

Rail holidays of Italy

Expressions



Rail holiday to the Amalfi Coast



Rail holiday to the Amalfi Coast

11 NIGHTS / 12 DAYS

Rome

Positano

Procida

Capri

Ischia

Sorrento



Experience the luxury of rail travel as you journey through Europe by train, spending a couple of nights in historic Rome before travelling on to Naples and your final destination, the spectacular Amalfi Coast. The Amalfi coast is best known for its dramatic coastal scenery, with rocky coves and tiny fishing villages hugging the cliffs. Luxuriant vegetation thrives in the favourable climate and the regional cuisine is light and simple, based on local fish and shellfish, lemons and oranges, mozzarella and fresh herbs. There are numerous excursion and sightseeing possibilities for your holiday including the islands of Procida, Capri and Ischia, the city of Naples, the Roman towns of Pompeii and Herculaneum, the romantic Ravello and the bustling Sorrento. For this itinerary by train we have selected the perfect combination of the Hotel Mascagni in Rome and the Hotel Poseidon in Positano. There are plenty of other delightful hotels in Rome and along the Amalfi Coast, so please ask us for alternative suggestions.

PRICES

From £2,610 per person

Price based on two sharing a double or twin room.

First class rail travel can be added for a supplement.

DATES

This rail holiday can be arranged throughout the year. Timings can vary depending on the month and day of the week. For more information regarding rail services to and within Italy, view our train guide.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Accommodation on bed and breakfast as below

- 2 nights in a Classic room at the Hotel Mascagni in Rome
- 7 nights in a Classic room with side sea view and balcony at the Hotel Poseidon in Positano
- Second class travel on all trains including Eurostar
- Double sleeper compartment on Thello sleeper train
- Private return transfers in Rome and Naples

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Optional extra nights
- Transfers in Paris
- Meals other than breakfast at the hotels
- Early check in or late check out at hotels - though we can arrange this on request
- Supplements for alternative route options
- Any services not mentioned

DAY ONE: Take the sleeper train to Italy

Begin your rail holiday by leaving London at lunchtime on the Eurostar service, travelling to Paris Gare du Nord. Use a local taxi to change to Gare de Lyon station and join the overnight Thello Service to Milan. We recommend a private double sleeper cabin for your comfort.

DAY TWO: Continue to Rome by rail

Your train arrives in Milan at 6am and you have time for a light breakfast and coffee, and before changing to the Frecciarossa train to Rome where you arrive at 10am. A private car will transfer you to the Hotel Mascagni, located a few minutes from the train station, where you stay for two nights.

DAY THREE: Rome

Spend the day at leisure wandering around the Italian capital, discovering the wealth of cultural monuments and sights on offer. With such a diverse heritage of Classical antiquities, medieval buildings, Renaissance palaces and Baroque churches, you could spend weeks exploring Rome and never see it all. However, we recommend a visit to the Roman Forum and Colosseum as part of your essential Rome experience.

DAY FOUR: Rome to Naples by rail

Spend the morning in Rome and then take a train around midday to Naples. This journey takes a little over one hour. We will arrange for a private car to collect you from the station and drive you to your hotel in Positano where you spend seven nights.

DAYS FIVE TO TEN: Positano and the Amalfi Coast

You have the next six days to explore Positano and the stunning Amalfi Coast. The picturesque town of Positano is like something out of a fairy tale. The colourful houses, all built into the steep rock, seem to be stacked on top of each other reaching up the cliff from the sea. When the seas are calm, small boats ferry visitors from Positano's port to the neighbouring town of Amalfi and to the islands of Procida, Capri and Ischia. From your base in Positano it is also possible to travel up further into the mountains to Ravello, and drop down the other side to explore the sights of Sorrento, Pompeii and Herculaneum.



Restaurant at Hotel Poseidon

RETURN OPTION 1: SLEEPER SERVICE

DAY ELEVEN: Take the train to Milan for the sleeper service

You are collected from Positano by a private car that takes you back to Naples train station. From here you take an early evening train to Milan, and connect with the overnight sleeper service to Paris. We again include a double sleeper compartment for added privacy and comfort.

DAY TWELVE: Return to London by rail

Your sleeper train arrives in Paris at about 10am, and you finish your rail holiday by boarding a midday Eurostar back to London where you arrive around 2.30pm.

RETURN OPTION 2: VIA MILAN AND ZURICH

DAY ELEVEN: Naples to Milan by rail

Leave Positano behind and take a private transfer to Naples where you catch one of the regular services to Milan, arriving just over two and a half hours later. You check into the Baglioni Hotel Carlton - a centrally located luxury hotel perfectly positioned to explore the famous shopping streets of Milan. Spend one night here.

DAY TWELVE: Milan to Zurich by rail

Enjoy a relaxed breakfast in your Milan hotel before boarding a late morning train to Zurich. This part of the journey is stunning as the train takes you northwards along the shore of Lake Como, across the Swiss border at Chiasso and continues to Zurich passing through the famous Gotthard Pass. You arrive into Zurich in the early afternoon and have the rest of the day to explore the city. Stay one night in the Hotel Ambassador a l'Opera.

DAY THIRTEEN: Return to London by rail

You have time for a late start and a leisurely breakfast before catching a high-speed train from Zurich to Paris around 11.30am. In Paris you use a local taxi to change stations and finish your rail journey by catching a late-afternoon Eurostar to London, where you arrive around 7.30pm.

OPTIONAL

It is possible to add extra nights in any of these destinations if you would like to spend more time there.

HOTELS

Details of the hotels in Switzerland and Italy can be found below.

Expressions

ROME

Hotel Mascagni 4 star

The Hotel Mascagni is a converted early 20th Century palazzo and is now a small and welcoming boutique hotel with just 40 rooms. It is located just off of the Via Nazionale and offers the perfect base to explore the area around the Trevi Fountain, Via Veneto and the Spanish Steps. The hotel also has a bar and small restaurant where breakfast is served. The atmosphere of this charming property is personal and intimate, a lovely base for a sightseeing visit to Rome.

POSITANO

Hotel Poseidon 4 star

The Hotel Poseidon is one of our favourite hotels and offers a charming ambience of style and relaxation. This family-run resort is centrally located in the romantic, terraced resort of Positano and offers stunning views of the sea from its beautiful terraced garden. The restaurant is of good quality and serves guests both indoors and outdoors on the terrace, and guests can enjoy the view from the swimming pool on its panoramic terrace. Positano is a real gem on the Amalfi coast and has managed to preserve its atmosphere as a quaint artists' and fishing village, with numerous art galleries, clothes shops and restaurants.

MILAN (OPTION)

Baglioni Hotel Carlton 5 star

This luxury five star hotel can be found discreetly tucked away on the Via della Spiga, Milan's most fashionable shopping street, and the Via Montenapoleone, the cathedral and famous La Scala theatre are a short distance away. Inside, discover an intimate and sophisticated atmosphere with marble floors and dark wood wall panels. The hotel provides outstanding levels of service and facilities, including the historic Il Baretto al Baglioni Restaurant which serves national dishes with Mediterranean influences.



Hotel Poseidon

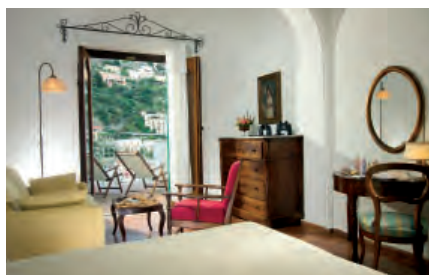
ZURICH (OPTION)

Hotel Ambassador a l'Opera 4 star

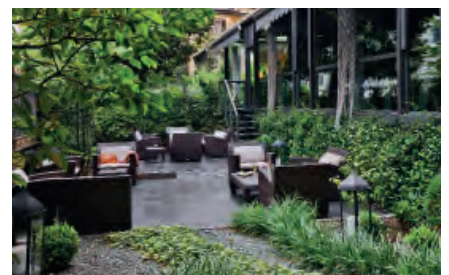
The Hotel Ambassador a l'Opera is a historic boutique hotel located opposite Zurich's Opera House, set just back from the lakeside. This is a highly luxurious and unique option for a one or two night stay in central Zurich. The hotel has just 45 rooms and is renowned for their gourmet restaurant which is just as popular with locals as hotel guests.



Hotel Mascagni



Superior room at Hotel Poseidon



Baglioni Hotel Carlton

MAP OF TOUR RAIL HOLIDAY TO THE AMALFI COAST



The map below illustrates the route outlined in this touring itinerary, with overnight stops and places of interest highlighted.



GENERAL INFORMATION

This tailor-made touring holiday is one of several suggested touring holidays we can offer you exactly as it is but also with any alterations you might want including extra nights in one or more places or adding in extra places. All our tours can be extended so that you can include a longer stay in one mountain or lake resort too, perhaps at the end of the itinerary. Do call to discuss the options with our travel consultants.

OUR TOURS

Our rail tours are for individuals travelling on their own or in their own family group. You do not join a group and you are not escorted.

FLEXIBLE ARRANGEMENTS

Our arrangements are very flexible in that you choose to travel on any day you want, subject to availability of trains and hotels. As mentioned above, additional nights can be added at any point.

EUROSTAR

A rail holiday to Italy starts with a journey by Eurostar from London St Pancras, Ebbsfleet or Ashford stations in the UK to either Paris Gare du Nord or Lille Europe. In summer months there are direct trains on Saturdays from London St Pancras to Avignon with no change required.

Eurostar offers almost hourly departures every day, allowing you to travel from the centre of London to the centre of Paris on the same train in three hours. Not all trains stop at the Ebbsfleet and Ashford stations in Kent, but parking is plentiful at both stations and it allows you to avoid London.

Check-in is 30 minutes prior to departure, customs formalities are completed before boarding and there is no limit to the amount of baggage that can be taken on board. The Eurostar trains themselves have 8 coaches which are split into Standard Class, Standard Premier and Business Premier as well as 2 cafeterias. Standard Premier customers are served a light cold meal and enjoy a more spacious environment than Standard Class, while Business Premier customers receive a hot meal and unlimited beverages as well as lounge access.

TRAIN TIMES

We have planned our itineraries based on train times that work day by day at the time of planning which can be up to a year before you travel. Usually train times stay more or less the same every day, season by season. The times we have planned will be discussed with you at the time you enquire about the holiday and they are detailed to you in your written holiday quotation. It may be that the timetable changes between the planning of the itinerary and when you come to book but we can always adjust the itinerary to suit the actual train times and any requirements you have for particular times of travel.

FIRST OR SECOND CLASS

We will automatically include travel in second class but lots of our clients do upgrade to first class service. On Eurostar this is called Premier Standard for leisure travellers as it gives you an upgraded on-board service and more spacious seating but without paying for the fully-flexible business tickets. On the Inter-city trains, upgrading to first class gives you more spacious seating with increased legroom. The price of upgrading varies from route to route but is something that is not always proportionately a lot more on the price of the overall holiday, so well-worth considering.

TRANSFERS

Transfers in Paris between stations and from the station to each hotel are not automatically included in the price of the holiday. In Paris most clients choose to take a taxi between the stations rather than go on the Metro but we can arrange a private car with driver to take you in between. This is quite useful if you are a family group that can't fit into one Paris taxi.

PRICE INFORMATION

This tailor-made touring holiday is one of several suggested touring holidays we can offer you exactly as it is but also with any alterations you might want including extra nights in one or more places or adding in extra places. All our tours can be extended so that you can include a longer stay in one mountain or lake resort too, perhaps at the end of the itinerary. Do call to discuss the options with our travel consultants.

OUR PRICES

The sample prices mentioned in this leaflet are generally a 'from' price based on the cheapest season of travel. However, train fares and hotel rates can change (up and down depending on offers), so we give you an accurate price for your holiday when we provide you with a quotation. Our sample prices should be used as an indication of how much a particular combination will cost and to show the differences on average between the hotel categories on offer.

PRICE INFORMATION IN MORE DETAIL

From £2,790 per person for first class travel in low season, **from £3,370 per person** in high season.

From £2,610 per person for second class travel in low season, **from £3,190 per person** in high season.

Prices based on two sharing a double or twin room.

What's included in this touring itinerary?

Accommodation on bed and breakfast at hotels as below:

2 nights in a Classic room at the Hotel Mascagni in Rome

7 nights in a Classic room with side sea view and balcony at the Hotel Poseidon in Positano

First or second class travel on all trains (as above) including Eurostar

Double sleeper compartment on Thello sleeper trains

Private transfers in Rome and Naples

What's not included?

Meals other than breakfast at the hotels

Supplements for alternative route options

Any services not mentioned above



BOOKING CONDITIONS

Our booking conditions apply to all holidays. A copy can be found on our website and a copy is also sent to you with a written quotation and when you make a booking.

FINANCIAL PROTECTION

Expressions Holidays offers full financial protection for all holidays you book with us. If your holiday includes a flight, the ATOL (3076) covers the costs of the holiday. If the holiday does not include a flight, it is the ABTOT bond that protects the cost of the holiday. We are also members of AITO (the Association of Independent Tour Operators) and ABTA.



Expressions Holidays
Lynx House, Pynes Hill, Exeter EX2 5JL

HOW TO BOOK

To make a booking, just phone us on

01392 441275

and we can take you through the details we need and start the booking process. A deposit is required to confirm the arrangements and this can be paid by debit or credit card over the phone. The level of the deposit will be confirmed at the point of booking and will depend on the ticketing deadlines of the rail tickets involved in your booking.