



★ *Destination* GUIDE ★

Sicily to the Amalfi Coast

LUXURY *Yacht* GROUP

① PALERMO

② TRAPANI ERICE

③ SYRACUSE

④ AEOLIAN ISLANDS

⑤ CAPRI

⑥ POSITANO

⑦ NAPLES

SICILY TO THE AMALFI COAST

Yachting from Sicily to the Amalfi Coast is an ideal reminder of the cultural legacy left by thousands of years of Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Norman, Arabic and Spanish influence. Along the mountainous coasts are treasures of architectural history to observe and explore. You can choose to appreciate the cultural history in museums of antiquities or by snorkeling the submerged structures of ancient settlements and vessels. Pamper yourself in ancient spas, with an evening concert at the Naples Opera House, watching a volcanic sunset, or being served at a Grand Hotel. Whatever your choice, the spirit of poets, painters, philosophers and kings merge with the contemporary artists, vintners, fishermen, and musicians enhancing your journey.





Palermo

Sicily's greatest city is a repository of treasures; the mosaics of Monreale, the beloved Teatro Massimo, and Byzantine churches with inlaid marbles and golden icons. Palermo is an amalgamation of many cultures. Most visually distinctive is its Arab-Norman identity, an unlikely foundation that, overlaid with Byzantine and Jewish elements, inspired resplendent works of art. Dock at the Marina Villa Igiea, on a crescent bay at the foot of Monte Pellegrino. The city spreads out in all directions; markets, museums, piazzas, churches and cafés. Plunge into the splendid cacophony of urban life, the honking of horns, the rush of pedestrians, the aroma of coffee, and after dinner, Italy's most spectacular passeggiata.

Bye Bye Blues Restaurant — www.byebyeblues.it

“Palermo was recently elected the European Capital of Street Food, and *Forbes* ranks it in the top five worldwide, and first in Europe. Try arancini rice balls with meat or bacon, pannele, fried, smashed chickpeas and herbs, sfincione pizza with tomato sauce, caciocavallo, onions, and anchovies and granita, a semi-frozen drink of crushed ice and almonds, or lemon, or other flavors.”

— Captain Tony Oliveri

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Trapani, Erice

“There is a great dive site about 10 minutes off Biscione where you will be able to see almost all the Mediterranean species of sea plants and animals, huge red gorgonians, small red coral trees and many kinds of fish. The Cristo di Mazara del Vallo, an undersea sculpture, is also a very popular dive.”

— Captain Greg Hines

Dock in Trapani’s busy ferry port near the Baroque city center. Board the cable car and ascend 2,400 ft. Erice’s mist enshrouded castles, fountains and cobbled streets, erected on a mountaintop, were dedicated in antiquity to Aphrodite, Astarte, Venus, and cults of love. The sacred village managed to repel centuries of invasions and descend through time with her medieval soul largely intact. In the main square, the steamy coffee machines of sidewalk cafés and Maria Grammatico’s famous cake shop emit heady aromas. The market is an adventure in local crafts. The views are incomparable, the sunsets ablaze in color, and on a very clear day, you can see forever – or at least to Cape Bon and the Tunisian coast.

Maria Grammatico Pastries, Erice — mariagrammatico.it/en

Natural Reserve Saline, Trapani — www.wvosalineditrapani.it

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Syracuse

The Romans conquered Sicily at the siege of Syracuse in 212 BC. Syracuse native son, Archimedes, novel war inventions included the “Archimedes’s claw,” a crane that was able to lift Roman ships out of the water and sink them, and giant mirrors that deflected sunrays to burn the sails of rival ships. Despite Sicilian ingenuity, the Romans won and Archimedes was killed.

This is a spellbinding city to arrive in by yacht, with a harbor usually crowded by head-turning vessels. Cicero called Syracuse “the greatest and most beautiful Greek city”, which was expanded and adorned by Roman, Medieval and Baroque rulers. Ortigia is both the ancient city center of Syracuse and a modern mecca for internationally successful artists, fashion designers, architects and entrepreneurs. After 27 centuries of urban evolution, the splendidly baroque Piazza del Duomo has emerged as a chic center of modern galleries, edgy boutiques, and fusion restaurants. The Duomo itself spans two millennia of island history. Plan a private tour of the underground tunnels. Rendezvous at the Grand Hotel Villa Politi’s Bar Winston (Churchill) for a classic Italian aperitivo; a Spumante or Prosecco. Join locals at Don Camillo’s.

Grand Hotel Villa Politi — www.villapoliti.com

Don Camillo Restaurant, Syracuse — www.ristorantedoncamillosiracusa.it

Domus Marrae Benessere Spa — <http://www.domusmarraebenessere.com/en/domus-marrae-wellness-center.htm>

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Aeolian Islands

Your panoramic view of the volcanic Stromboli and Vulcano islands is one of dramatically shifting colors. When night falls, take your glasses of sweet Malvasia on the sundeck and anticipate a show of clouds and sparks shooting skyward. Lipari's pretty pastel houses descend to shores of silvery pumice beach. High on the plateau, the ancient castle and cathedral bring fairytales to mind. Cruise around Gialfante rock, Punta Zotta and craggy coves that end in cavernous caves, like the Grotta del Blue Marino with spectacular light effects. Visit the vast Museo Archeologico Eoliano, with a collection dating back to 4000 BC. On the terrace at Filippino's, order the zuppa di pesce, the seafood antipasto, and cassata siciliana for dessert. Join in the party-fueled nightlife on Panarea.

Archeology Museum of Lipari — www.regione.sicilia.it/beniculturali/museolipari

Restaurant Filippino, Lipari — www.filippino.it

Therasia Resort & Spa, Vulcano — www.therasiaresort.it

“Snorkeling along vertical rock faces, in ocean caves, and off the beaches is an unforgettable experience. The unique sea floor, sculpted and shaped by eons of volcanic activity, emits hot gas bubbles from the white pumice sand. Twisted black basalt is home to species of colorful fish. The best sites include La Franata dell'Arcipelago and around Lipari and Vulcano.”

— Captain Greg Hines



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“Nerano is a tiny mountain village where the islanders of Capri go to dine in family-run restaurants with ocean views. Food is made using local recipes and methods generations old. Vegetables come from the kitchen gardens, fish are caught that morning by locals, and excellent wines are made in the Lattari Mountains.”

— Captain “Bernie” Vaughn

Capri

Nothing compares to yachting around Capri. The jagged coast is a paradise for snorkeling and diving, with deep coves, conical Faraglioni rocks and shimmering blue, green and white grottos. Emperor Augustus called Capri the “City of Sweet Idleness”. Sitting at a sidewalk café on the famous Piazzetta in Capri Town with a canoli topped cassata is sweet indeed. Ascend 902 ft. above sea level to explore Anacapri’s historic villas and elegant walking streets, and higher still to reach the Capri Palace Hotel. Relax and rejuvenate at this exclusive sanctuary. Nightlife begins with chilled champagne at the Hotel Quisisana’s Krug Room, a VIP experience bar none. Dock at the glamorous Porto Turistico di Capri amidst celebrity yachts, or drop anchor in a romantic, secluded cove.

Porto Turistico di Capri, Marina — www.portoturistodicapri.com

Quisisana Hotel & Spa — www.quisisana.com

Capri Palace Hotel & Spa — www.capripalace.com/en



Positano

“A hike on the Sentiero degli Dei (God’s Pathway), from Agerola to Nocelle, high on the slopes of Monte Peruso, makes a thrilling half day. It’s an easy, four mile hike along an ancient mule track, except the last bit, which involves descending a couple thousand stairs to reach Arienzo beach where the tender is waiting. If you have vertigo don’t go.”

— Captain Carlo Como

Approaching Positano by yacht is a privileged experience. Iconic superyachts crowd the harbor and dwarf the brightly painted fishing boats. Pretty pastel houses climb the hills. Three imposing ancient towers, Fornillo, La Trasita, and La Sponda, divide the landscape. To the east of La Trasita is the main harbor, the town center, and Spaggia Grande beach, which turns up the party volume after 3pm. Visit the Black Madonna at the Church of Santa Maria Assunta. Shop at couture designer Antonello della Mura’s for stunning silk apparel. For lunch, cruise to the Michelin starred restaurant at Il San Pietro Hotel, a major stopping spot for yachts. In the evening, rendezvous at the Champagne & Oyster Bar at Le Sirenuse for the Spumante, the seafood tower and the sunset.

Antonello della Mura, Via del Saracino 36

Il San Pietro Hotel — www.ilsanpietro.it/en

La Sirenuse Hotel — www.sirenuse.it/en



Naples

“A snorkeling adventure at The Gaiola Underwater Park in the Gulf is a unique experience the whole family will enjoy. Marine life thrives in submerged ruins of an ancient Roman town. You will see octopi living in the ruins and shoals, Rainbow Wrasses, Blue Damsels, and moray eels hiding in an ancient fishpond.”

— Captain Bill Armstrong

Caravaggio oils and Bernini marbles are as much the essence of Naples as the narrow alleys and iffy neighborhoods in this city of contrasts. The Piazza dei Martiri in Chiaia is ground zero for haute couture, fine art galleries and nightlife. Stroll through the iconic Galleria Umberto 1 to reach the San Carlo Opera House for an evening concert. Nearby Ischia, the “Green Island”, is renowned for breathtaking scenery and therapeutic spas with thermal waters and muds rich in mineral content. Tiny, manicured, and fragrant Isola di Procida was the decadent retreat of the ancient patrician class. Sip a limoncello at an outdoor café. Try a flight of Campania wines at an intimate bar. Fall in love with the Neopolitan *gioia di vivere*.

Restaurant Il Comandante (dinner only) — www.romeohotel.it

Grand Hotel Parker's — www.grandhotelparkers.it

WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN:

Regional Guide

TIME ZONE: UTC (GMT) +1

ECONOMY: Tourism, Banking, Agriculture, Industry

DRESS CODE: During the day casual resort wear is appropriate. Men wear pants in the evening. Jackets and ties are sometimes required. In churches, everyone should wear clothing that covers knees, shoulders, and upper arms. Wear soft-soled walking shoes on cobblestones.

DRIVING: Motorists drive on the right side of the road as in the U.S. and Canada. Remember that in most cities drivers are already very, very late for an engagement of immense importance and you are in their way.

GOVERNMENTS: France and Italy: Republic; Monaco: Constitutional Monarchy; Spain: Parliamentary Monarchy.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES: French, Italian, Spanish

OFFICIAL CURRENCY: Euro

EXHIBIT TICKETS: For special rates and to avoid the lines, look for ticket packages to cultural exhibits. Packages are available online and on-site.



When to visit:

The yachting season gets underway in mid-May with the Cannes Film Festival, followed by the Monaco Grand Prix in late May, and concludes at the end of September. During the summer the region is quite crowded, but there are delightful festivals and celebrations everywhere, and warm water temperatures mean enjoying water sports without a wetsuit.

CLIMATE DATA FOR THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN													
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	YEAR
Average High °F	52	52	56	60	66	72	80	80	75	67	59	54	64
Average Low °F	47	46	49	52	58	64	72	70	66	60	53	49	57
Average Rainfall (in)	3.5	3	2.9	2.9	2.5	1.9	1.5	0.7	1.2	2.6	4.4	4.6	2.6

Climate:

Summers are hot and dry with rather light winds that are a drawback to sailing. At sea level afternoon temperatures can get uncomfortably hot. Winters are wet and mild, with the most precipitation in October. Winter temperatures average about 50 degrees, rarely going below freezing except at high elevations. Skiers enjoy heavy snow on the slopes of Mount Etna.

Most computers, cell phones, chargers, cameras and computer tablets automatically convert the voltage. If your device heats, cools, or has a motor, you may need a converter. These add weight to your luggage. Check with your crew about your converter needs.



ELECTRIC

POWER GUIDE

COUNTRY	VOLTAGE	PLUG
France	230 V	Euro 2-pin
Italy	230 V	Euro 2-pin, Italian 3-pin
Monaco	127/220 V	Euro 2-pin
Spain	230 V	Euro 2-pin



Passports are required, except EU nationals holding a national ID card that is valid for the duration of stay.

VISA INFORMATION

www.projectvisa.com



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