

## The Unique Charm of Apulia & Matera

*Among scenic landscapes, century-old traditions and excellent cuisine*

2021

*8 days and 7 nights*



*"Italy is a dream that keeps returning for the rest of your life."  
Anna Akhmatova, Russian poet*

# Charme & Adventure

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## Program

### Day 1 - Arrival day

Upon arrival at Bari airport, meet your private driver at the arrival area (after you have passed passport control and baggage claim) and head to Polignano a Mare (approx 40' away from the airport), where you will check in at 5\* Borgobianco Resort & Spa (or similar). Hotel check-in time is from 3pm on. Hotel check-out time is within 12pm.

Rest of the day and meals at leisure.

### Day 2 - Duration: approx 13 hours - Breakfast and dinner included

In the morning, approx at 8.30am, collect your private vintage car (it will be delivered at your hotel) for an exclusive self-drive tour that will take you to a couple of very characteristic hamlets just a few kilometers away from Polignano: Martina Franca and Alberobello. Characterized by an elegant Baroque architecture and a historic center featuring pretty narrow streets, balconies and archways, Martina Franca is a true gleaming jewel which awaits to be discovered. Not less charming, Alberobello is one of the most picturesque destinations in Apulia for its unusual districts of *trulli*, the characteristic white-washed conical-roofed houses of the area.

You will discover both towns following the lead of a local expert guide and discovering curiosities and peculiarities of these two little gems.

After the walking tour in Alberobello, drop off your vintage car and enjoy lunch at leisure in a suggested local restaurant.



After lunch, meet your private driver and head with your guide to Castel del Monte (approx 1h30' away from Alberobello). Defined by UNESCO as “the Citadel of Mysteries”, this fortress is a genius example of medieval architecture compounding elements of different styles, from Romanesque to Gothic, and was built according to an extreme geometric and mathematical rigour. The octagonal plan design and the number eight recur almost in an obsessive manner: there are eight rooms on the ground floor and first floor, and eight imposing towers, while the plan is obviously in an octagonal shape, distributed over each of the eight corners. It is even believed that in the interior courtyard there was a pool also in an octagonal shape. Everything here suggests symbolisms which have been fascinating researchers for centuries, and will leave you with a sensation of pleasant mystery.

After the visit, approx at 7.30pm, enjoy dinner at a typical Apulian Masseria near Fasano (approx 1h50' away from Castel del Monte). Here you will have a 3-course menu, wine NOT included.

At the end, private transfer back to your hotel.



**Day 3 - Duration: approx 8 hours - Breakfast and street food tastings included**

After breakfast, approx at 10am, meet your private driver and reach Bari (approx 40' away from Polignano) for a private guided walking tour and unique street food experience. From the famous *focaccia barese* to the delicious *pan brioche* and *panzerotto*, Bari boasts an incredibly rich and diversified street food tradition which satisfy all tastes. The most peculiar part of the city is surely *Bari Vecchia*, the old town, which unveils the most pulsing and authentic spots of the city: here you can immerse yourselves in the authentic atmosphere of Southern Italy, experience its “slow-living”, and discover the pure and genuine identity of local people. A true insight into the Apulian typical lifestyle!

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After lunch, approx at 2pm, head to a local masseria for a private visit and extra virgin olive oil tasting (transfer time: approx 50' - duration of the visit: approx 1h30'), then reach Ostuni (approx 15' from the Masseria), the so-called "white pearl of Apulia", for a private guided tour. The brightness of its whitewashed houses, set against the pink-tinged brown of its principal monument, makes the town stand out in the green of the surrounding area, with hints of the Middle Ages at hand in every corner.

At the of the tour, approx at 6.30pm, private transfer back to your hotel.  
Rest of the day and dinner at leisure.



## **Day 4 - Duration: approx 8 hours - Breakfast and lunch included**

In the morning, approx at 8.30am, meet your private driver and head to Lecce (approx 1h15' away from Polignano) for a private guided tour focused on the rich Baroque heritage recognizable throughout the city. Art, culture, traditional food, secret spots, hidden gardens

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and historical private buildings are the ingredients to enjoy a perfect walking tour in the fabulous Lecce, also known as the “Southern Florence” for its huge architectural heritage, mainly but not only characterized by baroque buildings and monuments. Here your private guide will lead you through the stunning old town centre, unveiling hidden spots far from the most crowded areas. Immerse yourselves in the warm and welcoming atmosphere of the town, meet the friendly and smiling local people and admire the main landmarks such as Sant’Oronzo square, piazza del Duomo and Basilica of Santa Croce.

At lunchtime, head to Apollonio Winery (approx 20’ away from Lecce), one of the most famous wine properties in the area, and enjoy a wine tasting followed by a buffet lunch.



After lunch, move to Otranto (approx 40’ away from the winery) for a walking tour with your private guide. As the cape of Otranto is the most easterly point of Italy, the city was in the past an important gateway to Orient and a main merchant port. Old fortification walls, ramparts overlooking the sea, and an intricate web of alleyways and white-washed homes contribute to preserve the ancient atmosphere of the town.

At the end of the tour, approx at 5.30pm, private transfer back to your hotel.

Rest of the day and dinner at leisure.

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## **Day 5 - Duration: approx 7 hours - Breakfast and light lunch included**

After breakfast, approx at 10am, meet your private driver for a full-day focused on the two charming towns of Monopoli and Polignano a Mare.

The first stop of your tour will be Monopoli (approx 15' away from Polignano), where you meet your private guide for a pleasant walking around the old centre. This small hamlet boasts a lively commercial activity, being an important port town in the area, and still retains a charming historic centre, beautiful old churches and winding streets, with visible signs of its Greek origins.

After the tour, head to Terre di San Vito Winery near Polignano (approx 20' away from Monopoli), for a wine tasting followed by a light lunch based on local products.

After lunch, enjoy some time at leisure in Polignano (approx 10' away from the winery) to stroll around the town and enjoy an Italian gelato on the seaside (approx duration of the self-guided tour: 2h30'). Not less beautiful than the nearby Monopoli, Polignano stands on a plateau above the sea, with caves ploughing the low cliffs eroded out of the tufo rock and multi-leveled whitewashed buildings jumbled up like stacked sugar cubes. All these captivating features earned the town the name of "pearl of the Adriatic", and you will surely see why!

At the end of your self-guided tour, approx at 5pm, private transfer back to the hotel. Rest of the day and dinner at leisure.



**Day 6 - Transfer day with visit of Matera and Metaponto - Breakfast included**

After check-out, approx at 9.30am, meet your private driver and head to Matera (approx 1h20' away from Polignano) for a private guided walking tour. UNESCO heritage site and European Capital of Culture 2019, Matera is described as the “most outstanding, intact example of a troglodyte settlement in the Mediterranean region, perfectly adapted to its terrain and ecosystem”. All along your guided tour, you will wind through the narrow streets and climb the stairs of the hillside cave dwellings, feeling the ancient and mystical energy of the city and exploring the cave churches and houses best known under the name of *sassi*, due to their composition of calcarenite rock.

While in Matera, enjoy lunch at leisure in a suggested local restaurant.

After lunch, reach the nearby Metaponto (approx 40' away from Matera), whose traces of ancient history will throw you back to the time of Ancient Greece, for a private guided walking tour.

At the end of the tour, approx at 5 pm, private transfer to 5\* Sant'Angelo Luxury Resort (or similar) and check-in (approx 45' away from Metaponto). Hotel check-in time is from 2.30pm on. Hotel check-out time is within 11am.

Rest of the day and meals at leisure.



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## **Day 7 - Duration: approx 8 hours - Breakfast included**

After breakfast, approx at 9.30am, meet your private driver for a full-day walking or trekking\* experience on the Lucanian Dolomites, discovering the two villages of Castelmezzano and Pietrapertosa (approx 1h away from Matera) with your private guide. Based in the province of Potenza, both villages are part of the club of *The most beautiful villages in Italy*, an Italian association that notes small towns of strong artistic and historical interest. Pietrapertosa is also home to one of the longest and highest zip lines in the world, the so-called *Volo dell'Angelo*, which connects the two villages.

After the experience, approx at 4.30pm, private transfer back to your hotel in Matera. Rest of the day and meals at leisure.

*\*For this experience, we recommend: comfortable and layered clothing, at least half a liter of water, sun hat, wind jacket, trekking shoes, and backpack.*



## **Day 8 - Departure day - Breakfast included**

After check-out, meet your private driver and head to Bari airport (approx 50' away from Matera) for departure.

End of our services.





## UPGRADE OPTIONS

### Total NET Rates based on 2 pax

- High season (from April 1 to August 31, 2020): € 14.700
- Medium season (from September 1 to October 31, 2020): € 14.300

#### The rate includes:

- Private transfers as indicated in the program (all with Mercedes E-Class)
- 5 nights in Polignano at 5\* Borgobianco Resort & Spa in 1 DBL Suite in BB
- 2 nights in Matera at 5\* Sant'Angelo Luxury Resort in 1 DBL Junior Suite in BB
- 6-hour vintage car self-drive tour from Polignano to Martina Franca and Alberobello
- Martina Franca and Alberobello walking tours with private guide
- Private guided visit to Castel del Monte (entrance fees included)
- Typical Apulian dinner at a local masseria near Fasano (3-course menu, wine NOT included)
- Bari street food tour with private guide (tastings included)
- Private guided visit of a local masseria and olive oil tasting
- Private guided walking tour in Ostuni
- Lecce and Otranto walking tours
- Private visit, wine tasting and lunch at Apollonio Winery near Lecce
- Private guided walking tour in Monopoli
- Private visit, wine tasting and light lunch at Terre di San Vito Winery near Polignano
- Private guided walking tours in Matera and Metaponto
- Full-day walking or trekking experience on the Lucanian Dolomites with private guide

#### The rate does not include:

- Travel insurance
- Tips
- Meals at leisure, as indicated in the program
- Everything not included in "The rate includes"

**Please note that at this moment no option or booking have been made; availability and rate must be checked at the moment of the confirmation.**

**Please note that all the rates include VAT; any VAT changes are subjected to the Italian law. In case of VAT changes the new VAT % will be applied after written communication.**



## **Total NET Rates based on 3 pax**

- **High season (from April 1 to August 31, 2020): € 17.100**
- **Medium season (from September 1 to October 31, 2020): € 16.600**

### The rate includes:

- Private transfers as indicated in the program (all with Mercedes V-Class)
- 5 nights in Polignano at 5\* Borgobianco Resort & Spa in 1 TPL Suite in BB
- 2 nights in Matera at 5\* Sant'Angelo Luxury Resort in 1 TPL Suite in BB
- 6-hour vintage car self-drive tour from Savelletri to Martina Franca and Alberobello
- Martina Franca and Alberobello walking tours with private guide
- Private guided visit to Castel del Monte (entrance fees included)
- Typical Apulian dinner at a local masseria near Fasano (3-course menu, wine NOT included)
- Bari street food tour with private guide (tastings included)
- Private guided visit of a local masseria and olive oil tasting
- Private guided walking tour in Ostuni
- Lecce and Otranto walking tours
- Private visit, wine tasting and lunch at Apollonio Winery near Lecce
- Private guided walking tour in Monopoli
- Private visit, wine tasting and light lunch at Terre di San Vito Winery near Polignano
- Private guided walking tours in Matera and Metaponto
- Full-day walking or trekking experience on the Lucanian Dolomites with private guide

### The rate does not include:

- Travel insurance
- Tips
- Meals at leisure, as indicated in the program
- Everything not included in "The rate includes"

**Please note that at this moment no option or booking have been made; availability and rate must be checked at the moment of the confirmation.**

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## **Total NET Rates PER COUPLE based on 4 pax**

- **High season (from April 1 to August 31, 2020): € 10.350 per couple**
- **Medium season (from September 1 to October 31, 2020): € 9.950 per couple**

### The rate includes:

- Private transfers as indicated in the program (all with Mercedes V-Class)
- 5 nights in Polignano at 5\* Borgobianco Resort & Spa in 2 DBL Suites in BB
- 2 nights in Matera at 5\* Sant'Angelo Luxury Resort in 2 DBL Junior Suites in BB
- 6-hour vintage car self-drive tour from Savelletri to Martina Franca and Alberobello (1 vintage car per couple)
- Martina Franca and Alberobello walking tours with private guide
- Private guided visit to Castel del Monte (entrance fees included)
- Typical Apulian dinner at a local masseria near Fasano (3-course menu, wine NOT included)
- Bari street food tour with private guide (tastings included)
- Private guided visit of a local masseria and olive oil tasting
- Private guided walking tour in Ostuni
- Lecce and Otranto walking tours
- Private visit, wine tasting and lunch at Apollonio Winery near Lecce
- Private guided walking tour in Monopoli
- Private visit, wine tasting and light lunch at Terre di San Vito Winery near Polignano
- Private guided walking tours in Matera and Metaponto
- Full-day walking or trekking experience on the Lucanian Dolomites with private guide

### The rate does not include:

- Travel insurance
- Tips
- Meals at leisure, as indicated in the program
- Everything not included in "The rate includes"

**Please note that at this moment no option or booking have been made; availability and rate must be checked at the moment of the confirmation.**

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