GENERAL

# how to get from naples to amalfi coast

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## How to Get from Naples to Amalfi Coast: The Ultimate Guide

Imagine stepping off the train in Naples, the scent of espresso and sea breeze mingling in the air, and then heading straight to the cliff side villages of Positano, Amalfi, and Ravello. The Amalfi Coast is a dream destination—crystal waters, colorful houses, and a rugged coastline that feels both wild and welcoming. Yet, the journey from Naples to this Mediterranean paradise can feel confusing, especially if you're traveling for the first time. This guide breaks down every travel option, from trains and buses to ferries and private transfers, giving you the information you need to choose the best route for your schedule, budget, and travel style.

### Why the Journey Matters

The first leg of your adventure sets the tone. A smooth, stress free trip means more time for exploring lemon groves, tasting limoncello, and watching the sunset over the Tyrrhenian Sea. Knowing the pros and cons of each transport method helps you avoid missed connections, unexpected delays, and hidden costs. Below, we'll cover:

- Train + bus or ferry combinations
- Direct bus routes
- Private car or taxi services
- Car rental options
- Seasonal considerations and safety tips

Read on to discover the most efficient, scenic, and budget friendly ways to travel from Naples to the Amalfi Coast.

### Getting a Sense of the Route

The Amalfi Coast stretches roughly 50 km along the southern coast of the Campania region. Naples sits about 70 km inland, but the journey can be surprisingly quick if you use the right connections. The most common travel corridor follows the coastline via the Sorrentine Peninsula, passing through Sorrento, Positano, and Amalfi before reaching the final destinations.

### Option 1: Train to Sorrento + Bus or Ferry

The most popular route begins with a train from Naples to Sorrento, followed by either a bus or a ferry to the Amalfi Coast. This combo offers a blend of speed, comfort, and scenic beauty.

Trains run from Naples Central (Napoli Centrale) and Napoli Garibaldi stations to Sorrento's Piazza Cavour station. Two main operators serve this line:

- Circumvesuviana – a local commuter line. It's inexpensive ("H€4.50) but slower, taking about 1 /hour 30 /minutes. The train passes through Vico Equense and other towns, offering a glimpse of the inland countryside.
- Trenitalia's InterCity (IC) or Frecciarossa (high speed) services – these are faster ("H1 /hour) and more comfortable, but they're pricier ("H€12–€20). They're ideal if you're on a tight schedule.

Tickets can be purchased at the station, online via Trenitalia or Italo, or through mobile apps. For tourists, the *Naples–Sorrento* "Sorrento Express" (a special train service) is a convenient option.

Once you arrive in Sorrento, you have two main choices:

- Local Alibus buses (line 3) run from Sorrento to Positano, Amalfi, and Sorrento's Marina Piccola. The journey takes roughly 45 /minutes to Positano and 1 /hour to Amalfi.
- Tickets are €1.50–€2.00 per ride. They're available at the bus stop or via the Alibus mobile app.
- Bus schedules are frequent during the high season (April–October) but reduce in winter.

- Ferries are a scenic alternative. The Alilauro and Alilauro Sorrento companies operate daily services to Positano, with a 35–40 minute crossing.
- Ferry tickets cost €8–€12, depending on the season and type of boat (standard or fast).
- Ferries depart from Sorrento's Marina Piccola and arrive at Positano's Marina Grande. From there, a short walk or taxi will take you into the town.

Choosing between bus and ferry depends on your preference for speed versus scenery. Buses are cheaper and more frequent, while ferries offer a relaxed, picturesque ride along the coast.

### Option 2: Direct Bus Services from Naples to Amalfi Coast

For travelers who prefer a one stop journey, several bus companies operate direct routes from Naples to key Amalfi Coast towns. These services are especially convenient for those with heavy luggage or limited time.

- Alibus – Operates a direct line from Naples Central to Positano and Amalfi, with stops in Sorrento. The trip takes about 2 /hours 30 /minutes.
- Flegra – Offers routes to Positano and Amalfi from Naples Central. The journey lasts around 2 /hours 45 /minutes.
- FlixBus – International low cost operator with stops in Positano and Amalfi. Prices range from €10–€20.

These buses run daily, with increased frequency during peak tourist months. They're a great option if you want to avoid train transfers and prefer a single ticket from start to finish.

### Option 3: Private Transfer or Taxi

While pricier, private transfers offer unparalleled convenience. They're ideal for families, groups, or travelers with large luggage.

- Private car hire – Companies such as MyTaxi, Private Transfer Naples, and Amalfi Coast Shuttle provide door to door service. Prices vary from €200–€350, depending on vehicle type and destination.
- Taxi services – Shared taxis (mini vans) operate between Naples and the Amalfi Coast, often at a lower cost ("H€120–€150). They typically leave after a few passengers board.
- Ride hailing apps – Uber is limited in Italy, but local services like MyTaxi and Free Now can be booked via app.

Private transfers eliminate the need to navigate public transport and offer flexibility with departure times. They're especially useful for early morning departures or late night arrivals.

### Option 4: Renting a Car

Driving along the Amalfi Coast is an unforgettable experience, but it comes with challenges—narrow roads, tight turns, and limited parking. If you're comfortable with Italian driving rules and the terrain, renting a car can give you ultimate freedom.

- Pick up locations – Major car rental agencies (Avis, Europcar, Hertz) are available at Naples International Airport and the city center.
- Road conditions – The main coastal road (SS163) is a winding, 12 lane, narrow stretch. The route from Naples to Sorrento is a single lane in each direction with occasional tunnels.
- Parking – In Positano and Amalfi, parking is scarce and often requires a fee. Look for parcheggi (parking garages) or paid lots outside town centers.

- Insurance – Ensure you have “copper” coverage for damage to the car and “gold” coverage for roadside assistance.
- Estimated cost – €30–€50 per day, plus fuel (~€1.50 per liter). Add tolls ("H€5–€10) and parking fees.

Driving is recommended only if you’re an experienced driver and you’re willing to navigate the challenging roads. For most tourists, public transport or a private transfer is safer and more relaxing.

### Option 5: Ferry from Naples (Less Common)

While most ferries depart from Sorrento or Salerno, some seasonal services run from Naples to the Amalfi Coast, especially during the summer. These services are often part of a package or operate from the *Napoli Molo Beverello* port.

- Ferry operators – Alilauro, Grandi Navi Veloci, and NTG sometimes offer direct routes to Positano or Amalfi.
- Tickets cost €15–€25 and take 1–1.5 hours.
- Availability is limited, so check the ferry company’s schedule well in advance.

Because these services are infrequent, they’re best for travelers who prefer a maritime route and have flexible timing.

### Option 6: Combined Train & Ferry (Sorrento to Positano)

For an extra splash of adventure, consider the classic combination: train to Sorrento, then ferry to Positano. This route is popular among photographers and romantics alike.

1. Take the Circumvesuviana from Naples to Sorrento ("H1 /hour 30 /minutes).
2. At Sorrento’s Marina Piccola, board a Alilauro ferry to Positano ("H35 /minutes).
3. Arrive in Positano’s Marina Grande and stroll up the steep, colorful streets.

This method offers a panoramic view of the coastline that’s hard to beat. The ferry ride also serves as a natural break between the train journey and the final leg of your adventure.

### Seasonal Variations and Planning Tips


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