

Riposto to Roccella Ionica

Across the mouth of the Ionian to the toe of Italy, round Capo Spartivento, and north-east along the Calabrian coast to the harbour of Roccella Ionica.

DATE	Wednesday 14 July 2027
DISTANCE	73.5 nm, 6 legs
TIME	12 h 30 min
DEPART	06:00 CEST from Riposto. At sunrise (06:00 CEST), after the rest day at Riposto.
ARRIVE	About 18:30 CEST at Roccella Ionica. In the early evening, with about 1 hour 50 minutes of daylight in hand (sunset 20:18 CEST).
TIDES	Range about 0.2 m: no practical effect
WIND	Light in settled weather; Capo Spartivento accelerates any wind
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. A 12-hour day: meals prepared ahead



Track and waypoints 1 to 5, with ports of refuge as squares.

Go or no-go

Decide the evening before and confirm at 05:30 CEST. Go only if all of these hold:

- ☐ No wind above force 5, and no easterly or south-easterly above force 4: Roccella's entrance is dangerous in an onshore sea.
- ☐ Roccella berth and entrance depth confirmed with the harbour.
- ☐ Crew rested: this is a 12-hour day.

If the weather is wrong, stay at Riposto. There is no good harbour on the Calabrian coast between Reggio and Roccella.

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	Riposto, Porto dell'Etna	37°43.7'N	015°12.7'E				06:00 CEST	Depart at sunrise.
1	Riposto approach	37°43.5'N	015°13.5'E	108°T	0.7	0.7	06:10 CEST	Out to the east.
2	South of Capo Spartivento	37°53.0'N	016°04.0'E	076°T	41.0	41.7	12:29 CEST	2.5 nm south of the lip of water from Sicily.
3	Off Capo Bruzzano	38°01.0'N	016°12.5'E	040°T	10.4	52.2	14:13 CEST	2 nm off.
4	Off Locri	38°13.0'N	016°20.5'E	028°T	13.6	65.7	16:29 CEST	2 nm off.
5	Roccella approach	38°18.5'N	016°26.0'E	038°T	7.0	72.7	18:14 CEST	South-east of the entrance silts. CHECK ON THE CHART
6	Roccella Ionica, Porto delle Grazie	38°19.0'N	016°25.2'E	309°T	0.8	73.5	18:30 CEST	Position approximate. CHECK ON THE CHART

Tides and time

RIPOSTO · WED 14 JUL · CEST (UTC+2)

HW	01:01	0.1 m
LW	06:57	0.1 m
HW	13:53	0.2 m
LW	20:22	0.1 m

From the Catania station.

ROCCELLA IONICA · WED 14 JUL · CEST (UTC+2)

HW	01:18	0.1 m
LW	07:20	0.1 m
HW	14:07	0.2 m

From the Crotone station.

Wednesday 14 July 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.

Roccella uses the Crotone station.

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 Riposto 05:49 CEST. Sunset at Roccella Ionica 20:18 CEST.

Weather

- **Open sea** for the first 40 nm.
- **Capo Spartivento.** Wind and sea build round the cape.
- **The Ionian coast of Calabria** is open to the east and south-east, with few harbours.

FORECASTS TO CHECK

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

Hazards

- **Roccella entrance.** The harbour has 4 to 5 m inside after dredging in 2016 and 2017, but the entrance is known to silt. Ask the harbour for the current depth and approach in calm water only.
- **Strait of Messina traffic** crosses the route east of Riposto.
- **Fishing gear** close in along the Calabrian coast.

Ports of refuge

PORT	FROM THE ROUTE	USE IT WHEN	NOTES
Riposto	Start	Within the first 2 hours	Porto dell'Etna.
Reggio Calabria	20 nm north-west of Capo Spartivento	Weather turns	CHECK THE PILOT BOOK
Roccella Ionica	Destination	First choice	Porto delle Grazie, 450 berths.

Pilotage

LEAVING RIPOSTO

1. Leave at sunrise and set the course for Capo Spartivento, 40 nm.

INTO ROCCELLA

1. Approach from the south-east in calm water, on the depths the harbour gives.
2. Call Porto delle Grazie for a berth. VHF and phone: [CHECK THE PILOT BOOK](#)

LIGHTS ON THE WAY

Capo Spartivento	Fl 8s, 63 m, 24 M
Punta Stilo	Fl(3) 15s, 54 m, 22 M
Roccella harbour	CHECK ON THE CHART

Communications

Porto dell'Etna, Riposto	VHF 74 · +39 095 779575
Porto delle Grazie, Roccella	CHECK ON THE CHART
Emergency at sea, Italy (Guardia Costiera)	VHF 16, DSC 70 · 1530
Emergency on land	112

Contingencies

- **Behind time.** If Capo Spartivento is not abeam by 13:00 CEST, turn back or go to Reggio Calabria.
- **Swell at Roccella.** Do not try the entrance; go on to Crotone or wait offshore for calm only if daylight allows.

- **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
- ☐ Roccella berth booked and entrance depth confirmed
- ☐ Meals for a 12-hour day prepared

- ☐ Fuel for 13 hours under engine, plus a reserve
- ☐ Water, food and hot drinks for 14 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

- Calabrian lights: English Wikipedia, List of lighthouses in Italy.
- Porto delle Grazie: Italian Wikipedia. Porto dell'Etna: portodelletna.it. Crotone: portodicrotone.com.
- 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.