



FROM MOUNT ETNA TO AMALFI — A LATE-SUMMER SAILING DREAM ALONG THE ITALIAN COAST

This itinerary follows a northbound passage through the central Mediterranean, linking Sicily, the Amalfi Coast, Corsica, and the Tuscan shoreline. Departing Valletta, the route explores Syracuse and Taormina, where ancient Greek foundations meet later Baroque and Norman layers, before tracing the dramatic Amalfi Coast to the historic port of Amalfi. After open-water sailing, the journey reaches Bonifacio, defined by its sheer limestone cliffs and fortified Old Town, then continues to Elba with its mix of vineyards, secluded coves, and Napoleonic history. The voyage concludes on the Italian mainland in Piombino and Livorno, gateways to Tuscany's cultural centres and renowned wine regions.

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ITINERARY

Day 1 Valletta, Malta

This strategically important location has always attracted foreign conquerors. More than 7,000 years ago, a civilisation existed here, leaving behind enormous temple complexes. Just like proud Valletta, these are now UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Jean Parisot de la Valette, Grand Master of the Order of St John, founded a modern fortified city on a rock in 1566, between the two splendid natural ports of Marsamxett and Grand harbor. Long rows of facades made from golden-yellow blocks of chalk stretch along the straight streets. Splendid Renaissance and Baroque buildings are evidence of riches and power, such as

the Palace of the Grand Master and the impressive St John's Co-Cathedral.

Day 2 Syracuse, Sicily

The municipal area of Syracuse boasts relics from cultural history going back more than three millennia. In ancient times, the city was the most powerful in the known world and was famed for its splendour. The island of Ortigia, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was where Syracuse began its rise as an ancient city. The huge cathedral is at the heart of the old town, magnificent palaces line the Piazza and wide promenades invite you to take a stroll. The archaeological park brings Greek and Roman history back to life. Yet Syracuse exudes southern Italian charm, with washing drying outside the windows.

Day 3 Taormina (Naxos), Sicily

Taormina is perched on a rock with a majestic view over the sea. In the 19th century, this small town had already developed into a dream destination for well-heeled travellers and artists. The town's fascination lies in its elegance, the many ancient buildings, the stunningly beautiful coastline, the mild climate, and the view over the silhouette of Etna. Europe's largest volcano is over 9,843 feet high, has four summit craters and around 400 subsidiary craters, and is covered with snow almost all year round. In ancient times it was considered the seat of the gods, but nowadays large sections of it are a nature reserve.

Day 4 Sail along the Amalfi Coast & Amalfi, Italy

The beautifully curving Amalfi Coast, which meanders along the starkly protruding Sorrento peninsula, has been listed as a

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UNESCO world heritage site. In the pretty little town of Amalfi, whose history as an influential maritime republic is still clear to see, a dense labyrinth of pastel-colored houses clings to the rocky coastline. Boasting three naves, the beautiful 10th century cathedral with an enchanting cloister, colorful marble façade, Arabic-Norman campanile and magnificent steps leading to the lively Piazza Duomo is the heart of this small coastal town.

Day 5 Day under full sails

Climbing the rigging, untying ropes, setting sails - today is all about sailing. Time to lean back and relax in the deck chair and watch the passionate crew hoisting the sails by hand.

Day 6 Bonifacio, Corsica

The chalk cliffs are visible even from a long way away and fall away steeply into the sea like a wall - around 70 meters (230 foot) high. Hidden behind them is a fjord-like inlet, which provides the beautiful entrance into the natural harbor of Bonifacio. The elegant modern lower town is set around the harbor with a promenade that runs the length of the deep harbor bay and leads to the elegant marina. More than 187 stone steps, majestically named the "Staircase of the King of Aragon", lead you up to the medieval upper town which sits lofty and impregnable high up on the top of a steep chalk cliff.

Day 7 Day under full sails

Climbing the rigging, untying ropes, setting sails - today is all about sailing. Time to lean back and relax in the deck chair and watch the passionate crew hoisting the sails by hand.

Day 8 Portoferraio, Elba

Although Elba is only a small Tuscan island, you will be surprised by how diverse it is. Imposing cliffs, white sandy beaches, avenues of cypresses, vineyards and olive groves, traditional villages and elegant beach resorts make the place of Napoleon's exile somewhere you would in fact like to be banished for longer. The beautiful old town of Portoferraio with its narrow streets of steps and medieval fortress is set high up on a rocky headland. In the enchanting town of Porto Azzurro, the palm-lined promenades, charming piazzas and small beach are at the center of the town's activities.

Day 9 Piombino, Italy

Piombino, a picturesque town on the Tuscan coast of Italy, is renowned for its rich history and breathtaking scenery. Overlooking the Tyrrhenian Sea, it's a popular destination for visitors seeking the blend of historical charm and natural beauty. The old town, with its narrow streets, historic buildings, and local markets, invites leisurely strolls, while the surrounding beaches and coves are perfect for relaxation and water sports.

Day 10 Livorno, Italy

Livorno, itself a child of the Renaissance, is the gateway to Tuscany - the land of cypresses, the Italian lifestyle, art and architecture. Lucca is a Renaissance masterpiece. Magnificent palaces, richly decorated churches and elegant piazzas where you can see the Italians enjoying the summer - this jewel of a town combines the magnificence of typical Tuscan architecture with small town charm. Siena is one of the most beautiful Italian Gothic cities. Its old quarter, like the medieval towers of the

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world-famous walled town of San Gimignano, is protected by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site.

Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.

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YOUR SHIP: SEA CLOUD SPIRIT

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LENGTH:

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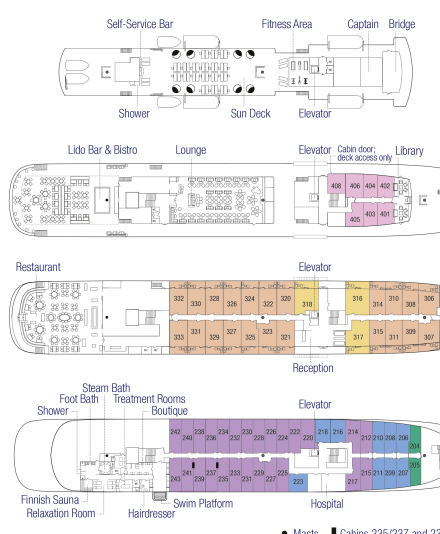
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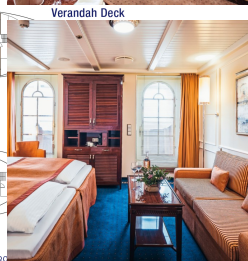
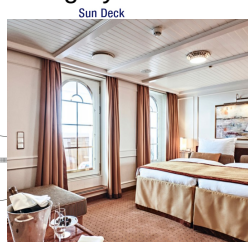
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