Written by Jill Kerr Tepe Monday, 21 January 2013 00:00 - Last Updated Thursday, 31 January 2013 11:48

Positano... a magical town perched in the crevice of the Amalfi Coast that captured my heart long before I ever set foot on its mythical soil.



My love for this Italian gem was born via Marisa Tomeii from the 1990's flick "Only You". From that moment, a quest was organized, that one day my sister, Jenny, and I would travel there to this ethereally beautiful coastal settlement.

Fast forward almost 20 years, add a husband for me and a baby on the way, and my dreams were all being realized, literally. But the ordeal of getting to Positano? Not exactly dreamy. In

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fact, far from it. We took a train from Rome to Naples, which lived up to its reputation as the trash heap of the world. The weather was rainy and therefore ferry crossings were canceled, and thus my perfect scenario of a scenic cruise was dashed on the rocks of the Bay of Naples. Though dormant Vesuvius towered over us in the distance, a fire of a different kind rained down on us below in the form of corrupt police officers, cheating taxi drivers, a pestilence of flies from the ubiquitous garbage piles and waiting for a bus that was still 4 hours away. Add to that, my husband Nick's realization that he left his iPad on the train and you have the perfect vacation scenario. But the good news is, when you've hit that travel rock-bottom, you know it can only get better from there.





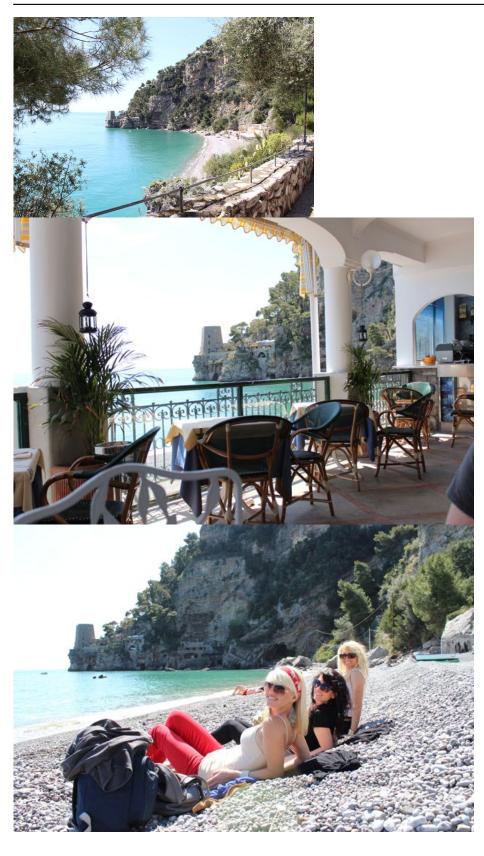






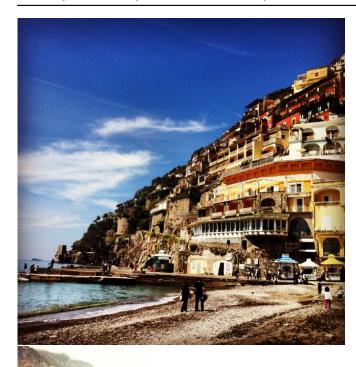














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