

The ideal touring base on Calabria's Costa Viola. Staying in Gioia Tauro means you are more centrally located and can get to many more areas of interest in a shorter period of time.

1 Week Calabrian Sample Itinerary

- ✍ You cannot miss 'the villa Mazzini of Palmi' – a park promenade that over looks the Tryannian sea. It has views of the volcanic Eolian Islands to the west, the tip of Sicily to the south and Capo Vaticano to the north. <http://www.comunedipalmi.it/visita.asp>
- ✍ You must explore Reggio Calabria. A most interesting place is the Lungomare Matteotti (the promenade), with its vegetation and several Greek and Roman remains, described by D'Annunzio as 'the most beautiful kilometer in Italy'. Make your way, we guarantee that you won't regret it, to Cesare's, for the best gelato in Italy. <http://www.comune.reggio-calabria.it/utility/webcam.htm>
- ✍ You have to take a guided tour around Gerace - on the Ionian coast - the Florence of Calabria and discover the history of this delightful city where the Palazzo Garmaldi and the 12th century Byzantine-Norman cathedral are located.
- ✍ One cannot miss having a picnic on the pebble beach at Gioia Tauro and watch the majestic ships make their way into the second largest port in Mediterranean. <http://www.comune.gioiatauro.rc.it/>
- ✍ You must visit the local ceramic producers and artisans in Seminara and buy the 'malocchio' masks (to ward off the evil eye). <http://www.comune.seminara.rc.it/>
- ✍ You'll enjoy learning about Calabrian olive oil at a private tasting given by the owners of Ponte Vecchio Olive orchards, one of the region's best producers, while sipping some strong homemade wine.
- ✍ If it's the last thing you do, you must visit scenic Tropea and Capo Vaticano in the province of Vibo Valentia.
- ✍ Have fun and go snorkeling /diving or horse back riding at Palmi's "la tunara" resort beach.
- ✍ If you love swordfish...you must go sword fish hunting or see how local tradesmen build and repair boats in scenic Scilla.
- ✍ You'll be in for an adventure when you go trekking/rock climbing in the Calabrian Aspromonte National Park. <http://www.parks.it/parco.nazionale.calabria/>
- ✍ You'll be sorry if you miss visiting glorious Taormina, Sicily at the base of mount Etna. A simple ferry boat ride across the straight of Messina from Villa San Giovanni will get you there.
- ✍ Two of Europe's active volcano's are a few hours from each other. You must take a ferry boat from Villa San Giovanni and explore the Aeolian Islands of Vulcano and Stomboli.
- ✍ Try your street smarts and negotiating techniques through the Gioia Tauro street market on Viale Don Struzo every Monday from 8Am to 1PM.
- ✍ Impress your friends back home by take a cooking class in traditional Calabrian cuisine in Villetta Mimma Vittoria's fully equipped kitchen.
- ✍ You must listen for and jump out of bed to buy the fresh catch of the day from the traveling Gioiatana Piscattara (fish lady) who yells out the fresh catch of the day in the Calabrian dialect as she travels from neighborhood to neighborhood. Similarly the fruit - veggie man and fresh ricotta man driving by in their 3 wheel 'ape' and megaphone in hand barking out the fresh merchandize of the day.

Villetta Mimma Vittoria – Gioia Tauro, Reggio Calabria 89013 Italia

www.villettamimmavittoria.com