)

Day 3 Wed 19 April

Rome-Tivoli-Rome

Today we visit the historic vacation homes of the Roman elite on a Rome to Tivoli day trip. We will admire the stunning gardens of **Villa d'Este** and see the famous Fountain of Neptune. Explore the archaeological ruins of **Villa Adriana** before returning to Rome for overnight. (Breakfast/Lunch)

Day 4 Thu 20 April

Rome

This morning we will take a stroll to the **Vatican Museums**, experience Michelangelo's famous frescoed ceiling with your own eyes as you explore the **Sistine Chapel**, enter **St. Peter's Basilica** with a guided Vatican walking tour and see the famous La Pieta sculpture. In the afternoon, visit the **Circus Maximus**, the ancient Roman chariot racing stadium, the **Colosseum**, one of the symbols of ancient Rome and stroll along cobbled laneways, stopping to visit famous attractions like the **Trevi Fountain**, the **Spanish Steps** and the **Pantheon**. (Breakfast/Lunch)

Day 5 Fri 21 April

Rome-Villa Lante-Roseto Vacunae Rosae-Rome

Your journey today brings you to **Villa Lante**, a sophisticated and flawlessly manicured garden influenced by the Mannerist. Afterwards, be enchanted by the array of colour and pleasant aromas at **Roseto Vacunae Rosae**. Return to Rome for overnight. (Breakfast/Dinner)

Day 6 Sat 22 April

Rome-Castel Gandolfo-Ninfa-Sorrento

Today we travel to Castel Gandolfo for a guided visit of the magnificent gardens surrounding the **papal summer residence**. Continue to the **ancient city of Ninfa**, now is a tranquil garden framed by the city's classical ruins. (Breakfast/Dinner)

Day 7 Sun 23 April

Sorrento

Enjoy a day at your leisure. (Breakfast)

Day 8 Mon 24 April

Sorrento

After breakfast, we depart for a tour to explore the ruins of the ancient cities of **Pompeii** and **Herculaneum**. Travel back in time and stroll the haunting ruins of former Roman towns, with panoramic views of the brooding volcano of Mount Vesuvius that destroyed them. (Breakfast/Lunch)

Day 9 Tue 25 April

Sorrento-Isle of Capri-Sorrento

Today we take a short ferry trip across the Bay of Naples to the fable Island of Capri to visit the magical place **Villa San Michele**, a living example of the dream that became reality. Take a chairlift to **Monte Solaro** and take in the most beautiful panorama. (Breakfast)

Day 10 Wed 26 April Sorrento-Amalfi Coast-Sorrento

This morning we travel along the great Amalfi coastal road up into the hills to the delightful village of Ravello. We will visit the **Villa Rufolo** with its beautiful garden overlooking the sea. Also visit the **Villa Cimbrone**, a beautiful garden in the classical style, which contains historic statues and temples. (Breakfast/Lunch)



Day 11 Thu 27 April

Sorrento-Ischia Island-Sorrento

Today we take a ferry to Ischia, an island famous for its beautiful beaches, wonderfully warm water and gorgeous gardens. We will visit the **Garden La Mortella** and the mysterious **Aragonese Castle**, which stands out of the sea, detached from the rest of the island.

(Breakfast)

Day 12 Fri 28 April

Sorrento-Catania-Taormina

We transfer to Naples airport for flight to Catania. Upon arrival, transfer to Taormina and check in to your hotel.

(Breakfast/Lunch)

Day 13 Sat 29 April

Taormina

During a morning tour, we will see the splendid **Greek Theatre**, the **Roman 'Naumachiae'**, the 13th century **Cathedral of Saint Nicola**, the 14th century **Palazzo Corvaja**, and discover the indigenous **Mt. Etna broom**.

(Breakfast/Lunch)

Day 14 Sun 30 April

Taormina

Today we visit **Florence Trevelyan's Gardens**. A panoramic walkway lined with benches faces the view over the sea and Etna, while flower-beds, lawns, hedges, trees and bushes spread over the large terrace. Afternoon is at your leisure.

(Breakfast/Lunch)

Day 15 Mon 01 May

Taormina-Siracusa

Depart Taormina for Siracusa, a treat with some exceptional private gardens. On the way visit **Villa San Giuliano**. The whole area was cultivated with citrus orchards until 1974 when four hectares were given over to the garden, and the present owner began to plant ornamental trees and shrubs. Check in at Grand Hotel. Enjoy dinner at Hotel Terrace Restaurant.

(Breakfast/Dinner)

Day 16 Tue 02 May

Siracusa

After breakfast, enjoy a walking tour and discover the enchanting island of **Ortigia**, the old town centre of Siracusa. There's a staggering number of well-preserved Greek and Roman ruins in Siracusa. We will visit the **Greek Theatre** dates back to the 5th C. BC, and the **Roman amphitheatre** before returning to hotel for a free afternoon.

(Breakfast/Lunch)

Day 17 Wed 03 May

Siracusa

This morning we leave to visit the **gardens of the Princess Maria Carla Borghese: Il Biviere**, at Lentini was created after the nearby lake was drained to combat malaria. Afternoon is at your leisure. Enjoy your **farewell dinner** tonight.

(Breakfast/Dinner)

Day 18 Thu 04 May

Siracusa-Catania-Australia

Transfer to Catania airport for flight to Rome and connect with Emirates flight home.

(Breakfast)

Day 19 Fri 05 May

Arrival in Australia





Price per person twin share	AUD	NZD	USD
Land & Air:	\$11,105	N/A	N/A
Land Only*:	\$8,995	\$9,470	\$7,015
Single Room Supplement:	\$2,120	\$2,230	\$1,655

*Land Only tour starts in Rome and ends in Catania.

INCLUSIONS: International flights with Emirates Airways from East coast capital cities to Rome, internal transport within Italy, 16 nights' twin-share accommodation, portage at hotels, meals as stated, comprehensive touring, local English Speaking guides in each city, gratuities to local guides and drivers, tour manager with the group throughout.

Not Included: Travel insurance, personal expenses, anything not mentioned.

Hotels:

Rome - Hotel Cicerone Rome

Sorrento - Hotel Regina Sorrento

Taormina - San Domenico Palace Hotel Taormina

Siracusa - Grand Hotel Ortiga



Booking Form

Tour Name: **Garden Tour to Southern Italy & Sicily**

17 April - 05 May 2017

First Passenger

Title: [] Surname (as shown in passport): []

First Name (as shown in passport): [] Preferred First Name: []

Gender: MALE / FEMALE If sharing what would be your room preference? TWIN / DOUBLE

Single supplement? YES / NO Do you require us to organise twin-share on your behalf? YES / NO

Are you a smoker? YES / NO (Please note that Single Supplement will be payable if we are unable to arrange twin-share for you)

Do you require us to book your international airfare? YES / NO If Yes, please nominate class: Economy Business

Are you a Frequent Flyer Member? Member No: [] Airline: []

Do you have any dietary or seating requests? []

Do you hold an Australian passport? YES / NO If No, please state the nationality: []

Passport Number: [] Date of issue: [] / [] Date of expiry: [] / []

Date of birth: [] / [] Place of issue: [] Occupation: []

(Passport details are required for all tours travelling outside Australia)

Second Passenger

Title: [] Surname (as shown in passport): []

First Name (as shown in passport): [] Preferred First Name: []

Sex: MALE / FEMALE If sharing what would be your room preference? TWIN / DOUBLE

Single supplement? YES / NO Do you require us to organise twin-share on your behalf? YES / NO

Are you a smoker? YES / NO (Please note that Single Supplement will be payable if we are unable to arrange twin-share for you)

Do you require us to book your international airfare? YES / NO If Yes, please nominate class: Economy Business

Are you a Frequent Flyer Member? Member No: [] Airline: []

Do you have any dietary or seating requests? []

Do you hold an Australian passport? YES / NO If No, please state the nationality: []

Passport Number: [] Date of issue: [] / [] Date of expiry: [] / []

Date of birth: [] / [] Place of issue: [] Occupation: []

(Passport details are required for all tours travelling outside Australia)

Passenger/s Contact Details

Street Address: []

Suburb: [] State: [] Postcode: []

Postal Address: [] State: [] Postcode: []

Home Tel: [] Work Tel: [] Fax: []

Mobile No: [] E-mail: []

Additional Travel

If you require assistance with any add on travel arrangements pre or post tour, such as accommodation, or tours, please either attach relevant details or contact Opulent Journeys.

Travel Insurance

It is in your best interest and compulsory with our office for you to have adequate travel insurance for your trip to cover you for any unforeseen circumstances that may arise before or during the trip. If you would like a quote or further information regarding travel insurance for your trip, please contact our office and we will forward the relevant information to you.

Emergency Contact (Person to contact should there be an emergency while you are overseas)

Complete Name: [] Relationship: []

Street Address: []

Suburb: [] State: [] Postcode: []

Home Tel: [] Work Tel: [] Mobile No: []

Payment options:

1). Cheque/Money - Enclosed is a cheque / money order made payable to Opulent Journeys, which acts as a deposit for the tour.

2) Credit Card- Visa / MasterCard / American Express

Please call our office with your credit card details - 1300 219 885 or complete the information below.

Card No:

Expiry Date: /

Cardholder's name:

Card Holders Signature:

Date: / /

(Please note that payments by credit card will be subject to a Merchant Administration Fee as follows:

1.5% for Visa / MasterCard, 3.3% for American Express)

3) Direct Deposit into the Opulent Journeys bank Account.

Bank: Westpac	Account Name: Opulent Journeys
Bank BSB: 032 000	Account Number: 902713

Please list the payment description as per the following for Direct Deposits:

Reference: Your surname. This will assist our office in locating your payment when we receive your completed booking form.

DEPOSIT AND FINAL PAYMENT

The deposit of \$400.00 per person is accepted as a first instalment of the tour cost and will be used to secure your place on the tour. It will be fully refunded if the arrangements cannot be confirmed or the tour is cancelled. A detailed invoice is sent out to all passengers booked on the tour, approximately two weeks prior to due date of the final payment. Final payment for the tour needs to be received 60 days prior to tour departure.

CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS

If it is necessary to cancel your booking, cancellations must be received in writing and the following scale of cancellation charges will be applied, per person.

Days of notice prior to departure:	Cancellation Charge
Over 60 days	\$250.00 – Administration Fee
59-30 days	25% of the tour cost
29-11 days	50% of the tour cost
10 days or less	100% of the tour cost

No refund is available for cancellation after commencement of tour or for any service not used.

FORCED CANCELLATION

In the event that, due to failure to reach a minimum number of tour participants (excluding the tour leader), it is necessary to cancel the tour, you will receive a full refund of your deposit. If it is necessary to cancel the tour, we will advise you not less than 60 days prior to the tour departure.

PASSPORT AND VISAS

It is the traveller's responsibility to ensure that they possess the necessary travel documentation for the tour, such as a valid passport and any required visas. In general a passport should be valid at least 6 months beyond the end of your journey and have two clear pages for each country to be visited to allow for entry and exit stamps en-route or for any visas applicable for countries in your journey. At the time of making your booking you will be given information about any visas that may be required for the tour.

PRICES

Tour prices stated on the flyer have been calculated on the basis of exchange rates and tariffs valid at time of print and are subject to change up until the date of departure. Should you decide to cancel your tour on the basis of a change of price, then normal cancellation charges will apply.

OPULENT JOURNEYS

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RESPONSIBILITY

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I have read and understand the Responsibility section and Booking Conditions as set out on this page of this form and accept them on behalf of myself and my party. I declare that I/they are not travelling against any medical advice.

Signature:



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For further information please contact Opulent Journeys:
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