

LUMINARIA DI SAN DOMENICO - PRAIANO AMALFI COAST



From 30th July to 4th August 2011

www.luminariadisandomenico.it

This year, once again, Praiano stages the wonderful Luminaria di San Domenico (Saint Domenico).

The people of Praiano celebrate this ancient tradition by lighting thousands of candles in honour of the saint of Santa Maria a Castro, perched high above the town on the path of the gods (Sentiero Degli Dei).

This historical celebration began more than 400 years ago. The mother of San Domenico, on the night before his birth, dreamed of a dog with a flaming torch in his mouth, symbolising that he would illuminate the world by spreading the word of God. At sunset during the days of the Luminaria, thousands of candles and flaming torches illuminate the streets and piazzas of the town. The inhabitants decorate their window sills, terraces, and roofs with candles; the youth of the town use flickering candles to create a magical design on the maiolica pavement of the Piazza San Gennaro (Vettica Maggiore).

The festival features a number of breathtaking performances centred around the theme of fire, and gastronomic evenings with traditional foods, recipes and local produce. The 2011 festival opens with an extraordinary performance by the Compagnia dei Folli. This year, the anniversary of 150 years of the unification of Italy, the Luminaria includes a special "Tricolore" (the colours of the Italian flag) evening. For the finale of the festival, the night of August 4, miniature illuminated hot air balloons will be launched into the sky above Praiano.

The event is sponsored by the Region of Campania, the Province of Salerno, the CCIAA of Salerno, and the Regional Park of Monti Lattari.

The program has been prepared by the commune of Praiano and the Pelagos-Tourist Office, in collaboration with the Parish of San Gennaro.

2011 PROGRAM

Sat 30th July 2011 (10.45pm)

Piazza San Gennaro

FUOCO (FIRE)

A performance, involving all the senses, fire being the star of the show. Dance, fireworks, trampoline acrobatics and special effects will take the audience on a fantastic voyage. (Performed by the Compagnia dei Folli)

Sun 31st July 2011 (9.30pm)

Piazza San Gennaro

LUMINARIA TRICOLORE

On the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the unification of Italy, the piazza and the facade of the Church will be decorated with hundreds of candles in the colours of the Italian flag.

Mon 1st August 2011 (9.30pm)

Piazza San Gennaro

OPENING NIGHT OF THE LUMINARIA DI SAN DOMENICO

The bells of the Convent of Santa Maria a Castro and the Church of San Gennaro herald the opening night of the Luminaria. Antonio Bonura ("The White Dragon") accompanied by Giovanni Canale, opens the 2011 festival – a moving performance themed on fire and flame. The convent of Santa Maria a Castro and the houses of Vettica Maggiore come alive, illuminated with candles and flaming torches.

Tues 2nd August 2011 (9.30pm)

SECOND EVENING OF THE LUMINARIA DI SAN DOMENICO

Piazza San Gennaro

Hundreds of flickering candles will illuminate the Piazza San Gennaro.

Gastronomic Evening - a chance to wander through the charming streets of the Capo Vettica – Constantinopoli quarter of the town (Via Casa Cinque, Via Croce/Costantinopoli) sampling local products, wines, and traditional dishes. Antonio Bonura will entertain with fire performances, accompanied by the music of Giovanni Canale.

The town and Santa Maria a Castro will be decorated and illuminated by candles.

Wed 3rd August 2011 (9.30pm)

THIRD EVENING OF THE LUMINARIA DI SAN GENNARO

Piazza San Gennaro

Hundreds of flickering candles will illuminate the Piazza San Gennaro

Gastronomic Evening – tonight the Masa – Rezzola quarter of Praiano (Via Masa, Via Rezzola) showcases local products, wines and dishes, a chance to sample the traditional foods of the area.

Street performances of fire and music by Antonio Bonura and Giovanni Canale.

The town and the convent of Santa Maria a Castro will be decorated and illuminated by candles.

Thurs 4th August 2011 (6.00 am)

FEAST DAY OF SAN DOMENICO

Convent of Santa Maria a Castro

Shortly after sunrise the faithful climb to the Convent of Santa Maria a Castro to celebrate the feast day of San Domenico

At 6.00am the procession with the statue of San Domenico departs from Via Croce

7.00am Holy Mass (Santa Maria a Castro)

8.00am High Mass led by His Excellence Mons. Oratio Soricelli, Archbishop of the Diocese of Cava/Amalfi.

9.00am Inauguration and official opening of the restored frescoes in the original Church.

Piazza San Gennaro

DOMINI CANIS ("The Dream of The Mother of San Domenico")

8.00pm High Mass (Church of San Gennaro)

Following the Mass, miniature hot air balloons will be launched into the night sky of Praiano, symbolising the spreading of the word of God throughout the world.

Each evening from the 1st – 3rd August, in the Church of San Gennaro: 7.30pm Rosary; 8.00pm Holy Mass

For Information Ph 0039 089 87 4557 info@praiano.org

The program may be subject to change.