

**Grand Historic Events presents** 

## A Napoleonic Weekend on The Gulf of Naples (1808-1815)

visiting the 4 royal residences of the King and Queen of Naples

Joachim Murat and Caroline Bonaparte

- all events in 1810 dress -

MAY 24-26, 2019

Friday 24th May 2019 10.30 - 1pm (EXTRA TO THE PROGRAMME)

A guided visit to Sir William and Emma Hamilton's Palazzo Sessa & lunch

### Friday 24th May 2019 4pm - 11pm

2-hour Dance Run-through in the throne room of the **Reggia di Caserta** and a visit of the Museum followed by dinner in Caserta's oldest trattoria. A visit to the Caserta Park from **1pm to 5pm** for those already in town

Saturday 25th May 2019 10am - 1pm Visit to the Capodimonte Royal Palace and its Park

Saturday 25th May 2019 6pm - midnight
The Grand Murat Ball at the Royal Palace of Naples

Sunday 26th May 2019 10.30am - 11pm
A visit to the Portici Royal Palace, a picnic lunch in the Botanic Gardens and a Grand Tour Visit of the Ruins of Pompeii and dinner nearby.

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# Friday 24th May 2019 4pm - 11pm La Reggia di Caserta A VISIT to the ROYAL PALACE and BALL RUN-THROUGH in the THRONE ROOM DINNER at the ANTICA HOSTARIA MASSA in CASERTA

The Royal Palace of Caserta was one of the four official royal residences of Giacchino and Caroline Murat whilst King and Queen of Naples (1808 to 1815).

A bus pick-up at 4pm will take us north to the Palace where there will be a Dance Run-through in the Throne Room from 5pm till 7pm with a viewing public present. Before and after the dancing you can visit the Museum and, when it closes at 7.25pm, we will all meet out front and walk together to the centre of Caserta for dinner at 8pm at the Antica Hostaria Massa (Via Mazzini 55), the town's oldest trattoria. Menu details will be available soon.

For those who can, there will also be a bus pick up at 1pm in Naples to visit the Reggia's Park and especially the English Garden, before the dancing begins at 5pm.

The bus pick-ups in Naples during the weekend will always be in Piazza dei Martiri and in Piazza Amendola (Via Carducci), in the Chiaia area. Please do not be late.

DRESS: 1810 elegant day or ball outfits.





#### Saturday 25th May 2019 10am - 1pm

#### A VISIT to the CAPODIMONTE ROYAL PALACE and its ROYAL PARK

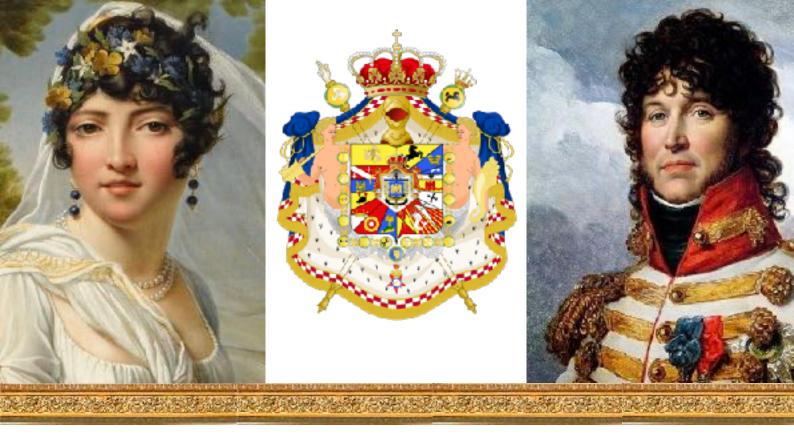
The buses will pick us up at 10am from both piazza Amendola and Piazza dei Martiri and will drive us up the hill overlooking Naples to Capodimonte to visit the second on our list of the royal residences of the Murat family. This magnificent Museum has a priceless art collection, iconic Napoleonic works and exquisite Salons.

The large Park surrounding the Museum is a well-kept wooded oasis.

At 1pm the buses will take us back down to Chiaia to rest and dress for the evening.

DRESS: 1810 Day Dress.





Saturday 25th May 2019, 6pm - midnight Palazzo Reale, Piazza Plebiscito, Naples

### The Grand Ball at the Royal Palace of Naples in the presence of the King and Queen

The Palazzo Reale of Naples was the royal residence of Joachim-Napoléon Murat, his wife Caroline Bonaparte and their court. The Palace, now a celebrated Museum, still preserves the apartments, furniture and private possessions of Naples' beloved King and Queen. We will have a chance to see the Palace and its collection, visit the recently restored hanging garden terrace with its literally breathtaking view over the gulf of Naples and then partecipate in what is to be the first Grand Ball of this historical period ever to be held in Naples since that time. This will be a truly Grand Ball in magnificent surroundings, a glorious celebration to commemorate this extraordinary couple and their momentous reign.

Dance Master: Donald Francis
Orchestra Leader: Valentino Alfredo Zangara
A BUFFET FROID will be served throughout the evening
Gambling and games of the period, Interludes and Intermezzi
DRESS: 1810 Ball outfits





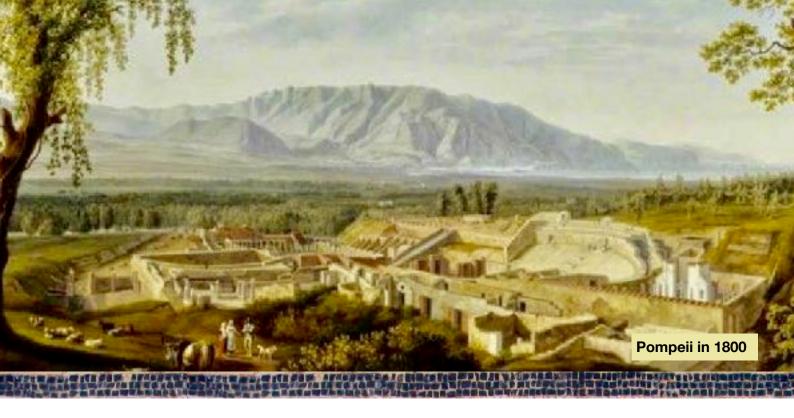
Sunday 26th May 2019 10.30am - 2pm

### A VISIT TO THE ROYAL PALACE OF PORTICI, A GAME OF PALLACORDA AND A PICNIC LUNCH IN THE BOTANIC GARDENS

The Royal Palace of Portici and its extensive Park and Woodlands is now home to the Department of Agriculture of the University of Naples. An extensive restoration project is underway to bring Caroline's favourite residence back to life. We will visit the Palace, Botanic Gardens, the secret garden and the Wall built to play Pallacorda, the original form of squash. We may fit in a game before we picnic under the date palms. Caroline spent her summers here with the children, swimming and visiting the Herculaneum digs just a short walk away. The bus pick-ups will be in Piazza dei Martiri and in Piazza Amendola at 10.30am.

DRESS: 1810 day outfits with sturdy shoes and sunscreen cream.





Sunday 26th May 2019 2pm - 11pm

#### A GRAND TOUR VISIT OF THE RUINS OF POMPEII & DINNER

Pompeii was rediscovered in 1748, 10 years after Herculaneum and the gulf of Naples became a destination for those on the Grand Tour. Whilst Caroline and Murat reigned, daily discoveries were being made, inspiring new directions in neo-classical art and decoration, furniture and jewellery. Today the site is vast. Much of the 6 metres of lava that was deposited on the city in 79AD has been removed, revealing the Roman city below.

Our buses will leave Portici at 2pm to take us to Pompeii. Details on how to enter the site will be published a week before the 26th May. Special permission is required to visit in costume archeological sites and most museums in Italy, so it is imperative that we enter together. No bags are allowed except soft bags no bigger than 30cm x 30 cm x 15 cm, enough for a water bottle. There is a bar/restaurant near the forum. I will prepare a map of the best places to visit during the afternoon and at 7pm, when the "city" closes we will all meet back at the buses for a drive to our Neapolitan dinner venue and some final frivolous entertainment!

DRESS: 1810 day outfits with sturdy shoes and sunscreen cream



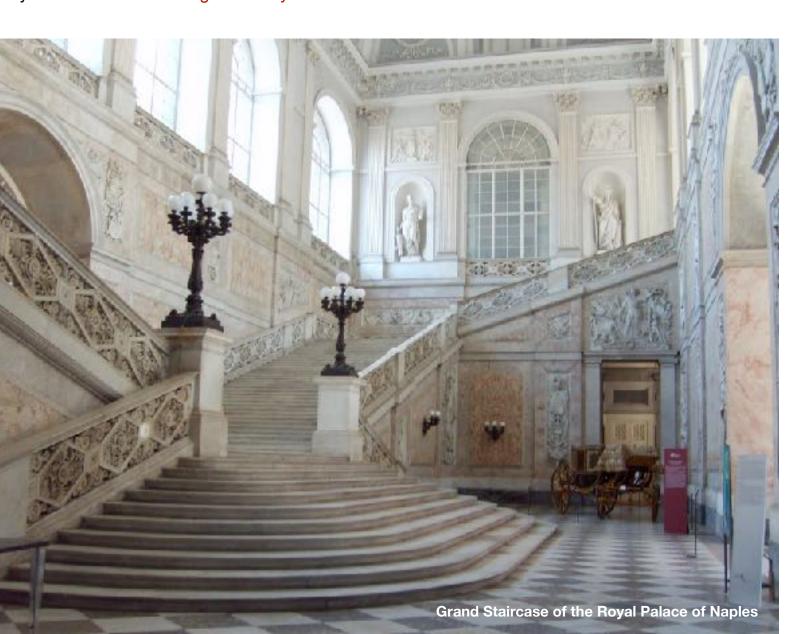
### **ACCOMMODATION in NAPLES and BUS SHUTTLES**

Naples is a large city divided into smaller zones. I have chosen the **Chiaia** area to be our base. Chiaia, just west of the Royal Palace (Palazzo Reale) and the Piazza Plebiscito, is a safe area and famous for shopping, good restaurants and being close to the beach. There are also some very good inner-city supermarkets nearby.

As almost all events require buses to ferry us to the locations, I have chosen 2 pick-up points that are easily accessible. The first pick-up stop will be on **Piazza Amendola (Via Carducci)** close to the **Hotel Exe-Majestic** and the second bus pick-up stop will be on **Piazza dei Martiri**, around the corner from **Hotel Palazzo Alabardieri**. See map on the next page for locations.

The month of May is high season but there are still good prices available for hotels, B&Bs and apartments through sites such as **www.booking.com** and **www.airbnb.com**. Please take care to book only recommended accommodation. This is very important. Please avoid very cheap accommodation. You are free, of course, to choose a different area in Naples in which to to stay, but you will need to catch a taxi to the bus pick-up points for each event.

In October 2018 I booked a number of rooms at the **Hotel Exe-Majestic** at **discounted prices** with **free cancellation**. If you would like one of these double or triple rooms, let me know. Please note that single rooms are expensive and rare. Sharing a hotel room or an apartment will reduce the cost and sharing means assistance with dressing! Let me know if you would like me to find someone to share a room with f you need some help choosing accommodation, write to me at my email address. margaritafm@yahoo.com.au









Bus pick-up at Piazza Almendola (via Carducci) Bus pick-up at Piazza dei Martiri



Royal Palace (Palazzo Reale) on Piazza Plebiscito



Palazzo Sessa, vico Santa Maria a Cappella Vecchia, 31



Friday 24th May 2019 10.30 - 1pm (EXTRA TO THE PROGRAMME)

# A WALKING VISIT to PALAZZO SESSA, home to SIR WILLIAM HAMILTON, CATHERINE AND EMMA HAMILTON followed by a typical Neapolitan lunch nearby

The meeting point is at 10.30am in the centre of Piazza dei Martiri. We will then follow our guide Roberto to Palazzo Sessa nearby and visit the site. Sir William Hamilton, British Envoy to the Kingdom of Naples, and his first wife Catherine lived here when in town and his priceless art collection filled the palace. When Catherine died he married Emma and the grand parties began and Emma's "Attitudes" became famous! Goethe, Élisabeth Louise Vigée Le Brun and Horatio Nelson were just some of their renowned guests.

### This event is outside the official programme DRESS: 1810 day wear

For those who wish to visit the Park and English garden at Caserta (highly recommended), there will be a bus leaving from Piazza dei Martiri at 1pm. For those who wish to go to Caserta just in time for the dancing at 5pm, there will be buses leaving from both Piazza Amendola (Via Carducci) and Piazza dei Martiri at 4pm.

