# Mount Etna and Stromboli Volcanoes Erupt in Sicily, Italy, Causing Airport Closure and Evacuation Plans



Mount Etna in Sicily, Italy, experienced a significant eruption on July 4, 2024, emitting lava and ash. The activity intensified earlier this week, leading to disruptions in the region. The eruption spread a thick layer of ash, particularly affecting the city of Catania, where the airport was forced to shut down temporarily due to ash-covered runways. The airport's closure resulted in the cancellation of at least 90 flights, affecting around 15,000 passengers.

Additionally, intense activity was also observed at the nearby Stromboli volcano, which released lava into the sea, prompting concerns about potential tsunamis. Authorities halted boat trips and prepared evacuation plans. The eruption marked a notable increase in volcanic activity, with ash clouds reaching up to 15,000 feet. Local authorities implemented restrictions, such as banning motorcycle travel and imposing speed limits, to ensure public safety amidst the fallout.