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PUGLIA



Italy, Off The Beaten Path

Not once the hidden gem it was, this Southern Italian region is quickly becoming a popular stop for Italophiles. With its miles of beautiful beaches, ancient architectural treasures, rich history and culture, as well as its strong culinary tradition, Puglia draws in travelers who want to go deeper into Italy's countryside and explore a less-visited and stunning coastline.

Who Will Enjoy Puglia: History, architecture & culture buffs, nature & beach lovers, food & wine enthusiasts

Who Will NOT Enjoy Puglia: Big-city lovers, nightlife and party scenesters, and adventure seekers.

Food & Wine

Explore Puglia's culinary traditions by learning how to make *buratta* at a local cheese factory; or try your hand at preparing *focaccia* and *orecchiette*. Take a cooking class on how to make the local meatballs, *polpette*, or visit local wineries and olive mills on foot or by bike.

Boating & Beach Clubs

Go on a boat tour of Polignano a Mare and Monopoli, famous for their spectacular white cliffs. Dine at a restaurant set in a cave by the sea, or spend the day soaking up the rays in one of Puglia's luxury beach clubs.



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Lecce

Lecce is called the “Florence of the South,” for its treasure trove of Baroque architecture set in narrow streets and beautiful piazzas

Highlights include the Lecce Cathedral and the Church of the Holy Cross, which has an ornately decorated façade and opulent interiors. Enjoy the lively atmosphere of the Piazza del Duomo, and step into some of Lecce’s art galleries.

Also in Lecce is a well-preserved Roman amphitheater dating back to the 2nd century AD that once hosted gladiator games. Visitors can explore the ruins and learn about the history of this ancient site.

Masseria Torre Maizza

Set in a 16th century *masseria* (farmhouse) in an olive grove with views of the Adriatic, this Rocco Forte property has an intimate vibe with just 40 suites. Don't be fooled by its size – the property has a golf course, large pool, outdoor gym, spa and a beach club.



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La Fiermontina

This passion project by Paris-born siblings honors their late Pugliese grandmother in an elegant private home-turned-resort. The restored 17th century building preserves its original Baroque architecture typically found in Lecce, where the hotel sits squarely in the heart of. Inside, the spacious home is filled with art, including pieces by Le Corbusier and Fernand Léger.

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