



Messina Travel Guide



Many times destroyed, many times rebuilt, the ancient Zancle, later called Messanion, was always stubbornly reconstructed in the same natural “arm of land” where wars, earthquakes and destruction changed its look but not its inhabitants’ determination.

History tells us that the City of the Strait was always graced by elegant buildings. Among them was the courtly Palazzata along the port. The first terrible earthquake of 1783 reduced it to dust and the same thing happened in 1908 when there were more than one hundred thousand victims. After this earthquake the new Messina was rebuilt using some anti-seismic systems and a modern urban design.

Nowadays, even if only a few things are left of its ancient heritage, the enchanting restored Cathedral (Duomo) can still be admired in its original form dating back to the 12th century. Close by the Cathedral, you can admire one of Montorsoli’s masterpieces: the Fountain of Orion.



The Cathedral square is the heart of the historical centre. A few meters away, there is the Church of the Catalans in Arabic style and the 19th century Vittorio Emanuele III Gallery. The most impressive testimony of Messina's faith and tradition is the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Letter - Madonna della Lettera - the Patroness of Messina. The statue is placed on a tall column at the mouth of the port. The Blessed Virgin Mary of the Letter blesses Messina and all people arriving in or departing from the City of the Strait. In front of the religious statue is the Fountain of Neptune. The synthesis of the historical-artistic patrimony of Messina can be viewed in the Regional Museum which proudly features two magnificent Caravaggio paintings.

For a video presentation of the city of Messina see this link: <https://youtu.be/GWkHcb3yPGY>

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How to get to Messina

Messina is situated in the eastern part of Sicily, in the south of Italy. Although Messina does not have its own airport, it can be easily reached by flying direct to Catania, Palermo or Reggio Calabria Airports.

Direct Bus Service connections are available from **Catania** Airport (<https://www.saisautolinee.it/en>) and **Reggio Calabria** Airport (<https://www.starbus.it/starbus/public2/index.jsp>).

There are no direct connections from **Palermo** Airport (info on <https://www.aeroporto dipalermo.it/en/at-the-airport/reach-the-airport/>); those who fly to Palermo can take two trains starting from Palermo airport (<https://www.aeroporto dipalermo.it/en/at-the-airport/reach-the-airport/by-train/>) or go to the Central Railway Station to take a bus (<https://www.saisautolinee.it/en>).



Top attractions in Messina

To be sure you don't miss any of the best places to visit, use this handy list of the top attractions in Messina.

- [1. Cathedral and the Piazza del Duomo](#)
- [2. The Bell Tower and Astronomical Clock](#)
- [3. Santissima Annunziata dei Catalani](#)
- [4. Regional Museum](#)
- [5. Fontana di Orion \(Orion Fountain\)](#)
- [6. Fontana di Nettuno \(Neptune Fountain\)](#)
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1. Cathedral and the Piazza del Duomo



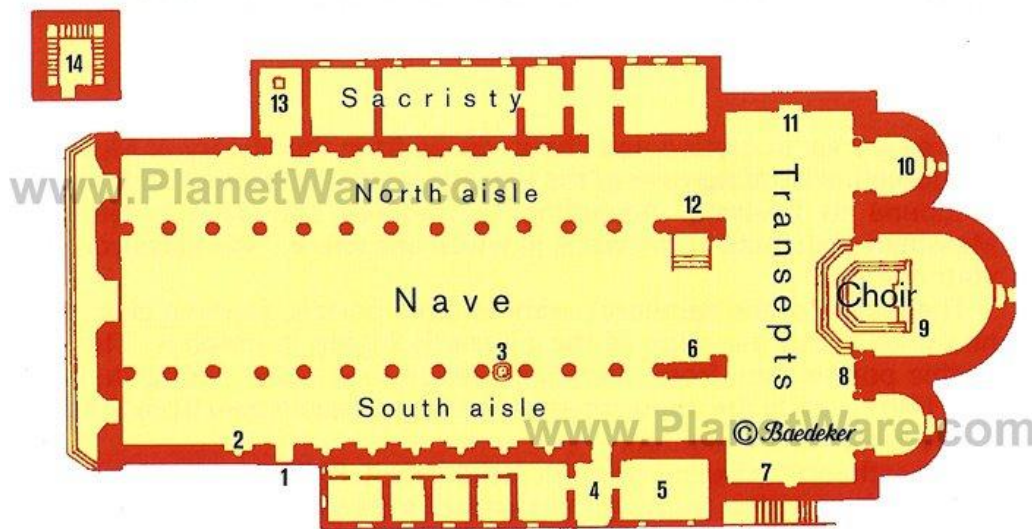
The cathedral forms one end of the wide **Piazza del Duomo**, Messina's historic center, and in front of it is the **Orion fountain**. On the left long side of the cathedral stands the Baroque column of the Virgin Mary by Giuseppe Buceti, erected in 1758.

The church was built in the 1100s by the Normans, who ruled Sicily at the time, but it was seriously damaged by an earthquake that devastated much of Messina in 1908. Barely recovered from that, the cathedral was again severely damaged by World War II bombing.

Following both, the reconstruction remained true to the original form and retained important later features such as the carved stone portals from the late Gothic period, medieval relief carvings on the lower facade, and three apses on the east side that date from its founding.

Like all Norman cathedrals in Sicily, the cathedral is a columned basilica with three aisles, a transept, and three apses. The monumental interior has a brightly colored roof truss and arcades with pointed arches; the apse mosaics of the enthroned Christ are reconstructions, as are the apostle altars of the side aisles.

Through all its travails, this remains one of Sicily's finest cathedrals.



Messina Cathedral

- 1 Doorway (design by Polidoro da Carravaggio; carried out by Domenico Vanello, 16th c.)
- 2 "John the Baptist", sculpture by Antonello Gagni (1525)
- 3 Pulpit (design by Polidoro da Caravaggio; carried out by Domenico Vanello, 1539)
- 4 Entrance and narthex
- 5 Cathedral Treasury
- 6 Tomb of five bishops (early 15 c.)
- 7 Organ; 5 manuals, 170 stops and 16,000 pipes
Tomb of 1195 and entrance to crypt
- 8 Tomb of Archbishop Guidotto De Tabiatis (Goro di Gregorio 1333)
- 9 Choirstalls (16th c. reconstruction)
- 10 Chapel of the sacrament with a 14th c. original mosaic (including the Madonna with child and the kneeling Queen Leonara)
- 11 Tomb of Archbishop Antonio La Lignamine by Giovanni Battista Mazzolo
- 12 Tomb of Archbishop Bellorato by Giovanni Battista Mazzolo (1513)
- 13 Baptistery, Doorway by Polidoro da Caravaggio, 16th c. font
- 14 Campanile with glockenspiel (1933)

Messina Cathedral Map (Historical)

Address: [Piazza del Duomo](#)

2. The Bell Tower and Astronomical Clock



This 60-meter high bell-tower, reconstructed using old designs, contains one of the greatest of all astronomical clocks, a work by the Strasbourg firm of Ungerer placed there in 1933.

Every day at noon (or sometimes shortly after) the figures begin moving and show scenes from the history of Messina, including the handing-over of the legendary letter of protection from the Madonna to Messina.

The show begins with a gilded lion waving a banner and roaring, and the action continues for 15 minutes with animated figures popping out of windows. On the side of the tower facing the church façade, a clock face shows astronomical information.

Address: [Piazza del Duomo](#)

3. Santissima Annunziata dei Catalani



The second most important church in Messina is the Santissima Annunziata dei Catalani. It is the only building to have survived the earthquake of 1908, but was not so fortunate in the World War II bombing. The church was built in the second half of the 12th century under Norman rule, and the east side dates from this time.

The main apse between the transept arms is distinguished by the delicate architectonic arrangement of its false arcades on small elegant columns, and by its multi-colored building materials. The west side with its three portals dates from the 13th century, when the building underwent some alterations.

In the three-aisled interior, stilted arches are supported on columns with a variety of capitals. The central aisle has barrel vaulting, while the side aisles have cross vaulting.

Address: [Via Garibaldi Giuseppe 111](#)



4. Regional Museum



Each of the three sections of Messina's Regional Museum - the painting gallery, sculpture collection, and archeological section -- contains significant pieces. Sculpture highlights include an Antonello Gagini sculpture of St. Antonius, Francesco Laurana's *Madonna with Child*, and Goro di Gregorio's *Madonna of the Cripples*, as well as the originals of the figures on the Fountain of Neptune.

In the Picture Gallery is the "Polyptychon of Saint Gregory" by Antonello da Messina, painted in 1473 but damaged in the earthquake of 1908. Of particular importance are *The Worship of the Shepherds* and *The Raising of Lazarus from the Dead* by **Caravaggio**, and finds from ancient Zancle in the archeology section.

Address: [Viale della Liberta 465](#)

5. Fontana di Orion (Orion Fountain)



Standing in a prominent position in front of the cathedral in Piazza del Duomo, the Orion statue was created by Giovanni Angelo Montorsoli, a student of Michelangelo in Florence. Montorsoli was assisted by his own student, Martino Montanini, and together they worked on the monumental work between 1547 and 1551.

The monument was commissioned to memorialize the completion of Messina's first aqueduct, in 1547, which accounts for the four rivers represented at its base: the Nile, the Tiber, the Ebro, and the local Camaro, the source for the fountain.

Crowning the pyramid formation is Orion, whom legend holds to be the city's founder. He is portrayed with his dog, Sirius, at his feet.

Renaissance art scholar Bernard Berenson praised the fountain as the most beautiful of its kind, for its design, its artistry, and its fine detail.

Address: [Piazza del Duomo](#)

6. Fontana di Nettuno (Neptune Fountain)



Equally beloved by locals, the Fontana del Nettuno, or Neptune Fountain, is located in a park, set apart from the city center. It was built in 1557 and, like the Orion fountain, is a work of Montorsoli.

The fountain shows the god of the sea caught between Scylla and Charybdis, the two monsters made famous by Homer in *The Odyssey* as the guards at either side of the Strait of Messina. The Via della Libertà begins at this fountain and leads out of the city towards the exhibition ground of the **Fiera di Messina**.

Address: [Via Giuseppe Garibaldi](#)

7. Panoramic Road and Sacrario di Cristo Re



Sacrario di Cristo Re

An attractive panoramic route, **Viale Italia**, begins to the west of the university and continues westwards under varying names (Viale Principe Umberto, Viale Regina Margherita). The walkways and boulevards run above the city, following the course of the old fortifications, and end in the north on the coast road.

The route skirts the **Botanic Garden**, the rebuilt **Santuario di Montalto**, and the votive chapel of Sacrario di Cristo Re. This shrine, with its huge octagonal dome, is a memorial to war casualties, and its bell tolls hourly in their memory. Near Prince Umberto Avenue is a beautiful esplanade with panoramic views across the city and harbor.

Address: [Viale Principe Umberto 89](#)

8. Scenic Drive to Torre Faro



A scenic road runs 15 kilometers along the coast northeast of Messina. Villas and gardens line the route, which passes two salt-water lagoons, the Pantani, also known as the **Laghi di Ganzirri**. The road eventually comes to the village of Torre di Faro, on the Punta del Faro, Sicily's north-eastern tip.

Enjoying fine views from the lighthouse is one of the most popular things to do here. The 250-meter **Pilone**, although no longer in use, is a reminder of Italy's post-war industrialization and stands at the entrance to the Straits of Messina. This is the point known in Greek mythology as the lair of Charybdis, and you can see the rock of Scylla across the strait.

From Torre di Faro, the coast road continues around the most northerly cape in Sicily. You can return to Messina over the **Colle San Rizzo**, which reaches a height of 465 meters.

Address: [Torre Faro](#)

9. Camposanto (Monumental cemetery)



Also called the Gran Camposanto, it is one of the most important monumental cemeteries in Europe and is rich in works of art.

It is located near the central area of the city, in front of Villa Dante on Catania street and extends for twenty-two hectares.

Inside it is present the English cemetery and the majority of the statuary and architecture of the neoclassical Messina. The liberty, neo-gothic and neoclassical architecture of the cemetery is enriched by the presence of lush vegetation and the well-kept gardens that intersperse the burial spaces. The cemetery was conceived from the beginning as a real urban park and can be defined as "the open-air gallery of modern and contemporary art" of the city of Messina. In fact, there are many local and non-local artists, both from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, who promoted in the city the various artistic currents coming from the continent, in particular from France (purism, verism, neo-baroque, liberty, rationalism).

Address: [via Catania 120](#)

10. Madonnina



A promontory juts out from the west of Messina into the harbor with the remains of a citadel called the **Fort of San Salvatore**, which was built in 1681. It forms the base for a 60-meter octagonal column erected in 1934, topped by a statue of the Madonna della Lettera. Locals call it the Madonnina, little Madonna.

Inscribed on the monument is "Vos et ipsam civitatem benedicimus" (We bless you and your city), a quote from a letter the Virgin Mary was believed to have sent the people of Messina. The pillar can be reached on foot by crossing over the tracks at the railroad station, although it is better to use the boat service.

Address: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/wiLdbxVjTWg194NU6>

11. Galleria Vittorio Emanuele III



Reminiscent of the grand galleria on Piazza Duomo in Milan, this impressive gallery is also constructed of iron - rare in Italy - but was built later. It opened in 1929, at the same time as the reconstruction of the cathedral.

Like Milan's, it serves as a combination shopping center and stylish salon where locals go to see and be seen in its cafés and restaurants. Inside, the galleria is decorated in stucco work, with a beautiful black and white mosaic floor.

Address: [Piazza Antonello](#)

More Things to See and Do: a day trip to Taormina

On a rocky terrace high above the Ionian Sea on the east coast of Sicily, Taormina couldn't ask for a more beautiful setting. Views of the sea and Mt. Etna, often with a puff of steam wafting above its smoldering cone, are framed by flower-draped houses or by the finest Greek theater on the island.

Taormina's most important tourist attractions are this ancient amphitheater and the picture-perfect qualities of the town itself. But there's a lot more to see and do here, whether it's marveling at the beautiful Baroque church interiors, shopping in the boutiques that lure the town's many cruise ship passengers, strolling in its streets

1. Teatro Greco (Greek Theater)



Taormina's most famous landmark is the Greek Theater, originally built in the third century BC under Hiero II of Syracuse. Under Roman rule in the second century BC, it was completely rebuilt with all the characteristics of a Roman theater.



The perfectly semicircular cavea rises in stepped seating to an upper diameter of 109 meters, the stage stands above the level of the orchestra, and the finely decorated stage loft is so high that its sides adjoin the top rows of seats to create an enclosed space.

A fortuitous gap in the wall of the loft frames Taormina's most celebrated view of the surrounding countryside as far as **Mount Etna**, one that has been immortalized in paintings and photographs as one of Italy's most iconic.

Address: [Via Teatro Greco, Taormina](#)

2. Stroll along Corso Umberto



For most tourists, the greatest appeal of Taormina is the town itself. Its streets are a pleasure to stroll, lined with romantic buildings and opening onto terraces with stunning views.

Taormina's main street, Corso Umberto, begins at Piazza IX Aprile and then crosses the town before ending at **Porta Catania**. The entire street, with its squares and terraces, shops and



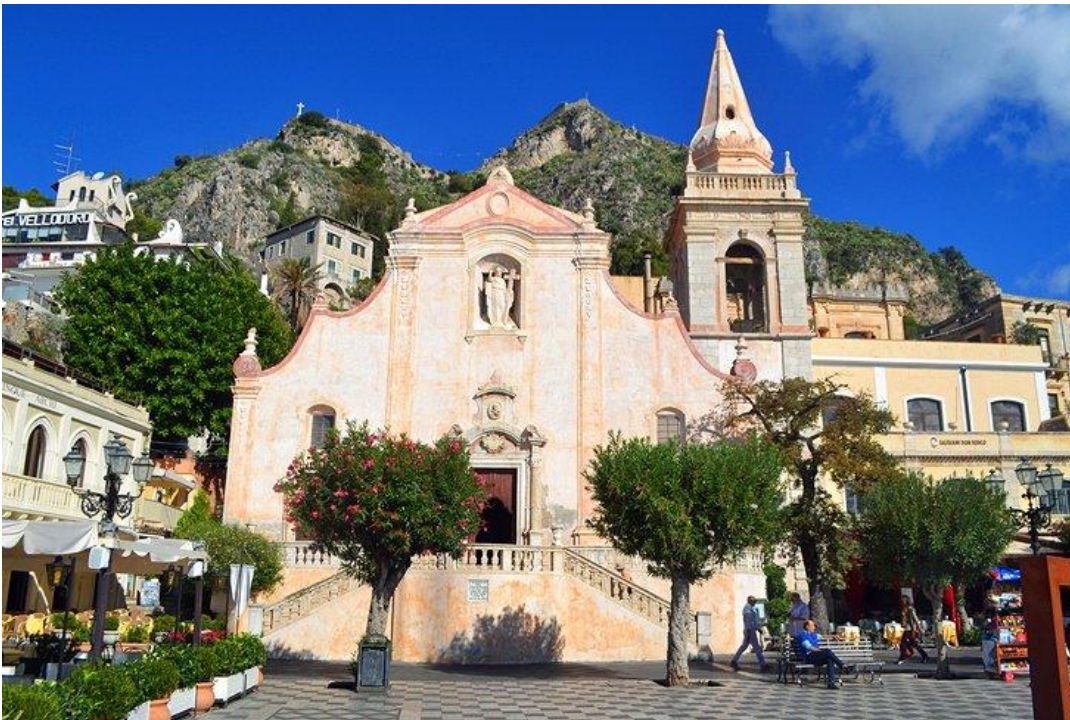
open-air cafés seems made for sauntering and stopping to savor the views of Mt. Etna and the sea.

Little lanes, often rising in steps, lead off the main street and are worth exploring, too. Just strolling along Corso Umberto, browsing in its shops and stopping in a café for an espresso or gelato, is one of the most popular things to do in Taormina.

The approach to the town is equally appealing: from the coast road at Cape Taormina, Via Pirandello snakes its way up the mountain, passing Byzantine rock-graves on the left, the belvedere on the right, and the funicular to **Mazzarò**. It brings you to **Porta Messina**, which, together with the adjoining **Piazza Vittorio Emanuele**, forms the grand entrance to the town.

Address: [Corso Umberto, Taormina](#)

3. Piazza IX Aprile and San Giuseppe



Piazza IX Aprile, which lies along Corso Umberto, opens onto a terrace with a beautiful view of Mt. Etna and the bay. This piazza is where the older part of the town begins, marked by a square stone clock tower.

Decorating the piazza is the double stairway and Baroque façade of San Giuseppe, a pink confection of an exterior. The bright white interior of Rococo stucco work is so ornate and covered with swirls and flourishes that it looks like a frosted wedding cake.

Address: [Piazza IX Aprile, Taormina](#)

4. Villa Comunale



Below the former Dominican monastery, Via Roma runs east to the municipal gardens of Villa Comunale. The gardens were created by Florence Trevelyan, an Englishwoman who planted rare species here and built the fanciful and imaginative Victorian stone follies that survive today.

Its commanding position offers some excellent viewpoints, and you'll find more if you follow Via Bagnoli Croce on to the Belvedere. From here, you can return on Via Luigi Pirandello, passing below the **Greek Theater**, to the **Porta Messina**.

Address: [Via Roma, Taormina](#)

5. Cattedrale di San Nicola



Opposite the Town Hall, the street widens out into **Piazza del Duomo**, with the Cathedral of San Nicola. Founded by the Hohenstaufens in the 13th century and altered several times in the 15th to 17th centuries, it combines medieval and more recent features.

The unplastered exterior, with its crenellations, is original, whereas the Baroque main door was added in 1636 and matches the 1635 Baroque fountain in the middle of the square. The three aisles of the basilica are separated by large pillars supporting pointed arches.



The interior is decorated with a number of works dating from the 15th and 16th centuries, including the 15th-century *Visitation of the Virgin Mary* by Antonio Giuffrè and *Madonna and Child with Saints* by Antonello da Saliba, painted in 1504.

Address: [Piazza del Duomo, Taormina](#)

6. Porta Catania and Palazzo dei Duchi di Santo Stefano



Palazzo dei Duchi di Santo Stefano

Corso Umberto, Taormina's main street, ends at the 1400 city gate, Porta Catania, emblazoned with the Aragon coat-of-arms. Near it stands the three-storied Palazzo dei Duchi di Santo Stéfano, built at the same time as Porta Catania.

It is easy to recognize because of its Gothic windows, fish-tail crenellations, and detailed stonework along the top. Concerts are held in the Great Hall, and two rooms display works by the sculptor Giuseppe Mazzullo (1913-88).

Address: [Via de Spuches, Taormina](#)

7. Palazzo Corvaja



Completed at the very beginning of the 1400s, Palazzo Corvaja housed the Sicilian Parliament of Nobles meetings in 1410. The best preserved palazzo in Taormina, the palace incorporates a 10th-century Saracen tower with a later triple window under graceful curved arches.

The severe crenellated front has twin windows, also with slender columns and arches. On the left side, a Gothic doorway leads into the inner courtyard, where you'll see reliefs depicting the Creation.

Inside the palace is the **Sicilian Museum of Art and Folk Traditions**, filled with works by Sicilian craftsmen from the 16th to the 20th centuries. Here, you'll see examples of ceramics, wood sculpture, colorful Sicilian carts, and needlework. The church of Santa Caterina and remains of a small Roman theater are in the same square.

Address: [Piazza Vittorio Emanuele, Taormina](#)

8. Sant'Agostino's church



The little Gothic church of Sant'Agostino was built in 1448, dedicated to Saint Sebastian, who was believed to have miraculously saved the city from the plague. It was later expanded into a monastery of the Hermits of St. Augustine, whose friars changed its dedication.

Originally a Sicilian-style late Gothic building, it was substantially changed around 1700, adding the bell tower and entrance arch replaced with the present entrance. Only the top of the arch and the small rosette above the door remain from the original church. It is now used as a public library. Its campanile is a small crenelated tower, and the door was added in 1700.

Address: [Piazza IX Aprile, Taormina](#)

9. Swim at Isola Bella



Isola Bella

In the sea below Taormina is a small rock-bound island with a nature preserve, almost connected to the mainland by a sandy beach. You can cross to walk the paths around its perimeter and enjoy the views from its terraces.

All along the shore below Taormina are coves and beaches for swimming, which you can reach by paths. There is also a cable car between Taormina and the beach resort of **Mazzaro**, just below town. Just north of Mazzaro are more beaches at Spisone, Mazzeo, and Letojanni. You can also take a bus to the beaches.

Address: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/TRisHsQsbWXW1mU38>

10. Castelmola



Castelmola, Sicily

High above Taormina, at an altitude of 529 meters, the picturesque village of **Castelmola**, perches atop a rocky crag. From its lofty terraces, you can look down onto Taormina, the Ionian Sea and Mt. Etna.

It is not only the views that make Castelmola appealing to tourists; it is listed among the Most Beautiful Villages of Italy, and a walk through its narrow, colorful streets proves why. Bright ceramics decorate the walls, and at its top are the ruins of a castle. Castelmola is about five kilometers from the center of town and accessible by bus.

Address: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/SbjRaJMjHJ5MePC16>



Traditional dishes to Try

When visiting Messina, you'll find a variety of traditional dishes that reflect the city's rich culinary heritage, blending Sicilian, Mediterranean, and local flavors. Here are some of the most traditional and important dishes to try:

1. Pasta alla Norma

- **Description:** This classic Sicilian pasta dish is made with fried eggplant, tomato sauce, grated ricotta salata cheese, and fresh basil. It's a staple in Messina and a must-try for any visitor.

2. Pidoni (Piduni)

- **Description:** A popular street food in Messina, Pidoni are fried or baked turnovers filled with ingredients like escarole, anchovies, tomatoes, and mozzarella. They are often compared to calzones and are perfect for a quick snack.

3. Bracirole alla Messinese

- **Description:** These are thin slices of beef rolled with a stuffing of breadcrumbs, cheese, garlic, and parsley, then grilled or baked. Bracirole is a traditional dish often served during family gatherings and special occasions.

4. Pasta 'ncasciata

- **Description:** A baked pasta dish featuring rigatoni or similar pasta mixed with a rich tomato sauce, ground meat, eggplant, hard-boiled eggs, salami, and cheese. It's hearty and flavorful, embodying the comfort food of the region.

5. Granita con Brioche

- **Description:** This refreshing dessert is a Sicilian classic. Granita is a semi-frozen dessert made with sugar, water, and various flavorings like lemon, almond, or coffee. In Messina, it's traditionally served with a soft, sweet brioche bun, making it a perfect breakfast or afternoon treat.



6. Pesce Spada alla Ghiotta (Swordfish Messina Style)

- **Description:** Swordfish is a key ingredient in Messina's cuisine. This dish features swordfish cooked with tomatoes, olives, capers, pine nuts, and onions, creating a rich and flavorful sauce that complements the fish perfectly.

7. Stoccafisso alla Messinese

- **Description:** This is a traditional dish made with dried cod (stoccafisso), which is stewed with potatoes, tomatoes, onions, olives, capers, and various herbs. It's a flavorful dish with a deep connection to the region's history and culture.

8. Arancini di Riso

- **Description:** While arancini (fried rice balls) are found all over Sicily, the Messina variety often includes fillings such as meat ragù, peas, and mozzarella. They are crispy on the outside and soft on the inside, making them a popular snack or appetizer.

9. Cannoli

- **Description:** Cannoli are famous Sicilian pastries consisting of tube-shaped shells of fried dough filled with sweet ricotta cheese mixed with chocolate chips or candied fruit. Messina is known for its delicious and fresh cannoli.

10. Farsumagru

- **Description:** Also known as "Falsomagro," this dish is a rolled meat roast filled with eggs, ham, cheese, and vegetables. It's often served during festive occasions and is a true representation of the rich and hearty cuisine of Messina.



11. Frutta Martorana

- **Description:** These are traditional Sicilian marzipan sweets shaped and colored to look like various fruits and vegetables. They are particularly popular during festive times and are both a treat for the eyes and the palate.

12. Totò e Peppa

- **Description:** A local favorite, this dish consists of salted cod (baccalà) served with potatoes and onions. The simplicity of the ingredients allows the flavors to shine through.

Weather temperature

Messina enjoys a **Mediterranean climate**, making it a wonderful destination year-round.

- **Spring (March–May):** Mild and pleasant. Temperatures rise from **15 °C to 22 °C (59–72 °F)**, with occasional rain showers. Ideal for sightseeing and exploring outdoor attractions.
- **Summer (June–August):** Warm and sunny, perfect for beaches and coastal activities. Average temperatures range from **25 °C to 30 °C (77–86 °F)**, with July and August being the hottest months. Evenings are usually comfortable.
- **Autumn (September–November):** Warm early in the season, cooling gradually. Temperatures range from **18 °C to 27 °C (64–81 °F)** in September, dropping to **12–20 °C (54–68 °F)** by November. Occasional rain is more frequent.
- **Winter (December–February):** Mild compared to northern Italy, though cooler and wetter. Average temperatures are **8–15 °C (46–59 °F)**. Snow is very rare in the city itself, but nearby mountains may see some.

Accommodation Guide for Messina

Messina city offers a variety of accommodation options to suit different budgets and preferences. Whether you're looking for a luxurious stay, a cozy boutique hotel, or a budget-friendly option, the city's central area has something for everyone. This guide will help you



find the perfect place to stay while enjoying the city's rich history, culture, and stunning coastline.

1. Affiliated hotel

The University of Messina has agreements with the following 2 hotels. Please mention these agreements before booking to confirm the final price:

- **Hotel Residence CineApollo:** <https://www.hotelapollomessina.com/en/home-en/>
 - **Location:** Central Messina, close to shopping streets and the University
 - **Description:** This elegant b&b features movie-themed rooms, especially those set in Sicily, with a 10% discount: <https://www.unime.it/sites/default/files/2024-05/MODULO%20B%20-%20CONVENZIONE.pdf%20%283%29.docx.pdf>
 - **Nearby attractions:** Cathedral, University of Messina, Galleria Vittorio Emanuele, shopping streets

2. Suggested Hotels

- **Messenion Hotel:** <https://www.hotelmessenion.it/>
 - **Location:** Central Messina, close to shopping streets and the University
 - **Description:** This 4-star stylish hotel features elegant rooms with modern amenities. It's perfect for travelers looking for a luxurious setting in the city center.
 - **Nearby Attractions:** City Hall, Cathedral, University of Messina, shopping streets, Santissima Annunziata dei Catalani Church, and Galleria Vittorio Emanuele.
- **Vittoria House of Charme:** <https://www.vittoriahouseofcharme.com/>
 - **Location:** Close to the waterfront and near major attractions.
 - **Description:** This stylish boutique hotel features elegant rooms with modern amenities and a rooftop terrace offering stunning views of the Strait of Messina. It's perfect for travelers looking for a luxurious and intimate setting.
 - **Nearby Attractions:** Cathedral, Santissima Annunziata dei Catalani Church, Ferry Terminal, and Galleria Vittorio Emanuele
- **Vmaison Boutique Hotel:** <https://www.vmaison.it/en/hotel-messina/>
 - **Location:** Close to the shopping streets and the city center.



- **Description:** This stylish boutique hotel features elegant rooms with modern amenities and a rooftop terrace. It's perfect for travelers looking for a luxurious and intimate setting.
- **Nearby Attractions:** Piazza Cairoli, shopping streets.
- **Hotel Royal Palace:** <https://www.royalpalacemessina.it/>
 - **Location:** Near Messina's central train station.
 - **Description:** A modern hotel offering spacious rooms and suites with high-end amenities. The hotel provides easy access to both the historical and commercial centers of the city, making it ideal for both business and leisure travelers.
 - **Nearby Attractions:** Piazza Cairoli, shopping streets, train station.
- **Hotel La Residenza:** <https://www.laresidenzahotel.net/>
 - **Location:** Central Messina, close to shopping streets and Messina's central train station
 - **Description:** A 3-star hotel offering also fully equipped apartments with kitchenettes, ideal for longer stays or families. The central location provides easy access to major sites, while offering the comfort of home.
 - **Nearby Attractions:** shopping streets, Cathedral, Galleria Vittorio Emanuele, University of Messina.
- **Guest House Residence:** <https://www.guesthousemessina.it/>
 - **Location:** Central Messina, close to shopping streets.
 - **Description:** This residence offers fully equipped apartments with kitchenettes, ideal for longer stays or families. The central location provides easy access to major sites, while offering the comfort of home.
 - **Nearby Attractions:** Piazza Cairoli, shopping streets.
- **Hotel Sant'Elia:** https://www.hotelsantelia.com/home_eng.html
 - **Location:** Close to the Duomo and the historical center.
 - **Description:** 3-star hotel offers basic but comfortable accommodations, ideal for travelers who prioritize location over luxury. The friendly staff and central position make it a good base for exploring the city.
 - **Nearby Attractions:** Cathedral, University of Messina, Piazza Cairoli, shopping streets, train station.
- **Capo Peloro Resort:** <https://capopelorohotel.it/>
 - **Location:** Near the Capo Peloro Lighthouse.
 - **Description:** Located at the northeastern tip of Sicily, this 4-star hotel offers a unique stay near natural reserves and beautiful beaches. It's perfect for those looking to combine city exploration with a relaxing seaside retreat.
 - **Nearby Attractions:** Capo Peloro Lighthouse, Lakes of Ganzirri, and Torre Faro.



Tips for Booking Accommodation in Messina

- **Book Early:** Especially during peak tourist seasons or major events, accommodations in Messina can fill up quickly.
- **Check Proximity:** Ensure your accommodation is within walking distance of the attractions you want to visit, or near public transportation.
- **Consider Amenities:** Depending on your stay, consider what amenities are most important to you, such as free Wi-Fi, breakfast options, or proximity to dining establishments.

For booking and more information, you can search on <https://www.booking.com/city/it/messina>. and <https://www.airbnb.it/a/stays/Messina--Sicily--Italy>

