

Sea and Volcanos

The islands of Sicily Tour (10 days / 9 nights)

Day 1 – ARRIVAL PALERMO and on to MARSALA



Arrival at Palermo airport, meet and greet by an assistant who will guide you through the arrival formalities. Transfer and accommodation in a luxury wine resort in **Marsala**. You will enjoy a wine tasting in the hotel winery and traditional dinner. Overnight stay.

Day 2 – FAVIGNANA

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to the port of Trapani; boarding the hydrofoil to **Favignana**, the biggest of the Egadi Islands. The main town, also known as Favignana, has a small port and with its two piazzas, its pedestrianised streets and its lovely sandy beach, has an easy, unpretentious charm and a relaxing atmosphere. Favignana Town is also home to two buildings that give us an insight into the island's history. The first, Palazzo Florio (not open inside), is a grand mansion overlooking the harbour built by Ignazio Florio, once one of Italy's richest and most powerful industrialists. The second building is the "Tonnara" (the tunny-fishing place) that continued to function under a variety of owners until the late 1980s and now host a museum dedicated to the island's tuna industry and the "mattanza" (the traditional tuna cull). Time at disposal before a panoramic tour of the island with stops in some of the most beautiful beaches and visit of the



Hypogeum Gardens, which are in the rest of an ancient tuff stones quarry. Boarding the hydrofoil to Trapani. On the way back to the hotel we will stop in **Erice**, a wonderfully preserved mediaeval hill town on the top of Monte San Giuliano. The town overlooks the city of Trapani and the lower western coast towards the Egadi Islands, offering a most breath-taking view. You will walk through the cobblestoned streets of the town, taking in the fresh air and a variety of aromas emanating from the numerous pastry shops for which Erice is known. In fact, you will stop to visit Maria Grammatico's Pastry Shop to see and taste the variety of sweets she lovingly creates. Dinner at leisure and overnight stay.

Day 3 – PANTELLERIA

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out. Transfer to Trapani airport and departure to **Pantelleria** defined "the black pearl" of Mediterranean, the volcanic island is the largest of all the archipelagos of Sicily. Arrival at Pantelleria airport and make a tour with private car and guide to discover the nature and traditions of the island.

We will visit some producers of Pantelleria excellences and taste the Mediterranean flavours of local products with the capers and other organic products. Lunch in a family-run trattoria. In the afternoon visit the "Donnafugata" winery and its vineyards cultivated on small



terraces, bordered by dry built lava stone walls. Will taste the Passito wine and admire the century-old Giardino Pantesco.

Accommodation at your hotel. Enjoy Dinner at leisure. Overnight stay.

Day 4 – PANTELLERIA

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure from **Pantelleria** harbour for a full day excursion that will allow you to enjoy the most hidden natural wonders of the island. The boat will skirt the coast and you will discover caves, beaches and small coves. You can admire the amazing Cala dei Cinque Denti and the famous Cinderella's Scarpetta, the unique Faraglioni del Formaggio, the Beach of lovers, the underwater springs of Cala Nicà.

During the excursion you will have time for swim in the crystalline blue water and to enjoy a relaxing pause for a typical lunch on board. In the afternoon return to your hotel. Enjoy Dinner at leisure. Overnight stay.



Day 5 – PALERMO AND CEFALU'

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out. Transfer to Pantelleria airport and departure to Palermo. Transfer with your private driver to **Palermo** centre for a panoramic tour and stop for a guided walking tour to admire its most important monuments: Cathedral, Palazzo dei Normanni (ancient Royal Palace), Cappella Palatina, San Giovanni degli Eremiti, Piazza della Vergogna and Quattro Canti. . Enjoy lunch at leisure to taste famous Palermo Street Food. Continue to **Cefalù**, whose name derives from the Greek kefaloidono which means head because it has the shape of a small head. Visit of this pretty medieval town and its famous cathedral, one of the most beautiful in Sicily, founded by Ruggero II, first Norman King of Sicily.

Dinner at leisure and overnight in Messina area.



Day 6 – VULCANO

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out. Transfer to Milazzo port and boarding on a hydrofoil for **Vulcano** island, one of 7 islands of Aeolian Archipelagos. Transfer and accommodation at your hotel.

In the afternoon free time to enjoy the relax on the black Sand Beach and to discovery village that is a lively and animated place, full of cafes where you can relax. Enjoy Dinner at leisure. Overnight stay.



D Day 7 – LIPARI AND SALINA

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure from Vulcano Harbour for a full day excursion to Lipari and Salina islands by boat. First stop at **Lipari** for a walking tour of the picturesque town.

Back on the boat that will skirt Lipari coast and you will have a view of the Castle of Lipari, the Monte Rosa and Canneto. You will have time to swim in the crystalline blue water of Pumice Cave beach.

Proceeding on to **Salina**. First stop will be on Santa Marina Salina the biggest town of the island. Transfer by car to a winery for a visit with tasting of prestigious Malvasia wine and enjoy a light lunch.

Continue around the island until you reach Lingua (a charming fishing village and its salt lake where salt was once extracted). The boat will resume for the tour by sea. Return to the hotel on the island of Vulcano.

Dinner at leisure. Overnight stay.



Day 8 – PANAREA AND STROMBOLI

Breakfast at the hotel. Full day excursion by boat. First stop on **Panarea**, you will have time to swim in Calajunco followed by complete circumnavigation of the island. Visit the small village with a walk through the streets, lined by the white, Aeolian-style houses. Light lunch on board. We then continue by boat to **Stromboli**, for a visit to the most natural and wildest of the islands. After sunset we leave for pass under the Sciara del Fuoco a ridge of the crater from which lava descends. We will witness the spectacular eruptions of the volcano from the boat. Return to the hotel on the island of Vulcano. Overnight stay.



Day 9 – TAORMINA, ETNA AND CATANIA

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out. Transfer to Vulcano port and boarding on a hydrofoil to Milazzo. Transfer to **Taormina**, "The pearl of the Mediterranean", visit the historic center of the splendid town to see the extraordinary Greek Theater from which you can enjoy a splendid view of the coast and the Etna volcano. Walk the picturesque streets to admire other important monuments, such as the Duomo, dedicated to S. Nicola and Palazzo Corvaia. Enjoy lunch at your leisure. Continue with an excursion to the Mount Etna, the highest volcano in Europe (3.300 meters). By car we reach 1.900 meters, where we can admire two craters no more actives, the Silverstri Craters, we can walk watching cold lava flows and do shopping in various handcraft shops.

Transfer to **Catania** downtown hotel, dinner and overnight stay.



Day 10 – ARRIVEDERCI SICILIA

Breakfast at the hotel. Pick up by your driver and transfer to Catania airport for departure.

Buon Viaggio!