

TENTATIVE ITINERARY NAPLES and AMALFI COAST
September 25 - October 3, 2010

Naples

- Duomo of San Gennaro, built between 1294 – 1323. 19th century facade. San Gennaro is the protector of Naples, he was martyred in AD 205.
- Porta Capuana defensive gate and Castel Capuano. The Porta is perhaps Italy's finest Renaissance gateway. The castle was begun by Norman King William I and completed by Frederick II. It has been used as a royal palace since 1540. There is always a noisy market in the piazza.
- Many churches especially with majolica scenes of rural life, noteworthy in the Cloisters of Santa Chiara.
- Museo Archeologico Nazionale, housed in a former military barracks. There are treasures from Pompeii and Herculaneum, the Farnese Collection of Charles de Bourbon inherited from his mother Elizabeth, and much more.
- Castel Nuovo, 1279 – 82.
- Palazzo Reale, royal palace, 1600.

Sorrento and the Amalfi Coast

- The enchanting town of Sorrento is where we will be headquartered in a charming hotel on the Mare Tirreno (Mediterranean Sea). Sorrento is a town of luxurious gardens, magnificent sunsets, and wonderful seafood. The Old Town is especially a delight to wander about. Our breakfast room is on the top floor of the hotel with splendid views. On a clear day you can see Mount Vesuvius.
- Full day tour of The Amalfi Coast including Positano, Ravello, and Amalfi. Positano is a picturesque and vertical village. Ravello has the best views of the coast. See the Villa Cimbrone among cloisters, gardens and the Moorish Villa Rufolo which inspired Wagner's "Parsifal". Amalfi's chief glory is a lovely 10th century duomo with a richly colored facade.
- Day trip by ferry to the Isle of Capri with towns of Capri and Anacapri. The Blue Grotto may be visited weather and tides permitting. In Anacapri you may choose to ride a chair lift to the highest point for a refreshing view of the surroundings. Capri has wonderful shops and restaurants. Also, if you choose there is a walk to some Roman ruins. Countess Mona von Bismarck was the wealthy American who loved to garden at her home in Capri and gave us the name of "Capri pants".

Pompeii

- Pompeii is a city frozen in time by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD. We will have a private guide for this half day tour adventure.