

# 48 HOURS ON THE AMALFI COAST

Fly into Naples and cruise the intoxicating curves of the Amalfi coastline, says **Nicole Trilivas**.

## DON'T MISS

**DIVINE** The epic hiking trail that extends from Nocelle to Agerola isn't called the **Path of the Gods** for nothing. With super views at every turn (and plenty of quaint villages to rest in along the way), this is a real stairway to heaven – or at least to more pasta. Download the hiking app Komoot to stay on track.

**HARMONIOUS** Every summer from July until the end of August, the peaceful town of Ravello is swept up in music. With more than 2,000 performances that span classical to current, the **Ravello Concerts** by the Ravello Concert Society have been a summer tradition since the 1930s. (Various locations, +39 089 842 4082; [ravelloarts.org](http://ravelloarts.org))

**SPLASHY** Most people don't realise that the majority of the beaches along the Amalfi Coast are less than dreamy. Instead of hitting the tiny, rocky shoreline, splash out on a private excursion with **Blue Star boats** and dive into sea coves, mermaid-worthy grottos and secret beaches that can't be reached on foot. (1 Sede Via Del Brigantino, Positano, +39 089 811 888; [bluestarpositano.it](http://bluestarpositano.it))



Clockwise from top, a pretty plateful at Li Galli Restaurant; the staggering coastline; languid living at the Hotel Villa Franca; coastal cruising; walking or hiking the Amalfi Coast rewards with spectacular scenery.



## EAT

**BITTERSWEET** Scoop up some icy lemon sorbet served in famous *sfusato d'Amalfi* lemons at the beachside Brasserie at **Covo dei Saraceni**. Though the photogenic fruit can be found across the Amalfi Coast, this is one of few places in Positano that serves the treat in real, scooped-out lemons. (5 Via Regina Giovanna, Positano, +39 089 875 400; [covodeisaraceni.it](http://covodeisaraceni.it))

**NEIGHBOURLY** Praiano is still filled with Italians – not just tourists – and **Kasai** feels like a neighbourhood secret. Dine on catch of the day and sip on a dewy glass of dry, local Falanghina white wine. (84 Via Umberto I, Praiano, +39 089 874 108)

**SHOOTING STAR** With its glitzy reputation, it's not easy to stand out on the *costiera*, but the hilltop **Li Galli Restaurant** is high above the competition – literally. With jewel-box interiors and mystifying dishes, like a quintet of sweets masquerading as pasta and silver-leafed lemony risotto, Michelin stars are surely in the forecast. (318 Via Pasitea, Positano, +39 089 875 655; [villafrahotel.it](http://villafrahotel.it))

## DRINK

**TART** Summery and sour-sweet, the Amalfi Coast is the birthplace of limoncello, the aromatic after-dinner digestif crafted from the peels of Amalfi lemons. See how it comes to fruition and do a tasting at the organic **Il Gusto della Costa** farm. (24 Via G. Capriglione, Praiano, +39 089 813 048; [ilgustodellacosta.it](http://ilgustodellacosta.it))

**SMOKY** With some of the very best vistas on the coast, **Casa Angelina's Seascape Bar** is purpose-built for long summer nights making your way down the cool cocktail list and sophisticated cigar menu. Finish the night off with a Smoky Spritz made with cigar-smoked Aperol, orange bitters and prosecco. (147 Via Capriglione, Praiano, +39 089 813 1333; [casangelina.com](http://casangelina.com))

**EARTHY** Overlooking Capri's famous café-strewn piazzetta next to the majolica clock tower, the pretty and petite **Pulalli Wine Bar** pours out earthly delights from the Campania region and beyond. Try the multifaceted Taurasi. (4 Piazza Umberto I, Capri, +39 081 837 4108)

## SMART FLIERS

**AER LINGUS** flies from Dublin to **NAPLES** daily.



## SLEEP

**BYGONE** Dating back to 1533, **Villa Scarpariello Relais** is a rustic seaside castle that makes regal living affordable. Book the Melograno room in the fairytale tower surrounded by fragrant gardens or the dainty pink Moresca room with a stone balcony. There are also apartments sleeping up to six. Rooms from €120. (32 Via Carusiello, Ravello, +39 089 871 996; [villascarpariellorelais.it](http://villascarpariellorelais.it))

**BELLISSIMA** Posing elegantly (but unassumingly) on the quiet side of the enchanting isle of Capri, the refined **JK Place Capri** is a welcoming, well-dressed bastion of good taste with some of the best service you can find. Expect to be warmly embraced like *famiglia*. Rooms from €520. (225 Via Provinciale Marina Grande, Capri, +39 081 838 4001; [jkcapri.com](http://jkcapri.com))

**SKY-HIGH** Two words: rooftop pool. With a curious collection of contemporary art that pops off the airy white backdrop, the gallery-like **Hotel Villa Franca** bucks tradition on the cliffs above the pastel honeycomb of Positano. But it's the sapphire pool terrace set in the clouds that steals the show. Rooms from €380. (318 Viale Pasitea, Positano, +39 089 875 655; [villafrahotel.it](http://villafrahotel.it))