

Frommer's®

# Amalfi Coast

with Naples, Capri & Pompeii



Up the cliff from Conca dei Marini is **Furore**, famous for its D.O.C. wine, and its **fjord**, which was cut into the high limestone cliff by the Schiato brook (the name *Furore* means rage, and refers to the way the sea rises in the fjord during storms). A scenic yet hair-rising hike along **Sentiero della Volpe Pescatrice (Fishing Fox Trail)** ★★ leads down to the fishing hamlet of **Furore Marina** (the trail is marked number 17 on the CAI map, p. 182). The trail is a descent down the rocky walls of the fjord, along the path that was used by local peasant-fishermen to reach their *monazzeni* (the boat-houses built on the diminutive beach). Incidentally, you can see the dwellings, built pueblo-style, from the viaduct off SS 163, about midway between Praiano and Conca dei Marini; this is also where you could take the steep stairway—200 steps—that starts from SS 163 and descends to the bottom of the fjord. But perhaps the most romantic way to approach the bottom is via boat, from one of the harbors nearby.

Farther up the cliff from Furore, the high plateau of **Agerola** is famous for its beauty and for its cattle and sheep, which produce the milk for which the Monti Lattari were named for (*latte* means milk). The region's best cheese comes from Agerola's farms—indeed, some of the best cheese in the country can be had here. A collection of farming hamlets, Agerola has its administrative center in **Pianillo**. The most scenic of Agerola's bourgs is **San Lazzaro** where, past the church to the left, you will find the **Punta**, a natural terrace offering dramatic views ★★. Taking the road to the right of the church, you will find more awesome panoramas opening from the terrace by the ex-Castle Avitabile, and from the ruins of **Castel Lauritano** ★★★. The whole area offers unending **hiking** opportunities, including the demanding but extremely scenic 5-hour hike to the **Vallone delle Ferriere** waterfall, starting from San Lazzaro.

## WHERE TO STAY IN THE AREA

### EXPENSIVE

**Furore Inn Resort** ★★ This luxury spa-hotel (the spa is open to the public) is a striking whitewashed structure merged into the supporting cliff. Its dramatic sea views are pleasantly matched by the elegant interior. The panoramic rooms all feature Vietri

#### OFF THE BEATEN TRACK: CONCA DEI MARINI, FURORE & AGEROLA

... tiled floors and classic furnishings. Each opens onto its own private terrace... equipped with a spacious and elegantly tiled bathroom. The spa offers a variety of beauty treatments and massages. Of the hotel's two restaurants, **La Volpe** offers creative Amalfitan fare on the beautiful terrace, while the **Italian Terrace** offers modern Italian cuisine in a more formal atmosphere.

Via dell'Amore 1, Contrada Sant'Elia, 84010 Furore. ☎ 089-8304711. Fax 089-8304777. www.furoreinn.it. 22 units. 360€–460€ (\$504–\$644/€252–€322) double; from 550€ (\$770/€385) suite. AE, DC, MC, V. Free parking. Closed 2 weeks Nov–Dec and 2 weeks Jan–Feb. Amenities: 2 restaurants; bar; babysitting; concierge; outdoor pool; parking; room service; spa. In room: A/C, satellite TV, hair dryer, minibar, safe.

Amalfi