

# Snapshot

## PROCIDA

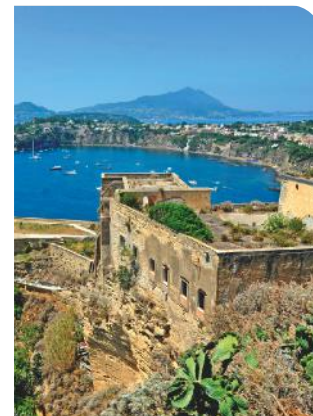
Italy's 2022 Capital of Culture in the Bay of Naples is a hidden gem, says **Sasha Wood**

### star attraction...



#### Historical Terra Murata

The clifftop village of Terra Murata is well worth the steep climb to admire its medieval fortifications, scenic views of Marina Corricella and historic Palazzo d'Avalos. Built in the renaissance era, the palace started out as a governor's residence before becoming a royal palace and then a prison. Restored to its former glory, its centuries-old interiors now serve as an arts and culture hub.



### we love...



#### Authentic culture

The first island to be named Italian Capital of Culture, tiny Procida is the best-kept secret in the Bay of Naples – an authentic slice of Italy far less known than sister islands Capri and Ischia, and without the attendant crowds. Its pretty waterfront cafes, candy-coloured homes, narrow alleys and quiet beaches have featured in films such as *Il Postino* and *The Talented Mr Ripley*, yet the island remains blissfully untouched. Local traditions are very much alive and well, with rituals such as the Procession of the Mysteries on Good Friday offering a portal into island life.



### where to eat...



#### Italian specialities

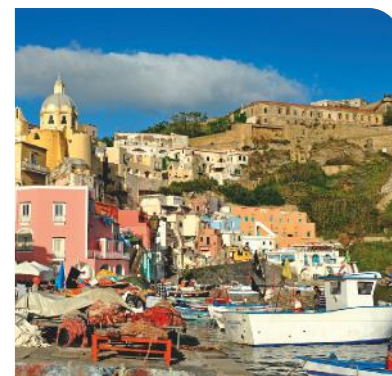
Atmospheric eateries such as La Medusa, Albatros and Da Maria alla Corricella serve specialities such as fried anchovies, fish with lemon salad and Procidana rabbit. Then for mouth-watering ice creams and sorbets, head to Bar Gelateria Chiaro di Luna in the fishing village of Marina di Corricella. Fresh flavours include Giffoni hazelnut with milk cream and caramel sauce, and lemon and basil. Visitors should also look out for local treat *lingua di bue*, a puff pastry filled with lemon cream.

### make time for...



#### Brilliant beaches

A horseshoe-shaped bay sheltered from the elements, Postman's beach (also known as Pozzo Vecchio or Postino beach) is a peaceful and picturesque spot with dark sand hinting at the island's volcanic origins. The beach is famous as the backdrop for scenes in the 1994 romantic comedy film *Il Postino*. Meanwhile, close to pretty Marina Corricella (pictured), gold-tinged Chiaia beach is only accessible via boat or 186 steps cut into the sheer cliffs that surround the bay. Popular for its shallow waters and green-backed cliffs, Chiaiolella beach is perhaps the island's most popular. For a wilder shore, visitors can head to Lingua beach next to Marina Grande.



### book it...



Italy specialist **Citalia** offers 11-day multi-centre holidays to the Neapolitan Riviera including a guided trip to Procida from £1,229.  
[citalia.com](http://citalia.com)

### where to stay...



#### Hotel La Corricella

Many people visit on day trips from Naples and neighbouring islands, but to see Procida at its best, the secret is to spend the night. A tiny island of less than two square miles, there are no big resorts, but boutique hotels and bed and breakfasts provide plenty of choice. Among the best is the gorgeous three-star Hotel La Corricella, which boasts classic Italian charm and amazing views over the marina at a surprisingly affordable price. The hotel also serves up delicious island cuisine, including freshly caught fish and local lemon salads, at its restaurant La Lampara.

