



Exploring Puglia tour

The land of primitivo, crystal clear waters, and ancient villages.

April 27 - May 4, 2025

Indulge in the flavors and culture of Puglia on this 8-day guided tour. Explore historic cities like Bari, Lecce, Monopoli, Alberobello, Gallipoli, and Matera — each offering a unique blend of history and charm. Visit renowned wineries, where you'll taste some of the region's finest selections, and savor the local cuisine with a cooking class and traditional meals. Wander through the picturesque streets of Alberobello with its iconic trulli houses, and discover the breathtaking beauty of Matera's ancient cave dwellings. Immerse yourself in all the rich cultural heritage of Puglia, from its stunning architecture to its world-class gastronomy, on a journey through Italy's heel.

Tour Overview

- 8 days, 7 nights
- 2 nights at Hotel Oriente, in Bari
- 3 nights at Masseria Caretti Grande, near Lecce
- 2 nights at Palazzo Viceconte, in Matera
- Arrival/departure: Bari (BRI)

Rate

- **\$4,200 per person** (double occupancy)
- **\$4,900 per person** (single occupancy)

Includes

- 2 nights at Hotel Oriente in Bari, in deluxe/comfort rooms, breakfast included
- 3 nights at Masseria Caretti Grande, breakfast included



- 2 nights at Palazzo Viceconte in Matera, in classic/junior suites rooms, breakfast included
- Bus for the entire program as per itinerary and timing below, with parking and city permits, including one group transfer from Matera to Bari airport on the last day
- Guided tour of Bari
- Wine and olive oil tasting with lunch included near Castel Del Monte (Conte Onofrio Spagnoletti)
- Guided tour of Castel Del Monte, tickets and shuttle included
- Lunch paired with wine tasting in a winery focused on Negramaro wine (Cantine Coppola)
- Guided tour of Lecce
- Cooking class and lunch at the Masseria
- Tickets of Abbey of Santa Maria di Cerrate
- Light lunch paired with wine tasting in Manduria (Agricola Felling)
- 4 traditional dinners (3-4 courses, water and wine)

Does not include

- Airfare
- Airport transfer from Bari airport on day 1
- Any other meal, tasting, entrance fee, transfer, personal expense, tips and anything else not mentioned above in the above field "Includes".

Program

<i>DAY 1 - Sunday April 27 - Bari</i>
<i>Meals included: dinner</i>
<i>Accommodation: Hotel Oriente, Bari</i>



	Arrive on your own in Bari airport. Taxis are available outside the arrival terminal (about 25€ per car)
	Check-in for 2 nights at Hotel Oriente Bari , steps away from the Old Town, from the seafront promenade, and from the main shopping streets
	Tour manager available at the hospitality desk for lunch suggestions
5:15pm	Meet in the lobby and after a quick orientation, follow the local guide for a 2-hour leisure walk in the Old Town. Step inside the medieval Basilica of Saint Nicola and get a glimpse of the iconic local ladies making pasta in front of their homes
7:30 pm	Welcome dinner is served in a local trattoria with traditional recipes. Enjoy a 3-course dinner with wine included
DAY 2 - Monday April 28 - Castel Del Monte	
<i>Meals included: breakfast and lunch, olive and wine tasting</i>	
<i>Accommodation: Hotel Oriente, Bari</i>	
	Breakfast included
10:00 am	Drive from central Bari to Tenuta Conte Onofrio Spagnoletti , a historic estate surrounded by 39,000 olive trees and located in the heart of the DOCG wine appellation <i>Castel Del Monte</i>
11:00 am	Guided tour of the estate, including the impressive underground cellars dugged into the tufa rock. Later, the wine tasting is paired with a selection of traditional cheese, bread, salami, seasonal vegetables and a soup prepared with cereals and beans
2:15 pm	Drive through the scenic <i>Murgia</i> region, crossing olive groves and fields and their typical white-stone walls
3:00 pm	Board a local shuttle and reach the entrance of Castel Del Monte , an imposing medieval fortress built by eclectic Emperor Frederick II in the 1200s. Visit the interior with a local guide, and discover the references to the number eight and to infinity that recurs in architecture and symbols



5:00 pm	Drive back to Bari (about 1 hour)
	Dinner on your own
DAY 3 - Tuesday April 29 - Monopoli and Alberobello	
<i>Meals included: breakfast and dinner</i>	
<i>Accommodation: Masseria Caretti Grande, Casalabate</i>	
	Breakfast included and check out
10:00 am	Drive to Monopoli
11:00 am	Wander around the charming seaside town, its castle built on the water and enjoy some free time for shopping in the whitewashed narrow streets adorned with cactus and colorful doors. The tour manager is there to suggest lunch options
2:00 pm	Walk back to the bus and drive to Alberobello (35')
3:00 pm	Walk with the tour manager through the iconic <i>trulli</i> , round houses and workshops topped with a cone-shaped roof, once used as a temporary shelter.
5:00 pm	Drive south to the countryside near Lecce (1h and 20')
6:15 pm	Check-in at Masseria Caretti Grande , our home for the next 3 nights
	Time to explore the grounds, garden and indoor lounges of the fortified farmhouse. A traditional, homemade dinner is served in the main dining room
DAY 4 - Wednesday April 30 - Gallipoli and Lecce	
<i>Meals included: breakfast and lunch</i>	
<i>Accommodation: Masseria Caretti Grande, Casalabate</i>	



	Breakfast included
10:00 am	Transfer to Gallipoli

10:45 am	Explore Gallipoli with the tour manager, walking around the medieval walls built above the Ionian Sea. Weather permitting, it's possible to stop at the pristine beach <i>Spiaggia dell Purità</i> , and deep our toes in the water. Free time for souvenir shopping
12:45 pm	Drive to Cantine Coppola
	Tour of the modern winery and its museum focused on the family's history. Lunch is paired with wine tasting of <i>Negramaro</i> grapes and other local varieties and served in the winery's garden surrounded by cactus, olive trees, and peaceful countryside
4:00 pm	Drive to Lecce (30')
4:30 pm	Guided tour of the town center, known as the Florence of the South with impressive Baroque architecture. Late afternoon and sunset are the best time of the day to watch the sunlight reflecting on the local stone used to build churches, private palaces and streets
	Dinner on your own in Lecce
9:00 pm	Drive back to the masseria (20')

DAY 5 - Thursday May 1 - Foraging, Cooking and Ostuni

Meals included: breakfast, lunch

Accommodation: Masseria Caretti Grande, Casalabate

	Breakfast included
	Enjoy a lazy morning relaxing at the beach or follow the Masseria owner for a foraging walk in their garden.



11:00 am	Cooking class at the Masseria followed by lunch
3:30 pm	Short transfer to the nearby medieval Abbey of Santa Maria di Cerrate , a hidden jewel of medieval art and architecture, presently preserved by the National Trust
	Continue to Ostuni a hilltop town located about one hour north
6:00 pm	Walk in the town center with great photo opportunities over Valle d'Itria and its traditional homes
7:00 pm	Dinner on your own in Ostuni



DAY 6 - Friday May 2 - Manduria and Grottaglie

Meals included: breakfast, lunch and dinner

Accommodation: Palazzo Viceconte, Matera

	Breakfast included and check out
9:00 am	Drive to Grottaglie (1 h)
10:00 am	Visit a ceramic workshop for a quick demonstration and enjoy some free time in town known for the artisanal production of potteries
12:00 pm	Drive to Manduria
12:30 pm	Visit Agricola Feline and enjoy wine tasting paired with a light lunch
3:00 pm	Drive to Matera (1h 30')
4:30 pm	Porterage from the parking lot to the hotel
5:00 pm	Check-in for the next 2 nights at Palazzo Viceconte
	Dinner in a nearby authentic local pizzeria

DAY 7 - Saturday May 3 - Matera

Meals included: breakfast and dinner

Accommodation: Palazzo Viceconte, Matera

	Breakfast included
10:00 am	Tour of Matera with a local guide (2 hours)



	Lunch on your own in Matera
	Free afternoon
	Farewell Dinner
DAY 8 - Sunday May 4 - Departure	
<i>Meals included: breakfast</i>	
<i>Accommodation: n/a</i>	
	Breakfast included and check out
7:30 am	Porterage from the hotel to the parking lot
8:15 am	Group transfer to Bari airport (1 hour)
	End of services