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# WHAT'S UP

A Stars and Stripes Community Publication

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# "DROGERIEN"

## GERMAN DRUG STORES

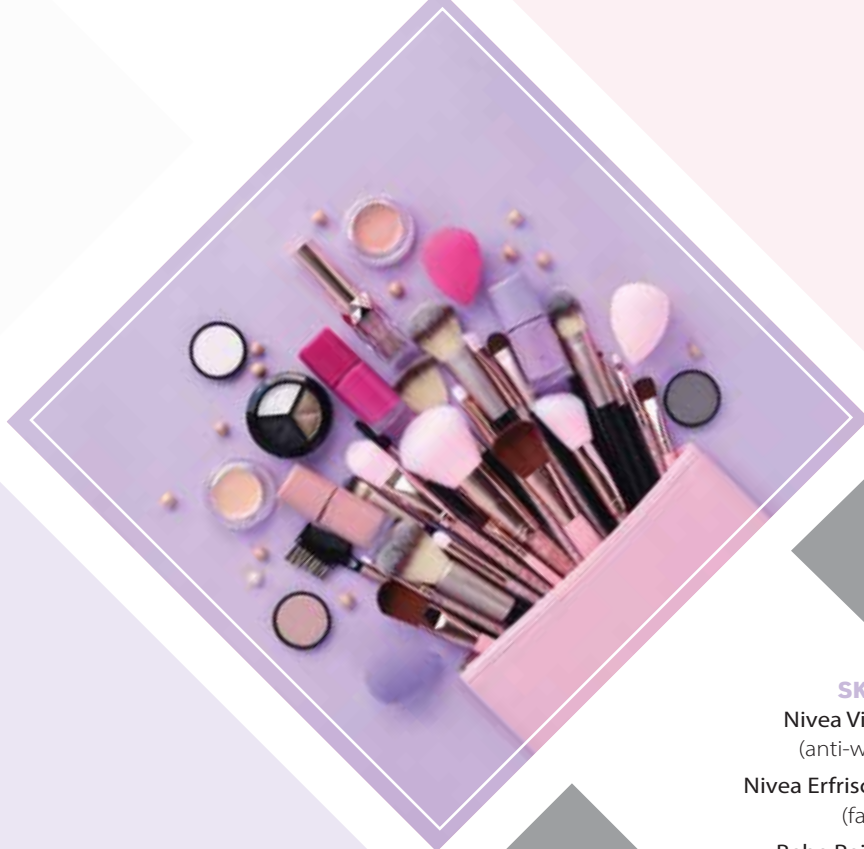
By Mary Del Rosario

If you poll Americans living in Europe and ask them what stores they miss the most, I bet you'll find a lot of "Target" responses. Who doesn't miss haphazardly walking down the aisles as you put your fifth facial mask in your cart, convincing yourself you "need" it? This beloved store has it all—home accessories, furniture, makeup, clothes and much more. Whenever I feel a pang of homesickness, I head to Globus, Germany's popular supermarket, to fill that void. But what happens when I want to dodge the crowds? That's where my obsession of the "Drogerie," or drugstore, kicks in.

"Drogerien," drugstores, are similar to your average drugstore in the States, just smaller. What I love most about the ones in Germany is the opportunity to try inexpensive, yet good-quality brands that may be foreign to us. Not to mention, these drugstores are perfect for other needs such as baby diapers and wipes, photo printing, certain health foods and even home decor if you're lucky. From the latest hair mask popular in France to the prettiest shade of lipstick, I enjoy treating myself to the simple finds I can buy at these stores. DM and Rossmann are the two main drugstores to note down. ■

### PRO TIP

To collect points toward your purchases, participate in the PAYBACK program with DM.



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**L'ORÉAL PARIS Rouge  
Melon Dollar Baby Blush  
Watermelon**

#### TRAVEL TIP

Heading off on a much-needed vacation? DM and Rossmann have convenient and inexpensive travel items such as shampoo, Q-tips, sunscreen, hand sanitizer, toothpaste and much more. These items are all hand-carry approved.





## GERMANY'S HIGHLIGHT

By Anna Leigh Bagiackas  
Photos by Ina Tokarksi

# *Fox River Brewery*

**H**ome brewing has always been a hobby for Dave and Daniela Bruce of Fox River Brewery. Though this “hobby” has gotten a bit bigger—the menu lists more than 35 different beers and has become a whole family affair—the brewery still feels like a hobby. When you’re hanging out at their American-style taproom, you can tell that it’s all about having fun and enjoying your fellow beer-drinking company.



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***FOX RIVER BREWERY OFFERS A FULL RANGE OF EUROPEAN STYLES OF BEER AS WELL AS AMERICAN-STYLE BREWS LESS COMMON IN EUROPE, GIVING VISITORS A WIDE-RANGING TASTING EXPERIENCE.***

Located in the city of Obergladbach, a 30-minute drive from Wiesbaden, we drove through the charming town of Kiedrich (full of charming wineries and restaurants) and along winding, hilly roads to get to the brewery, which is attached to the family's home. The name Fox River is inspired by the many foxes that have made the area their home and who have gotten comfortable and curious about their human neighbors.

The taproom is filled with natural light and beautiful wooden tables, chairs and repurposed church pews for friends to gather. We sat down and tasted a flight of four beers: the New England-style "Fresh Squeezed" IPA, a smoked beer (inspired by what you'd find in Bamberg, the home of smoked beer), the Nut Brown ale and a hybrid English-American porter.

Other brews on tap to taste were a Grapefruit IPA, Blond ale and Belgian wit. Fox River has a range of American-style brews, like their handful of different IPAs, sour ales, seasonals and a few "lawn mower" beers or session ales, but they also have European-inspired styles. In addition to meeting brewers around the United States, Dave's beer education has included trips to breweries in Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands and Trappist monasteries to learn about European-style brews.

Although the brewery opened in 2017, they have taken time to build it out to what it is now. Like so many entrepreneurs, it started out as a "garage project" and when Dave heard that there was an opportunity to start their own business in Germany, he was ready to scale up his operation.

He explained that they have a mix of German and American visitors who find the brewery through word-of-mouth, while hiking the nearby trails or simply discovering the brewery while visiting the Rhine River area. They also have a solid crew of locals and neighbors who frequent the brewery. Dave talks about how much he enjoys introducing his German neighbors to some of the styles that are not as popular in Europe.

They offer personal beer seminars (in German or English) to learn all about their process and brewing journey. On our own mini-beer seminar, we saw how their whole process unfolds, from the grain room learning about where the malt comes from, to how each piece of equipment works in making the beer and into the cellar where beer ages and is kept cool.

While the brewery reminds you of American breweries back in the United States, Fox River Brewery opens its doors and welcomes everyone: Americans, Germans, kids, teenagers, grandparents, dogs and any other traveler passing through. Of course, it's about the beer, but it's also about the opportunity to hang out, taste something new and find joy in each other's company. ■







## Still time for summer adventures with MWR

### Hunting Course

Outdoor Recreation holds a U.S. Forces German Hunting Course Aug. 3 to Oct. 23. Classes are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-9 p.m. Cost is \$250. Call civ (0611) 143-548-9801.

### Mini Summer Bazaar

The Wiesbaden Entertainment Center will be the site of a Mini Summer Bazaar July 30 to Aug. 1 (from noon to 5 p.m.). Shop for various tax-free products from around Europe, including paintings, food specialties, beer, wine, spices and more.

### Foreign Born Spouse Meeting

Get together with fellow spouses to share experiences, stories and good conversation during the monthly Treffpunkt: Foreign Born Spouse Meeting, hosted by Army Community Service's Relocation Readiness Program. The next get-together will be held Aug. 11 at 11:30 a.m. at the ACS Cafeteria. Call civ (0611) 143-548-9201 to register.

### Home on the Range

Licensed and Qualifying Shooting will be held on Aug. 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Wackernheim Range. Firearms are available for rent on location. Call Wiesbaden Outdoor Recreation at civ (0611) 143-548-9801.

### Rheinblick Scrambles

Unwind after the work week with a little friendly competition on the greens at the Rheinblick Golf Course. **Friday Night Scrambles** will be held on Aug. 6, 20 and 27 at 6 p.m. A **Four-Person Scramble** will be held on Aug. 14 from 9 a.m. to noon. Register by calling civ (0611) 143-548-5485.

### Back To School Celebration

Families are invited to the Back To School Celebration on Aug. 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The "Back To School Trail" will run through Newman Village on Clay Kaserne. Participants will have the chance to interact

with representatives from around the garrison, pick



**Register now for one of the vineyard tours (see below) Outdoor Recreation is hosting in September. Call civ (0611) 143-548-9801.**

up information and giveaways. Visit [wiesbaden.armymwr.com](https://wiesbaden.armymwr.com) for more information.

### Vineyard Tours

Outdoor Recreation offers a pair of wine-related tours in September — a Hiking the Vineyards event on Sept. 11 and a Wild Game and Wine event on Sept. 25. Both tours are self-drive and cost \$125 each including hikes through the vineyard, explanations about winemaking, wine tastings and barbecues. Stop by Outdoor Recreation or call civ (0611) 143-548-9801 for more information.

### Spouse Orientation

Connect with representatives from around the garrison to learn about education, employment, host nation, financial management and other topics during the monthly Spouse Orientation on Aug. 18 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Army Community Service Cafeteria (Building 7790 in Hainerberg). Call civ (0611) 143-548-9201 to register.

### Brake Service Class

Learn how to identify the components of the brake system and to inspect the brake pads, rotors, lines, booster, etc. during the Automotive Skills Center's next Brake Service Class on Aug. 29 at 10:30 a.m. Cost of the class is \$25 per person. Call civ (0611) 143-548-9817 to register.

### Baby Boot Camp

Find support, network with fellow parents

and get your questions answered during Baby Boot Camp classes with the New Parent Support Program. Classes are held on the first Tuesday of the month from 9 a.m. to noon and on the third Tuesday of the month from 5-8 p.m. Call civ (0611) 143-548-9211, -9218 or -9219 to sign up.

### Youth Golf Academy

The Rheinblick Golf Course invites juniors, ages 7-17, to enjoy some fitness and learn to play the game of golf. Golf lessons in the Youth Golf Academy are offered from 1-2 p.m. on the following dates: Aug. 7, 21, 28; and Sept. 11. Cost is \$50 for four lessons. Call civ (0611) 143-548-5485 to register.

### Employment Readiness Training

Army Community Service's Employment Readiness Program offers Lunch and Learn Job Training classes. The next session will be held Aug. 25 (Federal Resume Writing) at 11:30 a.m. at ACS (Building 7790 in Hainerberg). Call civ (0611) 143-548-9201.

### Touchpoint Training

Army Community Service's Financial Readiness Program features a host of free classes aimed at enhancing everyone's financial know-how. Visit <https://wiesbaden.armymwr.com/programs/financial-readiness-program> to view and register for upcoming classes.

### Framing Class

The Wiesbaden Arts and Crafts Center offers a Picture Framing 101 Class on Aug. 7. Learn how to cut a frame, mat and showcase your favorite images or keepsakes. Cost is \$65 including all materials. Call civ (0611) 143-548-9838 to register and find out the class time.



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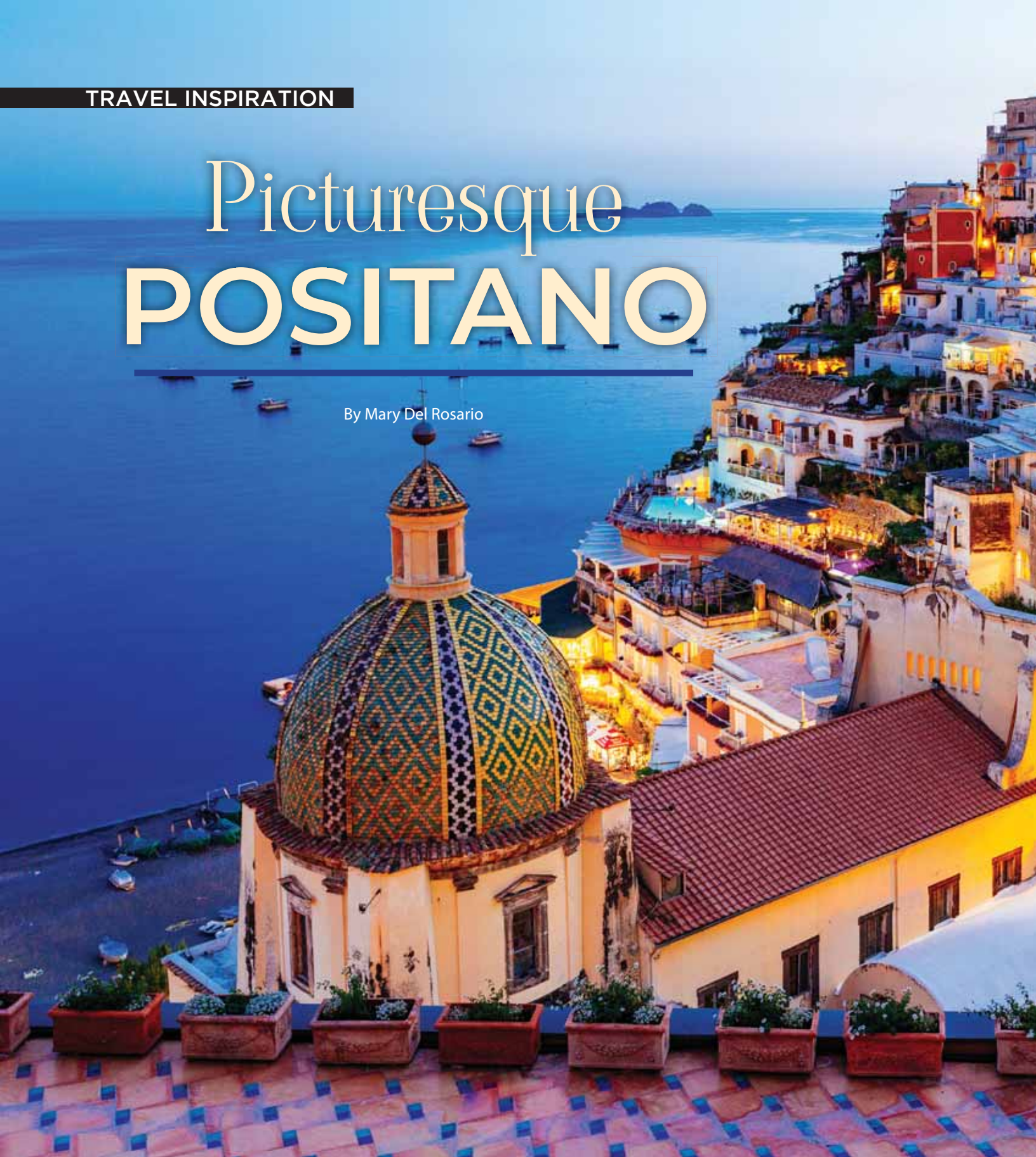
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TRAVEL INSPIRATION

# Picturesque POSITANO

By Mary Del Rosario







Multi-colored terracotta houses perched atop a cliff with the beautiful, cerulean Mediterranean hugging the edges and bougainvillea cascading down restaurants and shops — what sounds like a picture-perfect dream is actually reality when you travel to Positano, a dazzling, cliffside village along Italy's Amalfi Coast.





## WHAT TO DO

Since Positano is an ideal city for walking, meander down the winding roads and note the places you'd want to visit. Stumbling across a cute café while aimlessly walking through unmarked roads always makes the best memories. Not really the walking type? Rent a scooter instead to capture the best views and coastline. Don't forget to take your camera as Positano boasts the most stunning views.

If you're into the art scene, check out the art galleries — both eclectic and traditional, sprinkled across the village. The notable galleries are Art and Craft Gallery and Absolute Positano. If you like shopping, be on the lookout for handmade, leather sandals and linen clothes as these are the two gifts unique to Positano.

For those who love adventure, rent a boat and explore the open, blue Mediterranean. Positano Boats lets you rent a boat with or without a sailor, but it is highly recommended you opt for a skipper on board if you have no experience at sea. If you're not comfortable with renting a boat, book a sunset cruise and see colorful hues of orange and red light up the sky. Since you're out at sea, a site that shouldn't be skipped are the grottos to include the Green, White and Emerald grottos. These picturesque caves are near Positano along the Amalfi coast and are reached via boat. Other water activities include stand up paddling (SUP), parasailing and kayaking.

Although Positano may not be known for its nightlife, the wine scene won't disappoint because when does it ever in Italy? After a few glasses of wine and refreshing limoncello, take your sun-kissed self to Music on the Rocks, a nightclub that's literally dug into the rock at the end of Spiaggia Grande, a popular beach.

The best thing about the Amalfi coast is its proximity to other neighboring villages. The ferry from Positano to Capri is a popular route many take to experience all that this side of Italy has to offer. The Positano Capri ferry route is operated by three ferries and some companies can travel up to seven times per day.



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## BEST BEACHES

In Positano, there are no shortages of jaw-dropping beaches. Whether you're looking for a secluded area or are wanting to mingle with other beachgoers, these are the top beaches to put on your itinerary.

- **Spiaggia Grande** - Known as the "large beach," this easily recognizable beach is known for its colorful rows of umbrellas dotted along the shore. In the middle of this beach is the spiaggia libera or free beach where you don't need to pay to rent an umbrella or chair. Be sure to bring your beach towel!
- **Fornillo Beach** - This small and secluded beach is away from the Positano dock and can be reached by the Strada Statale.
- **Arienzo Beach** - It is known as the "300 steps beach" because there are exactly that many steps beachgoers need to climb down to reach it.
- **Marina Grande Beach** - One of the livelier beaches in the area. Music on the Rocks is also located here.
- **Laurio Beach** - This small beach is Positano's best-kept secret and is popular among the locals. There are also two beach restaurants.



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## FOOD AND DRINKS TO TRY

Stated by the obvious, one can't go to Italy and not devour all the pizza and pasta to their heart's content, but Positano offers more to please the palette! While you've eaten your fifth pizza slice of the day, don't forget these must-try foods as well!

- **Lemon sorbet** - The best can be found at Covo dei Saraceni Hotel.
- **Seafood pasta** - Served with fresh prawns, octopus and mussels.
- **Risotto** - The one in La Terra serves their seafood risotto in a crispy parmesan tortilla.
- **Cornetto** - Similar to a croissant but is softer and has less butter.
- **Pizza** - Really, you can't go wrong in any restaurant you order.

Whether you make a stop on your Amalfi coast expedition or want to flock to a warm and dreamy getaway — the picturesque village of Positano will not disappoint! ■

DON'T FORGET TO TAKE YOUR  
CAMERA AS POSITANO BOASTS  
THE MOST STUNNING VIEWS.





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# Up Close and Personal *with* Spiaggia Grande

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by Jessica Zen

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**T**he incredibly scenic Amalfi Coast of southern Italy is nothing short of astounding. The sparkling blue seawater paired with quaint villages and delicious food lures visitors from all over the world. For the perfect beach experience, visit Spiaggia Grande in Positano. Spiaggia Grande literally means “large beach,” and is the main beach and activity hub in the village. The surroundings of this area are truly spectacular, as the beach is backed by the rocky walls of Sant’Angelo a Tre Pizzi Mount and the village seems to be suspended over the glittering sea.

Spiaggia Grande stretches on for over 1,000 feet and is a fabulous place to sunbathe. The combination of sunshine, the smell of citrus, colorful gardens, the clear blue sea, buzzing shops and amazing restaurants all meld together to give Positano its international fame. If you have the pleasure of spending time on the beach, you’ll find a bathhouse where you can rent sunbeds and umbrellas. There is also a children’s play area, numerous restaurants and a free area where you can stake your claim with a towel. This is a pebble beach, so consider wearing water shoes. From the beach, you can take a boat tour of the Amalfi Coast or even to the island of Capri if the mood strikes you.





## Beyond the Beach

If you want to venture beyond the beach to get a feel for the village itself, you're sure to be dazzled by the Church of Santa Maria Assunta with its tiled Moorish dome. Inside you'll find Byzantine era treasures. The church is considered a centerpiece of the village and makes an ideal picture background. If you're feeling adventurous, rent a vespa and cruise along the cliffside roads and through Positano. If you just want to wander, you can shop for local and international pieces as you take in the sights. There is no shortage of artwork, ceramics, jewelry, food, pet gifts and clothing. Browse the numerous boutiques for the perfect pair of custom-made leather sandals, as southern Italy is known for its handmade leather goods.



Rental Vespa



LEFT: The Church of Santa Maria Assunta.  
RIGHT: The Spiaggia Grande.



## Seafood to Die For

Naturally, Positano couldn't be more ideal for finding the freshest seafood. The beach itself is bordered by some of the village's best restaurants, so you don't even have to wander far to have something amazing. Check out Chez Black, a casual dining restaurant that will make you feel like you are on a ship. They have both indoor and outdoor seating. While you're there, you can have a friendly argument about which is better: the food or the view?

For a romantic dinner, dine at Rada. This restaurant features an elegant atmosphere, fine Italian wine and the freshest ingredients. It is located above The Music on the Rocks disco right off the beach. Be sure to finish every meal while you are in Positano with limoncello, a chilled lemon-flavored alcohol.

Italians consider this a "digestive" and the perfect end to each meal.

The perfect beach does exist, and it's waiting for you in Positano. Soak up the sun as you relax in one of Italy's most popular destinations. Unparalleled views, truly exquisite food and the bluest of waters are calling you to Spiaggia Grande. ■



Top: Limoncello.  
Right: Blue ocean water.  
Left: Mussel risotto.

# 48 HOURS

## SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS

By Stacy Roman

The Scottish Highlands are undoubtedly one of the most beautiful places in the U.K. The vast, rugged wildland stretches over a large portion of western and northern Scotland. Filled with mountains, valleys and folklore (including the legendary Loch Ness monster), it should definitely be on your must-visit list. Most visitors give themselves between four and seven days to explore the Highlands. Can it be done in 48 hours? Absolutely.

While many begin their trek through the Scottish Highlands in Inverness, in order to get the full experience, start in Glasgow. From this vibrant, somewhat eccentric and industrious city, head an hour north to Loch Lomond. Nestled in one of Scotland's national parks, this picturesque lake is surrounded by old-world village and is at the foot of the majestic mountain, Ben Lomond. From there, make your way to Fort William (approximately an hour and 45 minutes northwest). This gateway city boasts access to Ben Nevis (the U.K.'s highest peak) and also has a long history of famed Scotch whisky production.

In Fort William, there are few different options to take. For those wanting a more relaxing journey, hop on an old Jacobite steam train and head west to the port village of Mallaig for the day. You'll pass over an old aqueduct featured in the "Harry Potter" movies and relish the scenery while enjoying afternoon tea. If you're feeling a bit more ambitious, head north to Inverness. Along the way, stop at the famed Loch Ness to see if you can spot the mythical beast. To explore more of Mother Nature's striking beauty in the Highlands, make your way to Aviemore in the Cairngorms. This rustic Scottish village offers hiking trails to more secluded

lochs. Once you've gazed at the postcard perfection of the Cairngorms, it's time to head back to where you started in Glasgow.

The best part about this circular itinerary is that you don't need to rent a car. This trip can be done completely via train—which helps in remembering which side of the road to drive on. However, to see all the things, you may want to consider your own mode of transportation. The Scottish Highlands are definitely worth exploring for more than 48 hours; however, it's amazing what you can see in that short amount of time. ■





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