

*The concierge service of Casa Angelina Lifestyle,  
is delighted to welcome you to our little corner of paradise  
by taking care of your stay here!*

*We are pleased to provide all the information  
You will need during your stay, Suggesting exclusive sights including historical  
itineraries , beaches, view points and mountain treks  
Recommending particular restaurant and offering unique experience on our  
luxury cruise boat" Master Angelina".*

### Where we are...

The glorious coastline of [Amalfi](#) is famous worldwide. Here are places of great beauty and fascinating monuments from Greek and Roman times. As you travel the twisting road along the Amalfi Coast you catch glimpses of little villages and bays spread among the brilliant Mediterranean flora. Towns and villages cling to the cliffs which rise straight from the blue sea. Here you will find [Positano](#), with its multi coloured houses, the supremely elegant [Ravello](#) and many more delightful towns which face out towards the Gulf of Salerno. In this place of spectacular natural beauty various Mediterranean cultures combine, creating a truly unique atmosphere.

### How to reach the hotel arriving from Naples:



From the airport follow direction to A3 motorway Naples-Pompeii-Salerno.

Pass the toll-house of South Naples, go on and exit at Castellammare di Stabia. At the exit of the Motorway, go left towards Sorrento/ Positano/ Amalfi (State Road 145 Sorrentina). Arriving in Piano di Sorrento, follow directions to Positano/ Amalfi until you take the State Road 163 Amalfitana. Cross the town of Positano. 4 km after Positano, on the right, you find

before a stone tunnel a downhill that leads you in Casa Angelina Lifestyle.

## Private chauffeur

Interesting option for a special touch during your stay...



### **Private chauffeur:**

In case you wish to enjoy an excursion by minibus or private limo, we can arrange a wide choice of transfer and excursions with our drivers Sergio and Filippo !

Transfers from/to Casa Angelina	1 - 3 Pax	4 - 6 Pax	7 - 8 Pax
C. A. - <a href="#">Napoli</a>	€ 120,00	€ 170,00	€ 200,00
C. A. - <a href="#">Sant'Agata</a>	€ 70,00	€ 85,00	€ 130,00
C. A. - <a href="#">Amalfi</a>	€ 50,00	€ 70,00	€ 100,00
C. A. - <a href="#">Ravello</a>	€ 75,00	€ 85,00	€ 130,00
C. A. - <a href="#">Pompei</a>	€ 100,00	€ 110,00	€ 180,00
C. A. - Firenze	€ 750,00	€ 800,00	€ 950,00
C. A. - <a href="#">Civitavecchia</a>	€ 500,00	€ 550,00	€ 650,00
C. A. - Roma	€ 450,00	€ 500,00	€ 600,00
C. A. - <a href="#">Sorrento</a>	€ 70,00	€ 85,00	€ 120,00
Excursions per hour	€ 40,00	€ 50,00	€ 60,00

Thanks to our drivers we can arrange excursions to the site of [Pompeii](#) or great tours of the Amalfi coast including [Amalfi](#) and [Ravello](#). Regarding Pompeii excavations, once there we can arrange for private guides (the price is € 120,00 2 hours) or a nice restaurant where to lunch.

### Suggestions:

#### [Ravello, and Amalfi wine and Limoncello](#)

Sergio will drive through the wonderful countryside of the Amalfi Coast, with its local traditions. You can depart to Ravello at about 10.00 am and visit the fascinating Duomo, built in 12th century, the famous Villa Rufolo with its bell-tower and the enchanted place which gave the right inspiration to Richard Wagner for its music. Do not miss a photo on the Villa Rufolo Belvedere, the famous terrace where summer classical concerts are held! Time for shopping and lunch in one of the best sea-view restaurant. The tour could continue to:

-Tramonti( country side village ) along a breathtaking road up to the mountains, to discover the different local activities with their own traditional crafts: visit to a limoncello factory and to a wine cellar to taste the typical limoncello liqueur and the wine of the Amalfi Coast.

-Amalfi: Another option is to return to Praiano stopping in Amalfi. There after a stroll through its white narrow back streets ,you may linger in the famous piazza, perhaps sitting in one of the caffè , zipping an espresso or tasting a typical pastry while admiring the famous arabesque cathedral .

#### [Naples full day](#)

At about 8.00 am, transfer to Naples, a city rich in tradition, art, museums and galleries. Option to visit the National Archaeological Museum, the most famous of its kind in Europe. Stop for the best coffee of the place. Panoramic tour to take in the most beautiful and famous sights of the city, including: Maschio Angioino, Umberto Gallery, San Carlo Opera House, the Royal Palace, Posillipo, Mergellina harbour and its beautiful promenade. Pizza for lunch accompanied by a delicious Sfogliatella (traditional cake), is the best option if you require shopping in the afternoon in the hidden Via Roma.

### *Sorrento tour and shopping:*

Going around for shopping certainly is one of the most amusing and curious activities in Sorrento (45min far from the hotel). The variety of articles and shops is so wide that you have too much to choose from. The centre of Sorrento shopping are undoubtedly Corso Italia and Via S. Cesareo, the beating heart of the town. Many-coloured shops and wares follow one another along an ancient Greek-Roman route where tourists from every part of the world crowd, enlivening and animating the milieu.

It is possible to buy handicrafts such as inlaid works, artistic ceramics and scented wax, or delicacies like "limoncello" sweets, "rosolio" liqueur, jams and preserved vegetables, or silver jewels, corals and cameos, valuable embroideries on table-cloths and handkerchiefs, Neapolitan eighteenth century crib's figurines or composition of withered flowers. And then, fashion for all tastes and pockets, from the great "griffes" to the cheap ready to wear dresses for young people.

[http://www.sorrentovetrine.com/sorrento\\_shopping/index.htm](http://www.sorrentovetrine.com/sorrento_shopping/index.htm)

### *Pompeii half day .*

Transfer to the famous archaeological sites of Pompeii., wandering the ancient streets of the town to admire the Baths, Forums and Villas built by prosperous Romans. Distance from Casa Angelina is roughly 1hr drive. Private guide can be arranged at front desk or on sight at the cost of € 90,00 2hr.

### *Pompeii full day.*

Suggested departure time is 10am. Transfer to the famous archaeological sites of Pompeii., wandering the ancient streets of the town to admire the Baths, Forums and Villas built by prosperous Romans. Distance from Casa Angelina is about rou 1hr drive. Private guide can be arranged at front desk or on sight at the cost of € 120,00 2hr.

On your way back , you can choose different itineraries such as:

- Ravello-Amalfi
- Sorrento coast and Sorrento town
- Hercolaneum Archeological site.
- Vesuvius

### *Cooking lessons*

Discovery the Mediterranean culinary traditions and learn how to prepare dishes for a typical Neapolitan menu! The Sorrento Cooking School is located within the Giardino Delle Esperidi of Raffaella D'Esposito and her family, a well known resort of the "Penisola Sorrentina". The School, which is a short distance from the sea and the city centre, is surrounded by a field of lemon and orange trees. The Cooking School includes a cooking area, a tasting area used to sample the dishes prepared during the lesson, a large dining area, and a small store where it is possible to buy typical local products selected by them.

### *Naples and Solfatara.*

Transfer to Naples. Morning visit dedicated to "Bella Napoli". Panoramic tour mainly by car to take in the most beautiful and famous city sights. Afternoon dedicated to the visit of "Solfatara", a kind of volcanic plain where you can see fumaroles and walk on heated rock. Not-to-be missed.

### *Shopping between outlets and commercial centrals.*

Departure from hotel about 10.00am to reach the women paradise.

Centro Commerciale Campania, nearby Caserta city, is the biggest shopping centre of South Italy, usually open from 9.00 to 22.00pm. Outlets and others high fashion boutiques are not far from there.

## Shuttle Service

For your time in Positano town, our **free Shuttle Service** will take you down town and pick you up at the following time:

To Positano	From Positano
h. 10.00 a.m.	h. 10.15 a.m.
h. 11.00 a.m.	h. 11.15 a.m.
h. 12.00 a.m.	h. 12.15 a.m.
h. 4.00 p.m.	h. 4.15 p.m.
h. 5.45 p.m.	h. 6.00 p.m.

It is important to remember that the free shuttle service should be reserved in advance.

## Private Boat

### ***A day on Master Angelina:***

Do not forget the option to hire the fabulous Master Angelina. Our boat is a Luxuries cruiser, classy in its shiny wood, will take you to Capri with the most comfort, driven by its 600 hp engine. With our captain Giancarlo, you will discover the coast, stopping any where you like and enjoying drinks on board. The fee is € 850,00 for a full day (8 hours) or € 550,00 for half day (4 hours). The boat fits very comfortably 8 people or up to 10 passengers departing from Gavitella beach, at about 250 steps below the hotel.



Here below you find a list of different itineraries to discover our amazing surroundings by private boat..

#### *[Like Hollywood stars in Capri.](#)*

The suggested time to start this trip is between 9 and 11 am and the departure is usually from Gavitella beach. On the way of course you can stop any time for a refreshing dive in to the blue waters surrounding the island or in the magic Baia di Ieranto at few miles away. A good idea could be to lunch in one of the hidden restaurant, right close to the see and overlooking the famous Capri's faraglioni. After un boarding you will enjoy a free time on the island. By the cable car located at harbour, you can reach the famous "Piazzetta" and the magic Via Cammarelle a paradise for shopping lovers. If you prefer,

you can think of hiring a convertible cab to reach the main town, bend after bend you are going to be thrilled by the scenery and the steepness of the road. Giancarlo will wait for you at the harbour ready to leave when you ready.

#### *[Emerald grotto and Amalfi](#)*

Departing from our beach, you can enjoy a beautiful half day on the sea exploring the spectacular coast.

Enjoy 4 hours leisurely cruise admiring Positano, the famous fiord of Furore, Conca de Marini, with a visit to Emerald Grotto, and finally the ancient maritime republic of Amalfi. If you want, Giancarlo will stop at so you can swim in the blue

sea and stony beaches of Duoglio or Santa Croce, before retuning back to Praiano.

#### *A fresh dip between Li Galli islands and Nerano*

Directing the prow towards Li Galli Islands, you can have a swim in the beautiful clear waters. It is here, according to the verses of the Odyssey, that Ulysses resisted the song of the sirens. Going to the cave of the Madonnina del Mare the skipper will let you swim in the translucent waters. Proceeding along the coast to Nerano, if you like, you can have lunch in a guide Michelin recommended restaurant "I Quattro Passi" or in a tipicall trattoria as "Le Sirene" this tour can be arranged also at night time dining perhaps in the magis Recommone bay and the famous restaurant " La conca del Sogno".

#### *And for the most romantics: [Capri by night.](#)*

Breath taking night excursion, to Capri will make your holiday unique. You can imagine a departure in the late afternoon, during the spectacular

Sunset. Master Angelina will fly on the waves and will take you in a short time to Capri. Of course at that time during the summer the water is warm and tempting, and thanks to the comfortable cabin with a complete bathroom, you might take the chance of a first swim and a later shower before arriving on firm land. On the island, we will arrange the most intimate Trattoria or the fanciest restaurant in Capri. Once there, you can take one of the typical convertible cab. Bend after bend, like on a natural roller coaster you will arrive at the famous Piazzetta , where jazzeter , and the most amazing crowd shares this slice of paradise called Capri. For the night life lovers, a night at the famous club "Anema e core". Is compulsory specially if you are in a group. Late in the evening, Giancarlo will take you back on board. Few miles before home, you can not miss a midnight swim, under the Italian stars and why not, cheer to your holiday with a glass of champagne.

Private Excursions could be personalized.

Other particular excursion by boat with private operator:

#### *Capri Special*

*Only € 50,00 for an Excursion to Capri, chance of visiting the Blue Grotto and 4 free hrs on the island. Easy Pick up from la Gavitella at 09: 10am or 8.30am and return at around 05:00pm.*

The excursion is arranged on simple local boats called " Gozzo" and includes a complete ride round the island with a stop in front of the Blue Grotto and visit if desired (weather permitting) and then on to the Green Grotto famous for its emerald coloured water. Time for a swim in one of the many hidden bays around Capri. Proceeding through the famous Faraglioni they show you the White Grotto and the Porto di Tragara they dock at the main port of Capri, Marina Grande, where you will be general information. Then you free for 4 hours.

*The trip includes soft drinks and the use of towels. The entrance to the blue grotto is not included and depends on the weather and crowds !*

#### *Scuba diving*

For those who want to experience the excitement of the sea more closely, a scuba diving center is only a 10 minutes by car from the Hotel. Daily scuba diving trips are organized, with guide boats, all with the backdrop of the splendid Amalfi Coast. The most important backdrops are:

Capo di Conca, Scoglio dell'Isca, Island "Li Galli" , Fiord of Furore, Amalfi, Positano, Campanella Point, and the Cave of the Sapphire, the Emerald Grotto is internationally known for it's unique underwater pottery crib. The diving centre trips include a large powerboat and qualified instructors that provide courses to all levels of International diving ratings. If requested, operators will photograph or video tape your diving trips. The centre works all year and offers cylinder recharging, equipment, maintenance and complete equipment rental. The centre and the instructors are insured with "DAN EUROPE" which is associated with the best underwater medical centres in Europe with 24 hour help from highly qualified medical personnel and in direct contact with the succours helicopter.

#### *Cruise on the Maria Giovanna's Caic...*

*The "Maria Giovanna" is a modern vessel of traditional design and materials: mahogany and iroko wood. It is a Turkish caique – a sailing boat with traditional marine characteristics – which guarantees safe, comfortable sailing in all kinds of weather and sea conditions, thanks also to the vast experience of her captain and crew. Amalfi, Ravello, Positano and the other precious localities along this stunning coast can be visited on personalized excursions with guides who will show you details which the ordinary day-tripper may miss. Great attention is paid to the preparation and presentation of the food served on board. Typical carefully chosen products are transformed into refined meals by their creative chef and accompanied by the finest Italian wines selected by the ship's owner. The price is about € 2.000,00 - €2.500,00 per day; food and beverage are excluded.*

# Spiderlifestyle

Take a drive on the classic side.

**Experience the Amalfi coast, the Italian way on board of a roaring Alfa classic Duetto. A brand new service offered by Casa Angelina to his guest.**

Alfa Duetto coda tronca 1967 1600cc  
(A real and rare gem among the Alfisti)  
*180,00 per day ( Tax, insurance included)*



Alfa Duetto America 1986 1600cc  
(The first restyling that made the States fall in love)  
*€ 150,00 per day ( Tax, insurance included)*



Alfa Duetto Aereodinamic 1992 1600cc  
(The final version of this acclaimed model)  
*€ 120,00 per day ( Tax, insurance included)*



*Book your Alfa day at reception, for an experience of pure lifestyle.*

## Trekking tours

Walking lovers, as an alternative, could discover the nearest mountain doing the particular **Trekking walk**..

Practically starting from the hotel, is possible to arrange trekking excursion with private and English speaking guide. The walk from Casa Angelina to Positano take about 4hrs and goes along the *Gods path*. From Amalfi town centre, instead, you can reach the path of Lattari Mountain, called *Valle delle Ferriere*, with its numerous waterfalls and springs, but also a luxuriant vegetation, that offers you the opportunity to admire several rare species of pan tropical ferns.

If you have good legs, these could be the chance to see and feel the amalfitain nature.

## Car Hire Service

**for who loves to wander without precise destination, the best option is..**

### Rent a car..



Starting at € 90,00 per day, tax & insurance included, you can hire a fantastic convertible Smart Car. Small with the automatic gear is the best choice to drive around discovering the amalfi cost, and with the sun shining you can not resist to open the roof and feel the Italian breeze. Any tipe of car from a van to a sport car, can be booked through reception with local companies or also major brands as Avis and Hertz which require a drop off and pick up cost beetween € 60,00 and € 80,00 .

### Hire a Scooter..

Starting at € 65,00 per day tax & insurance included you can hire a brand new Piaggio scooter. This is absolutely the best choice to discover the cost and Off course the best way to feel like a local " When in Rome..... ".



## ***Nightlife suggestions :***

*The Amalfitan coast is a rich place in all the terms and although the environment is very oriented on the romance and romantic escape ,there are interesting option to enjoy a great night out with the coast as back stage.*

*Here a list of summer clubs for more option contact the concierge at any time*



### **Positano:**

#### **Music on the rocks:**

*Located in Positano main beach, is a suggestive club completely build in the natural rock. Saturday night disco club, other day lounge bar*

**Info:** [www.musicontherocks.it](http://www.musicontherocks.it) Tel. 0039.875.874 .Positano main beach

#### **Next2:**

*Cosy wine bar, located in the upper part of Positano. Good selection of wine and beers, often holds live music.*

*Via Pasitea, 242 Positano Costiera Amalfitana (Sa) Italia.*

**Info:** [www.next2.it](http://www.next2.it) Tel.: +39/0898123516 E-mail: [info@next2.it](mailto:info@next2.it)

### **Praiano:**

#### **Africana nightclub:**

*Located in a scenic little bay is build right on the sea, in a natural cave. Saturday night disco, week day lounge .*

**Africana Night Club - Via Torre a Mare ,2 - 84010 Praiano (Sa)**

**Tel.:** +39 089 874042 - Fax + 39 089 874067 Cell. +39 334-8544474

#### **Vivaro Wine bar:**

*Right in the middle of Praiano this little winebar is ideal to spend sometime in town and mix up with locals.*

**Info:** [www.vivarowinebar.com](http://www.vivarowinebar.com) - Via G.Capriglione 156 - Praiano (Sa) 84010 – Italy

**Tel.:** +39-3355624805 Email.: [info@vivarowinebar.it](mailto:info@vivarowinebar.it)

### **Sorrento:**

#### **Blumareclub:**

*Located in Massa Lubrense right on a beach , it holds some of the best outdoor parties mainly on week ends*

**Info:** [www.blumareclub.com](http://www.blumareclub.com)

#### **Castore:**

*Located in Sant' Agata (Sorrento's hills) you will dance in a Villa with a big lounge area and 2 floors with different music selection. Various events every week end.*

**Info. Musicbar: Max Zotti DjTavoli: 3392547000-3384138123-3382227911 Indirizzo: Via Nastro Azzurro\_Sorrento**

## Amalfi

Amalfi nestles in the ravine of the "Valle dei Mulini". Its churches, towers and arcade houses, grouped together with attractive irregularity, rise above a small harbour and are backed by precipices of wild magnificence. At its peak in the 11th century, Amalfi was a supreme naval power, a bitter enemy of the northern maritime republics, Venice, Pisa and Genoa and had a population of 70.000. Its navigation tables, the "Tavole Amalfitane", formed the world's first maritime code and governed all shipping in the Mediterranean for centuries.



Amalfi was founded in the 9th century and soon came under the rule of a doge. As a consequence of its connections with the Orient, the city claims to have introduced to Italy such modern wonders as paper, coffee and carpets.

This small town still bears many reminders of its seafaring and trading heyday and is now one of Italy's most famous seaside spots.



Things to see

Cathedral Sant'Andrea - an imposing sight at the top of a sweeping flight of stairs, dating from the early in the 10th century. The bronze doors of the church came from Constantinople and date from 1066.

Chiostro del Paradiso (Cloister of Paradise) — next door to the Cathedral, built in the 13th century in Arabic style to house the tombs of the noted citizens. It now hosts a Museum. Open from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.. Entrance € 1,00

Museo Civico — in the town hall building. You may see the "Tavole Amalfitane" and other historical documents. Open Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m..

Paper Museum — Located in "Valle dei Mulini" in a 13th-century paper mill. Opens daily except Monday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



Grotta dello Smeraldo — located about 4 km (2,5 miles) from the hotel along the coast towards Positano. This natural grotto at sea level, is called "Smeraldo" for the emerald colour of the water. The emerald light also plays on the mineral formations in the cave. Stalactites have dripped down to join stalagmites in columns that reach a height of 10 mts.

Known also for the submerged Crib made in ceramics of Vietri.

## Positano



To complement the vertical landscape, here is Italy's most vertical town. Positano spills down from the cornice like a waterfall of pink, cream and yellow villas. Positano is virtually divided in two by the cliff bearing the Torre Transita tower. West is the smaller and more pleasant Spiaggia del Fornillo beach area and east is the Spiaggia Grande, which gives way to the village centre. In ancient times it

was called Pasitea, of Greek origins. Here the refugees from Paestum found shelter and the patricians built their villas. Today Positano attracts all sorts of people for the many boutiques and restaurants.

### Things to see

*Church Santa Maria Assunta* — Just back from Spiaggia Grande. Inside you will find the 13th century Byzantine Black Madonna. The church is closed in the afternoon.



*Li Galli Isles* — From the hotel pier you can rent a boat to explore the coastal caves and the rocky isles of Li Galli opposite Positano. By tradition, these three outcroppings are the home of the Sirens, made so famous by Homer in the trials of Odysseus. The largest one was the Summer

residence of Rudolf Nureyev. He carried on a tradition of Russian ownership, after Diaghilev at the turn of the last century: The other two, with barely a flat surface upon them, are uninhabited except for scrub pines and seagulls. Perfect location for a tranquil swim in the warm water.

## Ravello

Ravello sits like a natural balcony overlooking the Gulf of Salerno, from where you can peer down on Amalfi and the nearby towns of Minori and Maiori. The seven Kms drive from Amalfi along the "Valle del Dragone", passes through the soaring mountains and deep ravines that characterise the area —watch the hairpin turns. You can continue inland across the mountains and down to Angri to link with A3 to Naples and Nocera for A3 for Salerno and A30 for Caserta & Rome.



### Things to see

***Cathedral San Pantaleone*** (Piazza Vescovado): Dates back to the 11th century and features an impressive marble pulpit with six lions carved at its base.

There is a small Museum in the crypt containing religious artifacts and some marbles from Villa Rufolo.

Villa Rufolo — It includes a series of buildings in the Arab-Sicilian style. Here Boccaccio placed the merry company of the Decameron and Wagner found inspiration and wrote the third act of Parsifal. The villa was built in the 13th century for the wealthy Rufolos and housed several popes, as well as Charles I of Anjou. From the terraces there is a magnificent view over the bay. The villa's gardens are the setting for the Festival Musicale di Ravello each June. Open daily from 09:00 a.m. to 01:00 p.m. and from 03:00 p.m. to 07:00 p.m. — free entrance.



Villa Cimbrone — The villa was built at the beginning of last century in a medieval-like style. It includes a building with two towers, a courtyard and an open vaulted terrace-room called Cripta. At the end of a straight avenue through the lush gardens there is the Belvedere Cimbrone, the most advanced point of the ridge on which Ravello lies. Not to be

missed. Open daily from 09:00 a.m. to 01:00 p.m. and from 03:00 p.m. to 07:00 p.m.

## Naples

Sunny, lively, sassy and simply unforgettable. Naples is music, theatre, Vesuvius, coffee, pizza and sea... all those colours, sounds and aromas that capture your attention, win you over and seduce you.



The best way to get to know Naples is to walk around its ancient streets, discovering the hidden wonders of this amazing city:

**SpaccaNapoli** – This road is called by this name (it literally means Split Naples) as, when seen from the top end, it literally splits the city into two parts. SpaccaNapoli is a long straight road, or several roads about 2 km long and just 6 meters wide. On both sides a tightly-packed labyrinth of narrow, charming alleys spreads out. This is the old, working-class, full-blooded Naples. Walking along the SpaccaNapoli, it is possible to follow an itinerary in one of the most characteristic areas of Naples, that corresponds to the “Decumano inferiore” of the Greek-Roman city, with churches, historical buildings, squares and old tiny craftsmen’s shops and laboratories.



**Piazza del Gesù Nuovo** – This square is cut in two by SpaccaNapoli, the famous, ancient road in Naples. There are some of the city's most important monuments here: Palazzo Pignatelli, the Guglia dell'Immacolata (a huge church spire), the Church of Gesù Nuovo, the **Monastery of Santa Chiara**.



This church originated in 1300 and was restored after the Second World War during which it was damaged in air-raid bombing. It was returned to its original Provençal Gothic style. The funeral monument of Robert I of Anjou is to be noted. In the nearby Convent in Piazza del Gesù, there is a wonderful majolica-tiled Cloister to be seen.

**Via San Gregorio Armeno** – This road is famous worldwide as the "nativity scene road". In this road, which links the old city centre to the main roads, there are some important monuments such as the San Gregorio Armeno Monastery. This is also the city centre for hundreds of artists' and commercial businesses: sculptors, silversmiths, gilders, and many craftsmen that make figurines for nativity scenes, and who still use traditional methods.



**San Gennaro Cathedral** – this was built around the end of the 12th century. The Cathedral of Naples has undergone several restorations over the centuries, partly carried out to repair the damage from earthquakes and partly to increase its artistic beauty. The relics of San Gennaro, the patron saint of Naples are kept in the cathedral.

Here it happens twice a year the Miracle of San Gennaro, when the Martyr's blood (saved into an ampulla) liquefies, announcing that there will be no calamities for Neapolitans.

**Piazza del Plebiscito** – This recently renovated square is the most magnificent in Naples: it is built in the form of an amphitheater and is surrounded by wonderful monuments such as the Basilica of San Francesco di Paola, which is similar to St. Peter's in Rome, the Royal Palace and the Galleria Umberto I.

**Castel Maschio Angiolino** – This castle was built towards the end of the 13th century on the instructions of the Anjou family, and became an important cultural center where artists and writers such as Giotto, Petrarca and Boccaccio stayed. The Aragon dynasty expanded the building with two towers and a fantastic Arc de Triomphe. The Cappella Palatina chapel is also worth visiting.

**Castel dell'Ovo** – A large fortress from the 12th century that is a dominant presence on the Naples seafront. It was a royal residence for many centuries, and played an important strategic role.

**The Royal Palace and Gardens** – This is a wonderful Renaissance style area, dating back to the 17th century. It was the residence of the Spanish Viceroy.

The royal gardens are full of tree-lined avenues, shaded by magnolias and Holm oak trees, with rare plants, statues and "secret gardens".

**Galleria Umberto I** – This gallery was built at the end of the nineteenth century. Galleria Umberto is an imposing building with four wings in iron and glass and a wonderful, huge dome in the middle. The style is similar to that of the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele in Milan.

**Piazza Bellini** – This is a spot that is full of life, filled with open-air coffee shops that crowd around the monument built to commemorate the composer of the same name and the archeological site that has brought to light the ancient Greek walls that once stood on the square's site.

**Vomero** – This is an extremely peaceful, relaxing area of the city just the opposite of SpaccaNapoli. The area is full of museums, monuments, shops and historical coffee shops. A truly unforgettable experience is a trip on the Montesanto cable railway, from where it is possible to have a great view of Castel Sant'Elmo and the Certosa di San Martino.

**Quartieri spagnoli** – One of the most fascinating places in the city that has to be explored bit by bit in this tight-knit labyrinth of alleyways and streets. When Spanish rule began around 1530, the city underwent a lot of transformations: churches, palaces and roads were built, including the wonderful Via Toledo, which took its name from the viceroy Don Pedro di Toledo. This is the period when the Quartieri Spagnoli sprung up, in an area that is now bordered by Corso Vittorio Emanuele and Via Toledo and which totals about 800,000 m<sup>2</sup>.

**Posillipo Hill** – This hill, that is part of the sides of a crater, separates the Gulf of Naples from Pozzuoli dalla Grotta Romana. Since ancient times, this area has always been considered a residential area, where it is possible to rest from the efforts of city life. The very name of the area is a demonstration of this: the Greek term Pausilypon means "a respite from pain". The beautiful villas with their wonderful views over the Gulf can still be admired today, like, for example, the seventeenth century Palazzo Donn Anna.

**Underground Naples** – This is a "city under the city" that is exceptionally old: archeological digs have found artifacts dating back 5000 years. The Greeks built imposing funeral monuments underneath the city, while the Romans built aqueducts, caverns and tunnels. The public can now visit some parts of these underground areas if accompanied by a guide.

**Reggia di Capodimonte** – This palace, ordered by Charles of Bourbon and built in 1738, dominates the whole city and has a wonderful view of the Bay of Naples. The building had a dual role, as a museum and as a royal residence, right from the start. The Reggia's wood, the splendid setting for the sovereigns' hunts, still has about 4000 varieties of centuries-old trees.

The museums to visit to learn all about this city's history and culture are:

**National Archeological Museum** – This is the most important archeological museum in Europe and contains the collection of objects that belonged to the Bourbon family and also a series of bronzes, sculptures and other objects found in the digs at Pompeii and Herculaneum. The famous "Tirannicidi" and all the sculptures on show in the "Galleria dei Grandi Maestri" (Great Masters Gallery) must be seen.

**Capodimonte Museum and Gallery** - This Museum, opened in 1950, houses works of art ranging from the 13th to the 18th century which belonged to the Farnese family and which were then inherited by the Bourbon family. The "Roman Collection" that includes works of art by Michelangelo, Tiziano, El Greco, Raffaello and Botticelli is an essential part of any visit.

**San Martino Museum** – This museum is in the wonderful Certosa (Carthusian Monastery) of San Martino, and is dedicated to Neapolitan history and culture. There is a very interesting section on nativity scenes which displays examples from the 18th and 19th centuries. The monumental sized "Cuciniello" nativity scene is well worth a visit.

**Royal Palace Museum** – This is the Museum of the seventeenth-century Royal Palace where all the furniture, sculptures, porcelain and paintings belonging to the Bourbon dynasty are kept. The "Palace's Sacred Art" Collection can be seen in the palace chapel.

Finally getting to know Naples also means tasting its wonderful delicacies, being attracted by the strong tastes of the city's cuisine. The result is a unique type of cooking that continues to be halfway between refined and popular folk style, in which the local produce of this fertile area is prepared using elaborate recipes that often take a long time to prepare.

## Pompei

The town of Pompeii, originally a native Oscan settlement founded in the 7th century BC, is 16 km south of Herculaneum. The city was conquered by Greeks, Etruscans and Samnites, and finally became a Roman colony in 80BC along with Herculaneum. Pompeii was a thriving, noisy market town of about 20.000 inhabitants, filled with shops and bars and small family factories. Traders constantly came and went, while wine and a potent fish sauce were Pompeii's most popular exports. On the day Vesuvius erupted, Pompeii was the scene of a different but no less deadly series of catastrophes. Many more pumice stones showered down here than at Herculaneum, while dense layers of ash settled at the rate of about 15 cm per hour. Roofs began to col-



lapse and the town was in almost total darkness. The people who died waited too long inside their homes, trapped by fallen timbers and they were unable to breathe from the gases. The excavated city is much larger than Herculaneum, covering an area about one kilometre east to west, and about half a kilometre north to south. Plan on spending at least four hours here. Apart from the amphitheatre, however, you won't find many places to sit and rest and the site is not well shaded. The most important sites are accessible to the public and others can be entered with a guide. Pompeii is the most visited site in Italy.

Things to see  
 The Antiquarium  
 The Basilica



The Forum

The small Amphitheatre  
 The Temple of Apollo  
 The Temple of Jupiter  
 The House of the Faun

The House of the Vettii  
 The Stabian Baths  
 The Temple of Isis  
 The House of Menander (Casa del Menandro)  
 The Villa of the Mysteries  
 The House of the Marine Venus  
 The Great Palestra  
 The Amphitheatre

## Sorrento

Sitting 50 m. above the sea, Sorrento is the town that names the Peninsula. Located in an enviable geographic position, it possesses superb views, with the Bay of Naples below and the islands out at sea. Small streets wind through the town's historic centre, easily explored in a day. Though Sorrento has become increasingly devoted to tourism and its more tawdry trinkets, local craftsmen still create beautiful objects of



of inlaid wood (a method called tarsia), leather and jewellery of coral and cameos in side-street workshops.

Things to see:

Cloister of St. Francis — The arched 14th century cloister is filled with palms and tumbling purple bougainvillea. It is attached to the baroque church with its big bell-tower. The surrounding walls are often used for local art exhibits, since the convent is now an art school.

# Capri Island

Luxuriant, extraordinary, and such a mild climate. Capri is a Mediterranean island of calcareous origin that has been visited over the centuries by intellectuals, artists and writers, all enthralled by its magical beauty. A mix of history, nature, worldliness, culture and events that daily blend together and bring the Legend of Capri to life; a legend that sees no comparison anywhere in the



world.

## Capri

Situated just below the postcard-pretty clock tower, the famous Piazzetta (officially known as Piazza Umberto I) is both the entrance to the island's main town and its open-air living room. No matter what lane you're in, you'll eventually end up at this picturesque square, with its four people-watching bars. Each has its fans, but Bar Tiberio has the most authentically local crowd and the Piccolo Bar is the most tucked away.

Various routes lead out of the Piazzetta. If you head down the shopping street of Via Vittorio Emanuele and take a left by the celebrated Quisisana hotel, you're doing Capri's most classic passeggiata, which leads via boutique lined Via Camerelle and luxury-hotel-lined Via Tragara to a belvedere next to Punta Tragara overlooking the Faraglioni rocks—a series of mammoth limestone formations just offshore that are home to a species of blue lizards found nowhere else. From the belvedere, a long stepped path leads around to the Arco Naturale, a natural rock arch, in around 30 minutes, via the curious cliff-perched Casa Malaparte (a modernist villa that belonged to Italian writer and adventurer Curzio Malaparte) and the Grotta Matromania, a cave believed to have been sacred to the Roman nature goddess Cybele.

Back in the Piazzetta, the steps by the side of the church lead up to an arched lane that is a typical example of Capri's souklike vernacular architecture. The other reason to come here is to eat at Da Gemma, one of the island's most traditional trattorias. Opposite the church, the narrow lanes of Via Longano and Via Le Botteghe soon meet up at the little chapel of San Michele, hopping-off point for the 30-minute slog up to Villa Jovis. Also worth a visit are the Certosa di San Giacomo, a medieval monastery set behind a lemon grove; the Gardens of Augustus, a charming public park laid out on a series of terraces high above the sea; and Marina Piccola, a tiny seaside resort with rows of colorful bathing huts.