



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

— Travel + Leisure

# Walking Italy's Most Spectacular Coastline

On a launch approaching the Amalfi Coast, you face a startling sight — like oversized rock climbers, gleaming villas cling with no visible foothold to the sheer cliffs. You have to ask yourself how...why? But when you swing open the shutters in your cliffside hotel room, the jaw-dropping view is all the answer you need. Situated on the "ankle" of the Italian boot, Amalfi has a balmy climate. Orange trees line village streets. Breezy seaside footpaths around Positano (with names like 'The Path of the Gods') encourage cinematic walks that are perfect for absorbing the atmosphere. We also settle in for two days on the glorious island of Capri — one of our favorite places in Italy. We make time for Pompeii, and unlike most visitors, you'll see Amalfi in the best way — on foot and at eye level in the company of an Italian friend who knows the ins and outs of life on the edge of the sea.

#### DAY 1

#### **POMPEII**

- Visit Pompeii, the greatest treasure of Roman antiquity
- Explore on foot with your own expert archeologist guide

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 centurieslong 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.

Overnight: Naples

Meals: D

DAY 2

#### **CAPRI**

- · Hydrofoil across the Bay of Naples to Capri
- · Settle into your luxurious accommodations
- · Soak in remarkable views from a footpath overlooking the sea

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.

Overnight: Capri Meals: B, D

#### DAY 3

#### **CAPRI**

- Marvel at the views from the top of Monte Solaro
- · Follow a scenic footpath through wildflowers, and past wild mountain goats and a 14th century monastery
- Stroll the quiet streets after the day-trippers leave

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.

Overnight: Capri Meals: B

#### DAY 4

#### **CAPRI / POSITANO**

- · Enjoy the cobalt blue waters of the Amalfi Coast by private boat
- Explore Positano
- · Settle into your spectacularly-sited hotel in 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. Local artisans are known for their unique fashions, hand-made shoes and an excellent selection of local art.

On arrival, set out on a scenic coastal walk to a hidden beach where you can enjoy lunch on a terrace by the sea. After lunch, continue your explorations along the Amalfi Coast from an entirely different vantage point only with Classic Journeys, on a private boat. 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 at sea level. As you gaze up at 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."

Back on shore in Positano, enjoy some time on your own to stroll, shop or indulge in a gelato before arriving at your hotel that clings dramatically to the hillside, offering spectacular views of the gorgeous village and the Amalfi Coast. 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.

Overnight: Positano

Meals: B, D

#### DAY 5

#### **AMALFI COAST / RAVELLO**

- · Follow a trail past honey colored stone walls and small-scale farms with breathtaking views of the coast
- · Walk the sky-high gardens of Villa Cimbrone
- · Explore the town of Ravello and its ceramics shops

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, 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.

Overnight: Positano

Meals: B

#### DAY 6

#### **SORRENTO**

- · Walk through pine and chestnut trees to an organic farm perched on the hills above Sorrento
- · Make your own pizza in a real wood-burning oven
- · Taste the freshest mozzarella and drink the original limoncello

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 handson 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.

After lunch, join your hosts in the farm's small factory where they create some of the region's finest limoncello. You'll see how the giant local lemons are condensed down to the gold liqueur and then sip an icy, citrus-y toast to your time on the Amalfi Coast. Later in the afternoon, head to Sorrento, the town that has enchanted generations of travelers, starting from the wealthy Roman Senators to the artists of the Grand Tour. Stroll through the colorful streets, before returning to Naples to part company.

Meals: B, L











# **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.

**OVERNIGHT:** Naples | **NIGHTS:** 1



#### **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.

**OVERNIGHT:** Capri | **NIGHTS:** 2



### 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 appointed guest rooms have their own balcony or terrace from where to enjoy wonderful views of Positano and the sea.

**OVERNIGHT:** Positano | **NIGHTS**: 2

#### Tour Dates & Prices

To see the full list of dates and prices for this tour, go to our website by clicking here.

Want to travel with just your group on a date of your choosing? Visit CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/PRIVATE to learn more about Private Journeys.

## **Trip Essentials**

TRIP LENGTH 6 Days, 5 Nights

**START** Lobby of Grand Hotel Vesuvio, Naples, Italy

**END** Train Station, Naples, Italy

**TERRAIN** Easy to moderate on good trails and coastal paths. An average of

3 hours of walking per day.

#### What's Included

- Award-winning boutique hotels that provide you unlimited access to the people and places, culture and history you came to experience
- 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
- Invisible Check-In
- Privileged Access Events
- Perfect Pairings Dinners

# READY TO BOOK? CLICK TO MAKE A RESERVATION

# Or give us a call

1-800-200-3887

Mon-Fri 8:00AM - 5:00PM PST moreinfo@classicjourneys.com

#### **AMBASSADOR CLUB**

As a Classic Journeys guest, you are invited to join the Ambassador Club after your first Classic Journeys tour. As a member, you'll have access to a whole suite of Ambassador benefits you can use immediately and as often as you like.

#### **ENJOY THE UNEXPECTED**

When you travel with Classic Journeys, you can expect handcrafted surprises built into every trip, but some things just can't be anticipated. Unusual weather, a once-a-year festival or an unscheduled site closing will inspire us and your local guide to improvise and modify this itinerary. Likewise, the hotels named here are used on the majority of our trips, but occasionally one of them can't accommodate us. If that happens, you can count on us to let you know before departure and make sure you're in a hotel of equal or better quality. It's our goal to make your trip exceptional!

\*\*Any discount offered cannot be combined with other offers, and only applies to published (regularly scheduled pubic) departure dates in our catalogs or on our website.

# THE Classic Journeys Difference



#### HANDCRAFTING TRIPS OF A LIFETIME.

At the end of the day, we fundamentally believe that every guest on every departure of every trip should have a trip of a lifetime. We're fortunate to play the role of well-connected friend, linking our guests with amazing guides, artisans, winemakers, hoteliers, restaurateurs, naturalists, and too many others to list here.

That's what motivates me and our team — in our La Jolla HQ and around the world — every day. Join Us!







# You can expect the highest standards:



#### Luxurious Lodgings:

Ours include coveted properties that appear in "World's Best" and "Gold List" rankings.



#### Included Activities:

You'll never be surprised with add-on fees on your activities that include snorkeling to cooking lessons.



#### Local Guides:

Your guides are locals who are always at your side like well-connected friends.



#### Small Group Travel:

With an average of just 10-12 guests, it's a small footprint that guarantees you access that's off-limits to larger groups.



#### Amazing Cuisine:

From Michelin-starred restaurants to lunch in a farmhouse kitchen, you'll have a seat for the region's signature dishes.



#### Unmatched Value:

"Excellent value" and "unbeatable access" are two of the reasons that Travel + Leisure has consistently voted us a World's Best Tour Operator.

# You'll enjoy these handcrafted travel experiences in Amalfi Coast...

- Enjoying two days in Capri, while most tourists just make a crowded day-trip
- Savoring food so good it could make you weep, especially if you watch the sun go down on Positano while you're eating it
- Exploring Pompeii with your archaeologist friend on a unique, personally guided tour
- Overnighting in knockout hotels like the Grand Vesuvio, one of The Leading Hotels of the World
- Finding out that the friendliest, most-informed Italian you've ever known is also your expert guide

"We appreciated all the help and information regarding the trip especially since we booked so late in the game. It helped us to know what to expect, what to bring, what to read etc. Very helpful."

-Beth P., Moscow, Russia,