Aeolian Islands

Why Go?
Rising out of the cobalt-blue seas off Sicily’s northeastern coast, the Unesco-protected Aeolian Islands (Vulcano, Lipari, Salina, Panarea, Stromboli, Filicudi and Alicudi) are a little piece of paradise, a magical outdoor playground offering thrills and spills at every turn. Stunning waters provide sport for swimmers, sailors and divers, while trekkers can climb hissing volcanoes and gourmets can sip honey-sweet Malvasia wine.

The obvious base is Lipari, the largest and liveliest of the seven islands, but it’s by no means the only option. Salina boasts excellent accommodation and good transport links, while Stromboli and Vulcano entertain nature lovers with awe-inspiring volcanic shenanigans and black-sand beaches. Ultra-chic Panarea offers luxurious living at lower prices in low season, while Filicudi and Alicudi have an end-of-the-line appeal that’s irresistible for fans of off-the-beaten-track adventure.

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- Vulcano .......... 139
- Salina .......... 142
- Panarea .......... 146
- Stromboli .......... 147
- Filicudi .......... 153
- Alicudi .......... 154

Best Places to Eat
- Ristorante La Canna (p154)
- Trattoria Da Pina (p141)
- Porto Bello (p144)
- Le Macine (p138)
- Punta Lena (p150)

Best Places to Sleep
- B&B Al Salvatore di Lipari (p251)
- Hotel Ravesi (p252)
- Casa del Sole (p252)
- Casa delle Stelle (p251)
- Diana Brown (p251)

Road/Sea Distances (km)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Lipari</th>
<th>Messina</th>
<th>Milazzo</th>
<th>Santa Maria Salina</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Messina</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Milazzo</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Santa Maria Salina</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Stromboli</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>45</td>
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Aeolian Islands Highlights

1. Lipari (p133) Digging through five millennia of history at the archaeological museum.
2. Salina (p142) Savouring local wine and capers on the Aeolians' lushest island.
3. Stromboli (p147) Watching the volcano erupt at sunset.
4. Panarea (p146) Lounging poolside on a sunny whitewashed terrace on the island, or exploring its constellation of five offshore islets on a day trip.
5. Filicudi (p153) Diving in search of sunken Greek and Roman ships off Capo Graziano.
6. Vulcano (p140) Holding your nose and covering your body with sulphurous ooze in the island's other-worldly mud baths.
7. Alicudi (p154) Escaping to this isolated outpost, where fishermen still run the show and donkeys sometimes seem to outnumber tourists.

Tyrrhenian Sea