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# Ravellotime

REPORT QUOTIDIANO DI PROMOZIONE, INFORMAZIONE, COMUNICAZIONE E ASSISTENZA AL TURISTA



IL SANTO DEL GIORNO 10 SETTEMBRE 2003 SAN NICOLA DA TOLENTINO

## La musica The music

**Mercoledì 10 settembre 2003**  
Villa Rufolo, ore 21,30

Ensemble I solisti di Napoli  
Gianluca Uccio violino  
Gianfranco Conzo viola  
Nicola Dario Orabona violoncello  
Umberto Garberini pianoforte  
F. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy:  
Quartetto in si minore op.3  
R. Schumann: Quartetto op.47

Organizzazione: Ravello Concert Society  
Prezzo: 20 euro

**Giovedì 11 settembre 2003**  
Sala barocca del Duomo, ore 21.30

Ludwig van Beethoven  
Sonate op. 10, numeri 1, 2, 3  
Sonata op.13  
Pianista: Enrica Ruggiero

Sezione Boccaccio del Ravello Festival  
Prezzo: 5 euro

**Sabato 13 settembre 2003**  
Belvedere della Principessa, ore 19.00

Concerto-aperitivo  
Suggerimenti ottocentesche a cura  
dell'Associazione Dimensione Polifonica  
Complesso Dimensione Polifonica  
Direttore: Biagio Terracciano

Organizzazione: Azienda di soggiorno  
Ingresso libero

**Sabato 13 settembre 2003**  
Villa Rufolo, ore 21.30

Le Sonate per pianoforte  
di F. Schubert (1797-1828)  
Sonata op.78 D894, Sonata D566,  
Sonata D537  
Pianista: Gianluca Di Donato

Organizzazione: Ravello Concert Society  
Prezzo: 20 euro

**Domenica 14 settembre 2003**  
Sala barocca del Duomo, ore 21.30

Ludwig van Beethoven  
Sonate op. 22 e op.28  
Pianista: Monique Ciola (a destra)

Sezione Boccaccio del Ravello Festival  
Prezzo: 5 euro

## Mendelssohn, il potere è classico

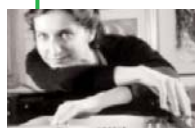
Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy nacque nel 1809 ad Amburgo, da famiglia colta e molto agiata. Trascorse la sua infanzia a Berlino, dove ricevette un'accuratissima educazione letteraria e musicale, quest'ultima sotto la guida del maestro Zelter, il quale gli insegnò l'amore per i classici e in particolare per Bach. Sempre nel periodo della giovinezza, Mendelssohn strinse amicizia con Goethe e con Weber, compì diversi viaggi di formazione in Europa, frequentò l'università di Berlino, e soprattutto affini le sue eccezionali qualità in campo musicale. L'esordio ufficiale è datato 1829, quando diresse a Berlino La passione secondo Matteo; in seguito, fu direttore della cappella reale di Berlino e del Gewandhaus di Lipsia (che sotto la sua guida divenne un centro di studi di fama europea), e inoltre alternò l'attività di compositore a quella di direttore d'orchestra, esibendosi spesso in Germania e in Inghilterra. Tuttavia, nel 1847, a causa della scomparsa della sorella Fanny, cadde in una profonda depressione che lo condusse in breve tempo alla tomba. Il linguaggio musicale di Mendelssohn non risente particolarmente delle influenze e delle inquietudini del periodo romantico, ma, formatosi sulla scia dei modelli di Bach e di Haendel, esso si mantiene su di un ideale di bellezza, di misura e di compostezza classica. Le caratteristiche che contraddistinguono lo stile del musicista di Amburgo, dunque, sono la vigile e serena coscienza formale, e la vena melodica limpida e fluida.



Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

## Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy: the biography

Felix Mendelssohn was born in Hamburg, on February 3rd, 1809, the son of Leah Salomon, and Abraham Mendelssohn, a wealthy banker, and the grandson of Jewish rabbi and philosopher Moses Mendelssohn. Being born in a family of well-to-do intellectuals certainly had its advantages, providing the ideal cultural environment for the artistic and precocious young Felix. In addition to receiving a good education, Felix and his family traveled around Europe. While Moses Mendelssohn frowned German



Jews converting to Christianity in the hopes of gaining social acceptance outside their ghettos, that did not stop Felix Mendelssohn's parents from baptizing their four children, Fanny, Rebekah, Felix, and Paul, in the Lutheran Church, and from

converting to the Lutheran faith themselves in 1816, when they moved from French occupied Hamburg to Berlin, hence the added surname Bartholdy. Oddly enough, Felix resisted the name change, and kept the last name of Mendelssohn. The move to Berlin proved to be beneficial for young Felix, who had received prior musical instruction from his sister Fanny, as it was there he studied the piano under Ludwig Berger and composition with Karl F. Zelter. Visiting friends of the family were also a positive influence on the Mendelssohn children, as most of them were intellectuals who were involved in the arts and other cultural activities. From a young age, Felix Mendelssohn showed the true talent of a prodigy, playing both the piano and the violin, painting, and being gifted in languages. Felix traveled to Paris to study



# Felix Mendelssohn / The power is classic



the works of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Johann Sebastian Bach with his sister Fanny. Truly inspired by the masters, particularly Bach, he composed eleven symphonies, five operas, and many other pieces for the piano. This was only the beginning for the young musical genius, who impressed audiences and artists alike with his precocious talent. In 1821, Zelter took his 12 year-old student to visit German poet Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. The visit was most important to the young Mendelssohn, who remained at the 72 year-old writer's home for over two weeks. Goethe was fascinated by the gifted young man, and the two would later correspond via a series of letters.

Later, when Goethe heard Mendelssohn's B minor pianoforte quartet, he showed such appreciation that the young composer dedicated the piece to him. When Felix Mendelssohn was 16, he composed his Octet for Strings in E flat major, Op. 20, which wasn't just impressive because of its composer's age, but because it was the one of the first works of its kind. Mendelssohn's piece featured an ingenious interplay between two distinct string quartets. In addition to the literary works of Goethe, Mendelssohn found inspiration in the works of English playwright William Shakespeare. At the age of seventeen, he composed the overture to "A Midsummer Night's Dream Opus 21", based on the Bard's comedic play. The piece featured lush orchestration, and is considered one of the most beautiful works of the Romantic period of Classical music. From 1826 to 1829, Mendelssohn studied at Berlin University. It was then he decided on music as his chosen profession. During the years that followed, Mendelssohn traveled and performed all over Europe, discovering England, Scotland, Italy and France. In 1832, Mendelssohn presented his magnificent "Hebrides Overture", as well as other important works, in London, a city where he greatly enjoyed performing his works. In 1833, he took on the post of conductor at Düsseldorf, giving concert performances of Handel's "Messiah" amongst others. That same year, he composed many of his own vocal works, including "Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us", and the Opera, "Trala. A frischer Bua bin i", as well as the "Italian Symphony". At the age of 26, Mendelssohn moved to



Leipzig and he became conductor of the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, performing works by Bach and Beethoven amongst others; at the time, there was little interest in Bach's music, but Mendelssohn changed all that, using his own popularity and the four hundred singers and soloists of the Singakademie to help renew interest in the great composer's work. Earlier, in 1829, Mendelssohn had made his debut as a Maestro, being the first to conduct Bach's "St-Matthew Passion" since the composer's death in 1750, and more importantly, 100 years after Bach's own premiere performance of the work. Mendelssohn performed the piece. In 1832, Mendelssohn married Cécile Jeanrenaud, the daughter of a Protestant clergyman. It was a happy marriage, and they five children, Carl, Marie, Paul, Felix and Lilli.

Over the years that followed, Mendelssohn was very prolific, and in addition to numerous composition, he gave several successful performances of his work, and that of other great composers. Mendelssohn composed several works for the piano, which was highly popular at the time; but he also wrote for many different combinations of instruments and voices. In 1842, Mendelssohn performed private concerts for Prince Albert, and Queen Victoria, who were both strong supporters of his work. A year later, Mendelssohn founded the and directed the Leipzig Conservatory, where he also sometimes taught when his busy schedule permitted it. Despite being a generally happy and pleasant individual, Mendelssohn was sometimes a little too strict with his pupils; this was perhaps due to the fact that he was so passionate about music, and had a difficult time listening to the beginners mistakes of his pupils. Nonetheless, the Conservatory remained one of the most prestigious music institutions in Germany for half a century. In addition to his post at the Conservatory, Mendelssohn was named director of the Music Section of the Academy of Arts in Berlin by the King Frederick of Prussia, but this appointment wasn't entirely pleasing for Mendelssohn, who was often asked to

compose on demand. He was left with little time for his own work, but he still managed to compose such masterpieces as the Ruy Blas overture, stage music for Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream", of which the now world-famous "Wedding March" was a part of, and "The Scottish Symphony", the third of the five symphonies he composed during his lifetime. Felix Mendelssohn was very close to his family; from his sister Fanny to his father, to his own wife and children, and he cherished the moments spent with them. When his father died in 1835, Mendelssohn felt he had lost his best friend. seven years later, his mother died, adding to the tragedy, but the worst was yet to come; following a Christmas family reunion, his sister Fanny suffered a stroke while rehearsing for a Sunday concert. She died on May 14th, 1847. Felix Mendelssohn is said to have screamed and fainted upon hearing the sad news, devastated from the loss. Needless to say, Mendelssohn's mood did not improve following Fanny's death, and he himself suffered two strokes, the last of which killed him on November 4th, 1847. He was 38 years old. He was buried alongside his sister in in the cemetery of Holy Cross Church in Berlin. While most of his life was spent in happiness, that final years of his life saw mounting grief and tragedy; however, this did not deter him from composing, and throughout the hardships he maintained the same degree of inspiration and the same quality of work, despite his intensely busy schedule. Some critics may argue that he would have been another Bach or Mozart if he had suffered more in life, as the "tortured artist" cliché dictates. However, it is



interesting to note that in death, there were more tragic incidents which marred Mendelssohn. Nearly a hundred years after his death, the Nazis tried to discredit him, taking down his statue in Leipzig, and even going as far as forbidding the study and performance of his music. Of course, none of their efforts to silence the voice of genius had any success, and Mendelssohn is now considered the 19th century equivalent of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Most critics agree that Mendelssohn's most vibrant contributions were in the choral and organ music genres, which was probably the result of his deep admiration for Bach and Handel. Mendelssohn will remain the most successful composer his time, but more importantly, one of the most gifted and talented, surely deserving a place alongside greats such as Mozart, Bach, and Beethoven, in the Pantheon of musical Gods.

Picture: Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

## ***Passeggiando nei dintorni di Ravello***

Come conoscere più a fondo la Costiera Amalfitana che circonda Ravello, percorrendola a piedi attraverso i sentieri e le scale che costituivano, fino al secolo scorso, gli unici collegamenti tra la collina su cui si adagia Ravello e il mare: ecco un percorso tra i più significativi che si snodano tra le terrazze dei limoneti profumati che aprono a panorami unici ed inaspettati, gruppi di case dove il tempo sembra essersi fermato, chiese e monumenti che testimoniano un'antica grandezza di questi luoghi ricchi di storia.

### **A Pontone attraverso Scala e Minuta**

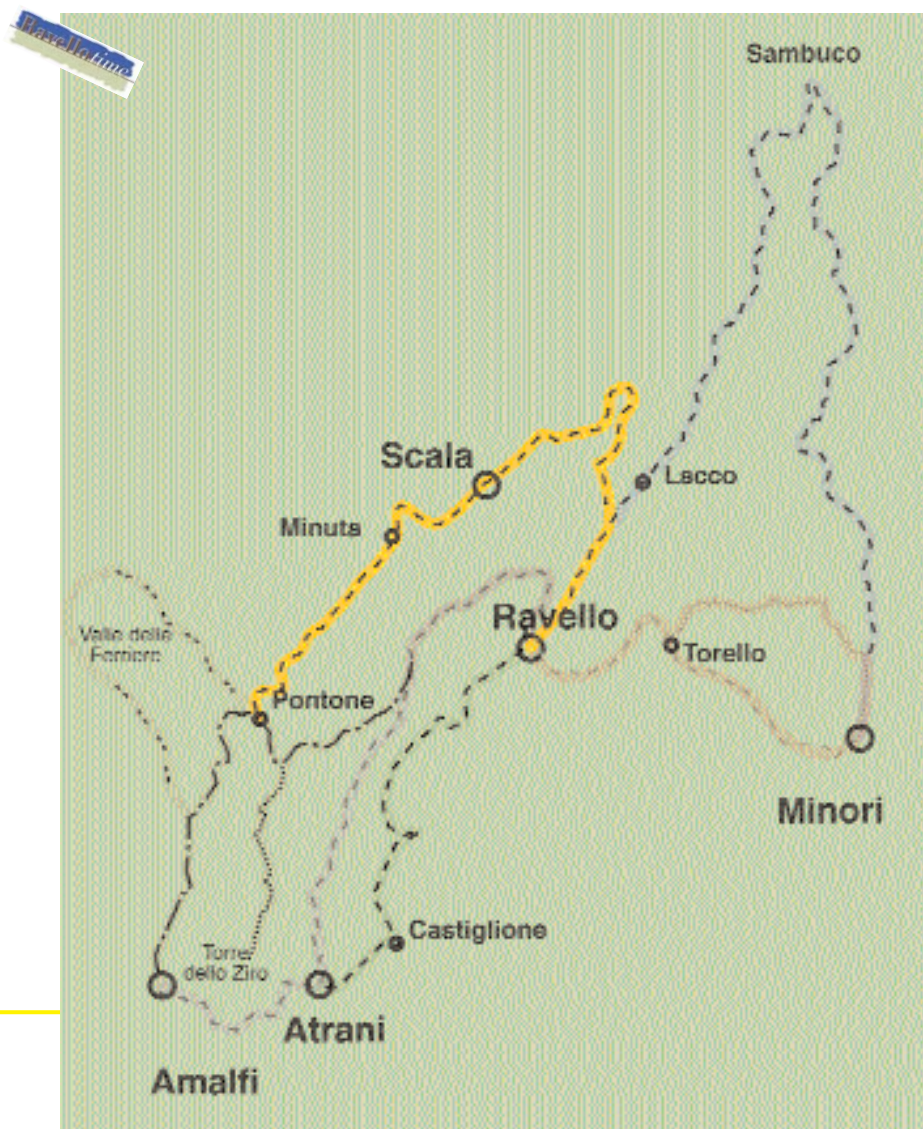
Si prende la rampa di scale di via Wagner a sinistra del Duomo e, dopo aver voltato a destra, si raggiunge il belvedere Principessa di Piemonte, una terrazza panoramica tra gli alberghi Palumbo e Palazzo Sasso. Più avanti, si arriva alla chiesa di San Giovanni del Toro (XI secolo), nell'omonima piazza. Proseguendo lungo via Margherita, superando le rovine della chiesa dedicata alla santa omonima e l'ex convento di Sant'Agostino, attuale hotel Parsifal, si giunge nella piazza della fontana moresca. Da qui una scalinata sulla sinistra porta fino alla rotabile da seguire verso destra fino a Scala e alla sua piazza principale su cui si affaccia la chiesa di San Lorenzo.

Proseguendo per altri 15 minuti, si giunge a una curva a gomito, dove una rampa di scalette porta nella frazione di Minuta passando per il piazzale antistante la chiesa dell'Annunziata (XI secolo). Dopo altri dieci minuti, al bivio a destra si giunge ai suggestivi ruderi della chiesa di Sant'Eustachio. La discesa, infine, giunge all'abitato di Pontone dove troveremo la piazza che sorge dinanzi alla chiesetta di San Giovanni.

Intorno al piccolo ma accogliente salottino, che prende il nome proprio dal santo protettore del caratteristico borgo a metà tra mare e montagna, sorgono la paninoteca-bar Lucia e due ristoranti: il San Giovanni, a pochi metri dalla piazza, e l'Antico Borgo, che troveremo a poca distanza prima del piazzale lungo la strada pedonale che congiunge Scala a Pontone.

### **Il ritorno**

*Bus Sita, provenienti da Amalfi, a poche centinaia di metri dal centro abitato. Il servizio è attivo solo nei giorni feriali alle 11,20, 12,30, 13,30, 14,50, 17,00, 17,50, 20,20.*



## ***Walking around Ravello***

How to discover the area of the coast surrounding Ravello walking along the pathways and up and down the steps that until the last century, were the only roads linking the slopes of Ravello and Scala to the sea.

The most significant routes are indicated: those which wander through terraced lemon groves and open up unique and unexpected views, groups of houses where time seems to have stopped, and churches and monuments which witness the grandeur of this area so rich of history.

### **To Pontone through Scala and Minuta**

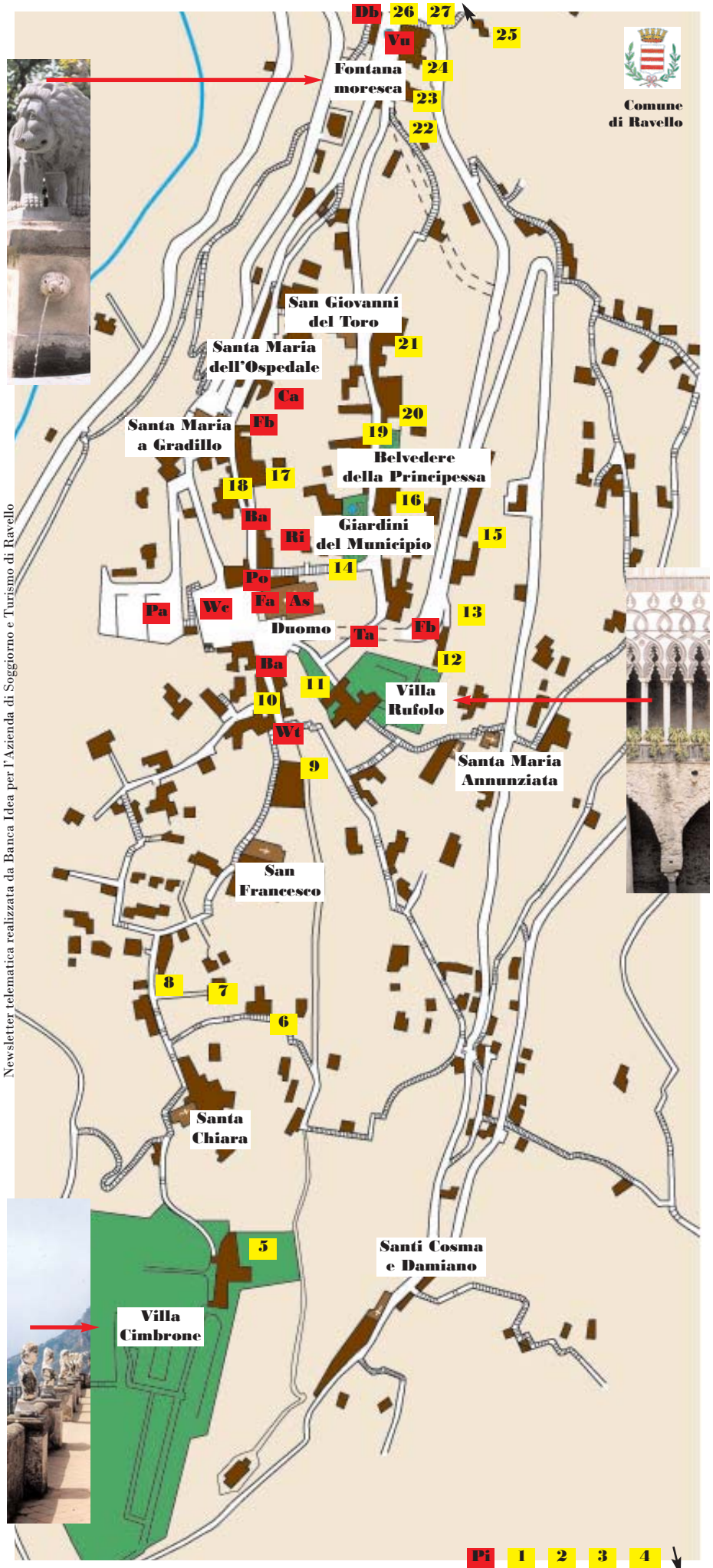
Leaving piazza Duomo and taking the flight of steps up via Wagner you will come to the Principessa di Piemonte, the panoramic terrace located between Hotel Palumbo and Palazzo Sasso.

Further along via Toro is piazza San Giovanni del Toro, a small square which is named after the adjacent 11th century church. Proceeding from here along via Margherita past the ruins of a church dedicated to the same saint and the quaint courtyard of the Hotel Parsifal, once the convent of Sant'Agostino, you reach piazza Fontana with its moorish fountain.

From here there is a stairway to the left that leads down to the road. Keeping to the right and following the road you will arrive at the town of Scala. Walk past the main square of Scala and the church of San Lorenzo and proceed for approximately ten minutes toward the area of Minuta.

Here, following the signs, you will begin the descent towards the area of Pontone, passing the 11th century church of the Santissima Annunziata and the suggestive ruins of Sant'Eustachio.

After about 10 minutes, you arrive at the village of Pontone.



**I servizi**

- Azienda soggiorno - information bureau ph 089857096 **As**
- Banca con bancomat - bank and bancomat **Ba**
- Carabinieri ph 112 **Ca**
- Distributore di benzina - gasoline station **Db**
- Farmacia - chemist's shop **Fa**
- Fermata bus - bus stop **Fb**
- Parcheggio - parking **Pa**
- Posta - post office **Po**
- Pronto intervento sanitario - health emergency Castiglione ph 118 **Pi**
- Taxi **Ta**
- Wc - toilets **Wc**
- Vigili urbani - municipal police **Vu**

**Gli hotel**

- Palazzo Sasso \*\*\*\*\*  
ph 089818181 fax 089858900 **20**
- Palumbo Palazzo Confalone \*\*\*\*\*  
ph 089857244 fax 089858133 **16**
- Bonadies \*\*\*\*\*  
ph 089857918 fax 089858570 **24**
- Caruso Belvedere \*\*\*\*\*  
in ristrutturazione - now closed **21**
- Giordano \*\*\*\*\*  
ph 089857255 fax 089857071 **10**
- Marmorata \*\*\*\*\*  
ph 089877777 fax 089851189 **1**
- Palumbo Residence \*\*\*\*\*  
ph 089857244 fax 089858133 **19**
- Rufolo \*\*\*\*\*  
ph 089857133 fax 089857935 **9**
- Villa Cimbrone \*\*\*\*\*  
in ristrutturazione - now closed **5**
- Villa Maria \*\*\*\*\*  
ph 089857255 fax 089857071 **8**
- Garden \*\*\*  
ph 089857226 fax 089858110 **12**
- Graal \*\*\*  
ph 089857222 fax 089857551 **15**
- Parsifal \*\*\*  
ph 089857144 fax 089857972 **22**
- Toro \*\*\*  
ph 08985721 fax 089858592 **14**
- Villa Amore \*\*  
ph fax 089857135 **6**
- Villa San Michele \* Castiglione  
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- Le Villette (residence)  
ph 089857332 **23**
- La Rosa dei venti (bed & breakfast)  
Castiglione ph 089871857 **3**
- Casa per vacanze di Nicola Amato (residence) ph 089858107 **26**
- Punta Civita (bed & breakfast)  
ph 089872326 **4**
- Monte Brusara (agriturismo - farm holiday) ph 089857467 **27**
- Salvatore (affittacamere - room to rent) ph 089857227 **13**
- Sullutrone (affittacamere - room to rent) ph 089857147 **25**

**Le agenzie di viaggio**

- Ravello International **Ri**
- Wagner Tours **Wt**

**I ristoranti**

- Cumpa' Cosimo ph 089857156 **17**
- Palazzo della Marra ph 089858302 **18**
- Salvatore ph 089857227 **13**
- Villa Eva ph 089857255 **7**
- Vittoria ph 089857947 **11**