



## From Siracusa through the Iblei Canyons to Mt. Etna

Self-guided road bike tour

**8 days / 7 nights / 6 stages / 750 km or 510 km**

This challenging tour offers you millennial history and unspoilt nature. It guides you through the baroque Southeast of the island, then through the inland and finally to Mt. Etna, the highest active volcano of Europe. You will see seven towns of UNESCO world heritage: Siracusa, Noto, Modica, Ragusa, Palazzolo Acreide with their numerous baroque Palazzi and churches, Caltagirone and Piazza Armerina, known for the "Villa Romana del Casale" with its colorful floor mosaics. The Nature Reserve „Cavagrande del Cassibile" and the regional nature park of Mt. Etna.

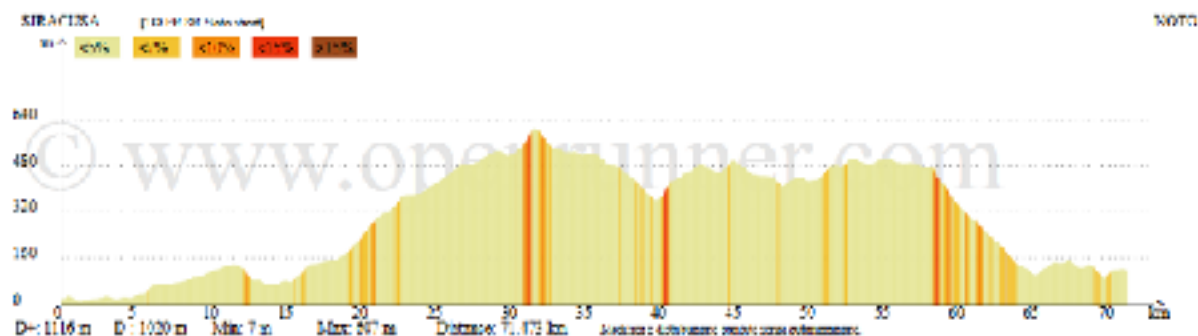
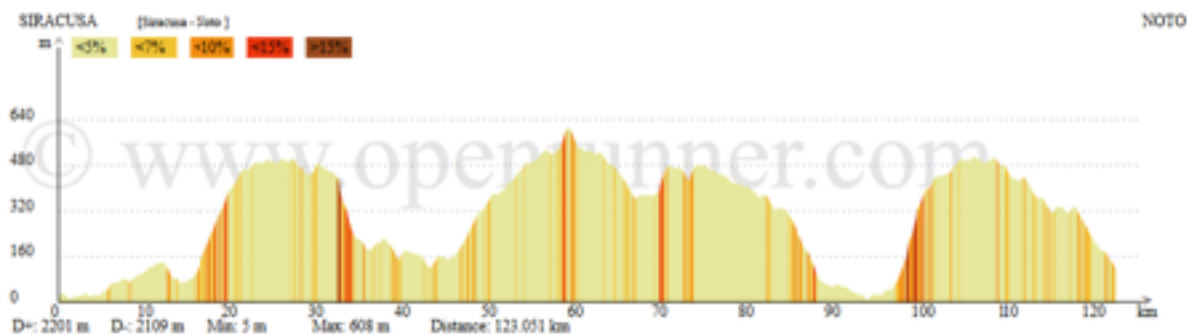
### Day 1: Siracusa

Individual arrival or transfer to Siracusa. Briefing and handover of the bikes.

### Day 2: Siracusa - Noto - 123 km/72 km

Today you will cycle across the Iblei plateau with its numerous Canyons, called here „cave". After having left Siracusa you will start a climb to the Climiti mountains and then along the ridge. Shortly before arriving in Sortino you will have a stunning view over the plain of Catania and in the background the volcano Mt. Etna, the goal of our tour. From Sortino you start the fast downhill with hairpins of the so-called „Fusco" to the Anapo Valley. You a continuous up and down brings you to the coast, where you start the last challenging climb to the Cavagrande del Cassibile. The stage ends in Noto, the capital of the Sicilian Baroque.

123 km / 2201 m ascent.

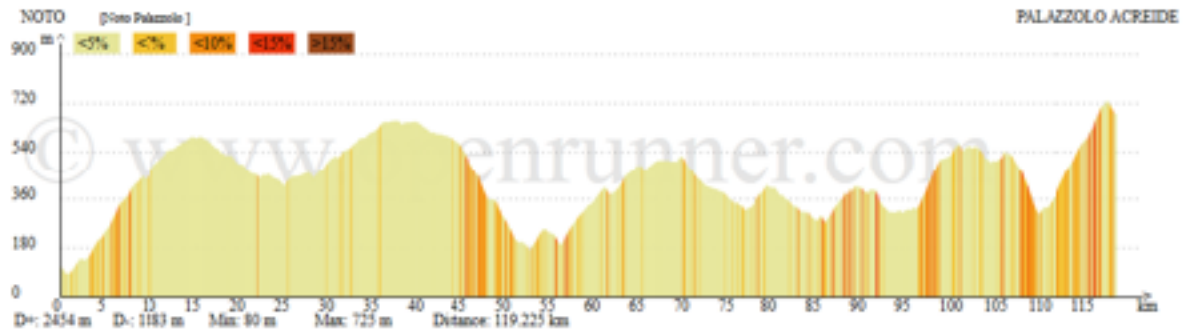


Short Version 72 km/ 1.100 HM – Without Sortino and Cavagrande del Casibile

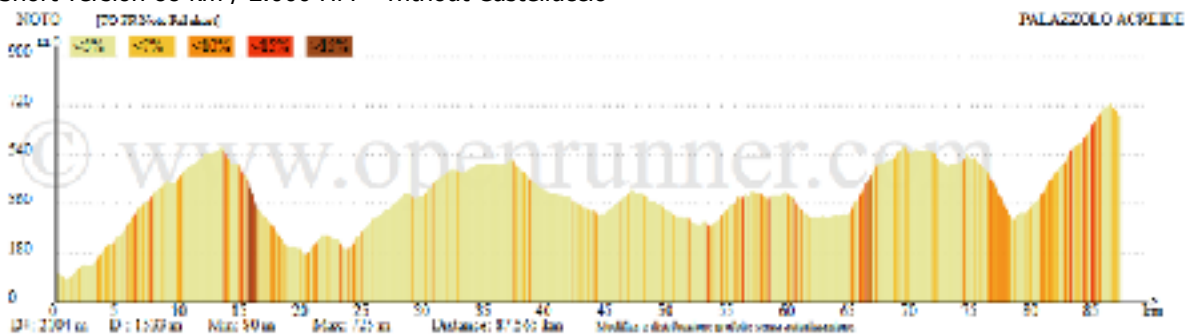
### Day 3: Noto - Palazzolo Acreide - 120 km/88km

Today's stage shows you again the various landscape of the Iblei plateau and two true jewels of baroque architecture: Modica and Ragusa Ibla. After a first climb you arrive in Noto Antica, the original city of Noto, completely destroyed by the big earthquake of 1693. You continue to Castelluccio where you start the downhill to the valley. Uphill again to Modica and Ragusa, two master pieces of baroque architecture. Don't forget to try the spicy chocolate in Modia. The stage finishes in Palazzolo Acreide.

120 km - 2454 m ascent



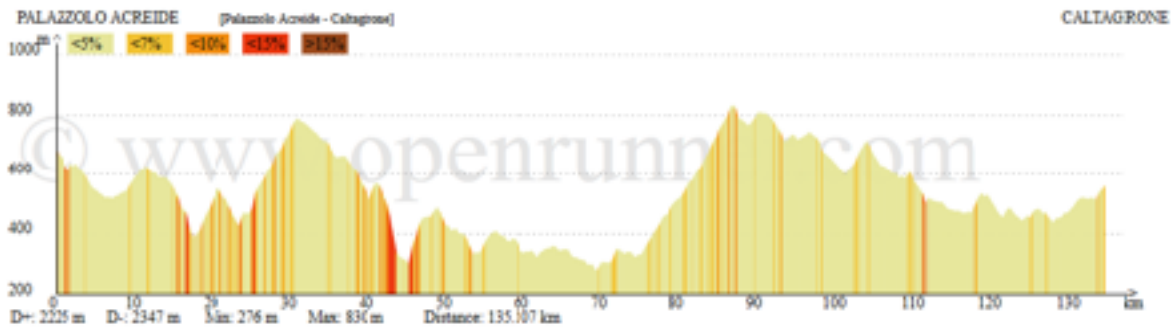
Short version 88 km / 2.000 HM – without Castelluccio



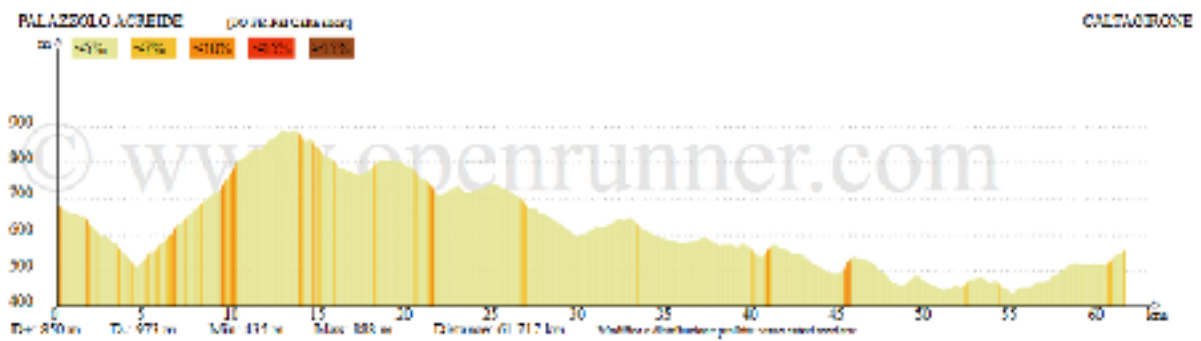
#### Day 4: Palazzolo Acreide - Caltagirone - 135 km/62 km

Today the route leads from the Iblei to the Erei mountains. On a continuous up and down you cross a number of typical small mountain villages like Cassaro, Ferla, Sortino, Buccheri and Vizzini. The stages finishes in Caltagirone, the center of Sicilian pottery craft.

135 km - 2225 m ascent



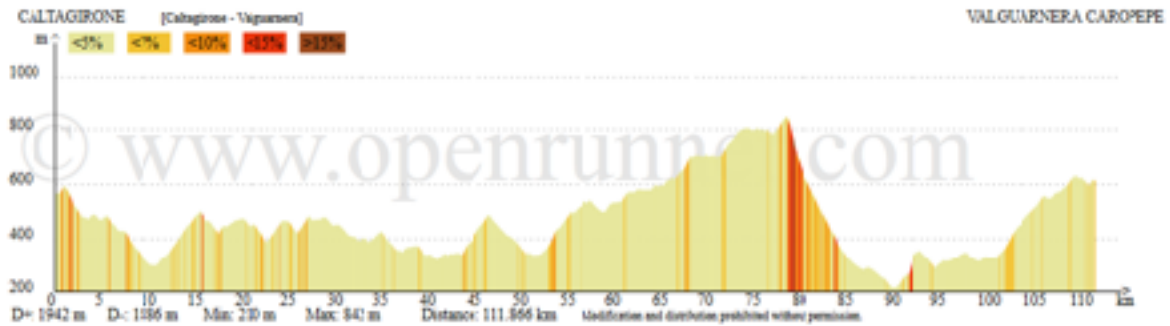
Short version 62 km / 850 HM – without Cassaro, Ferla and Sortino



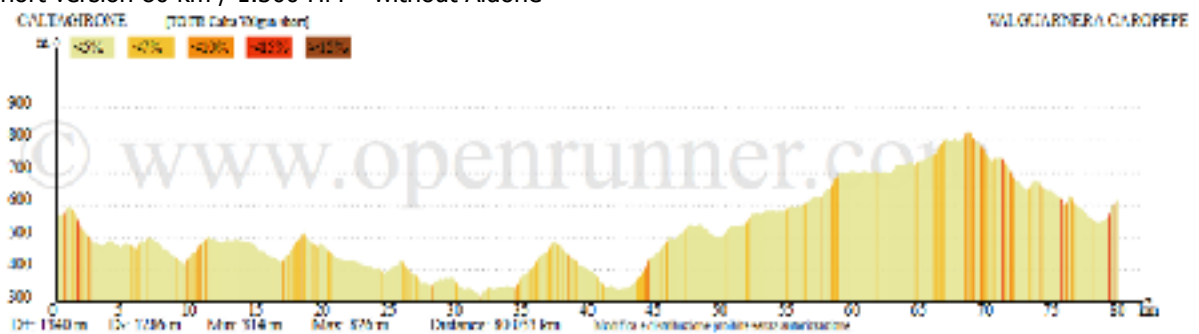
## Day 5: Caltagirone / Valguarnera - 112 km/80km

This stage continues to the center of Sicily that is of great agricultural importance and has already by the romans been described as the granary of Italy. You will see vast plantations of prickly pears. (Fico d'India). Possibility to visit the „Villa Romana del Casale“ near Piazza Armerina with the well preserved polychromatic floor mosaics. Another highlight of this stage is a long and fast downhill after Aidone. The stage ends in Valguarnera Caropepe

112 km - 1942 m ascent

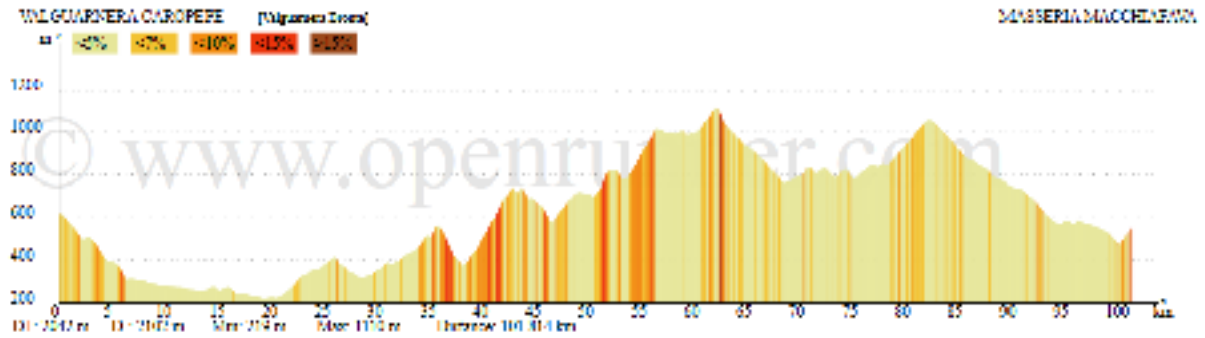


Short version 80 km / 1.300 HM – without Aidone

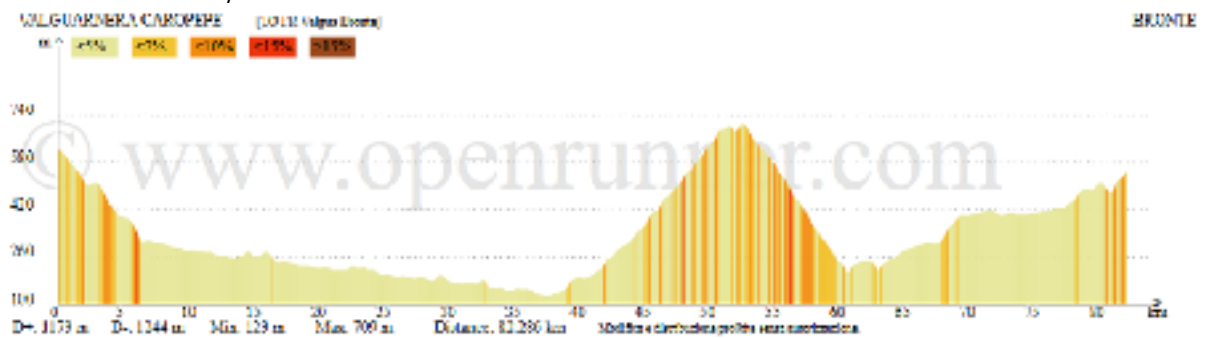


## Day 6: Valguarnera - Bronte - 102 km/82 km

This stage is a big shorter so save up energy for tomorrow's last stage. You leave the plain and cycle towards the Nebrodi mountains and finally arrive on Mt. Etna that will throughout the whole day lie majestically in your sight. With a bit of luck, you will see smoke from the crater. The stage ends in Bronte, known for the vast pistachio plantations. 102 km - 2042 m ascent



### Short version 82 KM / 1.170 HM

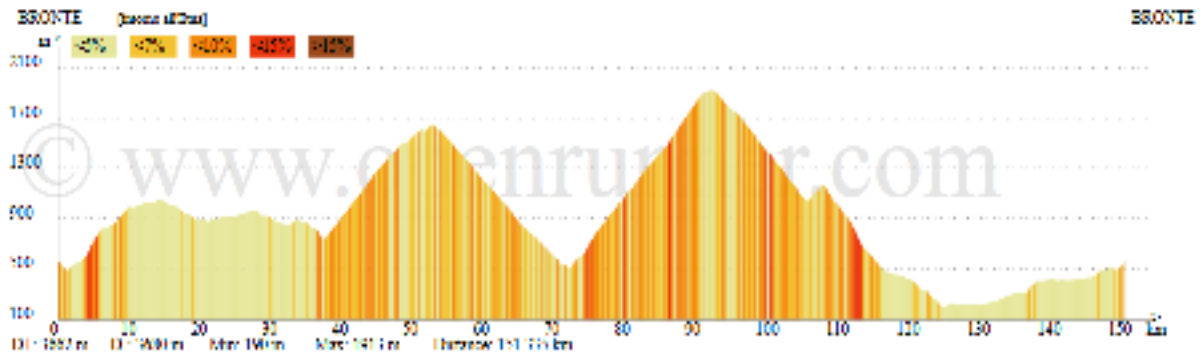


## Day 7: Around Mt. Etna – from Bronte to Bronte 150 km/127 km

This final stage – the circumnavigation of Mt. Etna – is the highlight of every road bike tour in Sicily and with two long and difficult climbs a challenge even for ambitious road cyclist. Passing by old lava flows you will arrive at 1900 m above sea level. We also offer a shorter version on the north side of the volcano. The choice is up to you.

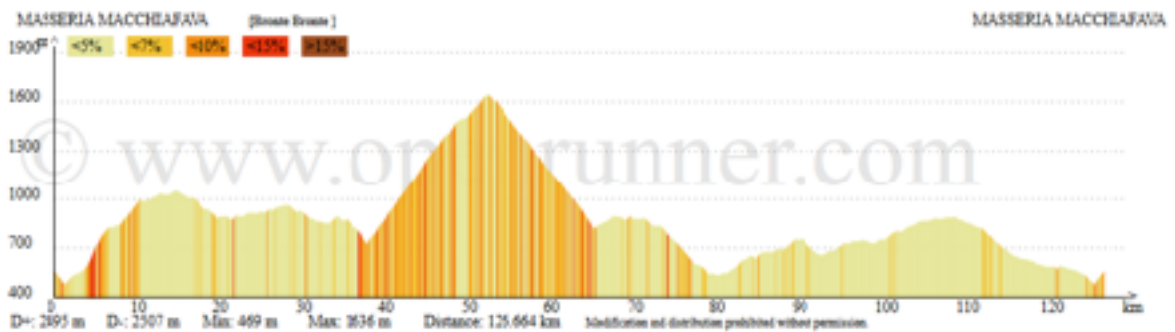
Challenging version

151 km – 3662 m ascent



Shorter version

127 km – 2495 m ascent



## Day 8: Individual departure

Individual departure or extension.

## Departures Individual-Tour

Every Saturday from February 2<sup>nd</sup> to November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Minimum 2 participants.

### Rates:

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| • Base package per Person in double room         | € 850 |
| • Single room supplement                         | € 200 |
| • Single participant supplement                  | € 300 |
| • Half Board Supplement (drinks excluded)        | € 190 |
| • Supplement High Season (July and August)       | € 110 |
| • Bike rental Road bike with Shimano 105/Ultegra | € 120 |

The rate includes:

- 7 nights with breakfast in 3-4-star-hotels and B&B in Caltagirone and Valguarnera
- Luggage transfer from hotel to hotel
- Maps and GPS-Tracks
- assistance by telephone

### Rate does not include:

- transfer to/from airport
- dinner and lunch
- wine tasting, entrance fees, tips
- city tax
- anything not mentioned above under "Rate includes"

### Transfer per person, min 2 pax (to be paid on site):

Catania airport- Siracusa	€ 35
Bronte - Catania airport	€ 45

Supplement € 10 per way for transport of own bike.

Group rates for transfers for more than four participants on request

The transfers are carried out by Ciclofree or persons/transport companies for Ciclofree.

### Cancellation policy:

28 to 14 days prior to the begin of the tour	50% of the total amount*
13 to 4 days prior to the begin of the tour	70% of the total amount *
From the third day prior to the begin or no show day	90% of the total amount *

\*) transfers excluded