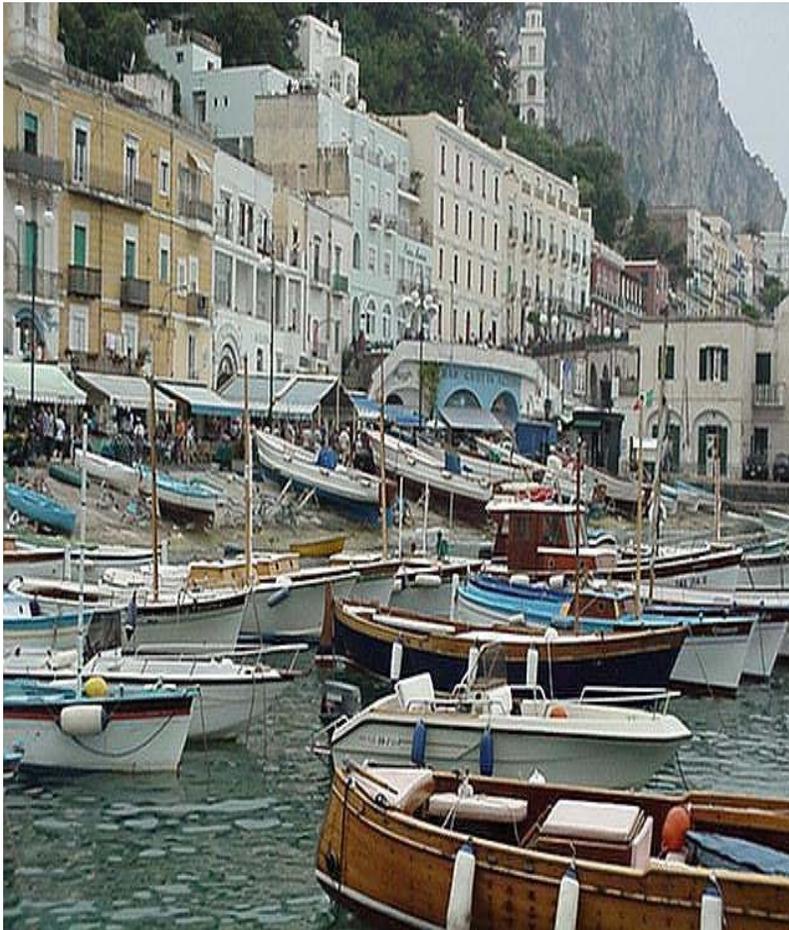


ISLAND OF CAPRI DO-IT-YOURSELF



Boats to Capri dock at the **Marina Grande**, port located on the island's north shore. All but one of the major attractions are high up in the hills, so while you're still at sea level you should head directly to the famous **Blue Grotto (Grotta Azzurra)** before the tour groups arrive. People come from all over the world to marvel at this fantastic cavern, and in the process of doing so have made it one of those inescapable tourist traps. Fortunately, it actually is an incredible, not-to-be-missed sight, one well worth the expense and bother of reaching. An entire local industry has sprung up around the transport of visitors to this highly inaccessible place on the water's edge at the bottom of a steep cliff. Motorboats take groups of tourists from Marina Grande to the cave's tiny entrance, where you will be put into a small rowboat and taken inside.

The Blue Grotto was well known to the ancient Romans, who used it as a temple of sorts. Several interesting underwater archaeological finds have been made there in recent years, but it appears to have been largely forgotten until being "rediscovered" by tourist promoters in 1826. The magical effect of its unearthly luminescent is, of course, caused by refraction of the sun's rays. The Grotto is open daily from 9 a.m. until one hour before sunset, but not when the sea is rough.

Back at Marina Grande, you can take either the **funicular** or a bus to the delightful little town of Capri, 465 feet above the port. Its main square, **Piazza Umberto I** (known as the little square, **La Piazzetta**), is a charming place lined with busy outdoor cafes. You will be returning to it several times during the day as nearly all of the paths and roads on the island radiate from there.

Next to the Blue Grotto, the most important sight on Capri is probably the **Villa Jovis**, once the palace of the emperor Tiberius. The only way of reaching it, short of hiring a donkey, is on foot - an uphill walk of about two miles. The paved trail, starting out as Via Le Botteghe and followed by





Via Fuorlovido, Via Croce and Via Tiberio, is very well marked and rewards you with stupendous panoramic views all along the way. The entire Roman Empire was presumably ruled from this villa between A.D. 27 and 37, the last ten years of the reign of Tiberius. An ancient legend has it that the emperor took pleasure in having people who displeased him thrown off the thousand-foot-high cliff, but there is no factual evidence of this. Now in a state of ruin, the immense villa is, nevertheless, a fascinating place to explore. At its highest peak there is a chapel with a huge bronze Madonna, installed in 1979. The villa is open daily except Mondays and some holidays, from 9 a.m. until one hour before sunset.

On the way back, you will come to a fork in the road just before the town of Capri. This is marked for the **Arco Naturale** and makes an interesting little side trip to a peculiar natural stone arch by the water's edge. It is not necessary to go all the way down to admire the view. Nearby, another trail leads to the Matromania Grotto, possibly used in prehistoric times for human sacrifices, and later decorated by the

Romans.

Return to Piazza Umberto I, where you can sit down at an outdoor café for a welcome rest. From here you may want to continue on Via Vittorio Emanuele, Via Serena, and Via Certosa to the former **Carthusian Monastery (Certosa di San Giacomo)**, dating from the 14th century. Its restored Gothic church and cloisters are quite interesting, and there are a few Roman artifacts removed from the Blue Grotto on display.

A short distance beyond this are the **Augustus Gardens (Giardini di Augusto)**, a lovely public park overlooking some fabulous scenery. In its northwest corner there is a small statue of Lenin, who spent a very un-communistic exile in luxurious Capri after the abortive first revolution. From the gardens it is possible to descend the steep and narrow Via Krupp, also called Via Augusto, to the **Marina Piccola**, a small harbor and beach from which you can get a bus back to Capri town. Otherwise, return the way you came.

Back in the town, board a bus or taxi to the island's other settlement, Anacapri. Perched nearly a thousand feet above the sea, this attractive village could only be reached via the Scala Fenicia, a staircase of over 800 steps probably built by the ancient Greeks, until a hair-raising road was constructed in the late 19th century. Once there, walk uphill from Piazza della Vittoria on Via Munthe to the **Villa San Michele**. Built about a century ago by the noted Swedish doctor and author Axel Munthe over the ruins of another of Tiberius' villas, it contains ancient sculptures as well as furnishings from the 17th and 18th centuries. The gardens are especially enchanting. Visits may usually be made on any day, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The highest vantage point on Capri is **Monte Solaro**, whose peak rises 1,932 feet above the sea. You can get to the top in 12 minutes by riding the chairlift from Anacapri. On a clear day it is possible to see completely across the Bay of Naples to the Apennine Mountains running down the spine of Italy, a breathtaking panorama indeed. The lift runs every day except Wednesdays, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. with shorter hours in the winter.

GAETA INFORMATION TICKETS & TOURS

Tel. 0771-709-632 DSN 627-7632 Fax. 0771-709-723 DSN 627-7723

ISLAND OF CAPRI DO-IT-YOURSELF

By car from Gaeta: (approx. 1 and ½ hours, cost for toll is 70 Euro cents one way).

- Take Lungomare Caboto road in Gaeta in the direction of Formia.
- At the last stoplight in Formia (near the Carabinieri Corner) take road towards Napoli, passing Panorama Mall.
- Stay on this road passing through Baia Domitia, Mondragone, then onto the Tangenziale (superstrada).
- While on the Tangenziale, you will pass exits including Licola, Varcaturro and Agnano (NSA Base) exit. Keep straight, through the tunnel, getting off at the next exit, Fuorigrotta.
- Pay the toll and go left, under a small tunnel, arriving to a main stoplight.
- Follow road, under a second tunnel, arriving to Piazzale Tecchio and another stoplight.
- Keep straight to the third stoplight and go left. Then follow the road straight until you go under a very long tunnel.
- At the end of this tunnel you will be in Piazza San Nazzaro (there will be a big fountain to your left, in the middle of this piazza).
- Come to the stoplight straight ahead, and take a right onto the water, and an immediate left onto via Caracciolo. You will see the ticket windows and hydrofoils of the Mergellina port (to your right). Parking is available only on the road.
- If you want to go to Molo Beverello, keep straight, passing the Mergellina port, along the waterfront (via Caracciolo), passing the Egg Castle, the Royal Palace, then to your left (across from the New Castle) is Molo Beverello. You can park inside the port by paying a fee.

By train from Formia's train station

Take any of the trains that depart approx. every hour from Formia to Napoli Centrale (Naples central train station) approx. 1 hour and 10 minutes, cost of approx. 8 Euro per person, one way.

For Molo Beverello port: From Piazza Garibaldi, the square outside the train station in Naples, take the bus or trolley car (tram) to Piazza Municipio (approx. 25 minute ride, cost is 65 Euro cents per person one way). Molo Beverello port is to your left. As you enter the port you will notice the ticket windows on your right.

For Mergellina port: Once you arrive at the Piazza Garibaldi train station, you must take the subway (Metropolitana) in the direction of Pozzuoli, and get off at the Mergellina stop (approx. 20 minutes, cost is 65 Euro cents one way). When you exit the station, the port is to your right, a 10 minute walk downhill, passing the Piazza San Nazzaro square with the fountain.

The Island of Capri - Get-a-way ITT Voucher

Enjoy a day at the beautiful Island of Capri with a Do-It-Yourself voucher. The voucher includes roundtrip hydrofoil transportation from NAPLES Mergellina or Molo Beverello port, with the companies SNAV or NLG and a full course lunch (first plate, second plate and dessert, beverages not included) at a choice of two restaurants on the island one in Capri and one in Anacapri.

COST PER PERSON IS 33.00 EURO

Children under 2 years are free on the hydrofoil and receive no lunch.

Children 2 years and older pay full price receiving lunch.

Single service members receive a subsidy discount from LIBERTY of 30% paying only \$18.00

You will receive a four piece voucher, which looks like this:



Part 1: RECEIPT/Return ticket from Capri to MERGELLINA: This first stub will be used as a receipt only if you decide to take the hydrofoil from Naples Molo Beverello port. If you decide to take the hydrofoil from Naples Mergellina port, this stub will be used as your return ticket (see part 4 – Hydrofoil directions).

Part 2: RECEIPT: This stub of your voucher is your receipt. Times for the hydrofoils leaving from both Mergellina and Molo Beverello ports are listed on the bottom half of this stub. Be sure to check times for departure and return to be sure there were no last minute cancellations or changes, as schedules can change without notice.

Part 3: LUNCH: This portion of the voucher is to be given to the waiter at the restaurant you choose. Remember beverages are not included and are to be paid extra by you at the restaurant. Lunch is served from 1130 to 1430. Reservations are not necessary but can be made by calling the number of the restaurant listed on this stub. Children under 2 years of age (who have not paid the voucher) desiring to eat will have to pay separately for their meal. Note: Prices for beverages are a little costly on the Island, ask for the menu to see prices before you order.

Part 4: HYDROFOIL: This stub is to be turned in at the hydrofoil ticket window at the Naples port you choose to depart from. Note: At the **Naples Molo Beverello port** you will turn it in to the NLG ticket window, where you will be given a roundtrip ticket to present when you board the hydrofoil. At the **Naples Mergellina port** you will turn it in to the SNAV ticket window, where you will be given ONLY A ONE WAY TICKET to the island. Upon your arrival, you will have to go to the SNAV ticket window (on the island) and RESERVE YOUR RETURN TRIP. **This is important.** Your return ticket is PART 1 of the ITT voucher.

From both ports, Sundays require an extra charge of approx. 4 Euro in low season and approx. 6 Euro in high season, to be paid at the port. Remember to check return times as they can change without notice.