VISIONS OF SICILY

Shot in high definition from a helicopter-mounted camera, VISIONS OF SICILY showcases the unique and dramatic beauty of a place like no other. A part of Italy but very much a land unto itself, Sicily has always defied categorization; its geography born of powerful volcanic forces and shaped by the influence of conquering Greek, Iberian, Roman, Byzantine, North African, Arab, French and central European cultures throughout the centuries. Now seen from an aerial advantage, it exceeds expectations. VISIONS OF SICILY is a guided tour physically impossible by any other means, informed by a narrative as richly textured as the island’s rocky crags and set to a soundtrack distinctly Sicilian in its variety. From ancient fishing ports to modern autostradas, the helicopter surveys all that Sicily was and has become.

VISIONS OF SICILY begins as most Sicilian stories have for 3,000 years, at the ancient port of Messina on the northeast tip of the island. The awesome Aeolian archipelago requires a short detour off the coast to reveal rocky islands as unpredictable as the Greek god of the winds that was their namesake Vulcano, Stromboli, and Lipari among them - before embarking back to the mainland for a seamless tour marked by blankets of lush green, terracotta rooftops, azure waters, and the seductive haze of volcanic craters.

Travelling along the Tyrrhenian coastline, VISIONS OF SICILY takes in the labyrinth of winding streets in medieval Cefalù; the energy of the island’s largest city, Palermo; and in between, the panoramic view from La Rocca and the famous hotsprings of Termini Imerse. On the western part of the island, Trapani’s world famous salt flats stretch on the horizon, and then Sicily softens into gentle hills, fertile valleys, the mythic paradise of Isola della Fémmine, and the vineyards of Marsala.

To the south, VISIONS OF SICILY offers small agricultural towns; Agrigento and the valley of the temples; and fertile central plains where the earth lies in sharp folds, not certain whether it is really land or a breaking wave. Here Enna, a tower 3,250 feet above sea level, offers one of the most striking views of the island. Inland, orange and lemon groves beg for high definition technology to include an olfactory option.

The flight continues around, through and over the navigable heights of Monti Iblie, the Ionian sea to the east along to Siracusa; then north to Catania, rebuilt after volcanic destruction into a modern city grid, its original fortress, Castella Ursino, pushed back hundreds of yards by a great lava flow; up the coast to chic Taormina, once a quiet coastal town, now tranquil only from the air; past the scenic amphitheater whose architectural heritage - built by Greeks and enlarged by Romans typifies Sicilian history; and its final destination, the enigmatic majesty of Mount Etna towering in the western sky.

(cont’d.)
Locations:

Fountain of Neptune
Cristo Re di Messina
Isola di Volcano
Isola di Stromboli
San Vincenzo
Isola di Lipari
Milazzo Harbor
Cittadella
Cefalu
Duomo
Termini Imerese
Piazza del Duomo
Villa Giulia
Palazzo del Normanni
Cattedrale
Teatro Massimo
Quattro Canti
La Kalsa
Castello Utveggio
Sferracavallo Resort
Isola delle Femmine
Trapani
Lazzaretto
Torre di Ligny
Marsala
Marsala Harbor
Ancient City of Selinunte
Sciaccra
Siculiana
Old Agrigento
Valley of the Temples
Pirandello Estate
Autostrada Modica
Lago Villarosa
Enna
Castello di Lombardia
Ragusa
Duomo di San Giorgio
Siracusa
Greek Theatre
Roman Amphitheatre
Sports Complex
Santuario della Madonna delle Lacrime
Mount Etna
Catania
Castello Ursino
Roman Ruins, Piazza Stesicoro
Teatro Antico
Piazza del Duomo
Naxos
Taormina
Castello
Greek Theatre

VISIONS OF SICILY follows WLIW New York's VISIONS OF ITALY: Southern Style and VISIONS OF ITALY: Northern Style aerial productions. Produced by WLIW New York. Executive Producer: Roy Hammond; Producer Editor/Writer: Sam Toporoff; Aerial Director: Roy Hammond; Camera operator: Grant Bieman. CC STEREO.