



THROUGH OLIVE GROVES AND ALONG AN IDYLIC COAST

self-guided tour
8 days / 7 nights

  →→ approx. 305 to 315 km



DESCRIPTION

Discover the southeast end of Italy. On this bicycle-tour you will not only experience the unique countryside between the Adriatic and the Ionic Sea, but also the friendliness and hospitality of the southern Italians. The countryside is rich in culture. The Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Normans, Habsburger and the Bourbons have all left their marks in the region.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ROUTE

Easy touring, apart from a few slight ascents and descents along the route, most of this tour is along flat, tarred roads. As you are travelling out of the main season, most of the roads are mainly free of traffic. The tour is suitable for children over 14 years.

A DAY BY DAY ACCOUNT OF THE ROUTE

DAY 1: Arrival at Alberobello

Individual arrival at the hotel in Alberobello. This small town in the province of Bari is famous for Trulli stone constructions. The Trulli of Alberobello are part of the UNESCO World Heritage sites list since 1996.

DAY 2: Alberobello – Ostuni (approx. 35 km, longer option via Martina Franca approx. 45 km)

Enjoy a tour through the Valle d'Itria, one of the prettiest cultural landscapes of the south, with a stop at the famous wineries in Locorotondo to taste some local wine. The next stop is Ostuni, the "white town" offering breathtaking views of the sea.

DAY 3: Ostuni – Avetrana/surroundings (approx. 60 km)

From Ostuni you continue through olive groves, vineyards and fruit crops to Avetrana, a historic small town on the Via Appia. This ancient Roman road led once from Rome via Taranto and Oria to Brindisi. Today only some parts of the ancient cobbled paths still exist and are called the "Via Appia Antica".

DAY 4: Avetrana/surroundings – Gallipoli (approx. 60 km)

You leave Avetrana to reach the sea in the shortest possible time. After a short ride to "Torre Colimena" you continue along the coastal highway with its numerous defence towers to Porto Cesareo. Along the Ionic coast you carry on to Gallipoli. This originally greek „Kale Polis“ (beautiful town) awaits you! The old town is situated at the end of what seems to be an impregnable rocky island that stretches far out into the sea. There is a fantastic view both from the north and the south. The town itself has many churches and interesting museums.

DAY 5: Gallipoli – Santa Maria di Leuca/surroundings (approx. 50 km)

Today you reach the southernmost point of Salento and at the same time the watershed at Santa Maria di Leuca. The place is especially known for its pilgrimage church. At the turn of the century, many splendid villas were created, which are an absolute architectural highlight due to their imaginative and absurd forms. Here eccentric end-of-the-world lovers settled down to enjoy the tranquility and the sea in the remoteness of the place.

DAY 6: Santa Maria di Leuca/surroundings - Otranto (approx. 50 km)

Along the southern coast of the Adriatic Sea you will reach the Messapian city of Otranto. It is considered an art historical gem in the midst of a charming landscape. The old town is surrounded by a mighty city wall and impresses with the amazing Habsburg Castle. On the way to Otranto, you will have the opportunity to visit the famous Zinzulusa Cave, the only coastal grotto open to the public. Santa Cesarea Terme, known for its hydrotherapeutic treatments and radioactive mud therapies, also deserves a stopover.

DAY 7: Otranto – Lecce (approx. 50 km)

First on the Adriatic coast, then it continues through countless olive groves towards Lecce. If you want to take a break on the way, do it best on the high limestone cliffs limited bay of Torre dell'Orso. Lecce, the capital of Salento, is a city of great charm, which is particularly inspired by the undoubted beauty of its buildings and churches. In addition to Naples, Lecce is the baroque metropolis of the South, not without reason they speak of the „Lecce Baroque“. Here, around 30 churches and countless palaces await your visit. Do not forget to pay a visit to the amphitheater and the Roman theater, both probably built by Emperor Augustus.

DAY 8: Departure

Individual departure or possibility to extend your stay.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- **Classification of the cycle-tour:** Self-guided tour
- **Duration:** 8 days / 7 nights
- **Distance:** Approx. 305 - 315 km
- **Starting point:** Alberobello
- **Arrival:**
 - By plane: airport Bari or Brindisi
 - By train: By train (train station Lecce, Monopoli or Alberobello – see on: www.trenitalia.com)
 - By car: directly to Alberobello
- **Accommodation:** 3*** and 4**** hotels or “Agritourist farm” in a room with bath/shower and WC
Attention: Tourist tax – if requested – has to be paid on the spot.
- **Parking:** Parking at the starting hotel in Alberobello; cannot be booked at the moment of reservation of the tour; to be paid directly on the spot.
- **Transfer:** Transfer by shuttle bus **on request** (bicycle included – reservation and payment upon booking).
 - Transfer Monopoli train station – Alberobello: € 25.00 per person, daily, minimum 2 pax.
 - Transfer Bari/Brindisi airport/train station – Alberobello: € 40.00 per person, daily, minimum 2 pax.
 - Transfer Lecce – Bari airport: € 95.00 per person (minimum 2 pax); € 50.00 per person (from 4 pax), daily
 - Transfer Lecce – Brindisi airport: € 40.00 per person, daily, minimum 2 pax.
 - Transfer Lecce – Alberobello: € 55.00 per person, daily, minimum 2 pax.
- **Rental bikes:**
 - 21 gear UNISEX bicycle
 - E-bike (UNISEX bike, 500 W battery, range up to 100 km)

INCLUDED SERVICES; SELF-GUIDED TOUR

- Accommodation in 3*** and 4**** hotels or “Agritourist farm” in a room with bath/shower and WC
- Breakfast buffet or full breakfast
- Personal tour information
- Luggage transfer from place to place
- Well planned routes
- Detailed documents (maps, route description, places to visit, important telephone numbers)
- Telephone service hotline for the entire tour

NON INCLUDED SERVICES

- Arrival to the starting point of the tour
- Departure at the end of the tour
- Drinks, tourist tax and all extras
- Lunch, Dinner
- Not mentioned entries
- Rental bikes and travel insurance
- All not expressly mentioned under the item „Included services“

STARTING DATES 2020

ARRIVAL	every Wednesday and Sunday 12/04/2020 (first available date) to 21/06/2020 (last available date) and from 23/08/2020 (first available date) to 11/10/2020 (last available date) Additionally, during the months of May, June and September, arrival on Saturday is possible as well.
NON SCHEDULE ARRIVAL DATES	minimum of 5 persons upon request!

PRICES 2020

SELF-GUIDED TOUR	
Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast arrival day on 12/04/2020	€ 598.00
Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast	€ 698.00
Single room surcharge, per person	€ 189.00
High season* surcharge, per person	€ 69.00
ADDITIONAL SERVICES	
Rental Bike	€ 85.00
E-Bike	€ 190.00
EXTRA NIGHTS IN ALBEROBELLO	
Per person and night in a double room incl. breakfast	€ 59.00
Single room surcharge, per night	€ 20.00
EXTRA NIGHTS IN LECCE	
Per person and night in a double room incl. breakfast	€ 69.00
Single room surcharge, per night	€ 28.00

*High season: arrival dates from 31/05/2020 to 21/06/2020 (incl.) and from 23/08/2020 to 06/09/2020 (incl.)

We suggest travel insurance.

Changes in the offer as well as errors, printing errors and arithmetic errors reserved!