



52 PLACES TO GO IN 2020

阅读简体中文版 閱讀繁體中文版



7

SICILY

Sustainable rebirth and culinary heritage on a volcanic island



Susan Wright for The New York Times

There's some rumbling on Sicily, and it's not just Mount Etna, which began erupting again in 2019. A new wave of green tourism is washing over the Mediterranean island, where nonprofit grassroots groups have begun to spearhead sustainable volunteer tourism initiatives like [EtnAmbiente](#), which launched an app in 2019 to help locals and tourists photograph and report pollution, increasingly an islandwide problem. These initiatives grew from five concerned individuals in 2018 to a powerful network to help reduce plastics and preserve the unique landscapes and marine habitats. Sicily's [Tasca d'Almerita](#) wine family have converted a derelict farmhouse into a winery on the lower slopes of Etna to open in 2020, offering workshops and wine tastings. The family's [Anna Tasca Lanza Cooking School](#) is also launching the [Food Heritage Association](#), a nonprofit group celebrating Sicilian ingredients.

Last year saw the opening of [Historic Trains of Taste](#), a series of scenic rail excursions that recently partnered with [Slow Food Sicily](#) to take visitors on trips to lesser-known food and wine spots. Among them is [Zash](#), a hotel and restaurant in the heart of a local citrus grove at Etna's base that received its first Michelin star in the 2020 guidebook. [Uncover Travel](#), a small-group tour operator (up to eight guests) specializing in Sicily, launches electric-car tours to local food producers and artists in 2020. Palermo will see more lodging accommodations, including [Rocco Forte's Villa Igiea](#), which has committed to plastic-free amenities like straw flip-flops and boxed water, while the NH Hotel Group, a chain devoted to the UN's [Sustainable Development Goals](#), will give its Palermo property a significant refurbishment.

—ADAM HARNEY GRAHAM



FURTHER READING

Share your recommendations with other travelers.

[A Tour of Small-Town Sicily](#)
May 16, 2018

[36 Hours in Syracuse, Sicily](#)
Sept. 5, 2019

