

PUGLIA: Italy's Newest Hotspot

(Bari, Trani, Castel Del Monte, Alberobello, Matera, Locorotondo, Ostuni, Lecce)

6 Days 5 Nights



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Puglia (pronounced "pool-ya"), or Apulia (its lesser common Latin name), is located in Italy's southern-eastern region, an area known for its abundant countryside and olive trees and a gentler pace of life.

Italy's magic has been shifting over the last five years...the welcoming southern Italian hospitality - referred to as the "heel" of Italy is piquing visitors' curiosity. Lecce (affectionately dubbed 'Florence of the South') now ranks higher in visitor numbers than Siena in Tuscany.

... Culinary delights steeped in tradition and abundant fresh produce forming the mouthwatering dishes depicted in the menus of delightful village trattorias. Whitewashed hilltop villages dazzle in the midday sun, and baroque architecture sits photogenically in the soft glow of golden hour. It is easy to see why this popular European destination captures the hearts of 94 million visitors a year.

Puglia is probably most famous for its olive oil production, producing more than 40% of Italy's olive oil and 12% of the world's! (over 50 million olive trees)

Italy's southern-most region is famed for its vast 800km coastline... Puglia is the winner of 13 coveted Blue Flag beach awards. One such beach - Pescoluse - being referred to as the "Maldives of Salento" for its 4km stretch of white sands and translucent turquoise waters.

While streams of celebrities papped drinking their morning cappuccinos in a Rome café compete with front-page snaps of Milan's glamorous fashion shows. Justin Timberlake married Jessica Biel in an elegant Puglian resort, a favourite summer escape frequented by the Beckhams in recent years. Oscar-winning Dame Helen Mirren and Meryl Streep have both purchased typical Masseria-style farmhouses, an hour south of Lecce.

Now you Know. Book Now. Experience and explore a slower pace of life...

Tour Highlight:

Day 1: Bari

Day 2: Bari · Trani · Castel del Monte · Alberobello

Day 3: Alberobello · Matera · Alberobello

Day 4: Alberobello · Locorotondo · Ostuni · Lecce

Day 5: Lecce · Otranto · Dinner at the "Masseria le Stanzie" · Lecce



Package is quoted in EURO per person and includes:

- 🛏 Accommodation in 3-star and 4-star hotel as per below list
- 🛏 Bed & Breakfast basis
- 🚐 Transportation by deluxe motorcoach
- 🗣 Monolingual tour-escort in English
- 🍽 Meals as per itinerary: 5 Dinners / 5 Days. (please inform us at the moment of the booking, in case of any food allergy or alimentary restriction)
- 🎫 Entrance tickets to the Castel del Monte
- 👤 Visits with local expert guide as per itinerary
- 👤 Porterage
- 📅 Departure dates (as per below table)
- 🚫 Package Excludes airline ticket

No. Nights	City	Star	Hotel Name OR Similar Hotels
1N	Bari	4	The Nicolaus Hotel or HI Hotel Bari
2N	Alberobello	3	Trulli Holiday Resort
2N	Lecce	4	Hotel Delle Palme

DEPARTURE DATES Y2023, Schedules of Escorted Tours	
June	16, 23
July	14, 21
August	25
September	08, 22
October	06, 20

No. Nights	City	Star	Hotel Name OR Similar Hotels	Period	Double/Triple	Single
1N	Bari	4	The Nicolaus Hotel or HI Hotel Bari	01Jun - 31Oct	€ 1,592	€ 1,716
2N	Alberobello	3	Trulli Holiday Resort			
2N	Lecce	4	Hotel Delle Palme			

BARI: 4* THE NICOLAUS HOTEL	BARI: 4* HI HOTEL	ALBEROBELLO: 3* TRULLI HOLIDAY RESORT	LECCE: 4* DELLE PALME HOTEL
Address: Via Cardinale Agostino Ciasca, 27 www.thenicolaushotel.com/	Address: Via Don Guanella, 15L www.hihotelbari.com/	Address: Piazza XXVII Maggio, 38 www.trulliholiday.com/it/	Address: Via di Leuca, 90 www.hoteldellepalmelecce.it/
<i>In the heart of Poggiofranco, a lively neighbourhood few step away from Bari city centre, The Nicolaus Hotel rises grand and elegant.</i>		<i>Historic homes, UNESCO World Heritage Site.. restored, furnished according to tradition with comfort and refinement. Trulli, a town located in the hills of Valle d'Itria,</i>	<i>A stone's throw away from Porta San Biagio and the city centre. Enjoy your holidays in the Salento area.</i>

Important Notices:

- 🔗 Fares are subject to change according to Availability at the Time of Booking.
- 🔗 The Itinerary or activities might be subject to change in light of logistic and/or technical issues.
- 🔗 For other Alternative Packages throughout Italy, please email us.
- 🔗 Prices do not include Tips.
- 🔗 Package price excludes entrance fees to monuments or museums when not mentioned.
- 🔗 Package price excludes City tax for overnight stays (according to each city council rules).
- 🔗 In case of loss or damage of the headsets, a charge of 55 € will be imposed per device.



ITINERARY

DAY 1: BARI

Arrival in Bari on your own. Meet our Tour Leader in your hotel in Bari, the main city of Puglia, and from here start our tour to discover this wonderful region.

Walking tour in the afternoon to learn about the city's history and its most relevant monuments. Walk through the *charming narrow alleys of the old city center*, admire the *Basilica of San Nicola* where the remains of Saint Nicholas of Myra are preserved and the *Norman-Swabian Castle*, a 12th century fortress built by Roger the Norman and rebuilt by Frederick II of Swabia. Be amazed by the astonishing view that you can enjoy from the fortress (admission fee for the Castle at own expense).

After the visit, reach *Piazza Mercantile* where you will see the ancient *Column of Justice*. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 2: BARI · TRANI · CASTEL DEL MONTE · ALBEROBELLO

Enjoy your breakfast at the hotel before leaving Bari by coach to reach *Trani*. Known as the '*Pearl of Puglia*', the medieval town of Trani is one of the most remarkable cities of Southern Italy. Discover its art and monuments, visit the *Jewish quarter* and the wonderful *white stone Cathedral*.

In the afternoon, reach *Castel Del Monte*, one of Puglia's most acclaimed landmarks. Visit this *UNESCO World Heritage Site* built in the 13th century under Roger the Norman, one of the most enlightened kings in history. The building is a harmonious geometrical complex, *shaped as an octagon and surrounded by a still unsolved mystery*. Your journey will continue towards *Alberobello: a world-known UNESCO World Heritage Site* made famous by the "*Trulli*". These *drystone cone-shaped houses* were built in the 14th century from local limestone and this village is really unique, with a fairytale-like atmosphere. The town of *Alberobello* gets its name from the ancient oak forest of "*Arboris Belli*" (*beautiful trees*) that once covered the area. It is possible to see these typical buildings all over the Itria Valley. Overnight stay in a scattered hotel, sleeping in a real "Trullo". Dinner included.

DAY 3: ALBEROBELLO · MATERA · ALBEROBELLO

Matera will be the destination for today. After breakfast, in the "square" of the scattered hotel (consider 200 m from the Trulli), the coach will take you to this incredible *UNESCO World Heritage Site*. Visit and learn the history of the "*Sassi di Matera*" (*Stones of Matera*), *caves* that have been used as houses for *over 9.000 years!* that are part of the historic center of the city. Admire the *Romanesque Cathedral* that overlooks the city, its beautiful "Campanile" (*Bell Tower*) and enjoy the amazing view of the "Sassi". Transfer back to Alberobello in the late afternoon. Dinner and overnight in the "Trullo".

DAY 4: ALBEROBELLO · LOCOROTONDO · OSTUNI · LECCE

Breakfast in the "square" of the scattered hotel (consider 200 m from the Trulli). Leave Alberobello by coach and reach *Locorotondo*. Enjoy some free time to visit this small town that is part of the "*white towns*" of Puglia. Board on the coach again and travel to *Ostuni*: located between the "Trulli" region and Salento, overlooks the coastal plain rich of ancient olive trees. Free time at your disposal to explore another "white town" with free time for lunch, shopping and tasting of several local products like the world's famous Ostuni olive oil (all at your own expenses).

In the late afternoon, get again on board of the coach and reach Lecce in the heart of the Salento region. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 5: LECCE · OTRANTO · DINNER AT THE "MASSERIA LE STANZIE" · LECCE

After breakfast at your hotel, enjoy a *3-hour guided visit of the city*, learn the history of *Lecce*, visit the *old town centre*, the 12th century *Cathedral*, *Basilica of Santa Croce* and *Piazza del Duomo*. After the visit, board on the coach and leave Lecce. You will reach *Otranto* where you will have some free time at your disposal for lunch.

Spend the afternoon visiting the wonderful city of Otranto at your pace. Over the centuries, the city has been invaded by an impressive number of populations, amongst the others we can find traces of Greek, Roman and Turkish cultures. Wander around the old quarters to see how these cultures have blended together. Don't forget to visit the iconic Cathedral where the bones of 813 martyrs are displayed in a glass case behind the altar. See its marvelous mosaic floor which rivals the well-known mosaics of Ravenna in its richness and significance.

In the early evening, reach *Supersano* where you will have dinner at the "*Masseria le Stanzie*". Visit this ancient farm, learn about the history and culture of Puglia. See how homemade pasta is made and visit the medieval tombs that are part of the farm. Dinner with typical meals and products from the region. In the night, travel back to Lecce. Overnight.

DAY 6: LECCE

Enjoy one final breakfast at the hotel. End of our services.

*Credit of the Introduction: <https://www.italymagazine.com/featured-story/guide-puglia-italys-newest-hotspot>



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TAKE A PLEDGE TO BE A RESPONSIBLE TOURIST IN LEBANON & OUTSIDE

Do you have a smartphone and an adventurous spirit? Then, create your own mini travel guide and tips.

We want to celebrate your creativity by inviting you to share your documentary (60 seconds or less) or Feedback.

We'd love to learn more about your trip. Please tell us your reviews of the Hotel and Packages. Enrich our Blog with your experience and knowledge of a city.

Suggested themes to cover

- Show us the beauty of a city through your eyes.
- Let us know if you experienced something new, met inspirational locals, immersed yourself in a different culture.
- Take us with you off the beaten path in pursuit of an adventure. Show us how and where.
- Spread the news of your standout dinners, street food, decadent hangouts...
- Tell us what travel is for you: is it that instant when toes meet sand or a blissful solitude of nature...

Don't shy away from small stories!