

MOUNT ETNA or MONGIBELLO

Sicilian: Mungibeddu is an active stratovolcano on the east coast of Sicily, in the Metropolitan City of Catania, between the cities of Messina and Catania. It lies above the convergent plate margin between the African Plate and the Eurasian Plate. It is the tallest active volcano in Europe, currently 3,329 m (10,922 ft) high, though this varies with summit eruptions. It is the highest peak in Italy south of the Alps. Etna covers an area of 1,190 km² (459 sq mi) with a basal circumference of 140 km. This makes it by far the largest of the three active volcanoes in Italy, being about two and a half times the height of the next largest, Mount Vesuvius. Mount Etna is one of the most active volcanoes in the world and is in an almost constant state of activity.

The fertile volcanic soils support extensive agriculture, with vineyards and orchards spread across the lower slopes of the mountain and the broad Plain of Catania to the south. Due to its history of recent activity and nearby population, Mount Etna has been designated a Decade Volcano by the United Nations. In June 2013, it was added to the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.



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3 DAYS / 2 NIGHTS**1st Day: ETNA (Di Schiena dell'Asino - Bove Valley)**

At 10.00 AM meeting with the guide at "Residence Serra la Nave" and visit of "Di Schiena dell'Asino". The "Schiena dell'asino" is the easiest of all the paths to walk through to admire the spectacular Bove Valley. The entrance leads us into a pine forest with rocky soil. This is the most difficult section of the path, with a slope that in some points is greater than 10 degrees. Coming out from the forest the soil becomes a well worn trail and the slope becomes less severe. The path continues through the valley, in front of you is the Ionian Sea. Carrying on this trail you arrive on the edge of the valley. This is one of the most accessible points to reach for whoever wants to closely observe the Etna eruptions that flow in the valley. The trail is suitable to everyone and particular equipment is not required. The path is accessible in all seasons, unless snow is present. We continue to visit the Bove Valley where you can observe the "dicchi magmatici", this is magma that infiltrated the soil which when it collapses leaves towers of solid lava behind. Picnic lunch during the excursion. Return trip to Residence Serra la Nave and/or Rifugio Ariel. Accommodation. Dinner and overnight.

2nd Day: ETNA (Summit Craters)

activity where there is a persistent fumaroles activity, are the site of explosive events of various types as: strombolian activities, fountains of lava, phreatic activities that continually change the morphology of the volcano. Picnic lunch during the excursion. Return trip to Residence Serra la Nave and/or Rifugio Ariel. Accommodation. Dinner and overnight.

3rd Day: Etna (Grotta degli Archi)

Breakfast. At 09.00 meeting with the guide and excursion to "Grotta degli Archi" which on the south-west side of Mount Etna. It can be easily reached walking on the first part of the pista altomontana starting from the Ariel refuge. After 3 km we leave the wood, walking for a while on the magma desert until we find some small "stone towers" on the right. Turn right, following those towers, until you find a track which cross the magma, leading to the last section of the cave. The cave has two different levels: the upper one, made of some magma arches over a huge magma flowing channel. Picnic lunch during the excursion. In the afternoon we return to Residence Serra la Nave and/or Rifugio Ariel and the end of our services.

€ 350,00 Price per person, min. 4 person.**The price includes:**

Accommodation in double room with private services
Breakfast and dinner at the hotel (drinks excluded)
Guide services for all excursions
Private transport during the excursions - N.3 picnic lunches

The price does not include:

Transfers in/out - Drinks

6 DAYS / 5 NIGHTS**1st Day: ETNA (Di Schiena dell'Asino - Bove Valley)**

Look at the previous page.

2nd Day: ETNA (Summit Craters)

Look at the previous page.

3rd Day: Etna (Grotta degli Archi)

Look at the previous page.

4th Day: Etna (Bosco Ragabo)

Breakfast. At 11.00 meeting with with the guide at the "Circumetnea Station" in Linguaglossa. Trekking through "Trainara Path". Picnic lunch. We continue our trekking through the "Ragabo" Forest. Arrival at rifugio "Brunek" in the late afternoon. Accommodation. Diner and overnight.

5th Day: Etna (Monti Sartorius)

Breakfast. At 08.00 meeting with with the guide and transfer to "Monti Sartorius". Visit and trekking through Seracozza path., Seracozza Cave and Bove valley at 2200/2400 mt. Picnic lunch. In the afternoon trip towards Rifugio Citelli and transfer to to rifugio Brunek. Dinner and overnight.

6th Day: Etna (La Grotta del Gelo)

Breakfast. At 08.30 trekking towards the cave named "La Grotta del Gelo", literally translated as "The Ice Cave". It is undoubtedly the most famous on Etna. It is a cave of lavic origin situated on the northern slope of the volcano, at an altitude of about 2100 metres. The main characteristic of this cave is that it is the only one on Etna where you can find ice all year round. For this reason, it is regarded as the most southern glacier in Europe. The best period to go visit it is surely in late Spring, because that's when the outer snow melts and allows access to the cave. Once inside, you can admire the marvellous ice-sculptures, and since the floor of the cave is totally covered in ice, it is advisable that you use hooks. Picnic lunch. In the afternoon trekking towards Grotta dei Lamponi, literally "the raspberry cave" (the name is due to the fact that there are a few raspberry bushes at the entrance of the cave). It's a classic cave of lavic origin, that formed when the outer walls of the lava flows cooled down (till May/June) or transfer to Piano Provenzano and trekking towards the craters of 2002, Monte Nero and Timpa rossa. Picnic lunch. At the end of the visit transfer back to the Circumetnea station in Linguaglossa. The end of our services.

€ 690,00 Price per person, min. 4 person.**The price includes:**

3 nights accommodation at Residence Serra la Nave or Rifugio Ariel in double room with private services - 2 nights accommodation at Rifugio Brunek in double room with private services. - Breakfast and dinner at the hotel (drinks excluded) - Guide services for all excursions - Private transport during the excursions - N.3 picnic lunches.

The price does not include: Transfers in/out - Drinks

3 DAYS / 2 NIGHTS**1st Day: ETNA (Trainara - Ragabo)**

At 11.00 meeting with with the guide at the "Circumetnea Station" in Linguaglossa. Trekking through "Trainara Path". Picnic lunch. We continue our trekking through the "Ragabo Forest". Arrival at rifugio Brunek in the late afternoon. Accommodation. Diner and overnight.

2nd Day: ETNA (Summit Craters)

Breakfast and transfer to Piano Provenzano. At 08.30 meeting with the guide and trekking to the summit craters that represent the area of the volcanic activity where there is a persistent fumaroles activity, are the site of explosive events of various types as: strombolian activities, fountains of lava, phreatic activities that continually change the morphology of the volcano. Picnic lunch during the excursion. Transfer back to rifugio "Brunek" Dinner and overnight.

3rd Day: Etna (Grotte del Gelo - Grotta dei Lamponi)

Breakfast. At 08.30 trekking towards the cave named "La Grotta del Gelo", literally translated as "The Ice Cave". It is undoubtedly the most famous on Etna. It is a cave of lavic origin situated on the northern slope of the volcano, at an altitude of about 2100 metres. The main characteristic of this cave is that it is the only one on Etna where you can find ice all year round. For this reason, it is regarded as the most southern glacier in Europe. The best period to go visit it is surely in late Spring, because that's when the outer snow melts and allows access to the cave. Once inside, you can admire the marvellous ice-sculptures, and since the floor of the cave is totally covered in ice, it is advisable that you use hooks.

Picnic lunch. In the afternoon trekking towards Grotta dei Lamponi, literally "the raspberry cave" (the name is due to the fact that there are a few raspberry bushes at the entrance of the cave). It's a classic cave of lavic origin, that formed when the outer walls of the lava flows cooled down. After the visit, transfer back to the Circumetnea station in Linguaglossa. The end of our services.

€ 350,00 Price per person, min. 4 person.**The price includes:**

Accommodation at rifugio "Brunek" in double room with private services
Breakfast and dinner at the hotel (drinks excluded)
Guide services for all excursions
Private transport during the excursions - N.3 picnic lunches

The price does not include:

Transfers in/out - Drinks