**Isle of Capri Travel Guide**

The small and beautiful isle of Capri in Italy is renowned for being a playground for the rich and famous during the summer months. The crystal clear waters lap against the mass of limestone rock that sprouts from beneath the surface under the warm glow of the Mediterranean sunshine. The result is a postcard perfect holiday spot which attracts day-trippers from nearby Naples as well as VIPs from around the world in search of some summer sun.

On land the appeal continues as Capri is the typical Mediterranean spot, with a nice mixture of laid back cafés and cool piazzas. Intertwined with the modern laid back style of Capri are the rugged seascapes and Roman ruins, which give this part of Italy a whole unique identity. Designer boutiques and traditional Trattorias line the main areas of Capri, but behind the scenes, if you care to venture, is the revealingly rural side of Capri with overgrown vegetables plots, ancient abandoned forts, and grand villas.

**Getting to Capri**

The closest international airport to Capri is located in Naples, the Naples International airport. A number of popular airlines serve this airport including British Airways, EasyJet, and XL Airways. How you get to Naples and which flight you arrive on will be dependent on where in the world you are coming from. It maybe that you will have to get a connection from Rome to Naples and this can be done fairly easily via the trains that run between Roma Termini and Napoli Centrale.

The journey from Naples to the Isle of Capri will need to be completed via water. Hydrofoils depart from the port of Ischia or Forio. The Hydrofoil will take around 40 minutes to go across to Capri and docks at the Marina Grande, which is located at the north side of the Island. There is also a daily ferry service that leaves directly from Naples at various times throughout the day. The cost for a single trip is approximately €16 and the journey takes the same amount of time as a hydrofoil from Ischia.

When you arrive at the Marina Grande you will be able to hop onto a funicular, which will take you up to Capri Town.

**What to see and do in Capri**

* **Inside the Grotto**

The Isle of Capri may be small in comparison to other popular parts of Italy, but there are still plenty of beautiful sights to see and wonderful activities to get involved in. One of the top ranking things to do while in Capri is to take a trip to the Blue Grotto. This is a well-known sea cave that gets its name from the blue reflection created inside of the cave when the sun shines through the opening and reflects off the seawater. The opening itself is only big enough to allow a small boat to get access and this depends on the level of the tide. High tide will mean no access to the cave. There are passenger boats available for trips to the Blue Grotto at a cost of €9. If you then want to venture inside the Grotto you will be able to hire a small row boat for €12.50.

* **Chair lift to Capri’s highest peak**

## If you want to take in the views from the highest peak on the Island, but don’t have the energy to make the trek yourself, you could take advantage of the chairlift that will gently whisk you to the top of Seggiovia del Monte Solaro in around 12 minutes. From the top you will not only get to take in some spectacular views of Capri, but of the Amalfi Coast, Bay of Naples, and the islands of Ischia as well. A single trip on the chair lift cost just €7, but you will probably want to opt for the return ticket which costs €9.

## Take a Hike

## There is plenty to explore on the isle of Capri and the best way to do this is on foot. Most of the island can be explored on foot via many connecting hiking trails. This is something that not many people take advantage of, but it can be a great way to discover the natural beauty of the island. Taking the hiking trails is a great way to take a break away from the more popular tourist hotspots within the town. Be sure to dress appropriately with comfortably footwear and clothing, and take plenty of refreshments. These trails may take you some distance from any shops.

## Where to Stay in Capri

## Capri is not famed for its budget friendliness so if you are planning a trip to the island you should be sure to have a healthy budget. There is some reasonably priced accommodation to be found here though if you are prepared to sacrifice a few high end luxuries. The 1-star rated Hotel Villa Eva is well priced for the budget conscious with prices starting at €39 per night, but it is not very easy to get to so you pay have to shell out an additional €30 on a taxi when you arrive in Capri. The hotel itself has some fairly comfortable rooms, views of the sea, and a swimming pool.

## On the other end of the scale is the 5-star rated Villa Marina Capri Hotel & Spa, which is located on the sea-front close to the Marina Grande. Prices for a room at this hotel well set you back €333 per night and for that you get a host of luxury features thrown in including complimentary buffet breakfast, high speed internet connection, and complimentary shuttle services to various destinations on the island. In addition to that there are a range of amenities on offer such as a gym, indoor and outdoor swimming pools, and a spa.

## For something in-between, the Hotel Casa Caprile is a good 3-star option. This hotel is close to Mount Solaro and includes a continental breakfast in the room price. These prices start at around €92 per night and most rooms will have a great view of the sea, the gardens, or mountain.

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## Things to bear in mind

## Two great activities to undertake while on the isle of Capri are hiking around the island and swimming in the Grotto. These are both great memorable activities, but a lot of care should be taken if you do decide to do these. As you hike around the island you need to bear in mind that you do this at your own risk and should watch out for things like bees, cacti, and steep slopes.

## A swim in a Grotto is certainly a tempting prospect, but this is only for strong swimmers. The waves can get quite strong inside the cave and swimmers often get pushed against the rocks when entering or exiting the caves. It is a good idea to have an experienced guide with you when you go swimming in there, and this should be done after 6pm when the boats stop.

## There are various events held on the island throughout the year such as the Festival of San Costanzo on May 14th, and this is likely to determine how busy the island gets. You should check to see if there are any festivals on the date you plan to travel so that you can decide whether or not you want your trip to coincide with it. THE END