

Pellin Travel Guide 2006

UK to Italy

Fly to Naples or to Rome, and then take the train to Agropoli. Alternatively, you can travel all the way by train from Victoria to Agropoli, changing at Paris, Rome and possible Naples (this trip takes about 24hours by Euro star).

The onwards journey to Agropoli is easiest achieved by train. The timetable is included on the site and can be downloaded from [here](#). Please bare in mind that, although accurate at time of posting, it is not definitive. Please check times at the official [TrenIta](#) site.

Please note that your train ticket is **not valid** unless you get it stamped in the 'convalida' machine – at the entrance to the platforms.

Arriving in NAPLES by Air

Naples Airport is a small, pleasant and a 20 minute bus or taxi ride (cost about 20 euros) to the train station where you get a train to Agropoli. During high season your plane may disembark you at a converted hangar, if this happens you will be directed to a coach for the 2 minute journey to the front of the airport.

The bus stop is located opposite and slightly to the right of the door to the departures under a canvas awning. Catch the **Alibus**, which will be full of other people going to the train station. The Alibus is clearly labelled. A few may stay on the bus as they are going to Naples Port. You buy your ticket on the bus and it costs 3 Euros. **Validate your bus ticket** by punching it through the machine on the bus.

The bus stops just outside the train station, which is one minute walk into the Piazza Garibaldi from the station. You will see a McDonalds and then walk into the station. Alternatively, take a taxi from the airport. It is best to agree a price before you get in the cab. It will cost between 20 and 40 euros and it will take longer as the driver will go the long way to the station.

Note for your return journey: finding the **Alibus** stop is easier – it is outside McDonalds, on the right of the station as you leave it.

Naples Train Station

The ticket office ('Atrio biglietteria) is to the right of the station with the train information above it. The easiest way to buy your ticket is from the newsagent just opposite Platform 22. The train to Agropoli usually leaves from Platform 23 or 24 which is on the far right of the station as you are looking at the trains. At the newsagent just ask for Agropoli. The ticket cost 5.90 euros. If you get two tickets you will have your return. The ticket is for distance not destination. That is one reason you **must validate** your ticket before you get on the train. Be careful of the Naples train station. There are thieves. There are toilets on the lower level of the station. There is an efficient money exchange and information office, where they speak English, directly behind you as you queue for your ticket. There is also a train information booth on the station platform.

The journey to Agropoli will take about one and a half hours. A train timetable can be downloaded from [here](#).

Please note that your train ticket is **not valid** unless you get it stamped in the 'convalida' machine – at the entrance to the platforms. In Naples these little metal boxes are yellow. If you forget to do this you will be fined on the train.

Arriving in ROME by Air

(Beware - there are two airports in Rome; On your return journey make sure you go to the right one)

Whichever airport you arrive at, you then need to go to Roma Termini; the Rome central railway station:

Fiumicino Airport

There is a direct train to Roma Termini from the small train station at the airport (follow the signs to the trains from the arrival hall). There is a ticket office at the platform. You can buy your ticket for the whole journey to Agropoli from this office. These trains run from about 7am to 11pm.

To get your ticket validated you will need to punch it through the grey 'convalida' machine at the entrance to the platform or you will be fined on the train. The journey to Roma Termini takes 30 minutes and arrives at platform 22. The train to Agropoli should then leave from the same platform – but check this to make sure.

There is also a train which makes stops along the way and terminates at Stazione Tiburtina – 35 euros. A bus runs from Stazione Tiburtina (accessible at night by bus 42N from Piazza Cinquecento in front of the Termini and by day on Metro Linea B) to and from the airport.

Note for your return journey: Trains leave Roma Termini for Fiumicino at 22 minutes past the hour. 2) At Fiumicino Airport leave plenty of time to walk to the boarding gate as this may take as long as 30 minutes.

Ciampino Airport

Outside Ciampino Airport, to your right as you leave, the airline provides coaches to Roma Termini. It's a 30 minute coach journey. You can take any coach and purchase your ticket on the coach which cost eight euros one way. Once off the coach you need to walk for 2-3 minutes in the direction the coach was travelling. The entrance of the station is on the right hand side under the marble arches. The platforms are on your right as you enter the station. The ticket hall is on your left. Intercity tickets cost twenty eight euros one way. (express tickets will be cheaper)

Rome Train Station

If you have travelled from England by train get off in Rome at ' Stazione Termini'. Your train may make a stop or two within Rome before arriving at this terminal, but you won't miss the terminal as it is a huge station where the train is stationary for a while. At Roma Termini there is a large Information office where the staff speak English.

A train timetable can be downloaded from [here](#).

Train Tickets in Italy

In July and August, board your train 30 minutes ahead of departure to ensure that you get a seat, or buy a first class ticket which costs twice as much. We recommend that you buy a one way ticket as there is no discount for buying a return ticket and your return journey may be on a different class of train. **Please note** that your ticket is **not valid** unless you stamp it in the 'convalida' machine at the entrance to the platform. The machine stamps the time and date and if you forget to do this you will be fined on the train. You can try to plead yourself out of this but it this can be embarrassing!

Some useful phrases are: "Un biglietto per Agropoli per favore" (one way ticket to Agropoli please) "Quale binario per Agropoli, per favore" (which platform to Agropoli, please) "Vorrei prenotare un posto" (I want to reserve a seat)

Finding your train

Ask at the information office or look on the arrival/departure 'Arrivi/Partenze' board for trains to **Reggio Calabria or Sapri or Paola**. The types of trains which will be displayed on the board are:- locale (L), diretto (D), espresso (E) and rapido (R) Rapido trains are first class only and currently do not stop at Agropoli.

There are also a few Intercity (I.C – pronounced "I chee" trains. Otherwise get an Espresso train (4 hours from Rome), or a Diretto train (5 hours). The price you pay for your ticket reflects the type of train. Always avoid Locale trains except for very short trips.

The departure board will look similar to this:

Destinazion	Ind. Sussid	Cat.	Orario	Rit.	Bin.
"Final destination" (look for Reggio – Calabria or Paola or Sapri)	Means "also stopping at" (look for Agropoli)	"Category" ie. Local, express etc	Scheduled departure time	"ritardo" ie late. Tells you in hours & minutes how delayed this train will be.	"binario" ie platform number

The arrival/departure board can help you to find a likely train but beware because not all trains stop at Agropoli. There are plenty of helpful railway officials (in blue shirts). It is a good idea to point at the train and enquire "Agropoli?"

On the Train

The train from Rome may go underground at Naples, or it may take the over-ground track which makes a big, imperceptible sweep around Naples, approaching the City from the south. The result is that when the train leaves Naples, you will be heading back in the direction from which you have just come

– very disconcerting unless you expect it!

As you leave Naples you will see Vesuvius on your left and the sea will shortly be on your right. Salerno is the next large station, after which, keep a look out whilst the train passes through and often stops at Battipaglia (Batt-uh-pahl-ya) and Capaccio (Cap-a-chio). Soon thereafter you should get ready to disembark during the rather brief stop at Agropoli. There is one huge pale blue sign on your right, as the train approaches the platform announcing 'Agropoli –S.M. di Castellabate'.

Agropoli to Pellin

At Agropoli station, go to a waiting taxi and simply ask for 'Pellin'. All of the taxi drivers know us. (Cost about 15 euros depending on the number of people and luggage). Remember to ask the price before you get in the taxi. The taxi will wind its way up the side of a hill past a number of large houses and turn left at our blue gate and down a small incline to the Pellin property. If you decide to walk, it will probably take you an hour and the journey is uphill.

Car Rental

It is possible to rent a car at Rome or Naples airports and in Salerno. Car rental is expensive in Italy, however it can add to your freedom of movement and if two or three people rent together it can work out more economically. It is best to arrange the rental in England as part of the package with your ticket. If you are driving from Rome or Naples, road information and photocopied maps are available.

What to Bring

- Casual summer clothes – tee-shirts, shorts etc and swimsuits
- Something light weight and long sleeved and long legged to protect you from mosquitoes.
- Something warmer for occasionally cool evenings, especially in July or September. We recommend a lightweight fleece or similar and socks, particularly for evening sitting around in later September
- A light shower-proof jacket for this time of year also.
- Something you will feel comfortable wearing out for dinner – On Friday evenings most people go out for a meal together and like to wear something a bit more special than they have worn all week.
- **Your own towels** (these are not provided).
- Your own diary/journal and pens. A Pellin journal is also available. Light reading, magazines, books, crosswords, etc.....although a full library is available.

Other suggestions:

- Hat, sunglasses, sun lotion, insect repellent, alarm clock, flip flops, sandals,
- beach mat, personal music system and batteries.