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# Campania and the Bay of Naples

Friday, January 12 to Saturday, January 20, 2018 (dates in Italy, exclusive of travel to and from the US)

## Introduction

Goethe wrote in his journal on March 3, 1787: “I won’t say another word about the beauties of the city and its situation, which have been described and praised often. As they say here, ‘*Vedi Napoli e poi muori*’ — *See Naples and die!*” One can’t blame the Neapolitan for never wanting to leave his city, nor its poets singing its praises in lofty hyperboles: it would be wonderful even if a few more Vesuviuses were to rise in the neighborhood.” While we don’t propose that anyone expire at the conclusion of our trip, the setting of Naples with the great bay at its feet, Vesuvius towering overhead and the islands of Capri and Ischia shimmering in the distance is indeed a great sight, now as it was 230 years ago. It is certainly a fitting one for us to explore the next chapter in our in depth look great Italian cities in the company of the experts!

Our proposed eight nights will be spent exploring the city and its environs with a focus on its successive rich layers of history and development. The Greeks as part of their westward colonization settled at Paestum to the south. The very foundations of the city are Roman, and nearby, of course is the great site of Pompeii. Open spaces, buildings and great artworks embodying medieval, renaissance, baroque, neoclassical, and modern and contemporary styles are plentiful and magnificent.



*Naples with its bay and Mt. Vesuvius as viewed from the Certosa di San Martino in Vomero*



*The topography of Naples results in some odd juxtapositions!*

But Naples is exaggeratedly and often unfairly reputed to be chaotic, dirty, and dangerous, so, notwithstanding the falseness of this accusation, what better reason than to visit it with a team of experts (many native to the place) who will help us navigate

these dreaded challenges and bestow upon each of you an appreciation for the finest that is on offer.

We have selected a small hotel in the heart of Naples that is a Liberty style (Italian term for Art Nouveau) villa embedded in a subsequent larger building in a leafy (well not in January) and peaceful courtyard. It is just a block from the famed National Archaeological Museum in one direction and Spaccanapoli in the other. The penultimate night of the trip we will spend down on the Amalfi coast in Ravello. We will experience the drama of that famous place perched above the spectacular coastline, and on our way there we will go further south to see the three Greek temples at Paestum. On our return we will stop at the baroque palace of the Bourbon kings, Caserta. Ravello enjoys one of the most spectacular settings on earth, perched



*A typical street scene in Spaccanapoli presents a palimpsest of many eras,*

*as it is over 1000 feet above the craggy Amalfi Coast.*

The present offering of this trip has been spurred on by many of those who have recently been with us in Florence and Rome, as well as by our distinguished



*This view from the Certosa features key monuments in the heart of Naples: The Angevin Castel Nuovo with its later renaissance Aragonese Arch, the Galleria Umberto I, The Bourbon Palazzo Reale, and the Teatro San Carlo. Note the prominence of the hue, Naples Yellow*



*The facade of the Galleria Umberto I from the Piazza del Plebiscito*

scholarly lecturers Jeffrey Blanchard and Stefano d'Ovidio (who is a native of Napoli). They will be supported and joined by local experts and guides

*Note that the night in Ravello is not confirmed, pending determining availability in what is definitely out of season, but the sites may also be seen on day trips.*

## Detailed Itinerary

Day 1, Friday, January 12, 2018 arrival in Naples (overnight from US, connections in Rome, etc.)

The day is unplanned until a 2:30 pm departure by foot and funicular to the site of the Certosa of San Martino. From there we will marvel in a stunning view over the city and its bay as day turns to night. We will get there by ascending via one of the funicular lifts to the elegant 19th century Vomero neighborhood where this former monastery is set in a commanding position over the city. From there we will achieve a sense of orientation to the dramatic setting of Naples and we will also learn much about the history of the city from this museum's extensive holdings, including

its extraordinary collection of presepi (creches).

Returning to the hotel, we will gather for a welcome "aperitivo" and dinner, meeting friends new and old!

Day 2, Saturday, January 13, Urban Overview and Orientation from Antiquity to the Present

The next three days will be spent under the expert and passionate guidance of Jeffrey Blanchard (Coordinator, Cornell Program in Rome) whose enthusiasm for Naples we will share!

There will be a walking tour of Spaccanapoli and its churches, including Santa Chiara, San Domenico Maggiore and the Duomo. We will visit some of the remarkable Baroque palaces designed by Vanvitelli and Sanfelice. We will delve into the Renaissance, Baroque and neo-classical urbanism of Naples, studying the grouping of Castel Nuovo, Palazzo Reale, Piazza del Plebiscito (where a replica of the Pantheon is framed by a version of Bernini's St. Peter's Colonnade), Teatro San Carlo and its adjacent Galleria Umberto I. One day we will have lunch or a snack in



*Baroque Guglia (monument in commemoration of survival of the plague) in Piazza Gesù Nuovo.*



*Interior of the Galleria Umberto I with the Teatro San Carlo beyond.*

the famed Gran Caffé Gambrinus. Our span of the centuries will be complete when we reach the new Museum of Contemporary Art (MADRE) created by the Portuguese architect Alvaro Siza in the renovated Palazzo Donna Regina. Not to be missed for another lunch will be a Pizza at famed San Michele or Sorbillo.

Lecture visits will also be arranged to the two key museums: Museo Archeologico, where the collections of antique sculpture and Roman wall paintings and frescoes are world famous and the Capodimonte Museum where in a large palace in the hills overlooking the city is a great collection of paintings accumulated by the successive royal families who ruled Naples.

Day 3, Sunday, January 14, Early Christian Naples

Day 4, Monday, January 15, Renaissance, Baroque and Neoclassical Naples

Day 5, Tuesday, January 16, Pompeii Herculaneum, Villa of Oplontis



*Piazza del Plebiscito*

Today we will start at the early stage of the region's recorded history with an excursion along the coast to Pompeii, Herculaneum and the Villa of Oplontis. Here we will see examples of all the major Roman architectural typologies from courtyard houses, to tenements, to theaters, baths and amphitheaters. A number of colorful frescoes are preserved in situ, where at the Villa of Oplontis they are the most vivid and best preserved after a careful restoration.

Day 6, Wednesday, January 17, Baia and Cuma/Naples Archaeological Museum

Today we will travel around the bay to the north to visit the setting of first Greek settlement on the Italian peninsula: Cuma, where the remains of an acropolis and the Grotto of the Sybil are located. At the Villa Virgiliana we will see one of the earliest Roman amphitheaters and at Baia we will visit the museum in the Arogonese castle and tour the archaeological site.

Day 7, Thursday, January 18, Paestum, Amalfi, and Ravello

We will head inland around Vesuvius and on down the coast to Paestum, a spectacular site where three Greek Doric Temples stand majestically on a coastal plain framed by the sea and a backdrop of sacred mountains.

After a breathtaking drive along the Amalfi coast from Salerno to Amalfi, we will ascend to Ravello, which



*Pompeii with Mt. Vesuvius in background.*



*Temple of Hera at Paestum*

surveys the coast from its perch of over 1000 feet in elevation. Our home here (pending availability and confirmation) will be either the incomparable Hotel Palumbo, which occupies one of the best sites in town or the equally well situated Villa Maria. This evening and the next morning will be devoted to exploring on foot this enchanted aerie, its gardens, views and possibly a private tour of Gore Vidal's former villa. It clings to the side of a cliff with panoramic dramatic views of the coast below. It was Gore Vidal, who suggested First Lady Jaqueline Kennedy visit Ravello with her children in the summer of 1962. She stayed in the episcopal palace and met Gianni Agnelli, who often stayed there.

[Day 8, Friday, January 19, Return to Naples via Caserta](#)

We will return to Naples, stopping first at the Regia di Caserta, the largest

palace in the world. It was designed by Luigi Vanvitelli and built between 1752 and 1780 for the Bourbon monarchy. We should return to Naples early enough for some independent exploration and perhaps some shopping before our farewell dinner gathering very near the hotel.

[Day 9, Saturday, January 20, Transfer to Naples Airport for homeward flights](#)

Individual or group transfers will be arranged to the Naples Capodichino airport from which connections will be possible to the major international gateways.

#### Practical Considerations:

The weather in mid-January can easily be cold, blustery, and raining. There can also be days of crisp, clear air and sunshine to warm us, and we hope for nothing but this, of course! The chief

advantage of a visit at this time of year is that crowds of tourists are minimal to nonexistent, and we will have sites and museums to ourselves. Low hotel rates keep the cost of the trip down, and international airfares are at their lowest and cabins possibly not so full. In restaurants, our fellow diners will be locals.

As in our other urban experiences, a reasonable degree of mobility, fitness and stamina will be expected. Our daily walks will be through streets too narrow for large vehicles to pass, and participants should be comfortable both being on their feet for several hours at a time and with walking at a brisk pace (all the better to work off those meals!). Naples is not flat, nor are the archaeological sites we will visit, so climbing up and down and scrambling over uneven terrain should be second nature.



*This is the first view of Ravello we will have as we drive up the coast from Salerno. (It is the flat plateau shrouded in mist)*



*The Regia at Caserta*



# REGISTRATION FORM

**Campania and the Bay of Naples, January 12-20, 2018**

Yes I would like to attend this travel seminar at a cost of \$6,200 per person double occupancy, \$6,800 single occupancy based on a group of at least 10 participants.

Please provide upgraded hotel accommodations for \$800 pp add'l.

*Costs have fluctuated unpredictably this past year due to changes in fuel costs and exchange rates. The above costs are based on market conditions as of July 1, 2017. They are subject to increase should market conditions change.*

To register please complete this registration form and send it with a \$2,000 deposit (per person) by check to Stephen Harby, 718 Cedar Street, Santa Monica, CA 90405-3810. Only written registrations, including appropriate payment will be accepted as confirmation, however an email response will establish priority in the event of oversubscription.

**Final payment of balance will be due by November 15, 2017.**

Also, please send a photocopy of the picture page of your passport.

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Name

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Name

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Address

City

State

Zip/Postal Code

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Home/work phone

Mobile phone

Email 1

Email 2

Please select one of the following:

double occupancy with 2 beds

I would like to have assistance booking my flights

double occupancy with one bed

single occupancy

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

### WHAT IS INCLUDED

Hotels as indicated on the itinerary based on double occupancy. A limited number of single rooms are available at an additional supplement. We reserve the right to substitute other hotels of a similar quality.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner as mentioned in the itinerary (all meals are included except two dinners, which are on your own).

Admission to all sites as described in the itinerary.

The handling of no more than two medium size suitcases per person

Private Coach transportation on days we travel outside of Naples.

Use of personal headset to facilitate hearing of on-site lectures and commentary.

### WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED

International air transportation to and from Naples. Incidental expenses such as for telephone calls, fax communications, a la carte orders or items not on the set menus, alcoholic drinks over and above table wine provided at evening meals, laundry, and any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

**TRIP INSURANCE**

In the event participants cancel their trip, all non-refundable payments will be forfeited. Trip cancellation insurance is recommended for this purpose.

**REQUIRED TRAVEL DOCUMENTS**

A passport with validity for at least six months beyond end of stay.

**TOUR COSTS**

Costs have been calculated on the basis of charges and exchange rates as of July 1, 2017. Should these change, Stephen Harby reserves the right to make appropriate adjustments to the tour cost.

**ALTERATIONS TO ITINERARY**

Stephen Harby reserves the right to alter, modify or withdraw the itinerary if air schedules and/or events beyond his control deem it necessary. Itinerary changes made by local travel providers are beyond the control of Stephen Harby and should such changes be made the participant will be bound accordingly.

**ITINERARY DEVIATIONS**

Stephen Harby assumes no liability or responsibility for any participant deviating from the group tour. Participants arriving and departing independently are responsible for their own transfers.

**CANCELLATION**

Should cancellation occur prior to 90 days before departure, full refund will be granted less a \$200 service charge; within the following days prior to departure, the specified percentage of tour costs is non-refundable: 60-89 days - 30%; 45-59 days - 50%; 30-44 days - 75%; 29 days or fewer - recoverable hotel, food, travel and communication costs only (likely forfeiture of entire tour cost). Cancellations must be submitted in writing; trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. There will be no refund for any tour accommodation, service, or feature not taken, or if participant cancels for any reason while tour is in progress. Any additional costs due to leaving the tour are the responsibility of the departing passenger. In these times of uncertainty in the international realm, we also have to add that should cancellation or alteration of the program occur due to civil disturbances, acts of terrorism, war, natural disaster, and other events of force majeure or acts of God (including threat or fear of same), refunds will be made only to the extent that they are recoverable by Stephen Harby, and that such cancellation or alteration may result in the total loss of funds paid by participants.

**RESPONSIBILITY**

Stephen Harby and /or agents assume no responsibility or liability in connection with the service of any train, carriage, aircraft, motor coach, or other conveyance or hotel which may be used wholly or in part, in the performance of the tour. Neither will they be responsible or liable for any injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of any defect in any vehicle or through neglect or default of any company or person engaged in conveying or accommodating the passengers; nor for any delays, injuries, damages or losses resulting directly or indirectly from any acts of God, acts of governments, de jure or de facto, wars whether declared or not, hostilities, civil disturbances, terrorist activities, riots, thefts, pilferage, epidemics, quarantines, medical or customs regulations, or from any causes beyond the control of Stephen Harby, and /or agents. In the event it becomes necessary for the comfort or well being of the passengers to alter or modify the itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the tour operator and are not grounds for cancellation with refund. Additional expenses, if any, shall be borne by the passenger. The sole responsibility of the airline used is limited to that set out in the passenger contract evidenced by the tickets. This agreement becomes effective upon acceptance into the tour by Stephen Harby. These Terms and Conditions shall be governed by the State of California.

Your signatures below (each participant please sign) confirms that you have read the Terms and Conditions and accompanying itinerary and agree to abide by its contents.

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Date Signature

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Date Signature