



ORTEA PALACE HOTEL Sicily – Autograph Collection

HOSPITABLE AND INCLUSIVE EXCLUSIVITY, AUTHENTIC ELEGANCE, PASSION FOR DETAILS AND RESEARCH, A NATURAL BRIDGE BETWEEN PAST AND FUTURE FOR THE 'EXPERIENTIAL TRAVELLER': THESE ARE THE KEYWORDS OF THE ORTEA PALACE HOTEL SICILY IN ORTIGIA, THE FIRST AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION IN SICILY

The **Ortea Palace Hotel Sicily** is the first in Sicily to be part of **Marriott's Autograph Collection** brand, a collection of unique and independent hotels united by the *Exactly Like Nothing Else* philosophy, which unequivocally indicates their essence: carefully crafted to leave a lasting imprint.

A hospitality proposal that starts from a quest for authenticity, meaning a bond with the roots, respect for the heritage of the places and their ancestral history, heading towards the future and modernity in the wake of tradition.

Passion for details, intrinsic elegance, absolute comfort, personalised services and Mediterranean hospitality complete the offer tailored to the “**traveller, modern visitor**” for whom tourism is also a search for unconventional hotel experiences, discovery, a deep dive into the soul of destinations: a journey that involves all the senses.

This was the concept and the keywords that inspired the reconversion of the spaces and the renewed proposal to the public, so that everyone can find their own dimension, whatever their composition and/or motivation for travelling.

Located in the heart of Syracuse's historical centre, the **Ortea Palace Hotel Sicily** is a magnificent building dating back to 1920, known as the **Post Office**, overlooking the Porto Piccolo on the island of Ortygia. Its façade is made of limestone, enriched with classical decorations and friezes by Florio, a talented artist from Catania. The structure occupies an area of approximately 1,500 square metres. Its large hall takes us back to Greek mythology and the concept of the **Agora**, a meeting place with a strong symbolic meaning where Muses, Spirits and Divinities have dwelled, leaving the mark of their magic.

And history returns: "What's old, is new again" is the leitmotif around which the hospitality project of the "**Modern Agora**" was built, a meeting place where one can relax, get to know and be guided right into the ancient rituals, rooted in the island's heritage of culture and traditions.

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37 KM from Noto, 68 KM from Modica and 67 KM from Catania - Fontana Rossa Airport, the hotel has 75 rooms (49 Suites), 5 meeting rooms for a total of 525 square metres, and guarantees the best of local culture and hospitality.

The owner group, Russotti Gestioni Hotels, is an Italian company with Sicilian roots that intertwines its branches with the most innovative international assets in the hospitality sector. With a total of 5 hotels, 1,476 rooms and 17,325 square metres of conference space, it is to date the most important Marriott franchisee in Italy.

Adhering to the **Autograph Collection by Marriott** brand has meant rethinking and redesigning the concept - starting with the lobby, bars, common areas, and beauty & spa area - as well as the services, while redefining the concept of a holiday in Sicily by offering guests a totally relaxing, exclusive yet inclusive, unique and customised experience, thanks also to the presence of a qualified team that creates tailor-made services for guests, always favouring 'quality over quantity'.

Expressing the Sicilian spirit through the warmth of hospitality, involving guests by leading them through storytelling to understand the roots, essence and culture of Sicily, an informal but empathetic approach and the customisation and personalisation of services are in fact some of the key points of the guest experience that engages the hotel team in its activities. The objective is to create and develop a relationship with the customer that transforms each stay into an experience, an indelible memory made up of details.

The experience at the **Ortea Palace Hotel Sicily** begins right upon arrival, where the check-in moment stands for hospitality. Guests are welcomed by the “**Guardian of the Modern Agora**”, who will initiate them into ancient rituals rendered in a modern key, such as hand washing with perfumed essences in the centre of the lobby and the **Sharbat**, a selection of slushies made from sacred plants linked to local deities.

From the **Champagnetta** lobby bar to the **Il Cortile** restaurant, the F&B is built around the local mythology. The gastronomic offer fits right into the story: revisited in a contemporary key and designed to meet the taste of an international public, it is inspired by the different influences and cuisines that have marked the area over the centuries.

Balance and wellbeing are also guaranteed by the **beauty&spa area with an indoor swimming pool**, accessed through a portal reminiscent of the entrance to an ancient temple, with an evocative swimming pool located inside a grotto and a relaxation area with Turkish bath and sauna, further offering a series of immersive treatments inspired by Arab culture; and by the **Gymnasium** area, a fitness zone equipped with modern machines and spaces dedicated to guided free-body activities, guaranteeing total and absolute relaxation in a comfortable and refined environment, to regenerate the senses and relax the mind.

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Moreover, the **Ortea Palace Hotel Sicily** has a modular meeting room equipped with advanced technology that can accommodate up to 200 people for business or leisure events and meetings in a charming setting.

Next to the lobby, a space enshrines the highlight of the Ortea Palace experience: the **Room of Wonders**, the temple of the Art of Ancient Calligraphy, which takes us back to the historical destination of the Post Office Palace, where socialising and exchanges took place through writing. Visitors will be able to experience this area as a place not only to meet, play and relax, but also to create objects related to the concept of the post office such as ex-libris, notebooks or other stationery items using papyrus paper, and even book an experience with a master calligrapher to learn the technique of writing in Gothic or English cursive style, with nibs and ink, on precious sheets. And then the **Social Room**, where - in total privacy - you can enjoy time through reading, playing, meeting and socialising.

In line with the Group's directives, the hotel has put the **enhancement of the territory** in which it operates at the heart, promoting and developing ethical policies: from environmental impact to charity projects and the support of communities through targeted social policies.

In line with that, as far as **Food & Beverage** is concerned, each menu item has been linked to the cultural stratification that has influenced Ortigia, Syracuse and Sicily. The creativity of the **chef** and the **barmen** travel through territories, populations, dominations and influences of the past, revisited in a contemporary key to create a *de facto unicum* with the Sicilian tradition. The art of cooking becomes an integral part of the Ortea Palace's storytelling and immersive experience.

The hotel frequently hosts **exhibitions and events dedicated to contemporary art**, as part of a broader plan that concerns all the accommodation facilities of the RGH Group. These are conceived and designed, also in their spaces and fittings, as places open not only to guests and tourists, but to the social fabric in which they are located. A concept that focuses on the search for 'beauty' in all its forms and the desire to leave an indelible memory in the users of the places through the continuous proposal of new experiences.

In addition to **Ortea Palace Hotel Sicily**, the group owns four other structures in Rome, Milan, Venice and the **Delta Hotels by Marriott Giardini Naxos**, in Sicily.

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