



BELMOND

**SICILY - A NEW WINTER'S TALE**

**BELMOND GRAND HOTEL TIMEO - OPENS FOR WINTER 2018**



**11 October 2018** - Belmond is restoring a tradition in Taormina, Sicily - once the winter destination of choice for the **Kings and Queens of Europe** who flocked to this Mediterranean island looking for endless summers - Belmond Grand Hotel Timeo remains open until 3 January 2019 for the first time.

This winter, Belmond Grand Hotel Timeo raises its curtains to a new host of seasonal activities - from getting active in nature with treks up Mount Etna to savouring the traditional festive feasts and learning how to cook with the Mammias of Sicily to exploring the museums of Taormina without the crowds.

A melting pot of culture and nature set high in the rocky hills, Belmond Grand Hotel Timeo is where the biggest names in art, literature and film gather on The Literary Terrace and are seduced by the panoramic views of Mount Etna.

## **WINTER WELLNESS IN THE WILD**

A trek up Europe's most impressive volcano to the two inactive Silvestri craters delivers in drama and indulgence with a mid-hike tasting of Etna Sparkling wines before exploring the volcanic vineyards. Taking guests into the heart of the natural beauty of the island, treks are also offered through Nebrodi Park where giant rock formations reign over the landscape.

Seasonal spa therapies infused with Sicilian oranges and neroli flower oil complete the overall feeling of wellness. The 'Sicilian Sensations' treatment using handmade Sicilian soaps and local natural products, infused with the islands fragrant flowers offers a truly sensual Mediterranean experience.

## **FESTIVE FLAVOURS OF SICILY**

Tradition and fresh, seasonal ingredients are at the heart of Sicilian cuisine, with mealtimes being the highlight of the day. At Belmond Grand Hotel Timeo the cuisine is served with a view favoured by some of literary's greats from DH Lawrence to Tennessee Williams. With a backdrop of Mount Etna and Naxos Bay, mouthwatering cuisine and regional wines are served to complement the mesmerizing views.

Throughout the winter season, festive fine-dining at Belmond Grand Hotel Timeo includes Afternoon Tea, served in the Otto Geleng Living Room, with a choice of 12 different teas and sweet pastries and indulgent Christmas and New Year feasts full of celebration and tradition.

In the Kitchen with Mamma - guests can learn the traditions of Sicilian cooking directly from the Mammias whose recipes have been passed through generations. Sharing her passion for homemade cooking using delicious, seasonal ingredients in the heart of her kitchen in the small town near the Alcantara Gorge, guests will learn the art of homemade pastas and traditional sweets.

## **TRANQUIL CULTURE IN TAORMINA**

Winter in Sicily is the perfect time to explore the museums without the crowds and immerse in the treasure trove of archeological landmarks, from the fine art collection at Casa Cuseni Museum to the 4<sup>th</sup> century Amphitheatre set with a backdrop of Mount Etna.

Caltagirone features the largest nativity scene in Italy with over 300 characters set over 400 square metres. Known as the city of ceramics, guests can master the craft from a local artisan and learn the time honoured traditions of forming the clay.

## **SICILIAN WINTER - BOOKING DETAILS**

The 'Wintertime' package at Belmond Grand Hotel Timeo, starts from €360 + VAT in a Superior Double Room incl breakfast + USD100 resort credit, valid between 1 November 2018 and 3 January 2019. The resort credit is per room and can be used for F&B and Spa outlets. No minimum stay will be applied and it is valid for all room categories, usual cancellation policy applies. [Belmond.com/grandhoteltimeo](http://Belmond.com/grandhoteltimeo)

Images can be downloaded via the following link: [Access Lightbox](#) (password: Belmond 123)

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Belmond Ltd. is a global collection of exceptional hotel and luxury travel adventures in some of the world's most inspiring and enriching destinations. Established 40 years ago with the acquisition of Belmond Hotel Cipriani in Venice, the Company owns and operates 47 unique and distinctive hotel, rail and river cruise experiences in many of

the world's most celebrated destinations. From city landmarks to intimate resorts, the collection includes Belmond Grand Hotel Europe, St. Petersburg; Belmond Copacabana Palace, Rio de Janeiro; Belmond Maroma Resort & Spa, Riviera Maya; and Belmond El Encanto, Santa Barbara. Belmond also encompasses safaris, eight luxury tourist trains including the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express, three river cruises and '21', one of New York's most storied restaurants. [belmond.com](http://belmond.com)

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