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A land of infinite shades

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### CLIMATE

The northern coast has a mild and temperate climate, with limited seasonal excursions variations. In the east the climate is influenced by the proximity of the continent and the steep interior elevations: there is less wind, it rains more and in winter temperatures are a little lower. In the west, however, the climate is much drier and milder even in the middle of winter, although the winds tend to be stronger and more frequent.

Lipari **82** 

#### WINDS

In summer the prevailing winds come from the west north west but storms are quite rare. The sirocco, which often blows in winter and in the intermediate seasons, can be dangerous although coming from the land. This is because it is accelerated by the contours of the island and it can arrive quickly and with storm force raising a short and confused sea a short distance from shore. The levante winds are typical in winter and almost completely absent in summer. In the western zone between Capo San Vito and Marsala the winds are more often from the west and are generally more intense because of the bottleneck of the Sicilian Channel (the distance between Marsala and Capo Bon in Tunisia is only 77 miles).

#### CURRENTS

Along the north coast the current is rather weak and goes westward, but It has no particular effect on navigation. Tidal currents are substantially absent with the exception of the area just adjacent to Capo Peloro and the Strait of Messina.

#### LANDSCAPE

From Marsala to Trapani the coast is low, uniform and full of lagoons, marshes, salt pans and long beaches. Immediately behind Trapani the land becomes steeper. First we find Mount Erice, on top of which its namesake village is clearly visible, with the Castello di Venere (Castle of Venere); proceeding towards the east, direction Capo San Vito, we find Cofano and Monaco Mountains. To the west of Castellamare, the hills are not very high. As you approach Palermo, the hills become higher and steeper. Monte Pellegrino, just along the coast near Mondello, is typical. The vegetation is scarcer to the west but becomes thicker and greener towards the east. The Madonie Mountains reach their maximum height behind Cefalù, reaching almost 2000 metres. Further east there are the Nebrodi Mountains, also well above 1000 metres. From the Gulf of Tindari to Milazzo,

#### 5\$ DISTANCE BETWEEN THE MAIN PORTS AND MARINAS IN NAUTICAL MILES Marsala - Petrosino Marsala - Trapani 14 8 Marsala - Favignana Trapani - San Vito lo Capo 19 Trapani - Levanzo Centro Storico 7 San Vito lo Capo - Castellammare del Golfo 12 Castellammare del Golfo - Terrasini 12 Terrasini - Isola delle Femmine 11 Isola delle Femmine - Palermo Mondello 6 Palermo Mondello - Palermo La Cala 6 Palermo La Cala - Santa Flavia 10 37 Palermo La Cala - Ustica Cala Santa Maria Santa Flavia - Trabia 5 Trabia - Termini Imerese 6 Termini Imerese - Cefalù 16 Cefalù - Capo d'Orlando 36 Cefalù - Filicudi Porto 40 17 Capo d'Orlando - Furnari Portorosa Capo d'Orlando - Santa Marina Salina 25 15 Furnari Portorosa - Milazzo Furnari Portorosa - Lipari - Porto Pignataro 23 Milazzo - Messina 29 Milazzo - Vulcano Porto Levante 21

Ustica

# SICILY FROM CAPO D'ORLANDO **TO MILAZZO**

Salina

SOUTHERN TYRRHENIAN SEA EAST SIDE

Alicudi

Filicudi

( )



AEOLIAN

**ISLANDS** 

Panare

Basiluzzo





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The landscape of Stromboli, a land which film directors and writers treasure, as well as travellers of yesterday and today, has a magical quality that can be sensed in the way in which the inhabitants call its volcano: "Iddu", "He". This conveys a reverential awe towards a divine force, whose beauty however, can be fully enjoyed today, because the island can be approached in safety. During both the day and the night Stromboli conveys primordial emotions that evoke the succession of the seasons: by day, the broom's scent of spring is combined with the summer colours of the bougainvillea, hibiscus and fig, whereas by night the invincible force of the lava flow reaches its maximum glory and attenuates the harshness of autumn and of winter. When night comes, it



draws Stromboli into an almost cosmic dimension, favoured by the absence of night-time lighting in the streets - a choice that preserves the island from light pollution. But when day returns, one discovers that the other side of this energy is an ancestral peace, a way to live far away from the frenetic rhythms of life on the continent. To experience this, allow yourself a walk through the villages of the island, and linger on the details that evoke this simplicity, which it is hard to find elsewhere - from the geckos climbing the walls of the white and blue houses of San Vincenzo to the mules, still used today as transport along the alleys of Ginostra. Then, enjoy the local variations of the Aeolian cuisine such as the spaghetti alla Strombolana (with capers, tomatoes, olives, anchovies and chili pepper) or the sesame cookies to dip in the classic Aeolian Malvasia wine. And towards the evening reach the places where Stromboli offers the deepest shelter: moment by moment, the ancient magic of the Grotta di Eolo cave and of the beaches of Scari, Punta Lena and Ficogrande will share with you their vertiginous peace.

Stefano Aicardi

STROMBOLI



the chapter of Thus spoke Zarathustra (1881-

1885) titled 'On the Great Events', would

## **CURIOSITIES**

refer to the island and to the volcano as The rugged volcanic landscape of Strom- the "door" and the "path" leading straight boli has been many times the source of to hell. As for cinema, we must mention inspiration of renowned literary and ci- the classic of Neorealism Stromboli (Land of nematographic works. In the final part of God), shot here by Roberto Rossellini in the novel Journey to the centre of the Earth by 1949, as well as Islands of Fire by Vittorio Jules Verne (1864), the main characters, De Seta (awarded in 1955 in Cannes as halted by a landslide, try to open their best documentary), and the more recent way with an explosion, which neverthe- Dear Diary by Nanni Moretti (1993), with less throws them onto the slopes of the the episode titled The Islands and filmed Stromboli volcano. According to some between Lipari, Salina, Stromboli, Panainterpretations, Friedrich Nietzsche, in rea and Alicudi.



# **O**N BOARD

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### **E**VENTS

In recent years, summer in Stromboli has offered two much admired theatre events. The Feast of Fire, started in 2008, is held in the Parco Parco garden, at the foot of the Stromboli volcano. The feast, which has taken place every two years since 2014, celebrates the natural element and symbol of the island over the course of ten days with theatre workshops, dance performances, and circus shows as well as street art and juggling workshops. Conversely, the trait d'union of the theatre and music shows of the Feast of Eco Logic Theatre is the replacement of electricity with natural lighting and amplification - that the powerful landscape of Stromboli guarantees both during the day and by night.

# **T**HINGS to SEE

The main port is that of Punta Scari, located on the east side of the island and dividing the homonymous beach into two areas. From the pier you can easilv reach the district of San Vincenzo towards the NW, offering several points of interest. From the terrace of the chur-

ch of San Vincenzo you can admire Strombolicchio, the volcanic rock located 1.5 km away, to the north-east of gia Lunga are more crowded shores the island. In San Vincenzo there is also a prehistoric village with the remains of Neolithic and Bronze age settlements. **boli**, inaugurated in 2009, preserves the the tradition, Aeolus kept the wineskin memory of the successful films shot in the Aeolian Islands and of less known yet not less important - works, such as the reportages that Panaria Film created underwater filming. The production of stern side, dominated by the Stromboli Stromboli (Terra di Dio) is also linked to Panaria Film; this film is remembered with a plaque in the house on Via Vitto- a series of panoramic and protected pario Emanuele, which hosted Ingrid Berg- ths starting from the square of the aforeman during filming, in the spring of 1949. mentioned church of San Vincenzo and On the northern side of the island are the most popular beaches and bays of Stromboli. If you continue in this direction from mandatory above 400 m) and excursions

# **H**ISTORY

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

Greek mythology describes the Stromboli volcano as the place from which Aeolus could sense the way of the winds, a gift that allowed him to become a god, mortal Homer, the meeting between Aeolus and Odysseus took place in Stromboli, during tion created by the raids of the Turkish which the hero was given the bottle con- pirates (culminating in the destruction taining the winds necessary for his long of Lipari in 1544). In the eighteenth and return to Ithaca. The geological origins of nineteenth centuries mariners assumed Stromboli go back 150,000 - 200,000 ye- great importance in Stromboli, allowing ars ago with the emergence from the sea of the volcanic cone whose duct is today known as Strombolicchio (1.5 km NE of the island) and the current Stromboli vol- the 20th century was marked by a series cano. The island was populated from the Neolithic period: the first evidence of human presence in Stromboli is connected to the prehistoric village of San Vincenzo, discovered in 1980 and located in the ea- ber 1930. These events forced the exodus stern part of the island, where most of the of a large part of the population, and also population and agricultural activities con- heralded the modernisation of the fleet



Curated by Cristiano Vania, Marco Di Grazia, Marco Sbrizzi, Stefano Aicardi, Giulia Borin | 777



granite. The equipped lido of Ficogranlava and incandescent flow of lapilli that descends the slope of the volcano to the de, the Beach of Piscità and Spiagsea. If you continue to the south-west exoffering crystal-clear blue water and a tremity of Stromboli you will reach the mixture of gravel, volcanic pebbles and hamlet of Ginostra, only accessible by black sand. Do not miss the cave Grotta sea. Its seaport, called Pertuso, before The Museum of Cinema of Strom- di Eolo, so called because according to a recent extension was considered the smallest harbour in the world. As in the whole Stromboli, in this area it is only of winds here. Moreover, in the north of Stromboli, in the district of San Bartolo, possible to move by foot, by three-whestands the 19th century church of San mopeds. The area of Ginostra displays Bartolomeo. Once at the extreme norfrom 1946 with pioneering techniques of th-west tip, you can start coasting the ea- two more very beautiful beaches: the Piscinette of Stromboli, with stretches volcano, towards the south. The peak of sea of extremely clear water, and the of the volcano can be reached through rocks and much appreciated by scuba diving lovers because of the presence of underwater arches. If you continue the from the **Piscità** district. Day and night itinerary and come back to the western time climbing (the presence of a guide is side you will find the Punta dell'Omo, a fine destination for diving and snorkelthe port. vou will reach Punta Lena, a by motor vessel will allow you to admire ling, and the beach of Forgia Vecchia, small and silent shore with a soil of grey the spectacular Sciara del Fuoco, the about 300 m away from the port.

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

of the Aeolian Islands, with the presence subsequent strong Phoenician and Etruscan influences. It was the Greeks who it Strongyle ("the circle"). In Stromboli the terraces and the cultivation of vines, figs though he was. Furthermore, according to and olives were mostly undertaken by the inhabitants of Lipari, despite the disrupa general improvement in the economic conditions of the island and an increase in its population. Sadly, the first half of of natural disasters such as the blight epidemic which in the 1930s decimated the local vineyards, and the two volcanic eruptions of 22 May 1919 and 11 Septemtinued into later periods. Stromboli fol- of sailing vessels, supplanting them with lowed the path of historical development steam navigation. As was the case for the

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . other Aeolian Islands, cinema gave vitaliof Italic peoples like the Ausonians and of ty to Stromboli, whose scenery was featured from the 1950s as a film and television set. The tourist and cultural development gave the island its current name, calling of Stromboli was also enhanced by the creation of the Oriented/Integral Nature Reserve of Stromboli and Strombolicchio, established in 1997.

eler van or renting electric minicars and

Secche di Lazzaro, formed by large

## Ноw то **GETAROUND**

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STROMBOL