

Aeolian Islands & Taormina



7 days



SEVEN DAYS LUXURY YACHT CHARTER CRUISING AEOLIAN ISLANDS FROM PALERMO TO MILAZZO



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Day 1:

Embark in Palermo at noon, have lunch at anchor and set sails to the **Island of Vulcano**, about 75 miles far. According to mythology, this fabulous island was the workplace of the god of fire and blacksmiths. It is studded with fantastic formations, both above ground and underwater. Vulcano is famous all over the world for its therapeutic mud baths and hot springs. They are located within easy walking distance from the harbor. You can walk up to the crater where you will see many places where smoke comes out of the ground. Relax by the natural mud baths; next to the mud baths, walking up to the summit of the island's main volcano is a must. Upon reaching the summit you'll be greeted with a stunning panorama of the Aeolian's.



Day 2:

Start the day with a stroll around Lipari, the largest island, very close to Vulcano. Beautiful Aeolian pastel colored houses, solid infrastructure, picturesque streets, great hotels and restaurants all account for Lipari being considered the "capital". Lipari offers the widest selection of restaurants, shops, and things to do. Be sure to visit the interesting archeological museum; if you are not into history, you can enjoy a hike to the top of Monte Sant'Angelo for a view that will leave you breathless. At night, Lipari is full of life; boutiques and shops selling Sicilian ceramics along Corso Vittorio Emanuele, pasticceria selling cassata and other Sicilian specialties, granita, homemade ice cream.



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Enjoy some of the most beautiful dive spots in Italy having some good snorkeling or diving in **Punta Castagna** with its plateau covered with white pumice or in **Pietra del Bagno**, full of multi-coloured rock faces where stands the statue of the Madonna. **Le Formiche** is also an extremely varied dive site, where you can enjoy snorkeling as well as diving. Moreover **Spiaggia Valle Muria** provides an astonishing view of the **Faraglioni of Pietra Lunga** and **Pietra Menalda** rather than **Praia di Vinci** is a hidden beach reachable only by boat that it is suitable for diving and snorkelling lovers. If you are not into snorkeling, you can spend the entire day cruising the archipelago and stop at one of the uncountable bays you encounter.

Day 3:

After breakfast, a visit to **Stromboli**, the most spectacular island of the archipelago for its continuously active volcano. This conic island known centuries ago as the “Lighthouse of the Mediterranean” because of its volcano and strategic position between the mainland and the other islands has drawn European celebrities with its wild nature. It’s still active black volcano does not disappoint. Houses painted in pure white look lovely with their colorful gardens and the black beaches. One of the best activities is sunbathing on the black sand beaches, considered the prettiest of the islands.





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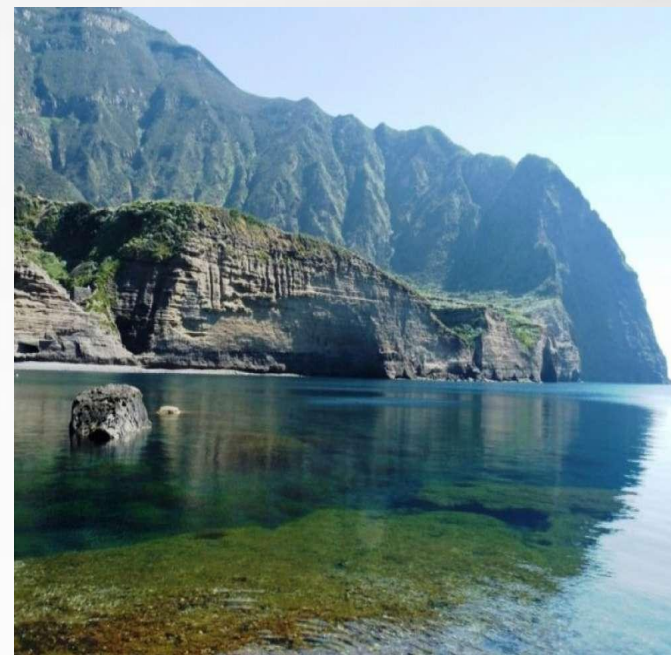
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Days 4 & 5:

This morning you will visit **Salina**, a unique island boasts high cliffs dropping into dramatic beaches, two craters and slopes lined with dense woods, strikingly coloured wild flowers and vineyards. **Santa Marina Salina, Lingua, Malfa, and Rinella** each have a character of their own. What they share is their tranquillity. Salina is the only island among the Aeolians that features natural springs of water. This factor and the former eruptions have gifted it with fertile land where capers and grapes for malvasia wine are abundant. In the evening, visit beautiful **Panarea**, where travellers might feel more like they are in Greece than on an Italian island. Panarea has a wide appeal for worldwide jet-setters and a charming setting of Greek-like adobe white houses. Its little harbour receives many tourists looking to spend at least a day on this unique island which blends luxury, beauty and charm. Spend the night in Panarea at anchor. The day after, have breakfast and then visit the islets near the east coast of Panarea which can only be visited by boat: Basiluzzo, from where you can see the wreck of a Roman ship, a fascinating sight. The Sicilian say that sunset in Basiluzzo is a must see once in a lifetime. Dattilo boasts Le Guglie, a nice small beach. Lisca Nera is to the south of the islet. Bring your scuba equipment because from Dattilo you can head to Lisca Bianca to enjoy wreck hunting. Around the island there is also an old English ship located at a depth of about 45 metres. Night in Lipari or Salina Marinas





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Day 6:

After breakfast set sails to Giardini Naxos, the port of Taormina, about 80 miles far. Have a late lunch at anchor in the wonderful Taormina bay, Giardini Naxos or in front of the famous “Isola Bella”, a must see place at sea protected by the bay and the mountains; fantastic nature, crystal-clear sea and breathtaking views. During the afternoon, go by taxi to Taormina town and take your time to see the panoramas at sea from Castel Mola; visit the “Teatro Greco”, the most amazing monument remaining at Taormina ("Greek theatre"), which is one of the most celebrated ruins in Sicily, on account both of its remarkable preservation and of the surpassing beauty of its situation. Ask your agent for information on the events planned to be held in Taormina Greek Theatre during the days of your stay; maybe you will have the chance to assist to something very beautiful cause the theatre often hosts important shows, ballets, concerts of famous artists from all over the world: Laura Pausini, Carlos Santana, Simple Minds, James Blunt as singers; performances like the “Tosca, the “Cavalleria Rusticana”; fashion shows and events all summer long. Have dinner ashore in one of the best restaurants of Taormina (see below some advices) and spend the night in Giardini Naxos Marina (wherever possible) or at anchor in Taormina bay.

Day 7:

After breakfast leave the port and dive into the crystal clear waters of Taormina sea. Spend the morning swimming, snorkeling and playing at sea and have lunch at anchor, relaxing and sunbathing.





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In the afternoon walk and visit Taormina shops; don't forget to enjoy the famous "granita siciliana" chez "Ban Bar": one cannot go to Sicily and not taste the granita. The most famous restaurants in Taormina are the San Domenico Palace or the Principe di Cerami (in an ancient monastery, many actors attend this place) whilst La Baronessa restaurant is the most frequented by the people of Taormina (located in the center in an ancient palace with sea view where the Taofestival events take place). Afterdinner go to "Il Morgana" nightclub to dance and have a drink in this elegant discobar.

Day 8:

Time to return to Milazzo, but no need to hurry. Plenty of time for one last snorkel or dive off the coast of Sicily as you head back.



**The itinerary is flexible according to guests requirements and weather conditions.*