



SICILY & AEOLIAN ISLANDS 9 Days / 8 Nights

Palermo, Monreale, Cefalù, Catania, Etna, Taormina, Aeolian Islands and more From € 1,945.60

Guaranteed departures on Tuesdays, from April to October, from Palermo

Free Cancellation up to 31 before your arrival

What is included in this Package

- 2-night accommodation in Palermo in a unique 4* hotel category.
- 2-night accommodation in Catania in a unique 4* hotel category.
- 3-night accommodation in Lipari in a unique 4* hotel category.
- 1-night accommodation in Taormina in a unique 4* hotel category.
- Visit of Monreale, Palermo, Cefalù, Historic Center of Catania, Etna.
- Unaccompanied excursion to the Aeolian Islands that includes.
- I group excursion by boat, without a guide, from Lipari to Salina or Volcano.
- 1 group excursion by boat, without a guide, from Panarea to Stromboli.
- Roundtrip ferry to Milazzo / Lipari.
- Local guides or audio guides when necessary.
- All necessary transfers as mentioned in this itinerary.

Not included Package & Optionals

- + Personal expenses or gratuities
- + Tickets to the archaeological sites
- + International tickets
- + Add extra nights in Palermo by clicking on "Customize your Program" or in step 1 of the reservation
- + Click on the <u>FAQ</u>s for more information on hotels and rates



- Entrance fees to the Aeolian Islands.
- ✓ 24/7 Emergency phone line.
- Daily breakfast, 3 lunches & 1 dinner.



Itinerary Sicily & aeolian islands



PALERMO

Upon your arrival in **Palermo**, the capital of Sicily, one of our vehicles will be waiting for you at the airport to transfer you comfortably and quickly to your hotel. The rest of the day will be free to relax and begin enjoying Palermo at your own pace. In the evening, we have included dinner at your hotel. **Greca Tip:** As a culmination of your gastronomic experience, try cannoli, the king of traditional Sicilian desserts.



MONREALE - PALERMO

After a tasty breakfast, you will visit **Monreale**, a beautiful city with its imposing Arab-Norman Cathedral, which is thought to be of Arab origin. The city was built by the Norman King William II, being one of the most beautiful cathedrals in Europe, and its Cloister, square, a masterpiece of 228 columns with different decorations.

The tour continues to **Palermo**, the capital of Sicily, where Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Arabs, Normans, and Spaniards pass through, where gastronomy plays a key role in the daily life of its inhabitants.

It preserves monuments from the Arab-Norman period such as the beautiful Cathedral, a World Heritage Site and also with Nordic and Arab elements in its architecture, the **Chiesa della Martorana**, with Byzantine, Norman, and Baroque elements and a place where some nuns invented "the Martorana fruit. ", some sweets made of almond flour and sugar in the shape of fruits. Also, we will see the **Palatine Chapel**, located inside the Palace of the Normans and one of the best-known churches in Sicily, dedicated to Saint Peter, the first Pope of the Christian church. During the tour, we will make a stop at a historic focacceria to enjoy a pleasant gastronomic surprise.

After our tour, you will have dinner and accommodation in Palermo.

Greca Tip: The wine in Monreale is of great quality, it is an area of extensive vineyards.



PALERMO - CEFALU - CATANIA

After a rich breakfast, you will leave for **Cefalu**, a small and beautiful fishing village, famous for its Norman cathedral, its medieval old town, its archaeological museum, and its gastronomy loaded with seafood.

You will stroll through the charming streets of the center and you will have the possibility of visiting the famous **Mandralisca Museum** that exhibits one of the most beautiful and mysterious portraits of Antonello Da Messina, the portrait of the "Unknown Man", whose enigmatic smile seems to have inspired the Mona Lisa of Leonardo da Vinci.

Then you will continue to **Catania**, a city that was not lucky in terms of the countless invasions in the course of history, but that was able to find a balance in the beauty of its historical center, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Once in Catania, you will walk through the historical center passing through the old fish market in **Plaza Alonso de Benedetto** until reaching the **Plaza del Duomo** with the **Cathedral of Santa Agata**, rebuilt after the earthquake in 1693, and then the fountain with a stone elephant holding an obelisk on his back (symbol of the city).

We will make a stop at a very cozy bar where you will taste the typical sweet granita with brioche.

After this amazing tour, we will have accommodation in Catania. **Greca Tip:** If you like taking panoramic photos, go up to the dome of the Cathedral of Santa Ágata.



CATANIA - ETNA - TAORMINA - CATANIA

After a delicious breakfast, you will make a quick visit to the





historic fish market. Then you will go to visit **Etna**, the highest active volcano in Europe, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. You will arrive at the **Sapienza Refuge** at 1,800 meters of altitude where we will visit the extinguished craters or, "*Crateri Silvestri*". The beauty of this place is based on the fact that for centuries the volcano has created a place where nature, culture, and history have come together to give rise to a unique place in the world.

Then you will visit a beekeeping company, exactly a honey extraction laboratory, you will taste artisan honey and typical products of the area.

At the end you will continue to **Taormina**, to discover the romantic streets of the city or to visit the famous **Greco-Roman Theater**, a typical postcard image of Taormina, we will marvel at its architecture and the panoramic view with Etna in the background.

The theater was built in Hellenistic times and was almost entirely rebuilt in the times of Roman rule when the venue was used for gladiatorial fighting. Currently, the Taormina Film Festival is held here.

The day will end with panoramic views of the splendid Cyclops Riviera.

After the tour has finished, you will return to your hotel in **Catania**.

Greca Tip: Remember to bring a coat with you to avoid getting cold in the Sapienza Refuge.



CATANIA - LIPARI

After a delicious breakfast, you will have free time to enjoy the center of **Catania** at your own pace, a city that was not fortunate in terms of the countless invasions in the course of history, but that was able to find balance in the beauty of its historic center, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Late in the morning, you will be transferred to the port of Milazzo to embark on a ferry to your next destination, the **island of Lipari**, the capital of the Aeolian Islands and the largest and most populated.

After your arrival, you will be transferred to your hotel and the rest of the day is free to discover the surroundings of your accommodation at your own pace. Lipari is famous for its obsidian and pumice quarries and the city is made up of two bays separated by the acropolis, where the cathedral and the castle are located.

In the evening, we have included dinner at your hotel. **Greca Tip:** The scacciata is a jewel of Catania's cuisine that

reflects the authenticity and creativity of the local flavours.

6 LIPARI - SALINA - LIPARI

After a rich breakfast, you will visit the most incredible coves of Lipari and the green island of Salina. After seeing the Castle of Lipari and the bay of Monte Rosa and Canneto, at the port, you will get on a boat to your first stop on the way, Santa Marina di Salina where you will visit the most important town on the island. Then you will go to the eastern side of the island to contemplate the Malvasia crops, the town of Capo Faro, and the town of Malfa. We will stop for a swim in the surprising bay of Pollara, a crater with views of the sea, black sand beaches, and Carmomid mountain by lava, and also famous for the film "The Postman and Pablo Neruda".

Back to Lipari, you will be able to contemplate the beautiful Lipari caves and take a last swim on Vinci beach, opposite the Faraglioni, two rocks located in the southern part of Lipari, between Lipari and Vulcano.

In the afternoon, you will return to your hotel in Lipari to have dinner.

Greca Tip: If you are curious about Pollara, you can visit Neruda's house.



LIPARI - PANAREA - STROMBOLLI - LIPARI

After a delicious breakfast, you will leave for the port of Lipari for a full-day boat trip to **Panarea** and **Stromboli**.

Our first stop, still in Lipari, will be a brief visit to the pumice caves, and then we will continue to the **island of Panarea**, the smallest of the Aeolians, you will visit the **Cave of Lovers** and the ancient prehistoric town (14th century BC.) of **Cabo Milazzese**, which preserves the plant of 23 cabins, most of them oval and paved with stone.

Then you will have free time for lunch (included) and then continue with the boat to the island of Stromboli, the Mediterranean lighthouse, through the small islands that surround it and discover from the sea the town of **Ginostra**, the other town of Stromboli.

You will have free time in Stomboli to walk at your own pace, where you can see its extensive black sand beaches and if you move away from the coast, you can wander in its white streets and enjoy the peace that is breathed on the island.

At the end of the tour, you will return to your hotel in **Lipari**. **Greca Tip:** Ceramics and volcanic foam are also popular

souvenirs that vacationers enjoy purchasing.



LIPARI - TAORMINA

After a pleasant breakfast, you will move to the **port of Lipari** to get on a **ferry** to **Milazzo**, and from there move to **Taormina** and enjoy an unforgettable day off in this city, one of the most beautiful areas of Sicily, where you will walk along the narrow alleys full of jewelers and elegant shops that retain all their medieval fascination or enjoy its gastronomy.

We suggest you visit **Bella Island**, one of the most beautiful beaches, known as the "Pearl of the Mediterranean", a quiet beach protected from currents by a natural bay and the mountains, and one of the best places for snorkeling and diving in Sicily.

You will then check in at your hotel in Taormina and enjoy a lovely dinner.

Tip Greca: You cannot leave Taormina without trying the almond wine.



ARRIVEDERCI TAORMINA!

After a delicious breakfast, we will be transferred to Catania airport.

After spending some fantastic days with Greca, we hope to see you again to enjoy some wonderful moments that will remain forever in your memory.

Have a good trip! Or, as you say: "Buon Viaggio!"

Greca Tip: You can extend your stay by adding more nights at Step 1 of your reservation!



What other travelers say about us

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Excellent Personal Service

I went on a tour of Delphi and Meteora with GRECA VIAJES and my experience was exceptional. The tour took place according to plan, very punctual, our guide Maria was in charge of making the trip very pleasant with her stories and anecdotes about Greece and especially all the information she gave us about the sites themselves, highly recommended.



Ministry of Tourism

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Diego J



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