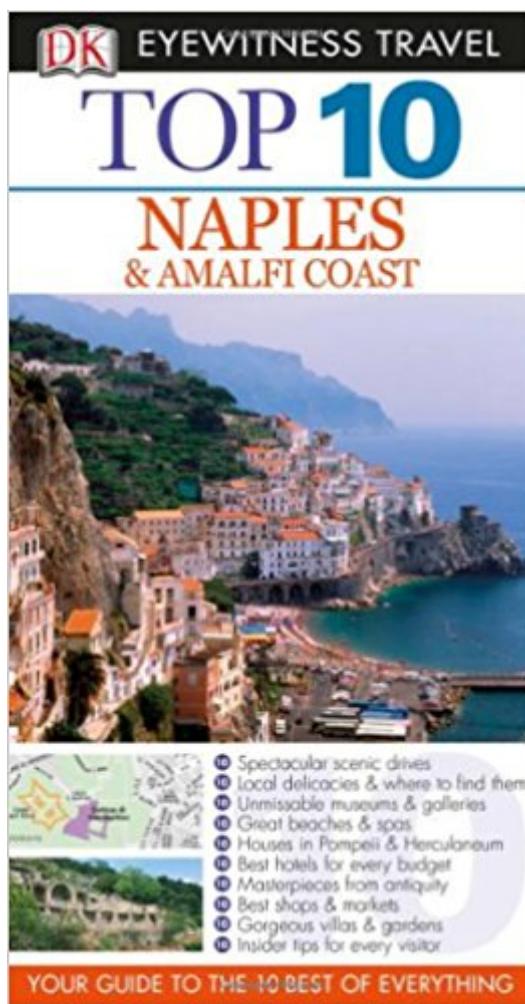


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Top 10 Naples & Amalfi Coast (Eyewitness Top 10 Travel Guides)



Synopsis

Drawing on the same standards of accuracy as the acclaimed DK Eyewitness Travel Guides, The DK Top 10 Guides use exciting colorful photography and excellent cartography to provide a reliable and useful pocket-sized travel. Dozens of Top 10 lists provide vital information on each destination, as well as insider tips, from avoiding the crowds to finding out the freebies, The DK Top 10 Guides take the work out of planning any trip.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

We just got back from a week on the Amalfi Coast with this as our only guidebook. I've always sworn by the Eyewitness Guides, but I found the Eyewitness "Top 10" format to be annoying -- information scattered throughout the book and often the same info repeated in a different format. For example, we fell in love with the town of Praiano, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, but there was only a tiny paragraph about it. If you're planning to spend more than a few days in this beautiful part of Italy, go with a more comprehensive guide book.

We often use the Top 10 when we visit cities. Experience has taught us a small travel guide will be used when we explore, and a larger book will be left in our holiday rental apartment. Yes, the Top 10 all repeat the same information in different categories, which is often frustrating, & redundant. We are reluctant fans. It is a good pre-trip book to study to discover the most important things to see & do. And, as stated we will take it with us during the day to reference a few times. Oh, just remembered the map(s) VITAL and they make it worth buying the book!

I always prefer and buy the Top Ten series whenever they are available for the locations I am hitting. We travel a lot. I cannot take a lot of extra weight and volume, especially when going to several places. These books are light and small, and much less expensive than their big DK brothers. I like the pictures, maps, diagrams, and background material that DK is known for. But we don't need the encyclopedic depth of the big books. The Top Ten books give plenty of detail, and the format allows easy chunking of topics as needed. Not just a list of 10 places, but many descriptions covering diverse topics. What I want now is to see these in electronic format so I can take them on my ereader without the bulk and weight of the paper versions. But I don't want to lease them, I want to own what I pay for, so I can pass it on to others.

As a frequent visitor to the area I was pleasantly surprised by this very practical and compact guidebook to Naples and the Amalfi Coast. I am pleased that this is a book that I would take with me on my next trip - there is enough here that is new for me, and I'm surprised that the recommendations are, based on my tastes and personal experiences, quite accurate. I am particularly pleased that the author gives good coverage to the Capodimonte Museum (I had really expected to criticize the book for overlooking one of Naples most important attractions), which for some reason is usually given short shrift in American guidebooks. On the other hand, the allegiance to a "top ten" format can be a little misleading unless the reader is careful: the Capodimonte is listed as a "top ten" museum along with such extremely minor destinations as the "paper" museum in Amalfi (Museo della Carta), but note however that the Capodimonte museum is itself a "top ten" attraction for the entire region. It's also interesting that the book does not devote much space to such well-known destinations (and typical tourist overnight stays) as Sorrento and Amalfi itself. Quite frankly, I think it's a wise decision: the book is small enough to fit comfortably in a jacket pocket or a purse or a knapsack, and I think it's primarily meant for the traveler who is staying in Naples (perhaps for business) and is interested in what to see in the city and on day trips along the coast, as far south as Paestum. One minor nit: although the author mentions that nativity scene decorations ("Presepe") are typical souvenirs of Naples he does not mention the street "Via San Gregorio Armeno" which is lined with shops selling them. I personally consider it a highlight destination of the city. Similarly, although he mentions Vietri sul Mare, there's no photo of the town and he doesn't really convey how much fun it is to explore the ceramic shops there. Of course a book this size can't really do more than list the attractions: a careful reader who knows what they are interested in will find much useful information here. Highly recommended.

I thought I could not go wrong with a travel guide from DK publishing, and I was correct. I like illustrated books so I knew where to look - descriptions AND quality pictures. Driving and walking around these areas, no time for long, wordy travel information.

This guide was a wonderful companion during my two week adventure in Naples and the Amalfi Coast. Its size made it possible to slip into even the thinnest purse, the info was most helpful and informative and the laminated slip out pocket maps were extremely useful. I highly recommend this guide book.

The Top 10 format is especially useful for a short trip. Much of it can be read on the flight or train ride over. The suggestion for a one-day itinerary, and - notably in Naples' case - the list of pizzeria that served authentic Neapolitan fare, were features that came in particularly useful.

Great book!

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