

SAILING THE AEOLIAN ISLANDS: 8 DAYS IN STROMBOLI, PANAREA, LIPARI AND VULCANO

ITINERARY

Day 1-Catania → Milazzo (D)

Our local representative will greet you at the airport of Catania (**Sicily**), where you will be transferred by van with the rest of the group to Milazzo.

Next meet the captain and his team while **sipping a cocktail**. You will be briefed on the **cruise** before having a nice dinner on board the ship. After dinner, enjoy an evening stroll through Milazzo.

Overnight on board

Day 2-Milazzo → Lisca Nera → Bottaro → Lisca Nera → Dattilo → Panarea Island (B,L,D)

8:30 a.m.: You will leave Milazzo harbor after breakfast and start sailing to **Panarea Island**. You will stop at the **uninhabited islands of Lisca Bianca and Bottaro** for a swim, where you'll have the chance to explore **the submarine solfatara** which are just a few feet deep.

1 p.m.: After lunch, you will navigate to **Lisca Nera and Dattilo islands** before arriving to Panarea. Welcome to Panarea!

Hike to **Capo Milazzese**, and visit its **archeological site from 14th Century B.C.** Visit the small, **charming port of San Pietro**.

8:30 p.m.: Dinner on board and take the evening to stroll through Panarea Island by night.

Overnight on board

Day 3-Panarea → Stromboli (B,L,D)

8:30 a.m.: Breakfast on board, then alight on **Stromboli Island**. You will navigate along the **overhanging coastline of Basiluzzo Island**.

1 p.m.: After lunch, explore the charming **village of Stromboli**.

Today, you will have 2 options to observe the **eruptive activity of Stromboli's volcano**.

Option 1: **Climb to the summit of Stromboli with a volcano specialist**. Hike 3 hours and be rewarded by your efforts: **savor your picnic dinner while watching the volcano's spectacular eruption**. Hike back on a trail of volcanic ashes.

Option 2: If you want to avoid climbing all the way to the summit, follow your guide to **Sciara del Fuoco** for a 1-hour hike. Sciara del Fuoco sits on a **rocky spur 1,310 feet high** and is one of the **best observation points to see the eruptive activity of Stromboli's volcano**. Have a nice picnic dinner watching this spectacular natural show before hiking back to the boat.

Overnight on board

Day 4-Stromboli (B,L,D)

8:30 a.m.: After breakfast, sail around Stromboli Island to observe its **eruptive activity during the day**. **Swim in the blue waters of Ginostra** before heading to Salina Island.

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1 p.m.: Enjoy a nice lunch on board and stroll through the streets of the village of Salina.

8:30 p.m.: Dinner on board, and keep exploring Salina during the evening.

Overnight on board

Day 5-Salina → Lipari (B, L)

8:30 a.m.: After breakfast, unless you feel like **sunbathing on the deck all morning long**, your guide will take you to the summit of **Monte Fossa delle Felci**, where you will get a **panoramic view of the Aeolian Islands**.

After lunch, sail around Salina Island to reach **the beautiful Pollara Bay**.

Then alight on the west coast of Lipari Island, and stop at **Canneto for a swim**. **Take some time to explore the famous pumice pits**.

Enjoy the rest of the day to explore Salina Island by yourself before having dinner.

Overnight on board

Day 6-Salina → Vulcano (B,L,D)

8:30 a.m.: After breakfast, visit the **small picturesque town of Lipari** and its **interesting archeological museum**. By the end of the morning, you will head to Vulcano Island and **sail around the Faraglioni islands**.

1 p.m.: After lunch, enjoy the afternoon visiting the village and **swimming in the thermal waters**. **Take a natural mudbath on Vulcano Island**.

4 p.m : **Excursion to the crater of Fossa** - hike to the summit of the crater, **walk across fumaroles, and discover the active solfatara**. Your guide will show you **samples of sulfur and small volcanic bombs**, and you will **walk around the main crater**.

8:30 p.m.: **Dinner at our favorite pizzeria in Vulcano**.

Overnight on board

Day 7-Vulcano → Milazzo (B,L,D)

8:30 a.m.: After breakfast, we will sail around Vulcano Island and stop to swim in the **famous Venus swimming pool, and visit the Horse Cave**. Navigate along the west coast of Volcano to reach the small port of Gelso.

1 p.m.: Swim in **the clear waters of Gelso**, and have lunch on board before returning to Sicily.

8:30 p.m.: After dinner, take time to stroll through the streets of Milazzo.

Overnight on board

Day 8-Farewell (B)

8:30 a.m.: Breakfast aboard the Pallas and transfer back by van from Milazzo to Catania airport to take your flight back home.

This itinerary is subject to change by your guide to accommodate weather or volcano conditions.

DETAILS

❖ **Price and departure date:** from April to November 2014 - From Saturday to Saturday

❖ **Price starts at:** Price per person based on a double occupancy

Low season: \$2210

April: 04/05-04/12

October: 10/18-10/25

Middle season: \$2770

April: 4/4-4/19; 4/19-4/26; 4/26-5/3.

May: 5/3-5/10; 5/10-17; 5/17-5/24; 5/24-5/31; 5/31-6/7.

June: 6/7-6/14; 6/14-6/21; 6/21-6/28; 6/28-7/5.

August: 8/30-9/6.

September: 9/6-9/13; 9/13-9/20; 9/20-9/27; 9/27-10/4.

October: 10/4-10/11; 10/11-10/18; 10/25-11/2.

High season: \$3,178

July: 7/5-7/12; 7/12-7/19; 7/19-7/26; 7/26-8/2.

August: 8/2-8/9; 8/9-8/16; 8/16-8/23; 8/23-8/30.

❖ **Tour duration:** 8 days

❖ **Maximum Group Size:** Maximum yacht capacity: 14 passengers; children 5 years and older are welcome on board but are the responsibility of their parents.

❖ **Minimum Group Size:** Guaranteed departure with a minimum of 8 passengers.

❖ **Best season:** From April to October

In May, June and September: Warm and dry

July and August: Very dry and hot temperatures (77° to 95° fahrenheit)

In April and October: Cool and sometimes rainy

❖ **Country visited:** Aeolian Islands in Italy

❖ **Level of difficulty:** Easy to moderate

- Hike to the Stromboli volcano: Part 1 is a fairly easy climb to about 1,312 ft. You can stop and enjoy the view from there or proceed to Part 2, which is a moderate hike to reach the summit at 2,953-ft. The entire hike is 3 hours uphill and 1.5 hours downhill.
- Hikes during the rest of your stay: 3 hikes from 1 hour to 5 hours. Easy to moderate.

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- ❖ **Accommodation:** Sleep on board the yacht every night.
- ❖ **Additional Information:** Italy is a party to the Schengen Agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter Italy for up to 90 days for tourism or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay.
http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1146.html#entry_requirements
- ❖ **What's included:**
 - Roundtrip transportation from Catania airport to Milazzo (Sicily) (one transfer for all the passengers). If you cannot join the group for the transfer, a private transfer can be organized from Palermo airport or Catania airport.
 - The cruise to the Aeolian Islands in a double cabin for 8 days/7 nights.
 - A welcome cocktail the first day of your cruise.
 - Full board (breakfast, lunch and dinner) during the cruise except lunches on Day 1 and Day 8 and dinner at Lipari.
 - A meal in a pizzeria at Vulcano on Day 6.
 - Picnic before the evening ascension of the Stromboli volcano - The assistance of a volcano guide.
 - All the excursions (with your guide) itemized in the itinerary.
 - Crew (Captain, assistant, and a cook).
 - Gas and port dues.
- ❖ **What's not included:**
 - Drinks during meals, including bottles of mineral water.
 - Lunches on Day 1 and Day 8, and dinner at Lipari.
 - Excursion to the summit of the Stromboli volcano (25€ per person - to be paid on the spot; guide included).
 - Entrance fee to the museum of Lipari and to the Spa of Vulcano.
 - National and Regional park entrances fee to the Aeolian Islands (7€ per person).
 - Personal travel insurance and your personal expenses.
 - Tips for the team.

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