



# The Islands

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## Best Places to Eat

- ➔ È Divino (p115)
- ➔ Il Focolare (p135)
- ➔ Il Geranio (p117)
- ➔ Caracalè (p138)

## Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Hotel Villa Eva (p202)
- ➔ Mezzatorre Resort & Spa (p203)
- ➔ Hotel Semiramis (p203)
- ➔ Hotel La Vigna (p204)

## Why Go?

Tossed like colourful dice into the beautiful blue Bay of Naples, the islands of the Amalfi Coast are justifiably famous and sought out. They are tantalisingly diverse as well. Procida, Ischia and Capri vary not just in ambience and landscape but also in their sights, activities and size. Picturesque Procida is the smallest of the trio; tiny, tranquil and unspoiled, and possible to explore in just a few hours. The fashionable flipside is Capri, with its celebrity circuit of experiences, sights and shops; plan your day (and your footwear) with care, especially if you're hoping to hike. Ischia is the largest island, with natural spas, botanical gardens, hidden coves and exceptional dining. If that all sounds too challenging, make a beeline for the beaches – they are the Bay of Naples' best.

## When to Go

- ➔ The Bay of Naples' islands follow the climatic footsteps of the rest of Campania.
- ➔ Avoid August, which is when most Italians take their annual holiday, adding significantly to the swell of other nationalities who descend on the islands in midsummer. July is also busy, particularly on Ischia and Capri.
- ➔ The best months are April to May and September to October, which all enjoy generally clear skies and mild to warm temperatures.
- ➔ Easter can also be crowded, although the processions on Procida are an unmissable spectacle.



## The Islands Highlights

- 1 Enjoying a lazy lunch at a seafood restaurant in the pastel-hued fishing village of **Marina Corricella** (p137).
- 2 Cruising the turquoise waters around Capri in a **hired boat** (p114).
- 3 Exploring the lush garden paradise of **La Mortella** (p132) in Forio.
- 4 Taking the chairlift to the top of **Monte Solaro** (p111), the highest point on Capri.