





Classic Journeys provides unbeatable access to experiences around the globe."

TRAVEL + LEISURE

# Walking Italy's Most Spectacular Coastline

Approaching the Amalfi Coast, you'll face a startling sightgleaming villas clinging with no visible foothold to the sheercliffs. You have to ask yourself how...why? But when you swingopen the shutters in your cliffside hotel room, the stunningview is a II the answer you need. Situated on the "ankle" of the Italian boot, Amalfi has a balmy climate. Orange trees linevillage streets. Breezy seaside footpaths around Positano(with names like 'The Path of the Gods') encourage cinematicwalks that are perfect for absorbing the atmosphere. Settle infor two days on the glorious island of Capri and explorePompeii as you experience Amalfi in the best way on foot andat eye level in the company of an Italian friend who knows theins and outs of life on the edge of the sea.

## The Classic Journeys Difference

- → ACTIVE HIKING & WALKING
- → LOCAL WELL-CONNECTED GUIDES
- → PREMIERE HOTELS
- → FOODIE FOCUSED
- → HANDCRAFTED TRIP DESIGN
- → MORE IS INCLUDED

### What's Included

- All breakfasts, 1 lunch (cooking instruction), 3 dinners
- Full-time experienced guide(s) who are with you throughout the trip and handle behind-the-scenes logistics
- · Admissions to tastings, historic sites and other scheduled events as noted in the detailed daily itinerary
- · Gratuities for hotels, meals, and baggage
- All land transportation during the trip

## **Above & Beyond Benefits**

#### → WINE ON US

In many regions, we uncork wonderful local wines at every dinner, compliments of Classic Journeys.

#### → INVISIBLE CHECK-IN

When your group arrives, we whisk you and your bags to your room immediately. No waiting – no tipping.

### → PRIVILEGED ACCESS EVENTS

One-of-a-kind access to remarkable people, places and activities arranged just for you.

#### → PERFECT PAIRINGS DINNERS

A special dinner prepared by one of our favorite chefs with a procession of wines tailored to each course.

### Terrain

Easy to moderate on good trails and coastal paths. An average of 3 hours of walking per day.

DAY 1 »

### Pompeii

Meet in Naples at your hotel overlooking the bay and the fortress. Your afternoon is dedicated to perhaps the greatest treasure of Roman antiquity: Pompeii. You know the story of how it was buried by an eruption of Vesuvius in 79 AD and of the centuries-long process of excavating the ruins – a process that's still yielding remarkable discoveries. That story comes to vivid life as you explore on foot with your own expert archeologist. You'll see the details and nuances of the city as your guide takes you to a favorite villa and hidden parts of the site.

Late afternoon, you return to Naples, where your hotel is located right on the waterfront. It's an ideal location for a leisurely walk on your own, before or after a festive welcome dinner.

MEALS: D

OVERNIGHT: NAPLES

DAY 2 »

### Capri

After breakfast, board a hydrofoil for a brief skim across the bay to the Isle of Capri, where you'll have the incomparable luxury of calling it your home away from home for the next two nights. From the dock, enjoy the views from your convertible as your driver whisks you up to the piazetta, the little square that is the heart of Capri's pedestrian village and just a few steps from your hotel.

Your first look at the island is one many tourists never see. Join your guide on a walk along cobblestone lanes and coastal paths to hidden lookouts that offer panoramic views over the flower-bedecked terraces of the Gardens of Augustus. Tracing the flower and lemon-tree lined paths back to the village, you'll have time to linger over an outdoor lunch or do some shopping on your own. Continue your explorations on a walk with breathtaking views of the Faraglioni, the towering rock formations that seem to erupt from the sea. From your high-up vantage point, you'll discover that the water is so crystalline that the yachts cast visible shadows on the seabed. You follow in famous footsteps on these trails that were used by the Emperor Tiberius, and even Eisenhower and Churchill who met here secretly to coordinate Allied efforts during World War II.

Dinner tonight is a great introduction to the local culinary traditions of the island.

MEALS: B, D OVERNIGHT: CAPRI

DAY 3 »

### Capri

One of the most unexpected and unforgettable experiences on Capri is making the ascent to Monte Solaro. From Anacapri, the island's other main village, a chairlift takes you up to the terrace on the mountaintop. On the chairlift, you're so close to nature and culture that your feet almost graze the small fruit trees in the gardens of the homes you glide over. Once at the top, remarkable views come into focus. You can see the arc of the bay and Naples at its edge with the iconic profile of Vesuvius. There's also a view to the Amalfi Peninsula and the blue-as-blue-can-be Tyrrhenian Sea. The jaw-dropping views continue as you walk on a natural footpath that wanders through meadows and past a 14th century monastery.

Back in Anacapri, set out to explore this charming hilltop town, on foot and at eye level, as you wind your way through its narrow streets and soak in its sunny island tempo. Anacapri also has a long tradition of handmade crafts, including leather sandals and artistic ceramics that you can find proudly displayed by the locals in their quaint shops. Enjoy browsing at your leisure before making your way back to the village of Capri in the early afternoon, where you can sip a Negroni on a terrace in the pedestrian-only piazzetta. Take advantage of the many different amenities of the hotel and, by all means, explore the elegant shops that stay open late into the evening. (Any designer label that comes to mind when you think of haute couture has a boutique on Capri.) The day-trippers are gone, and this peaceful face of Capri is a wonderful way to bring your day to a lingering and very satisfying end.

MEALS: B OVERNIGHT: CAPRI

DAY 4 »

### Capri / Positano

Fortified by cappuccino and a very Mediterranean breakfast of seasonal fruit, warm breads and local cheeses on Capri, return to the mainland this morning, arriving at the world-famous seaside village of Positano. When John Steinbeck lived here, he said, "Positano bites deep. It is a dream place that isn't quite real when you are there and becomes beckoningly real after you have gone." But don't worry, you're one of the fortunate one's who will fully enjoy the magic of Positano during your visit.

On arrival, continue your explorations along the Amalfi Coast from an entirely different vantage point as you set out on a spectacularly scenic coastal walk. The waters are cobalt blue. And you get the perfect point of view, being able to see the villages, cliffs and coves of the iconic coastline up close and personal. As you walk through the jaw-droppingly cinematic landscape, it's easy to imagine why the footpaths along these mountains, traversed by locals since ancient times, have names like "The Path of the Gods."

Later in the day, enjoy Positano itself with a guided visit and time on your own to stroll, shop or indulge in a gelato. Local artisans are known for their unique fashions, hand-made shoes and an excellent selection of local art. You have time to soak it all in, before experiencing one of our special Perfect Pairings dinners, where your chef pairs their favorite wines of the region with the freshest local ingredients over several courses.

MEALS: B, D OVERNIGHT: POSITANO

DAY 5 »

### Sorrento

The Sorrentine Peninsula beckons this morning. So you walk a footpath that meanders through chestnut trees and a pinewood forest, passing by homes and gardens where all sorts of delicious seasonal fruits and vegetables are grown. Your destination is an organic farm, located on the hills above Sorrento, where your hosts welcome you for a traditional Neapolitan hands-on pizza -making. With them, you'll learn how to prepare the iconic specialty, along the way discovering the secrets for how to make the freshest-ever mozzarella. Then you'll toss pizza dough, carefully applying your favorite toppings, and bake your own masterpiece, in an original wood fired oven.

Later, in the middle afternoon, journey back to Positano with time to relax at the swimming pool before dinner on your own in one of the many fine restaurants (trattorie) in the village.

MEALS: B, L OVERNIGHT: POSITANO

DAY 6 »

### Ravello/Naples

Your morning opens with a scenic drive along the coast (there is no other kind of drive in Amalfi) to Ravello, one of the true gems of the Amalfi Coast. Perched high on a ridge, the town has a picturesque historic center with colorful ceramic shops and bustling sidewalk cafes. All footpaths end at the literal edge of gardens perched above cliffs with jaw-dropping views, and where you can see miles and miles of coastline from a single spot.

You'll have plenty of time in Ravello. But just as important as exploring the iconic village is how you arrive there. And we've planned the perfect morning to get you there on foot at eye level. Starting with gorgeous views of the coast above the Maiori and Minori valleys where the world-famous lemons of the Amalfi Coast are grown, your footpath meanders through incredible landscapes, including the Valle del Dragone with its dramatic shades of green that contrast with the deep blue of the sea in the distance. The well-beaten footpath leads past olive and chestnut trees, and low honey-colored stone walls that separate one farmer's land from another's. You may even find yourself face to face with a farmer and his mule, in the same way that generations of locals have for ages on the Amalfi coast to transport heavy loads up and down the mountains.

As the walk winds its way along the edge of the village, you'll see ancient buildings that date to the Middle Ages on one side of your path and breathtaking views over the bay on the other side. Your final destination is the private estate of Villa Cimbrone with its iconic gardens and the jaw-dropping "Belvedere dell'Infinito", the most spectacular lookout of the Amalfi Coast. Join your guide to learn the hidden secrets and historical anecdotes about the villa. By early afternoon, you'll be ready for lunch. Villa Cimbrone is just a few steps from Ravello's photogenic main square, where you can enjoy a cappuccino or Aperol spritz, have lunch and explore the ceramic shops that are acclaimed for the quality of their product.

Later this afternoon you'll return to Naples with wonderful memories and shared experiences of your time in southern Italy.

MEALS: B

### **Tour Hotels**



#### **Grand Hotel Vesuvio**

Built in 1882, the Grand Hotel Vesuvio is centrally located on the waterfront, overlooking Santa Lucia Harbor and the Bay of Naples. The atmosphere of an old-world hotel gracefully combines with all the modern comforts and personalized services.

NIGHTS: 1 nights



#### **Grand Hotel Quisisana**

The 'Quisi' is THE hotel in Capri. Grand and gracious, it's been named one of the World's Top 100 Hotels by both Condé Nast Traveler and Travel + Leisure. Its staid façade on the town square gives way to a hugely glamorous pool overlooking the sea.

NIGHTS: 2 nights



#### Le Agavi

This beautiful 5-star hotel is built into a cliff overlooking the bay of Positano and boasts a sea-view restaurant and private beach. The appionted guest rooms have their own balcony or terrace from where to enjoy wonderful views of Positano and the sea.

NIGHTS: 2 nights

# Arrival & Departure

#### → ARRIVAL DETAILS

START LOCATION: Lobby of Grand Hotel Vesuvio

START CITY: Naples
START TIME: 12:30 PM

### → DEPARTURE DETAILS

END LOCATION: Train Station

END CITY: Naples
END TIME: 6:30 PM