



DIRECTORY

ACCOMMODATION

There is no shortage of accommodation in Naples and on the Amalfi Coast. As a rule, the Amalfi Coast and Bay of Naples islands are more expensive than Naples, with limited budget options and a glut of upmarket hotels.

In this book, accommodation is listed in alphabetical order within each section, and is rated € (up to €90 for a double room), €€ (€90 to €190) and €€€ (above €190).

Icons in hotel listings indicate where full air-con and internet access are available.

The bulk of the region's accommodation is made up of hotels and *pensioni* (guest-houses). Prices vary enormously but expect to pay high-season rates at Easter, in summer (from June to September) and over the Christmas–New Year period. As a rough guide reckon on forking out anywhere between €80 and €300 for a double room in a three-star hotel. Unless otherwise stated, prices quoted are high season rates.

Italian *ostelli per la gioventù* (youth hostels) are run by the **Associazione Italiana Alberghi per la Gioventù** (AIG; ☎ 06 487 11 52; www.ostellionline.org; Rome), which is affiliated with **Hostelling International** (HI; www.iyhf.org). A valid HI card is required, which you can get in your home country or at many hostels. Dorm rates are typically between €15 and €25, often with breakfast included. Many places also offer dinner for around €10.

Campers are not well catered for in the region although there are a couple of decent sites at Sorrento. Expect to pay from €5 to €12 per person and €5 to €12 to pitch a tent.

Agriturismi (farm stays) are becoming increasingly popular. Although they are

ideal for those who want to escape the crowds and for parents with children – think lots of space to run around in and farm animals – they can be difficult to reach without a car. Lists of operators are available from local tourist offices or **Agriturismo Campania** (Map pp278-9; ☎ 081 28 52 43; www.agriturist.it in Italian; 8th fl, Corso Arnaldo Lucci 137).

B&Bs are also taking off, particularly in Naples but also on the coast. Options include everything from restored farm-houses, city palazzi and seaside bungalows to rooms in family houses. Prices are typically between €70 and €150 for a room. For more information contact **Bed & Breakfast Italia** (☎ 06 687 86 18; www.bbitalia.it) in Rome or **Rent A Bed** (Map pp280-1; ☎ 081 41 77 21; www.rentabed.com; Vico d'Affitto 16) in Naples.

To make a reservation, whether for a hotel or an agriturismo, you'll often be required to confirm by email or fax and give a credit-card number as security (or a money order to cover the first night's stay).

Tourist offices throughout the region carry accommodation lists and some, such as the Sorrento office, offer a booking service.

Finding rental accommodation in Naples can be difficult and time consuming, but there are rental agencies that will assist, for a fee. Rental rates are higher for short-term leases and it is usually necessary to pay a deposit (generally one month in advance).

In major resort areas, such as Capri, Amalfi and Positano, tourist offices have lists of local apartments and villas for rent. As a basic estimate, reckon on at least €1000 for a two-bedroom serviced flat in high season.

There are a few online agencies that deal in villa and/or apartment rentals on the Amalfi Coast, such as [249](http://www.apartment</p></div><div data-bbox=)

service.com, www.cvtravel.net, www.eurvilla.com, www.indiv-travellers.com, and www.villas-in-italy-rentals.com.

Alternatively you could try:
Cuendet & Cie Spa (Italy ☎ 0577 57 63 30; www.cuendet.com) Operating from Siena, this is a major Italian operator with villas on the Amalfi Coast. From the UK you can make reservations by calling ☎ 0800 085 77 32.

Cottages & Castles (Australia ☎ 613 9889 3350; www.cottagesandcastles.com.au) The Australian associate of Cuendet.

Parker Company (USA ☎ 781-596 82 82; www.theparkercompany.com) A leading US agency with a huge portfolio of villas.

Rentals In Italy (USA ☎ 805 987 52 78) Handles Cuendet bookings in the US.

Tuscany Now (UK ☎ 020 7684 88 84; www.tuscanynow.com) Has high-quality villas on the Amalfi Coast.

BUSINESS HOURS

Shops in Naples generally open from 9.30am to 1.30pm and 4.30pm to 8pm (in winter) or 4pm to 8.30pm (in summer) Monday to Saturday. They may close on Saturday afternoons or Monday mornings. In Naples most department stores and supermarkets now have continuous opening hours from 9am to 8.30pm Monday to Saturday. Some even open from 9am to 1pm on Sunday.

Banks open from 8.30am to 1.30pm and 2.45pm to 4.30pm Monday to Friday. They are closed at weekends but it is always possible to find a *cambio* (exchange office) open in Naples and major tourist areas.

Major post offices are open from 8.30am to 6pm Monday to Friday and also 8.30am to 1pm on Saturday. All post offices close two hours earlier than normal on the last business day of each month (not including Saturday).

Farmacie (pharmacies) are open from 9am to 1pm and 4pm to 7.30pm Monday to Friday. Most shut on Saturday afternoons and Sundays but a handful remain open on a rotation basis. All closed pharmacies are obliged to display a list of the nearest ones that are open.

Bars and cafés generally open from 7.30am to 8pm, although some stay open until the small hours, typically 1am or 2am. Clubs and discos might open around 10pm but often there'll be no-one there until midnight at least.

Restaurants open from noon to 3pm and 7.30pm to 11pm (later in summer). Restaurants and bars are required to close for one day each week although in busy tourist areas this rule is not always observed.

Opening hours for museums, galleries and archaeological sites vary enormously, although many are closed on Mondays. Increasingly, the major national museums and galleries remain open until 10pm during the summer.

Note that trading hours on the Amalfi Coast and even outer suburban Naples will vary from central Naples.

CHILDREN

Naples and the Amalfi Coast are tough destinations for children. In Naples, the breathless pace is exhausting for adults and children alike; at Pompeii, the uneven surfaces make life a nightmare for strollers; and on the Amalfi Coast the twisting coastal road is almost sure to provoke car sickness. However, all is not lost – this is Italy and kids are welcome just about everywhere.

Make a point of asking staff at tourist offices if they know of any special family activities and if they have suggestions about hotels that cater for kids. Discounts are available for children (usually for those aged under 12 years but sometimes prices are based on the child's height) for public transport and for admission to sites.

Book accommodation in advance to avoid any inconvenience, and when travelling by train make sure to reserve seats to avoid having to stand for the entire journey. Most car-hire firms have children's safety seats for hire at a nominal cost, but it's essential that you book them in advance. The same goes for highchairs and cots (cribs): they're available in most restaurants and hotels, but numbers will be limited.

You can buy baby formula in powder or liquid form, as well as sterilising solutions, such as Milton, at local *farmacie*. Disposable nappies (diapers) are widely available at supermarkets and *farmacie*; a pack of 25 costs about €10. Fresh cow's milk is sold by the carton in bars that have a 'latteria' sign and in supermarkets. If it is essential that you have milk, carry an emergency carton of UHT since bars usually close at 8pm.

Baby-Sitting

Overall, forget it! Although a few top hotels may be able to arrange baby-sitting, in Italy children are generally included in all facets of family life and are carted around just about everywhere.

Sights & Activities

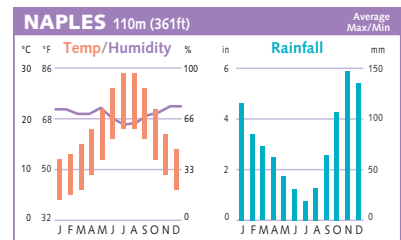
The key to a successful trip is planning. A common cause of strife is to try to do too much. High summer temperatures and crowded streets can fray the nerves of even the most patient of kids (and parents!). Always remember to allow some free time for the kids to play and make sure that you balance those heavy days at the museum with a day at the beach. Where possible, include children in the trip planning – if they've helped to work out where to go, they'll be much more interested when they get there.

For a list of sites suitable for children in Naples, see the boxed text, p76. Elsewhere, the ruins of **Pompeii** (p160) might appeal to older kids, while Capri's **Grotto Azzurra** (Blue Grotto; p178) will impress all ages. In Sorrento, the dinky **City Train** (p209) is a popular way of touring the town. You'll find children's parks (often little more than a field with a swing or two but better than nothing) in **Anacapri** (p178), **Sorrento** (p208), and **Amalfi** (p232), while the seafronts in **Minori** and **Maiori** are lined with all sorts of garish kids games.

For more information, see Lonely Planet's *Travel with Children* or check out www.travelwithyourkids.com and www.familytravelnetwork.com.

CLIMATE

The south of Italy has a Mediterranean climate. Summers are long, hot and dry and



can easily soar to an enervating 35°C, although it is generally cooler on the Amalfi Coast and Bay of Naples islands. Winter temperatures tend to be quite moderate, averaging around 10°C. Spring and early autumn are the best seasons to visit as temperatures are mild, but still warm. From December to March, you can expect plenty of rain. See p17 for more guidelines on the best times to visit.

COURSES

Cookery and language courses are popular throughout Italy and are available in the region. In Sorrento, the **Sorrento Cooking School** (Map p206; ☎ 081 878 32 55; www.sorrentocookingschool.com; Viale Dei Pini 52, Sant'Agnello) offers various food-related courses, including day-long sessions from €140; and the **Centro Linguistico Internazionale Sorrento Lingue** (Map p206; ☎ 081 807 55 99; www.sorrentolingue.com; Via San Francesco 8) runs Italian language courses costing from €206 to €760. For more details, see p209.

In Naples, the **Istituto Italiano di Cultura** (IIC; ☎ 081 546 16 62; www.istitalianocultura.org in Italian; Via Bernardo Cavallino 89) can provide information on a whole range of study opportunities.

Divers are well catered for with a number of outfits running courses for beginners and advanced students. These include the following:

- Captain Cook** (Map pp190–1; ☎ 335 636 26 30; www.captaincook.it; Ischia Porto, Ischia)
- Nettuno Diving** (Map p206; ☎ 081 808 10 51; www.sorrentodiving.com; Via A Vespucci 39, Marina del Cantone)
- Procida Diving Centre** (☎ 081 896 83 85; www.vacanzaPROCIDA.it/framediving01-uk.htm; Procida)
- Sercomar** (Map p173 ☎ 081 837 87 81; www.capribus.com; Marina Grande, Capri)
- Sorrento Diving Center** (Map p206; ☎ 081 877 48 12; www.sorrentodivingcenter.it; Sorrento).

For further information see the relevant destination sections.

CUSTOMS

Goods bought in and exported within the EU incur no additional taxes, provided duty has been paid somewhere within the EU and the goods are intended for personal consumption.

Duty-free sales within the EU no longer exist. Visitors coming into Italy from non-EU countries can import the following duty free: spirits (1L), wine (2L), perfume (60mL), eau de toilette (250mL), 200 cigarettes and other goods up to a total of €175.50; anything over this limit must be declared on arrival and the appropriate duty paid. You can also bring up to €12,500 in cash into Italy.

Upon leaving the EU, non-EU citizens can reclaim any Imposta di Valore Aggiunto (IVA) value-added tax on purchases equal to or more than €180 (see p257).

DISCOUNT CARDS

At many state museums and archaeological sites EU citizens under 18 and over 65 enter free, and those aged between 18 and 25 get a 50% discount. To claim these discounts you'll need a passport or an ID card.

When sightseeing consider a *biglietto cumulativo* (cumulative ticket), a ticket that allows admission to a number of associated sights for less than the combined cost of separate admission fees.

The International Student Identity Card (ISIC), issued by the **International Student Travel Confederation** (ISTC; www.istc.org), is no longer sufficient at many tourist sites as prices are based on age, so a passport, drivers licence or **Euro<26** (www.euro26.org) card is preferable. An ISIC card will still, however, prove useful for cheap flights and theatre and cinema discounts. A similar card is also available to

CUMULATIVE TICKETS

Coming in various forms, the **Campania Artec card** (www.campaniartecard.it in Italian) is a cumulative ticket that covers museum admission and transport. In Naples a three-day ticket (adult/18-25yr €13/8) gives free admission to two participating sites, a 50% discount on others and free transport in Naples and the Campi Flegrei. Other ticket options range from €25 to €28 and cover sites as far afield as Pompeii and Paestum. The tickets can be bought at train stations, newsagents, participating museums, on the internet or through the call centre.

If you're intending to visit Pompeii and Herculaneum, you'll save by buying the combined ticket (adult/EU 18-25yr/EU under 18yr & over 65yr €20/10/free), which also covers Oplontis, Stabiae and Boscoreale.

teachers (the ITIC; International Teacher Identity Card).

If you're under 26, you can also apply for an International Youth Travel Card (IYTC), issued by the **Federation of International Youth Travel Organisations** (FIYTO; www.fiyto.org).

Student cards are issued by student unions, hosting organisations and some youth travel agencies. In Naples try **CTS** (Map pp280-1; ☎ 081 552 79 60; www.cts.it in Italian; Via Mezzocannone 25).

ELECTRICITY

Most electricity wiring in Italy works on 220V. Two-pin adapter plugs can be bought at electrical shops.

EMBASSIES & CONSULATES

For foreign embassies and consulates not listed here, look under 'Ambasciate' or 'Consolati' in the telephone directory. Alternatively, tourist offices generally have a list. The following are in Naples:

France (Map pp284-5; ☎ 081 59 80 711; Via Francesco Crispi 86, 80122)

Germany (Map pp284-5; ☎ 081 61 33 93; Via Francesco Crispi 69, 80121)

Netherlands (Map pp280-1; ☎ 081 551 30 03; Via Agostino Depretis 114, 80133)

UK (Map pp284-5; ☎ 081 423 89 11; Via dei Mille 40, 80121)

USA (Map pp284-5; ☎ 081 583 81 11; Piazza della Repubblica, 80122)

EMERGENCY

At Naples' **main police station** (Map pp280-1; ☎ 081 794 11 11; Via Medina 75) there is an office for foreigners. To report a stolen car, call ☎ 081 794 14 35.

Ambulance	☎ 118
Coastguard	☎ 1530
Fire	☎ 115
Police	☎ 112/113
Road assistance	☎ 803 116

GAY & LESBIAN TRAVELLERS

Homosexuality is legal in Italy and well tolerated in Naples; however, try to avoid overt displays of affection, particularly in smaller towns on the Amalfi Coast. The legal age of consent is 16.

Naples' largest gay organisation is **Arcigay-Circola Antinoo** (Map pp280-1; ☎ 081 552 88 15; www.arcigaynapoli.org; Vico San Geronimo alle Monarche 19), which organises special events and can provide information on the city's gay scene.

Spartacus International (www.spartacusworld.com) publishes the *Spartacus International Gay Guide* (US\$32.95; UK£19.95), a male-only directory of gay venues worldwide. Alternatively, log onto www.gay.it/guida (in Italian) for addresses of gay bars and hotels.

For further information see the boxed text, p132.

HOLIDAYS

Most Italians take their annual holiday in August. This means that many businesses and shops close down for at least a part of the month, particularly around Ferragosto (Feast of the Assumption) on 15 August.

Italian schools close for three months in the summer, from mid-June to mid-September, for three weeks over Christmas, and for a week at Easter. See p18 for a calendar of the region's special events and festivals.

Public holidays include the following:

- Capodanno** (New Year's Day) 1 January
- Epifania** (Epiphany) 6 January
- Pasquetta** (Easter Monday) March/April
- Giorno della Liberazione** (Liberation Day) 25 April
- Festa del Lavoro** (Labour Day) 1 May
- Festa della Repubblica** (Republic Day) 2 June
- Ferragosto** (Feast of the Assumption) 15 August
- Ognisanti** (All Saints' Day) 1 November
- Immacolata Concezione** (Feast of the Immaculate Conception) 8 December
- Natale** (Christmas Day) 25 December
- Festa di Santo Stefano** (Boxing Day) 26 December

INTERNET ACCESS

The easiest way to access the internet on the road is at an internet café. In Naples try the following:

- Internetbar** (Map pp280-1; ☎ 081 29 52 37; Piazza Bellini 74; per hr €3; ☎ 9-2am Mon-Sat, 8pm-2am Sun)
- Navig@ndo** (Map pp280-1; ☎ 081 193 60 030; Via S Anna dei Lombardi 28; per hr €2; ☎ 9.30am-8.30pm daily)
- Zeudi Internet Point** (Map pp284-5; ☎ 081 251 22 50; Via Chiaia 199; per hr €3; ☎ 9.30am-9pm Mon-Sat)

Refer to the individual town sections in the Amalfi Coast chapter for internet access in those areas.

Wi-fi hot spots are fairly thin on the ground, although some of the smarter hotels do offer them.

Most travellers use free web-based email such as **Yahoo** (www.yahoo.com), **Hotmail** (www.hotmail.com) or **Google** (www.gmail.com), which can be easily accessed from any internet-connected computer in the world.

If, however, you're bringing your own kit (laptop or PDA), you'll need to find an Internet Service Provider (ISP) with local dial-up numbers. **AOL** (www.aol.com), **AT&T** (www.att.com) and **CompuServe** (www.compuserve.com) all have dial-in nodes in Italy. Remember that if you have to plug your computer into a power socket you might need a power transformer (to convert from 110V to 220V if your notebook isn't set up for dual voltage), an RJ-11 telephone jack that works with your modem, and a plug adaptor.

LEGAL MATTERS

The most likely reason for a brush with the law is if you have to report a theft. If you do have something stolen and you want to claim it on insurance you must make a statement to the police; insurance companies won't pay up without official proof of a crime.

The Italian police is divided into three main bodies; the *polizia* who wear navy-blue jackets; the *carabinieri* (technically military police but they cover the same duties as the *polizia*) in a black uniform with a red stripe; and the grey-clad *guardia di finanza* (finance police), who are responsible for fighting tax evasion and drug smuggling. If you run into trouble you're most likely to end up dealing with the *polizia* or *carabinieri*. If, however, you land a parking ticket, you'll need to speak to the *vigili urbani* (traffic wardens).

In general, the consulate section of your embassy should be able to provide you with lists of lawyers, interpreters and translators in Naples. See p252 for police and other emergency numbers.

Drink & Drugs

Drugs are not hard to come by in Naples, but you'd do well to resist. In February 2006, the Italian parliament approved new antidrug laws that abolished the distinction between hard and soft drugs, effectively putting cannabis on the same legal footing as cocaine, heroin and ecstasy. If caught with what the police deem to be a dealable quantity, you risk fines of up to €260,000 or prison sentences of between six and 20 years.

Regarding alcohol, the legal limit for a driver's blood-alcohol reading is 0.05% and random breath tests do occur.

Your Rights

Italy has some antiterrorism laws on its books that could make your life very difficult if you're detained. You can be held for 48 hours without a magistrate being informed and you can be interrogated without the presence of a lawyer. It is difficult to obtain bail and legally you can be held for up to three years without being brought to trial.

MAPS

The maps throughout this book, combined with tourist-office maps, are generally adequate for navigating the region's main centres. Tourist offices can also provide walking maps, although if you're intent on serious hiking you should consider a specialist map. One of the best is the CAI's (Club Alpino Italiano) *Monti Lattari, Penisola Sorrentina, Costiera Amalfitana: Carta dei Sentieri* (€8).

The best road maps and city plans are published by de Agostini, Touring Club Italiano (TCI) and Michelin, and are available at bookshops throughout the area.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Italy has a public health system that is legally bound to provide emergency care to everyone. EU nationals are entitled to reduced cost, sometimes free, medical care with a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), available from your home health authority; non-EU citizens should take out medical insurance.

For emergency treatment, go straight to the *pronto soccorso* (casualty) section of an *ospedale* (public hospital), where it's also possible to receive emergency dental treatment. For less serious ailments call the local *guardia medica* (duty doctor); ask at your hotel or nearest tourist office for the number. Pharmacists (see p255) will fill prescriptions and can provide basic medical advice.

Ambulance (☎ 118, ☎ 081 752 06 96)

Ospedale Loreto-Mare (Loreto-Mare Hospital; Map pp280-1; ☎ 081 20 10 33; Via Amerigo Vespucci 26)

MONEY

Since 2002 Italy's currency has been the euro. The euro is divided into 100 cents. Coin denominations are one, two, five, 10, 20 and 50 cents, €1 and €2; the notes are €5, €10, €20, €50, €100, €200 and €500.

Exchange rates are given on the inside front flap of this book. For the latest rates check out www.xe.com.

The best way to manage your money is to use your debit/credit cards while keeping a fistful of travellers cheques as backup.

Credit & Debit Cards

Credit and debit cards can be used in ATMs (which are widespread and known locally as *bancomat*) displaying the appropriate sign. Visa and MasterCard are widely recognised, as are Cirrus and Maestro; Amex is accepted but is less common. If you don't have a PIN, some (but not all) banks will advance cash over the counter. Credit cards can also be used in many supermarkets, hotels and restaurants although *pensioni*, smaller trattorie and pizzeria still tend to accept cash only.

When you withdraw money from an ATM, the amounts are converted and dispensed in local currency; however, there will be fees involved. Typically, you'll be charged a withdrawal fee (usually 2% for a minimum withdrawal of €2 or more) as well as a conversion charge; if you're using a credit card you'll also be hit with interest on the cash withdrawn.

If an ATM rejects your card, don't despair. Try a few more ATMs displaying your card's logo before assuming the problem lies with your card.

If your credit card is lost, stolen or swallowed by an ATM, telephone toll-free to have an immediate stop put on it. For MasterCard call ☎ 800 87 08 66; for Visa, ☎ 800 81 90 14; and for Amex ☎ 800 86 40 46.

Changing Money

You can change money in banks, at post offices or in a *cambio* (exchange office). Banks are generally the most reliable and tend to offer the best rates. Cambio offices usually, but not always, offer worse rates or charge higher commissions. Hotels are almost always the worst places to change money.

Receipts

Under Italian law you're supposed to ask for and retain receipts for absolutely everything that you pay for. Although it rarely happens you could, in theory, be asked by the *guardia di finanza* to produce a receipt immediately after you leave a shop. If you don't have one, you risk a fine.

Travellers Cheques

Increasingly overlooked by card-wielding travellers, travellers cheques are a dying breed. They should not, however, be written off entirely as they're an excellent form of backup, especially as you can claim a refund if they're stolen (providing you've kept a separate record of their numbers).

Amex, Visa and Travelex cheques are the easiest to cash, particularly in US dollars, British pounds or euros. Increasingly banks are charging hefty commissions, though, even on cheques denominated in euros. Whatever currency they are in, cheques can be difficult to change in smaller towns. Always take your passport as identification when cashing in travellers cheques.

For lost or stolen cheques call: Amex ☎ 800 72 000; Travelex ☎ 800 33 55 11; Visa ☎ 800 874 155.

NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES

Italian newspapers take some getting used to. They're big on domestic politics and tend to assume the reader is well-versed in current affairs and has a working knowledge of Italian public life.

Naples' major daily newspaper is *Il Mattino*, although national dailies *La Repubblica* and *Corriere della Sera* also have Neapolitan inserts.

Foreign newspapers and magazines are available, generally one or two days after publication, at the larger city kiosks and, more commonly than in the city, at resorts along the Amalfi Coast.

PHARMACIES

Indicated by a green cross, *farmacie* are a good first port of call in case of minor illness. Pharmacies for each town along the Amalfi Coast are listed in the information boxes in the Amalfi Coast chapter. Within Naples try the following:

Farmacia Cannone (Map p283; ☎ 081 556 72 61; Via A Scarlati 75; ☘ 9am-midnight; Funicular Centrale to Fuga) Stocks a range of homeopathic remedies.
Officina Profumo Farmaceutica di Santa Maria Novella (Map pp284-5; ☎ 081 40 71 76; Via Santa Caterina a Chiaia 20; bus CS to Piazza dei Martiri)

If you think you'll need a prescription while in the region make sure you know the drug's generic name rather than just the brand name.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Film and video equipment are widely available everywhere in the region, but most travellers now use digital cameras. If you're shooting digitally check that you have enough memory to store your snaps. If you do run out your best bet is burn your photos onto a CD, something which many processing labs and some internet cafés will do for you.

To download your pics at an internet café you'll need a USB cable and a card reader. Some places provide a USB on request but be warned that many of the bigger chain cafés don't let you plug your gear into their computers, meaning it's back to plan A – burning onto CD.

POST

Italy's much maligned postal system, **Poste** (☎ 803 160; www.poste.it in Italian), has improved

a lot in recent years but is hardly a model of efficiency.

Francobolli (stamps) are available at post offices and authorised tobacconists (look for the official *tabacchi* sign: a big 'T', usually white on black). Urgent mail can be sent by *postacelere* (also known as CAI Post), the Italian post office's courier service.

Email has rendered *poste restante* (*fermo posta*) services largely obsolete. However, if you want to write to a loved one in Naples you should address your letter as follows:

John SMITH,
Fermo Posta,
80100 Napoli,
Italy

Said loved one will then need to go to Naples' main post office (Map pp284-5; ☎ 081 790 47 54; Piazza Matteotti) to pick up the letter in person. They will need to present a passport or ID card to collect their mail.

RADIO

The state-owned stations RAI-1 (89.3 and 94.1 MHz FM stereo and 1332 KHz AM), RAI-2 (91.3 and 96.1 MHz FM stereo and 846 KHz AM) and RAI-3 (93.3 and 98.1 MHz FM) combine current affairs programmes with classical and light music and half-hourly news bulletins. There are no English-language radio stations, unless you bring your shortwave along.

SAFETY

Naples has a certain reputation for being unsafe and recent events have done little to improve it. Most spectacularly, a turf war between Camorra gangs left up to 47 people dead in late 2004 and early 2005. And while you're unlikely to be caught in mafia crossfire you'll need to guard your valuables closely on the streets. Petty crime is rife and pickpockets and scooter snatchers are active in the main tourist areas. For tips on street safety see below) and the Naples alla Napoletana boxed text, p97.

Travellers should be careful about walking alone in the streets at night, par-

ticularly in the Quartieri Spagnoli, La Sanità and Mercato districts and around Piazza Garibaldi.

Away from Naples there are no great issues, although in Pompeii you should watch out for touts posing as legitimate guides and, in the ruins, the occasional stray dog.

Pollution

Noise and air pollution are problems in Naples, caused mainly by the heavy traffic. In summer there are periodic pollution alerts, where the elderly, children and people who have respiratory problems are warned to stay indoors. If you fit into one of these categories, keep yourself informed through the tourist office or your hotel.

Scams

The classic Piazza Garibaldi scam is the mobile-phone dodge. Basically, you buy a brand new mobile phone at a knock-down price only to get home to discover that you've bought a box with a brick in it. There's really no way to avoid this other than to ignore all dodgy offers of phones and other electrical goods.

Many cons play on people's insecurity with foreign bank notes. Short-changing is a common trick. One popular dodge goes as follows: you pay for a €4 *panino* with a €20 note. The cashier then distractedly gives you a €1 coin and a €5 note before turning away. The trick here is to wait and chances are that the €10 note you're waiting for will appear without a word being said.

Note swapping is another thing to be aware of. This con involves you paying for a taxi fare or a train ticket with a €20 note. The taxi driver or ticket seller then deftly palms your note and produces a €10 note claiming that you paid with this and not the €20 you thought you had given. In your confusion you're not quite sure what you did and so accept their word.

Theft

Pickpockets are most active in dense crowds, especially in busy train stations and on public transport. A common ploy is for one person to distract you while another whips through your pockets. Beware

of gangs of dishevelled-looking kids waving newspapers and demanding attention. In the blink of an eye, a wallet or camera can go missing. Remember also that some of the best pickpockets are well-dressed.

When going out, spread your valuables, cash and cards around your body or in different bags. A moneybelt to hold your essentials (passport, cash, credit cards, airline tickets) is usually a good idea; however, to avoid delving into it in public, also carry a wallet with enough cash for the day. Don't flaunt watches, cameras and other expensive goods. Cameras and shoulder bags are an open invitation for snatch thieves, many of whom work from motorcycles or scooters. Wear cameras and bags across the body and keep under your arm. Also be very careful at cafés and bars – always loop your bag's strap around your leg while seated.

Parked cars, particularly those with foreign number plates and/or rental-agency stickers, are prime targets for petty criminals. While driving in cities, beware of thieves at traffic lights – keep doors locked and windows rolled up high. A favourite ploy of snatchers is for a scooter rider to brush past your car, knocking the side-mirror out of position; then, as you reach out to readjust it, an accomplice on a second scooter races past snatching your watch as he goes.

Car theft is a problem in Naples, so it pays to leave your car in a supervised car park. If you leave your car on the street, you will often be approached by an unofficial (that is, illegal) parking attendant asking for money. Clearly you don't have to pay them, but if you refuse you run the risk of returning to a damaged car.

In case of theft or loss, always report the incident to the police within 24 hours, and ask for a statement otherwise your travel-insurance company won't pay out.

Traffic

Neapolitan traffic requires some getting used to. Drivers are not keen to stop for pedestrians, even at pedestrian crossings, and are more likely to swerve. Locals simply step off the footpath and walk through the (swerving) traffic with determination.

It is a practice that seems to work but if you feel uncertain, wait and cross with an Italian local.

In many cities, roads that appear to be for one-way traffic have lanes for buses travelling in the opposite direction – always look both ways before stepping onto the road.

TAX & REFUNDS

A value-added tax of around 20%, known as IVA, is slapped on to just about everything in Italy. If you are a non-EU resident and you spend more than €180 on a purchase, you can claim a refund when you leave the EU. The refund only applies to purchases from affiliated retail outlets that display a 'Tax Free for Tourists' sign. You have to complete a form at the point of sale, then get it stamped by Italian customs as you leave the country. At major airports you can get an immediate cash refund; otherwise it will be refunded to your credit card. For further information, pick up a pamphlet from participating stores.

TELEPHONE Domestic Calls

Telephone rates in Italy are among the highest in Europe, particularly for long-distance calls. Average charges range from around €0.06 per minute for local calls to €0.13 for a long-distance call and €0.40 for calls to a mobile phone. Calls from a public payphone cost more. The cheapest time to call, for all domestic and international calls, is from midnight to 8am and any time on Sundays; peak rates apply from 8am to 6.30pm Monday to Friday and until 1pm on Saturday.

Telephone area codes all begin with ☎ 0 and consist of up to four digits. Area codes, including the first zero, are an integral part of all Italian phone numbers and should be used even when calling locally. Mobile-phone numbers begin with a three-digit prefix such as ☎ 330, ☎ 339; toll-free (free-phone) numbers are known as *numeri verdi* and usually start with ☎ 800; national call rate numbers start with ☎ 848 or ☎ 199.

For directory inquiries dial ☎ 1254.

International Calls

Direct international calls can easily be made from public telephones by using a phonenumber. Dial ☎00 to get out of Italy, then the relevant country and area codes, followed by the telephone number. Rates are €0.61 per minute to the UK, most Western European countries, the US and Canada; and €0.92 for calls to Australia and New Zealand.

To make a reverse-charge (collect) international call, dial ☎170. All operators speak English. Alternatively, use the direct dialling (Country Direct) service provided by your home-country phone company (such as AT&T in the USA and Telstra in Australia). You simply dial the relevant access number and request a reverse-charges call through the operator in your country. Numbers for this service include:

Australia (Telstra)	☎ 800 172 610
Canada	☎ 800 172 213
New Zealand	☎ 800 172 641
USA (AT&T)	☎ 800 172 444

For international directory inquiries, call ☎892412.

To call Italy from abroad, dial ☎39 and then the area code, including the first zero.

Mobile Phones

Italy is one of the most mobile-phone saturated countries in the world and was one of the first places to introduce video phones. Phones operate on the GSM 900/1800 network, which is compatible with the rest of Europe and Australia but not with the North American GSM 1900 or the Japanese system (although some GSM 1900/900 phones do work here).

If you have a GSM, dual- or tri-band cellular phone that you can unlock (check with your service provider), it can cost as little as €10 to activate a *prepagato* (prepaid) SIM card in Italy. TIM (Telecom Italia Mobile), Wind and Vodafone-Omnitel all offer SIM cards and all have retail outlets in Naples and Salerno. You'll need your passport to open an account.

Phonecards

You'll find Telecom Italia silver payphones on the streets, in train stations, in some

stores and in Telecom offices. Most payphones accept only *schede telefoniche* (telephone cards), although some still accept credit cards and coins. Where offices are staffed, you can make international calls and pay at the desk afterwards.

Phonecards (€5, €10, €20) are available at post offices, tobacconists and newsstands. You must break the top left-hand corner off the card before you can use it. Take note also that phonecards have an expiry date.

There are cut-price call centres throughout Naples. These are run by various companies and the rates are lower than Telecom payphones for international calls. You simply place your call from a private booth inside the centre and pay for it when you've finished.

TELEVISION

There are seven main TV channels in Italy: three are operated by the state broadcaster RAI (RAI 1, RAI 2 and RAI 3), three are run by Silvio Berlusconi's Mediaset company (Rete 4, Canale 5 and Italia 1), and La7 is owned by Telecom Italia. Output is fairly dire with a glut of interminable variety shows, sitcoms and various soap operas. Midrange to top-end hotels will generally provide a satellite TV service, which, at the very minimum, will pick up CNN, BBC World and a couple of music-video channels.

TIME

Italy is one hour ahead of GMT. Daylight-savings time, when clocks are moved forward one hour, starts on the last Sunday in March. Clocks are put back an hour on the last Sunday in October. Italy operates on a 24-hour clock.

TIPPING

You are not expected to tip on top of restaurant service charges, although if you feel the service merits it feel free to leave a small amount, perhaps €1 per person. If there is no service charge, you should consider leaving a 10% to 12% tip, but this is by no means obligatory. In bars,

Italians often place a €0.10 or €0.20 coin on the bar when ordering coffee. Tipping taxi drivers is not common practice, but you are expected to tip the porter at top-end hotels.

TOILETS

Public toilets are rare in Naples. Most people use the toilets in bars and cafés, but you might need to buy a coffee first. There are public toilets at the main bus and train stations.

On the Amalfi Coast, the more popular towns have public toilets that cost €0.50 per person. There are free toilets at Pompeii and Herculaneum.

TOURIST INFORMATION

You'll find tourist offices throughout the region. Some are more helpful than others, but all can supply accommodation lists, maps, transport details and information on the major sights.

As a rule, they are open from 8.30am to 12.30pm or 1pm, and from 3pm to 7pm Monday to Friday. These hours are usually extended in summer, when some offices open on Saturday or Sunday.

English, and sometimes French or German, is spoken at tourist offices in the major tourist areas and printed information is generally provided in a variety of languages.

In Naples, Campania's main tourist office (Map pp284-5; ☎081 40 53 11; www.campaniafelix.it in Italian; Piazza dei Martiri 58; ☎9am-2pm Mon-Fri) is in Chiaia.

More useful, however, are the tourist information offices at the following locations, all of which stock the essential tourist brochure *Qui Napoli*:

- Piazza del Gesù Nuovo (Map pp280-1; ☎081 552 33 28; ☎9.30am-1.30pm & 2.30-6pm Mon-Sat, 9am-1.30pm Sun)
- Stazione Centrale (Map pp280-1; ☎081 26 87 79; ☎9am-7.30pm Mon-Sat, 9am-1.30pm Sun)
- Stazione Mergellina (Map pp284-5; ☎081 761 21 02; ☎9am-7.30pm Mon-Fri, 9am-1.30pm Sat)
- Via San Carlo 7 (Map pp284-5; ☎081 40 23 94; ☎9.30am-1.30pm & 2.30-6pm Mon-Sat, 9am-1.30pm Sun)

For local tourist offices outside the city see the relevant town sections in the Amalfi Coast chapter.

TRAVELLERS WITH DISABILITIES

Naples is not an easy city for travellers with disabilities. Cobble streets, blocked pavements and tiny lifts make life difficult for the wheelchair-bound, while the anarchic traffic can be very disorientating for partially sighted travellers or those with hearing difficulties. Elsewhere, the uneven surfaces at Pompeii virtually rule out wheelchairs and the steep slopes of many Amalfi Coast towns pose a considerable obstacle.

The excellent website www.turismoaccessibile.it gives a rundown on the disabled facilities available at Naples' museums, hotels and on transport services.

For those travelling by train, the customer services office (☎081 567 29 91; ☎7am-9pm daily) at Naples' Stazione Centrale (Map pp280-1) can arrange for wheelchair-bound passengers to be helped to their trains. To use this service you'll need to phone 24 hours prior to your departure and present yourself at the office 45 minutes before your train leaves. Similarly, personnel from *Metrò del Mare* (Map pp278-9; ☎199 60 07 00; www.metrodelmare.com) will escort wheelchair-bound passengers on and off ferries.

Some city buses, including R2 and R3, are set up with access ramps and space for a wheelchair.

The following organisations might be of assistance:

- Accessible Italy** (☎378 94 11 11; www.accessibleitaly.com) A San Marino-based company that specialises in holiday services for the disabled.
- Consorzio Cooperativo Integrate** (COIN; ☎06 712 90 11; www.coinsociale.it) Based in Rome, COIN is the best reference point for disabled travellers in Italy with contact points throughout the country.

VISAS

Italy is one of the 15 signatories of the Schengen Convention, an agreement whereby participating countries have abolished customs checks at common borders. The standard tourist visa for a Schengen country is valid for 90 days. You must apply for it in your country of residence and you can not apply for more than two in any

12-month period. They are not renewable inside Italy.

EU citizens do not need a visa to enter Italy and, with a *permesso di soggiorno* (permit to stay; see below), can stay as long as they like. Nationals of Australia, Canada, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland and the USA do not need visas for stays of up to 90 days in Italy, or in any Schengen country. South African citizens require a visa to enter Italy.

Technically all foreign visitors to Italy are supposed to register with the local police within eight days of arrival; however, if you're staying in a hotel or hostel you don't need to bother as the hotel will do this for you.

Permesso di Soggiorno

A *permesso di soggiorno* is required by all EU citizens who stay in Italy longer than 90 days, and by all non-EU nationals. In theory, non-EU citizens should apply for one within eight days of arriving in Italy, but in practice few people do. To get one you'll need a valid passport containing a stamp with your date of entry into Italy (ask for this when you enter as it's not automatic); a study visa if necessary; four passport-style photographs; proof of your ability to support yourself financially (ideally a letter from an employer or school/university); and a €14.62 *marca da bollo* official stamp. Armed with all of this head to the **Ufficio Immigrazione** (Immigration Office; Map pp278-9; ☎ 081 606 41 11; Via G Ferraris 131; 🕒 8.30am-1pm Mon-Fri & 2.30-5.30pm Mon & Wed, 3-5pm Tue & Thu).

Although correct at the time of writing, the documentary requirements change periodically so always check before you join the (inevitable) queue.

Study Visas

Non-EU citizens who want to study in Italy must have a study visa. These can be

obtained from the nearest Italian embassy or consulate. You will normally require confirmation of your enrolment, proof of payment of fees and proof of your ability to support yourself financially. The visa covers only the period of the enrolment. This type of visa is renewable within Italy but, again, only with confirmation of ongoing enrolment and proof that you can support yourself (bank statements are preferred).

WOMEN TRAVELLERS

The most common source of discomfort for women travellers is harassment. Local men are rarely shy about staring at women and this can be disconcerting, especially if the staring is accompanied by the occasional '*ciao bella*'. The best response is to ignore unwanted approaches. If that doesn't work, politely tell them that you are waiting for your *marito* (husband) or *fidanzato* (boyfriend) and, if necessary, walk away. Avoid becoming aggressive as this may result in an unpleasant confrontation. If all else fails, approach the nearest member of the police.

Wandering hands can also be a problem, particularly on crowded public transport. If you feel someone touching you, make a fuss; molesters are no more admired in southern Italy than anywhere else, so a loud and pointed '*Che schifo!*' ('How disgusting!') should work.

In Naples, lone women should avoid the Quartieri Spagnoli, La Sanità and Mercato districts and the Piazza Garibaldi area at night. Women should also avoid hitchhiking alone. For further safety tips see p256.

The *Handbook for Women Travellers* (Piatkus Books; 1995), by Maggie and Gemma Goss, is useful for solo travellers.



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TRANSPORT

AIR Airlines

Airlines flying to Naples:

Aerlingus (code EI; ☎ 02434 58 326; www.aerlingus.com; hub Dublin airport) To/from Dublin.

Air France (code AF; ☎ 848 88 44 66; www.airfrance.com; hub Roissy Charles de Gaulle airport, Paris) To/from Paris Charles de Gaulle.

Air Malta (code KM; ☎ 06 488 46 85; www.airmalta.com; hub Malta airport) To/from Malta and Palermo.

Air Nostrum (code YW; ☎ 199 10 11 91; www.airnostrum.com; hub Madrid Barajas airport) To/from Madrid.

Airone (code AP; ☎ 199 20 70 80; www.flyairone.com; hub Leonardo da Vinci airport, Fiumicino, Rome) To/from Genoa, Bologna, Milan Linate, Turin, Trieste and Athens.

Alitalia (code AZ; ☎ 06 22 22; www.alitalia.com; hub Leonardo da Vinci airport, Fiumicino, Rome) To/from Rome Fiumicino, Milan Malpensa and Linate, Turin and Venice.

Alpieagles (code E8; ☎ 899 50 00 58; www.alpieagles.com; hub Marco Polo airport, Venice) To/from Sicily, Sardinia and Barcelona.

Austrian (code OS; ☎ 02 896 34 296; www.aua.com; hub Wien Schwechat airport, Vienna) To/from Vienna.

British Airways (code BA; ☎ 199 71 22 66; www.ba.com; hub Heathrow airport, London) To/from London Gatwick.

BMI (code WW; ☎ 199 40 00 44; www.flybmi.com; hub Nottingham East Midlands airport) To/from London Heathrow.

Easyjet (code U2; ☎ 848 88 77 66; www.easyjet.com; hub Stansted airport, London) To/from London Stansted, Basel, Berlin, Milan Malpensa and Paris Orly.

Eurofly (code GJ; ☎ 199 50 99 60; www.eurofly.it; hub Malpensa airport, Milan) To/from Moscow and New York.

Hapag Lloyd Express (code X3; ☎ 199 19 26 92; www.hlx.com; hub Cologne/Bonn airport) To/from Cologne, Hanover, Munich and Stuttgart.

Helvetic (code ZL; ☎ 02 696 82 684; www.helvetic.com; hub Zurich airport) To/from Zurich.

CLIMATE CHANGE & TRAVEL

Climate change is a serious threat to the ecosystems that humans rely upon, and air travel is the fastest-growing contributor to the problem. Lonely Planet regards travel, overall, as a global benefit, but believes we all have a responsibility to limit our personal impact on global warming.

Flying & Climate Change

Pretty much every form of motor transport generates CO₂ (the main cause of human-induced climate change) but planes are far and away the worst offenders, not just because of the sheer distances they allow us to travel, but because they release greenhouse gases high into the atmosphere. The statistics are frightening: two people taking a return flight between Europe and the US will contribute as much to climate change as an average household's gas and electricity consumption over a whole year.

Carbon Offset Schemes

Climatecare.org and other websites use 'carbon calculators' that allow travellers to offset the greenhouse gases they are responsible for with contributions to energy-saving projects and other climate-friendly initiatives in the developing world – including projects in India, Honduras, Kazakhstan and Uganda.

Lonely Planet, together with Rough Guides and other concerned partners in the travel industry, supports the carbon offset scheme run by climatecare.org. Lonely Planet offsets all of its staff and author travel.

For more information check out our website: www.lonelyplanet.com.

LTU (code LT; ☎ 02 434 58 382; www.ltu.com; hub Dusseldorf airport) To/from Dusseldorf, Frankfurt and Munich.

Lufthansa (code LH; ☎ 199 40 00 44; www.lufthansa.com; hub Frankfurt airport) To/from Munich.

Meridiana (code IG; ☎ 89 29 28; www.meridiana.it; hub Olbia airport, Sardinia) To/from Sardinia, Milan Linate, Verona and Paris Charles de Gaulle.

My Air (code 8I; ☎ 899 50 00 60; www.myair.com; hub Orto al Serio airport, Bergamo) To/from Bergamo and Bucharest.

SAS Braathens (code CN0; ☎ 02 720 00 193; www.flysas.com; hub Oslo airport) To/from Oslo.

Sky Europe (code 5P; ☎ 166 20 53 04; www.skyeurope.com; hub Bratislava airport) To/from Bratislava, Budapest, Krakow and Prague.

SN Brussels Airlines (code SN; ☎ 02 6968 23 64; www.flysn.com; hub Brussels National airport) To/from Brussels.

Transavia (code HV; ☎ 02 696 82 615; www.transavia.com; hub Amsterdam Schiphol airport) To/from Amsterdam.

Virgin Express (code TV; ☎ 848 39 01 09; www.virgin-express.com; hub Brussels National airport) To/from Brussels.

Volareweb (code VA; ☎ 199 414 500; www.volareweb.com; hub Milan Linate airport) To/from Milan Linate.

Airports

Eight kilometres northeast of the city centre, **Capodichino airport** (NAP; ☎ 081 789 62 59; www.gesac.it) is southern Italy's main airport, linking Naples with most Italian and several major European cities, as well as New York.

To get there by public transport you can either take the regular **ANM** (☎ 800 63 95 25) bus No 3S (€1, 30 minutes, every 15 minutes) from Piazza Garibaldi, or the **Alibus** (Map pp280-1; ☎ 081 53 11 705) airport shuttle (€3, 20 minutes, half-hourly) from Piazza del Municipio or Piazza Garibaldi.

Official taxi fares to the airport are as follows: €19 from a seafront hotel or from Mergellina hydrofoil terminal; €16 from Piazza del Municipio; and €12.50 from Stazione Centrale.

Curreri (☎ 081 801 54 20; www.curreriviaggi.it) runs six services a day between the airport and Sorrento. The cost of the 75-minute journey is €7 and tickets are available on board.

BOAT

Naples, the bay islands and Amalfi Coast are served by a comprehensive ferry network. In Naples ferries and hydrofoils leave for Capri, Sorrento, Ischia, Procida and Forio from Molo Beverello in front of

Castel Nuovo; longer-distance ferries for Palermo, Cagliari, Milazzo, the Aeolian Islands (Isole Eolie) and Tunisia leave from the **Stazione Marittima** (Map pp280-1).

Tickets for shorter journeys can be bought at the ticket booths on Molo Beverello and at Mergellina. For longer journeys try the offices of the ferry companies or at a travel agent.

The monthly publication *Qui Napoli* lists timetables for Bay of Naples services. Note, however, that ferry services are pared back considerably in the winter, especially along the Amalfi Coast. Adverse sea conditions may also affect sailing schedules.

Following is a list of ferry and hydrofoil routes and the destinations they service. The fares, unless otherwise stated, are for a one-way high-season, deck-class single.

Alicost (☎ 089 87 14 83; Largo Scario 5, Amalfi) Operates normal and fast ferries from Salerno to Amalfi (€5.50, six daily) and Positano (€7, five daily); also from Amalfi to Ischia (€19, one daily), Capri (€16, eight daily) and Positano (€6, six daily); and from Positano to Ischia (€19, one daily) and Capri (€15.50, five daily).

Alilauro (Map pp280-1; ☎ 081 497 22 67; www.alilauro.it; Stazione Marittima, Naples) Operates hydrofoils from Naples to Sorrento (€9, seven daily), Ischia (€13.50, nine daily) and Forio (€15.50, five daily); also ferries between Capri and Ischia (€15.50, one daily) and Amalfi (€13.50, two daily).

Caremar (Map pp278-9 ☎ 081 551 38 82; www.caremar.it; Molo Beverello, Naples) Runs services from Naples to Capri (ferry/hydrofoil €7.60/12.50, five daily), Ischia (€5.60/12.15, 13 daily) and Procida (€4.50/9.25, 12 daily); also ferries between Sorrento and Capri (€7.80, four daily).

Coop Sant' Andrea (☎ 089 87 31 90; www.coopsantandrea.it; Lungomare dei Cavalieri 1, Amalfi) Connects Amalfi with Maiori (€2, eight daily) and Minori (€2, eight daily).

LMP (Map pp280-1; Linee Marittime Partenope; ☎ 081 704 19 11; www.consorziolmp.it; Via Guglielmo Melisurgo 4, Naples) Runs hydrofoils from Sorrento to Capri (€12, 20 daily) and Naples (€9, eight daily); also ferries from Sorrento to Positano (€7, three daily) and Amalfi (€7.50, three daily); and from Capri to Positano (€13, six daily), Amalfi (€13.50, seven daily) and Salerno (€14.50, five daily).

Medmar (Map pp280-1; ☎ 081 551 33 52; www.medmargroup.it; Stazione Marittima, Naples) Operates services from Naples to Ischia (€8.50, four daily) and weekly sailings to the Aeolian Islands (€42), Sardinia (€55), Corsica (€55) and Tunis (€90).

Metro del Mare (☎ 199 44 66 44; www.metrodelmare.com) Runs summer-only services between Naples and Sorrento (€4.50 three daily), Positano (€9, four daily), Amalfi (€10, four daily) and Salerno (€10.50, two daily) as well as between the main Amalfi Coast towns.

Navigazione Libera del Golfo (NLG; ☎ 081 552 07 63; www.navlib.it in Italian, Molo Beverello, Naples) From Naples NLG runs hydrofoils to and from Capri (€14, nine daily) year-round.

Siremar (Map pp280-1; ☎ 081 017 19 98; www.siremar.it; Stazione Marittima, Naples) Operates boats to the Aeolian Islands and Milazzo (€44, six times weekly in summer, dropping by 50% in the low season).

SNAV (Map pp280-1 ☎ 091 428 55 55; www.snav.it; Stazione Marittima, Naples) Runs hydrofoils to Capri (€14, 11 daily), Procida (€11, four daily) and Ischia (€14, four daily); also ferries to Palermo (€16, one daily). In summer there are daily services to the Aeolian Islands (€85 to Lipari).

Tirrenia (Map pp280-1; ☎ 081 720 11 11; www.tirrenia.it; Stazione Marittima, Molo Angioino, Naples) From Naples runs a weekly boat to and from Cagliari (deck class €34.89) and Palermo (deck class €43.83). The service increases to twice weekly in summer. From Palermo and Cagliari there are connections to Tunisia, directly or via Trapani (Sicily). **TraVelMar** (☎ /fax 089 87 29 50; Largo Scario 5, Amalfi) Operates from Salerno to Amalfi (ferry/hydrofoil €4.50/5, seven daily) and Positano (ferry/hydrofoil €6.50/7, seven daily); from Amalfi to Positano (ferry/hydrofoil €5.50/6, seven daily) and Sorrento (€8, three daily); and from Positano to Sorrento (€7, three daily).

BUS

In Naples, buses are operated by the city transport company **ANM** (☎ 800 63 95 25; www.anm.it in Italian). There's no central bus station but most busses pass through Piazza Garibaldi, the city's chaotic transport hub. To locate your bus stop you'll probably need to ask at the **ANM information kiosk** (Map pp280-1) in the centre of the square.

Useful bus services include:

3S From Piazza Garibaldi to the airport.

24 From Piazza del Municipio up to Piazza Dante and on to Capodimonte.

140 Santa Lucia to Posillipo via Mergellina.

152 From Piazza Garibaldi, along Corso Garibaldi, Via Nuova Marina, Via Colombo, to Molo Beverello, Via Santa Lucia, Piazza Vittoria and Via Partenope.

201 From Stazione Centrale to the Museo Archeologico Nazionale, down to Piazza del Municipio and then back to Piazza Gariobaldi, via Piazza Dante.

404D A night bus operating from 11.20pm to 4am (hourly departures) from Stazione Centrale to Piazza del Municipio, on to Mergellina and Vomero, and then back down to Stazione Centrale.

C9 From Piazza Vittoria, along Riviera di Chiaia to Piazza Sannazzaro, Viale Augusto, Via Diocleziano, to Bagnoli and Via Coroglio.

C25 Piazza Amedeo to Piazza Bovio via Castel dell'Ovo and Piazza del Municipio.

C28 From Piazza Vittoria up Via dei Mille and on to Piazza Vanvitelli in Vomero.

E1 From Piazza del Gesù, along Via Constantinopoli, to Museo Archeologico Nazionale, Via Tribunali, Via Duomo, Piazza Nicola Amore, along Corso Umberto I and Via Mezzocannone.

R1 From Piazza Medaglie D'Oro to Piazza Carità, Piazza Dante and Piazza Bovio.

R2 From Stazione Centrale, along Corso Umberto I, to Piazza Bovio, Piazza del Municipio and Piazza Trento e Trieste.

R3 From Mergellina along the Riviera di Chiaia to Piazza del Municipio, Piazza Bovio, Piazza Dante and Piazza Carità.

R4 From Capodimonte down past Via Dante to Piazza Municipio and back again.

Regional bus services are operated by a number of companies, the most useful of which is **SITA** (☎ 199 73 07 49; www.sita-on-line.it in Italian), which runs buses from Naples to Pompeii (€2.30, 40 minutes, half-hourly), Sorrento (€3.20, one hour 20 minutes, twice daily), Positano (€3.20, two hours, twice daily), Amalfi (€3.20, two hours, six daily) and Salerno (€3.20, one hour 10 minutes, every 25 minutes). It also connects Salerno with Amalfi (€1.80, one hour 10 minutes, half-hourly) and links towns along the Amalfi Coast. Casting even wider, it runs from Salerno to Bari via Naples (€22.36, 4½ hours, twice daily) and operates a service to Germany, including Dortmund (€112) via Munich (€90), Stuttgart (€90), Frankfurt (€98) and Dusseldorf (€112). You can connect from this service to Berlin (€118)

TICKETS PLEASE

Tickets for public transport in Naples and the surrounding Campania region are managed by the Unico Campania consortium (www.unicocampania.it). For travel in Naples itself, Unico Napoli tickets are sold at stations, ANM booths and tobacconists. The standard ticket costs €1 and is valid for 90 minutes of unlimited travel by bus, tram, metro, funicular, Ferrovia Cumana or Circumfreggia; a daily ticket is good value at €3 or €2.50 on Saturdays and Sundays and a weekly ticket costs €9. These tickets are not valid to Pompeii or Ercolano on the Circumvesuviana train line. For longer distances and for travel within the region, ticket prices depend on the distance to travel — a ticket from Naples to Pompeii, for example costs €2.30, to Sorrento, Positano and Amalfi €3.20.

and Hamburg (€118). You can buy SITA tickets and catch buses either from Stazione Marittima or from Via G Ferraris, near Stazione Centrale; you can also buy tickets at **Bar Clizia** (Corso Arnaldo Lucci 173).

Most national buses depart from Piazza Garibaldi. Check destinations carefully or ask at the information kiosk in the centre of the piazza. **Marino** (☎ 080 311 23 35) has buses to Bari (€19, three hours); **Miccolis** (☎ 081 20 03 80) runs to Taranto (€16, four hours), Brindisi (€23.60, five hours) and Lecce (€26, 5½ hours), while **CLP** (☎ 081 531 17 07) serves Foggia (€9, two hours), Perugia (€27.37, 3½ hours) and Assisi (€28.92, 4½ hours).

CAR & MOTORCYCLE

There can be no greater test of courage than driving your own vehicle in Naples. As a means of locomotion, it's of limited value. The weight of the anarchic traffic means that cars rarely travel faster than walking pace and parking is an absolute nightmare. A scooter is quicker and easier to park but is even more nerve-racking to ride. Car and bike theft is also a major problem.

If you're determined to drive, there are some simple guidelines to consider: get used to tail-gaters; worry about what's in front of you not behind; watch out for scooters; give way to pedestrians no matter where they appear from; approach all junctions and traffic lights with extreme caution, and keep cool.

Officially much of the city centre is closed to nonresident traffic for much of the day. Daily restrictions are in place in the centro storico, in the area around Piazza del Municipio and Via Toledo, and in the Chiaia district around Piazza dei Martiri. Hours vary but are typically from 8am to 6.30pm, possibly later.

Parking in Naples is no fun. If you're on a scooter you won't have too many problems, but if you're on four wheels you almost certainly will. Blue lines by the side of the road denote pay-and-display parking – buy tickets at the meters or from tobacconists – with rates ranging from €1.50 to €2 per hour. Elsewhere street parking is often overseen by illegal attendants who will expect a €1 to €2 fee for their protection of your car. It's

usually easier to bite the bullet and pay them than attempt a moral stance. To the west of the city centre there's a 24-hour car park at Via Brin (€1.10 for the first four hours, then €0.30 for every successive hour).

Away from the city, a car becomes more practical. However, be aware that driving along the Amalfi Coast can be quite a hair-raising experience as buses career round impossibly tight hairpin bends and locals brazenly overtake anything in their path. On the bay islands – Capri, Ischia and Procida – a scooter is an excellent way of getting round.

Naples is on the north–south Autostrada del Sole, the A1 (north to Rome and Milan) and the A3 (south to Salerno and Reggio di Calabria). The A30 skirts Naples to the northeast, while the A16 heads across to Bari.

When approaching the city, the motorways meet the Tangenziale di Napoli, a major ring road around the city. The ring road hugs the city's northern fringe, meeting the A1 for Rome and the A2 to Capodichino airport in the east, and continuing towards Campi Flegrei and Pozzuoli in the west.

For Sorrento head south along the A3 autostrada until Castellammare di Stabia; from here follow the SS145 southeast. The road continues from Sorrento around the peninsula until it merges with the SS163 which runs onto Positano, Amalfi and Salerno.

Hire

The major car-hire firms are all represented in Naples.

Avis (Map pp280-1; ☎ 081 28 40 41; www.avisauto.noleggio.it; Corso Novara 5 & Capodichino airport)

Europcar (☎ 081 780 56 43; www.europcar.it; Capodichino airport)**Hertz** (Map pp280-1; ☎ 081 20 62 28; www.hertz.it; Via G. Ricciardi 5, Capodichino airport & in Mergellina)

Maggiore (Map pp280-1; ☎ 081 28 78 58; www.maggiore.it; Stazione Centrale & Capodichino airport)

Rent Sprint (Map pp284-50; ☎ 081 764 13 33; Via Santa Lucia 36) Scooter hire only.

Elsewhere you'll find any number of rental agencies in Sorrento and the Amalfi Coast (see the relevant chapters for details).

An economy car will cost about €60 per day; for a scooter expect to pay about €35. If possible, try to arrange your rental in advance, as you'll get much better rates. Similarly, airport agencies tend to charge more than city centre branches.

To rent a car you'll need to be over 21 (25 for some larger cars) and have a credit card. When hiring always make sure you understand what's covered in the rental agreement (insurance, unlimited mileage, petrol etc). If the agreement doesn't cover theft and collision damage, you would be strongly advised to pay extra for it.

Road Rules

An EU driving licence is valid for driving in Italy. If you've got an old-style green UK licence or a licence issued by a non-EU country, you'll need an International Driving Permit (IDP). Valid for 12 months, these are inexpensive (about US\$21 or UK£5.50) and are easily available from your national automobile association; take along a passport photo and your home driving licence. When driving you should always carry your home licence with the IDP as it's not valid on its own.

Contrary to all appearances, there are road rules in Italy. The main ones are as follows:

Drive on the right and overtake on the left.

Wear seat belts in the front and, if fitted, in the back.

Wear a helmet on all two-wheeled transport.

Carry a warning triangle and a fluorescent safety vest to be worn in the event of an emergency.

The blood alcohol limit is 0.05%.

Speed limits are 130km/h on autostrade, 110km/h on nonurban dual highways and 50km/h in built-up areas.

Italy's automobile association, the **Automobile Club d'Italia** (ACI; ☎ 081 725 38 11; www.aci.it; Piazzale Tecchio 49D) is the best source of motoring information. It also operates a 24-hour recovery service (☎ 803 116).

FUNICULAR

Three of Naples' four funicular railways connect the centre with Vomero:

Funicular Centrale (☎ 6.30am-10pm Mon & Tue, 6.30-12.30am Wed-Sun) Ascends from Via Toledo to Piazza Fuga.

Funicular di Chiaia (☎ 6.30am-10pm Wed & Thu, 6.30-12.30am Fri-Tue)

Travels from Via del Parco Margherita to Via Domenico Cimarosa.

Funicular di Montesanto (☎ 7am-10pm daily) From Piazza Montesanto to Via Raffaele Morghen.

The fourth, **Funicular di Mergellina** (☎ 7am-10pm daily), connects the waterfront at Via Mergellina with Via Manzoni. Unico Napoli tickets (see the boxed text, p263) are valid for one trip only on the funiculars.

METRO

Naples' Metropolitana (☎ 800 56 88 66; www.metro.na.it) is, in fact, mostly above ground.

Line 1 (☎ 6am-10.20pm daily) Runs north from Piazza Dante stopping at Museo (for Piazza Cavour and Line 2), Materdei, Salvatore Rosa, Cilea, Piazza Vanvitelli, Piazza Medaglie D'Oro and seven stops beyond.

Line 2 (☎ 5.30am-11pm daily) Runs from Gianturco, just east of Stazione Centrale, with stops at Piazza Garibaldi (for Stazione Centrale), Piazza Cavour, Montesanto, Piazza Amedeo, Mergellina, Piazza Leopardi, Campi Flegrei, Cavaleggeri d'Aosta, Bagnoli and Pozzuoli.

Metro journeys are covered by Unico Napoli tickets (see the boxed text p263).

TAXI

Official taxis are white, metered and bear the Naples symbol, the Pulcinella (with his distinctive white cone-shaped hat and long hooked nose), on their front doors. They generally ignore kerbside arm-wavers. There are taxi stands at most of the city's main piazzas or you can call one of the five taxi cooperatives: **Napoli** (☎ 081 556 44 44), **Consortaxi** (☎ 081 20 20 20), **Cotana** (☎ 081 570 70 70), **Free** (☎ 081 551 51 51), and **Partenope** (☎ 081 556 02 02).

The minimum fare for a ride is €4.15, of which €2.60 is the starting fare. There's also a baffling range of additional charges: €0.80 for a radio taxi call, €1.60 extra on Sundays and holidays, €2.10 more between 10pm and 7am, €2.60 for an airport run and €0.50 per piece of luggage in the boot. Guide dogs for the blind and wheelchairs are carried free of charge. See the Airports section, p261, for details of set fares to and from the airport.

Taxi drivers may tell you that the meter's kaput. However, you can (and should) insist that they switch it on.

TRAIN

Naples is southern Italy's main rail hub. Most **Trenitalia** (☎ 89 20 21; www.trenitalia.com) trains arrive at or depart from **Stazione Centrale** (Map pp280-1; ☎ 081 554 31 88) or, underneath the main station, **Stazione Garibaldi** (Map pp280-1). These include slow regional services and the faster InterCity (IC) and Eurostar (ES) trains. There are up to 30 trains daily to Rome (IC €17.53, two hours), some of which stop at Mergellina station, and some 20 to Salerno (IC €6.37, 35 minutes).

International trains departing from Naples include services to London, Paris and Madrid.

The Ferrovia Cumana and the **Circumflegrea** (☎ 800 00 16 16; www.sepsa.it), based at **Stazione**

Cumana di Montesanto (Map pp280-1) on Piazza Montesanto, 500m southwest of Piazza Dante, operate services to Pozzuoli (€1, every 25 minutes) and Cuma (€1, six per day).

The **Circumvesuviana** (Map pp280-1; ☎ 081 772 24 44; www.vesuviana.it; Corso G Garibaldi), southwest of Stazione Centrale (follow the signs from the main concourse in Stazione Centrale), operates trains to Sorrento (€3.20, 70 minutes) via Ercolano (€1.70, 20 minutes), Pompeii (€2.30, 40 minutes) and other towns along the coast. There are approximately 40 trains daily running between 5am and 10.30pm, with reduced services on Sunday.

TRAM

The following trams may be useful:

Tram 1 Operates from east of Stazione Centrale, through Piazza Garibaldi, the city centre and along the waterfront to Piazza Vittoria.

Tram 29 Travels from Piazza Garibaldi to the city centre along Corso G Garibaldi.

It's true – anyone can speak another language. Don't worry if you haven't studied languages before or that you studied a language at school for years and can't remember any of it. It doesn't even matter if you failed English grammar. After all, that's never affected your ability to speak English! And this is the key to picking up a language in another country: you just need to start speaking. If you want to learn more Italian, pick up a copy of Lonely Planet's comprehensive but user-friendly *Italian Phrasebook*.

LANGUAGE

PRONUNCIATION

c	as the 'k' in 'kit' before a, o and u; as the 'ch' in 'choose' before e and i
ch	as the 'k' in 'kit'
g	as the 'g' in 'get' before a, o, u and h; as the 'j' in 'jet' before e and i
gli	as the 'li' in 'million'
gn	as the 'ny' in 'canyon'
h	always silent
r	a rolled 'rr' sound
sc	as the 'sh' in 'sheep' before e and i; as 'sk' before a, o, u and h
z	as the 'ts' in 'lights', except at the beginning of a word, when it's as the 'ds' in 'suds'

SOCIAL Meeting People

Hello.

Buon giorno. *bwon jor-no*

Goodbye.

Arrivederci. *a-ree-ve-der-chee*

Please.

Per favore. *per fa-vo-re*

Thank you (very much).

(Mille) Grazie. *(mee-le) gra-tsye*

Yes/No.

Sì/No. *see/no*

Do you speak English?

Parla inglese? *par-la een-gle-ze*

Do you understand?

Capisce? *ka-pee-she*

Yes, I understand.

Sì, capisco. *see ka-pee-sko*

No, I don't understand.

No, non capisco. *no non ka-pee-sko*

Could you please ...?

Potrebbe ...? *po-tre-be ...*

repeat that

ripeterlo *ree-pe-ter-lo*

speak more slowly

parlare più lentamente *par-la-re pyoo len-ta-men-te*

write it down

scriverlo *skree-ver-lo*

Going Out

What's on ...?

Che c'è in programma ...? *ke che een pro-gra-ma ...*

locally

in zona *een zo-na*

this weekend

questo finesettimana *kwe-sto-fee-ne-se-tee-ma-na*

today

oggi *o-jee*

tonight

stasera *sta-se-ra*

Where are the ...?

Dove sono ...? *do-ve so-no ...*

clubs

dei club *de-yee klub*

gay venues

dei locali gay *de-yee lo-ka-lee gay*

places to eat

posti dove mangiare *po-stee do-ve man-ja-re*

pubs

dei pub *de-yee pub*

Is there a local entertainment guide?

C'è una guida agli spettacoli in questa città? *che oo-na gwee-da al-yee spe-ta-ko-lee een kwe-sta chee-ta*

PRACTICAL Question Words

Who?

Chi? *kee*

What?

Che? *ke*

When?

Quando? *kwan-do*

Where?

Dove? *do-ve*

How?

Come? *ko-me*

Numbers & Amounts

0	zero <i>dze-ro</i>
1	uno <i>oo-no</i>
2	due <i>doo-e</i>
3	tre <i>tre</i>
4	quattro <i>kwa-tro</i>
5	cinque <i>cheen-kwe</i>
6	sei <i>say</i>
7	sette <i>se-te</i>
8	otto <i>o-to</i>
9	nove <i>no-ve</i>
10	dieci <i>dye-chee</i>
11	undici <i>oon-dee-chee</i>
12	dodici <i>do-dee-chee</i>
13	treddici <i>tre-dee-chee</i>
14	quattordici <i>kwa-tor-dee-chee</i>
15	quindici <i>kween-dee-chee</i>
16	sedici <i>se-dee-chee</i>
17	diciassette <i>dee-cha-se-te</i>
18	diciotto <i>dee-cho-to</i>
19	diciannove <i>dee-cha-no-ve</i>
20	venti <i>ven-tee</i>
21	ventuno <i>ven-too-no</i>
22	ventidue <i>ven-tee-doo-e</i>
30	trenta <i>tren-ta</i>
40	quaranta <i>kwa-ran-ta</i>
50	cinquanta <i>cheen-kwan-ta</i>
60	sessanta <i>se-san-ta</i>
70	settanta <i>se-tan-ta</i>
80	ottanta <i>o-tan-ta</i>
90	novanta <i>no-van-ta</i>
100	cento <i>chen-to</i>
1000	mille <i>mee-le</i>

Days

Monday	lunedì <i>loo-ne-dee</i>
Tuesday	martedì <i>mar-te-dee</i>
Wednesday	mercoledì <i>mer-ko-le-dee</i>
Thursday	giovedì <i>jo-ve-dee</i>
Friday	venerdì <i>ve-ner-dee</i>
Saturday	sabato <i>sa-ba-to</i>
Sunday	domenica <i>do-me-nee-ka</i>

Accommodation

I'm looking for a ...

Cerco ...	<i>cher-ko ...</i>
guesthouse	una pensione <i>oo-na pen-syo-ne</i>
hotel	un albergo <i>oon al-ber-go</i>
youth hostel	un ostello per la gioventù <i>oon os-te-lo per la jo-ven-too</i>

Do you have any rooms available?

Ha camere libere? *a-ve-te ka-me-re lee-be-re*

I'd like ...

Vorrei ...	<i>vo-ray ...</i>
a single room	una camera singola <i>oo-na ka-me-ra een-go-la</i>
a double room	una camera matrimoniale <i>oo-na ka-me-ra ma-tree-mo-nya-le</i>
a room with two beds	una camera doppia <i>oo-na ka-me-ra do-pya</i>
a room with a bathroom	una camera con bagno <i>oo-na ka-me-ra kon ba-nyo</i>

How much is it ...?

Quanto costa ...?	<i>kwan-to ko-sta ...</i>
per night	per la notte <i>per la no-te</i>
per person	per ciascuno <i>per cha-skoo-no</i>

Banking

I'd like to ...

Vorrei ...	<i>vo-ray ...</i>
cash a cheque	riscuotere un assegno <i>ree-skwo-te-re oon a-sen-yo</i>
change money	cambiare denaro <i>kam-bya-re de-na-ro</i>
change some travellers cheques	cambiare degli assegni di viaggio <i>kam-bya-re del-yee a-se-nyee dee vee-a-jo</i>

Where's the nearest ...?

Dov'è il ... più vicino?	<i>do-ve ... pyoo vee-chee-no</i>
ATM	bancomat <i>ban-ko-mat</i>
foreign exchange office	cambio <i>kam-byo</i>

Post

Where is the post office?

Dov'è l'ufficio postale? *do-ve loo-fee-cho po-sta-le*

I want to send ...

Voglio spedire ...	<i>vo-lyo spe-dee-re ...</i>
a letter	una lettera <i>oo-na le-te-ra</i>
a parcel	un pacchetto <i>oon pa-ke-to</i>
a postcard	una cartolina <i>oo-na kar-to-lee-na</i>

I want to buy ...

Voglio comprare ...	<i>vo-lyo kom-pra-re ...</i>
an envelope	una busta <i>oo-na boo-sta</i>
a stamp	un francobollo <i>oon fran-ko-bo-lo</i>

Phones & Mobiles

I want to buy a phone card.

Voglio comprare una scheda telefonica.
vo-lyo kom-pra-re oo-na ske-da te-le-fo-nee-ka

I want to make ...

Voglio fare ...	<i>vo-lyo fa-re ...</i>
a call (to ...)	una chiamata (a ...) <i>oo-na kya-ma-ta (a ...)</i>
reverse-charge/collect call	una chiamata a carico del destinatario <i>oo-na kya-ma-ta a ka-ree-ko del des-tee-na-ta-ryo</i>

Where can I find a/an ...?

Dove si trova ... *do-ve see tro-va ...*

I'd like a/an ...

Vorrei ...	<i>vo-ray ...</i>
adaptor plug	un adattatore <i>oon a-da-to-re</i>
charger for my phone	un caricabatterie <i>oon ka-ree-ka ba-te-ree-ye</i>
mobile/cell phone for hire	un cellulare da noleggiare <i>oon chel-oo-la-re da no-le-ja-re</i>
prepaid mobile/cell phone	un cellulare prepagato <i>oon chel-oo-la-re pre-pa-ga-to</i>
SIM card for your network	un SIM card per vostra rete telefonica <i>oon seem kard per vo-sta re-te te-le-fo-nee-ka</i>

Internet

Where's the local internet cafe?

Dove si trova l'internet point?
do-ve see tro-va leen-ter-net poynt

I'd like to ...

Vorrei ...	<i>vo-ray ...</i>
check my email	controllare le mie email <i>kon-tro-la-re le mee-ye e-mayl</i>
get online	collegarmi a internet <i>ko-le-gar-mee a leen-ter-net</i>

Shopping

I'd like to buy ...

Vorrei comprare ... *vo-ray kom-pra-re ...*

Do you have ...?

Avete ...? *a-ve-te ...*

How much is it?

Quanto costa? *kwan-ta kos-ta*

more

less

smaller

bigger

più *pyoo*

meno *me-no*

più piccolo/a *pyoo pee-ko-lo/la*

più grande *pyoo gran-de*

Do you accept ...?

Accettate ...? *a-che-ta-te ...*

credit cards

carte di credito *kar-te dee kre-dee-to*

travellers cheques

assegni di viaggio *a-se-nyee dee vee-a-jo*

TRANSPORT

What time does the ... leave?

A che ora parte ...? *a ke o-ra par-te ...*

boat	la nave <i>la na-ve</i>
bus	l'autobus <i>low-to-boos</i>
train	il treno <i>eel tre-no</i>

What time's the ... bus?

A che ora passa ... autobus? *a ke o-ra pa-so ... o-to-bus*

first	il primo <i>eel pree-mo</i>
last	l'ultimo <i>lool-tee-mo</i>
next	il prossimo <i>eel pro-see-mo</i>

Please put the meter on.

Usa il tassametro, per favore. *oo-sa eel ta-sa-me-tro per fa-vo-re*

How much is it to ...?

Quant'è per ...? *kwan-te per ...*

Please take me to (this address).

Mi porti a (questo indirizzo), per favore. *mee-par-tee a (kwe-sto een-dee-ree-tso) per fa-vo-re*

EMERGENCIES

It's an emergency!

È un'emergenza! *e oo-ne-mer-jen-tsa*

Could you please help me/us?

Mi/Ci può aiutare, per favore? *mee/chee pwo a-yoo-ta-re per fa-vo-re*

Where's the police station?

Dov'è la questura? *do-ve la kwes-too-ra*

Call ...!

Chiama ...! *kya-mee ...*

the police

la polizia *la po-lee-tsee-ya*

a doctor

un medico *oon me-dee-ko*

an ambulance

un'ambulanza *oo-nam-boo-lan-tsa*

HEALTH

I need a doctor (who speaks English).

Ho bisogno di un medico (che parli inglese).

o bee-zon-yo doon-me-dee-ko (ke par-la een-gle-ze)

Where's the nearest ...?

Dov'è ... più vicino? *do-ve ... pyoo vee-chee-no/na*

chemist (night)

la farmacia (di turno) *la far-ma-chee-ya (dee toor-no)*

doctor

il medico *eel me-dee-ko*

hospital

l'ospedale *lo-spe-da-le*

GLOSSARY

albergo, alberghi (pl) – hotel

alimentari – grocery shop

autostrada, autostrade (pl) – motorway, highway

bagno – bathroom, also toilet

bancomat – ATM (automated teller machine)

biblioteca, biblioteche (pl) – library

biglietto – ticket

calcio – football (soccer)

cambio – currency-exchange bureau

camera – room

campanile – bell tower

carabinieri – police with military and civil duties

carta d'identità – identity card

carta telefonica – phonecard

casa – house, home

castello – castle

catacomba – underground tomb complex

centro – city centre

centro storico – historic centre, old city

chiesa, chiese (pl) – church

cimitero – cemetery

colle/collina – hill

colonna – column

commissariato – local police station

comune – equivalent to a municipality or county; town or city council; historically, a commune (self-governing town or city)

corso – main street

cupola – dome

farmacia – pharmacy

fermo posta – poste restante

ferrovia – train station

festa – feast day; holiday

fiume – river

fontana – fountain

forno – bakery

forte/fortezza – fort

forum, fora (pl) – (Latin) public square

francobolli – stamps

gabinetto – toilet, WC

gasolio – diesel

gelateria – ice-cream parlour

guglia – obelisk

isola – island

lago – lake

largo – small square

lavanderia – launderette

libreria – bookshop

lido – beach

lungomare – seafront, esplanade

mercato – market

monte – mountain

mura – city wall

orto botanico – botanical gardens

ospedale – hospital

ostello – hostel

palazzo, palazzi (pl) – mansion, palace, large building of any type (including an apartment block)

panetteria – bakery

pasticceria – cake shop

pensione – small hotel or guesthouse, often offering board

pescheria – fish shop

piazza, piazze (pl) – square

piazzale – large open square

pinacoteca – art gallery

piscina – pool

polizia – police

ponte – bridge

porta – city gate

questura – police station

reale – royal

sala – room in a museum or a gallery

salumeria – delicatessen

sedia a rotelle – wheelchair

seggione – child's highchair

servizio – service charge in restaurants

stazione – station

tabaccheria – tobacconist's shop

teatro – theatre

tempio – temple

terme – baths

torre – tower

treno – train

via – street, road

vicolo – alley, alleyway

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