

THE AMALFI COAST 68

Summer 2006



The 68 best places to eat, sleep, and play
in the Amalfi Coast this summer.

With 20 million+ travelers visiting the site each month and more than 5 million reviews and opinions, TripAdvisor makes travel planning a snap.

.....

 **tripadvisor**[®]
get the truth. then go.[™]

INTRODUCTION



TripAdvisor, the most trusted source for where to eat, sleep and play in thousands of destinations around the world, has collected the best insider tips from its 20 million monthly visitors to produce a unique series of travel guides to 25 top summer destinations. In addition to the best hotels, restaurants and attractions for every type of traveler, you'll get great advice about what to pack, how to get around, and where to find the best views. Be sure to check out the summer travel guides for all 25 destinations at www.tripadvisor.com/triptips

Every time you download a guide, you'll be entered for a chance to win one of 10 trips worth up to \$5,000 to one of our top summer destinations.



You'll find reviews for more than 160,000 hotels, 65,000 attractions and 90,000 restaurants on TripAdvisor.com. Learn what to expect from other travelers before you make your plans.



PACKING TIPS

1. **Stay well:** Hay fever sufferers should pack extra antihistamines as the pollen "seems to be 10 times worse in Italy."
—TripAdvisor Member, Bristol, U.K.
2. **Stay warm:** A sweater will come in handy for evening outdoor performances at Ravello's famous music festival.
3. **Stay wet:** Don't forget your bathing suit for a swim in the warm Mediterranean Sea.

Inside **AMALFI COAST**

Idyllic fishing villages filled with narrow, pebbled streets cling precariously to the spectacular cliffs of the Amalfi Coast in southern Italy. Lemon and olive groves dot this impressive landscape, which proved popular with Greek gods, Roman emperors and, more recently, a host of writers, artists and musicians, including composer Richard Wagner and writers Graham Greene and Gore Vidal.

Legend says the name Amalfi comes from a nymph, whom the pagan god Hercules loved. When she died, he buried her in the most beautiful place in the world and then named it for her. Originally a Roman colony, Amalfi grew into a seafaring republic between the 9th and 11th centuries. Pirates and plague diminished the stature of Amalfi, which made a comeback, thanks to tourism, in the 19th century. Two of Italy's most amazing ancient ruins—Pompeii and Herculaneum—are a short train ride from Sorrento.

The Amalfi Coast can get hot in summer, although refreshing breezes often moderate the temperature.

Top VIEWS



AMALFI COAST'S BEST VIEWS

The clifftop **Ravello-Minori Walk**, along Via Roma, meanders through lemon groves, affording spectacular sea views. "This area is breathtaking, it is a little piece of heaven by the sea." —TripAdvisor Member, Exton, Penn.

Ravello-Minori Walk, Via Roma, Amalfi

Go to the grounds of **Villa Rufolo in Ravello**—a mansion with colorful gardens and an annual series of concerts (part of the Ravello Festival)—for exquisite views of the mountains and the Bay of Salerno. "Breathtaking! Life transforming!" —TripAdvisor Member, Long Island, N.Y.

Villa Rufolo, Piazza Duomo, Ravello, 089-857-657.

"**Santa Maria de Castellabate** is a picturesque little village off the beaten path. On a bus ride up to the top of the old town I found myself in a wonderful little piazza in a medieval village with magnificent views of the countryside and sea." —TripAdvisor Member, Spartanburg, S.C.

Santa Maria de Castellabate, Salerno

Where to PLAY

"...a medieval village with magnificent views of the countryside and sea."

TOP 10 Attractions

1. Mamma Agata - Cooking Class, Piazza S. Cosma, 9, Ravello, 089-857-019
2. Mami Camilla Cooking School, Via Cocumella 4, S.Agnello di Sorrento, Sorrento, 081-878-2067
3. Villa Cimbrone Gardens, Via Santa Chiara 26, Ravello, 089-857-459
4. Villa Rufolo, Piazza Duomo, Ravello, 089-857-657
5. Cooking Class Vincenzino, Ravello, 089-858
6. Duomo, Piazza Duomo, Ravello
7. Ravello-Minori Walk, Via Roma, Amalfi
8. Sant'Agata Sui Due Golfi, Center of gulf of Naples and Salerno, Sorrento
9. Correale di Terranova Museum, Via Correale 50, Sorrento, 081-878-1846
10. Cappuccini Convento, Hotel Cappuccini Convento, Via Annunziatella 46, Amalfi, 089-871-877



FAMILIES

"For a sample of the finest ice-cream, try **Daive's Gelateria** in Sorrento." —TripAdvisor Member, Kent, England

Gelateria Davide, Via PR Giuliani 41, Sorrento, 081-878-1337

Anyone staying on the Amalfi Coast will want to at least sample a taste of the Amalfi Drive, one of the most spectacular roads in the world. "Our family of 4 (including 2 kids 10 and 14) greatly enjoyed our drive on the Amalfi Coast with an exceptional guide and driver—Francesco Marrapese." —TripAdvisor Member

Francesco Marrapese, Private Driver, Via dei Platani 24/F, Piano di Sorrento, info@francescomarrapese.com

"Take the kids to The **Marina Grande** public beach and let them splash about while you and the missus have a nice relaxing drink in one of the cafes there." —TripAdvisor Member, United Kingdom

Marina Grande, Capri. Office of Tourism, 081-837-0634.



ROMANCE

The must-see attraction on Capri is the magical Blue Grotto, where visitors take a boat ride through a natural cavern filled with eerie light. "The water just glows a deep, and at the same time, bright blue, and as you go deeper into the cave, it follows you in, gorgeous!!" —TripAdvisor Member

Other romantic locations along the Amalfi Coast include the awesome Emerald Grotto, reached by boat from Amalfi or Praiano. "You must see the Emerald Grotto." —TripAdvisor Member, Europe

"The water just glows!"

Cozy up on the breathtaking chairlift that rides up the 1,932-foot **Monte Solaro** on Capri. Jump aboard the chairlift at Caposcuro Street, near Piazza Vittoria.

Monte Solaro Chairlift, Via Caposcuro, 10, Anacapri, 081-837-1428

Where to **PLAY**



BUDGET

Visit the lovely ninth-century **Cathedral of St. Andreas** (St. Andrew), whose remains are said to be buried in the crypt.

Cathedral of St. Andreas, Piazza del Duomo, Amalfi, 089-872-203

Amalfi's **Museo Civico** on Piazza Municipio is free and open Monday to Saturday.

Museo Civico, on Piazza Municipio, entrance off Corso Roma, 089-871-066

A hike along the stunning **coastal paths** will cost nothing but give you the opportunity to see much.

Coastal Paths, Amalfi

TripAdvisor members have posted more than 250,000 photos on this site. The good, the bad, and the very candid. It's almost like being there!



ADVENTURE

Tour Amalfi by water; you can view the amazing coastal towns and villages on an eight-day sea-kayak trip that takes you from inn to inn.

The Northwest Passage, 1-800-RECREATE

"There's lots of great snorkeling and scuba diving along the Amalfi Coast. The visibility is excellent and the water is great!"

—TripAdvisor Member, St. Marys, Ohio.

La Boa Diving Center, Via Marina di Praia, Praiano, 089-813-034

Take an adventure walk and spend two hours, or even six, exploring the magnificent scenery.

Francesco Carpegna Adventurer, Positano, 338-607-5559

"you may want to arrive by boat to avoid the seemingly infinite steps"



EDUCATIONAL/HISTORICAL

The **Greek temples at nearby Paestum** are "in remarkably well-preserved condition and incredibly huge."—TripAdvisor Member, Chicago, Ill.

National Archaeological Museum of Paestum, Via Magna Grecia, Paestum, 0828-811-023

Further afield, but an easy day trip by train from Sorrento, are **Pompeii**, home of the world's most famous volcanic disaster, and the smaller, but equally fascinating **Herculaneum**. "There was so much to see and imagine and admire; we could easily have spent several days there."

—TripAdvisor Member, Raleigh, N.C.

Pompeii, 081-536-5154, Herculaneum, 081-857-5347

The exquisite hilltop retreat of **Ravello**, with its villas, gardens, cafés and cobbled streets, provides a relaxing break from the coast. Its two famous villas are the breathtaking **Villa Rufolo** on the Piazza Duomo and the **Villa Cimbrone**, which is now a hotel.

Villa Rufolo, Ravello. 089-857-657, Villa Cimbrone, Via Santa Chiara 26, Ravello. 089-857-459



RELAXATION

The church of **Santa Maria a Cetrella** is a small sanctuary in late-Gothic style on the slopes of Monte Solaro, offering a fantastic view of Capri. Take the chairlift up Monte Solaro and then follow the path to valletta di Cetrella.

Cetrella, Anacapri, Anacapri Tourism Office, 081-837-0634.

If you want to laze on the beach, try the string of small but pretty beaches to the east of **Positano**, which are separated by coves and mostly accessible only by boat: **La Porta, Fiumicello, Arienzo, San Pietro and Laurito.**

The **Santa Croce** beach between Praiano and Amalfi is terrific, although "you may want to arrive by boat to avoid the seemingly infinite steps." —TripAdvisor Member

What's the **TOUR**

How to Get Around



Public transport: Public transportation from Sorrento is “cheap and efficient.” Pick up timetables “as soon as you arrive” to plan your trips. —TripAdvisor Member, Liverpool, England

Train: Take the train from Naples because the ferry “is unpredictable and can be cancelled at any time.” —TripAdvisor Member, Welland, Ontario, Canada

Buses: Sit on the right-hand side of the bus from Sorrento to Amalfi to best see the coast views.

Want more information on the Amalfi Coast? TripAdvisor.com offers free weekly email updates filled with new deals, reviews and articles for Amalfi or any other destination you choose.



WHERE to eat

FAMILIES

For family meals, Sorrento's **Trattoria da Emilia** is “lovely for lunch or a simple dinner, with hearty Italian home cooking in a lovely setting.” —TripAdvisor Member, Cork, Ireland

Trattoria da Emilia, Via Marina Grande, Sorrento, 081-807-2720

Ravello's **Cumpa Cosimo** is “a wonderful family-run restaurant” where you'll get a “wonderfully rich serving of Italian comfort food accompanied by the most gregarious and accommodating hostess.” —TripAdvisor Member, Carmel, Ind.

Cumpa Cosimo, Via Roma, 44, Ravello, 089-857-156

Da Vittoria is simple and informal, making it ideal for families who enjoy tucking into good pasta dishes and thin-crust pizza.

Da Vittoria, Via dei Rufolo, 3, Ravello, 089-857-947

ROMANCE

A romantic, candle-lit setting can be found at **La Caravella**, which serves superb antipasti and has a huge wine list, according to The Sunday Times. A “high class restaurant with high quality cuisine.” —TripAdvisor Member, Amalfi Coast

La Caravella, Via Matteo Camera 12, Amalfi, 089-871-029

With hundreds of candles and vaulted ceilings, **La Sponda** at the Sirenuse Hotel in Positano, is “very elegant and romantic” —TripAdvisor Member, Detroit, Mich.

La Sponda, Via Cristoforo Colombo, Positano, 089-875-066

Eolo in Amalfi is “a small, elegant and sophisticated restaurant in town. Be sure to ask for a window table as the memory of the view of Amalfi and the harbor at night will linger for months afterward.” —TripAdvisor Member, Chicago, Ill.

Eolo, Via Pantaleone Comite, Amalfi, 089-871-241

WHERE to eat



BUDGET

Less expensive but tasty meals can be had at **Da Gemma** tucked away in Amalfi's Via Fratello. This restaurant "is in a lovely spot above the main square" and the food is "fantastic." —TripAdvisor Member, Durham, N.C.

Da Gemma, Via Fratello Gerardo Sasso, 9, Amalfi, 089-871-345



HEALTH-CONSCIOUS

The **Excelsior Grand Hotel** has a "good and occasionally adventurous" vegetarian menu. —TripAdvisor Member, Yorkshire, England

Excelsior Grand Hotel, Via Papa Leone X, Amalfi, 089-830-015



HIDDEN GEMS

Il Ritrovo, hidden away in the mountains at Montepertuso, serves traditional seafood, chicken, vegetables and wines. Reserve a table and you'll be taken up to its terrace site on a free shuttle.

Il Ritrovo, Via Montepertuso, 77, Montepertuso, 89-812-005

At **Da Adolfo** on Spaggia di Laurito, Positano, diners sit for hours in their swimsuits, whiling away the time reading or chatting. Take the boat across to join them.

Da Adolfo, Spaggia di Laurito, Positano, 089-875-022

The owners of **Don Alfonso** make their own organic olive oil and grow organic vegetables. "The food is superb and the staff incredibly attentive. I can also recommend the tour of the wine cellar after the meal." —TripAdvisor Member, Eastbourne

Don Alfonso, Corso Sant'Agata 11, Sant'Agata sui due Golfi. 081-878-0026

The **Antico Francischiello da Peppino** is located halfway between Sorrento and Massa Lubrense, far from the busy towns.

Antico Francischiello da Peppino, Via Partenope, Massa Lubrense, Sorrento, 081-533-9780

Alternatively, **La Favorita O' Parrucchiano** serves reasonably priced classic Sorrentine cuisine in a conservatory filled with tropical greenery "where the history of Sorrento has been emblazoned since the mid-nineteenth century." —TripAdvisor Member, New York

La Favorita O' Parrucchiano, Corso Italia 71, Sorrento, 081-878-1321

Al Pesce d'Oro serves healthy, fresh seafood in a fun atmosphere.

Al Pesce d'Oro, Via Giovanni Agustariccio, Amalfi. 089-831-231

Another tranquil gem is the **Open Gate Hotel's** elegant restaurant "We had dinner at the Restaurant of the hotel and it was very special. I was really sure that the food was the best I have ever had in my Italian journey." —TripAdvisor Member, West Palm Beach, Fla.

Open Gate Hotel, Via Roma 52, Praiano, 089-874-210

SPECIAL SUMMER EVENTS



Ravello's villas and gardens play host to the world-famous classical music festival. June 30 - September 17

Ravello Festival, 089-858-422

The residents of Praiano gather to celebrate the **Festival of San Luca** with feasts and fireworks. July 2

Praiano Tourist Office, 089-874-557

Jazz on the Coast is an international festival held in Minori. July 20 - August 5

Jazz on the Coast. Minori Tourist Office, 089-877-087

Dating from 1599, Praiano's **Luminaria di San Domenico** is a torchlit pageant that takes place every night at 9 p.m. August 1 - 4

Luminaria di San Domenico Convento di Santa Maria ad Castro, Praiano.

Assumption Day, or Ferragosta, is marked in Positano with mock battles and a fireworks display. August 15

Assumption Day, 089-875-067

The Festival of Blue Fish when the people of Atrani celebrate the local catch of sardines and anchovies by selling traditional fish dishes on the streets. August 20

Festival of Blue Fish, Atrani Tourist Office, 346-309-5427.

Amalfi celebrates **Bizantine New Year's Eve**. August 31

Amalfi Tourist Office, 089-871-107

For an epicurean delight, Minori hosts the **Gusta Minori** food festival. September 11 - 14

Minori Tourist Office, 089-877-087

Where to STAY



FAMILIES

Families will like the **Giordano Hotel**, which has a “beautiful swimming pool with trees dotted about to create lovely shaded areas.” —TripAdvisor Member, London, England

Giordano Hotel, Amalfi Coast, Ravello, 089-857-170

The **Palazzo Belmonte** is “a haven of peace from the very busy Santa Maria Di Castellabate.” It’s “lovely for a family holiday.” —TripAdvisor Member, Cheshire, England

Palazzo Belmonte, 84072 Santa Maria di Castellabate, Salerno, 0974-960-211

The **Hotel Panorama** is welcoming to families. “The view from the bar at night with the moon reflected by the sea and the fireworks behind the hills was magical.” —TripAdvisor Member, Hertfordshire, U.K.

Hotel Panorama, Via Santa Tecla 8, Maiori, 089-877-202

Have questions about the Amalfi Coast? Get insider advice from local experts in our forums. The majority of questions get answered within 24 hours.



ROMANCE

Popular with honeymooners, the Amalfi Coast isn't short of romantic hotels. The **Furore Inn Resort** is top of the TripAdvisor Popularity Index for Salerno. “To say it is a beautiful location is a vast understatement.” —TripAdvisor Member, Southend England

Furore Inn Resort, Via Dell'Amore, Contrada S Elia, Salerno, 089-830-4711

Also highly ranked in Sorrento is the lovely **Antiche Mura Hotel**. “The pool and the lemon tree garden are absolutely lovely and so secluded that you forget where you are.” —TripAdvisor Member, Surrey, England

Antiche Mura Hotel, Via Fuorimura 7, Sorrento, 081-807-3523

The charming and friendly **Villa Lara Hotel** is situated in a good location overlooking Amalfi and is top of the TripAdvisor Popularity Index for the town. “Breakfast is served on a beautiful terrace with one of the most stunning views in Southern Italy.” —TripAdvisor Member, Tel-Aviv, Israel

Villa Lara Hotel, Via delle Cartiere 1, Amalfi, 089-873-635



BUDGET

Budget travelers may want to try **Villa La Tartana**, which is top of the TripAdvisor Popularity Index for B&Bs/inns in Positano. “You simply can't go wrong with this hotel.” —TripAdvisor Member, Dublin, Ireland

Villa La Tartana, Via Vicolo Vito Savino 6/8, Positano, 089-812-193

The affordable **Settimo Cielo** has “basic rooms but a view to die for. We overlooked the sea and the Marina Grande and, in the distance, Mount Vesuvius.” —TripAdvisor Member, U.K.

Settimo Cielo, Via Capo 27, Sorrento, 081-878-1012

“If you want a budget room in a great environment with plenty of space then **Domus Porto Salvo** is for you.” —TripAdvisor Member, Berkshire, U.K.

Domus Porto Salvo, Via Nuovo Rione Cappuccini 11, Sorrento, 081-877-4887



LUXURY

An upscale experience can be had at **Le Sirenuse Hotel**. “We were impressed by the elegance, the exquisite taste and the wonderful sophistication.” —TripAdvisor Member, London, England

Le Sirenuse Hotel, 30 Via Cristoforo Colombo, Positano, 089-875-066

The **Hotel Caruso Ravello** incorporates part of the site's original 11th-century palace. “We had to pull ourselves away from the property to do anything! It was just so beautiful. A great place to come and relax and unwind from the pressures of work and family.” —TripAdvisor Member, Davis, Calif.

Hotel Caruso Ravello, Piazza San Giovanni Del Toro 2, Ravello, 089-858-801

The cliff-side **Santa Caterina** is “a true gem of a hotel,” where you get nothing but “impeccable service.” —TripAdvisor Member, Northamptonshire, England

Santa Caterina, 9 SS Amalfitana, Amalfi, 089-871-012

Where to STAY



HIDDEN GEMS

Far from the busy towns is the “piece of heaven” **Villa San Michele**. It has the “perfect ingredients for a wonderful hotel experience.” —TripAdvisor Member, Vancouver, Canada

Villa San Michele, 163 Costiera Amalfitana, Ravello, 089-872-237

Another hidden gem is the family-run **Margherita**, nestled on the idyllic coast between Positano and Amalfi. Most rooms have a sea view or terrace.

Margherita, Via Umberto Primo 70, Praiano, 089-874-628

From your first entrance into the **Villa Cimbrone**, everything will be “absolutely magical.” This historic setting is “the most incredible and romantic place” you could stay. —TripAdvisor Member, London, England

Villa Cimbrone, Via Santa Chiara 26, Ravello, 089-857-459

“the most incredible and romantic place you could stay”

About TRIPADVISOR

TripAdvisor.com is the largest travel community in the world with 20 million monthly visitors and featuring more than 5 million reviews and opinions of 230,000 hotels and attractions. TripAdvisor.com is the most trusted source for travel recommendations about where to go, where to stay and how to play for 24,000 destinations around the world. TripAdvisor.com also provides easy access to the major online travel sites to make booking your next vacation, your best vacation, easier than ever.



Edited/compiled by Vivienne Crow

This brochure and its contents are Copyright © 2006, TripAdvisor, Inc., all rights reserved. TRIPADVISOR, the owl logo and all other marks displayed herein are registered and/or common law trademarks of TripAdvisor and/or third parties. Representations made in this brochure are current as of its publication date. This brochure contains reviews, comments, photographs, and other content regarding destinations, accommodations, airlines and other travel products and services submitted by users of tripadvisor.com. Reviews and ratings represent the opinions of such users. TripAdvisor does not sponsor or endorse any user content and therefore is not liable for any statements, representations or other information contained in such user content.

Further, reference to any products, services, processes or other information of any third party does not constitute or imply endorsement, sponsorship or recommendation of, or affiliation with, such third party by TripAdvisor. Such third parties are owned and operated by independent retailers or service providers, and TripAdvisor cannot ensure that you will be satisfied with their products, services, business practices or provided information. TripAdvisor recommends that you pursue any and all investigation you feel necessary or appropriate before transacting with any third party.