

WALKS FOR FAMILIES WITH KIDS IN NAPLES

UNDERGROUND NAPLES

DURATION: 2.5 hours

PRICE: €235 per group



One of the best ways for families to explore the ancient history of Naples is to literally descend underground to get to the roots of it all. Naples possesses a variety of amazingly intact underground sites that present evocative examples of ancient life, perfect for budding archaeologists and their families! Our docent for the walk, an archaeologist or ancient historian, will skillfully create an accessible narrative, which will bring Naples' past, first as a Greek stronghold, then, as a Roman city, to vivid life.

Ancient life

Our discovery of Naples' ancient history will mainly revolve around two sites right in the heart of the historical center. The first, San Lorenzo Maggiore, lies hidden unassumingly underneath a Gothic church façade off of the bustling Via Tribunali. Inside, a flight of steps will lead us to a veritable ancient city- cobblestoned streets, bakeries, butcher shops, and laundries, are just some of the aspects that will vividly illustrate everyday life in ancient Naples. Families will enjoy drawing comparisons between the activities of an ancient Neapolitan family and their own.

After surfacing, we will further explore via Tribunali, the ancient *decumanus maximus*, which was the major commercial thoroughfare of the city during the Greek era. This vivid street best illustrates the sights, sounds and smells of Neapolitan street life.

The Duomo, the religious heart of the city, houses further excavations of the Greco-Roman city, accessible under the 4th century church of Santa Restituta, the oldest church in Naples. Below ground level, we will descend into a time capsule 2,000 years old. The space includes ancient walls, roads, water pipes and columns. Together with the remains of the Early Christian church, complete with elaborate mosaics, this structure creates an interesting and fun way to trace eras and learn about the layering of time periods.

Due to some ongoing restoration work taking place in the Duomo, this site might be included in the walk. In this case, we would alternate accordingly with other sites.

Doorways, Ltd. ~ 900 County Line Road ~ Bryn Mawr, PA 19010-3105
(610) 520-0806 ~ (800) 261-4460 ~ fax: 610-520-0807 ~ info@doorwaysltd.com
www.villavacations.com

PIZZA MAKING WORKSHOP

DURATION: 4 hours

PRICE: group: €95 pp / private: from €360



Context Naples' Pizza Making Workshop is a hands-on experience with the food that is most emblematic of Naples - pizza. We will explore the history and traditions of this versatile and delicious dish, in the context of Neapolitan cooking and culture, and then head to one of the city's famed *pizzeria* where we will get the chance to create our own pie- and feast on it for lunch!

Naples' culinary history

We will begin with a stroll through the dense historical center of Naples, all the while discussing some of the most important culinary traditions of the city, how they were born and how Neapolitan cuisine has evolved throughout the centuries. You will discuss the influence of the Spanish and Norman domination on Neapolitan food, as well as different preparation techniques. As we wind our way through the characteristic neighborhoods of via Toledo and Spaccanapoli, we will stop at some of the oldest and more traditional cafes and pastry shops. Depending on the time of the year and your interest, we will taste traditional Neapolitan snacks and sweets such as *taralli*, *baba' al rhum* and *sfogliatelle*.

The art of pizza

After this enticing appetizer, we will visit one of Naples' most traditional pizzerias. Here you will be given the ingredients and tools to make your own pizza Napoletana. A trained *pizzaio* will supervise your work and give you advice for achieving the perfect dough consistency and the right sauce-spreading and mozzarella-sprinkling techniques. Once the pizza is taken from the wood-burning oven, we will sit down and eat our masterpiece!

Additional information about small-group versions of this walk:

Please note that the price of a space on this walk includes use of the pizzeria's kitchen, the cost of pizza and drink.

Additional information about private versions of this walk:

Please note that the base price of this walk includes use of the pizzeria's kitchen, the cost of pizza and drink for one person. You will be charged 30 euros per participant above one person, which will be automatically added upon check out.

POMPEII ADVENTURE

DURATION: 8 hours

PRICE: from €700 per group



The vivid archaeological site of Pompeii is one of the best spaces for families to explore life in an ancient Roman city. The level of conservation, due to the layers of mud, ash and lava that buried the city for more than 1,600 years, allows for a close reading of the site; one can almost imagine the ancient Pompeiians going about their daily business in the streets, homes, shops and public spaces that remain as testament to their civilization. According to us, in order for a family get a full Pompeii experience, they should pair a visit of the archaeological site with a visit to the Archaeological Museum of Naples, where many of the artifacts taking from Pompeii are now housed. This full-day excursion, in the company of a classical historian, archaeologist, or art historian is thus designed to give you and your family a full understanding of ancient Roman civilization and its development around the bay of Naples.

We start in the morning with a short drive from your Naples hotel or from the train station if you are coming in from Rome for the day. On the drive out to the site of Pompeii, our docent will provide historical information, which will set up the context for understanding the site and what we will see later at the Archaeological Museum in Naples. Upon arriving, we will move swiftly through the ancient cobble-stoned roads, exploring the homes, temples, shops, civic buildings and public spaces which intricately illustrate everyday activities in the city. We will explore the similarities and differences between life in ancient Pompeii and modern-day family life.

Leaving the site by the early afternoon, we will return to Naples, by car, where we will enjoy lunch in a small, non-touristy restaurant in the city center, followed by a short stroll through the center, poking our head into a few churches and providing a short synopsis of the history of the city. The group will then head to the Naples Archeological Museum, one of the greatest collections of ancient art and artifacts in the world, where we will view the colorful frescoes, mosaics and statues unearthed during the excavation of Pompeii, begun in the 18th century by envoys of the Bourbon kings of Naples. These artifacts provide vivid visual examples of the Pompeiians and their life, allowing for a full understanding of the culture of the time.

The base cost of this excursion (8 hours) is 700 Euros. There is an additional charge for transportation to/from Pompeii, which we can organize for you. The cost for a car and driver is €250 for a sedan (2 people) and €270 for a minivan. It is also possible to travel by public transportation, at no extra cost. For pricing on these alternatives please inquire.

During the course of this excursion, you will be responsible for the entrance tickets to the site of Pompeii (€11) and Archaeological Museum (€10). You will also be responsible for lunch during the day.

The meeting point for this walk is at the Naples train station. However, train tickets to and from Naples are not included in the price of this excursion and must be purchased separately. The Rome-Naples train you need to take leaves Rome at 9AM, while the return train you need to purchase tickets for is the 6:50PM from Naples, which arrives in Rome at 8PM. The train schedule changes dramatically during the weekend, so please check with us for alternate times if you plan on booking this excursion during the weekend.

Doorways, Ltd. ~ 900 County Line Road ~ Bryn Mawr, PA 19010-3105
(610) 520-0806 ~ (800) 261-4460 ~ fax: 610-520-0807 ~ info@doorwaysltd.com
www.villavacations.com

Doorways, Ltd. ~ 900 County Line Road ~ Bryn Mawr, PA 19010-3105
(610) 520-0806 ~ (800) 261-4460 ~ fax: 610-520-0807 ~ info@doorwaysltd.com
www.villavacations.com