

Sicily's Aeolian Islands



Arranged by Travel Editions

Lipari

October 2024 - 8 days from *£1,345pp

The seven Aeolian islands off the north coast of Sicily comprise an area of 1,216km squared and make up one of the most traditional regions of Italy, with a pace and way of life little altered for centuries. The Aeolian archipelago is of important volcanic origin having fascinated volcanologists and tourists alike for years. The island of Stromboli contains one of the most active volcanoes in the world and presents an almost-daily show of red hot rocks. This tour offers the perfect combination of walking and leisurely sightseeing. With walks on four days including exploration of Lipari, a walk up to the great crater on Vulcano and the spectacular Sciara del Fuoco lava flow, island hopping by local ferry and excellent local cuisine, a holiday in these wonderful islands is a superb experience.



Vulcano



Panarea

This holiday is operated by Travel Editions Group Travel

For further information please contact: Travel Editions Group Limited, 3 Young's Buildings, London EC1V 9DB on Tel: 020 7251 0045

*Based on 20 passengers





Itinerary

Day 1

Fly from London Gatwick to Catania

On arrival, transfer by coach to Milazzo and onwards by ferry to Lipari before a short, steep walk to the hotel. Welcome drink on first evening and dinner.

Day 2

Lipari local walk

Our day begins with a walking tour of Lipari, "the hub of the Aeolian Islands", to experience the slow pace of life. We pass through paved cobbled streets in the old part of the town, still home to fishermen, to the Diana quarter to see the Greek/Roman necropolis and up to the Cittadella, a site which has been inhabited since the 5000 BC, ending in Marina Corta, the charming fishermen's square. Lunch and afternoon at leisure. Dinner at the hotel.

Day 3

Lipari Island coach tour with walk

We travel by private coach to the rural village of Pianconte. En route we will stop at the Quattrocchi viewpoint: the panorama is one of the most impressive in the Aeolian Islands and, arguably, the whole of Sicily: with views to the cliff of Sotto il Monte, Punta Perciato and the Faraglioni of Pietralunga and Pietraminarda, dominated by the Island of Vulcano. At the entrance of the village of Pianoconte we will start our walk taking the old stone mule-track which gradually descends, crossing olive groves, with great views of the islands of Alicudi, Filicudi and Salina, to the St. Calogero Spa, a Thermal Baths dating from the 4th c. BC. Rural lunch on a family Agriturismo where wine, olives, olive oil are still a family producers and fresh bread and pasta made from grains that are ground directly with their own mill. After lunch, we will continue the coach tour of Lipari Island, through the villages of Quattropiani, the wineland, Acquacalda in the district of pumice quarries and Canneto, the beach area of Lipari with spectacular views of the island's Western coastline, Panarea and Stromboli. Light dinner available in the hotel this evening or alternatively you may choose to dine out in one of the many local restaurants down in the harbour.

Day 4

Free Day

Today is free for you to do as you wish or you can join an organized boat trip to the Islands of Alicudi and Filicudi (payable locally). Dinner at the hotel.

Day 5

Vulcano Island boat trip with walk

Today we travel to the nearby Island of Vulcano by private boat for a tour of the Island, enjoying the view of the "Grotta del Cavallo", the "spiaggia dell'Asino", the canyon between the original lava formation, dating back 120,000 years B.C and the more recent flows from 15,000 years B.C and the late 19th century. After a coffee break in one of the harbour bars, we start our walk to Vulcanello. It is considered extinct, but past volcanic activity has led to the creation of bizarre rock forms, from the lava sculpted by the sea breezes: it is known as the Valley of the Monsters. Lunch in a family fish restaurant in Vulcano, before some free time prior to taking our private boat back to Lipari. Light dinner available in the hotel this evening or alternatively you may choose to dine out in one of the many local restaurants down in the harbour.

Day 6

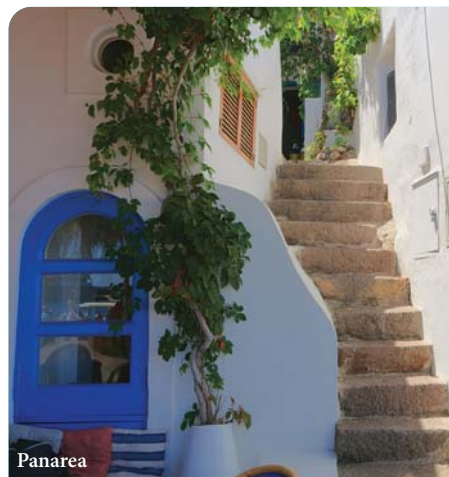
Panarea and Stromboli

We leave Lipari after an early lunch at the hotel, travelling by private boat with a stop on the Island of Panarea for a short guided walkabout of the village of Saint Peter. We continue to Stromboli where we will visit the village of Saint Vincent before our pizza dinner in the oldest restaurant in the village. We then we will board the private boat to the Sciarra del Fuoco to watch the almost daily event of the volcano's spectacular light and fire display from the craters. Return to Lipari by 9.30pm.

Day 7

Free Day

Today is free for you to do as you wish or you can join an organized boat trip to the Island of Salina (payable locally). Dinner at the hotel.



Day 8

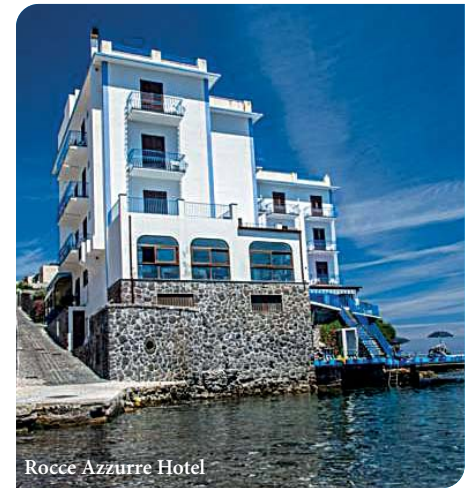
Departure

Transfer by ferry back to Milazzo and onward to Catania airport by coach for your return flight to London Gatwick.

Where you stay

Rocce Azzurre Hotel (or similar)

The friendly, family-run three-star Rocce Azzurre Hotel enjoys a wonderful location overlooking the sea yet only a few minutes pleasant walk from the charming old town of Lipari. The walk is about 400 metres up a slight hill (baggage is taken in a minivan).



Included in the price

- Return scheduled flights from Gatwick to Catania
- Seven nights' accommodation on dinner, bed and buffet breakfast basis at the three-star Rocce Azzurre Hotel (or similar), based on shared occupancy of a twin/double room. Dinner on six nights and lunch on day 6
- Return transfers from Catania via coach and ferry
- Full range of tours as detailed including boat transfers as specified
- Three lunches and one pizza dinner as detailed
- Tour manager and local expert, Tullio Scurria as tour manager and guide throughout

Not included

- Single supplement
- Sea view supplement
- Sea view and balcony supplement
- Junior suite with sea view and balcony supplement

Please note that walking boots are essential and clients should be in good health.

Guided walks are rated easy to medium.

