

8 March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Re. Sorrento, Italy Trip Saturday 1 April to Wednesday 5 April 2023.

I just wanted to take the time to provide you with the itinerary for the trip including flight details, kit list and any other key information.

Travel Information

The check in time is very early Saturday 1 April, which means we will be leaving from school (SCAT) at **2200 on Friday 31 March** to ensure we arrive at the airport in good time. The time we will arrive back at school will obviously be dependent on the time it takes to get through security and traffic. It is likely we will be back late afternoon, early evening. Students will be encouraged to provide updates on the way home when we know more.

Airline: EasyJet

	Date	Flight	From	To	Check-in	Departs	Arrives
OUTBOUND	01/04/23	EZY8339	LGW	NAP	03:00	06:00	09:40
RETURN	05/04/23	EZY8340	NAP	LGW	07:15	10:15	12:05

Students are allowed **1 item of hold luggage** weighing no more than **23kg** per person and **1 item of cabin luggage** (backpack) weighing no more than **15kg** per person and measuring a maximum of 45 x 36 x 20cm (including any handles or wheels). Your hand luggage should be able to fit under the seat in front of you. Remember no liquids will be allowed to go through security, so any liquids you wish to take should go into your hold luggage

Hotel Information

We are staying at Villagio Turistico (**'Bleu Village'**) on a half board basis (breakfast and evening meal included). Breakfast is usually buffet and evening meals are traditional Italian – first course is pasta, followed by the main meal which will consist of meat/fish option. If you have not informed me of any **dietary requirements** as yet, please do so asap as I need to pass this information onto the hotel. Free Wi-Fi is available in the hotel for students to use and should be helpful in staying in contact with home.

Rooming will be advised approximately 2 weeks before departure. All rooms have en-suite facilities, soap, towels and bedding are provided. I will notify students when I have the allocated rooms and we will do our best to ensure all students are happy with these arrangements.

Students will be required to pay €10 as a refundable damages deposit which has already been included in the final cost. This will be paid on behalf of students and the money returned to students on the final day.

Hotel Address: Via Francesco Caracciolo 201, Meta Sorrento, 80062 Italy

Tel No: 0039 081 532 97 26 or 0039 081 532 97 11

Itinerary Overview

Here is an overview of the itinerary, so you will have an idea of what we will be doing each day. Each day will be spent out, not returning to the hotel until the evening for dinner.

Friday 31 March

- Leave Castle School at 2200 to travel to Gatwick Airport

Saturday 1 April:

- 0300 - Check in opens at Gatwick Airport
- 0600 – Flight departs for Naples
- 0940 – Flight arrives at Naples Airport
- Meet coach and travel to the Campi Flegrei area – visit Solfatara (guided visit)
- Visit to the Flavian Amphitheatre and Temple of Serapis
- 1630 - Arrive at the hotel to check in and have dinner

Sunday 2 April:

- Visit to the island of Capri via a ferry which will include a boat trip around the island
- Will be possible to use the funicular railway up to Capri town
- On return to Sorrento Harbour – students will make their way to an ice-cream making demonstration and tasting session
- Free time in Sorrento before returning to the hotel for dinner

Monday 3 April:

- Visit to Mount Vesuvius in the morning
- Visit to Pompeii in the afternoon (guided visit) *restrictions on bag size

Tuesday 4 April:

- Visit to a Working Farm for a tour and a pizza making class including lunch
- Visit to Herculaneum *restrictions on bag size

Wednesday 5 April:

- 0600 - Check out of hotel to travel to Naples Airport
- 0745 – Check in opens at Naples Airport
- 1015 – Flight departs
- 1205 – Flight arrives in Gatwick

Note – students will be required to buy lunch on most days (except Tuesday); we have allocated £10 per day as part of the cost already. This money will be given to students every morning to use to buy lunch.

*Restrictions on bag sizes for entry to Pompeii and Herculaneum have recently been introduced. They will not allow bags larger than 30x30x10cm into the site. Students will be asked to leave large bags on the coach as there may not be enough room to store in the baggage room.

Students do not need to take huge amounts of money and would be advised against this (maximum €100). All travel and food has been accounted for. There is an additional cost for using the funicular railway in Capri of €4 that students would need to pay for. Otherwise, students only need extra money (Euros) for additional snacks, drinks, gifts they wish to buy in Italy. It would be useful for students to have a small amount of money in pounds to cover any snacks/items they wish to buy at the airport and on the plane. We would also recommend to students that they do not take all their money out with them each day just in case they lose it.

Kit list

- **PASSPORT** (this is the students own responsibility during the trip)
- GHIC Card
- Cash (sterling and Euros max. €100)
- Mobile Phone and charger
- European Plug Adapter(s)
- Any medication required (better to put in hold luggage if possible, speak to school if needed)
- Backpack (use as cabin luggage and for during the day in Italy)
- Smaller bag measuring a maximum of 30x30x10cm for Pompeii and Herculaneum if you wish
- Water bottle (will need to be empty to go through security)
- Toiletries
- Hair dryer/Hair straighteners (share amongst room-mates to save space and weight in luggage etc)
- Nightwear
- Book(s)/magazine/music for coach and flight
- Sunglasses, hat, sun cream
- Camera (if you wish, but will be the responsibility of the student)
- Snacks
- Plastic bag for dirty/wet clothes

We will be spending most of our time out, walking (sometimes on uneven ground) so you need to be comfortable. Layers of clothing are recommended as there can be considerable temperature changes when walking up the volcano.

- Walking boots/comfortable trainers (if worried about the weight of your bag – wear them!)
- Socks
- T-Shirts
- Lightweight trousers/shorts
- Jumper/Hoodies
- Waterproof jacket (it is likely to rain at some point during our visit)

Other essential information

It will be really important to check your network charges when in Italy before we go. There are often options to buy a certain amount of data/text messages to use in advance if required. We would advise students to be familiar with (if not already) how to turn off data roaming. They should do this before we board the plane to avoid their phone connecting to any towers or networks on our arrival that could be expensive.

Wi-fi is available at the hotel to use and we will have a school mobile phone which can be used if needed. The school mobile phone number will be: **07867 980168**.

Students and parents are required to sign the **Code of Conduct** form and return it to school along with a completed **EV5 (consent) form**. Please return completed forms to Student Reception.

Finally, there will be a meeting for parents on **Wednesday 22 March at 6pm**, in the main hall, where we will go through the contents of this letter and be around to answer any questions you may have.

If you have any questions regarding the visit please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely



Mrs L Stone
Teacher of Geography