

SLEEPING





Lush interior at Sansevero d'Angri (p151)

JEAN-BERNARD CARILLET

top five SPECTACULAR SLEEPS

Hotel San Francesco Al Monte (p153)

Parteno (p153)

Costantinopoli 104 (p148)

B&B Donnaregina (p148)

Portalba 33 (p149)

ROOM SERVICE

Slumber under frescoes in a 16th-century palazzo, kick back in a converted candle-lit convent or dream sweetly in an architect's style-savvy pad.

From five-star hotels to cheerful hostels, Naples isn't short on sleeping options. Particularly hot right now are the city's B&Bs – far from dowdy and constraining, many newer B&Bs are run by young professionals who'll happily give you your room key and let you come and go as you please.

Hostels are another solid budget option, with several funky privately owned newcomers hitting the scene in the last few years.

If you're after a cheap hotel, the area around Stazione Centrale is your best bet although the area is noisy, dirty and seedy at night. The places listed, however, were clean and safe at the time of research.

For maximum atmosphere, hit the centro storico (historic centre). Here, charming places lie hidden behind heavy doors and, if you're lucky, you could score yourself a baroque boudoir. Best of all, many of the city's sights are within walking distance.

Seaside Santa Lucia is home to some of the city's most prestigious hotels, Chiaia

PRICE GUIDE

Outlining prices precisely is difficult – rates can fluctuate madly depending on the time of year. Many hotels offer discounts for low-season visits, longer stays or weekend breaks; check hotel websites for special deals. Accommodation listed in the reviews below is rated € (doubles cost less than €90), €€ (€90 to €190) or €€€ (over €190). Prices listed are the maximum high-season price.

is cool and chic, and Mergellina is handy for popping out to the bay islands on a hydrofoil. For lofty views, grand hotels and a chilled-out vibe, hit Vomero; for thermal-spa hotels and crater-based farmhouses, head west to Campi Flegrei.

The Stazione Centrale **tourist office** (Map pp280–1; ☎ 081 26 87 79; Stazione Centrale, Piazza Garibaldi; 🏠 Stazione Centrale) can book accommodation. Alternatively, **Rent A Bed** (Map pp280–1; ☎ 081 41 77 21; www.rentabed.com; Vico D'Afflitto 16; per night from €35; 🚶 R2 to Piazza Trieste e Trento), has an extensive selection of B&Bs and apartments covering Naples, the bay islands and the Amalfi Coast.

Check-in at the hostels listed below is 24 hours and check-out is at 10am. All hostels have mixed dorms and can be booked online at www.hostelspoint.com. There are no hard-and-fast rules with hotel check-in times, but if you plan on arriving in the late afternoon or evening it's best to mention this when booking. Hotel checkout is usually between 10am and noon – if you leave later than this you risk being charged an extra night.

Book ahead if you're coming in May as **Maggio dei Monumenti** (p18) draws huge crowds. Other peak seasons are April to mid-June, Christmas and New Year. Many hotels request a faxed confirmation of your reservation and a credit-card number as a deposit. This doesn't guarantee that the hotel accepts credit-card payment, so check ahead. Without a credit card, you may need to send a money order to cover the first night's stay. Increasingly, hotels encourage booking online to save you this hassle.

Ask for a *camera matrimoniale* if you want a double bed; ask for a *camera doppia* (double room) and you'll get twin beds.

For further information on accommodation, see p249.

CENTRO STORICO & MERCATO

For a high-voltage shot of pure Naples, you can't beat the centro storico, with its wealth of historical sites, buzzing squares and grinding street-life. This is the place for secret B&Bs, homely hostels and art-cramped converted palazzis.

Mercato is the place for budget hotels; the options we've listed were clean and reliable at the time of writing, but be warned that the area is bedlam by day and dodgy by night.

6 SMALL ROOMS MAP PP280-1 HOSTEL €

☎ 081 790 13 78; www.6smallrooms.com; Via Diodata Lioy 18; dm/d incl breakfast €18/45; **M** Dante

On the top floor of a dusty old building, this happy little hostel features bright, spacious dorms, two private rooms, funky wall murals, shabby but chic furnishings and a huge communal kitchen. The little room downstairs has aircon and private bathroom. BYO lock for the lockers.

ALBERGO DUOMO MAP PP280-1 HOTEL €

☎ 081 26 59 88; hotelduomo@libero.it; Via Duomo 228; s/d €50/65; **R2** to Piazza Nicola Amore; **M**

Close to the cathedral, this former pink pad is now a cooler shade of cream. Brightly coloured bedspreads add a little spice, and rooms are comfy and airy, if a little anonymous. But the price is right so book ahead as rooms go quickly.

B&B COSTANTINOPOLI

MAP PP280-1 B&B €€

☎ 081 44 49 62, 333 613 59 27; lauramazella@hotmail.com; Via Santa Maria di Costantinopoli 27; s/d incl breakfast €65/93; **M** Museo; **CS**

Don't let the dingy staircase scare you off; B&B Costantinopoli is a fabulous place to stay. The family of artists who own this large and exuberantly decorated 3rd-floor pad are warm, engaging and a mine of local knowledge. The two rooms are bright, comfy and clean.

B&B DONNAREGINA MAP P286 B&B €€

☎ 081 44 67 99; Via Settembrini 80; d/tr/q incl breakfast €93/120/150; **M** Cavour; **CS**

Part gallery, part family home, this place is a heaving treasure trove of art, books and anecdotes. Four spacious bedrooms boast

individual designs, original artwork, ensuite bathrooms and satellite TVs. The garrulous artist-owner cooks breakfast, which is served at a huge old wooden table. Pride of place is given to his organic pancetta.

BELLA CAPRI HOSTEL & HOTEL

MAP PP280-1 HOSTEL & HOTEL €

☎ 081 552 92 65; www.bellacapri.it; Via G Melisurgo 4; dm €20, s/d €70/80, with shared bathroom €50/60, all incl breakfast; **R2** to Via Agostino Depretis; **CS** **M**

This central, friendly spot offers hotel and hostel options on two separate floors. Hotel rooms are a little dowdy but clean and comfy. The much funkier hostel boasts bright citrus tones, more beds than bunks, and a bathroom in each dorm. Laundry service costs €5 and there's no curfew.

CARAVAGGIO HOTEL MAP PP280-1 HOTEL €€

☎ 081 211 00 66; www.caravaggiohotel.it; Piazza Riario Sforza 157; s/d/ste incl breakfast €125/190/240; **CS** to Via Duomo; **M**

Bold abstract paintings hang opposite stone arches, yellow sofas line 300-year-old brick walls and original wood-beamed ceilings cap the comfortable, four-star bedrooms at this hotel. Friendly staff top it all off.

COSTANTINOPOLI 104

MAP PP280-1 HOTEL €€€

☎ 081 557 10 35; www.constantinopoli104.it; Via Santa Maria di Costantinopoli 104; s/d incl breakfast €160/200; **M** Museo; **P** **CS** **M**

Chic and tranquil, Costantinopoli 104 is set in a neoclassical villa. Rooms are understatedly elegant – those on the 1st floor open onto a sun terrace, while ground-floor rooms face the palm-fringed pool. Antique furniture and stained-glass windows add a dash of vintage glam.

DIMORA DEI GIGANTI MAP PP280-1 B&B €

☎ 081 44 90 53, 338 926 44 53; www.dimora.deigiganti.it; Vico Giganti 55; s/d/tr/q incl breakfast €60/80/95/110; **CS** to Via Duomo; **P**

Skilfully renovated by its architect owners, this urbane B&B features four colour-coordinated bedrooms with specially commissioned sculptural lamps, ethnic-inspired furnishings and designer bathrooms. There is a modern kitchen, cosy lounge and majolica-tiled terrace for late-night lounging.

HOSTEL OF THE SUN MAP PP280-1 HOSTEL €

☎ 081 420 63 93; www.hostelnapoli.com; Via G Melisurgo 15; dm/d €18/70, s/d with shared bathroom €45/50, all incl breakfast; **R2** to Via Depretis; **M**

Handy for the ferry terminal, this cosy private hostel is a backpacker favourite thanks to its ultrahelpful young staff. There's a kitchen, no curfew, free internet access, and free laundry service for stays of more than four days. The lift costs €0.05. Wheelchair accessible.

HOTEL CASANOVA MAP PP278-9 HOTEL €

☎ 081 26 82 87; www.hotelcasanova.com; Corso G Garibaldi 333; s/d €35/56, with shared bathroom €28/46; **M** Garibaldi; **M**

This isn't a brothel, just a charming family hotel with a flower-fringed roof terrace and excellent-value rooms with modern, functional furniture and gleaming bathrooms. Use the safer Corso G Garibaldi entrance rather than the main one located on Via Venezia. Breakfast is an optional €4.

HOTEL LUNA ROSSA MAP PP280-1 HOTEL €€

☎ 081 554 87 52; www.hotellunarossa.it; Via G Pica 20-22; s/d incl breakfast €60/95; **M** Garibaldi; **CS** **M**
The Luna Rossa is a quiet place run by the daughter of a Neapolitan musician. Each room is named after a Neapolitan song, the lyrics of which are framed and hung in the rooms. The pink-hued rooms are comfy, if plain, and the large bathrooms are perfect for towel-clad tenors.

HOTEL PIGNATELLI MAP PP280-1 HOTEL €€

☎ 081 658 49 50; www.hotelpignatellinapoli.com in Italian; Via San Giovanni Maggiore Pignatelli 16; s/d incl breakfast €50/90; **R2** to Corso Umberto I; **M**

Cheap yet chic, Hotel Pignatelli sits pretty in a restored 15th-century house. Rooms are decorated in a rustic Renaissance style, with wrought-iron beds and bronze wall lamps; some rooms also have original wood-beamed ceilings. Wheelchair accessible.

HOTEL SUITE ESEDRA MAP PP280-1 HOTEL €€

☎ 081 553 70 87; www.sea-hotels.com; Via Cantani 12; s/d/ste incl breakfast €120/130/140; **R2** to Corso Umberto I; **CS**

The Esedra stands tall on a tiny square just off car-choked Corso Umberto I, halfway between Stazione Centrale and the centro storico. The snug rooms are decorated with Neapolitan paintings, and you might even find a porthole

or two in your bathroom. Suites boast private terrace Jacuzzis.

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HOTEL ZARA

MAP PP278-9 HOSTEL €

☎ 081 28 71 25; www.hotelzara.it; 2nd fl, Via Firenze 81; s/d/tr €45/62/80; **M** Garibaldi; **CS** **M**

Recently renovated and run by the same family as Hotel Casanova (left), this spotless bolt hole is a world away from the grungy street below. Rooms are spartan but clean, with modern furniture, satellite TVs and double-glazed windows. There's a book exchange and breakfast is an optional €4.

PORTALBA 33 MAP PP280-1 B&B €€

☎ 081 549 32 51; www.portalba33.it; Via Port'Alba 33; s/d incl breakfast €120/140; **M** Dante

This funky B&B is pure offbeat cool. Three gorgeously comfy rooms feature everything from antique rocking horses and fake-fur bedspreads to leopard-print underlays and baby blue walls. There is even a weights machine for your morning workout.

Portalba 33

JEAN-BERNARD CARLLET



SCANDALOUS SLUMBER

At Piazza San Domenico Maggiore 9 you'll find the Palazzo dei Di Sangrio, home of the Soggiorno Sansevero hotel (below) and the setting for a gruesome tale of love and betrayal. Here, on the night of 17 October 1590, the famous Neapolitan musician Carlo Gesualdo murdered his wife, Maria d'Avalos, and her lover, Don Fabrizio Carafa, in a fit of jealous rage. The suspicious Gesualdo had tricked Maria into thinking that he was away on a hunting trip, when in fact he was waiting to catch her with her lover. He did and both Maria and Don Fabrizio paid the ultimate price. According to legend, the bloodied lovers died in each others' arms. Gesualdo's jealousy was hardly surprising – so good-looking was the younger nobleman that he was nicknamed 'the Angel'. Yet the Angel's death wasn't enough for the betrayed husband, who ordered the killing of his own son, suspecting him of being the fruit of his wife's adulterous tryst. According to local lore, poor Maria's ghost still roams the streets at night, searching for her slaughtered son and sweetheart.



PHOTO: G. G. G. G.

SOGGIORNO SANSEVERO

MAP PP280-1 HOTEL €€

☎ 081 790 10 00; www.albergosansevero.it; Piazza San Domenico Maggiore 9; s/d €90/110, with shared bathroom €70/90, all incl breakfast; M Dante; ♿

Hidden away on the 1st floor of a famous 18th-century palazzo (see Scandalous Slumber, above) that once belonged to the creepy prince of Sansevero, this is one of several stylish Sansevero hotels. You'll find it just around the corner from the Cappella Sansevero on the eastern side of lively – read noisy at night – Piazza San Domenico Maggiore.

UNA HOTEL NAPOLI

MAP PP280-1 HOTEL €€€
☎ 081 563 69 72; www.unahotels.it; Piazza Garibaldi 9-10; s €163-291, d €181-323, ste €417-478, all incl breakfast; M Garibaldi; P ♿

Fit for a spread in *Wallpaper* magazine (unlike the shabby square outside), this squeaky-new hotel is a design buff's paradise – MoMA-worthy light sculptures, exposed tufa walls, a minimalist rooftop restaurant-bar and 89 soothing Zenlike rooms with clean lines and flat-screen TVs. Wheelchair accessible.

TOLEDO & QUARTIERI SPAGNOLI

Via Toledo is the city's major retail strip. To the west, the earthy Quartieri Spagnoli's reputation for crime has been somewhat exaggerated.

Expect everything from humble flats to chic converted convents. The hotels listed were friendly, comfortable and safe at the time of research.

ALBERGO NAPOLIT'AMO

MAP PP280-1 HOTEL €€

☎ 081 497 71 10; albergonapolitano@virgilio.it; Via San Tommaso d'Aquino 15; s/d incl breakfast €75/115; ♿ R2 to Via Medina; ♿

On the 'right' side of Via Toledo, this laid-back three-star pad is a zesty mix of lime greens, yellows and blues. The new 5th-floor wing has the best rooms, and there's a view of the Castello dell'Ovo from the breakfast room. Don't forget €0.10 for the lift. Wheelchair accessible.

HOTEL IL CONVENTO

MAP PP280-1 HOTEL €€

☎ 081 40 39 77; www.hotelilconvento.com; Via Speranzella 137A; s €68-145, d €80-210, all incl breakfast; ♿ R2 to Piazza Trieste e Trento; ♿

Taking its name from the neighbouring convent, the Convento is a soothing blend of antique Tuscan furniture, erudite bookshelves and candle-lit stairs. Rooms are cosy and elegant, combining creamy tones and dark woods with patches of 16th-century brickwork. For €110 to €210 you get a room with a private roof garden. The hotel is wheelchair accessible.

HOTEL TOLEDO

MAP PP280-1 HOTEL €€

☎ 081 40 68 71; www.hoteltoledo.com; Via Montecalvario 15; s/d/ste incl breakfast €85/130/180; ♿ CS to Via Toledo; P ♿ ♿

Snugly situated in an old three-storey building, this homely hotel has comfy, smallish rooms with terracotta tiles and mod cons; the rooms are a little on the dark side, however. Suites feature a stovetop, and breakfast is served on the rooftop terrace.

LA LOCANDA DELL'ARTE & VICTORIA HOUSE

MAP PP280-1 B&B €€
☎ 081 564 46 40; www.bbnapoli.org in Italian; Via Enrico Pessina 66; s/d incl breakfast €70/90; M Dante; P ♿

These two B&B options are run by the same owners in a building overlooking hip Via Bellini. Rooms come with all the requisite comforts, although those in La Locanda are more modern than the larger Victoria rooms. Breakfast is served in the trendy downstairs restaurant.

NAPOLIT'AMO

MAP PP280-1 HOTEL €€

☎ 081 552 36 26; www.napolitamo.it; Via Toledo 148; s €65-75, d €80-105, all incl breakfast; ♿ R2 to Via Toledo; ♿ ♿

Escape the common hordes and live like nobility in the 16th-century Palazzo Tocco di Montemiletto. Although it's admittedly a little tired in places, there are still enough gilded mirrors and lofty ceilings to satisfy the snob within.

SANSEVERO D'ANGRI

MAP PP280-1 HOTEL €€

☎ 081 790 10 00; www.albergosansevero.it; Piazza VII Settembre 28; s/d incl breakfast €110/150; ♿ CS to Via Toledo; ♿

This is a gilded wonderland of baroque salons, 17th-century parquet and palatial rooms, some with frescoed ceilings. The regal vibe is not surprising given that Vanvitelli, the original architect, also designed the royal palace at Caserta.

TOLEDO 205

MAP PP280-1 APARTMENT €

☎ 081 410 70 77; www.toledo205.it; Via Toledo 205; apt €100; ♿ R2 to Piazza Trieste e Trento; ♿

Right on the city's major shopping strip, these two miniapartments each accommodate five people. Although they're not luxurious or particularly smart, they're clean and the communal sundeck has awesome rooftop views. It's ideal for a group of friends who want somewhere cheap and central. You'll need €0.10 for the lift.

SANTA LUCIA & CHIAIA

With lavish seaside hotels and sparkling island vistas, Santa Lucia is where presidents and pop stars say goodnight. However, there are still affordable options, some with stunning bay and castle vistas. As a general

rule, rooms with water views cost a little more.

A-list Chiaia is *the* place for trendy shopping, bar-hopping and chichi dolce vita, so accommodation is chic rather than cheap. Your best bets for budget beds are the two funky B&Bs.

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B&B CAPPELLA VECCHIA 11

MAP PP284-5 B&B €€

☎ 081 240 51 17; www.cappellavecchia11.it; Vico Santa Maria a Cappella Vecchia 11; s/d incl breakfast €70/100; ♿ C25 to Piazza dei Martiri; ♿ ♿

Run by a superhelpful young couple, this B&B is a first-rate choice. Six chic and witty rooms feature different Neapolitan themes, from *mal'occhio* (evil eye) to *peperoncino* (chilli). There's a spacious communal area for breakfast, and free internet available 24/7.

B&B I 34 TURCHI

MAP PP284-5 B&B €€

☎ 081 764 71 36; www.i34turchi.it; Via Marino Turchi 34; s/d/tr incl breakfast €60/100/220; ♿ C25 to Via Partenope

This gay-friendly B&B offers guests their own self-contained apartment, with a small double room on a mezzanine floor and a sofa bed in the living area. Divided from the family home, you get your own key to come and go as you please, although you'll probably end up reclining on the rooftop terrace. Bring €0.20 for the lift.



top five CHEAP SLEEPS

La Controra (p154)

Dimora dei Giganti (p148)

La Casa di Leo (p153)

Hostel of the Sun (p149)

6 Small Rooms (p148)



Style and comfort at Grand Hotel Vesuvio (both images)



GREG ELMS



Courtyard at Hotel San Francesco al Monte

JEAN-BERNARD CABRILET

SLEEPING

silver-screen view of sea, sky and Capri. Hi-tech touches include wireless internet, satellite TV (two rooms boast plasma screens to boot), and free land-line calls to Europe, USA and Canada.

VOMERO

Middle-class Vomero is a world apart from the seething sprawl below. It's not exactly bursting with sights, but the views are divine, the streets are leafy and the heady Neapolitan chaos is just a funicular ride away.

Slumberwise, expect old-school glamour at new-school prices, with a touch of cheap chic further down the hill.

GRAND HOTEL PARKER'S

MAP PP284-5

HOTEL €€€

☎ 081 761 24 74; www.grandhotelparkers.com; Corso Vittorio Emanuele I 35; s/d incl breakfast €290/360; 🚗 C28 to Via Tasso; ♿

Darling of the Grand Tour set, this stately old pile once hosted the likes of Oscar Wilde, Virginia Wolfe and Robert Louis Stevenson. Today, Pradacled guests lounge on Louis XVI armchairs, take *aperitivo* (apéritifs) on the sea-view terrace and unwind at the in-house spa centre.

HOTEL SAN FRANCESCO AL MONTE

MAP P283

HOTEL €€€

☎ 081 423 91 11; www.hotelsanfrancesco.it; Corso Vittorio Emanuele I 328; d incl breakfast €190; Funicular Centrale to Corso Vittorio Emanuele I; ♿ 🚗

Housed in a 16th-century monastery, this hotel is magnificent. The monks' cells are stylish rooms, the ancient cloisters house an open-air bar, and the barrel-vaulted corridors are cool and atmospheric. To top it all off there's a swimming pool on the 7th floor.

LA CASA DI LEO

MAP P283 B&B €
☎ 081 544 78 43; www.bedandbreakfastnapoli.it; Via Girolamo Santacroce 5A; s/d with shared bathroom incl breakfast €50/70; 🚗 Salvatore Rosa

Bold colours, art books and the odd abstract painting define this erudite pad, home of a heritage architect. Two airy bedrooms offer simple, stylish décor and leafy courtyard views. The shared bathroom is spacious, the kitchen is yours to use, and there's a metro stop down the street.

B&B MORELLI

MAP PP284-5 B&B €€
☎ 081 245 22 91; www.bbmorelli49.it; Via Domenico Morelli 49; s/d incl breakfast €65/95; 🚗 C25 to Riviera di Chiaia; ♿

Get in bed with Madonna at this kitschy shrine to pop, where a dedicated Madonna room is decorated with albums by the Kabbalist. Another three rooms mix Almódovar film posters, Florentine floor tiles and retro lamps in one cosy, quirky whole.

B&B SANTA LUCIA

MAP PP284-5 B&B €€
☎ 081 245 74 83; www.borgosantalucia.net; Via Santa Lucia 90; s €80-110, d €90-140, all incl breakfast; 🚗 C25 to Via Partenope; ♿

What this place lacks in character – the reception area resembles an upmarket health clinic – it makes up with six sparkling white-tiled rooms, exuberant Italian-Brazilian owners and a location just a samba step away from the lapping sea.

CHIAJA HOTEL DE CHARME

MAP PP284-5 HOTEL €€
☎ 081 41 55 55; www.hotelchiaia.it; Via Chiaia 216; s €95, d €145-165 incl breakfast; 🚗 CS to Piazza Trieste e Trento

Posh yet personable, this renovated marquis' residence is a soothing blend of pale lemon walls, gilt-framed portraits, restored original

furnishings and elegantly draped curtains. Each room is unique, and those facing boutique-flanked Via Chiaia come with a bubbling Jacuzzi.

GRAND HOTEL SANTA LUCIA

MAP PP284-5

HOTEL €€€

☎ 081 764 06 66; www.summithotels.com; Via Partenope 46; s/d incl breakfast €235/390; 🚗 C25 to Via Partenope; ♿

All decked out in powder blues and creams, this five-star pad owes much of its Liberty look to celebrated architect Giovan Battista Comencini. Expect impeccable service, chichi rooms with Guatemalan-marble bathrooms, and an entire nonsmoking floor – a rarity in Italy.

GRAND HOTEL VESUVIO

MAP PP284-5

HOTEL €€€

☎ 081 764 00 44; www.vesuvio.it; Via Partenope 45; s/d incl breakfast €370/410; 🚗 C25 to Via Partenope; ♿

Known for bedding legends – past guests include Rita Hayworth and Humphrey Bogart – this five-star heavyweight is a decadent wonderland of dripping chandeliers, period antiques and opulent rooms. Count your lucky stars while drinking a martini at the rooftop restaurant. Wheelchair accessible.

HOTEL EXCELSIOR

MAP PP284-5 HOTEL €€€

☎ 081 764 01 11; www.excelsior.it; Via Partenope 48; s/d €270/330; 🚗 C25 to Via Partenope; ♿

Facing yacht-packed Borgo Marinaro, Hotel Excelsior sets the scene for your own *Pretty Woman* moment – think marble columns, dark limousines and giant fin-de-siècle rooms. Jaw-dropping water views provide a suitable love-scene backdrop. Wheelchair accessible.

HOTEL RUGGIERO

MAP PP284-5 HOTEL €€

☎ 081 66 35 36; hotelrug@libero.it; 3rd fl, Via Campiglione Martucci 72; s/d incl breakfast €70/90; 🚗 Amedeo; ♿

As you enter the grand art nouveau building off Piazza Amedeo, you'll need sharp eyes to spot the lift hidden in the corner. The hotel itself is quiet, friendly and speckled with replicas of Chinese antiques. Rooms are clean, uncluttered and inviting, with those on the lower floor kept air-con cool.

PARTENO

MAP PP284-5 HOTEL €€

☎ 081 245 20 95; www.parteno.it; Via Partenope 1; s €110, d €144-160, all incl breakfast; 🚗 C25 to Via Partenope; ♿

Six chic rooms, each named after a flower, are exquisitely decorated with period furniture, vintage Neapolitan prints and silk bedding. The azalea room (€160) steals the show with its

top five VIEWS

Grand Hotel Parker's (p153)

Grand Hotel Vesuvio (p152)

Hotel Paradiso (below)

Hotel Excelsior (p153)

Il Casolare di Tobia (right)

LA CONTRORA MAP P283

HOSTEL €

☎ 081 549 40 14; www.lacontrora.com; Piazzetta Trinità alla Cesarea 231; dm/s/d incl breakfast €20/27.50/55; 📄 Saluator Rosa; 🚰 📺

In the words of Paris Hilton, this hostel looks *hot*. Think stainless-steel lamps, sleek bar, blonde-wood bunks, spearmint bathrooms, and a communal kitchen that's very Jamie Oliver. Snooze in a courtyard hammock, or surf the net for €1 per 30 minutes.

MERGELLINA & POSILLIPO

With Liberty palazzi, anchored yachts and a buzzing seafront scene, Mergellina is well connected to the city centre and ideal for an early-morning hydrofoil out to the bay islands.

HOTEL AUSONIA MAP PP284-5

HOTEL €€

☎ 081 68 22 78; www.hotelausonianapoli.com; Via Francesco Caracciolo 11; s/d/tr incl breakfast €90/120/140; 📄 140 to Via Francesco Caracciolo; 🚰

This modest and friendly hotel sits opposite the Mergellina marina, a fact not played down in the décor – think portholes, barometers and bed heads in the shape of ships' steering wheels. Corny? Yes, but rooms are clean and comfy, and the few that face the sea don't cost extra.

HOTEL PARADISO MAP PP278-9

HOTEL €€

☎ 081 247 51 11; www.hotelparadisonapoli.it; Via Catullo 11; s/d incl breakfast €118/170; Funicular Mergellina to S Giocchino; 🚰

Located some way above the city centre, your efforts in getting up here are rewarded with jaw-dropping views over the Bay of Naples to

Mt Vesuvius. Most of the well-furnished rooms come with a balcony, and staff are courteous and efficient. Expect to pay slightly less for a room without a view.

ELSEWHERE

To the west of Naples, the Campi Flegrei offers a somewhat slower pace than the central-city neighbourhoods, and Pozzuoli has a number of reasonably priced hotels and *pensioni* (guesthouses). Ask at a tourist office (p259) for details.

HOTEL TERME PUTEOLANE

MAP P287

HOTEL €

☎ 081 526 22 62; termeputeolane@tiscalinet.it; Corso Umberto I 195, Pozzuoli; s/d €55/75; 📄 Cumana to Pozzuoli; 📄 🚰 📺

This grand old hotel in Pozzuoli is frequented as much for its sulphurous airs and thermal treatments as for its large and airy rooms. Between April and December you can complete a course of 12 thermal baths for €103, or for €155 you get 12 thermal baths and the opportunity to wallow in glorious gloopy mud.

IL CASOLARE DI TOBIA

MAP P287

AGRITURISMO €

☎ 081 523 51 93; www.datobia.it in Italian; Contrada Coste di Baia, Via Selvatico 12, Bacoli; r with/without kitchenette incl breakfast €65/55; 📄 SEPSA to Bacoli; 📄 🚰

Set in an extinct volcanic crater, this atmospheric 19th-century farmhouse is surrounded by lush vineyards and vegetable gardens, which are used to supply its legendary on-site restaurant. Four bright rooms feature local antiques; there's also a communal rustic-style kitchen, plus one very fabulous outdoor Jacuzzi. Il Casolare di Tobia is closed for one week in late August and one week in late December or early January.

VULCANO SOLFATARA MAP P287 CAMP SITE €

☎ 081 526 74 13; www.solfatara.it; Via Solfatara 161, Pozzuoli; per tent/person €6/€9, 2-person bungalow €43, 4-person bungalow €100; 📄 Pozzuoli; 📄

The nearest camp site to Naples, Vulcano Solfatara features a swimming pool and one disabled-friendly bathroom. It's located very close to the Solfatara Crater.

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