

MULES, MOUNTAINS & MUD

THE ITALIAN CAMPAIGN

ITINERARY NIGHTS: Paestum (2), Sorrento (3), Cassino (1), Rome (2)

HIGHLIGHTS: Paestum Tour with Greek Ruins • Paestum War Museum • Salerno Beach • Altavilla Dinner • Amalfi Drive • Full Day Isle of Capri Tour • Pompeii Tour • World War II Sites • Monte Cassino Abbey • Anzio Beach • Nettuno Cemetery • Velletri Battlefield • Rome City Tour • Colosseum • Special Farewell Dinner



This tour will be accompanied by a TSA Tours representative who is well versed in the history of The Battle for Italy, 1943-1945.

DAY 1 Board your flight to the past today! Here is a rare chance to experience history for yourself and visit the sites where our soldiers endured the mules, mountains and mud of Italy during World War II.

DAY 2 PAESTUM Welcome to Italy! Your TSA Tours representative will transfer you to the seaside resort of Paestum, where the opening struggle of the long and bitter Italian campaign began in 1943. With its splendidly preserved walls and ruined temples, Paestum is one of the most important archeological sites on the mainland of Italy.

DAY 3 PAESTUM The ancient Greeks stumbled on Paestum around 650 BC, took one look at the wide-open beaches and the potential of the fertile, flat land and hills beyond, and built an entire city there. On September 9, 1943 troops from the 36th Infantry Division stepped ashore on the sandy beaches near ancient Paestum. Visit the well-preserved

Altavilla, where the vine-covered, terraced slopes leading up to the town made capture of this objective difficult for the Allied soldiers.

DAY 4 SORRENTO Enjoy the breathtaking scenery of the **Amalfi Coast** with its wild and rugged landscape on the road between Salerno and Sorrento. Arrive in beautiful Sorrento, standing on a terrace rising steeply above the sea on one of the most spectacular points of the Campanian coast. The perfumed gardens, olive, orange and lemon groves, gleaming white houses and rugged cliffs make this pretty tree-shaded resort the most popular in Italy.

DAY 5 SORRENTO Cross the sparkling blue sea to the **Isle of Capri** for a guided tour. The incomparable beauty of its

Greek ruins and temples, Salerno Beachhead, and the 36th Division Monument and War Museum. Dinner tonight is in

rugged landscape, the mildness of its climate, the richness of its vegetation and its characteristic small white houses has lured visitors since the time of ancient Greek mariners. Spend the rest of the day exploring the island, from its colorful harbor (Marina Grande) to its highest town (Anacapri).

DAY 6 SORRENTO Tour the stunning ruins of **Pompeii** to observe the destruction wrought by Mt. Vesuvius in 79 AD. Find the reality of Roman life in the temples, wine shops, streets and homes excavated from layers of cinder and ash. The rest of the day is free.

DAY 7 CASSINO The town of Cassino and its sixth century Benedictine monastery were strongly defended by Germans blocking the Allied advance on Rome. Because of the hilly terrain platoons found that their carriers were useless, so mules were used for transporting ammo, food and water up to the Battalion line and returning down the hill with wounded. Infantrymen of the 36th fought their way across the



Rapido River, into the barbed wire, the mortar fire, the mines of strongly entrenched Germans. They fought cold and hunger and mud at Cassino. Hear these tales from your veteran guides and view numerous **battle sites** including Mt. La Difensa, Mt. Maggiore, Mt. Lungo, the Rapido River and San Pietro.

DAY 8 ROME Stop to see the **Abbey of Montecassino** noted for its famous battle and complete destruction during World War II. Visit **Anzio Beach** (ask your guide about the statue of Angelica here), the **American Cemetery at Nettuno** and the **Velletri Battlefield**, the final assault on the "Road to Rome."

DAY 9 ROME See the best of the Eternal City on a **Rome City Tour**. Visit the **Colosseum**, scene of gladiatorial combats and early Christian martyrdom. Also see the Arch of Constantine, the Imperial Forums, Circus Maximus, the Trevi Fountain, Capitoline Hill and other highlights. A **Special Farewell Dinner** tonight provides a chance to ask your final

questions and give "thanks" to the American heroes of the Italian Campaign.

DAY 10 DEPART Return home enriched by Italy and your encounter with living history.



For more information, please contact: