

DESTINATION INFORMATION – SICILY & THE AEOLIAN

Famous for its beautiful coastline, active volcanoes, delicious cuisine, wine and fascinating history, Sicily, together with the Aeolian Islands, is an unbeatable charter destination.

COORDINATES	47°30N, 14°00E (Sicily)	
LANGUAGE	Italian	
REGION'S CAPITAL	Palermo	
WEATHER	The climate is Mediterranean with hot dry summers and mild wet winters. Summer temperatures range from 25-32C (77-90F). Normal summer winds are from the NW, occasionally going around the W. There may also be winds from the NE.	
BEST TIME TO CHARTER	June-September	
AIRPORTS	Palermo International Airport (PMO)	
TIME	UTC+1 (winter), UTC+2 (summer)	
CURRENCY	EUR; Visa and MasterCard are accepted in large establishments but smaller shops and restaurants may prefer cash. ATMs are available in all cities and towns.	
ELECTRICITY	220 V, 50 Hz	
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS	1 Jan	New Years Day
	2 Jan	Epiphany
	Mar/Apr	Easter Monday
	25 Apr	Liberation Day
	1 May	Labor Day
	2 Jun	Republic Day
	15 Aug	Assumption
	1 Nov	All Saints' Day
	8 Dec	Immaculate Conception
	25 Dec	Christmas Day
	26 Dec	St Stephen's Day
MAIN PORTS AND MARINAS	Palermo, Messina, Milazzo, Riposto, Giardini Naxos, Lipari, Marina di Portorosa	
RECOMMENDED BEACHES	The volcanic Aeolian Islands are not best known for their beaches. The most popular Aeolian beach is in Lipari-Spiaggia Bianca near Canneto.	
CULTURAL	The social structure in Italy is heavily influenced by the Roman Catholic Church, and family ties are in general stronger than in most Western European countries. Dress is casual but beachwear is confined to the beach. Smoking is prohibited in public buildings, transport and cinemas. Although English, French and German are spoken in bigger cities and tourist areas, it is appreciated to speak a few words of Italian (buon giorno=hello, grazie=thank you, arrivederci=goodbye).	

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