



Naples - Sardinia / Corsica


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Naples

Many Italy yacht charters begin in Naples, a city with a distinct energy - chaotic yet charming, cluttered yet beautiful. Rather daunting to the virgin eye, Naples has a way of shedding your inhibitions to present a proud and colourful culture with an alluring hospitality. Naples is the yacht hub of southern Italy and the gateway to Capri and the Amalfi Coast.

Across sparkling blue seas the brooding slopes of Mount Vesuvius make for an impressive backdrop. On top of that, honey-coloured cliffs drop sheer into the sea and vineyards shimmer with the promise of the crisp wine to come. Lemon trees loaded with blossom give off the sweet scent of summer and oleanders and bougainvillea colour the landscape like an impressionist's palette.

One of the main objects of admiration in Naples is the state-of-the-art theatre, 'The San Carlo'. Described as a place which 'dazzles the eyes and enraptures the soul', the Teatro San Carlo upholds the cultural feeling throughout the city.



Capri

Capri, an island in Italy's Gulf of Naples, is famed for its rugged landscape, upscale beach resorts and high-end shops selling handmade leather sandals and signature limoncello liqueur. Some of the main features of the island include the following: the Marina Piccola (the little harbour), the Belvedere of Tragara (a high panoramic promenade lined with villas), the limestone crags called sea stacks that project above the sea (the Faraglioni), the town of Anacapri, the Blue Grotto (Grotta Azzurra), and the ruins of the Imperial Roman villas.

Capri is part of the region of Campania, Province of Naples. The town of Capri is the island's main population centre. The island has two harbours, Marina Piccola and Marina Grande (the main port of the island). The separate comune of Anacapri is located high on the hills to the west.



Port Ercole

This pretty seaside resort is one of the most famous in Tuscany and is one of the two main towns on Argentario.

The fortresses of La Rocca, Filippo, Santa Carolina and Stella dominate the hillside above the perfect little natural harbour and are reminders of more belligerent times when the town was controlled by the Spanish in the 16th century. Now that Porto Ercole is a place more associated with pleasure, good food, boats and relaxation (the renowned Pellicano hotel is just outside the town), the profusion of these fortifications takes one by surprise but adds another interesting angle to this incredibly picturesque little port.

The historic centre of Porto Ercole can be reached through the Porta of Sienese origin surmounted by a clock tower on which one can read the plate commemorating the great painter Michelangelo Merisi – “Caravaggio” – who died in Porto Ercole in 1610.



Corsica

Nestled on the western side of the luminous Mediterranean, Corsica is ablaze with year-round sunshine, opulent silver-sand beaches and spectacular mountain scenery. A rugged mountain range spans almost two thirds of this majestic island, creating a backdrop of sheer natural beauty that is breathtaking to behold. Described by Balzac as ‘a French island basking in the Italian sun’, the vibrant allure of both French and Italian culture resonate throughout the island.

Porto-Vecchio is a port town on the French island of Corsica. The walls of a 16th-century Genoese citadel are the backdrop to the old town and offer views over the yacht-filled marina. Shops, bars and restaurants line the town’s narrow streets and main square, Place de la République. Nearby, renowned beaches include Palombaggia, its stretch of sand lined with pine trees, and lagoon-like Santa Giulia.

Bonifacio is a town on the southern tip of the French island of Corsica. It’s known for its lively marina and medieval clifftop citadel. The 13th-century Bastion de l’Etendard houses a small museum with exhibits on the town’s history. L’Escalier du Roi d’Aragon is 187 ancient steps carved into the cliff face.



Sardinia

Sitting off Italy's celebrated west coast, the sublime island of Sardinia is a complex patchwork of Franco-Italian culture. With a pearly coastline perfect for soaking up the sultry Mediterranean sun and crystalline water of the deepest blue where every inch of healthy reef is infused with the dream-like beauty of thriving coral beds and diverse marine life.

Sardinia is the second largest island in the Mediterranean: approximately 250 kilometres from north to south and 110 kilometres from east to west, the stunning landscape is incredibly varied, from white sandy beaches along the coast to mountainous terrain at the island's centre.

The dramatic areas deep within the island such as Cagliari in the south or the old coastal towns like Alghero, all enjoy a rich heritage with a varied array of architecture and cultural traditions. Sardinia is also surrounded by a small number of boutique islands, the gem among them being the gorgeous Costa Smeralda. The best way to appreciate the beauty of the Sardinia and its host of islands, Costa Smeralda in particular, is from the sea. Famous the world over, the beaches of Sardinia are truly something that must be seen to be believed. Explore the coastline and outlying islands and find your own private cove to swim and sunbath.

Scuba diving in the warm water of the Mediterranean is definitely the way to go: Sardinia's clear water offers great visibility for the novice diver as well as the seasoned professional. With crystal-blue waters and diamond-white sands that stretch for miles, Sardinia is a bastion of intense beauty among some of the more rugged Mediterranean islands.

Anchor in one of Sardinia's glorious bays and be captivated by the beauty of the breath-taking landscape, crystalline waters, pearly beaches and vibrant towns of Sardinia offering culture, history and a wealth of gastronomic delights.

The Maddalena Archipelago has been declared National Park in 1994 and is one of the most beautiful and unspoilt parts of Sardinia.



Itinerary

Day 1 - Naples

- Embark in Naples
- Depart for Capri
- Dinner anchored on board, anchored off or visit one of the many fabulous restaurants in Capri, such as Lido del Faro <https://www.lidofaro.com/en/restaurant> .
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Day 2 - Capri

- Day relaxing on water and exploring Capri
- Visit the Blue Grotto caves <https://www.capri.com/en/s/la-grotta-azzurra>
- Head to Anacapri and start your day on the top of the world or another gorgeous place to get sweeping views of Capri is Villa San Michele and explore their beautiful gardens.
- Lunch ashore at either La Grottelle <https://www.capri.com/en/c/le-grottelle> or Lo Zodiaco <https://www.lozodiacocapri.com/en/index>.
- Evening / overnight coastal cruise during dinner to Porto Ercole

Day 3 - Porto Ercole

- Enjoy a morning hike, exploring several of the different Forte on the islands.
- Enjoy a relaxing lunch at Il Pellicano <https://www.hotellipellicano.com/en/dining/pellicano-restaurant.html>
- Take an late afternoon / early evening cruise to Orbetello where most nights you can witness pretty spectacular and colorful sunsets! Cruise to Elba abchorage.
- Dinner on board

Day 4 - Porto Vecchio, Corsica

- Partake in some early morning snorkelling, making the most of the rich seabeds which house lots of different species of fish.
- Cruise to Corsica (circa 2 hours) to arrive at anchorage for lunch.
- Visit Porto Vecchio and explore the shops and hidden boutiques in the winding streets or for the more adventurous, take a trip into the mountains and visit stunning mountain villages such as Zonza and Levie. Along the way, you'll pass quad biking opportunities, l'Ospedale Lake and some beautiful spots to try out a little bit of reasonably easy hiking.
- Have dinner ashore at Le Belvedere <http://www.hbcorsica.com>

Day 5- Bonifacio, Corsica

- Start your morning with a stroll around the natural harbour.
- Explore the the citadel and historic old town of Bonifacio where you can see the famous 'grain of sand' rock in the sea just off the coast from here.
- Lunch at The Casadelmar <https://www.casadelmar.fr/en/>
- Enjoy an afternoon playing with toys and relaxing on board.
- Dinner on board. Overnight to La Maddalena islands or sunset cruise.

Day 6 - La Maddalena Islands & Porto Cervo

- Explore one of the most beautiful and unspoilt parts of Sardinia, with its beautiful clear and transparent sea. Enjoy some snorkelling or find a quite bay and anchor off to enjoy the yacht's toys.
- Late lunch at Phi Beach Club <https://www.phibeach.com>
- Cruise around to Porto Cervo where you can indulge in a spot of early evening shopping and enjoy the good nightlife and Porto Cervo's glitzy club culture.

Day 7 - Porto Cervo

- Enjoy a relaxing morning on board or visit more of the impressive boutiques that are renowned worldwide.
- Disembark the yacht

Other places to consider enroute

Positano

One of the glittering Mediterranean's most picturesque towns, Positano enjoys a notoriety that few coastal resorts can match. Vibrant bungalows draped in flowering vines cling in multiple tiers to the nearly vertical rock face that rises from the gleaming turquoise waters. A true bijou seaside resort, the glorious beauty of Positano is breathtaking. Serene and unpolished, this plush jewel of the Amalfi Coast is the quintessence of a picturesque coastal village: unassuming, vital and vibrant.

Home to 'Moda Positano', a style of fashion created in the fifties that symbolized freedom from the rigid dress codes of the day, Positano remains a home for artists and free-thinkers of all kinds. Famous for its skilled cobblers, innovative artist ateliers and charming boutiques, this is an intrepid shopper's paradise.

Known as the 'town of stairways', Positano can be approached from above or below: both are stunning. From above, numerous groves of lemons and oranges mingle with the ambrosial scent of flowering scrub and the majestic silver-green shimmer of prolific olive groves.

This lush vista tumbles down to the sea where it meets with pearly sands and the gentle lapping of turquoise waters. Approaching the city from below, a radiant wall of buildings, stacked like vividly wrapped presents, looms high above you flashing pink, peach and ivory in the sultry Mediterranean heat.

Floating tranquilly floating off Positano's colourful shores lays the Li Galli archipelago of Gallo Lungo, Rotunda and Castelluccio. This trio of verdant, secluded islands were once thought to be the ancient home of the Sirens, and are perfect for exploratory plunges into this regions rich history.

Visit the Ancient Town, the "Civic Tower", the old churches and the Grotta di Smeralda; an underground sea cave near the village of Conca dei Marini. Time for watersports and dining onboard under the stars. Visit Positano's art galleries. Visit Santa Maria Church.

Restaurants

Eden Roc <https://edenroc.it>

Il San Pietro di Positano <http://www.ilsanpietro.it/en/restaurants-hotel-positano.php>



Ischia

Amongst the yachting hotspots of the Italian West Coast lies the volcanic island of Ischia, one of Europe's most renowned spa centers. Blessed with a host of thermal springs that offer nature's most luxurious indulgence and paired with soft sandy beaches and the bluest of blue seas.

Ischia is the main town on the island, situated on the north-east coast and offering the two distinct settlements of Ischia Ponte and Ischia Porto. Ischia Porto is home to the island's main port and thus hums with a lively atmosphere that saturates the many bars and restaurants alongside the harbour both day and night. The port makes an excellent base for those looking to explore the area for the beaches and bays of Ischia itself and the picturesque nearby islands such as Procida.

Ischia Ponte is only a short trip away and welcomes visitors to its charming seaside town with the attractive sight of Castello Aragonese (Aragon Castle) looming in the background.

Restaurants

Dortas <https://www.dortas.it/it/il-ristorante>

Ristorante il Monastero <https://www.albergoilmonastero.it>



Elba

Elba is the biggest island of the Tuscan Archipelago and the third largest in Italy after Sardinia and Sicily. Together with eight other islands, including Giglio, Giannutri and Montecristo, it is part of the National Park of the Tuscan Archipelago, the largest marine park in Europe.

What really makes Elba famous and renowned are its clear and blue sea and beautiful beaches. The extraordinary richness of its landscapes, both land and marine, turns the island of Elba into a unique destination in Tuscany.

In addition, Elba is the perfect place for outdoor sports and activities. Among the most appreciated sports, there is diving and snorkeling in Elba, thanks to its rich seabeds housing lots of different species of fish. But outdoors lovers can also enjoy spending time on land hiking and mountain biking, enjoying a round of golf, a day of sailing or enjoying days of complete relaxation at the thermal baths of San Giovanni.





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