

Vineyards & Vistas on Italy's Amalfi Coast

A photography & hiking tour with Shannon Brunner



Our tour starts in the old port of Naples with a view of Mount Vesuvius and a visit to Pompeii before nestling into the villa in the Campania wine region. Sample Taurasi's surreptitious wines and delight in cooking local cuisine! Enjoy the vistas from Ravello on the Amalfi Coast before being whisked away to the isle of Capri for four nights on top of the rocky cliffs with 360° views of the surrounding Mediterranean! Capture the grape harvest of Gelsomina from the hilltop vineyard. Option to walk some of the most spectacular vistas of Italy's Amalfi Coast. A tour filled with Italy's delights!

Shannon Brunner's Photography Tour Italy's Amalfi Coast Sept. 17-27, 2018

\$3800CDN (no taxes applicable)
Based on min. 8 participants in twin accommodation

**Non-refundable deposit of \$500 is due
at the time of booking.**

Limited Space - Book before Jan. 30/18

Final balance due on July 17, 2018

Not included in this 10 day tour: International flight to Naples, airport transfer upon departure, meals not mentioned in the itinerary, tips and gratuities, travel & medical insurance, personal expenses.

INCLUDED:

LODGING WITH BREAKFAST

- 2 nights in Hotel Transatlantico - Naples
- 3 nights La Vecchia Quercia – Salerno
- 1 night Hotel Toro – Ravello
- 4 nights Villa ce Selle – Anacapri

TRANSPORT

- All ground transport
- Hydrofoil to Capri return to Naples
- Boat ride around Capri

MEALS & WINERY VISITS

- Bufala Mozzarella luncheon
- Cooking & Dinner Cucina de Anna
- Napolitana Dinner – Anna's
- Caggiano Winery in Taurasi - Luncheon
- Day at the Winery – Gelsomina

SITES

- Guided Tour of Pompei
- Buffalo Mozzarella Farm
- Paestum Archeological Site
- Boat Tour around Capri

Contact Corinne at

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Italy's Amalfi Coast Photography Tour with Shannon Brunner

Day 1 – Monday, Sept. 17 NAPLES

Afternoon arrival in Naples where you will nestle amongst the yachts in the old port. Hike up the nearby Castello del Uvo to grasp the immensity of this 5000 year old port. Dine at the terrace restaurant of Transatlantico Hotel.

Day 2 – Tuesday, Sept. 18 NAPLES (B)

A private minibus will transport us past the Mount Vesuvius crater. Sleeping since 1944 Vesuvius is mainland Europe's only active volcano. HIKING OPTION – 30 min. A few minutes down the road are the remains of the ancient city of Pompeii that was devastated by this eruption of this volcano in 79AD. A 2 hour guided visit of the site of Pompeii offers the best look anywhere of what life in Rome much have been like 2000 years ago. An entire city of well-preserved ruins is yours to explore with your local guide Nicola. Evening back in Naples.

Day 3 – Wednesday, Sept. 19 SALERNO (B,D)

Today you will discover the depths of Naples, one of the oldest cities in the world – dating back to 3000 BC. Celebrate the Patron Saint Day – San Genaro in the streets of the historical center. Catch a pizza Napolitana in the famous Pizzeria El Presidente. Option to view the 18th century San Severno mausoleum with the veiled Christ carved out of marble. In the afternoon you will arrive in at the La Vecchia Quercia (the old oak tree) to check in to this lovely country villa near Salerno. Time to hike to ruins of a castle nearby or just relax in the garden under the lemon trees. Partake in a typical Napoli meal with Anna, owner and chef!

Day 4 – Thursday, Sept. 20 SALERNO (B,L,D)

During the 1 hour drive on the plain region of the normally mountainous Campania you will notice Bufalo Mozzarella farms! Yes, this famous fresh mozzarella cheese made from the milk of Water buffalos! A tour of one of these farms awaits you followed luncheon and you will leave with the taste of fresh buffalo cheese in your mouth! Then we are off to visit Paestum. Serenely situated, it is surrounded by fields and wildflowers and is the best collection of Greek temples anywhere! Founded by the Greeks in the 6th century BC it was a key stop on an important trade route. In the 3rd century BC it was conquered by the Romans then later by malaria-carrying mosquitoes that kept the site wonderfully desolate for nearly 1000 years only to be rediscovered in the 18th century. <http://www.paestum.de/en/paestum.htm>

Take your time walking around this expansive monumental site. Enjoy another evening meal with Anna at La Vecchia Quercia.

Day 5 – Friday, Sept. 21 SALERNO (B, L)

In the mountains north of Salerno lies the wine region of Campania, one if Italy's best kept secrets. The medieval village of Taurasi lies in the heart of Campania and the famous Taurasi wine is a tribute to these hills of vineyards.. Here you will have a chance to photograph the locals and the narrow streets of this hilltop village and its vineyards in the surrounding countryside. Stop in for a visit to Cantina Caggiano. This interesting winemaker has designed an artistic cellar decorated with his photos from around the world including the North Pole! Enjoy lunch at La Collina, famous for its pasta served from a Pamesan Wheel. Return to La Vecchia Quercia stopping to pick up some picnic provisions for the wines purchased today.

Day 6 – Saturday, Sept. 22 RAVELLO (B)

Leave the countryside for the majestic Amalfi Coast where will make our first stop at the cermanic village of Vietri sul Mare. The minivan will then navigate the cantilevered Amalfi Coastal road up to the town of Ravello reputed for the Wagner Concerts in 'plein air'. Check into the quaint Toro Hotel before visiting the main square for a light lunch and some gelato! You might like to take some time to visit the 13th century Villa Rufolo which once boasted as many rooms as days in the year. Beautiful gardens!! Late afternoon visit to the gardens at Cimbrone for more stunning views. Choose to dine on the terrace of the Villa Maria restaurant or back in the main square.

Day 7– Sunday, Sept. 23 ISLE OF CAPRI (B)

This morning you have a choice of taking the transport down to the town of Amalfi to enjoy the ambiance of this once, powerful Navel force in the 16C. Enjoy coffee in the plaza and some shopping. Option to visit the Sant’Antonio Basilica or take a dip in the Mediterranean Sea. OR you could set off early and hike your way down to Atrani from the Cimbrone Gardens, stop for a refreshing drink and continue through the tunnels of Amalfi to the black beach. At noon the transport will take you past Positano (photo ops) to Sorrento for lunch and an afternoon shopping spree in the historical centre. Catch the evening hydrofoil to the Isle of Capri (45 min.) and settle into the lovely Villa ce Selle. Your guide will show you the path to the centre of Anacapri for you to enjoy dinner in small groups.

Day 8– Monday, Sept. 24 ISLE OF CAPRI (B)

Enjoy a boat ride around the Isle of Capri followed by a chance to catch a pizza lunch at the port Grand Marina. Take the funicular up to the famous and expensive village of Capri to try to catch sight of some now “old” movie stars who once frequented this paradise island. Corinne, your guide will take you on a walking tour of Capri to the Bellvedere. You may choose to carry on to the Arc Naturale. Take one of the famous Capri taxis back to Anacapri for an afternoon of shopping or relaxing at the Villa Ce Selle. Dinner on your own.

Day 9– Tuesday, Sept. 25 ISLE OF CAPRI (B,D)

Today is harvest day at the Gelsomina Restaurant. Spend the day with the family in their vineyards with magnificent views of the Mediterranean Sea. Participate in an authentic Italy harvesting of the grapes along with family dinner and festivities. Truly a unique experience!

Day 10– Wednesday, Sept. 26 ISLE OF CAPRI (B)

Free Day to enjoy the lovely little village of Anacapri and its many possibilities; Anxel Munthe’s San Michele or the Red House museum. Opt to take a stunning chair lift ride to a fabulous view of the Amalfi Coast and the Bay of Naples. Opt to take the west coast trail along the Sentiro 4 forteresses (3 hours) to the Faro or light house. For those adventuresome you can try the Blue Grotto – we are not far away. Evening free in Anacapri

Day 11 – Thurs, Sept. 27 IN TRANSIT (B)

Return to Naples on the morning ferry from Isle of Capri. This tour ends in Naples so you can make plans to return to Canada OR continue your visit in Italy.

Hiking Options:

DAY 2 – **Mt Vesuvius Crater** LEVEL 2 1.5 HOURS ROUNDTRIP IF YOU WALK AROUND THE CRATER

DAY 3 –**Castello Montevetrano** LEVEL 2 1.5 HOURS ROUNDTRIP FROM LA VECCHIA QUERCIA

DAY 6 – **Minori to Ravello** LEVEL 3 1.5 – 2 HOURS FROM MINORI TO RAVELLO

DAY 7 – **Ravello to Amalfi** LEVEL 3 1.5 - 2 HOURS FROM RAVELLO TO AMALFI

DAY 8 – **Isle of Capri - Arco Naturale** LEVEL 2 1.5 HOURS FROM CAPRI TO ARCO NATURALE

DAY 10 – **Isle of Capri 4 Fortresses** Hike LEVEL 3 3 HOURS Blue Grotto to Lighthouse

Sept. 27-30, 2018 Extension to Rome - VM will help you make your bookings!