

# B - L U S H

MARCH 2019 ISSUE NO. 3

Planner  
Effortless wedding!

Top 10 wedding  
venues in Italy

Stories:  
La Dolce Vita for  
Adriana & Marco

Cover:  
Andrea & Seymone  
from Silvia Galora

INSPIRED BRIDES  
START THE  
PLANNING!

# COVER STORY

The wedding photography biz offers so many talented artists, each one with a different style and approach. and sometimes pointing couples towards the right wedding photographer is challenging.

We devoted the cover of our B-Lush to [Silvia Galora](#), young, frizzy and romantic photographer “blinded by light”.

I met her for the first time while she was second photographer during a wedding in Tuscany and I was captured by her attention to light and details. We travelled together to lake Como for an engagement shooting and here comes the piece of art. None can capture the romance of the lake in winter better than Silvia, so that the couple decided to have her also for their wedding in Tuscany. The rest is history.

Andrea and Seymone wedding has been featured on [Smashing the Glass](#). Browse the wedding at this link and have a glance at her portfolio. Sure that you will love her as we do. Thank you.

R.S.





# let's always meet with a smile



Welcome to our new B-lush !

We guess our first words to you should be congrats!  
You're engaged!

Our second sentiment to you is **THANK YOU**. Thank you so much for having given us the chance of being part of your amazing new experience downloading our mag!

Now, let's start! There is lot to consider from when you first get engaged above all if you decided for a Destination Wedding! We have not doubted that you're feeling a mixture of emotions: happiness, joy, excitement, hyperactivity, all around you seems to be a source of inspiration for your big day!

So here we are with all our hearts and souls! Our new **B-Lush Mag** designed to help you from the early stages of the planning, with useful tips and secrets you should know once decided facing with your wedding abroad.

We really hope this will inspire you. Let's start our magical journey!

*Rossana Saponi*

...for the smile  
is the beginning  
of love...

#blushmagonline



FOCUS:  
EFFORTLESS  
PLANNING

ALL CRAZY FOR  
ITALY:  
DOPOLAVORO LA  
FOCE

DESIGNER:  
JENNY PACKHAM

CURIOSITIES:  
ONE.TWO. BUCKLE  
MY SHOES

TIPS:  
BEST CEREMONY  
PLACES

VENUES:  
... TOP 10 WEDDING  
VENUES

STORIES:  
LA DOLCE VITA IN  
CAPRI

BEST OF:  
TAORMINA



#tbt Cara & Jonathan winter wedding in

# COURMAYEUR





# FIRST STEPS

## EFFORTLESS PLANNING

### First steps:

You are engaged and your ring is blinking at your finger, but now where to start? First a Destination wedding is an amazing experience! As it is a journey with a real journey inside! and of course with a wedding day in the middle. All, to share with your family and close friends!

Here is a brief timeline to get you thinking about all the important aspects that lies ahead...

### Talk:

You have opted for a destination wedding and for Italy more specifically; probably you always have our beautiful country in your mind. You have travelled around and felt in love with a special place or even better he made the proposal right in Italy. So time that your dream wedding in Italy turns into reality! Having said to your closers, your mum is already packing her sunglasses hoping you will decide for the coastline and your dad deeply studying all the most famous wines in the event your decision turns towards Tuscany, your best friends already requested for a villa with a pool... here you are bombarded with questions and full of doubts. Time to have a chat together about the kind of wedding you both want and which are the vital points that will make it so special as you are.

### Set a budget:

Italy can be cheap or can be very expensive. So, start a spreadsheet and try to make a list: a wish list. If you are sports lovers and foody, start browsing planners and venues in Tuscany, if you dream of an understated and romantic wedding on a lake, have a look at Lakes options, in case you dream of sun and summer time movida, well south of Italy is perfect for you.





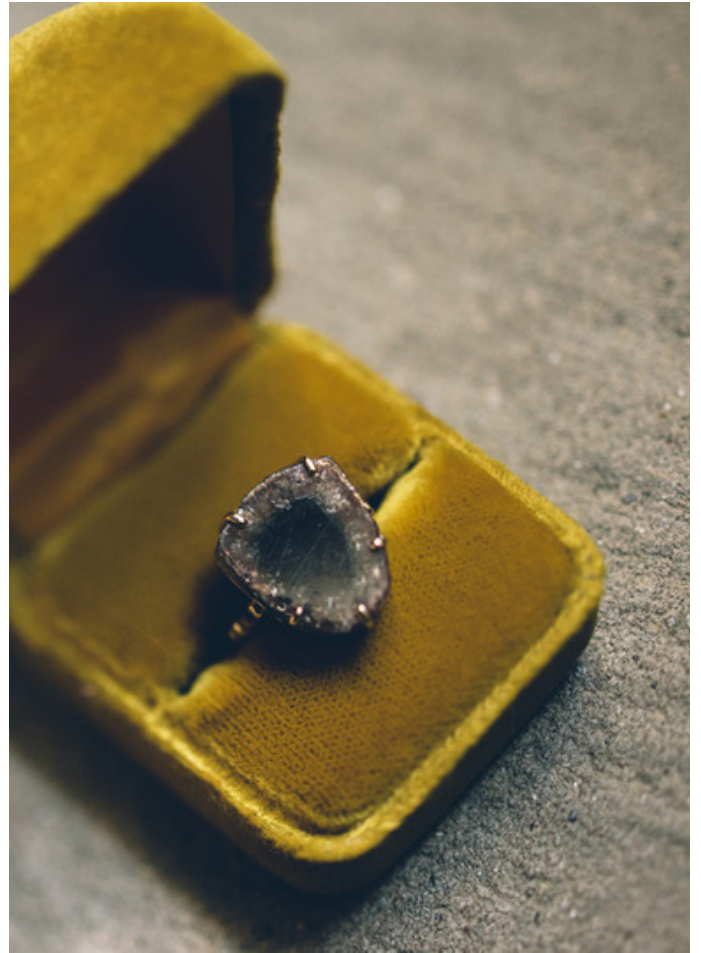
Make a list of your guests keeping in mind that probably not all will have the chance of travelling in a foreign country. Think about the seasons – the best period to get married in Italy is from May to October, of course if you want to follow the new trend, think about a winter wedding to the Alps, so consider also January and February (as our couple Cara & Jonathan did last Jan in Courmayeur).

### 18 months to go

Hit the road and start scouting venues: this is the best moment to decide if you want a planner or not. Most of the planners in Italy offer venue scouting services and you get easily pointed towards the right direction. Keep in mind that in Italy the most popular venues need to be booked with 12-18 months in advance.

During your scouting do not forget to have the chance of meeting other vendors, **this one of the reasons you need a planner!** In a 3/4 days trip you can sort most of the vital points of the organization.

Once back home and decided for a planner and venue, decide for your bridal party and finalize your guests list.



*"tips: prioritize your expectations"*



### 12 months to go

Set a web site announcing your wedding. some planners do offers also this included in the consultancy fee. Want to keep the place secret – write only the area or name of the city without mentioning the venue. Guests will be very excited to discover your dream place as last!

Start your dress search and do not forget to pick a dress according to the temperatures in Italy and not in your country! Follow all the indication of your designers as they are there for!

Book a photographer & videographer, in case you are picking professionals from abroad, put them in touch with your planner to finalize the timing and logistic.

Start looking around for a minimoon and of course a honeymoon! We love weddings followed by romantic minimoon in the same area!



### 9 months to go

Work with your planner on flowers and décor! Create your Pinterest boards and split them according to items: florals, little touches, ceremony, dinner ect. the more inspo you offer them, the more creative they will be in returning you ideas and projects!

Send your invitation and choose your register list. Here at **TheKnotInItaly** we literally love couples offering their support to charities.

Now that you have decided for your dress time also to fix hairs and make up professionals. Talk with your planner about your style and what you would love to have. You can fix a trial just before your arrival, or arrange another trip. This last option will give you also the chance of finalizing the menu and discuss personally with the florist.

### 6 months to go

Start your fitness program! Decide for an achievable goal. Share your training moment with your H-t-B or with your best friend. It will be easier and you will reach you goal quickly. Order your rings! Please do not do it at the very last minute. Buy your underwear and shoes for the first dress fitting.

*"tips: decide for achievable goals!"*

### 4 months to go

Coordinate with your planner constant calls to check the status of the planning, discuss with her décor, menu, guests' number, further activities to plan for pampering your guests, ceremony and timings.

### 2 months to go

Double check your guests list in case someone cancelled. Arrange a seating plan and exchange with your planner. Write your vows and speeches!







### 3 weeks to go

Book a spa week end with your bridesmaids and book a manicure and pedicure. We recommend you a body scrub, a facial and massage to relax.

### 1 week to go

Make the last call with your planner before you start packing – ask her all your doubts and relay on her suggestions. Call your friends (all) and shout them: yeah! I'm getting married in Italy in less than one week.

### Arrived in Italy

Make a final recap meeting with your planner, relax and enjoy the country! You're the bride now. So put your feet up and have a glass of vino (not the day before the wedding please!) all your efforts are coming now to a beautiful and romantic end!

TheKnotInItaly Team

*You're getting  
married!*





# KEY FACTORS

Enjoy being engaged!

Set your budget.

Decide on your priorities.

Search your own  
inspiration.

Define your style.

Get everything organized.

Trust your planner.

Take a breath ...





## top 10 wedding venues in Italy

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While our team finalizing our curated Collection of Wedding Venues soon on line on our brand new web site, here we are with our top 10 list for styled-focused couples! Hope you enjoy it! Get in touch with our team at [weddings@theknotinitaly.it](mailto:weddings@theknotinitaly.it) to know more!

### SICILY

MONACI DELLE TERRE NERE

### AMALFI

CA' PA'

### APULIA

MASSERIA LE TORRI

### UMBRIA

LA BADIA

### TUSCANY

BORGO SCOPETO

### VENETO

LA MAGIOCA

### VENICE

PALAZZO PISANI MORETA

### LAKE COMO

VILLA PIZZO

### PORTOFINO

HOTEL SPLENDIDO

### COURMAYEUR

LA GROLLA





## best ceremony places

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The ceremony is part of your wedding, "**già**" the whole reason of the celebration. Italy offers several ceremony options with incredible backdrop!

**Matera** and its churches offer a unique setting for Church weddings.

**Civita Che Muore** is perfect for those wishing to get married in a medieval setting.

**Villa del Babianello** is a ever-green spot for a romantic ceremony overlooking Lake Como.





# LA DOLCE VITA FOR ADRIANA & MARCO

# stories

This wedding perfectly reflects Capri's natural vibrancy & **DOLCE VITA!**

Adriana & Marco decided to move more than 100 guests from Brasil and travel for their destination wedding to the posher and chic little pearl of the Italian sea: Capri, which for its history, seclusion, and gorgeous surroundings has been the perfect setting for the most awesome, amazing, funny and romantic wedding of 2018 season. Celebrations started with a boat ride the day before the wedding to allow guests enjoying the iconic beauties the island offers! Once back, set changed! Here we are at **Tiberio Capri Palace** for welcoming everyone for a chic standing cocktail.

The day after, the couple tied the knot in a small chapel at few steps from the romantic Piazzetta. There are no words to describe the joy of guests' parade walking the tiny roads cheered up by the typical Mediterranean music of **Scialapopolo**.

Here we are with the first surprise: an open top little tiny yellow fiat 500 riding the couple along the coastline for some portraits under the direction of **Paolo Manzi**.



For the wedding meal and incredible after dinner party, Adriana & Marco opted for a special place: one of the most glam beach restaurants of the island: **Il Riccio**.

Turned into a blue & yellow ballroom with Vietri inspired tablecloths and personalized chargers artfully designed by our team, with a romantic choreography of hanging flowers and lemons from **InFlowers**, the Michelin stars restaurant was an exclusive setting the **ITALIAN DOLCE VITA** for the newly-wed and all their guests. Lifetime memories for all of us! Mission accomplished.

## VENDORS:

welcome cocktail:

**CAPRI TIBERIO PALACE**

decor design:

**THEKNOTINITALY**

Florals

**FLOWERSIN**

Bridal Car:

**YELLOWFIAT500**

wedding venue

**RICCIO CAPRI PALACE**

music:

**GRUPPO SCIALAPOPOLO**

dj:

**FABIO VUOTTO**

photography:

**PAOLO MANZI**

“

I HAVE  
FOUND THE  
ONE THAT  
MY SOUL  
LOVES

”



# DOPOLAVORO LA FOCE

## fried green tomatoes in Tuscany

Every time I travel around Pienza (south of Tuscany), I can't wait to stop by in one of the most amazing and incredible restaurants of the area. Out of the most touristic "radars" roads, **IL DOPOLAVORO LA FOCE** is really a special place for me and all my friends. The secret of this place: it is secret! (well probably now that I'm sharing it with you, no more!). Gently managed and directed by girls with passion in food, local culture, nature and health, this incredible restaurant NEEDS to be visited and its menu TASTED at least once in your lives.

Very authentic in the look, but modern revisited offers an outdoor and indoor space for private dinner (just -for-tow) or small events and importantly: a great choice of Tuscan food and wines. My favourite starters (appetizers) are fried green tomatoes served on a wooden tray: crunchy and soft, to be tasted with a great red wine. Perfect quick meal when you are shouting venues around with couples. If you want to opt for more formal meal, their menu offers the usual Tuscan fare with many good starters and pastas, while the mains include stews, BBQ ribs and steaks. However, the menu is equally on trend, featuring vegetarian pastas, burgers, flatbread sandwiches, craft beers and organic juices and a great selection of local wines.

R.S.



bookings  
[www.dopolavorolafoce.it](http://www.dopolavorolafoce.it)





# ITALIAN FOR DUMMIES

We really appreciate your effort in learning our language, hope you do for our English. Here we are with some useful words in Italian just in case you decide to be polite...

**Prego!** (preh-goh) (You're welcome!; By all means, after you.)

**Non c'è di che.** (nohn cheh dee keh) (You're welcome.)

**Mi dispiace.** (mee dees-pyah-cheh) (I'm sorry.)

**Mi scusi.** (mee skooh-zee) (Excuse me, formal.)

**Scusi, un informazione, per favore.** (skooh-zee oohn-een-fohr-mats-yoh-neh pehr fah-voh-reh) (Excuse me, I need some information, please.)

**Scusa.** (skooh-zah) (Excuse me, I'm sorry, informal)

**Permesso?** (pehr-mehs-soh) (Excuse me — when walking through a crowded train compartment; also, "May I come in?" when crossing the threshold of someone's house.)

**Sì.** (see) (Yes.)

**No.** (noh) (No.)

And in case you are preparing the welcome bags for your guests we invite to have a look at this amazing book "*Speak Italian: The Fine Art Of The Gesture: A Supplement to the Italian Dictionary*" - you can easily order it on Amazon! Your guests will appreciate your sense of humour.





# TAORMINA FOR SMARTER TRAVELLERS

Couples planning a minimoons: here we are with our suggestion if you are thinking of a short trip to Sicily. The first thing to know before visiting Taormina is that the city centre is a pedestrian only area. It's really a great thing, but also something important to know if you arrive by car, as you will have to leave it at one of the 2 paid car parking located at the extremities of the city. So maybe plan carefully your arrival at the city, or if you plan to spend at least a night in Taormina, it's very important to choose an accommodation with private parking. Alternatively, you can also park in the lower part of the city and take a bus that will take you directly to the old town. Those of you that have been to Capri in summer time and experienced the bus lift can understand! Now you know this, let's discover the city of Taormina!

**Corso Umberto:** the Corso (main road) Umberto is THE main street that crosses the whole centre of Taormina. Flanked on both sides by a succession of luxury boutiques, clothes, jewellery, and souvenirs, it makes you understand why Taormina's nickname is "the Sicilian Saint Tropez". Fashion addicted or fashion influencers to-be know every single window of this street.

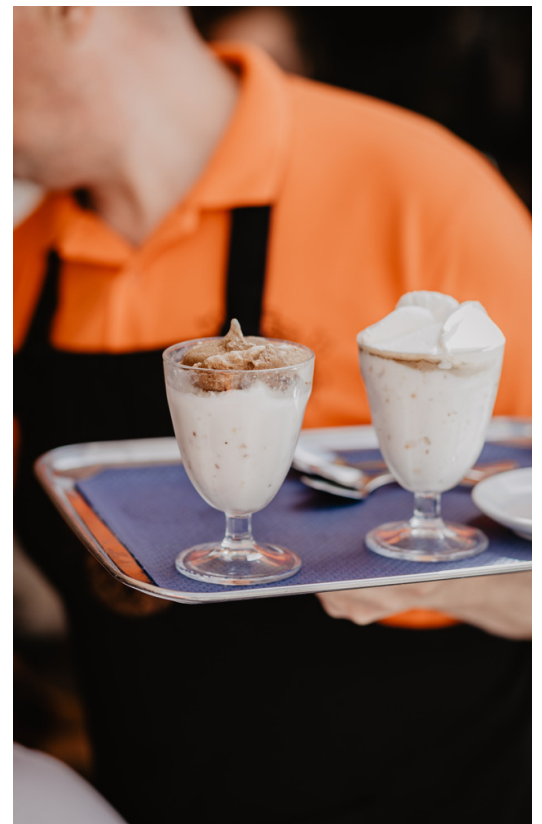
You will also find many grocery stores, bakeries, cafés and restaurants, and you will certainly hesitate where to go for your lunch or dinner. Do not forget to have at least a cannolo or a granita!

**Piazza IX Aprile:** On your way, you will find the Piazza IX Aprile, one of the best viewpoints in Taormina, with a huge panoramic terrace overlooking the bay below and the Etna volcano. It is the perfect place to take beautiful selfies, especially at sunset. You will also see a small church that adds to the charm of this small square with its baroque façade: Chiesa de San Giuseppe. (in case you would love to experience a bit of cultural hints)



**St Nicolas Cathedral** If you wish to visit a typical Sicilian church, choose the Duomo (cathedral) of Taormina. Located at the end of the Corso Umberto or at the beginning (depending from which side you're walking) its medieval facade and baroque door are its main attractions. Those of you that plans scouting for finalizing wedding ceremony spot: regretfully it is not allowed to have weddings. Sorry.

**Villa Comunale** To get away from the crowds, don't hesitate to visit the Villa Comunale, which houses a large public garden owned by Lady Florence Trevelyan, cousin of Queen Victoria. Lady Florence married the then mayor of the town, hence the decision to go and live in Taormina. Its gardens host many varieties of plants: roses and agaves, dwarf palms and almond trees, cactuses and prickly pear trees. Nice place for an engagement shooting.



**Greek Theatre** The most famous monument of Taormina remains its Greek theatre – which is also the most famous monument of Sicily. It dates from the 3rd century BC and is remarkably well preserved. It can accommodate more than 5,000 people and is home to theatrical performances and concerts. An important thing to know is that if you visit it during a day of concert, you will see a huge stage in the middle, which removes a bit of magic from the place. So jealous of that wedding planners that had the chance of organizing a romantic dinner with view on the theatre.

**Isola bella** You can't miss it, it's the little island at the bottom of Taormina, the one you can see on every postcard and also in all the selfies with #taormina, The distance between the small island and the main coastline is so small that you can swim between the two. The sea water is unbelievably clear and the tiny beach is a favourite spot for jellyfish and starfish which have colonized the border of what is currently a nature reserve.



Useful addresses :

## FOOD & RESTAURANTS

Il Barcaiolo Spiaggia  
Mazzarò Taormina (ME)  
phone 39 0942 625633

La Baronessa Corso  
Umberto, 148 Taormina  
phone 39 0942 628191

Bam Bar Via Di Giovanni, 45  
Taormina

Bar Mocambo Piazza IX  
Aprile Taormina phone +39  
0942 23350

La Giara Vico la Floresta, 1 -  
98039 Taormina Me phone  
+39 0942 23360

Morgana Cocktailbar Via  
Scesa Morgana, 4;  
Taormina; phone +39 0942  
620056

## HOTELS

Hotel Villa Angela Via  
Leonardo Da Vinci, 71E  
Taormina phone +39  
0942.28513

Grand Hotel Timeo via  
Teatro Greco 59, Taormina  
phone +39 0942 627 0200

Hotel Villa Sant'Andrea via  
Nazionale 137 (Taormina  
Mare) phone +39  
09426271200



“

I LOVE  
THAT FEELING  
WHEN I SEE  
YOUR SMILE

”



## JENNY PACKHAM

With a saccharine 60's palette and a modish 70's stylistic sensibility, Jenny Packham AW19 is a glamorous collection of exquisite special occasion pieces and feminine silhouettes, designed for the modern cocktail glitterati.





## ONE, TWO. BUCKLE MY SHOES!

vintage model - from Gabriele Fani  
badgley mischka - from A + Q Studio  
gianvito rossi - from Lauren Colton  
jimmy choo - from M&J photos









B.

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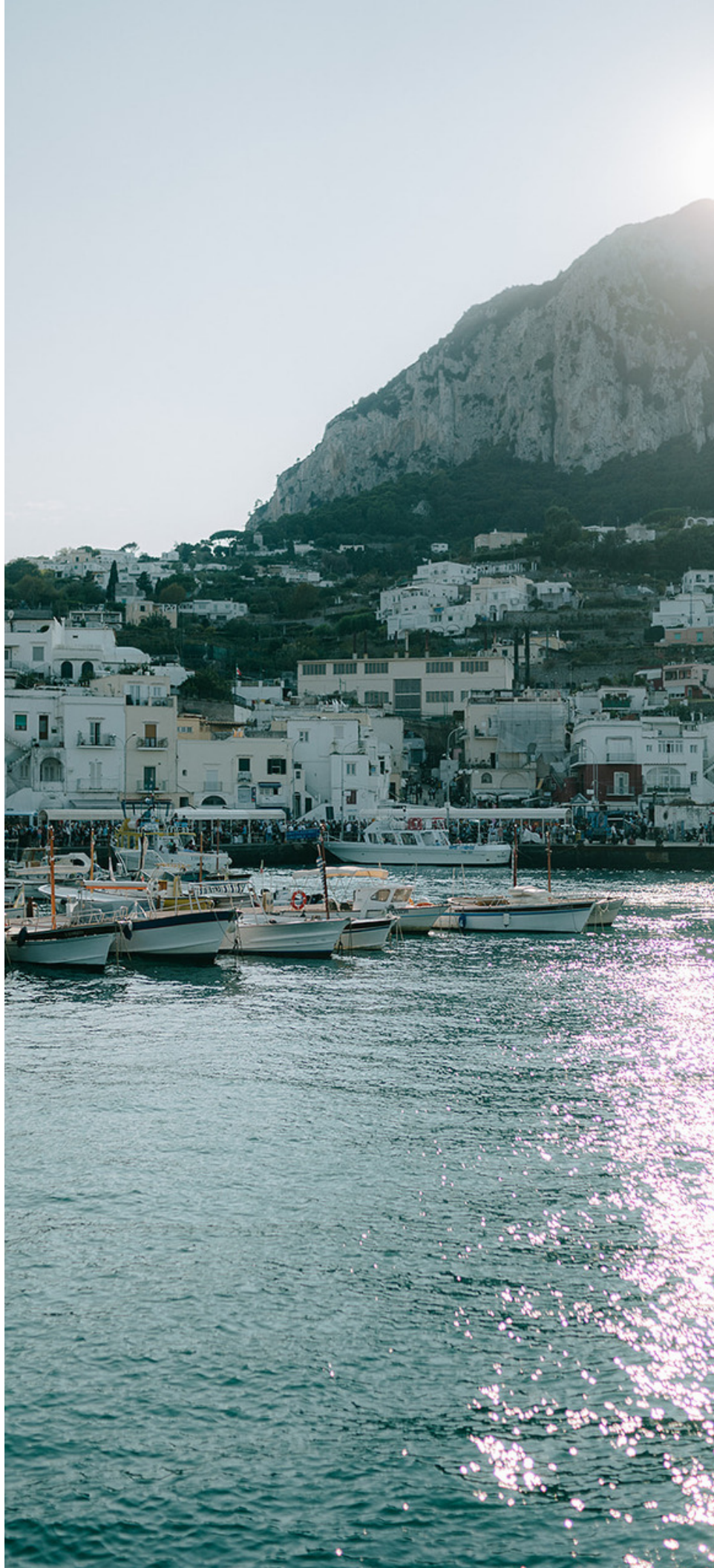
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...images from our weddings & events  
captured by the incredible talented:

Silvia Galora  
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Studio A+Q  
Paolo Manzi  
Matteo Innocenti

Grazie Mille!

...next 09.19.