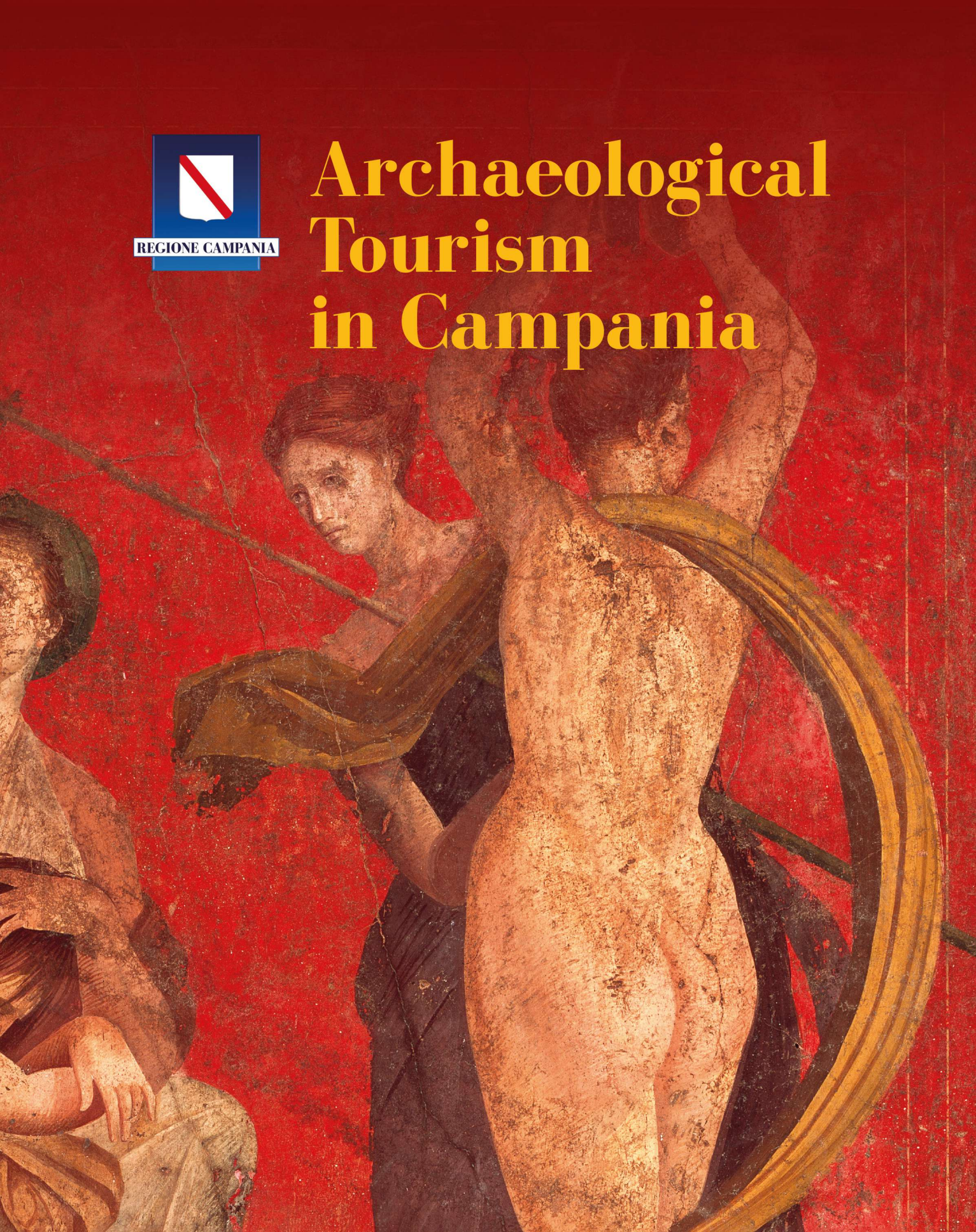
REGIONE CAMPANIA

Archaeological Tourism in Campania





Archaeological Tourism in Campania

REGIONE CAMPANIA

Assessorato alla Semplificazione
amministrativa e al Turismo

Direzione Generale per le Politiche
Culturali e il Turismo

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Fonti istituzionali

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www.agenziacampaniaturismo.it

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Foreword

Campania is the product of a concerted human experience. Archaeological sites, museums, and landscapes are the epitome of nature's fruitful encounter with the vital intervention of our ancestors, culminating in the preservation of an unparalleled cultural heritage.

Works of art and archaeological finds coexist in our museums as something more than mere collections to be gawked at behind closed doors. To place the Farnese Hercules next to the humblest of terracotta amphorae at the MANN Museum in Naples means to testify to the progressive evolution of the city and the cultural and social fabric of its surroundings.

One might think of our museums and archaeological sites as many miniature Pompeiis, whose *decumans* go well beyond the ruins and set Global Tour visitors on the right path, thanks to our intangible knowledge services.

In this perspective, the Campania Region relies upon cultural and creative enterprises (CCEs), activating public-private agreements between major ministerial and local attractors to boost tourism.

European Funding enables our proposal for the enhancement of Campania's extraordinary cultural heritage under the new 2022/2027 strategic plan for culture and tourism. We are placing a committed and unflinching bet on our past as the only future we can be certain of, if we bring it back in an innovative way.

Vincenzo De Luca
President of Regione Campania



Introduction

Campania's archaeological wealth can be traced back to prehistory, as shown by the bulk of lower-paleolithic finds in Capri or Marina di Camerota and the examples of early Christian Art in the provinces of Naples, Caserta, and Salerno. The range of testimonies to Campania's cultural heritage is quite wide and unparalleled, thus becoming the object of constant promotion and enhancement by the institutions of Regione Campania.

"Archeological Tourism in Campania" aims at popularizing the great variety of cultural tourism destinations in the region, by placing particular attention on site accessibility, user experience, and sustainability. What is meant by sustainable tourism is that the enhancement of each archeological site has to stem from an environment-friendly perspective, encouraging proximity tourism and steadier tourist flows throughout the year. This guidebook provides an introduction to a small portion of the endless cultural heritage of Campania, giving some primary and practical information on the accessibility and fruition of sites to international visitors. By way of example, the guide mentions the inclusion of the featured destinations in the Campania ArteCard circuit, a system combining museum access with public transport.

The present guidebook is an easy reference to get to know Campania's museums, archaeological sites and parks under the care of regional institutions. The selection of unforgettable destinations listed in this text features the WHL Unesco Archaeological Park of Pompeii, the Archaeological Park of Herculaneum, and the Archaeological Park of Paestum and Velia. Further entries are made for the National Archaeological Museum of Naples (MANN), the Archaeological Park of the Phlegraean Fields, and several others spread across the region: the Campanian Amphitheater in Santa Maria Capua Vetere or the National Archaeological Museum in Montesarchio and Pontecagnano. Worthy of an honorable mention is the Emerald Grotto in Conca dei Marini, on the Amalfi Coast, a spectacular cave projecting an eerie green-and-blue light from its waters, currently supervised by Agenzia Campania Turismo.

The guide will be further expanded in future editions.

National Archaeological Museum of Naples

The National Archaeological Museum of Naples (MANN) is among the earliest and most important archaeological museums in the world. It houses a rich and unique collection of archaeological finds, and takes an active part within the wider European cultural heritage context.

The museum owes its collections to the Bourbon King Charles, ruler of Naples since 1734, and his cultural policy. The king promoted the digging in places lost to the eruption of Vesuvius in 79 A.D. and supervised the implementation of the Farnese Museum by moving to Naples a valuable collection inherited from his mother Elisabetta Farnese and earlier kept in their residencies of Rome and Parma. His son Ferdinand IV, then, gathered the archaeological finds in the Vesuvius area - previously displayed at the Herculaneum Museum in the Palace of Portici - and the Farnese Collection inside a single building, where they have remained to this day.

In 1816 the museum took the name of Royal Bourbon Museum. Along with its title of National Museum came the acquisition (in 1860) of further finds from exploration sites throughout Campania and the South of Italy, as well as from private collections.





INFORMATION

Opening days:
MON-WED-THUR-FRI-SAT-SUN
From 9:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Closing day:
TUESDAY

Tickets and Fees:
Full price: 15,00 €
Reduced: 2,00 €

Family ticket: 26,00 €
(2 adults)

Special tickets: 7,50 €
(ArteCard subscribers that have used up all their free entries; people accompanying OpenMANN subscribers)

Accessibility:
- **Accessible parking spaces on the embankment facing the museum**
- **Fast-track tickets at the museum ticket office for visitors with health conditions or impairments**
- **3 elevators**
- **Stactile aid available at the Prehistory and Protohistory collections and the Magna Grecia gallery**

Reservation for free tactile-aided tours.

Contacts:
man-na@cultura.gov.it



Photo Pasquale Vassallo

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK OF THE PHLEGRAEAN FIELDS

Flavian Amphitheater of Pozzuoli

During Roman rule, ancient Pozzuoli could boast two amphitheaters located at the eastern borders of town, as documented by the depiction of the city and its monuments on some Late Antiquity vitreous flasks. No other city had been granted such a privilege, except for Rome. The construction of the railway line connecting Naples to Rome (the so-called *Direttissima* built in 1915) cut the elliptical structure of the Minor and older Amphitheater in half, leaving only sparse vestiges behind.

Erected in the Late Republican Era, the amphitheater could hold an audience of 20,000 and did not have any underground chambers. Eventually, it was deemed insufficient to the needs of the lively and growing Pozzuoli at the dawn of the Empire, hence the construction of a second amphitheater, larger in size and equipped with dungeons that could accommodate scenic machinery and cages for wild beasts.

The construction of this brand-new arena, probably undertaken at the end of Emperor Nero's rule, was completed during the Flavian Period, as suggested by the monumental inscriptions above the entrances. The inscriptions proudly reminded those who read them that the *Colonia Flavia Puteolana* had built the amphitheater *pecunia sua*: with their own money. The Flavian Amphitheater of Pozzuoli is the third biggest arena in Italy (149x116 m) after the Colosseum and the arena in Capua: it could accommodate an audience of up to 40,000. The exterior façade, now completely lost, had two levels of overlapping arches, surmounted by an attic. The first storey of arches rested on trachyte pillars leaning against stone semi-columns. The external colonnade, later reinforced with brick pillars, served as a disengagement and sorting space for the audience accessing the arena, leading them to three different seating sections called *cavea* (*ima*, *media*, and *summa* cavea) across three differentiated paths. The portico consisted of a trachyte floor, raised above the basalt road level by stairs. An uninterrupted masonry attic punctuated with pilasters and windowed openings crowned the amphitheater, while a colonnaded portico ran above the last section of steps at the level of the *cavea*. Marble

INFORMATION

Opening days:
MON-WED-THUR-FRI-SAT-SUN
From 9:00 a.m. to one hour before sunset
Closing day:
TUESDAY

Tickets and Fees:
Scan the QR Code to pre-book your ticket or purchase it on site.

Entrance Fee:
Full price: 5,00 €
Reduced: 2,00 €

Four archaeological sites combined (Amphitheater, Cuma, Thermal Baths of Baiae, Baiae Castle)
Full price: 10,00 €
Reduced: 5,00 €

Partially accessible to people with health conditions or impairments.
ArteCard subscription: **Yes**

Contacts:
tour@coopculture.it



sculptures and architectural elements completed and embellished the sumptuous arena.

The underground halls are undoubtedly one of the main attractions of the building, thanks to their exceptional state of preservation. Extended on two perpendicular wings, they are served by an annular corridor opening on a series of small rooms arranged on two levels from which, using an ingenious system of winches and pulleys, the cages of the animals were hoisted in the arena through quadrangular hatches.

The sceneries and set-ups for gladiatorial games were, instead, raised up from a forty-five-meters-deep pit, developing along the major east-west axis and equally communicating with the surface of the arena. The dungeons are particularly suggestive for the play of lights and shadows reflecting on the mighty columns' capitals and stems, originally pertinent to the summa *cavea* portico and slipped into these spaces at some point after the abandonment of the arena.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK OF THE PHLEGRAEAN FIELDS

Temple of Serapis

The Temple of Serapis is one of the most famous and representative monuments in the Phlegraean Fields. It was discovered under King Charles of Bourbon, who inaugurated the digs of the complex in the mid-1800s, intrigued by the large cipolin marble monuments outcropping from the ground in "Vigna delle Tre Colonne" (Three-Columned Vinery). Initially considered to be a *Serapeion* because of the retrieval of a statue depicting the Egyptian god Serapis – currently on display at the MANN –, the complex represents, instead, the public market of the Roman town, namely the *macellum*.

The impressive monument (58x75 m) consists of an open quadrangular courtyard, paved with *porconnesium* marble slabs and surrounded by gray granite Corinthian columns embellished with marine subjects. The main access faced the sea and was aligned with a large apsidal hall whose opus sectile floor in polychrome marble was framed by 14-meters-high cipolin marble columns from Euboea; the hall contains three niches with prominent sculptural groups – including the infamous statue of Serapis - destined to imperial worship and to the *Genii Macellorum*, the protectors of the market. The cult



INFORMATION

Opening days:
THUR-SAT-SUN

Scan the QR Code for more details on opening hours and reservations

Closing day:
MON-TUE-WED-FRI

Tickets and Fees:
Pre-booking is required

Full price: 4,00 €
Reduced: 2,00 €

Entrance + Guided Tour (approximately 40 mins.)
Full price: 7,00 €
Reduced: 5,00 €

Free of charge for:
0–6-year-old kids and other categories listed on the official website

Not accessible to people with health conditions or impairments

ArteCard subscription: **No**

Contacts:
info@macellumpozzuoli.it



of the Egyptian god was widely spread because of a large Alexandrian settlement in Pozzuoli.

At the center of the courtyard stood a circular brick structure (*tholos*), raising more than one meter above the level of the floor and marked with 16 five-meters-high Corinthian columns in pink African marble. In the middle of the *tholos* there was an octagonal fountain, originally surmounted by an historiated architrave that the Bourbon dynasty later reused as a decoration for their Royal Palace in Caserta, together with other precious architectural finds. The four stairs leading to the fountain were all framed by parapets in the shape of dolphins and sea monsters. Below the colonnaded wings stood a series of shops (*tabernae*), alternately opening on the inside and the outside of the complex.

Two large latrines were placed at the far corners of the temple and lavishly covered with marble and sculptural furnishings, at the disposal of regular visitors of the crowded market. Built during the late Flavian Age, the *macellum* complex underwent several renovations and adjustments in later times. After its find, the monument attracted scholars and artists and became a Grand Tour destination for romantic trip. The vestiges of the so-called Temple of Serapis are also relevant in the field of studies on the phenomenon of bradyseism: the radiometric surveys carried out on the shells of *litodomas* (marine mollusks) affecting the lower half of the imposing and ever-visible cipolin columns have documented the development of the phenomenon since the end of the fourth century A.D., coinciding with the beginning of Pozzuoli's declining trade and the progressive abandonment of the complex. Site openings and enhancement activities are carried out in collaboration with ATI Macellum within a public-private partnership.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK OF THE PHLEGRAEAN FIELDS

Archaeological Museum of the Phlegraean Fields, Castle of Baiae

The Castle of Baiae was erected by the Aragon at the end of the 1400s and further expanded during the Spanish Viceroyalty between the 1500s and 1600s. The castle stands atop a promontory shutting the Gulf of Baiae in from the south. It currently houses the Archaeological Museum of the Phlegraean Fields, built in the last decades of the twentieth century and inaugurated in its modern guise in 2010. However, the walls of the castle keep a much older secret: the ruins of a majestic Roman villa, exceptional evidence of a seaside mansion climbing up the promontory for a hundred meters. The quarters of the villa were later occupied by the Cavaliere pavilion, the keep of the castle. At least three storeys of the ancient building with signinum and mosaic floors and mural frescoes have been preserved in excellent condition.

The villa, built at the beginning of the first century B.C. and twice restored during the Ju-



INFORMATION

Opening days:
TUE-WED-THUR-FRI-SAT-SUN
From 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. *(last tour at 7:00 p.m.)*

Closing day:
MONDAY

Tickets and Fees:
Scan the QR Code to pre-book your ticket or purchase it on site

Entrance:
Full price: 5,00 €
Reduced: 2,00 €

Four archaeological sites combined (Amphitheater, Cuma, Baiae Thermal Baths, Castle of Baiae)
Full price: 10,00 €
Reduced: 5,00 €

Partially accessible to people with health conditions or impairments

ArteCard subscription: **Yes**

Contacts:
+ 39 081 5233797



lio-Claudian Age – first century A.D., when it became Imperial property - must have belonged to a prominent Roman personality, perhaps Caesar himself. A visit to the sections of the museum encompasses a dynamic itinerary across picturesque ramps, staircases, and panoramic terraces culminating in the spectacular Piazza d'Armi, with a breath-taking view of the entire Bay of Naples. The museum has been divided into several sections, namely *Cuma*, *Puteoli*, *Rione Terra*, *Baia*, *Misenum* and *Liternum*, to reflect the peculiar structure of the Phlegraean area, where a long historical and cultural tradition – crucial for the understanding of classical antiquity – and the beauty of a landscape shaped by active volcanoes converge on a small strip of land.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK OF THE PHLEGRAEAN FIELDS

Archaeological Park of Baiae Thermal Baths

The archaeological digs began less than a century ago and have mainly focused on an area comprising three large domes, noticeable from the pleasant countryside embracing the small fishing village of Baia. The temples of Diana, Venus, and Mercury were actually never temples, but their grandeur and seemingly isolated appearance had led to think of sacred buildings. Their relation to those deities, however, solely consisted in some small – at times barely existent – clues found on the decorated walls. The hall dedicated to "Mercury" displays, indeed, something remarkable: here, visitors find the most ancient cement hemisphere ceiling ever. Scholars date the hall back to the Augustan age, and trace it back to the spirit of experimentation blooming in Baiae at the time, thanks to a locally well-spread building material called *pozzolana*. Every single one of the three halls represents the core room of three distinct thermal baths, built a century apart



INFORMATION

Opening days:
TUE-WED-THUR-FRI-SAT-SUN
From 9:00 a.m. to one hour before sunset

Closing day:
MONDAY

Tickets and Fees:
Entrance:
Full price: 5,00 €
Reduced: 2,00 €

Four archaeological sites combined (Amphitheater, Cuma, Baiae Thermal Baths, Castle of Baiae)
Full price: 10,00 €
Reduced: 5,00 €

Free of charge entrance:
according to ministerial dispositions: www.beniculturali.it/agevolazioni

Partially accessible to people with health conditions or impairmen.

ArteCard subscription: **Yes**

Contacts:
+ 39 081-8687592

from each other to sensibly exploit the hydromineral resources of the underground. In addition to large dipping pools, numerous canals were directly dug into the ground to catch the upwelling hot steam and warm the saunas up.

The position of these natural heat sources does partially explain the disorderly disposition of the structures; however, it also had another reason: the area occupied by the large thermal baths had in fact been the place of huge villas lying side by side, dating two centuries back. The *Ambulatio* and *Sosandra* villas sprawled up and about the hillside for five or more levels of communicating halls, connected by ramps and painted stairways. The arrangement of the upper-halls granted a full view of the beautiful landscape, featuring Mt. Vesuvius, Sorrento, and Capri. The halls were decorated with marble and paintings and hosted spectacular banquets. Further below, the villas spread out in sumptuously embellished colonnaded porticoes that reached the shore, so that those arriving by boat would have been welcomed in a way reminiscent of Hellenistic palaces built by the heirs of Alexander the Great in the East. It must however be pointed out that, while developing on an area of more than ten thousand square meters, the complexes are not representative of the luxurious seaside villas that the Roman senatorial elite – from Pompey to Caesar, from Crassus to Cicero – built on higher secluded spots. Very few, ephemeral vestiges remain of those

Emperors Claudius, Caligula, and above all Nero's beloved palace, also widely appreciated by later emperors such as Alexander Severus, was also presumably situated elsewhere, possibly on Punta Epitaffio. Some of the visible underwater ruins could, however, belong to the once majestic palace.
The presence of large spas in that same area reveals how villas, just a century later, were transformed into something else, more similar to modern hotels. The original halls subdivision gradually decreased leading to the complete abandonment of the site, that had probably lost its ancient natural energy due to underground alterations.
All that Grand Tour dwellers found centuries later, were sparse vestiges of the places recounted by ancient poets, whose words still echo across their silent and empty halls.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK OF THE PHLEGRAEAN FIELDS

The Submerged Park of Baiae

INFORMATION

Opening days:
ALWAYS OPEN

Services provided by authorized subjects

Scan the QR Code for further details and ticket reservations.

Accessibility for people with health conditions of impairments: restricted to some itineraries.

ArteCard subscription: **No**
Contacts:
+ 39 081-5232739

The exceptionally valuable archaeological site of Baiae's submerged park was confined underwater by the phenomenon of bradyseism. Splendid sea waters and archaeology combine together in the peculiar landscape of the Phlegraean Fields. Below the sea level, thin layers of sand cover ancient mosaics, while sea flora and fauna bring the ruins of statues and ancient walls to life. The sea flooded a large strip of coast where buildings originally formed a *unicum* with the archaeological park of Baiae's thermal baths, opening on the now wider bay of *Lacus Baianus*, that can be accessed via an artificial channel. During the Roman Republican Era, the cove was filled with seaside villas. Among the most important submerged buildings is the Claudian-Age nymphaeum, located seven meters under the level of the sea and facing Punta Epitaffio. Lying at its east is a villa ascribed to the Pisoni family because of some lead pipes imprints. The large area around the submerged lacus was taken up by other villas and thermal baths. One of these is definitely worth mentioning: the so-called "Villa with Prothyrum Entrance", frequently visited by snorkelers and divers for its mosaic floors. The Submerged Park of Baiae encloses the entire coast from the port of Baiae to the Pirelli pier in Pozzuoli. This area comprises a portion of Baiae and the *Portus Iulius* complex – consisting of a basin and countless other places destined to the storage of transiting goods. Today, the view is much different from the ancient setting as a consequence of bradyseism.

The seabed of the submerged park hosts great microhabitat varieties deriving from the interaction between natural processes – such as bradyseism, marine erosion, secondary volcanism emissions – and human activities such as the construction of buildings, piers, and fish ponds.

The yellow tuff rocky ridges on the coast give way to a sandy and detrital seabed, alternating with the submerged archaeological buildings that constitute a substratum for *photophilous* (light sensitive) and *sciophilous* (light refractory) plants. Above the well illuminated ruins, it is usually possible to observe a crowd of vegetal organisms, such as green and dark seaweed, while the dimly lit walls are populated by non-concretionary species like *lavers*, *bryozoa*, *serpulids*, and polychromous sponges. Amidst the ruins octopuses and numerous varieties of rock fish, such as wrasses and sparid fishes also find their shelter. On the soft seabed it is possible to witness warty venuses colonies (*venus verrucosa*), an edible and much appreciated species, whose fishing is considered seriously harmful for the ruins. Furthermore, some specimens of Pinna Nobilis can be found there it is the biggest Mediterranean bivalve, now a protected species.



ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK OF THE PHLEGRAEAN FIELDS

Archaeological Park of Cuma

INFORMATION

Opening days:
MON-WED-THUR-FRI-SAT-SUN
From 9:00 a.m. to one hour before sunset

Closing day:
TUESDAY

Tickets and Fees:
Scan the QR Code to pre-book your ticket or purchase it on site.

Entrance fee:
Full price: 5,00 €
Reduced: 2,00 €

Four archaeological sites combined (Amphitheater, Cuma, Baiae Thermal Baths, Castle of Baiae)
Full price: 10,00 €
Reduced: 5,00 €

Partially accessible to people with health conditions or impairmen.

ArteCard subscription: **Yes**

Contacts:
+ 39 081-8543060

The Archaeological Park of Cuma came into being in 1927, as a result to the digs directed by A. Maiuri, that threw a light on the main edifices of Cuma's acropolis. Since then, the Park has been sensibly expanded thanks to the Ministry of Culture and the support of Universities and Research Centers, regularly carrying out on-site exploration campaigns. The surface of the park currently amounts to 50 hectares, including the acropolis and its major monuments.

The Sybil's Cave is undoubtedly one of the most famous: it is a gallery running through the south-western slopes of the acropolis deriving its name from Maiuri's 1932 search for the places described by Virgil in the Aeneid. The gallery is not ascribable to the cult of the Sybil; however, this place of rare evocative power does at times correspond with the verses of the poet on a mysterious and obscure site with "one hundred doors" through which the howling of the wind provoked





the leaves where the Sybil wrote her responses to whirl. The famous archaeologist compared the numerous lateral openings letting the light in the gallery to Virgil's "one hundred mouths". The acropolis still keeps its mighty defensive walls, including an entry passage tower, named "Byzantine Tower" because of the transformations it underwent in the fourth century A.D., when it was turned into a *castrum*. The lower and upper terraces held two imposing shrines dating back to the Greek period, restored and re-transformed in later centuries until they became early-Christian basilicas. Recent research on the Upper Terrace have overturned traditional interpretations, demonstrating that the major temple was devoted to Apollo. This last find gives credit to Virgil's version of the myth of Dedalus, where the boy founded a Temple of Apollo on Cuma's highest peak after having flown over Crete and the West. He thus consecrated his waxen wings to the god and carved the tale of his journey on the bronze doors of the sacred place. The lower town has been recently concerned with enhancement works, in order to make it fully visitable. Visits are only allowed on special occasions and during cultural events. This part of town expands on a plain surrounded by walls and streaked with internal paths, and develops around a public and sacred space encircled by residential districts, production areas and eating places: presumably the Greek *agora* then turned into a Roman *forum*.

As in classical Greek and Roman structures, the necropolis is situated outside the walls. It was discovered in the northern part of town underneath the monumental shapes emerging from the ground and its variegated taxonomy and chronologically-formed heterogeneous layers give ample testimony of Cuman burial practices.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK OF THE PHLEGRAEAN FIELDS

Piscina Mirabilis

INFORMATION

Opening days:
FRI-SAT-SUN
Scan the QR Code for info and reservations
Closing day:
MON-TUE-WED-THUR
Tickets and Fees:
Online pre-booking required
Entrance fee:
Full price: 5,00 €
Reduced: 3,00 €
Entry + Guided Tour:
Full price: 8,00 €
Reduced: 6,00 €

Free or charge entry for kids up to 6 years of age and other categories listed on the website.

Not accessible to people with health conditions or impairments

ArteCard subscription: **No**

Contacts:
+ 39 081-3355165

The monument known as *Piscina Mirabilis* is set back from the northern ridge overlooking the external basin of the Misenum Port. The adjective *mirabilis* means marvelous in English and refers to the grandeur of the structure. The suggestive monument is Misenum's junction of an aqueduct built under Emperor Augustus gathering spring waters from the Serino Acquaro in the valley of the Sabato river, where it was to serve the *Classis Misenensis*. The imposing structure – 70 m long, 25.5 m wide and 15 m high – and its charming interiors, still perfectly preserved, have made it one of the most famous and visited monuments since the 1700s.

The water tank can be accessed from two downstairs entrances, at the north-western and south-eastern corners respectively. The first flight of stairs is the one still currently used. One gets the feeling of entering an underground cathedral, with a quadrangular plan partially carved out of tuff and partly built with opus reticulatum, and supported by 48 pillars, which divide the space into five naves.

The tank has a capacity of 12.600 m^3 and rises up high on the promontory, probably to exploit the natural slope in the system of ducts that regimented the water. The reservoir was periodically emptied and cleaned from two flights of stairs located at the maintenance corners of the so-called *limaria* pool, a basin 1.10 m deep, hollowed in the floor of the central nave with an exit at one end.

The water, perhaps through doors opening in the vault along the central nave, was lifted with the help of water machines on the roof terrace of the opus signinum-paved tank and then canalized. The adduction came instead from a conduit at the north-western entrance. Along the north-eastern side, and leaning against the tank, are twelve halls with barrel-vaulted roofs, which represent an attempt to strengthen the walls carried out between the end of the first and the beginning of the second century A.D. Its great charms and magnificence make it a favorite filming location. Site openings and enhancement activities are carried out in collaboration with ATS Stramirabilis within a public-private partnership.



CAPRI (NAPLES)

Villa Jovis

Sheer from the sea, Villa Jovis is located on the highest promontory at the eastern-end of the isle of Capri, the largest and most sumptuous complex among the twelve ancient dwellings owned, according to legend, by Tiberius. In 26 A.D., Emperor Tiberius left Rome and moved to Capri, already an imperial property, from which he still managed to control the entire empire, despite being geographically isolated.

Villa Jovis, built on several terraces about 300 m above the sea in front of Punta Campanella, enjoyed an exceptionally panoramic position and controlled the entire Bay of Naples. Its lighthouse was used to communicate with the towers of Capo Miseno and Punta Campanella.

It was very wide and luxuriously finished, according to the taste of the Julio-Claudian age (I century A.D.), following many other luxurious residential maritime villas in the Bay of Naples.

Large cisterns collected rainwater on the top, where the small church of S. Maria del Soccorso stands today. Around those cisterns were the quarters of the emperor and his advisers, and a very long loggia overlooking the Gulfs of Naples and Salerno, followed by kitchens and bathrooms.





INFORMATION

Opening days:
THUR-FRI-SAT-SUN

March, November, December: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. *(last entry 3:30 p.m.).*

April, May, October: 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. *(last entry 5:30 p.m.).*

June to September: 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. *(last entry 6:30 p.m.).*

Closing day:
MON-TUE-WED
JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

Tickets and Fees:
Full price: 6,00 € (+ audio guide)
Reduced: 4,00 € (+ audio guide)

Scan the QR Code to book your ticket or purchase it on site

The structure presents some architectural barriers, such as stairways and ramps.

Contacts:
+39 848 800 288 , +39 06 399 67 450

ANACAPRI (NAPLES)

Blue Grotto

The fortunes of Anacapri's Blue Grotto began in 1826, when the local fisherman Angelo Ferraro showed it to the German Artist August Kopisch. The entrance is partially submerged, so difficulty of access may vary depending on sea tides. The Blue Grotto was adjoined to the above panoramic Roman Gradola Villa by means of an external staircase carved into rock.

The Grotto can be accessed from a narrow opening detached from the larger underwater entrance, responsible for the grotto's famous plays of light. Inside is a small berthing, close to a Roman coccio-pesto-floored quadrangular room. An underground passage carved into rock linked the grotto to Villa Gradola or probably served to collect water.

The discovery of a bunch of statues depicting Tritons and Poseidon on the seabed of the grotto (between 1964 and 1975) confirmed its use as a lavishly decorated Roman-Age nymphaeum: the statues were presumably originally placed in such a way they gave the impression to be emerging from the depths of the sea.





INFORMATION

Opening Hours:
April-October from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. *(last entry 4:30 p.m.).*

November – March from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. *(last entry 1:30 p.m.).*

In case of bad weather, the grotto will not be accessible

Tickets and Fees:
Full price: 4,00 €
Reduced: 2,00 €

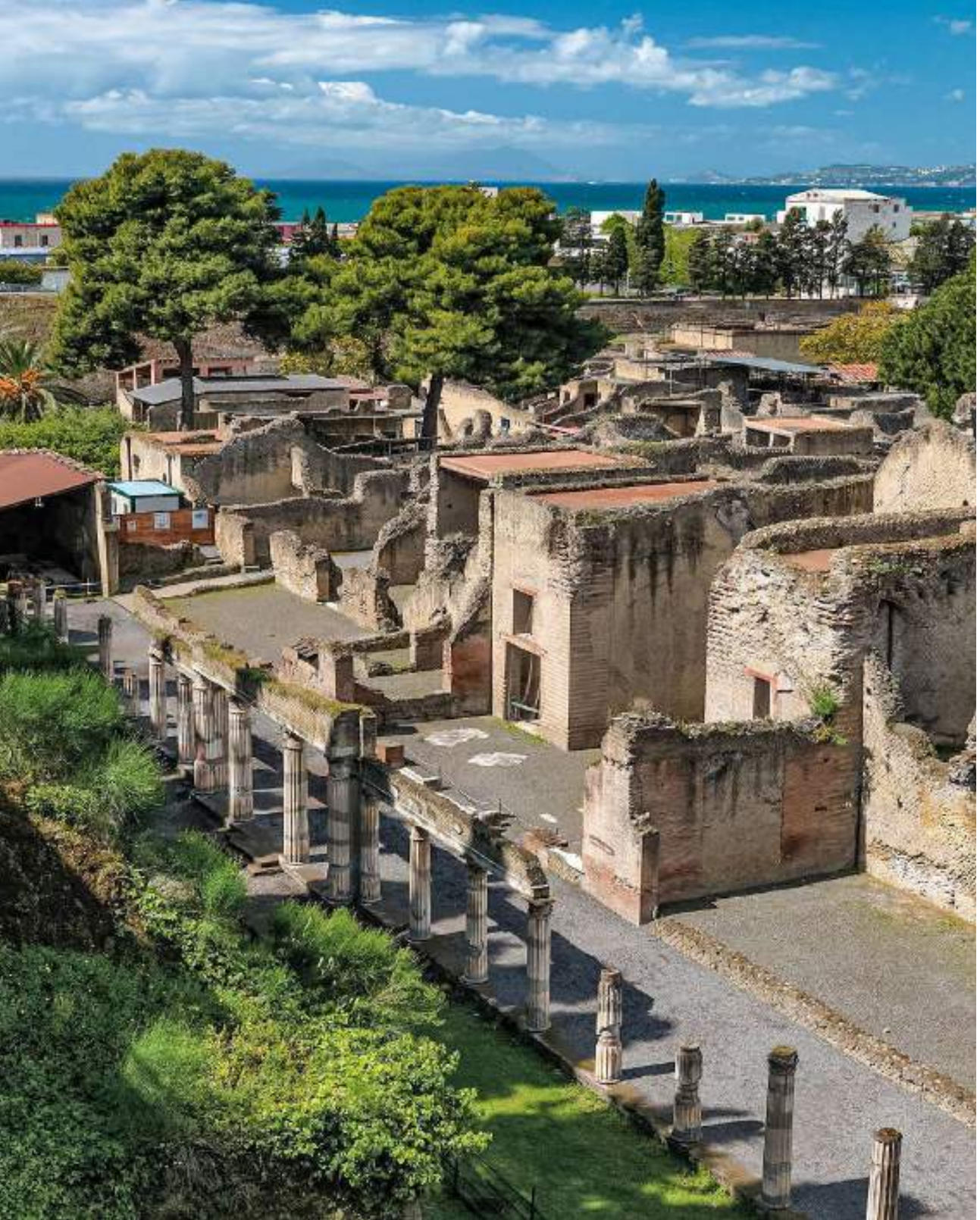
Scan the QR Code to pre-book your ticket. Payment on site

Limited access:
Visitors without a reservation may access the Grotto up until vacancies depletion.

Accessing the grotto is only possible by small rowing boats whose tickets are not included in the price listed above.

The archaeological site is not accessible to people with mobility impairments.

Contacts:
+39 081-8376218
drm-cam.grottazzurra@cultura.gov.it
drm-cam@pec.cultura.gov.it



Archaeological Park of Herculaneum

It is a place of memory that, quoting Amedeo Maiuri "mustn't be considered as a mere collection of works of art, as a center inferior to Pompeii, but as a proper town with its own important aspects, its civilization and its humanity".

The mission of the Archaeological Park of Herculaneum combines research and preservation with the promotion of the cultural values of the ancient town to present and future generations. Its cultural heritage includes tangible and intangible assets, symbolized by the historical and archaeological recognition of the ancient Roman center and the identity it took on after its discovery in 1738, within the social and cultural context of modern and contemporary times. The exceptional nature of the site has been widely recognized by UNESCO, on whose lists Herculaneum has appeared since 1997. An exemplary case of public-private partnership has been operating in Herculaneum since 2001, thanks to the precious Packard Foundation, an American charitable institution chaired by David Packard, who not only financed important restoration works and extensive campaigns of in-depth studies, but also founded the Herculaneum Conservation Project, a team of primarily Italian professionals that have developed a virtuous path aimed at the conservation and enhancement of the site.

Itineraries go over the life and last hours of the opulent town in the shade of Mt. Vesuvius, as the eruption of 79 A.D. handed it over to history. Streets, houses, public spaces, hot springs and wellness centers, shops and sacred spaces are only a few of the subjects a trip to the ancient site sheds light upon. The tour offers an intimate and one-of-a-kind experience. It also includes a visit to the Boat Pavilion and the *Antiquarium*, as well as the permanent exhibition "Splendori: luxurious decoration in Herculaneum".



INFORMATION

Opening days:
MON-TUE-THUR-FRI-SAT-SUN

From 16/03 to 14/10, opening 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. *(last entry 6:00 p.m.)*
Leave site at 7:00 p.m.

From 15/10 to 15/03, opening 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. *(last entry 3:30 p.m.)*
Leave site at 4:40 p.m.

Closing days:
Wednesdays, Jan. 1st, Dec. 25th

Tickets and Fees:
On www.ticketone.it or on site.

Entrance fee:
Full price: 13,00 €
Reduced for 18-25 young adults: 2,00€
(+1,50€ pre-booking)

Free ticket:
According to regulations *(pre-booking in advance not allowed)*
www.beniculturali.it/agevolazioni

Annual Subscription: 13,00 €.
Exclusively sold online. The subscription is individual and grants unlimited access to the archaeological park for one year, starting from date of purchase.

Accessible to people with health conditions or impairments.

Contacts:
+39 081-7777008
pa-ercolano@beniculturali.it
mbac-pa-erco@mailcert.beniculturali.it

Archaeological Park of Pompeii

The Ministry of Culture has invested the Archaeological Park of Pompeii with special autonomy concerning the protection, preservation and public fruition of the site. It comprises several other cultural sites in the Vesuvius area. It is the only archaeological site in the world to show the exact looks of a Roman urban center. Rich with traffic and pulsating life, the city was crystallized by the eruption of 79 A.D., when everything was buried under a rain of ashes and lapilli. The site of Pompeii has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1997.

The area of the ancient town is 66 hectares wide, the digs extend for 44 hectares and have brought 1500 buildings to light. The Park adheres to the Verona Arena Opera Festival project, being a convinced supporter of the synergy between national and international institutions to encourage mutual experiences and the promotion of cultural sites.





INFORMATION

Opening days:
ALWAYS OPEN

From 01/11 to 31/03, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. *(last entry 3:30 p.m.).*

Opening hours from 01/04 to 31/10: 09:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. *(last entry 5:00 p.m.).*

Tickets and Fees:
Full price: 18,00 €
Daily tickets include a free visit to Villa Regina in Boscoreale

Reduced for 18-25 young adults: 2,00 €

ArteCard subscription: **Yes**

Scan the QR Code to book your ticket for a tour of Mt. Vesuvius' archaeological area or the Ruins of Pompeii

Accessible to people with health conditions and impairments.

Accessible "Pompeii for all" tours, a route without architectural barriers. Start from the Amphitheater Square or Exedra Square.

Contacts:
+39 081-8575300
pa-pompei@beniculturali.it







ANCIENT CIRCUIT OF CAPUA – SANTA MARIA CAPUA VETERE

The Campano Amphitheater

Located, like most of gladiators' buildings, on the immediate outskirts of town, the Campano amphitheater was closely attached to Via Appia, as a way to encourage traffic toward performances in the arena. Built in the Flavian Age at the end of the 1st century A.D., it was restored and decorated with a splendid marble apparatus by Hadrian and was inaugurated by Antoninus Pius. The amphitheater, second only to the Colosseum from which it drew the inspiration, replaced the Late-Republic arena renowned for the riot of Spartacus. It rises above the center of the original stalls delimited by *cippi*, one of which is decorated with depictions of Hercules and Silvanus.

The ruins are redolent of its ancient colossal shape. It developed on four orders: the first three consist of arches framed by Doric-Tuscan semi-columns, the last is in brickwork, punctuated by windows and pillars with corbels supporting the *velarium* poles. Busts of deities placed upon the arches of the first portico replaced the once modest notation: only the statues of Diana and Juno survived in *situ*. The decorative apparatus of the Hadrian Age is particularly valuable, as shown by statues currently on display at the MANN and the marble bas-reliefs that decorated the entrances to the *cavea* (vomitory) in the Gladiator Museum. Below the *cavea*-surrounded arena are the underground halls. Within their huge suggestive and well-preserved spaces, the preparations for the show took place: an ingenious mechanism of pulleys raised the hoists, bringing up beasts, scenic apparatuses and gladiators inside the arena.





INFORMATION

Opening days:
TUE – WED – THUR – FRI – SAT – SUN
From 9:00 a.m. to one hour before sunset.

Closing day:
MONDAY

Tickets and Fees:
On site or at the ticket office in *"I Ottobre"* **square**

Entrance fees:
Full price: 2,50€

Accessible to people with health conditions and impairments: **Anywhere except the undergrounds**

ArteCard subscription: **Yes**

Contacts:
+39 0823 844206
+39 0823 1831093 *(ticket office)*
+39 081-2395653
(Le Nuvole, Mon - Fri 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)
smcv.anfiteatro@artem.org

ANCIENT CIRCUIT OF CAPUA – SANTA MARIA CAPUA VETERE

Gladiator Museum

Capua, home to the most important gladiator school and the prestigious *familia gladiatoria* established in 49 B.C. by Julius Caesar, had to have a dedicated place for the heroes of the arena. The gladiators' museum, part of the archaeological area of the Campano amphitheater, fills two halls. The first one displays site testimonies from the necropolis and entertainment districts, and is equipped with panels, suggestive videos, bronze copies of an armor retrieved in Pompeii, and life-size mannequins simulating a show in the arena to raise the curiosity of visitors, especially little ones. The busts of deities decorating the first portico of the arena are placed on the wall and invite tourists into a second hall, hosting a suggestive reconstruction of the environment, a rebuilt section of the *cavea* with marble decorations on the steps (*vomitoria*). Among the decorations are a scene of the entrance to the podium of magistrates and lictors and the side balustrades with felines attacking a fleeing prey, alluding to the hunting performances that took place inside the arena. Other marble reliefs are displayed in the room and testify to Hadrian age decorations. Among the themes depicted are sacrifices, the construction of the arena, and mythological scenes such as those inspired to Hercules' Labors.





INFORMATION

Opening days:
TUE - WED - THUR - FRI - SAT - SUN
From 9:00 a.m. to one hour before sunset.

Closing day:
MONDAY

Tickets and Fees:
On site or at the ticket office in *"I Ottobre"* **square**

Entrance fees:
Full price: 2,50€

Accessible to people with health conditions and impairments: **Yes**

ArteCard subscription: **Yes**

Contacts:
+39 0823 844206
+39 0823 1831093 *(ticket office)*
+39 081-2395653
(Le Nuvole, Mon - Fri 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)
smcv.anfiteatro@artem.org

ANCIENT CIRCUIT OF CAPUA – SANTA MARIA CAPUA VETERE

Archaeological Museum of Ancient Capua

The Archaeological Museum of Ancient Capua is situated in a 19th-century court building, home to a stable of Royal stallions. The structure was built on the ruins of St. Erasmus' tower– where Robert of Anjou was born – that incorporated the *Capitolium*, a temple dedicated to the Capitoline triad dominating the Forum. Its halls –arranged according to a chronological criterion– house the finds retrieved in the territory of Ancient Capua, from the Neolithic period to the Roman Era. The first three halls illustrate the transition from the late Bronze Age (sixteenth to fourteenth century B.C.) to the Iron Age (tenth to mid-eighth centuries B.C.), period in which grave goods show distinctive signs of a wealthy community open to early trade. Trade intensified during the Oriental period (from the seventh to the early sixth centuries B.C.) with the full assimilation of the Greek and Etruscan cultural models of symposium and body care. The precious bronze and *bucchero* pottery, and polychrome architectural decorations of the temples displayed in the museum show Etruscan Capua, which took on a more urban character in the mid-7th century B.C.

Local ceramics dating back to the archaic period (sixth and fifth centuries B.C.) are flanked by imported ceramics, Ionic cups and Attic vases decorated with mythological scenes. In another hall the emergence of *Campani* is featured: these brave warriors were depicted on tombs wearing three-disc armors and feathered helmets. Each male grave contained weapons and belts, while female ones featured matrons dressed with precious jewels and vases decorated with red figures of local manufacture. The Sanctuary of the Pattuarelli Fund is, instead, renowned for its statues of throned *Matres* with babies. The hall displays several votive objects, a corpus of inscriptions in Oscan, known as *lovilas*, the architectural terracotta Capua was best acknowledged for.
The last hall of the museum houses two Roman sculptures depicting Greek copies of a Cnidia Venus and a spectacular and recently restored Nike.



Photo Luigi Spina

INFORMATION

Opening days:
TUE – WED – THUR – FRI – SAT – SUN
From 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
(Last entry 6:30 p.m.)

Closing day:
MONDAY

Tickets and Fees:
Exclusively at the ticket office in *"I Ottobre"* **square**

Entrance fees:
Full price: 2,50€

Accessible to people with health conditions and impairments: **Yes**

ArteCard subscription: **Yes**

Contacts:
+39 0823 844206
+39 0823 1831093 *(ticket office)*
+39 081-2395653
(Le Nuvole, Mon - Fri 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)
smcv.anfiteatro@artem.org

ANCIENT CIRCUIT OF CAPUA – SANTA MARIA CAPUA VETERE

Mithraeum

The Mithraeum (late 1st- 2nd century A.D.) was discovered in 1922 and has been open for visits since 1937. It is one of the most ancient Mithraic temples in the West. It can be accessed from a turret building descending into the underground halls, consisting of a vestibule and a hall of worship that still keeps the original structure and extraordinary wall paintings.

Along the sides of the hall are the *praesepia*, the benches for the faithful , while the walls show some initiatory scenes: the only examples left of this genre. The entire room is dominated by the scene of the bull's sacrifice, placed on a podium symbolically evoking the birth of cosmos: the deity is depicted inside a cave in the act of sacrificing a bull.



Mithras is dressed in eastern fashion: he wears a Phrygian cap, *anassiridi* (oriental pants) and a cape – a symbol of the heavens - opening on a tunic. At his side are *Cautes* and *Cautopates*, the Eastern and Western Sun respectively, at the four corners of a half-moon are the personifications of Sun, Moon, Earth, and Ocean. Mithras sinks his knife into the neck of the bull, that slumps to the ground. Blood, a symbol of life, spurts from the wound, wheat sprouts from its tail. A dog licking the wound, a threatening snake crawling under the bull's belly, and a scorpion attempting on its testicles (a symbol of fecundity), complete the scene. On the opposite half-moon, the Moon drives a carriage and pair across the sky. For the richness of this pictorial apparatus and the preservation of its spaces, the Mithraeum in Santa Maria Capua Vetere represents rare evidence of one of the most mysterious deities of the Roman pantheon.



INFORMATION

Temporarily closed for restoration works

TEANO (CASERTA)

Archaeological Museum of Teanum Sidicinum

INFORMATION

Opening days:
MON-WED-THUR-FRI-SAT-SUN
From 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Closing day:
TUESDAY

Tickets and Fees:
Free entry
Specific paths for people with health conditions and impairments.

Contacts:
+ 39 0823657302

drm-cam.teano@cultura.gov.it

drm-cam@pec.cultura.gov.it

The tour of the Archaeological Museum of Teanum Sidicinum, situated in a late Gothic building, has been conceived as a journey across the centuries, from the oldest stages of Prehistory to Late Antiquity (sixth-seventh centuries A.D.). Prehistory is documented by flint instruments from the Middle Paleolithic (120.000 – 40.000 years ago) and Neolithic (5500 – 3500 B.C.). Ceramic materials dating back to the Bronze Age, such as the fragments decorated in the typical Apennine style (around 1400 – 1300 B.C.) found in Torricelle are also displayed here. The historical era of the *Sidicini*, a Sabellic people that spoke Oscan and presumably lived scattered in villages from the eighth century B.C. on, is displayed through the presence of numerous places of worship and sanctuaries as well as a rich necropolis. The territory organized in scattered villages with shrines and necropolises was abandoned in the fourth century B.C., in favor of the adoption of the urban model. This process ultimately hastened thanks to the allegiance to Rome, leading to the formation of the city of Teanum Sidicinum by the end of that century City upgrading from the imperial age to Late Antiquity is well documented inside the museum. The splendor and wealth of the city at the beginning of the Empire (31 B.C. – 284 A.D.) become evident in the mosaic floors and marble sculptures found in houses and public buildings. There are numerous dedications to late emperors and illustrious figures (284 - 476 A.D.) up until the sixth century. The polychrome mosaic from the *Gens Geminia* mausoleum, with a scene from the Adoration of the Magi, dated around 350 is of extraordinary importance.

The last room of the Museum is dedicated to the monumental theater and its rich architectural and sculptural decorations.





TEANO (CASERTA)

Roman Theatre of Teanum Sidicinum

INFORMATION

Opening days:
MON-WED-THUR-FRI-SAT-SUN
From 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Closing day:
TUESDAY

Tickets and Fees:
Free entry
Specific paths for people with health conditions and impairments.

Contacts:
+ 39 0823657302

drm-cam.teano@cultura.gov.it

drm-cam@pec.cultura.gov.it

Built at the end of the second century B.C. in an area situated at the south-eastern side of the town's arch, the theater of *Teanum Sidicinum* is the oldest auditorium in Italy with an entirely artificial *cavea*. The cavea was contained within tuff stonework walls. The orchestra was in the shape of a horseshoe, typical of Hellenistic theaters, with uncovered access passages (*aditus*). Above the upper part of the stairway (*summa cavea*) there was a large terrace that, according to the typical Italic theater-temple scheme, hosted a temple. During the Augustan Age, the scene was rebuilt with new architectural elements and marble sculptures of fine handicraft; the *cavea* was welded to the scenic building with a covered access, and above the passages were seats reserved to city magistrates (*tribunalia*).

A new substantial renovation occurred around 205 A.D., when the building was greatly expanded and the architectural decorations embellished with a series of sculptures, including statues and portraits of the imperial family. At the beginning of the fourth century A.D. the theater was still functioning and it was presumably abandoned only after the violent earthquake of 346.

Much of the *cavea*, the basal structures of the scenic building and the external ambulatories of the ancient building, systematically at the center of exploration campaigns since the 1960s, remain now visible. There are plenty of exquisite marble ruins, coming every province of the empire, architectural decorations and sculptures (some of which huge).



Photo Domenico Feola

MADDALONI (CASERTA)

Archaeological Museum of Calatia

INFORMATION

Opening days:
MON-WED-THUR-FRI-SAT-SUN
From 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. *(Last entry 7.30 p.m.)*

Closing day:
TUESDAY

Tickets and Fees:
Free entry

Accessible to people with health conditions and impairments

Contacts:
+ 39 0823200065
+ 39 0823203980

drm-cam.maddaloni@cultura.gov.it

drm-cam@pec.cultura.gov.it

The Archaeological Museum of Calatia is housed in the sixteenth-century Stanza Penta shooting-lodge, one of the residencies of the Carafa della Stadera family, that held the feud of Maddaloni for centuries. The exhibition is arranged on both floors of the Palace and documents a chronological period going from the 8th century B.C. to the 3rd century A.D. The halls on ground floor are dedicated to the city of Calatia: its territory, city ruins and rich necropolis. The first-floor itinerary spreads over a double track, integrating the recovery of the historic building in its 1600 layout through the displaying of archaeological finds. This section covers four themes: the ancient road system, especially Via Appia which constituted the main road axis of ancient Calatia; the sixth-and-fifth-centuries B.C. Calatian aristocracy; the female and the male figures in the Orientalizing age. The exhibition is compelling and fascinating thanks to the real-scale reconstruction of tombs, realized with ancient materials whenever possible, and accompanied by multimedia and interactive workstations, multilingual educational panels and QR codes, free podcast audio guides in Italian and English, Braille panels, captions and orientation maps. The museum is furthermore equipped with rooms such as a conference room with an amplification system, a multipurpose room with a large terrace, a cafeteria, a large courtyard intended to host cultural events, conferences, seminars, exhibitions etc. Architectural barriers are completely absent.





ALIFE (CASERTA)

Archeological Museum of Ancient Allifae

INFORMATION

Opening days:
TUE-WED-THUR-FRI-SAT-SUN

8:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Closing day:
MONDAY

Tickets and Fees:
Free entry

Accessible to people with health conditions and impairments

Contacts:
+ 39 0823787005

drm-cam.alife@cultura.gov.it

drm-cam@pec.cultura.gov.it

The Archaeological Museum of Ancient Allifae collects testimonies from the territory extending at the southern slopes of Mount Matese (the late *mons Tifernus*), at the Sannio – Campania border. The most ancient occupation phases of the Allifan plain were documented by settlements dating back to the Eneolithic and the ancient Bronze Age (third to early second millennium B.C.)

The birth of a first settlement dates back to the end of 7th century B.C., when the inhabited center of *populus Alliphanus* began to develop on the hills overlooking present-day Alife.

The museum exhibition documents this moment by featuring about 170 tombs retrieved during the extension works of the modern cemetery of Alife, that cause the emergence of a vast ancient necropolis. This same chronological perspective is offered by the finds in the Conca d'Oro necropolis, where extensive digs were conducted between 1880 and 1884 by the Swiss land-owning industrialist Egg family, who planted a cotton mill in Piedimonte Matese. Another nucleus of the necropolis, confirming the liveliness of Middle Sannio, is the locality of Croce di Santa Maria discovered at the beginning of the 20th century and explored in the subsequent 1960s. The Allifan territory was completely re-arranged by the Romans during the 1st century B.C., with the foundation of a colony in the plains. Within the museum collection, the Roman period is attested by a series of decorated fountains, by wall frescoes recovered from city houses, by inscriptions on funerary stems and by a mosaic floor with an evocative representation of the city doors, together with some portrait heads retrieved in the theater area, also displayed at the museum.





MONTESARCHIO (BENEVENTO)

National Archaeological Museum of Sannio Caudino

The Archaeological Museum of Sannio Caudino, inaugurated in 2007, is located inside the Castle of Montesarchio in the Benevento province. Situated on a rocky hill on Mount Taburno, it has been one of the most important fortified castles on the Campanian Apennine hinterland ever since the early Middle Ages. Probably erected under Lombard rule, it was occupied by Roger II Norman (1137) and renovated during the Swabian era, under the reign of Frederick II. In Aragon era, the fortress reached its present layout: two buildings flanking a central courtyard and a monumental cylindrical tower on a rocky spur overlooking Montesarchio. The museum is dedicated to the history of the Caudina valley and mainly houses Samnite finds from the main centers of Sannio Caudino: Caudium (Montesarchio), Saticula (Sant'Agata de'Goti), Telesia (San Salvatore Telesino). The displaying of Caudine grave goods (eighth-third century B.C.) is accompanied by a section dedicated to the collection of figurative craters of Attic and Italiot production found in tombs dating back to the fifth and fourth centuries B.C. The most prestigious among these is the famous Assteas crater, depicting the abduction of Europe (fourth century B.C.). Starting from Sept. 8th , 2013, the museum has hosted the "Imaginary Red" exhibition, focusing on a multimedia presentation of some craters, whose representations are accompanied by a narrating voice telling Greek myths.





INFORMATION

Opening days:
TUE - WED - THUR - FRI - SAT - SUN
From 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. *(optional booking)*

Closing day:
MONDAY

Reservations:
tel. +39 824-834570

Tickets and Fees:
Full price: 2,00€
Reduced for 18-25 young adults: 1,00€
Free of charge: up to 18 years of age

Accessible: **Yes**
The structure is free of architectural barriers.

Contacts:
+39 0824 834570
drm-cam.montesarchio@cultura.gov.it
drm-cam@pec.cultura.gov.it

SARNO (SALERNO)

National Archaeological Museum of the Sarno Valley

The National Archaeological Museum of the Sarno Valley is located in the historic center of Sarno, inside a noble palace built in mid-eighteenth century. Its prestigious finds document local history from Prehistory to the Middle Ages. In addition to the rich male tombs from the second half of the ninth century B.C., it is possible to admire grave goods of noble women buried with jewels between the eighth and seventh centuries B.C. The tombs of the sixth century B.C. preserve bucchero vases of Greek import. The votive materials devoted to a female deity found in the sacred Foce area and in the Sarno Springs date back to the fourth century B.C. During this period of time men were buried with their weapons while women rested with their jewelry and cosmetics. Painted tombs dating back to the end of the fourth century B.C., depicting the returning of warriors, plant motifs and funeral processions, are extraordinary. The refined bronze vases from a rustic villa destroyed by Vesuvius in 79 A.D. date back to the Roman age.





INFORMATION

Opening days:
TUE – WED – THUR – FRI
From 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

SAT - SUN and public holidays:
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Closing day:
MONDAY

Accessible to people with health conditions and impairments *(elevator; absence of architectural barriers)*

Contacts:
+39 081-941451
drm-cam.sarno@beniculturali.it

CONCA DEI MARINI (SALERNO)

Emerald Grotto

Just like the namesake gem, the multifaceted shades of blue, turquoise, green, of the cave refract in a prism. This eerie place is situated in Grotta dei Marini, in the Amalfi Coast, and was discovered in 1932 by a fisherman named Luigi Buonocore.

Through the centuries, the water has modeled and shaped a suggestive scene made up of multifarious stalactites and stalagmites: among them, one could discern mermaids, fantastic creatures, or even a horseman whose identity shifts according to the nationality of the onlooking tourist – Garibaldi in the eyes of Italians, George Washington for Americans, or again Napoleon for the French.

Supervised by the Agenzia Regionale Campania Turismo (Regional Bureau for Tourism in Campania), the grotto is just five kilometers west of Amalfi and can be reached by taking the lift from the 163 coastal highway, or by descending a flight of steps that, according to a romantic legend, are sometimes crossed by nymphs. The beauty of this hidden location can then be enjoyed by hiring rowing boats.

Each year, the seabed of the grotto hosts an underwater nativity scene consisting of ceramic figurines. It is a Christmas favorite destination of skindivers.

The rare *Anemonactis Mazeli*, a coral species shaped like a delicate flower, only surviving in deep, dark waters, inhabits the cobalt-blue grotto.





INFORMATION

Opening days:
ALWAYS OPEN
From April to October from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. *(last entry 4:30 p.m.)*
From November to March from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. *(last entry 1:30 p.m.)*

In case of inclement weather, the Emerald Grotto might be closed without notice.

Tickets and Fee:
Full price: 10,00 €
Reduced: 5,00€

Tickets can be bought online or in situ. Grotto visits by rowboat steered by watermen last about 20 minutes.

The grotto is not accessible to people with mobility impairments

Contacts:
+39 089-857096 *(Ravello Tourist Info Point)*
drm-cam.sarno@beniculturali.it

General Manager:
Luigi Raia, Esq.

PONTECAGNANO (SALERNO)

National Archaeological Museum of Pontecagnano “The Etruscan frontier”

Opened in 2007, the Museum is situated inside a modern building specifically erected for the preservation of the extraordinary archaeological testimonies of the ninth century B.C. settlement in nowadays of Pontecagnano. The museum layout uses educational equipment inspired by modern criteria (graphic reconstructions, settings, bilingual panels, reproductions of objects and funerary items) and illustrates the stories of the Etruscan southern community outpost, open to relations and trade on the Mediterranean.

The itinerary winds in chronological order across six sections that narrate the long history of the *picentino* territory: Prehistory — Copper Age, early Iron Age - the City of Princes, the Archaic City, the Classical and Hellenistic Age, the Roman Age. Central to the exhibition is the section dedicated to Etruscan tombs of princely type (late eighth-seventh centuries B.C.), whose precious funerary equipment included vases, weapons, furnishings and jewelry from Etruria, Greece, Phoenicia and Asia Minor.

Since 2013, the Museum has undertaken a constant and fruitful dialogue between archaeology and contemporary art thanks to the acquisition of works and the mounting of temporary exhibitions.





INFORMATION

Opening days:
TUE- WED- THURS- FRI- SAT- SUN
October to March: 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
(last entry 6:30 p.m.)
April to September: 9:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
(last entry 7:00 p.m)

Closing day:
MONDAY

Tickets and Fees:
Full price: 2,00 €
Free entry for under-18s and other categories according to regulations

Accessible to people with health conditions and impairments (elevator; absence of architectural barriers).

Contacts:
+39 089-848181
drm-cam.pontecagnano@beniculturali.it

EBOLI (SALERNO)

National Archaeological Museum of Eboli and the Sele River Middle-Valley - ManES

The Museum is located in the former St. Francis convent, a monumental complex dating back to the fourteenth century and extensively remodeled during the sixteenth century, dominating the historic center of the city of Eboli. It houses historical finds from the city and the Sele Valley, from the Neolithic to the Middle Ages. The first section is dedicated to the oldest testimonies retrieved on the territory: items from the Upper Neolithic followed by an exhibition of the Eneolithic tombs found in Madonna della Catena. Some Bronze Age finds document small hill settlement linked to transhumance practices and open to contacts with the outside, as proven by the presence of eleventh-centuries Mycenean ceramics. A second section is dedicated to an exhibition of rich funerary outfits that, from the Iron Age, demonstrate a substantial continuity of the Eboli settlement up to the Roman age, when *Eburum* finally acquired the status of *municipium*. The exhibition is also dedicated to the cities of Battipaglia, Campagna, Serre, Oliveto Citra, providing a look at social dynamics in the Sele Valley.





INFORMATION

Opening days:
MON - TUE - WED - THUR - FRI
From 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. *(last admission by 2:00 p.m.)*

Closing day:
SATURDAY - SUNDAY

Tickets and Fees:
FREE ENTRY

Contacts:
+39 0828-332684
drm-cam.eboli@cultura.gov.it
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Archaeological Park of Paestum and Velia

The Archaeological Park of Paestum and Velia is an autonomous institute of the Ministry of Culture aiming to protect, enhance, and popularize the history of two archaeological treasures in the south of Italy, featured in UNESCO lists since 1998.

In a context of exceptional beauty, the Greeks landed on the coasts of Cilento with men, goods, know-hows and traditions still echoing in contemporary times. At the end of the 7th century B.C., the inhabitants of the *Magna Graecia* city of Sybaris, in Calabria, founded Poseidonia: world-renowned for its three Doric temples, among the best preserved in the Mediterranean area. Forty kilometers further south, Greeks coming from Turkey founded Elea-Velia in 540 B.C., homeland to Zeno and Parmenides' Eleatic School of Philosophy. Today, the park focuses on a series of different fields ranging from historical research to communication, from fruition to teaching, to archeology. The goal is that of gaining an increasingly diverse audience, and breaking down every kind of access barrier. Several events are arranged on a daily basis, such as workshops, visits and exhibitions.





INFORMATION

Opening days:
MON-TUE-WED-THUR-FRI-SAT-SUN
From 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. *(last entry 6:30 p.m.)*

Opening hours are subjected to change during winter season, scan the QR Code for details.

Tickets and Fees:
three-days validity, access to the archaeological area, to the Paestum Museum, and to the archaeological area of Velia included.

From December to February:
Full price: 6,00 €
Reduced for 18-25 young adults: 2,00 €
Families *(2 adults + 1 or more children up to 25 years of age)*: **20,00€**

Paestum and Velia Subscription:

the subscription grants unlimited access to the park all year round, valid from the first access. Park events can be attended without additional costs.

Full price: 20,00 €
Reduced for 18-25 young adults: 13,00 €
Families *(2 adults + 1 or more children up to 25 years of age)*: **30,00 €**

ArteCard Subscription: **Yes**

Accessible to people with health conditions or impairments

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REGIONE CAMPANIA

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84122 - SALERNO Via Velia n.15
81100 - CASERTA c/o Palazzo Reale
83100 - AVELLINO, Corso Vittorio Emanuele n.42
82100 - BENEVENTO, Via Nicola Sala n. 31

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