



# WHAT TO VISIT FIRST TIME IN **NAPLES**

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GRAND HOTEL  
**PARKER'S**  
A NAPOLI DAL 1870  
★★★★★

## What to visit the first time in Naples:

With a walk through the streets of Naples, one can understand its beauty, but at the same time have just a taste of what the city represents: it hides a thousand-year history made up of archaeology, tradition, excellent cuisine and natural beauty with breathtaking views.

In this article, you will find a short guide to Naples, a list of the main attractions to visit if it is your first time in this city.

### Historic Center of Naples

The historic center of Naples is the part that best encapsulates the soul of the city, in which are also hidden the main attractions that symbolize the different historical eras that have passed through.

### Spaccanapoli

Spaccanapoli is the main street of the historic center, so called because it divides it into two parts. It coincides with the lower decumanus of the ancient Greek city, extending from the Forcella district to the Quartieri Spagnoli. There are numerous stores and artisan workshops along this street, as well as pizzerias and typical Neapolitan restaurants. On Spaccanapoli, there is the entire history of Naples, from its Greek origins to Bourbon rule to its annexation to the Kingdom of Italy.



## Royal Palace and Piazza del Plebiscito

The Royal Palace, the former residence of kings and queens, is in the main square of Naples, which is also one of its symbols, Piazza del Plebiscito. It is also one of Italy's largest squares, where tournaments were held during the Middle Ages, until it became one of the centers of the Italian Risorgimento. It is characterized by the wide colonnade that stretches from the Church of San Francesco di Paola to the Royal Palace.

Also near Piazza del Plebiscito are the Galleria Umberto I, an important social center during the Enlightenment, and the Teatro San Carlo, the oldest opera house in the world.

## San Gregorio Armeno

San Gregorio Armeno is a small alley starting in Spaccanapoli, known for being the home of the Neapolitan nativity tradition. In this street, in fact, it is Christmas all year round: artisans work continuously to produce cork or terracotta figurines to add to the Christmas nativity scene, displaying them outside their stores.

## Naples waterfront

Moving to the waterfront area there is a wonderful view of the Bay of Naples, with Mount Vesuvius rising in the background as it watches over the city. This is one of the most striking areas of Naples and one of the most characteristic, in which there are important monuments of the city.



## Naples Cathedral and Treasure of San Gennaro

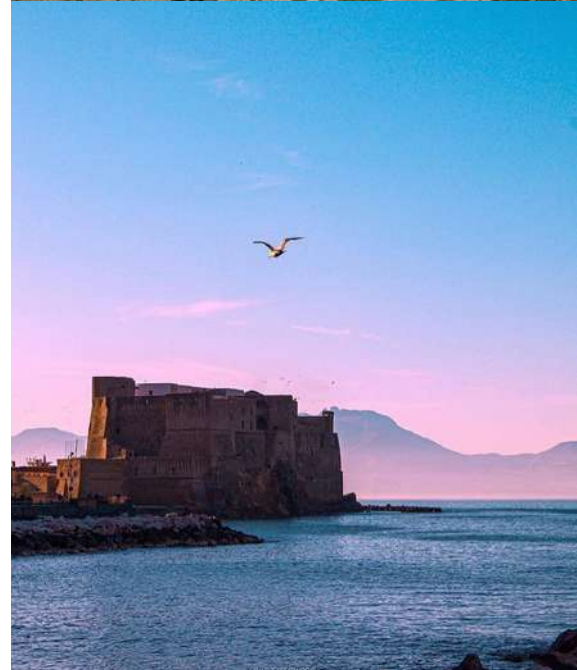
The Duomo is the cathedral of Naples and the place where the relics of San Gennaro, the city's patron saint, are kept. Every year on St. Gennaro's Day, an ampulla containing the Saint's blood is carried in procession from here, which also serves as an omen: should it melt, the city will experience a prosperous year, while if this does not happen, legend has it as a bad omen.

## Maschio Angioino

The Maschio Angioino is a Renaissance castle and one of the symbols of Naples. Built at the behest of the Anjou family, it now represents one of the best-preserved structures in the world and has played an important role in the city's history.

## Castel dell'Ovo

Castel dell'Ovo, despite its good looks and excellent preservation, is the oldest castle in Naples, dating back to the first century BC. Its name comes from a legend that the Latin poet Virgil hid an egg in its foundations, helping to keep the structure standing. It is one of the structures that stands out most on the panorama of the gulf, as it is located on the ancient islet of Megaride, also considered the point from which the city originated.



## Pompeii

If this is your first time in Naples, you cannot miss visiting the ancient ruins of the city of Pompeii. They are not far from the city and are an attraction worth visiting. The ancient city of Pompeii was destroyed by an eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 A.D. and covered with lava, which is why it was preserved intact with the passage of centuries. For this reason, it represents one of the most important archaeological finds in the world.

## Neapolitan Cuisine

Neapolitan cuisine is among the most famous in the world and boasts of dishes loved by everyone, including pizza. The reasons why this cuisine is so delicious are many, including the influences of the various peoples who have inhabited the city, as well as the ingredients offered by this very fertile land. Among the dishes worth mentioning is, of course, pizza, which originated in the city of Naples between the 1500s and 1600s. The most famous is the Margherita, but there are many other types to enjoy.



## Naples by night: where to go

As in every other Mediterranean city, Neapolitan movida takes place outdoors, in squares, alleys and small bars. Among the most frequented places are Chiaia, Piazza San Domenico, and Piazza Bellini. The latter is very popular with the LGBT community.

## Gay-friendly bars in Naples

A list of gay-friendly bars in Naples and what they stand out for.

### Ghetto Crime Bar

In the Chiaia neighborhood, one of the busiest in the evenings in Naples, Ghetto Crime Bar is a well-kept, upscale bar where members of the LGBT community meet to have a few drinks and chat.

### Intra Moenia

This is a literary café in Bellini Square that is popular with members of the LGBT community. It organizes numerous meetings with writers and live music evenings, thanks in part to its collaboration with numerous associations.

### Bar Fiorillo

It is another bar in Piazza Bellini where the LGBT community gathers to have a drink and exchange a few chats before deciding how to continue the evening.

## Depot

It has a familiar name and in fact is the brother of the bar of the same name in Milan. It is a very popular bar in Naples.

## Gay nights in Naples

A list of gay-friendly nights and clubs in Naples.

### Anathema

At Shine, Friday night is Anathema, a gay-friendly glam rock night.

### SAME

Saturday night at Duel Club is SAME, which aims to give Neapolitan clubbing what it deserves: a desire to have fun, genuineness, lightness.

### La Mamada

La Mamada takes place on Saturday nights and is one of the most popular nights for the LGBT community. Pop music is mixed with Neapolitan neo-melodica to give the evening an original touch.

## Gay-friendly beaches in Campania Region:

### Marechiaro beach, Naples

In Posillipo, a neighborhood of Naples, is Marechiaro Beach, perfect for relaxing under the sun between swimming and meeting new people. It is actually a beach made up of rocks, on which people sunbathe and dive into the water.

### Cuma Beach, Naples

Also in Naples is Cuma Beach, also in the Pozzuoli area. It is located within the Campi Flegrei National Park and close to the Costa di Licola Nature Reserve. It is one of the beaches most frequented by Naples' LGBT+ community.

### One Fire Beach, Praiano

On the Amalfi coast, in Praiano, is One Fire Beach, a popular beach for the LGBT+ community. It is the perfect place to relax, have a cocktail and enjoy the sunset over this beautiful landscape.

### Regina Giovanna Baths, Sorrento

Near Sorrento, hidden in the cliffs, are the Bagni della Regina Giovanna, a reef on deep blue waters. Here you can relax in peace and quiet and meet new people between dips.

