

SCALA

Scala, so named for the conformation of the land, is the oldest town on the Amalfi Coast. Scala is a little town made up of six quaint hamlets, each with houses huddled around its local Church and stately home. They are: Scala Centro, Minuta, Pontone, Campidoglio, Santa Caterina and San Pietro. In the Middle Age it was Episcopal See and it became very important. The historical richness of Scala is confirmed by monuments, old palaces, towers, churches and monasteries that today still exist.

WHAT TO VISIT

CATHEDRAL of SAN LORENZO

The Cathedral, dedicated to San Lorenzo, dates back to 987, when Scala became Episcopal See. The Cathedral keeps numerous and priceless treasures: the Holy Crucifix in gothic-romanic style carved during the XII Century and preserved in the Gothic Crypt; Marinella Rufolo's funeral monument in polychrome stucco, ascribable to Tino Camaino's school; the big paintings on the ceiling by Cacciapuoti representing scenes from San Lorenzo's life; the Treasure Altar. *The Cathedral is opened every day from 10:00 to 18:00.*

THE CAVE OF SANT'ALFONSO

In 1911 this small single nave Chapel was built in front of the cave where Sant'Alfonso loved to pray and meditate and where he is said to have had vision of the Virgin Mary. *To visit the Cave contact the Redemptorist Fathers.*

BASILICA of SANT' EUSTACHIO

The D'Afflitto noble family built this Basilica during the XII century. The main surviving parts are the stunning apsidal walls, some pillars, some marble capitals and some odd pieces of architraves. It had a nave and two aisles with an atrium and a bell tower. The very high apsidal walls contain architectural decorations made with stone-work of various colours. *The ruins are opened every day from 10.00 to 17.00 – free entrance.*

EXCURSIONS AND TREKKING

TORRE DELLO ZIRO:

This tower was built by the Duke Antonio Piccolomini. This is one of the many towers scattered along the Amalfi Coast used to spot enemies that arrived by sea. Its name comes from its resemblance to the cereals or oil tanks of Arab origin, the siri. The viewpoint of the Torre dello Ziro offers one of the most beautiful and suggestive views of the Amalfi Coast. *The path starts from Pontone, a small medieval hamlet of Scala, reachable by bus or by foot. Walking time: 2/3 hours - Difficulty: Easy*

VALLE DELLE FERRIERE:

The State Natural Reserve of the Valle delle Ferriere was founded in 1972. It is one of the most unspoiled places of the Coast and it keeps botanical rarities like the giant fern Woodwardia Radicans, a sub-glacial fern. You can find other species of carnivorous plants and different species of fauna. In the lower reaches of the valley there are some derelict factories once used for the extraction of iron and for the production of handmade paper. *The path starts from Pontone, a small medieval hamlet of Scala, reachable by bus or by foot. Walking time: 4/5 hours - Difficulty: Medium – arrive to Amalfi.*

PUNTA D'AGLIO :

The path to Punta d'Aglio, belonging to the Lattari Mountains, starts from Campidoglio hamlet and it links Scala to Pogerola. Uphill crossing tunnels and fords, it offers a fantastic panoramic view on Amalfi and Atrani. *The path starts from Campidoglio. Walking time: 2 hours - Difficulty: Easy*

EVENTS

S. LORENZO's DAY: Patron Saint of Scala – 10 August

CHESTNUT FESTIVAL: it is a fixed date in autumn in Amalfi Coast. In October week-ends the town turns into a place fully dedicated to fun as well as to food and wine tasting. In the characteristic stands it is possible to taste the local chestnuts cooked in many ways together with traditional dishes and good local wine. Guided visits to the monuments, popular games and music shows complete a rich program. *Second half of October.*

RAVELLO (1 km from Scala)

WHAT TO VISIT

VILLA RUFOLLO

Built in the XI century by one of the richest families of Ravello, the Rufolo family, it has always been a favorite destination for musicians, artists and poets. The gardens enchanted the composer Richard Wagner, who found in the man inspiration for his musical works.

Tel: +39 089 857621; www.villarufolo.it – **Opening times:** Summer: 9.00 - 20.00 (u.i. 19.45) Winter: 9.00 – sunset - **Tickets:** Per person: Euro 5,00- Reduced under 12s and over 65s: Euro 3,00

VILLA CIMBRONE

It takes its name from the rocky ridge where it was built, «Cimbronium». The Villa's lush garden, in which statues, temples, fountains, epigraphs, natural grottos and artistically created recesses are dotted, culminates in the spectacular Belvedere of Infinity.

Tel: +39 089 858072 www.villacimbrone.com - **Opening times:** Summer: 9.00 - 20.00 (u.i. 19.30) Winter: 9.00 - sunset - **Tickets:** Per person: Euro 7,00 – Reduced under 12s

THE CATHEDRAL

The city's Cathedral, dedicated to Santa Maria Assunta, was built in the XI century. The interior has three naves separated by a double colonnade and three apses. At the end of the left aisle there is the chapel of San Pantaleone: the chapel holds the glass, gold and silver ampulla containing the saint's solidified blood that miraculously liquefies each year.

Opening times: 9.00 - 12.00 17.30 - 19.00 www.chiesaravello.com

CATHEDRAL'S MUSEUM

The museum is located in the ancient crypt of the Basilica, next to the right aisle. In the exhibition sections you can see historical and archaeological finds, sarcophagi, sculptures, and liturgical furnishings.

Opening times: Summer: 9.00 - 19.00; Winter: 9.00 - 18.00 - **Ticket Museo del Duomo:** Per person: Euro 3,00 – Reduced for children: Euro 1,50

EVENTS

RAVELLO FESTIVAL: from June to October

In the form we know today, the Ravello Festival derives from a series of initiatives which make it one of the oldest festivals in Italy.

The program is available at reception or on line at www.ravellofestival.com

Advanced booking (tickets can be bought on line from www.bookingshow.it or from the box office in Piazza Duomo- tel. 089 858422). The box office at the Auditorium will be open for scheduled events, starting from one hour before the beginning of the performance.

RAVELLO CONCERT SOCIETY: 4 April 2014 - 30 October 2015

In autumn and spring, Ravello is a favorite destination for lovers of the silence of its buildings and its medieval churches. During these periods, there are several concerts in the gardens of Villa Rufolo organized by Ravello Concert Society. The program is very nice and it includes performances of great interest. This is a very exclusive event for the limited number of available seats.

The program is available on line at www.ravelloarts.org - tel. +38 089 858149 - +39 0898424082

AMALFI (5 km from Scala)

WHAT TO VISIT

THE CATHEDRAL

Instead of using the term Cathedral, it would be more correct to speak of a monumental complex, as it is made up of several autonomous parts that are colligated together. The oldest structure is certainly the Basilica of SS .Crocifisso, built in 833. Another church was built beside it in 987, to form one majestic Cathedral with six naves, that in the Baroque era was divided into two churches. The Bell-tower was started in 1180 and finished in 1276; in 1206 the Crypt was constructed to hold the Sacred Remains of St. Andrew Apostle. The last building to be built was the Cloister of Paradise between 1266 and 1268.

The Cathedral is opened every day from 9.00 - 21.00 (in Summer)- Tel. 089/871059 <http://www.amalfitouristoffice.it/it/percorsi/giallo.htm#duomo>

MUSEO DELLA CARTA

In the past, this museum was a paper mill. In 1969, the owner of the mill, Nicola Milano, turned it into a museum. During the guided tour, which lasts about 15-20 minutes, you can witness the creation of handmade paper and you can see the ancient water mills working again with the power of the river Canneto.

The Museum is opened every day from 10.00 to 18.30 - www.museodellacarta.it

MUSEO DELLA BUSSOLA E DEL DUCATO MARINARO

This museum tells the amazing story of the Maritime Republic of Amalfi through a series of testimonials, for example the compass. This museum is located in the ancient Arsenal of Amalfi. Here you can see antique sculptures, ancient scrolls, codices and manuscripts, statues, costumes and artistic paintings. www.museoarsenaleamalfi.it

LA GROTTA DELLO SMERALDO -The Emerald Grotto

The Emerald Grotto was discovered in 1932 by a local fisherman who was curious about two strange holes in the rock face: he proudly wore the band that declared him "The discoverer of the Emerald Grotto", until his death. The inside is like an oriental temple, filled with columns, stalactites and bizarre shaped curtains, characterized by magnificent lights with the most sublime shades: cobalt blue, turquoise, green... Before leaving please do not miss an interesting feature, the under water "crib scene" made of pottery from Vietri.

You can go to Esmerald Grotto:

-By boat, from Amalfi bear, from 9.30 a.m. to 4.0 p.m., boat ticket come and come back € 10

-By car, at km 26.4 of 163 Railway, entry by steps or lift.

The ticket entry in the Grotto is 5 €

EVENTS

S. ANDREA's DAY: Amalfi celebrates a great feast in honor of St. Andrew, patron saint of the city and protector of fishermen and fishmongers. On this day we remember the miraculous storm of 1544, triggered by the Saint, to prevent enemies to conquer the city. The religious festival begins with a procession of members of various religious congregations that bring to the beach the statue of the Saint. Here the fishermen take the statue and bring it to the Cathedral running on the grand staircase. In the evening you can see the show of colored fireworks.

CAPODANNO BIZANTINO - 31 August – 1° September 2014

The Byzantine New Year is a cultural-historical event created by Giuseppe Gargano in 1980. The event includes moments for study and research on the history of Amalfi; You can also attend to historical parades and musical performances.

GRAN CONCERTO DI FERRAGOSTO 2014 - 11 August 2014, alle 21:00 in Piazza Duomo

Among the major events of the summer Coast, the "Grand Concerto di Ferragosto" of the Russian State Philharmonic Orchestra "Tchaikovsky" of the Republic of Udmurtia is the most important, who will perform the masterpieces of the lyrical and symphonic music.

POSITANO (25 km from Scala)

CHURCH of SANTA MARIA DELL'ASSUNTA

The Church of St. Maria Assunta, patron saint of the city, is the most important religious building in Positano. It is located close to the main beach of Positano. The church was built in 1200 and it is known throughout the world for its large and impressive tiled dome of two colors: yellow, which indicates the sun, and green which recalls the nature.

Shopping

Walking through the narrow streets of town you can see the famous shops with clothes of the local fashion, MODA MARE POSITANO and the shops of artisans.

EVENTS

MADONNA DELL'ASSUNTA - 14 /15 August

This is a very significant celebration for the inhabitants of Positano due to their devotion to Madonna dell'Assunta, which is the protectors of the city. On August 14, the celebrations begin with the "Alzata del Quadro" in front of the Church of Santa Maria Assunta. In the evening there is a procession of illuminated boats that reaches the rocks "Mamma e Figlio" in Fornillo and returns to the Big Beach and then to the Cathedral. On August 15, you can attend a show of fireworks over the water that light up the Amalfi Coast.

FESTA DEL PESCE – September

The summer on the Amalfi Coast ends with the Fish Festival held in Fornillo, the smaller beach of Positano. The appointment is to the square Piazza dei mulini. Here you can the ferries that will lead to the beach. Here you can taste excellent dishes of fresh fish and you can attend musical shows. At 23 o'clock there is the famous "lampara", a great bonfire.

SORRENTO (38 km from Scala)

WHAT TO VISIT

CATHEDRAL OF S. FILIPPO E S.GIACOMO

The Cathedral of Sorrento was built in XV century. Over time it had numerous transformations. The current facade is completely covered with marble and it was built in 1924 in Romanesque style. The bell tower with 5 levels and the aisles are very interesting. The clock decorated with tiles of local handicrafts is located on the fourth level of the bell tower. **Opening times:** LU-DO 8,00-12,00/17,00-20,00

CAPRI

WHAT TO VISIT

VILLA SAN MICHELE

Villa San Michele was built by Axel Munthe, a famous doctor and writer came from Sweden. In Villa San Michele a number of ancient artifacts are displayed - objects found by Munthe in Capri, Anacapri and elsewhere, some of which donated by friends. There are fragments of sarcophaguses, busts, Roman paving, marble and columns can be seen. In the garden there is a Greek tomb and a granite Sphinx which gazes out over the whole Island of Capri.

Opening times: every day from 9.00 to the sunset.

Ticket: € 6

GROTTA AZZURRA -Capri's Blue Grotto

The cavity is approximately 60 meters long and 25 meters wide. The roof of the cave entrance is about 1 meter above sea level and visitors are obliged to lie back in the rowboat while passing through the cave's mouth. The boatman pulls in his oars and maneuvers the boat inside with the aid of a chain attached to the vault of the entrance.

Opening times: from 9.00 to 17.00, only in good condition of the sea

Ticket: € 13

FARAGLIONI

One of the first images to come to mind will, no doubt, be that of the Faraglioni: the three spurs of rock which rise up out of the sea, within meters of the island's Southern coast. The rocks have each been given a name: the first, still attached to the land, is called Stella, the second, separated from the first block by a stretch of sea; Faraglione di Mezzo and the third, Faraglione di Fuori or Scopolo, meaning the head or promontory stretching into the sea. Great places from where to take a photo of the Faraglioni are: the viewing point of Punta Tragara, the Gardens of Augustus and Belvedere dei Filosofi on Via Migliera.

PIAZZA UMBERTO I

Capri's most famous square is called Piazza Umberto I. The Piazzetta has always been the center of life on the island. It's easy to get to the Piazzetta. From the port of Marina Grande the funicular train transports passengers direct to the Piazzetta in less than 3 minutes. Buses from Anacapri stop at the main terminal, just a few meters away from the square.

ANACAPRI

Anacapri is located in the highest part of the island, at the foot of Monte Solaro. Anacapri is the perfect place for you if you want to escape the crowds and experience the wilder side of the island and you're more interested in trekking and tranquility than fashion and nightlife. You can reach Anacapri by bus that leaves from the center of Capri or from Marina Grande. The main bus stop is Piazza Vittoria. Not far from Victoria Square, there is the chairlift station to reach the top of Monte Solaro and Via Capodimonte.

POMPEI (scavi)

The excavations of Pompeii are extraordinary material evidence of the ancient world, thanks to the state of preservation of the city, which remained practically intact after the eruption of 79 A.D. erased it from the Vesuvian landscape. Tons of ash, pumice and lapilli covered the city under a layer of over 6 meters preserving it, at the same time, from most of the ravages of time.

Access: Porta Marina - Piazza Esedra - Piazza Anfiteatro

Opening times 1° April - 31 October: every day from 8.30 to 19.30 (last entrance at 18.00)

Ticket: *Pompei singolo* (one day): € 11,00; reduced € 5,50 (*); 5 siti (*Pompei, Ercolano, Oplonti, Stabia, Boscoreale*) – for three days: € 20,00; reduced € 10,00 (*)
Free ticket for: EU citizens under 18 years of age or over 65 years and for non-EU children

ERCOLANO (scavi)

Since 1997 the archaeological site of Herculaneum excavations is inserted, together with the ruins of Pompeii, in the list of world heritage sites by UNESCO drafted. At the time of the eruption of Vesuvius, unlike Pompeii, which was buried by a rain of ash and lapilli, Herculaneum was overwhelmed by a flood of mud and volcanic debris.

Opening times and Ticket: *like Pompei*

REGGIA DI CASERTA

The Royal Palace of Caserta has a rectangular plan articulated on factory buildings, facing onto four large inner courtyards and covers an area of about 47,000 square meters for a height of 5 floors equal to 36 meters. An great portico (optical telescope) is the ideal connection with the park and the waterfall, located at the peak of the scenographic perspective escape thus created. The traditional visit to the Royal Palace of Caserta has been enriched by recent inedited routes that offer to the visitors the chance to choose how, the times and the issues more in keeping with their interests and cultural curiosities.

Opening times: *every day from 8.30 to 19.00 (last entrance at 18.00) - Close on Tuesday*

Ticket: *Appartamenti storici, Quadreria, Scalone d'onore e Volte di copertura, Arti decorative, Parco e Giardino Inglese – Euro 14,00; Euro 7,00 reduced*

info: *Tel: 0823 277468 www.reggiadicaserta.beniculturali.it*

PARCO NAZIONALE DEL VESUVIO

After leaving the paved road, you climb to a path that leads to about m. 1200 of height in 20 minutes. Here begins the view on the inside of the crater. Along the way, you have the opportunity to observe the fumaroles inside the crater and admire some ferns typical of tropical environments that survive in this environment only due to heat and moisture released from fumaroles. The trip usually lasts 90 minutes.

Opening times: *1° April - 31 October: every day from 8.30 to 18.00*

Ticket: *Euro 10,00; Free ticket for children until 10 years old.*

INFO: www.guidevesuvio.it