# **AVARIETY OF ITALIAN LANGUAGE** AND CULTURAL PROGRAMS

## General Italian language courses:

- Intensive courses (20 lessons/15 hours in a group per week)
- Combo courses (20 lessons/15 hours in a group + 5 private lessons per week)
- Super-Intensive courses (30 lessons/15 hours in a group per week)
- Exam preparation courses for CELI, CILS and PLIDA certifications

#### **Extra course:**

- Sicily in your mouth: our cooking classes
- Drinking from Odysseus cup: Etna wine tasting program
- Hiking on Polyphemus' footprints: our hiking program
- Diving into Neptune's sea: our scuba-diving program
- Nadd-Europe scuba diving patent
- Sea baptism: for those who wants to learn diving
- Sicilian ceramics: ceramics in the Sicilian style

## **Special programs:**

- The UNESCO Gran Tour of Sicily: our 30+ program
- The Home Tuition program: live and study in our teacher's home









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# Unlock the heart of Sicily LEARN ITALIAN IN CATANIA and dive into art, sun & dolce vita!

# **GIGA INTERNATIONAL HOUSE**

...where learning Italian is learning how to speak and communicate with Italian native speakers and not just collecting of grammar rules!

#### **Top-quality Italian language school since 1997**

Giga International House Catania is a top-quality Italian language school that has been providing high-quality training since 1997. Our focus is on teaching Italian in a way that emphasizes communication and allows students to interact with Italian native speakers. We are committed to our students' success and operate a completely transparent quality assurance schemes that are regularly inspected by National and International accreditation agencies.

#### School setting

### **Teaching** quality

Our school is located within walking distance from the historic center of Catania, only 350 meters away from the largest Central Park "Villa Bellini" and the historical City Center. The school is housed in a modern building with spacious classrooms equipped with all technological tools and a large terrace for our coffee breaks.

At Giga International House Catania, you can expect warm and personal care and a solid academic experience in teaching Italian as a second language. Our reputation for providing top-quality courses is a result of our focus on communication as the foundation of the learning process. We teach how to communicate and not just grammar rules!

#### Weekly social and cultural activity program

Our weekly social and cultural activity program is an essential part of the Italian language course and provides a wonderful opportunity for our students to practice Italian in authentic real-life situations.

#### Accommodation service

We offer a variety of accommodation options to our students, including:

- host-families
- B&Bs
- shared apartments
- independent studio apartment

# Why studying Italian in Catania

#### The Mediterranean soul

Catania has a strong Mediterranean imprint. The Mediterranean soul flows along the streets and is the result of centuries of cultural influences and stratifications!

#### The Opera House and Vincenzo Bellini

Catania is the birthplace of 'Il Cigno'. Vincenzo Bellini. the world-famous composer of 'La Sonnambula', 'Norma' and 'I Puritani'. Lovers of classic and symphony music and Opera will find Teatro Massimo Bellini to be one of the most beautiful concert halls in Italy!

#### Museums

For those who like to fill their study a broad stay with culture, Catania offers a variety of museums, historical Palaces, Monasteries and archeological sites where you can dive into History and

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#### From the volcano to the beach all in the same day!

Catania is located between Mount Etna and the Ionian Sea with two different types of beach: the sandy 'Playa' and the rocky 'Scogliera'. Here you can lay on beach in the morning and hike on Mount Etna in the afternoon!

#### The fish market and gastronomic traditions

They say that you travel 'with your 'panza' (belly) and that is true! A gastronomic trip to Catania is a real treat for all appetites. People's taste buds go pleasantly crazy in here... The centre of all of this is 'A Piscaria', the daily fish market, an experience not to be missed!

#### Tradition, myth and folklore

Catania and its surrounding area is full of myths and legends: the legend of Etna, home of the God Vulcan, forger of weapons for Zeus, or the myth of Ulysses and ops Polyphemus, the legend of Aci and Galatea or the myth of Gammazzita.

#### The Baroque City center

The Sicilian Baroque city center is an UNESCO World Heritage and gateway to the UNESCO World Heritage volcano Etna. 'Melior de Cinere Surgo' is the city motto and it cannot be more true!

#### The Saint Agatha procession on the 5th of February

Witnessing the Saint Agatha procession is an unforgettable experience. The procession of the city's patron saint attracts almost a million people every year, both religious followers and curious tourists.

#### **Cinema and literature**

Not only is Catania passionate about cinema but the cinema is also passionate about Catania! Some of the most important movies in the history of Italian cinema have been filmed here, also inspired by city's many great novelists!

#### Nightlife

The Catanesi are lively people like the volcano and so is the city nightlife with so many places to eat, drink and enjoy to live music. Catania is a vibrant university city and... university students never sleep!

#### Music and concerts

Catania is a very important music production scene in Italy: Franco Battiato, Carmen Consoli, I Denovo, Mario Venuti, Luca Madonia, Mario Biondi, to mention some big names who took here their first steps in the music world!

#### **Cinemas and theatres**

Catania is like a real-life theatre and perhaps that is why the city has the most theatres in Sicily! In summer, Catania opens its 'arenas', the open-air evening cinemas where you can enjoy the films you missed during the year!









