

Sunday the 12th of July 2009

After three overnight stays in Amalfi we went further on by the bus to Sorrento.

Sorrento

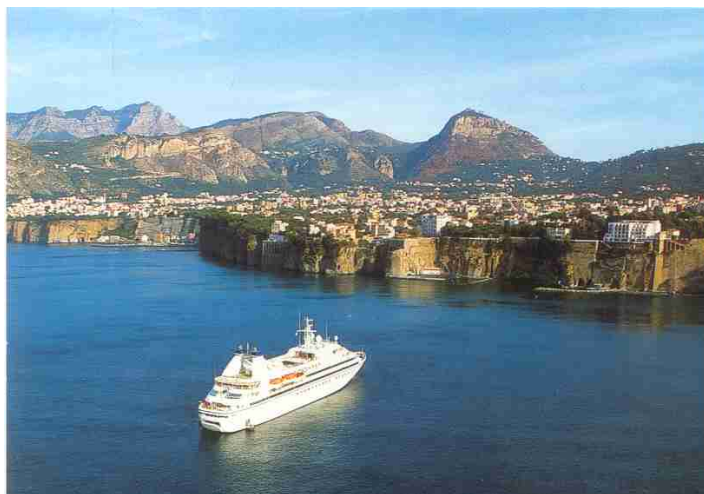


Sorrento's coat of arms

Sorrento is one of Italy's most bustling and famous tourist cities south of Rome. Sorrento is positioned on limestone cliffs facing the Naples gulf. There are just over 15 000 inhabitants there.

Sorrento was on the artists' tourist route (Grand Tour) in the 1700s and 1800s, and a wide range of authors from Johann Wolfgang Goethe and Hans Christian Andersen to Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson, Camilla Collett and Olaf Bull have visited city. Nevertheless, it is Henrik Ibsen, who finished *Peer Gynt* (1867) and *Ghosts* (1881) here, which is most present in today's city. For Ibsen, there is a large marble plate above the main door of the guesthouse *La Rosa Magra*, where he lived from 17 August to 25 October 1867, and there is put up memory plates behind the reception desk and outside the *Hotel Tramontano*, where he stayed in 1881. On 2. May 2007, there was also opened a separate Ibsen Park with a «rat virgin» statue placed above a pool and with its own amphitheater, positioned against the old Roman city wall.

Our own (Norwegian) painters Thomas Fearnley and Adolph Tidemann is among the many that have visited and has created oil paintings and sketches from here.



We had booked at Nice Hotel in Sorrento.

We knew the approximate location of the hotel, but when we got there, we didn't find it. We decided to go further along the street to have a look, but we still didn't find it. We then went back. Then we realised that we had been standing in the entrance to the hotel when we didn't find it the first time.

We didn't have our own balcony there, but we could sit on the roof terrace.



Here we are standing on the cliffs looking down to Marina Piccolo, the small harbour.



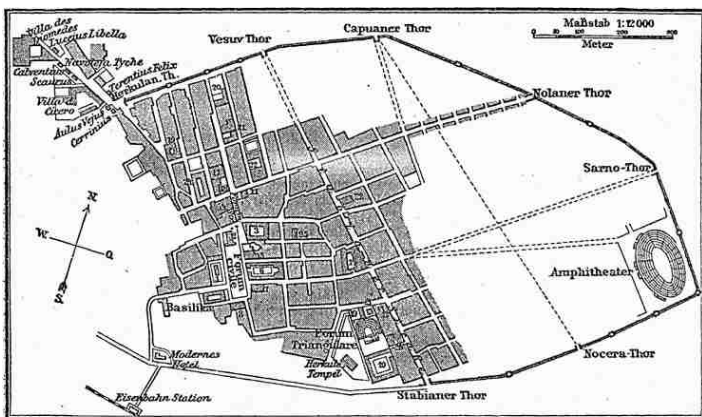
These are the bathing jetties, which are lying just below the cliffs.



Vesuvius seen from Sorrento



The second day we took the train to Pompei. The train company is named Circumvesuviana. This picture is taken in Sorrento.



- Plan der Ausgrabungen in Pompeji bis 1888.
- | | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Apollotempel | 6 Cumadia-Gebäude | 11 Temp. d. Fortuna Augusta | 16 Kleines Theater | 21 Haus d. Kastor u. Pollux |
| 2 Jupitertempel | 7 Schule | 12 Temp. d. Kapit. Gottheiten | 17 Füllonica | 22 Casa del Fauno |
| 3 Macellum | 8 Gerichtshaus | 13 Städtetempel | 18 Haus d. P. Petri fragilis | 23 Haus des Surrentus |
| 4 Grotta | 9 Grotta S. Roca | 14 Ziermengen-Gebäude | 19 Haus des Sallustius | 24 Casa di Panaja |
| 5 Neokortempel | 10 Stadienverlehnung | 15 Großes Theater | 20 Haus des Mesager | 25 Casa del Balcone. |

This is an old map of Pompeii



Here we have bought tickets and are on our way through Porta Marina to the excavations

The cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum were buried when the volcano Vesuvius had an outbreak on 24 August 79 AD. Pompeii was first hit by an earthquake, then a volcanic eruption. Pompeii was not affected by the lava, but was buried under six meters of ash and pumice from the eruption. Thus, what was in the town was not destroyed. Pompeii was thus preserved as the only testimony of the life in the Roman Empire (along with the neighboring towns of Herculaneum and Torre Annunziata. These three archaeological sites were in 1997 put on the list of world heritage sites by UNESCO. When the outbreak happened, the population was between 10 000 and 20 000. At least 2 000 lost their lives.

Pompeii was incorporated into the Roman Empire, 89 BC. The oldest historical reference to Pompeii is dating from 310 BC.

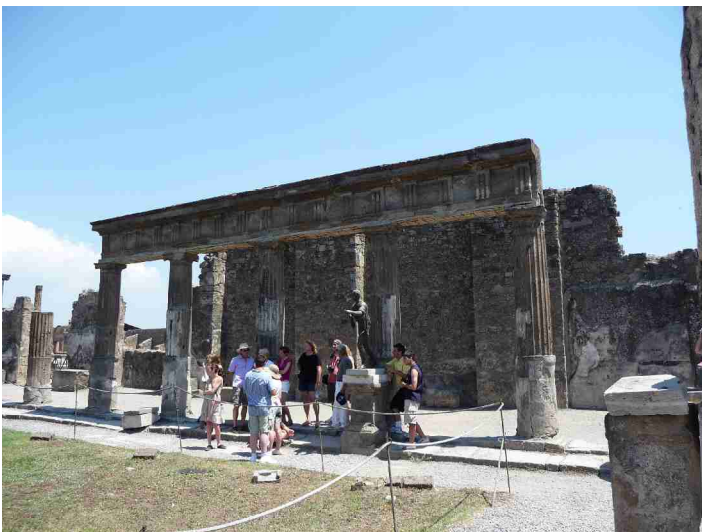
In the 1700s the city was rediscovered and in 1861 began a systematic excavation of the city. The special feature of the excavation of Pompeii is the castings of those who died during the outbreak. The inhabitants were buried in ash, which formed a cement capsule around them. The bodies gradually crumbled away and formed a cavity in the ash layer. During excavation, archaeologists filled these cavities with plaster and got the people and animals just as they were when they were buried under the ash layer. After excavations began, the findings from Pompeii and Herculaneum had great influence on European art and cultural life.



Here we are looking along a valley before we got up on the hill where Pompeii lies



Here we have arrived in the first street



This is the Apollon tempel from 575-550 BC. It is the oldest sacred building in Pompeii. In the front the statue of Apollon can be seen.



Here is Apollon



This is a basilica from the second century BC that was dedicated the city's administration and for business conversations



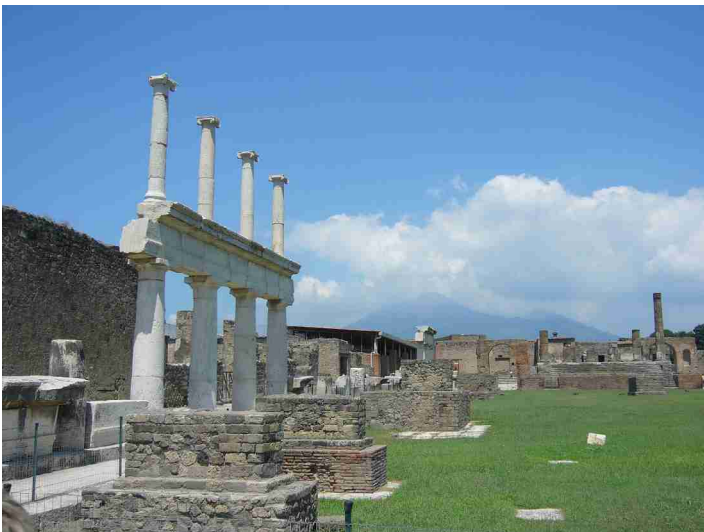
The basilica



This is another part



Big proportions



More of the basilica



Here people could walk dryshod across the street when raining, and there was also space for the wheels.



Kjell is walking along the street



A little botanical garden



There are descriptions of everything



Baking oven



At the back of Teatro Grande



Looking down into the theater



Here are more stepstones to walk on. Huge abrasion from all the wheels.



Here we can see how they laid the bricks. There was finishing mortar on top in addition.



This is the name plate of the owner



A guide is pointing and telling



There are wall paintings

Inside the atrium



Below are some pictures from the streets



A water post



Vesuvius in the background.



This was going to be bathing facilities, but it was not finished when the volcanic eruption started.



Here is another water post



Kjell is studying the map of Pompei



Another brick laying technique



More water posts



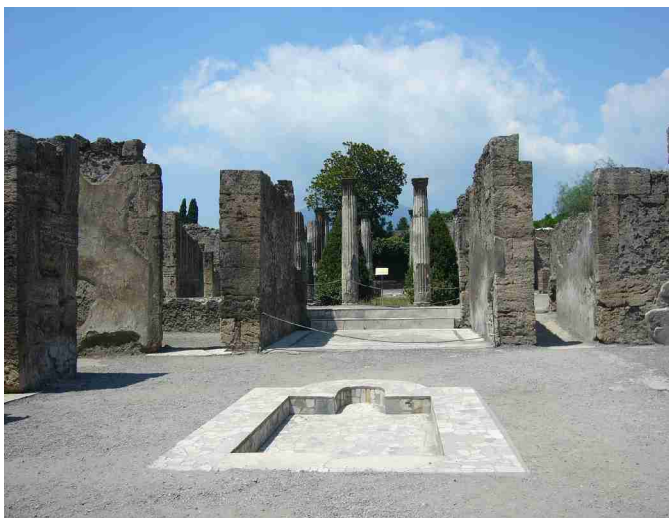
This is a bakery



The baking equipment seen from another angle



The baking oven



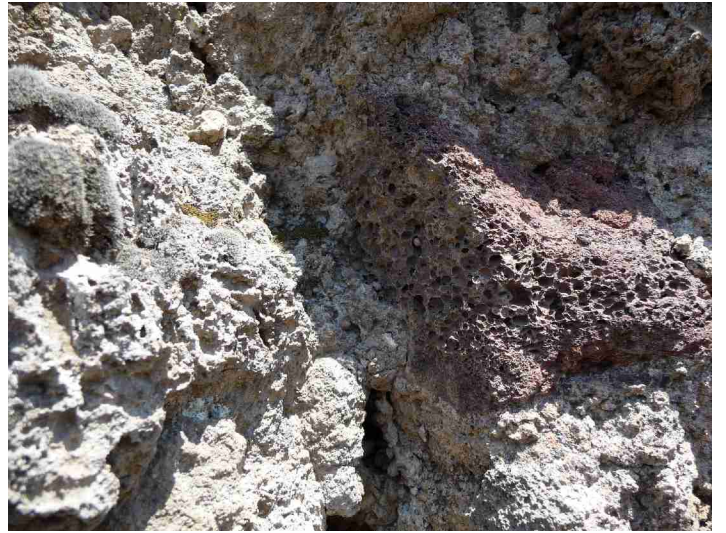
Here we are inside Pansa's house, a merchant's house from 140-120 BC.



Street intersection



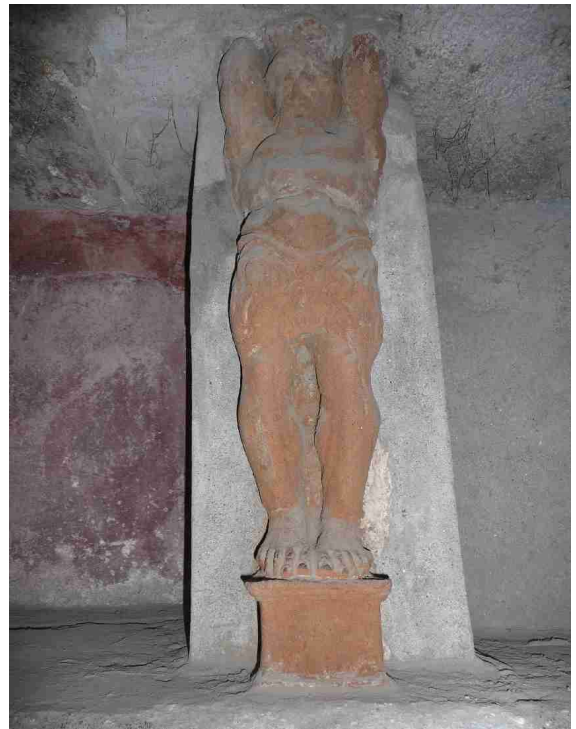
Various brick laying techniques

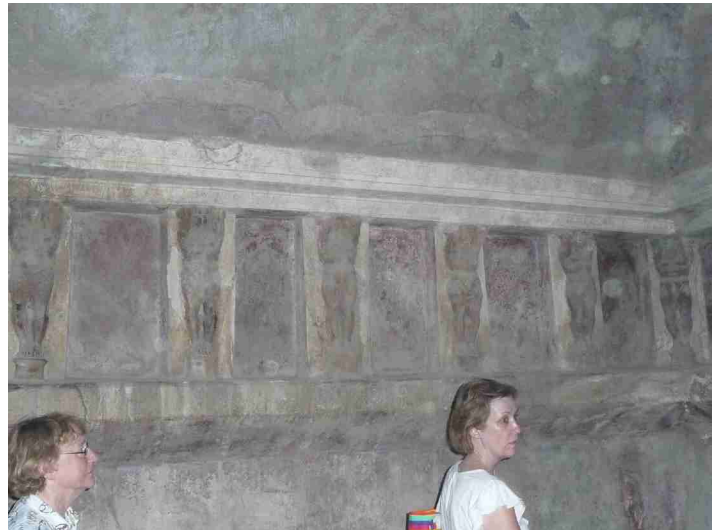
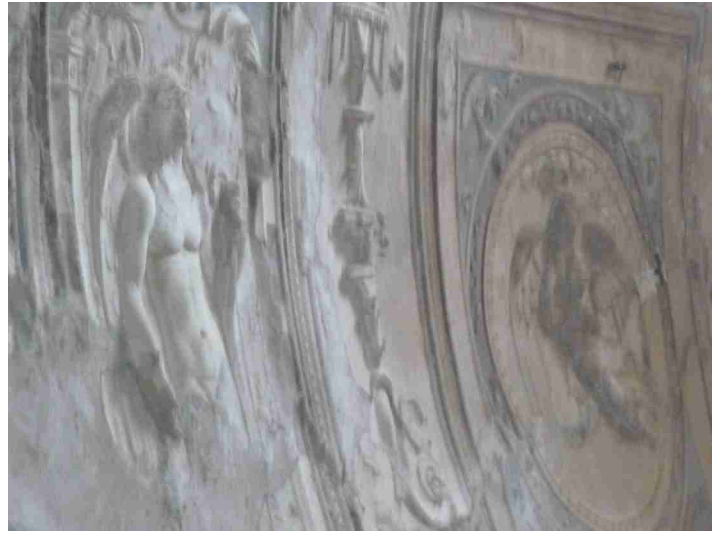


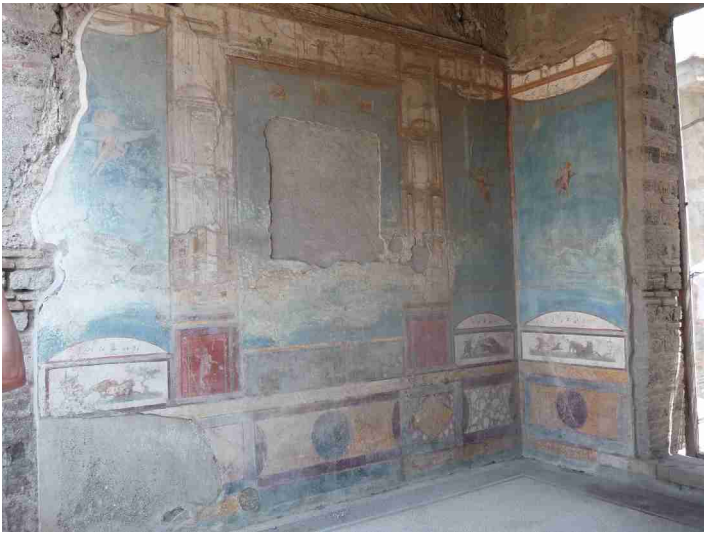
Ash deposits from the eruption



Here we are on our way into the baths at Forum that was built 80 BC. Below follows pictures without comments









Here we are outside again



Here we are in another bakery



Baking oven



Seen from another angle





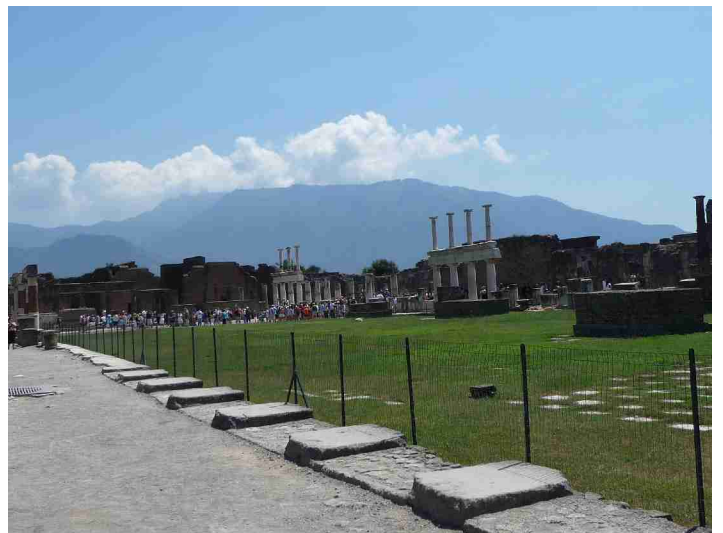
Kjell on his way through a triumph arch at Forum



Administration buildings



Here we look across Forum



Forum



In this building they have kept many of the findings from the excavation



Castings of some of the people who were buried in the ashes



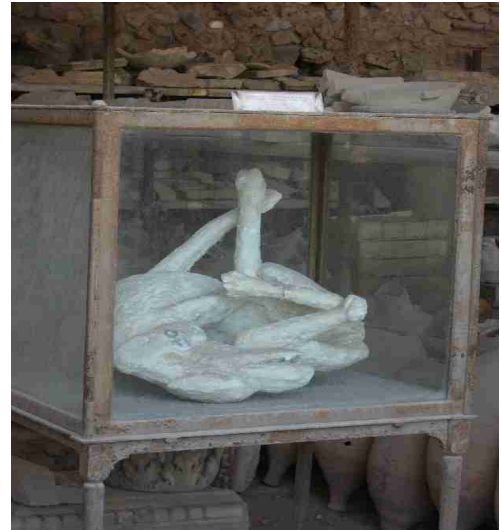
Various items that are found



Casting of a male person



Another casting

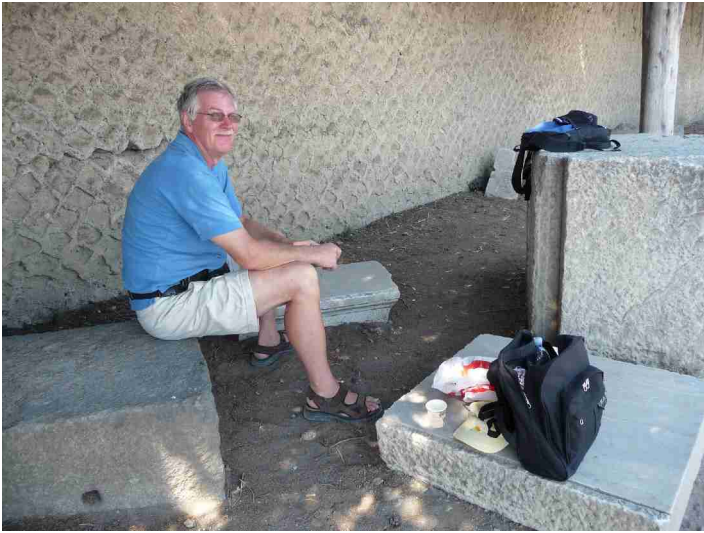


Casting of a dog



Here have turned around and are looking towards Forum





Lunch break before going out of the area



On the way out. We must go out another way than going in.



Here we are going past the entrance



Waiting for the train



This is the view from the roof terrace



The view in another direction