

# Italy – Naples and the Amalfi Coast

Tour Code NA

The Bay of Naples was once ringed with flourishing towns and luxury villas, and was one of the greatest centres of classical Roman civilisation. The excavated remains of Pompeii, Herculaneum and Villa Oplontis, destroyed in a day in 79AD, provide a special glimpse into that lost world. We are based for our seven night stay in the pretty Amalfi coastal village of Vico Equense with a cliff top location that enjoys wonderful views over the Bay of Naples towards Vesuvius and perfectly located for our daily excursions to the varied and rich archaeological sites of the region and nearby Naples.

Apollo bronze, Pompeii  
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## ITINERARY

### Day 1 Fly to Naples

We fly from London Gatwick to Naples with British Airways. Transfer to the pretty town of Vico Equense on the Amalfi Coast; the perfect base for our explorations of this historic region. Welcome dinner at the hotel (D)

### Day 2 Naples & Herculaneum

Morning visit to the Naples museum, to see its magnificent collection of sculptures, mosaics, frescoes and artefacts discovered from site excavations throughout the region. Afternoon visit to the ruins of Herculaneum, which although are not as extensive as Pompeii's, are even better preserved revealing ornately decorated houses that give a fascinating insight into the daily life of the town's wealthy former inhabitants (B)

### Day 3 Oplontis & Pompeii

Morning visit to the excavated luxury imperial Villa Poppaea at Oplontis attributed to Poppaea Sabina, wife of Emperor Nero. It contains some exceptional frescoes and mosaics in a beautiful architectural setting. We continue to the nearby extensive ruins of Pompeii to visit the archaeological park that represents an extraordinary wealth of architectures, sculptures, paintings and mosaics. The Vesuvius eruption of 79AD buried the city with ash and rock that allowed an exceptional preservation of a whole Roman city (B)

### Day 4 Amalfi & Ravello

We start the day with a morning drive along the dramatic coast to the beautiful town of Amalfi to visit the Romanesque cathedral of St Andrew. We continue to the hilltop village of Ravello with its spectacular views, quiet lanes and beautiful gardens. Afternoon visits to Villa Rufolo and Villa Cimbrone, both of which feature spectacular gardens (B)

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### Day 5 Paestum

We spend the day at Paestum, one of Italy's most majestic sites, to see the magnificent Doric temples of Ceres, Hera and Neptune. Wonderfully located against a backdrop of the deep blue Mediterranean sea and green rolling hills, there is also an exceptional museum that houses an extraordinary collection of Greek tomb paintings including the famous 'Tomb of the Diver' the only existing example of Greek wall painting in Italy (B)

### Day 6 Pozzuoli, Solfatara & Cumae

We start the day at the Roman amphitheatre at Pozzuoli. Although in ruins today, you can still get a sense of the scale of the amphitheatre, which had a capacity of 20,000 in its heyday. We continue to the surreal landscape of the Solfatara volcanic crater, once described by Dante as 'Gates of Hell'. We also visit Cuma, site of the Cave of Sibylla, mentioned in Virgil's Aeneid (B)

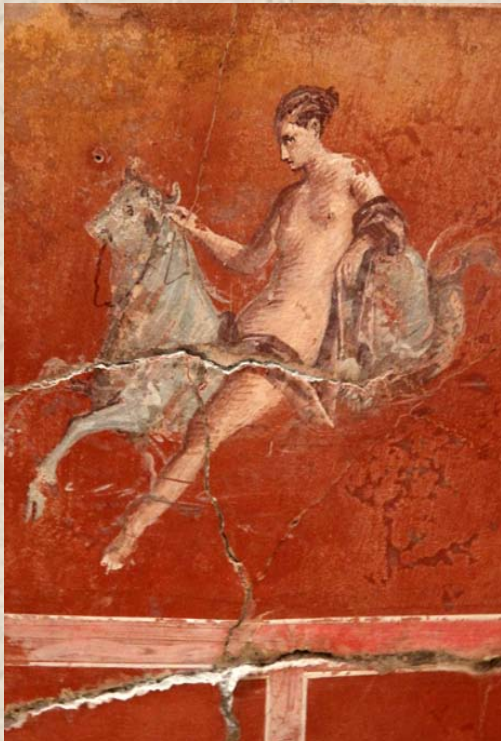
### Day 7 At leisure

Many options are available today; a chance to spend the day relaxing in Vico Equense, returning to your favourite archaeological site using the convenient Circumvesuviana train network, visiting the city of Naples or even to climb to the summit of Mount Vesuvius. A farewell dinner has been arranged (B,D)

### Day 8 Fly London

We transfer to Naples International airport after breakfast for our midday departure to London Gatwick (B)

**Cost £1195.00** per person in twin room (excl. international flight) Single supplement £200.00



#### Price includes –

- ▶ Tour accompanied from London by *Patrick Syder FRGS*
- ▶ Specialist Italian guide for our daily excursions
- ▶ All transportation - private a/c coach
- ▶ Full sightseeing programme including entrance fees
- ▶ Comfortable 3 star hotel with breakfast daily
- ▶ Two restaurant dinners
- ▶ All airport transfers
- ▶ Porter, hotel and restaurant staff gratuities

Not included – travel insurance, drinks, some meals, guide and driver gratuities, and international flight (from £95.00 with British Airways)

(for current price check [Opodo](https://www.opodo.co.uk) →)

