

MONOCLE 25/25

CAPRI

Visitors to Capri fall easily under its spell. Unspoilt nature, stunning sunsets and fabulous food make it easy. Even seasoned shoppers feel at home, since the island offers enough high-end boutiques to make Paris and Milan blush. Once the exclusive playground of shipping magnates and society types, it has become a must-see stop on the mass-tourism circuit. But despite the recent incursion of poorly attired tourists, the Piazzetta remains one of the best places in the world to people watch.

01 Essentials

- 01 Sharing the island's beauty with 60,000 day-trippers can be avoided if you book a room in spring or early autumn.
- 02 Crowds still getting you down? Head for the hills and the town of Anacapri, the island's low-key alternative.
- 03 Skip the hour-long ferry ride in choppy seas. SAM Helicopters flies passengers from Naples airport to the island in 15 minutes.
- 04 Don't expect fine sandy beaches. Rocky coastline is the norm so bring appropriate footwear.
- 05 Do expect fabulous restaurants at bathing spots. La Fontelina offers white-wine sangria to pass the time between dishes.
- 06 The Blue Grotto is the island's main attraction but other sea caves are worth a visit. Hire a wooden "gozzo" boat complete with sunshade and make the rounds.
- 07 Capri is lemon heaven. Try the local limoncello liqueur from Casa Mariantonia, which makes the genuine article using only the best Sorrento lemons.
- 08 For the best pastry treats, visit Sfizi di Pane in Capri's gourmand alley, Via le Botteghe.
- 09 A sunset aperitivo on the beach at Lido del Faro may have you reaching for the local property listings instantly.
- 10 Privacy important during your stay? Gather a group of close friends and rent out Villa Cicerenella.

02 Hotels

Independent and easy
Hotel Senaria
10 Via Follicara, Anacapri
+ 39 081 837 3222; senaria.it

Upscale bed & breakfast
Casa Mariantonia
180 Via G. Orlandi, Anacapri
+ 39 081 837 2923
casamariantonia.com

Premium
JK Capri
225 Via Prov. Marina Grande
+ 39 081 838 4001; jkcapi.com

03 Dining

Fast breakfast
Bar Funicolare
Piazza A. Diaz
+ 39 081 837 0363

Leisurely breakfast
Michelangelo
138 Via G. Orlandi, Anacapri

Café for people watching
Gran Caffè
1 Piazza Umberto
+ 39 081 837 0388

Lunch with friends
Da Tonino
12 Via Dentecale
+ 39 081 837 6718

Deli to get picnic food
Salumeria Ferrara
10 Via Le Botteghe
+ 39 081 838 8250

Lunch on the beach
Da Luigi
5 Via Faraglioni
+ 39 081 837 0591

Pre-dinner drinks
Piccolo Bar
1 Piazza Umberto
+ 39 081 837 0325

Dinner for two
La Terrazza di Lucullo
Caesar Augustus Hotel
Via G. Orlandi 4, Anacapri
+ 39 081 837 3395
caesar-augustus.com

Dinner with friends
Da Paolino
11 Via Palazzo a Mare
+ 39 081 837 6102

Dinner on the beach
Lido Del Faro
Località Punta Carena, Anacapri
+ 39 081 837 1798
lidoefaro.com

Big dinner with friends
Pizzeria Aurora
18/22 Via Fuorlovado
+ 39 081 837 0181; auroracapi.com

Drink after dinner
Bar at Hotel La Palma
39 Via Vittorio Emanuele
+ 39 081 837 0133
lapalma-capri.com

Late drink
Quisi Bar
2 Via Camerelle
+ 39 081 837 0788; quisi.it

Late bite (gelato)
Buonocore
35 Via Vittorio Emanuele
+ 39 081 837 7826

On the tiles
Taverna Anema e Core
39e Via Sella Orta
+ 39 081 837 6461
anemaecore.com

04 Reading

Bookshop
La Conchiglia
12 Via Le Botteghe
+ 39 081 837 6577
laconchigliacapri.com

05 Basics

Beachwear from Kiwi
39 Via Roma
kiwi-saint-tropez.com

06 Shopping

Something you can't get anywhere else
Perfume from Carthusia
28 Via Federico Serena
+ 39 081 837 0368; carthusia.it

Lost luggage – where to buy shirts, socks and underwear
The shops in Via Camerelle

Something for the kids
Clothes from Girotondo
7 Via Fuorlovado
+ 39 081 837 0862

Something for someone you love
Sandals by Antonio Riva
75 Via G. Orlandi, Anacapri
+ 39 081 837 3583

Something for yourself
Fashion from 100% Capri
29 Via Fuorlovado
+ 39 081 837 7008

07 Nearby sights

Amalfi Coast or the volcanic Aeolian islands just off Sicily's northeastern coast.

08 Limousine/car

Capri Drive
1/5 Via P. S. Cimino
+ 39 081 838 2002

09 Transport

Helicopters
SAM Helicopters
+ 39 082 835 4155
capri-helicopters.com

Boats
Day hire (around island, to Ischia, Amalfi Coast, etc) and 24-hour transfer service from mainland. They have Mercedes taxis on the island and also to get you from Naples harbour to airport:
Capri Relax Boats
34 Via Cristoforo Colombo
+ 39 081 837 4559
caprirelaxboats.com

10 Fitness

Good gym
Capri Gym
10 Via Roma
+ 39 081 837 5430

Spa
Capri Beauty Farm
2b Via Capodimonte, Anacapri
+ 39 081 978 0111
capripalace.com