



Set sail from Portorosa and explore the full chain of Aeolian islands. The cruising grounds blend chic ports of call such as Panarea Island, with the quiet ambience of islands off the tourist track such as Salina. Explore the imposing volcanoes, abundant castles and historic waterfront villages.

Portorosa Cultural Highlights

- Relaxed sailing with consistent winds and volcanic islands
- Clear, warm waters ideal for snorkelling
- Spectacular black sand beaches
- Europe's second largest active volcano
- Short passages between Aeolian islands



Portorosa is nestled into the north east corner of Sicily, sheltered under the gaze of the majestic Mount Etna. Spend your first day exploring the town of Tonnarella, or reclining on one of Sicily's many beaches.

Day 1 Tonnarella

Spend your first day exploring the town of Tonnarella, or reclining on one of Sicily's many beaches.

Day 2 Portorosa to Vulcano 20 nautical miles 4 hours



Named for the steaming peaks that crown this fair island, Vulcano is actually better known for the therapeutic qualities of the local mud and the natural hot springs. Although it has a harsh, barren terrain, the island also boasts a black sand beach, and the spectacular Fossa di Vulcano. The smouldering crater is encrusted with vivid red and yellow crystals, which make the one-hour hike well worth the effort. You can then either take a steep path down to the crater floor, or walk on the level around the rim and enjoy extraordinary views out over the islands to the north. There is even a volcano museum on the island. The south and northwest coasts are ideal for snorkeling and swimming. Anchor in Porto di Ponente for good protection from prevailing easterly winds.

Discover Vulcano



Grotta del Cavallo

Explore the hanging stalactites, underground lakes and echoing walls of this large, half-submerged cave on the western shore.



Natural hot spring and therapeutic mud

The Faraglione della Fabbrica is a unique phenomenon, with the island's violent volcanic activity helping to create natural thermal springs and pools, as well as grottos filled with mud that supposedly has therapeutic qualities.

Day 3 Vulcano to Filicudi 23 nautical miles 4,5 hours



Filicudi is the wildest and most beautiful Aeolian Island, with its stunning Blue Grotto and a network of hiking trails allowing visitors to explore the island's scenic interior. The Scoglio della Canna (Cane Reef), a rock obelisk located off the north-western coast, is also worth a visit. At Capo Graziano, a short walk south-east of the port, are found the remains of a prehistoric village, dated 1800 BC. Hiking trails across the Island are spread over a huge network, leading to the abandoned village of Zucco Grande and to Fossa Felci, a mountain in the centre of the Island.

Discover Filicudi



The Grotta del Bue Marino

Around the western shore of Filicudi lies this huge sea cave, an absolute must-see for adventurers. Marvel in the scale and depth of this natural wonder.



La Canna & Punta Zotta

A natural basalt finger rising from the sea, the La Canna rock formation is home to the rare Eleonora's falcon. It is an excellent place to snorkel, and you can drop anchor in the bay of Punta La Zotta before heading to the rock.

Day 4 Filicudi to Salina 14 nautical miles 3 hours



Renowned for its vibrant plant life and lush vegetation rare for such volcanic land, Salina has three of the highest peaks in the area, as well as three villages and a handful of smaller

hamlets. The abundant greenery is supported by the numerous freshwater springs. Embrace the slower pace of life on the island and rent a bike or scooter to explore Salina and her mighty peaks, Monte Fossa dell Felci (962m); Monte dei Porri (860m); and Monte Rivi (850m). Once at the top, you'll revel in sensational views that stretch across the entire Aeolian archipelago. Salina has good amenities, and several restaurants line the waterfront in Santa Marina Salina, with seafood dishes a real highlight.



Rinella

Movie buffs can pay a visit to Rinella, on the south of the island. Rinella's small harbour is set in a picturesque bay, that was the setting for the Italian movie "Il Postino".



Sunset in Pollara

Pollara has excellent views and sunsets and provides protection from easterly, north-easterly and south-easterly winds. On the north of the island near Malfa is a lovely place for a visit in the day but not recommended to stay overnight.

Day 5 Salina to Stromboli 22 nautical miles 4,5 hours



Rising an imposing 924m from the sea and behind only Mount Etna as the Europe's second-

largest active volcano, Stromboli belches imposing clouds of steam skywards. This dramatic lava mountain plunges all the way down to 2000m below the surface, and at night you can see the red hot flow weaving its way to the sea. There are two small villages on opposite sides of the volcano and Stromboli has the blackest beaches of all the Aeolian Islands. There is no quay anchorage at the port where the ferries and boats come in however there good buoy anchorage on the west side of the harbour and water and fuel are available.

Discover Stromboli



Stark contrasts

The black rock of this towering volcano contrasts neatly with the island's traditional white houses, to a stark and magical effect. Take a 30-minute walk up to the observatory and restaurant, and dine in style, complete with fantastic views of the erupting volcano.



Ginostra and sweet cannoli

There is also good anchorage south of Ginostra. The sea depth ranges from 100-1000 metres so extra care must be taken. It is a very nice walk from the port to the town's piazza where there are many excellent restaurants and bars. Local food blends influences from Neapolitan and Sicilian cuisines, and the traditional sweet cannoli is a must-try.

Day 6 Stromboli to Lipari 25 nautical miles 5 hours



Stop off in Panarea, the smallest but by far the most picturesque of the islands in the group. Or visit the island of Basiluzzo, close to Panarea, which is uninhabited and an ideal stop off for swimming, snorkelling and fishing. Lipari is both the largest and oldest of the Aeolian Islands, which are often named in its honour. The Aeolian Museum in Lipari Town is excellent and houses treasures from the islands throughout the ages. Lipari is the most populated of the Aeolian Islands, with its population concentrated on the eastern side of the island, where the vineyards produce some really good local wine, and about half living in Lipari Town.

Discover Lipari



Lipari cathedral

A must-see for all visitors to Lipari, the amazing 13th-century cathedral features fully-preserved Norman architecture.



Stop for lunch at Basiluzzo

South of Stromboli lies the tiny, unassuming and uninhabited island of Basiluzzo, the smallest Aeolian island, a craggy and isolated outcrop perfect for a secluded lunch and a swim.



Panarea

Plot a course for Panarea, and weave past the glamorous port town to arrive at the quiet anchorage, Zimmari Bay. Take a trip ashore and climb the Punta del Corno for panoramic views.

Day 7 Lipari to Portorosa 22 nautical miles 4,5 hours



From Lipari, you can plot a direct 22nm route back to Portorosa, or opt for a more relaxed route, winding your way back to our base. Pop into the Vulcano National Park for a scenic final stop, or set a course for the Milazzo Peninsula. On your return, you will complete a quick but thorough debrief, after which you are free to enjoy your final night on Sicily as you please.

On your way to Portorosa



Vulcano National Park

Pop into the Vulcano National Park for a scenic final stop, or set a course for the Milazzo Peninsula.