

A Weekend In Sorrento And Capri: Two Hotels You Can't Miss

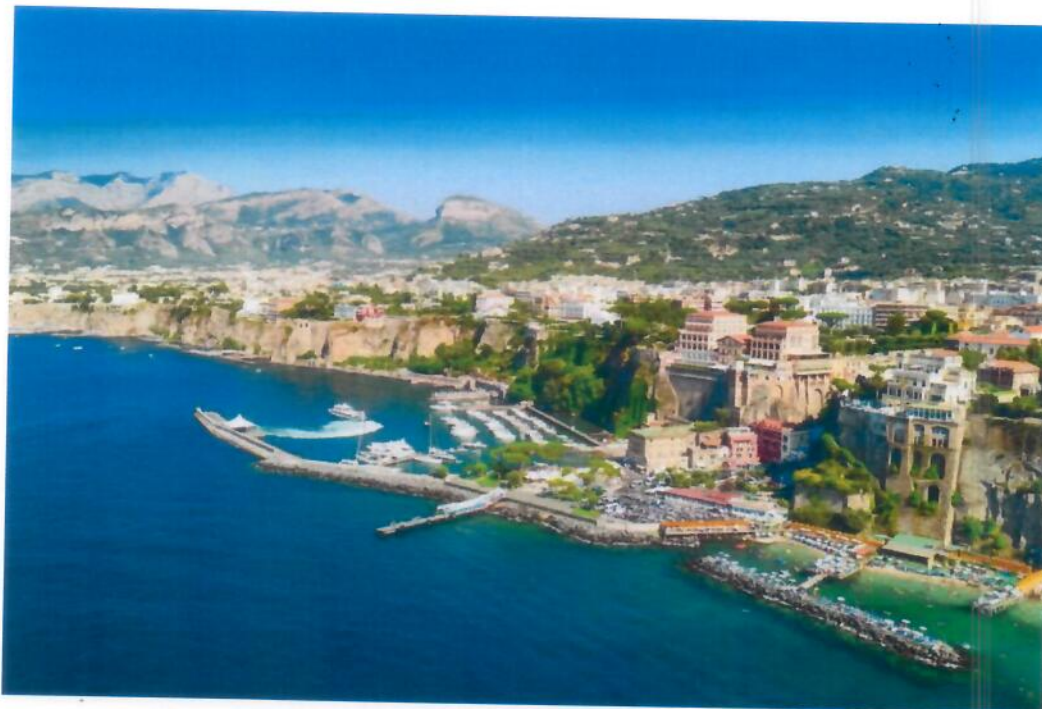
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Aerial view of the coast of Sorrento in the Bay of Naples, Italy. GETTY

One of Italy's most beloved destinations, the Amalfi Coast is a place so filled with natural beauty and timeless charm, it entices all visitors who come to visit. Towns like [Sorrento](#), [Positano](#) and [Ravello](#) epitomize *la dolce vita*, with long days spent sunbathing

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sumptuous spaces to relax and experience Campania's warm hospitality — honed over centuries of visitors.

Here are two addresses to add to your list for your next trip to the coast. Combine a stay at Hotel Mediterraneo in Sorrento and Villa Marina in Capri for the perfect mix of city and island life.



The Sky Bar on the rooftop of Hotel Mediterraneo. ROBERTO BONARDI

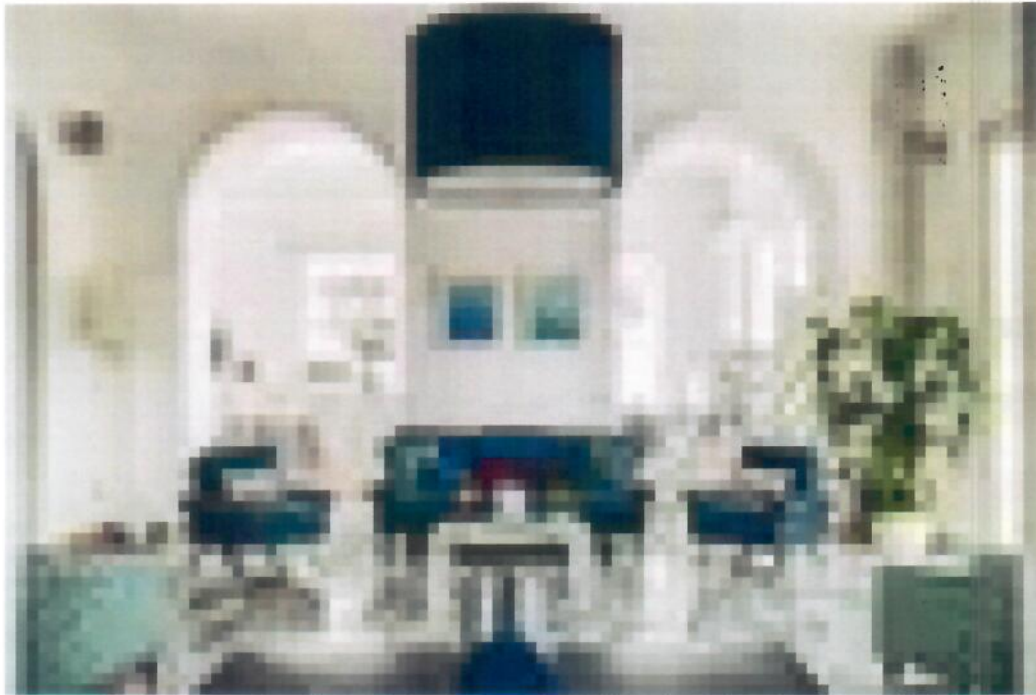
Hotel Mediterraneo

Harboring one of Sorrento's most exclusive terraces, [Hotel Mediterraneo Sorrento](#) is already a popular destination with the locals, but a recent restyling has put it on the map for travelers as well. Set within a white-washed 20th century palazzo overlooking the coast, this 5-star hotel has been in the Maresca and Monti families for 4 generations. During World War II, many northern Italians were stationed in Sorrento — and some of them were housed at the property. By the end of the war, many families were reluctant to leave, so by the mid-1950s, the villa had been converted into a hotel.

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The lobby of Hotel Mediterraneo. VINCENZO TAMBASCO

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Hotel Mediterraneo has continued to reinvent itself over the decades and now boasts 61 rooms and suites with contemporary décor in shades of sky blue, turquoise, and sapphire. The Amalfi Coast is known for its artisanal excellences, and most furnishings have been locally sourced, including brass from Naples, ceramics from Vietri Sul Mare and volcanic stone from the area's mineral-rich soil.

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A sea-view suite in Hotel Mediterraneo. VINCENZO TAMBASCO

The hotel has a large outdoor pool and access to a private beach club. You can also hop aboard the hotel's private 14-meter yacht, Valeri, to tour the coastline with up to 12 people. Sail past the Bagni di Regina Giovanna and around Punta Campanella, the tip of the Sorrentine peninsula, to reach Nerano, a charming cove dotted with excellent traditional restaurants.

After a day out at sea, unwind at Hotel Mediterraneo's spa. Carved inside the property's ancient tuff-stone foundations, the aptly named Lepietre Cozy Spa is an intimate place to enjoy wellness treatments infused with Mediterranean fragrances like bitter orange and honey, or olive leaves and wild rose.

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Hotel Mediterraneo VINCENTO TAMBASCO

And when it comes to gastronomy, the hotel truly shines. Start with an aperitivo at [Vista Sky Bar](#), arguably Sorrento's best rooftop cocktail bar, where you can enjoy a glass of Moët & Chandon while watching the sunset. Then head down a floor to [Vesuvio Panoramic Restaurant](#), with a prominent view of the extinct volcano, which serves excellent interpretations of local cuisine in an upscale setting. Here, chef Giuseppe Saccone sources the best ingredients from throughout the Campania region in a series of tasting menus or a la carte.

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A modern spin on Gnocchi alla Sorrentina. HOTEL MEDITERRANEO

Opt for the culinary homage to "Nonna Etta", a tasting menu that celebrates historic dishes grandmother Etta served to her original hotel guests in the 1950s. You'll enjoy a taste of eggplant parmigiana, Sorrento-style potato dumplings, a delicate poached sea bass and a taste of rum-soaked Babà to finish. After dinner, sip a craft cocktail and listen to a DJ set at the newly-inaugurated Oltremare Lounge Bar, located off the hotel lobby.

From Sorrento, it takes just 20-minutes to reach Capri via hydrofoil. Trade the charm of coastal towns for the glamor of island life on Italy's most coveted destination.

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The gardens of Villa Marina. VILLA MARINA

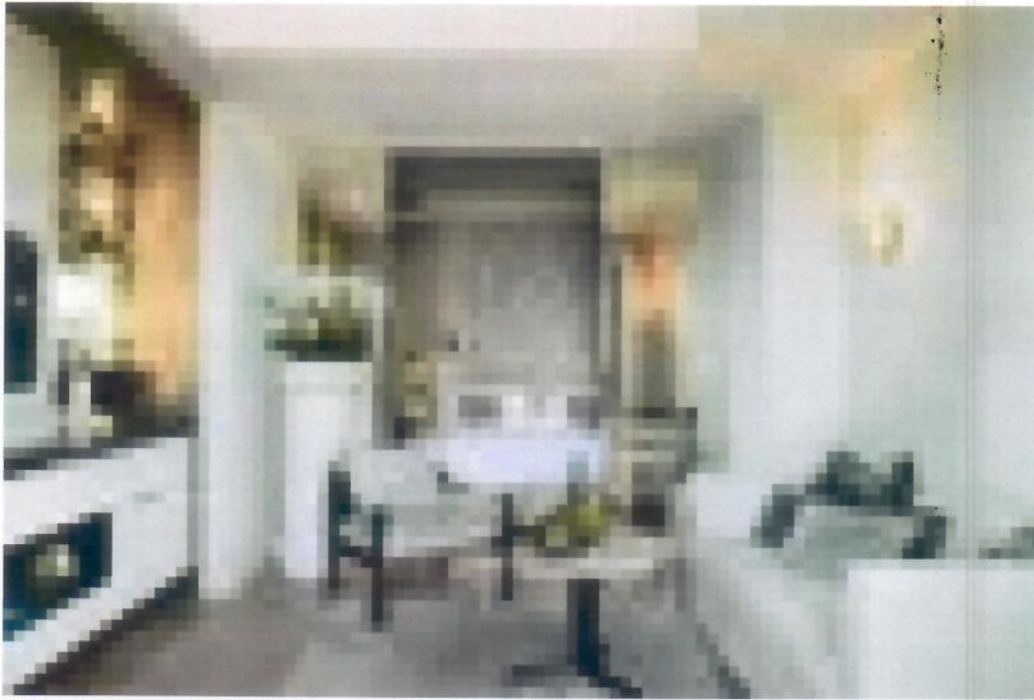
Villa Marina

Situated between the bustling port of Capri and its fabled *piazzetta*, [Villa Marina](#) is another stylish property nestled within a historic early 20th-century family home. This boutique bijou has 21 rooms and suites set within a classic *Caprese* villa: each one has its own personality and is named for personalities who spent time in Capri, from Pablo Neruda and Fortuna Depero to Gracie Fields. The hotel was first opened by Francescaromana Guarino and is now overseen by Giada Falanga, the general manager.

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A newly restyled suite at Villa Marina. VILLA MARINA

The rooms are tasteful and refined, with a neutral color palette and floor-length sliding doors that let Capri's plentiful sunshine in. Book a sea view suite to enjoy your own private terrace, or the redesigned pool suite with its own plunge pool for cooling off during the heat of the summer.

Set upon multiple levels, Villa Marina is a veritable Mediterranean oasis that is blessed with a 3,000sq² garden. Stroll through panoramic terraces, verdant patios and flower-lined gazebos where you can unwind with a good book or glass of wine. The property also has a large sundeck with loungers, hammocks and an elegant swimming pool decorated with Giò Ponti tiles.

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Villa Marina's pool features tiles by Giò Ponti. VILLA MARINA

Gastronomes will be delighted by Villa Marina's [Ziqù Restaurant](#). A trendy restaurant that attracts locals and hotel guests alike, a meal here is an unforgettable experience. Talented chef Manuele Cattaruzza (who honed his skills at the nearby Hotel Quisisana and Capri Tiberio Palace) captures the authenticity of Caprese cuisine while elevating it into a gourmet experience. Even the breadbasket, featuring the softest sourdough accompanied by tangy olive oil and smoked sea salt, is a revelation and sure to whet your appetite for the subsequent courses.

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Dining at Ziqù Restaurant. VILLA MARINA

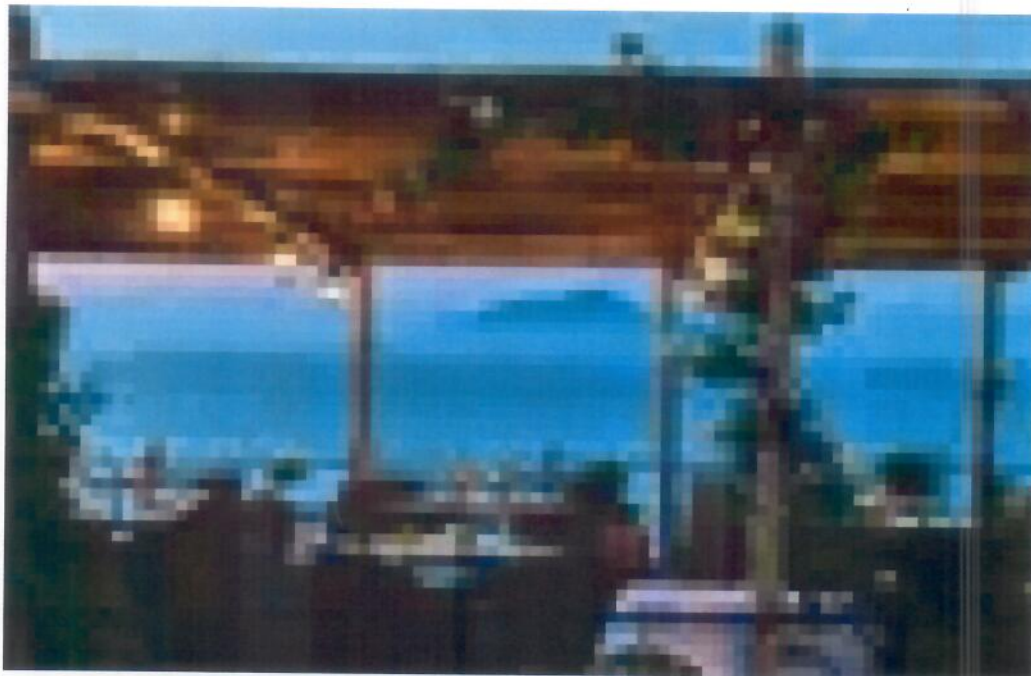
Savor dishes like *Ravioli alla Caprese* stuffed with caciotta cheese and local herbs, or beef tartare with burrata, caramelized onion and rosemary biscuit. The seafood is also excellent, from red prawn carpaccio with avocado, orange and fennel salad to the grilled octopus served with forbidden rice, artichokes, parsley and lime dressing.

During your stay, enjoy a boat tour around the mystical grottos of Capri with a picnic prepared by the chef, or peruse the chic boutiques of Capri together with your own personal shopper. You can also take advantage of the property's Stai Spa, which include a sauna, steam bath and multi-sensory shower. Massages and beauty treatments use the Cinq Mondes product line to offer a truly luxurious experience.

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Views of Mount Vesuvius from Villa Marina. VILLA MARINA

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