



FROM 29TH SEPTEMBER-
TO 2ND OCTOBER 2017
THE LIRI VALLEY
EXPRESS

an adventure to remember



● 4 days

☾ 3 nights

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Discovering a valley incredibly rich in history, culture and nature, inauguration of the Railway Museum of the Liri Valley and visit to the historic national Railway Museum of Pietrarsa (NA) and the royal palace of Portici (NA).

The Liri Valley represents one of the richest areas regarding history and culture of all the lower part of Lazio. Marked by the Liri River, like a backbone, it is crossed by one of the most ancient and bold railways built right after the reuniting of Italy, and in its journey of almost 80 Km, we can find some of the most spectacular sights in monuments, places of industrial archeology of great value, homeland of leaders, painters, artists among the most important of the European culture: Caio Mario, Cicerone, Il Cavalier d'Arpino, Marcello Mastroianni and Umberto Mastroianni.

For the inauguration of the **Railway Museum of the Liri Valley in Arce (FR)**, on **September 30, 2017**, edited by the cultural association "Apassiferrati", we propose a particular touristic package in order to enjoy this beautiful opportunity.

PROGRAM

Friday, September 29, 2017: Airport/Station of arrival – Arce (FR)

In the morning, arrival in the airport/station, and arrival in Arce by bus, at the **B&B and Wine Cellar Palazzo Tronconi**, and/or **Hotel Villa Ida in Ceprano**, check-in the reserved rooms.

Welcome.

Tour of the historical center of **Arce**

At night, dinner and overnight stay.

Saturday, September 30, 2017: Fontana Liri – Arpino (FR)

Breakfast in hotel.

In the morning, departure to discover the Liri Valley; after a few kilometers, short stop in **Fontana Liri**.

It is a small town of Ciociaria, built on a rock over a green valley, Fontana Liri has very ancient origins dating back to the bronze age. The Volsci were the first population to live there, then came the Etruschi and in the VI century, it passed under the dominion to the Longobardi.

After the barbaric invasions of the X century, the small town was contended both by the Papal State and by the Roman empire; but we must arrive up to the year 1000 to find any registration of it in the archives.

According to the historian Giannetti, the name of Fontana seems to come from a fountain, "Fontana Abballo" that exists still today. Liri was added later (1862-1863), both because the river Liri runs in the southern part of its territory, and to distinguish it from other towns bearing the same name.

Today, the ancient Medioeval town has only few residents; but in the summer, especially for the occasion of the famous and characteristic feast of the Madonna di Loreto, that takes place in the narrow streets of the town, many people come for this joyous occasion. In this occasion, friends and relatives meet to spend together quite and relaxing days. And even this is an occasion for the tourist passing through town to taste the good and simple cuisine “ciociara”.

The lower part of Fontana Liri is located on a plain on the south of town.

It was born later and it developed commercially after World War II, also due to the presence of the Royal Powder Storehouse, now called “Propellenti” Military Factory, established in 1892, for the production of powder for artillery and portable weapons; it has employed many people, not only from town. Here we also find the lake “Solfatarà”, whose sulfurous waters seem to have, since ancient times, curative proprieties.

We proceed for **Arpino**, the industrial capital of the kingdom of **Naples**.



It is a town located in the high hills of Ciociaria (southern part of Lazio), of noticeable historic, archeological and cultural importance. Here were born the **Roman Agrippa**, and the painter **Cavalier d'Arpino**, even **Cicerone's** and General Caio Mario's houses where in the territory of Arpino when they were born. It is an harmonious town, well preserved and with many historical buildings, and today it is the most important center of Latin culture (here is held the yearly Certamen Ciceronianum). Above Arpino, there is the village of **Civitavecchia**, big and picturesque Roman and Medioeval archeological complex.

Guided tour of the historical center, **the Liceo Tulliano, the monasteries, the Mastroianni foundation**.

Typical ciociaro lunch.

In the first part of the afternoon, we proceed with the tour of **Isola del Liri**, industrial center of the paper mills of the Liri Valley.



The town originally was situated on an island in the river, from which comes the name Isola del Liri, and now it extends on both shores of the river.

This ancient town of the Volsci, was conquered by the Romans in 305 b.C.; in the Middle Ages, it was called Colle dell'Isola; later it was called Isola up to 1863 and Isola presso Sora from 1863 to 1869. The Liri River has always played an important role for the development and the well-being of these areas.

The territory of the city is located in a picturesque valley crossed by the Liri River and embellished by a natural waterfall and an artificial one, located in the center of the city. In the beginning of the century, it was prosperous for all the activities that dealt with the production of paper, but now, little by little, it has reduced its important role in the province. A deep change is now going on to convert the various paper mills and industries towards new productions. In its territory, there are still present industries such as textile, paper mills, mechanical and marble caves.

In the lower part of the city, we find the Boncompagni castle. It is 217 meters above sea level and its extends for 15,98 square kilometers. Isola del Liri has a population density for square kilometer among the highest in the province of Frosinone.



Among its historical landmarks, we find:

the Boncompagni—Viscogliosi castle with its sturdy mass made slender by the Medieval tower, situated in the piece of land between the two branches of the river, before they form the waterfall.

The church of S. Lorenzo of Isola, located under the above mentioned castle and built in the XVII century.

The architectural estate also include the ancient factories no longer in use and part of a route of industrial archeology, such as: **the Cartiera of S. Maria delle Forme**, built in 1812; ancient paper mill “by hand”, built before the XVI century, near **the Carmelitani monastery**; **the Boimond factory**, ex factory Pisani; **Lanificio of S. Francesco**.

Tour of the splendid **Vertical Waterfall**, of the **Boncompagni—Viscogliosi Castle**.

At 6:00 p.m., in the City Hall of Arce, **inauguration of the Railway Museum of the Liri Valley**.
(www.apassiferrati.com)

To follow, dinner with wine tasting at the **Wine Cellar of Palazzo Tronconi** with musical entertainment of the **Kosee . Rock ‘n Roll band**.

The Wine Cellar of Palazzo Tronconi, is a structure that’s been just finished; it is the result of the creative capacities of the architect and wine-making expert R. Mazzer, famous in the design of very famous wine cellars, such as those of agricultural firm Cavalieri (Genzano), Cantina Palombo (Atina), agricultural firm Terra dei Briganti (Casalduni), Cantine Lunae (Ortonovo), and from the imagination of the owner, the engineer and wine-making expert **Marco Marrocco**. It is a structure in steel/wood and cement, with a linear form, inspired by Kubrick’s “Monolito”, synthesis of the modern technological know-how.

The Kosee – Rock ‘n Roll Band is a group that doesn’t want simply to amuse, but to bring out the rock ‘n roll in you... with **Nicolò Schiavo**’s voice, **Riccardo Finili**’s drum sticks, **Marco Silvi**’s keys, **Alessandro Benincasa**’s thick vocal cords and **Diego Mascalzi**’s plectrum, you will relive the flaming and roaring atmosphere of the 50s.

In the evening, return to the hotel and overnight stay.

Sunday, October 1, 2017:

Arce – Naples, Railway Museum of Pietrarsa and to Royal Palace of Portici (NA)

Breakfast in hotel.

Departure by bus for **Portici (NA)**. Upon arrival, guided tour of **the National Railway Museum of Pietrarsa**.

For lunch: Neapolitan pizza.



Pietrarsa is one of the places symbol of the history of the Italian State Railway, a bridge which unites the past and the present, the ideally unites the Bayard to the fast and sophisticated trains of the High Velocity.

A statue (one of the biggest cast iron statues built in Italy), located in the large open square of the museal complex, shows king **Ferdinando II of Borbone** showing the place where the first railway plants of the Two Sicilies and of the entire peninsula had to be built. An engraving reminds us that the aim of the king was that to free the industrial and technological development of the kingdom from foreign intelligence.

Under the historic-architectonical aspect, the museum is very appropriate for the use, because they were originally ancient Borbonic plants, in use since 1840, wanted by the king, in an area first called “Pietra Bianca” and then “Pietrarsa”, after an eruption of the Vesuvio that had brought lava up to that point of the coast.

Today, the museum allows us to understand the hard work done by the workers of the plants of Pietrarsa. An historic view to reconstruct the evolution of man’s work and of the continuous change in the relationship between it and the machine.

In the first part of the afternoon, guided tour of **the Royal Palace of Portici**.



The Royal Palace of Portici is one of the most beautiful examples in Europe of summer residence of the Borbonic royal family and of its entourage. Situated at the sloping side of the Vesuvio, it has a superior wooded area, originally used for hunting, and a wooded area in the valley, more ornamental, that goes down to the sea.



The Royal Palace was built in 1738 by the king of Naples, **Carlo of Borbone** and his wife Amalia of Sassonia, who was fascinated by the landscapes of the South. Many people worked to build it, such as engineers, architects and decorators, from Giovanni Antonio Medrano to Antonio Canevari, from Luigi Vanvitelli to Ferdinando Fuga; Giuseppe Canart, Giuseppe Bonito and Vincenzo Re worked for the interior design and Francesco Geri for the gardens. The royal site of Portici, a museal center, place of many memories of art, of historical-scientific and scenic memories, it is still today a place of contrasts where the archeological soul and the scientific soul cohabit.



The park on the upper side and on the lower side of the royal palace, still is widely extended, and has spaces of Mediterranean flora, cultivated plants, greenhouses with valuable species of great interest for those who study them. With its landscape, for the visitor it is a fascinating immersion in nature.

After the tour, return to Arce by bus. **Dinner and overnight stay.**

Monday, October 2, 2017:

Arce – Airport/Train station for departure

Breakfast in hotel. Departure by bus for the airport/train station.

The individual quota of participation is:

Euro 420,00 (*minimum of 10 participants*)

The quota includes*:

- Stay in B&B in Arce or in hotel (4 stars) in Ceprano;
- Room with all meals, from dinner of the first day to lunch of the last day, with a menu of typical, local dishes, drinks included;
- Guided tours and bus travel as by program;
- Medical luggage insurance

****It does not include: all the is not listed above.***

Organized by



 ***Info & Reservations***

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