



compass
ROAM

PUGLIA

TWO WEEK
TRAVEL ITINERARY





compass
ROAM

TRIP OVERVIEW



VALLE D'ITRIA &
CENTRAL COAST
Day 1 - 5



SALENTO
Day 8 - 14



MATERA
Day 6 - 7

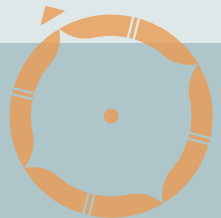
DETAILS

TRANSPORTATION

- TWO AIRPORT OPTIONS: BARI OR BRINDISI
- FOR TRANSFERS TO/FROM AIRPORT: APULIA SLOW TRAVEL
- PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IS NOT RELIABLE - RENT A CAR INSTEAD

A HEAD'S UP!

- Many car rentals companies will drop off/pick up your car directly at the hotel for an extra fee. They will also install car seats if requested ahead of time. Your hotel can help arrange this.



ITINERARY

- DAY ONE**
- MORNING**
- ARRIVE AT MASSERIA TORRE MAIZZA (ROCCO FORTE HOTEL)
 - HAVE BREAKFAST AT MASSERIA TORRE MAIZZA
- AFTERNOON**
- HAVE LUNCH AT MASSERIA TORRE MAIZZA
 - RELAX AT THE HOTEL AND THE POOL
- EVENING**
- EXPLORE THE SMALL NEARBY TOWN OF SAVELLETRI
 - HAVE DINNER AT OSTERIA DEL PORTO (SAVELLETRI)

TRAVEL TIP

- Keep "Day 1" light, especially if adjusting to new time zone, or if you had an overnight flight.

- DAY TWO**
- MORNING**
- HAVE BREAKFAST AT MASSERIA TORRE MAIZZA
 - EXPLORE THE STREETS OF POLIGNANO A MARE
- AFTERNOON**
- HAVE LUNCH AT MINT CUCINA FRESCA (POLIGNANO A MARE)
 - RELAX AT THE HOTEL POOL
- EVENING**
- EXPLORE MONOPOLI IN LATE AFTERNOON
 - HAVE DINNER AT LA LOCANDA SUL PORTA (MONOPOLI)
 - GRAB GELATO AT GELATERIA CARUSO

TRAVEL TIP

- Explore Polignano a Mare and Lama Monachile beach in the morning to avoid crowds.
- KID-TIP: There's a small area with rides right before the historical center of Monopoli.

- DAY THREE**
- MORNING**
- HAVE BREAKFAST AT MASSERIA TORRE MAIZZA
 - TAKE KIDS TO SEE ZOOSAFARI & FASANOLAND
- AFTERNOON**
- HAVE LUNCH AT MASSERIA TORRE MAIZZA
 - EXPLORE LOCOROTONDO
- EVENING**
- HAVE DINNER AT CASA PINTO (LOCOROTONDO)

TRAVEL TIP

- KID-TIP: Other morning options include DinoLand or Lamapecora (small farm with cheesemaking).
- If not interested in visiting parks/playareas, I'd instead recommend exploring some beaches (recommendations below) or visiting Bari.
- If you opt for Bari, make sure to visit the women making pasta in the street [here](#), and have foccaccia at Panificio Fiore.

ITINERARY

DAY FOUR

MORNING

- HAVE BREAKFAST AT MASSERIA TORRE MAIZZA
- RELAX AT LIDO PALME BEACH CLUB

AFTERNOON

- HAVE LUNCH AT LIDO PALME BEACH CLUB
- EXPLORE OSTUNI

EVENING

- HAVE DINNER AT CASA SAN GIOCOMO (OSTUNI)

TRAVEL TIP

- For the best view of Ostuni, drive to Piazzetta Martiri delle Foibe on Corso Vittorio Emmanuele II.

DAY FIVE

MORNING

- HAVE BREAKFAST AT MASSERIA TORRE MAIZZA
- GO ON THE OLIVE OIL TOUR AT MASSERIA BRANCATI

AFTERNOON

- RELAX AT THE HOTEL POOL & HAVE LUNCH

EVENING

- VISIT THE TOWN OF ALBEROBELLO IN LATE AFTERNOON
- HAVE DINNER AT TERRA MADRE (ALBEROBELLO)

TRAVEL TIP

- Highly recommend the bike tour with Madera Bikes.
- It's best to visit Alberobello in early morning or in the early evening instead of mid afternoon when it's very crowded. You'll also have better lighting and a less rushed experience.

DAY SIX

MORNING

- HAVE BREAKFAST AT MASSERIA TORRE MAIZZA
- TRAVEL TO MATERA WITH APULIA SLOW TRAVEL

AFTERNOON

- CHECK IN TO SEXTANTIO LE GROTTTE DELLE CIVITA
- HAVE LUNCH AT SEXTANTIO GROTTTE DELLE CIVITA
- EXPLORE MATERA

EVENING

- HAVE DINNER AT OSTERIA AL CASALE

TRAVEL TIP

- Sextantio is a luxury cave hotel - Cave room 21 is great for families.
- Cave 15 has good natural light.

DAY SEVEN

MORNING

- HAVE BREAKFAST AT SEXTANTIO LE GROTTTE DELLE CIVITA
- TAKE A GUIDED TOUR OF MATERA (ARRANGED BY HOTEL)

AFTERNOON

- HAVE LUNCH AT 5 LIRE
- EXPLORE MATERA - CLIMB TO THE TOP OF ROCK CHURCH, WALK THROUGH THE SASSI DISTRICT.

EVENING

- HAVE DINNER AT BACCANTI

TRAVEL TIP

- The guided tour is best for adults.
- Matera can get very hot in the summer - have water and sunscreen on hand.



ITINERARY

- DAY EIGHT**
- MORNING**
- ☕ HAVE LATE BREAKFAST AT SEXTANTIO LE GROTTI DELLE CIVITA
 - 🚗 TRAVEL TO L'ARGENTIERA WITH APULIA SLOW TRAVEL
- AFTERNOON**
- 🏠 CHECK INTO LUXURY VILLA L'ARGENTIERA (THINKING TRAVELLER)
 - ☀️ RELAX AT THE VILLA
- EVENING**
- 🍴 HAVE DINNER AT L'ARGENTIERA, PREPARED BY LOCAL CHEF

TRAVEL TIP

- You can select your menu ahead of time working with The Thinking Traveller - they will take care of grocery shopping, prep, cooking, and cleanup
- L'Argentiera can fit up to 17 people

- DAY NINE**
- MORNING**
- ☕ HAVE BREAKFAST AT L'ARGENTIERA VILLA
 - ☀️ RELAX AT THE VILLA - ENJOY THE POOL
- AFTERNOON**
- 🍴 HAVE LUNCH AT L'ARGENTIERA VILLA
 - 🏛️ EXPLORE THE TOWN OF CASTRO
- EVENING**
- 🍴 HAVE DINNER AT DA AMEDEO (CASTRO)

TRAVEL TIP

- Castro has two parts: a historic section at the top of a hill, and the marina down by the water. The hilltop is a short drive from the villa (3-5 min). The marina is just a few minutes walk from the property.
- Request a table in the garden at Da Amedeo

- DAY TEN**
- MORNING**
- ☕ HAVE BREAKFAST AT L'ARGENTIERA VILLA
 - 🏛️ EXPLORE THE TOWN OF OTRANTO
- AFTERNOON**
- 🍴 HAVE LUNCH AT SOFISH (OTRANTO)
 - ☀️ RELAX BY THE POOL
- EVENING**
- 🍴 HAVE DINNER AT THE VILLA, PREPARED BY PIZZA CHEF

TRAVEL TIP

- Bring activity books for little kids to do on the boat during down time.

- DAY ELEVEN**
- MORNING**
- ☕ HAVE BREAKFAST AT L'ARGENTIERA VILLA
 - ☀️ RELAX AT THE VILLA
- AFTERNOON**
- 🍴 HAVE LUNCH ON THE BOAT TOUR WITH SEA LUXURY YACHTS
 - 🚤 GO ON A 6 HOUR BOAT TOUR WITH SEA LUXURY YACHTS ALONG IONIAN AND ADRIATIC SEA
- EVENING**
- 🍴 HAVE DINNER AT FEDELE (SANTA MARIA DE LEUCA)



ITINERARY

- DAY TWELVE**
- MORNING**
- ☕ HAVE BREAKFAST AT L'ARGENTIERA VILLA
 - 🏛️ GUIDED TOUR OF LECCE ARRANGED BY THINKING TRAVELLER
- AFTERNOON**
- 🍴 HAVE LUNCH AT MAMMA ELVIRA (LECCE)
 - ☀️ RELAX AT VILLA
- EVENING**
- 🍴 HAVE DINNER AT 37 NODI (CASTRO)
 - 🏛️ EXPLORE CASTRO MARINA AT NIGHT

TRAVEL TIP

- The guided tour of Lecce is better for adults
- If you'd like to bring kids, try this bike tour of Lecce instead.
- Museo Faggiano came highly recommended.
- Don't miss dish: The eggplant parm at Mamma Elvria

- DAY THIRTEEN**
- MORNING**
- ☕ HAVE BREAKFAST AT L'ARGENTIERA VILLA
 - ☀️ EXPLORE NEARBY SWIMMING SPOTS LIKE CALA DELL'AQUAVIVA
- AFTERNOON**
- 🍴 HAVE LUNCH AT ANAM TERRACE (AT CALA AQUAVIVA)
 - 🏛️ EMBARK ON COOKING CLASS/CASTLE EXPERIENCE ARRANGED BY THE THINKING TRAVELLER AT CASTELLO ALBORGO.
- EVENING**
- 🍴 HAVE DINNER AT THE COOKING CLASS AT CASTELLO ALBORGO

TRAVEL TIP

- Cala dell'Aquaviva is a beautiful swimming cove, with parking, bathrooms, and a restaurant
- Don't miss experience: The cooking class was one of my most favorite travel experiences - read more on the blog.
- The cooking class is kid friendly, but I'd recommend having some adults arrive earlier for the class, and then others arrive with kids closer to dinnertime.

- DAY FOURTEEN**
- MORNING**
- ☕ HAVE BREAKFAST AT L'ARGENTIERA VILLA
 - 🏛️ EXPLORE BEACHES ALONG THE SALENTO COAST - TORRE DELL'ORSO AND I FARAGLIONI DI SANT'ANDREA
- AFTERNOON**
- 🍴 LIGHT LUNCH ON BEACH AT LIDO CALAMARIN
 - ☀️ RELAX AT THE L'ARGENTIERA VILLA AND PACK
- EVENING**
- 🍴 HAVE DINNER AT THE VILLA PREPARED BY THINKING TRAVELLER

TRAVEL TIP

- Torre dell'Orso beach was incredibly beautiful and very kid friendly, but also crowded. Arrive closer to 1pm (siesta time), and park here. Walk towards Lido Calamarin, which is furthest from crowds.
- If you prefer a more secluded scene, then go to Baia Dei Turchi (no facilities)



RESTAURANTS AT THE TOP OF MY LIST

POLIGNANO A MARE:

- **La Rotellina** - Sells the Puglian snack panzerotti
- **Olio Su Pane** - Small restaurant that focuses on street food
- **Il Quadrifoglio** - Popular local spot, known for pizza, but also serves fresh seafood and pasta.
- **Bar Luna** - Known for a good morning cappuccino and cornetto

BARI:

- **Pizzeria Di Cosimo** - Recommended for casual pizza

ALBEROBELLO:

- **Trattoria Terra Madre** - Farm to table restaurant, very highly recommended

OSTUNI:

- **Borgo Antico Bistrot** - This cafe/aperitivo spot has beautiful views over the city. It's a small sandwich/appetizer place - no reservations permitted.
- **Il Frantoio** - Small hotel near Ostuni that has a well known 9 course tasting menu (adults only)
- **Osteria Del Tempo Perso** - Michelin star spot that gets rave reviews

MATERA:

- **Kapunto** - Casual spot known for great pasta
- **Terazza Cavaliere** - Recommended for an aperitivo and views of the city
- **Osteria San Francesco** - Local chef known for his Versailles-trained twist on traditional dishes
- **Trattoria del Caveoso** - Stylish cave restaurant with outdoor terrace
- **Terrazza Cavaliere** - Great spot for drinks with views
- **Zipa Cafe** - One of the most unique bars in Matera

LECCE:

- **Le Zie Trattoria** - Local neighborhood trattoria
- **Cafe Alvino** - Good place for a drink/snack
- **Alle Due Corti** - Authentic regional cuisine, highly recommended
- **Come Vuoi Pane** - Sandwiches on the main square

OTRANTO:

- **Postofisso** - known for incredible Puglian sandwiches called Pucce.

CASTRO:

- **Martinucci** - offers coffee, pastries and gelato in the main square of Castro
- **Le Stuzzicherie del Porto** - sandwich (puccia) place



TOP OF MY LIST ACTIVITIES

BARI:

- **Bike tour** of Bari Vecchia and the coast
- **Ride the ferris wheel** located at the water's edge
- Take a **street food tour**
- Stroll along the **lungomare promenade**

MATERA:

- Visit **Casa Noha** , **Casa Grotta di Vico Solitario** or **Casa Grotta C'era Una Volta**
- Hike down into the ravine
- Visit **MOOM olive oil press**
- Check out underground cisterns at **Palombaro Lungo**

CASTRO:

- **Santa Casarea** - Thermal baths located nearby
- **Grotta Zinzalusa** - Known as one of the best caves in the world

ALBEROBELLO:

- **Walking Tour of Alberobello**
- Visit **Trullo Sovrano** - The only trullo in the village with two floors
- **Sant'Antonio Church** - The only trullo church in the world
- **Try a "Pasqualino"** - this sandwich is found only in Alberobello

LECCE:

- Take an elevator to top of **lecce bell tower**
- Go underground at **Museo Faggiano** (came highly recommended)
- **Villa Comunale Park** - outside city walls, good for short stroll or picnic



OTHER FABULOUS BEACHES & SWIMMING SPOTS

- **Cala Paradiso** (Monopoli) - local favorite
- **Cala Sussca** (Monopoli) - recommended for kids
- **Tre Buchi** (Monopoli)- local favorite
- **Porto Marzano** (Monopoli) - recommended for kids
- **Grotta della Poesia** (near Otranto) - You can't actually swim here anymore, but looks beautiful to see in person.
- **Bano Marino Archi** (Castro) - This swimming hole is located on the top of the cliff of Santa Cesarea Terme. There's also a restaurant with terrace views
- **La Castellana** (Otranto) - This is a beach club located between two natural coves, and it's known for its more elegant and private setting.
- **Kum Beach Club Alimini** (Otranto)- Beach club near the town of Otranto with helpful staff and good restaurant.



TOP OF MY LIST GELATERIAS

- **Gusto Caruso** (Pogliano a Mare)
- **Bar Peppino** (Pogliano a Mare)
- **Voglia di...Gelato Artesianale** (Pogliano a Mare)
- **Bar Turismo** (Pogliano a Mare)
- **Il Supermago del Gelo** (Pogliano a Mare)
- **Gelateria Borgo Antico** (Ostuni)
- **Baldo Gelateria** (Lecce)