

Nettuno to Ponza

Out to sea south-east to Ponza, the largest of the Pontine Islands: volcanic cliffs, white tuff bays and a harbour town of painted houses.

DATE	Monday 21 June 2027
DISTANCE	38.0 nm, 4 legs
TIME	6 h 37 min
DEPART	09:00 CEST from Nettuno. Mid-morning, after the rest day at Nettuno.
ARRIVE	About 15:37 CEST at Ponza. In the mid-afternoon, with about 5 hours 5 minutes of daylight in hand (sunset 20:43 CEST).
TIDES	Range about 0.2 m: no practical effect
WIND	Sea breezes; a scirocco or libeccio sends a swell into Ponza harbour
BOAT	35 to 38 ft sailing yacht, 1.9 m draught, 6 kn under sail, 5.5 kn under engine
CREW	Skipper and 3 crew, 2 watches of 2



Track and waypoints 1 to 3, with ports of refuge as squares.

Go or no-go

Decide at 08:00 CEST. Go only if all of these hold:

- ☐ No wind above force 5, and none from the south-east, which Ponza harbour faces.
- ☐ Ponza berth or mooring confirmed, and the stationing ticket bought.
- ☐ Visibility 3 nm or more: an open crossing with ferries.

If the weather is wrong, stay at Nettuno. San Felice Circeo is the mainland alternative.

Route and waypoints

Waypoints are planning positions in open water, checked against a 1:10m coastline to be at least 1.5 nm off land except at the harbour ends. Distances and courses are calculated from them. Plot every one on the current chart before use. Courses are true.

#	WAYPOINT	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	COURSE	LEG NM	TOTAL NM	ETA	NOTES
0	Marina di Nettuno	41°27.3'N	012°39.6'E				09:00 CEST	Depart.
1	Nettuno approach	41°26.5'N	012°40.0'E	159°T	0.9	0.9	09:13 CEST	Out to the south.
2	Between Ponza and Zannone	40°57.0'N	013°00.0'E	153°T	33.1	34.0	14:44 CEST	Into the channel north of Zannone is part of the
3	Ponza approach	40°53.8'N	012°58.8'E	196°T	3.3	37.3	15:24 CEST	East of the harbour. CHECK ON THE CHART
4	Porto di Ponza	40°53.6'N	012°58.0'E	252°T	0.6	38.0	15:37 CEST	Town harbour and moorings approximate. CHECK ON THE CHART

Tides and time

NETTUNO · MON 21 JUN · CEST (UTC+2)

LW	05:13	0.1 m
HW	11:01	0.2 m
LW	17:04	-0.0 m
HW	23:57	0.3 m

From the Anzio station.

PONZA · MON 21 JUN · CEST (UTC+2)

LW	05:17	0.1 m
HW	11:02	0.2 m
LW	17:06	0.0 m

Monday 21 June 2027. **Tides.** The range here is 0.1 to 0.3 m: tides make no practical difference. Wind and air pressure move the sea level more than the tide does.

Tide times are predictions made for this plan from the TICON-4 harmonic constants (DGFI-TUM) with the Neaps tide predictor, because the official 2027 tables were not yet published when it was written. Tested against the official APDL table for Leixões on 23 July 2026, the

predicted times were within 8 minutes and the heights 0.1 to 0.2 m lower. Heights are above lowest astronomical tide. Check every time against the official 2027 table before sailing.

Daylight. Sunrise at Nettuno 05:36 CEST. Sunset at Ponza 20:43 CEST.

Weather

- **Open sea.** 30 nm with no shelter.
- **Ponza harbour** faces east and south-east; in a scirocco boats move to Cala Feola or Frontone on the other side, depending on the wind.

FORECASTS TO CHECK

- Italian forecasts: Aeronautica Militare Meteomar and gale warnings (avviso di burrasca), meteoam.it. Forecast area Tirreno centrale, then Tirreno meridionale. Zone names and issue times: [CHECK THE PILOT BOOK](#)
- NAVTEX Roma: 518 kHz, station R. Cagliari: station T. Augusta: station V, further south. Check the times on the receiver.
- Italian coast radio VHF weather broadcasts: [CHECK THE PILOT BOOK](#)

Hazards

- **Ponza stationing ticket.** The Ponza harbour office's summer ordinance (no. 74/2026, article 10) requires a ticket to stop, anchor or moor off the islands of Ponza, Palmarola and Zannone. The 2027 ordinance was not yet published. Buy the ticket before arrival and carry it. Chiaia di Luna is closed by land and by sea.
- **Zannone.** Part of the Circeo National Park. Anchoring and landing rules could not be checked. [CHECK ON THE CHART](#)
- **Ferries and hydrofoils** from Anzio, Formia and Terracina into Ponza harbour.
- **Rockfall.** The tuff cliffs of Ponza shed rock: keep clear of the cliff foot when swimming or anchoring.

Ports of refuge

PORT	FROM THE ROUTE	USE IT WHEN	NOTES
Nettuno	Start	Within the first hour	Marina.
San Felice Circeo	12 nm north of waypoint 2	Weather turns	CHECK THE PILOT BOOK

PORT	FROM THE ROUTE	USE IT WHEN	NOTES
Ponza	Destination	First choice	Town harbour and moorings. CHECK THE PILOT BOOK

Pilotage

LEAVING NETTUNO

1. Leave the marina and head south-east for the gap between Ponza and Zannone.

ENTERING PONZA HARBOUR

1. From the gap, head south-west to the harbour, watching for ferries.
2. Call the harbour or the mooring operator before arrival. VHF and phone:

[CHECK THE PILOT BOOK](#)

LIGHTS ON THE WAY

Capo d'Anzio	FI(2) 10s, 37 m, 22 M
Ponza, Punta della Guardia	FI(3) 30s, 112 m, 24 M
Zannone, Capo Negro	FI(3) 10s
Porto di Ponza	FI Y 3s

Communications

Marina di Nettuno	VHF 9 · +39 06 980 5404
Ponza harbour office	CHECK ON THE CHART
Emergency at sea, Italy (Guardia Costiera)	VHF 16, DSC 70 · 1530
Emergency on land	112

Contingencies

- **Ponza harbour full or exposed.** Anchor in the lee of the island, outside any closed area.
- **Person overboard.** Shout, point, throw the danger buoy, press MOB, DSC distress alert, Mayday on 16.

Before leaving

- ☐ Forecasts read and logged before the go or no-go time
- ☐ Italian notices to mariners (Avvisi ai naviganti) checked for the route

- ☐ Waypoints entered and checked against the chart
- ☐ Ship's log started in UTC
- ☐ Crew briefing: route, watches, safety gear, MOB, fog
- ☐ Ponza berth or mooring booked
- ☐ Ponza stationing ticket bought and printed

- ☐ Fuel for 7 hours under engine, plus a reserve
- ☐ Water, food and hot drinks for 8 hours
- ☐ Lifejackets with crotch straps, jackstays rigged, harnesses
- ☐ Liferaft, grab bag, flares in date, handheld VHF
- ☐ Radar, AIS and navigation lights tested
- ☐ Passports, boat papers and insurance aboard

Sources

- Ponza: Capitaneria di porto di Ponza, Ordinanza 74/2026.
- Circeo National Park: parcocirceo.it.
- Lights in Italy: Wikipedia, List of lighthouses in Italy (characteristics, heights, ranges); check against the Italian Navy list of lights (Elenco dei fari).
- NAVTEX: NGA Pub 117, chapter 3.
- Pelagos Sanctuary: pelagos-sanctuary.org; islepark.it.
- Italian harbour ordinances (Capitanerie di porto) could not be read for this plan: guardiacostiera.gov.it was unreachable. [CHECK THE PILOT BOOK](#)
- Tides: predictions from TICON-4 harmonic constants (Hart-Davis, Dettmering and Seitz, DGFI-TUM, 2025, doi 10.17882/109129) with Neaps (openwaters.io). Check against the Instituto Hidrográfico 2027 tables.
- Sunrise and sunset: calculated (NOAA method).
- Lights: The Lighthouse Directory (Rowlett), ibiblio.org/lighthouse, Portugal pages revised August 2024. Cross-check with the IH List of Lights, volume I.
- Pilot: RCC Pilotage Foundation, Atlantic Spain and Portugal, 9th edition (2025).

A planning exercise to RYA Yachtmaster standard. Not for navigation: use current official charts, the pilot book and the forecasts on the day.