



ITALY

SELF-DRIVE HIGHLIGHTS OF PUGLIA AND MATERA (TOUR CODE: 17035)

STARTS AND ENDS

Bari to
Bari/ Brindisi

TRAVEL PERIODS

until 31 October 2027

EXPERIENCE

[Cultural](#)
[Self-Drive](#)

TRAVEL STYLE

Independent Holiday Packages

Discover the charm of Southern Italy on this 6-day self-drive journey through Puglia and Matera. Explore whitewashed hill towns, UNESCO-listed treasures, dramatic coastlines and authentic local flavours, while staying in a traditional Masseria.

Highlights

- Stay in a character-filled **Masseria surrounded by the Puglian countryside**
- Enjoy a **traditional Masseria dinner** and a choice of local experiences throughout the itinerary
- Explore beautiful seaside towns including **Polignano a Mare, Otranto and Gallipoli**
- Visit the famous trulli of **Alberobello, the White City of Ostuni and historic Matera**

Experience the highlights of Puglia as you travel from the vibrant streets of Bari and the clifftop beauty of Polignano a Mare to the iconic trulli of Alberobello and the whitewashed lanes of Ostuni. Venture inland to the extraordinary UNESCO-listed city of Matera before continuing south to the Baroque splendour of Lecce, the coastal charm of Otranto, Gallipoli and Santa Maria di Leuca. Along the way, enjoy a traditional 3-course dinner in a local Masseria, choose from a selection of included local experiences and discover Southern Italy at your own pace.

INCLUSIONS

- 3 nights in Ostuni at Hotel Monte Sarago 4 * or similar
- 2 nights in Otranto at Masseria Mongiò dell'Elefante 4* or similar
- Traditional 3-course dinner in a Masseria
- Daily Breakfast
- Choice of 2 included local experiences from a selection of cultural, food and wine experiences throughout the itinerary

ITINERARY

Day 1	Bari Ostuni Welcome to Puglia. Upon arrival in Bari, collect your rental car and begin exploring the region's vibrant capital. Wander through the atmospheric streets of Bari Vecchia, discover the impressive Basilica di San Nicola and soak up local life in the historic centre. Included experience options available today: • Norman-Swabian Castle entrance ticket in Bari • Street food tasting in Bari <i>Guests may select up to 2 included experiences throughout the itinerary.</i> Later, drive south to the picturesque seaside town of Polignano a Mare. Perched on dramatic limestone cliffs overlooking the Adriatic Sea, this charming village is known for its narrow laneways, stunning coastal views and lively piazzas. Take time to explore at your own pace before continuing to your accommodation in the Ostuni area, where you'll spend the next three nights discovering the highlights of Central Puglia. Overnight stay in Ostuni at Hotel Monte Sarago - 4* or similar.
Day 2	Ostuni Alberobello & Locorotondo Ostuni After breakfast, discover some of Puglia's most iconic towns in the beautiful Valle d'Itria region. Your first stop is UNESCO-listed Alberobello, famous for its unique trulli houses and storybook setting. Wander through the historic districts and enjoy the charm of one of Italy's most distinctive villages. Continue to Locorotondo, renowned for its whitewashed houses, flower-filled streets and panoramic countryside views. Later, visit Ostuni, the famous "White City", where bright white buildings cascade down the hillside overlooking olive groves and the Adriatic coastline. Included experience option available today: • Food tasting with local specialties in Ostuni <i>Guests may select up to 2 included experiences throughout the itinerary.</i> Special included experience: This evening, enjoy a traditional 3-course dinner at a local Masseria, featuring authentic Puglian recipes and regional flavours. This experience is included in addition to your 2 selected experiences. Overnight stay in Ostuni at Hotel Monte Sarago - 4* or similar. Breakfast, Dinner
Day 3	Ostuni Matera Ostuni

Today's journey takes you inland to the extraordinary city of **Matera**, one of Southern Italy's most remarkable destinations. Famous for its ancient cave dwellings and dramatic setting, Matera offers a fascinating glimpse into Italy's past.

Explore the UNESCO-listed **Sassi di Matera**, wander through atmospheric stone laneways and discover one of the oldest continuously inhabited settlements in the world. With its unique landscape, rich history and unforgettable views, Matera is a true highlight of Southern Italy.

Included experience options available today:

- Cave Church, Cave House & Palombaro Lungo admission
- Matera bread and local food tasting

Guests may select up to 2 included experiences throughout the itinerary.

Overnight stay in Ostuni at **Hotel Monte Sarago** - 4* or similar.

Breakfast

Day **4** Ostuni Lecce Otranto

Travel south to **Lecce**, often referred to as the "Florence of the South" for its elegant Baroque architecture and vibrant atmosphere. Explore beautiful piazzas, ornate churches and historic streets while enjoying the city's lively café culture and local flavours.

Continue to the coastal town of **Otranto**, one of Puglia's most picturesque seaside destinations. Wander through its charming old town, visit the impressive cathedral and enjoy sweeping views across the Adriatic Sea.

Included experience options available today:

- Lecce Ecclesiae ticket (including access to Lecce's main churches)
- Pasticciotto and local coffee tasting in Lecce

Guests may select up to 2 included experiences throughout the itinerary

Overnight stay in Otranto at **Masseria Mongio' dell'Elefante** - 4* or similar.

Breakfast

Day **5** Otranto Gallipoli & Santa Maria di Leuca Otranto

Discover the stunning coastline of the Salento Peninsula today. Begin in **Gallipoli**, a charming fishing town surrounded by the Ionian Sea, where historic streets, lively piazzas and waterfront views create a relaxed Mediterranean atmosphere.

Continue south to **Santa Maria di Leuca**, located at the very tip of Italy's heel. Known for its dramatic coastline and beautiful sea views, this picturesque destination marks the meeting point of the Adriatic and Ionian Seas.

Included experience options available today:

- Castle & Underground Olive Mill admission in Gallipoli
- Shared boat tour in Santa Maria di Leuca (weather permitting)

Guests may select up to 2 included experiences throughout the itinerary

Overnight stay in Otranto at **Masseria Mongio' dell'Elefante** - 4* or similar.

Breakfast

Day **6** Otranto Bari or Brindisi

After breakfast, begin your journey north along Puglia's beautiful Adriatic coastline. Depending on your departure arrangements, consider stopping in one of the region's charming coastal towns for a final taste of Southern Italy before heading to the airport.

Return your rental car in **Bari or Brindisi**, where your Puglia and Matera adventure comes to an end.

Breakfast

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE	LOCAL CURRENCY
Italian	EURO

FROM price reflects the lowest available price within the advertised travel period (e.g. April to October). Pricing varies depending on travel dates, availability and demand, and may not be available on all departures. Higher pricing applies during peak and shoulder periods. Final pricing is confirmed at the time of enquiry or booking. Please refer to [Pricing & Price Conditions](#) for full details, including inclusions, exclusions and other conditions.

Choose 2 included local experiences:

- Norman-Swabian Castle admission in Bari
- Street food tasting in Bari
- Food tasting with local specialities in Ostuni
- Cave Church, Cave House & Palombaro Lungo admission in Matera
- Matera bread and local food tasting
- LeccEcclesiae pass (including entry to Lecce's main churches)
- Pasticciotto and local coffee tasting in Lecce
- Gallipoli Castle & Underground Olive Mill admission
- Shared boat tour in Santa Maria di Leuca (weather permitting)

Experience selections are subject to availability and must be requested at the time of booking.

Car Rental Includes: A 6-day intermediate automatic rental car (MG ZS or similar), featuring automatic transmission, air conditioning, seating for up to five passengers and space for three bags. The rental includes unlimited mileage, SCDW (Super Collision Damage Waiver), STP (Theft Protection), airport surcharge, taxes and applicable fees, giving you the freedom to explore Tuscany at your own pace. **Vehicle upgrades are available for a supplement, subject to availability at the time of booking.**