

The Best Hotels in Italy: 2019 Readers' Choice Awards



Photo by Carol Sachs

HOTEL

13. Le Sirenuse →

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A legend even along a coast full of legends, this classic hotel is more than the sum of its parts. The center of the hotel was the aristocratic Sersale family's summer villa in **Positano**. Four siblings opened the house to guests in 1951 with eight rooms and a large terrace facing the sea. Franco Sersale was responsible for a major expansion and refurbishment in the 1990s; he was not only a passionate art collector but also an inveterate world traveler and photographer. Present owners Antonio and Carla Sersale are also collectors, and each year invite an artist to make a site-specific piece, including Martin Creed, Stanley Whitney, and Matt Connors. Most bedrooms are not huge, but are lovely, with traditional tiled floors, antique chests, and balconies with tables and chairs overlooking the tumble of village down to the beach. La Sponda, the hotel's main restaurant, with its 400 candles and bougainvillea-strewn dining room, is one of the coast's top dinner spots, as much for the atmosphere as for food.

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