

20 June 2013, Thursday – EXCURSION

STROMBOLI ISLAND (AEOLIAN VOLCANIC ARCHIPELAGO, TYRRHENIAN SEA) AND PIZZO CALABRO

Description:

The excursion will start from the venue of the conference (Eurolido Hotel) at 08:30 AM; by Bus we will reach Vibo Valentia on the Tyrrhenian Sea for taking our reserved boat (a modern hydrofoil) to Stromboli island (about two hours of navigation from Vibo Valentia, most part along the west coast of Calabria to watch from the boat amazing landscapes and sunny beaches).

Stromboli, which belongs to the Aeolian archipelago, contains one of the three active volcanoes in Italy. This name is derived from the Ancient Greek name Strongulē which was given to it because of its round swelling form. The island's population is between 400 and 850. The volcano has erupted many times, and is constantly active with minor eruptions, often visible from many points on the island and from the surrounding sea, giving rise to the island's nickname "Lighthouse of the Mediterranean". Stromboli stands 926 m (3,034 ft) above sea level, but actually rises over 2,000 m (6,500 ft) above the sea floor. There are three active craters at the peak. A significant geological feature of the volcano is the Sciara del Fuoco ("Stream of fire"), a big horseshoe-shaped depression generated in the last 13,000 years by several collapses on the northwestern side of the cone. Two kilometres to the northeast lies Strombolicchio, the volcanic plug remnant of the original volcano.

Our visit at Stromboli will give us the possibility to visit the island and its beautiful landscape, to take a bath in the warm and clear Tyrrhenian Sea, to taste the typical Aeolian cuisine (Eurolido will provide each hotel guest with a packed lunch; access to bars and restaurants are not included and are to be paid individually).

At 15:30 we will take our boat for returning back to Vibo Valentia, then by Bus we will reach Pizzo Calabro, a lovely and historical small town (Joachim Murat, King of Naples from 1808 to 1815, was killed by firing squad at the Castello di Pizzo) where it will be possible to eat the famous "Tartufo di Pizzo", a typical chocolate ice-cream.

Finally, we will come back to the Hotel at 20:00.

Synthetic program

08:30: Let's start! Taking the Bus at Hotel Eurolido.

09:30: Arrival at Vibo Valentia harbour and taking our reserved Boat to Stromboli island.

11:30: Arrival at Stromboli.

11:40: Island guided tour.

13:00: Packed lunch.

After lunch and till 15:15: Free time to spend at Stromboli.

15:30: Taking our Boat to Vibo Valentia.

17:30: Arrival at Vibo Valentia and taking the Bus to Pizzo Calabro.

20:00: arrival at the Hotel (Eurolido).