

TOURS IN PUGLIA



ALBEROBELLO

Tourists come to Alberobello from all over the world to see its **unique urban landscape**. The town has become famous internationally because of its "**Trulli**", **cone shaped houses** constructed in stone blocks known as chiancole.

Alberobello is **sited on two hills**, divided by a river. The **Western hill** is the oldest part of the town and here the largest number of Trulli can be found.

The old town is divided into two districts, **Aia piccola** and **Monti**, which are of national importance and have been granted special status by U.N.E.S.C.O. Profuse greenery, **olive and almond trees** cover the hillsides. Craft industry is particularly important, with all types of **traditional products** being made.

Not to be missed: the **itinerant market**, held every Thursday morning and the Saturday afternoon market, held in the Coreggia district. On Wednesday and Saturday evenings the town's butchers organise the **Fornello pronto**, a delicious barbecue. The celebrations for the **Patron Saints Medici Cosma and Damiano** are well worth attending.

It's a beautiful place for a romantic honeymoon and for an interesting tour.



OSTUNI

Ostuni was known historically as "**White City**" because of its small white houses, **typical of Mediterranean architecture**. The city is situated on the **coast of the Murgia**.

In the **historic center of Ostuni**, and especially in the Terra quarter, there are buildings of architectural importance: the Church of St Maria Maddelena, **Palazzo Ducale**, the Guglia di St Oronzo, the Sanctuaries of St Oronzo and St Biagio, the Church of the Annunziata, the **Cathedral of Ostuni** with the **Bastions of Aragon**.

The **Lardagnano quarter** and the **St Angelo Grotta** are also worth visiting. Ostuni is the second most important center after Brindisi.

The economy is based on the production of **textiles, wood**, and building materials. There are also industries connected to the tourism and the numerous **bathing establishments**.

Ostuni is really a beautiful place to stay for a romantic honeymoon and it's nice to reach with a convertible classic car during a tour.



LECCE

Lecce is the **capital of the Salento** because of its geographical position in a the region looks out over both the Ionic and Adriatic Seas. Known as "**the Florence of Baroque**", Lecce has a wealth of architectural **monuments in Baroque style**, with gargles, portals and monuments made from **Pietra Leccese**, an easily crafted gold colored stone.

There are number of sites which will interest art enthusiasts, such as the **Church of St Croce**, Piazza St Oronzo, the Column of St Oronzo, Porta Napoli, **Lecce Cathedral**, the Mazzini district. Then there is the **Roman Amphitheatre**, The Greek Amphitheatre, the Obelisk, **Palazzo Celestini**, Palazzo Carafa, the Church of St Matteo, the **Carlo V Castle**, the Teatini Church, Piazza Duomo.

The **unusual red colored soil**, typical of this area, can be seen in the **surrounding countryside**. The cultural life of the city encompasses all fields from music to theatr, not to mention the numerous activities of the University. Lecce offers visitors the chance to glimpse **ancient history in a dynamic modern context**.

Lecce is perfect for every kind of holiday and it's nice to go around hiring a car.



OTRANTO

Visitors to **Otranto**, one of the **Salento's most popular tourist destinations**, cannot fail but be struck by the city's strikingly beautiful **Romanesque Cathedral**. **Erected in 1088** - following the conquest by the **Normans** - it is the **largest of all Puglia's churches**: 54 meters long and 25 meters wide.

In memory of the ferocious attack inflicted on the city in 1480 by the Turks, under the guide of Solomon the Magnificent, numerous **relics of its martyrs** were conserved within the cathedral and can still be seen today in the **Martyrs Chapel**, where the bones and skeletons of some 800 victims are conserved in glass shrines.

On the facade of the cathedral there is an immense **Gothic-Arabian style rose window** dating back to the renaissance period. Perhaps the most impressive features found within the cathedral are the intricately **carved capitals** depicting eagles with outspread wings, heraldic birds, and lions.

It's a very nice place to reach during a tour with a vintage car, very romantic for an honeymoon too.

