

## **NAPLES TRIANGLE 2021**

The weather gave ominous signs of bizarreness right at the start. Instead of heading directly SSW to Ustica, it was clear that the Isle of Capri was to be a starboard rounding.

This offset east had me aim for a grounding on Ustica rather than a smooth port rounding.

By the time I was at Stromboli, I ranked 41. With recent Etna eruptions, I was wary of any rumbling from Stromboli and ready to assist any competitor should it decide to act up. This distracted me considerably and I didn't notice the wx forcing us NW for the final leg. Had I not been playing RealBridge IRL at that time, that would have helped to concentrate on this race; bridge being the card game, not the wheelhouse or the structure that carries a road over water.

As I was heading straight North to the finish, a new wx came in favouring an eastern route, which I decided to follow. That gradually ranked me from 41 to 1 in a few hours. My last 6 hours saw TarassBoulba only 1 minute behind. Knowing his skill, my stress level kept rising. I also had to keep an eye on batatabh on my starboard quarter, i.e. to windward :-)

All in all, the overall level of competition was as high as other races. Well done, everybody!

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