

## FROM MATERA TO APULIA

### DAY 1: MATERA

Arrival at Bari airport. Transfer to Matera. Accommodation, dinner and overnight.

### DAY 2: MATERA

Breakfast. Visit of Matera, the town of the Sassi, hundreds of troglodyte dwellings and churches dug out of the rock, designed UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1993, Matera is the most famous city of Basilicata, one of the oldest towns dating back as far as Paleolithic times, it is thought to have been inhabited constantly for about 7000 years. Matera has been appointed as the European Capital of Culture 2019 in Italy thank to its rich history and cultural diversity. Accommodation, dinner and overnight.

### DAY 3: CASTELLANA AND ALBEROBELLO

Breakfast. Transfer to the city of Castellana, in Valle d'Itria area, where the caves follow the progress of an ancient underground river crossing the karst soil leaving by its passage an infinite variety of magnificent concretions, stalactites and stalagmites of different colors.

Transfer to Alberobello designed UNESCO World Heritage Site for its "Trulli", old, curious and traditional houses typical of the area built with square blocks with conical roof. Dinner and overnight.

### DAY 4 : SALENTO: LECCE AND OTRANTO

Breakfast. Visit of Lecce, the heart of the Apulia, that has called "Baroque Florence" for the rich ornamentation of its buildings, where will be possible to visit the old town with the castle that was built by Carlo V, the Holy Cruz Basilica and the Roman Anfiteatro built in 2nd century, that can contain 25,000 people. After visit of Otranto, with its Cathedral of the 11th century and the castle restored by Ferdinand of Aragon. Accommodation, dinner and overnight.

## DAY 5 : POLIGNANO AL MARE AND BARI

Breakfast. Transfer to Polignano a Mare, fishing village that stands on a cliff full of sea caves.

Trajana road, visible and passable, which was the old road that connected Rome to Brindisi. Bus transfer to Bari, the Apulia Capital, where will be possible to visit the St. Nicola's Basilica, of the 11th century, located in the heart of the old city, considered one of the finest examples of Romanesque art. Visit of the Norman castle, the old market square and the front of Sedile Palace. Dinner and overnight.

## DAY 6 : CASTEL DEL MONTE , TRANI AND BARLETTA

Breakfast. Transfer to Castel del Monte, a massive fortress with octagonal plan, designed UNESCO World Heritage Site, built by Federich II in the 13th century, successful mix of elements from classical antiquity between the gothic Europe and the Eastern Islamic. Visit of Trani, important for the wine production and with an ancient harbor surrounded by old houses, where will be possible to visit its Romanic Cathedral of the 11st and 13th century, one of the most beautiful of the region dedicated to St. Nicola pilgrim. Transfer to Barletta, located on Adriatic seacoast, where will be possible to do a stroll in the historical city centre with a lot of palace and churches of great historical and artistic interest, St. Maria Maggiore Cathedral, a mix of Gothic and Romanic, the Massive Castle and the Barletta's Colosso, a beautiful bronze statue of 4.5 mt called "Eraclio" of 5th century. Accommodation, dinner and overnight.

## DAY 7 : BARI

Breakfast. Free day to visit "Bari Vecchia" with its many churches and squares, enjoy the Fish Market, visit the interesting archeological museum or the pictures of Italian painters in Pinacoteca Corrado Giaquinto. Transfer to Bari airport.