

CELEBRITY TRAVEL

Ferri calls Calabria untapped location

By Jae-Ha Kim
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Claudia Ferri portrays Raquel Kimberley-Marco on the Apple TV series "Palm Royale." She describes her character as one of the Palm Beach elite.

"She, like other women socialites of this exclusive club, will stop at nothing to maintain their status," Ferri said. "Their whole raison-d'être depends on it. This role is so much fun! Physical comedy at its best."

Based out of Los Angeles, Ferri added, "We shot mainly around Los Angeles — first Paramount, then Warner Brothers, Camarillo (California) and in some of the great historical buildings of old Hollywood, like The Biltmore, where the Oscars were once held."

This interview with Ferri has been edited for clarity and length.

Q: What other locations have you filmed in for other projects?

A: So far I've shot in Turino, Northern Italy, Israel, Colombia, the United States and across Canada. I would love to have an opportunity to shoot in Newfoundland in the winter. I'm curious to see how people live in that kind of cold!

Q: Do you have a preference as to working on location versus on a set?

A: I love working on location for the pleasure of discovering new places, but the set, whether local or away, is always where I feel at home. I love the gathering of creative forces coming together to produce a story that will touch the audience.



"Palm Royale" actor Claudia Ferri said she prefers not to travel with a strict itinerary. **TYLER PONG HAM**

Q: If you could pick a location to film a project, where would it be and why?

A: In normal circumstances, I'd say Southeast Asia, like Bali or Vietnam, where we have friends and family. But currently, I'd say Berlin, Germany, so I could visit with one of my daughters who's been living there for a few years now. I'd love to spend any free time between shooting days with her.

Q: Do you have any upcoming trips planned?

A: I'm never too far away from flying to my fatherland in Italy. I love it there and I love to visit my family and friends there. Some are in Rome, others in the very south by the Ionian Sea.

Q: Do you work while you're on vacation?

A: It's more of a vacation while I work. Travel has always come easily for me. My parents never shied away from the eight-hour drive south to Philadelphia to visit our family, nor the three-day drive to Naples, where my father built a home. Looking back, I have to give it to them packing four kids in a car. One of my favorite memories was to be the lucky one to have my turn at sitting in the front seat between my parents. Night drive, my mother at the wheel, and me resting on my father's lap and gazing at the stars from the passenger side.

Q: What untapped

destination should people know about?

A: Southern Italy, for sure! Calabria was given a bad rap and people avoided it. But now when people see what they've been missing, they are sure to come back. I would love to go back to Morocco to visit my dearest friend, whom I call my brother. Maybe I'll take a flight from Lamezia Terme next time I'm in southern Italy.

Q: What was a trip you took as a child that stands out?

A: That time when my mother decided on the spur of the moment to pack our bags and drive that red station wagon straight through to Florida. She took us to Disney World, and it was memorable. I loved the Epcot Center, which was all about technology. There was a talking dog and speaking mannequins. The very beginning of AI, I guess. But it was full of wonders and wonderful.

Q: What's the most important thing you've learned from your travels?

A: Travel light. Languages are doors to the world. Learn basic polite words and use them. A little effort goes a long way!

Q: What are your five favorite cities?

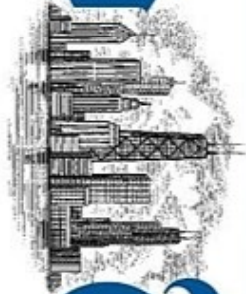
A: Rome, Paris, Los Angeles, New York and Montreal.

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