

Best Tour Puglia, *Local, like me!*

One of the least explored regions of Italy!!



DETAILED ITINERARY ~ Fun & Adventure

Day 1 ~ BUONGIORNO – WELCOME to *ITALIA* !!

Accommodations are in **ABEROBELLO**

at the Masseria Torricella, S.P. Canale di Pirro 19, 70011 Alberobello

<http://www.masseriatorricella.it/>

- Begin your days with a typical Italian breakfast at the masseria.
- Depart of a day tour by 9 AM most days
- Days out... include touring, a pre-arranged lunch, and time for shopping and relaxing.
- Return late afternoon around 5 each evening...
- End your days enjoying dinner and relaxing or some doing activities at the masseria.

ALBEROBELLO, NOCI & OSTUNI

- *Our visit takes you to the town of **ALBEROBELLO**, famous for its district of Trulli, spread over the hillside to the south of the town. These square structures have conical roofs covered with “Chiancarelle,” grey-limestone roof slabs, and are crowned by differently shaped pinnacles, each with a magical significance.*
 - We will WANDER the streets of the quaint town of **ALBEROBELLO** and through an 18th century small **Trullo house**, giving something of the atmosphere of trullo life, with sweet, rounded rooms that include a re-created bakery, bedroom and kitchen.
 - Lunch and VISIT of “**Agriturismo Aglio Piccolo**” in the town of **NOCI**. We TOUR an *Apulian farmhouse*, known in Puglia as “**masseria**”, and DISCOVER the cheese factory offering samples of farm-fresh burrata, mozzarella and ricotta cheeses.

“WHITE TOWN” OF OSTUNI

- We STROLL through the narrow alleys and steep stairways of picturesque **OSTUNI**, a town which shines like a pearly white tiara, extending across three hills with the magnificent gem of a late-Gothic 15th century cathedral.
 - **Lunch at a local restaurant**. *Savor the local flavors!*
 - Perhaps there is the possibility to visit historical city of **MONOPOLI** by night.

LECCE AND ITS BAROQUE SPLENDORS

- We join a BUS TOUR to have the key sights historic **LECCE** explained to us. Southern Italians have long appreciated this remarkable architectural confection and glorious

profusion of Baroque mansions and churches intricately sculpted from the soft sandstone found locally.

- We VISIT a pastry shop to sample the traditional pastry, a sweet custard treat called **Pasticciotto**. When it comes to food, the Apulia region is one of the most famous for Italian cuisine, so you can't miss the pleasure of the well-known Pasticciotto.
- **OTRANTO**, an historic seaside town and port on the picture-perfect blue waters of the Adriatic Sea. Typical lunch out ... Lighthouse is located on Capo d'Otranto ... most easterly point in the Province of Italy.

LOCOROTONDO - A CITY IN THE ROUND

We drive South-east Murgia, deep in the Itria Valley to visit one of Italy's most beautiful and unique villages. **LOCOROTONDO** known for its wines and for its circular structure which is now a historical center. Enjoy a walking tour and note the white prehistoric roundhouses called *trulli* in the midst of the city's architectural beauty.

THE MARVELS OF GALLIPOLI & GROTTA ZINZULUSA

- We travel to the town of **GALLIPOLI**, an important Greek colony in the Middle Ages. Lunch in a popular fishing restaurant, we TRAVEL to "**Grotta Zinzulusa**," located in the very bottom of Italy's boot, for a fun boating excursion.
 - A majestic sheer sea cliff near **CASTRO** welcomes us to Zinzulusa Cave, one of **Salento**'s most impressive karstic phenomena. The cave, which branches out in several different directions, owes its name to the popular imagination - its many stalactites and stalagmites look like limp rags, which are called "Zinzuli" in the local Salento dialect.

MATERA

- We DRIVE to nearby **Basilicata region** and the town of **MATERA**. Even for Italians, *Basilicata* is off the beaten track and little known, despite being portrayed as Biblical Palestine in countless film epics.
- *Matera is a fabulous troglodyte town of prehistoric grottoes, cave tabernacles, abandoned hovels and Renaissance houses, all excavated into the luminous limestone tufa. The rock-cut cave dwellings known as the Sassi, date back to Byzantine times.*

ALTAMURA

We visit a local bakery in **ALTAMURA** for a DEMONSTRATION the making of bread, baked in an old wood-burning oven of centuries past. "**Altamura Bread**" is a rustic bread from the Italian province of Bari. *Semolina Flour* gives it a distinct texture, flavor and aroma that is unique to Italy!

- Typical Lunch at a local farm or ristorante.

BARI in the region of PUGLIA (APULIA)

- WALKING TOUR through the ancient alleys of **BARI**, visiting the "**Basilica of St. Nicholas**," one of the most remarkable examples of Romanesque architecture, the exterior of the "**Swabian Castle**" built in Norman times, and the local Fish Market.

- At the heart of the historic center called “**Bari Vecchia**” (Old Bari), we EXPERIENCE the making of the Apulian “**orecchiette**,” a good food of which its essence is enclosed in a small-form pasta that is a true symbol of “*pugliesità*.”
- We enjoy a Lunch in a typical ristorante. It is time to taste some handmade orecchiette in a traditional authentic meal.

POLIGNANO A MARE

Wide horizons, bold colors, sometimes harsh and a bit lunar. Such is the landscape of the “**Murgia Valley**” from the **Imperial Puglia**, dominated by the presence of Frederick II.

- We are INVITED to an optional COOKING CLASS in the preparation of our home-hosted Lunch. This is optional.
- Afternoon and Evening
 - We VISIT the seaside town of **POLIGNANO A MARE**, a town of Greek origins located on a steep rocky cliff of a deep gorge overlooking the Adriatic Sea.
 - The **historic center of POLIGNANO** offers all the right ingredients for a perfect day out. The tiny old town accessed by crossing “**La Porta Vecchia**” combines charming whitewashed streets with beautiful old churches and white beaches.
 - Dinner. Gelato AND, a walking tour by night.

An unforgettable **SPECIAL NIGHT** *for your final evening of the tour*

Day 10: ARRIVEDERCI !!

- We end our tour with one last breakfast in Italy followed by Transport to Bari Airport.
- ***Molte Grazie and Buon Viaggio!!***

Have a Question ... CONTACT US

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or

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