

9 DAYS - 8 NIGHTS



## Day 1 Bari

Arrival in Bari, reception and transfer to the hotel. Afternoon visit to Bari. We will tour the old quarter, surrounded by an imposing wall and crossed by narrow streets with rich cultural heritage, and the modern city, created in the early nineteenth century, The famous Petruzzelli Opera House is located on the main shopping streets. Dinner and overnight.



#### Day 2 Bari – Castel del Monte – Trani – Bari

Breakfast and departure to the famous Castel del Monte, one of the most mysterious places in southern Italy. It is a huge fortress visible from several kilometers around and located 540 meters high, ordered to build by order of Federico II. The whole building reveals an obsession with mathematical harmony, and in particular with the number eight. After the visit, we will continue to Trani, "The Pearl of the Adriatic" maritime city where highlights its Cathedral of San Nicola Pellegrino, built on the edge of the sea with spectacular Romanesque architecture. Lunch and free time. Return to Bari, Dinner, Accommodation, At the end of the visit, tasting of Moscato di Trani, an excellence of the land of Puglia. It is a dessert wine with a strong territorial character, which finds its place especially in combination with the traditional sweets of the territory.







### Day 3 Bari – Gruta del Castellana – Alberobello – Polignano a Mare – Bari

Breakfast. Departure to the Castellana Grotto, discovered in 1938. Its entrance is represented by a huge vertical tunnel 60 meters long. Continue to Alberobello, to visit their typical houses, cone-shaped roofs, called trulli and declared World Heritage by UNESCO, Food and free time. In the afternoon, we will reach Polignano a Mare. Population built on the edge of the cliff with spectacular views over the sea. At the end of the hike, a moment of pleasure awaits you, enjoy an exceptional homemade ice cream or taste the famous "special coffee", an excellent invention of Polignanese. Free time to stroll and look out at the viewpoints. Dinner and accommodation.



#### Day 4 Bari – Locorotondo – Martina Franca – Lecce

Breakfast. Departure to Locorotondo, a beautiful white village of circular shape, located on a hill 400 meters high. Free time. We will continue our journey until we reach the town of Martina Franca, built on a hill and with a historic center surrounded by walls. We will begin our panoramic visit through Piazza XX of Setembre and through Porta Santo Stefano we will arrive at Piazza Roma, from there we will walk through its alleys, knowing its Town Hall, the old Doge's Palace, and numerous palaces and baroque buildings, which dot the old town, including its Cathedral of San Martina. Visit a 1500 hypogeum mill where you can admire the machinery of the old extra virgin olive oil production. Visiting an oil mill in Puglia means discovering the roots and beauty of the territory. An expert in extra virgin olive oil accompanies us to discover the oil mill. The tour in the mill ends with the tasting of some extra virgin olive oil served on Puglia bread to enhance its flavor. Continuation of our route to Lecce, known as the "Florence of the South" and considered as a jewel of the Italian Baroque. Dinner and overnight.







# Day 5 Lecce

Breakfast. Guided tour of Lecce through the cathedral, the Basilica of Santa Croce with its dazzling façade, as well as the main streets of the old town and the remains of the Roman amphitheatre. Tasting of the typical Lecce cake "Il Pasticciotto". Lunch. Free afternoon to wander. Dinner and accommodation.



#### Day 6 Lecce – Otranto – Santa Maria de Leuca – Porto Cesareo

Breakfast. Departure towards Otranto, the easternmost city of Italy, a place where small alleys and white houses run through the interior of its walls, dominated by its large Aragonese castle. We will visit the cathedral, built in the s. XI, in whose interior are represented on the floor, in a beautiful mosaic, scenes of the Bible. Then we will head to Leuca, at the southernmost tip of Salento, which impresses by its colors. Here was the boundary of the earth.

By boat we will travel through a stretch of coast of Cape Santa Maria de Leuca dominated by cliffs in which open a dozen long impressive caves in which the sea enters forming incredible places. Food.

Then we will head to our hotel by the area of Porto Cesareo - Torre Lapillo.

Dinner and overnight.







#### Day 7 Porto Cesareo – Gallipoli – Porto Cesareo

Breakfast. Free morning to enjoy the beaches of the Ionian Sea, which have nothing to envy those of the Caribbean. The entire Ionian coast is of white sand, turquoise waters and long beaches. Food. In the afternoon, departure towards Gallipoli, located in what would be the heel of the boot of Italy. We will see the Hellenic Fountain, the Church of Canneto, the Aragonese Castle, the cathedral of Santa Ágata.

After the visit, we will return to our hotel in Porto Cesareo - Torre Lapillo. Dinner and overnight.



#### Day 8 Porto Cesareo – Taranto – Matera

Breakfast. Departure to Taranto, the city of the two seas, which is the second largest city in Puglia, with more than 190,000 inhabitants. We will visit the historic center of the city, the Aragonese castle, its Cathedral and we will visit the splendid Archaeological Museum. Food. We will continue our journey already in the province of Basilicata until we reach Matera, or "City of stones", a unique place, with an architecture without any approach, which has given rise to a real monumental work of art. Dinner and overnight.









#### Day 9 Matera – Bari Airport

After breakfast, we will visit the oldest nucleus of the city, which is formed by a thick network of caves dug in the rock by shepherds to give shelter to the family to the beasts that cared for their maintenance. We will visit the famous Sassi, houses excavated in the rock that were inhabited until the decade of 1.960, we will know some environments typically cave like a "cave house", the Palazzo Lanfranchi, the Pizza San Pietro Caveoso, a historic canteen of 1.700, etc.

At the end of the hike, visit to a bakery and tasting of Pan de Matera which for its historical and organoleptic notes has become a product of PGI. Free time until transfer to Bari airport.

Food on our own while we wait. Check-in and return procedures.



# **CONTACT US**



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