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## **Southern Charm: 11 Days of History and Beauty in Italy's Mezzogiorno**

### **Italy Desire Group - Party of 16**

Explore three distinct Southern Italian regions (Campania, Basilicata, Puglia) with seamless, comfortable travel. Focus on the sights, not the logistics!

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## Sorrento

(September 27th - September 30th)

### September 27th - HOTEL CONTINENTAL SORRENTO - 3 Nights

IN 09/27 OUT 09/30

#8 Double Classic with Balcony

In the late afternoon, you will meet the Tour Leader at the hotel, who will be with you until the end of the trip, and, of course, you will get to know the other members of the group.

At dinner time, you will all move together to a nearby restaurant for your first Italian dinner: WELCOME TO SORRENTO!

**Inclusions:**      **Daily Breakfast TOUR ESCORT (Sep. 27 - Oct. 07) Welcome Dinner**

**Exclusions:**    **Extras not mentioned**

## Sorrento

### September 28th - THE AMALFI DRIVE: RAVELLO, AMALFI AND POSITANO

Visit the 3 most celebrated jewels of the Amalfi Coast on board of #3 Minivans, driven by local experienced driver/guides: Positano, Amalfi and Ravello.

The route may be fixed depending on traffic, but probably you will firstly reach the hilltop village of RAVELLO. Perched on top of a mountain cliff, it is famous for some of the most beautiful seaside villas in Italy: Villa Rufolo and Villa Cimbrone.

Driving downhill from Ravello, here it is AMALFI. Explore Piazza Duomo home of the imposing, magnificent Cathedral of St. Andrew, named after the patron saint and protector of Amalfi.

On the way back to Sorrento, stop in POSITANO.

Enjoy some free time to explore this tiny village, probably the most incredible "gem" of the Amalfi Coast.

**Duration:** 8 hours approx.

**Inclusions:** Minivans and English-speaking Drivers at disposal as per Itinerary

**Exclusions:** Lunch  
Extras not mentioned



## Sorrento

### September 29th - CAPRI FULL-DAY WITH LOCAL GUIDE

Together with your Tour Leader, catch the hydrofoil from the nearby Sorrento Porto to the Island of Capri (25 minutes ride).

Once in Capri, meet a Private Local Guide and enjoy a tour of the two villages of the island (named Capri and Anacapri) by using the local transportation (included).

The tour will include the chair lift to Mt. Solaro (payable on site) and the walk to the Augustus Gardens.

Afternoon hydrofoil back to Sorrento.

**Inclusions:**      **Hydrofoil ticket to Capri and return**  
                         **Private Local Guide in Capri**  
                         **Full-day Minibus Transportation in Capri**

**Exclusions:**     **Lunch**  
                         **Extras not mentioned**  
                         **Mt. Solaro chairlift (Euro 14.00/person)**

## Sorrento

### September 30th - BUFFALO MOZZARELLA FARM AND GREEK TEMPLES ON THE WAY TO MATERA

Departure from Sorrento with a Tourist Bus.

By mid-morning, you will arrive in the Paestum area, an ancient colony of Ancient Greece and home to some of the best-preserved temples still standing.

But first, enjoy a visit to an authentic DAIRY FARM with a BUFFALO BREEDING facility: this is where the delicious buffalo mozzarella is made!

A light lunch is included in the visit.

To follow, enjoy a Private Tour of the Temples of Paestum with a Local Guide.

In the afternoon, continue to Matera.

- Inclusions:**      **Bus at disposal full-day**  
                         **Mozzarella Farm Visit and Light Lunch**  
                         **Private Guide and Admissions at the Paestum Greek Temples**
- Exclusions:**    **Extras not mentioned**



## Matera

(September 30th - October 02nd)

**September 30th - HOTEL SAN DOMENICO AL PIANO - 2 Nights**

IN 09/30 OUT 10/02

#8 Double Classic

**Inclusions:**     **Daily Breakfast**

## Matera

### October 01st - MATERA GUIDED WALKING TOUR

Matera is a unique city, an extraordinary timeless place home of the famous Sassi, the first site in southern Italy declared a World Heritage Site. The historical center of Matera is an open-air museum, boasting breathtaking views and incredible architectures.

Walking among the dwellings carved into the rock and the rock-hewn churches, you will feel the millennia-old history of Matera resounding all around you.

Also, you will have the opportunity to admire some of the locations made even more famous by internationally renowned movies, making Matera an authentic open-air film set.

This tour is not simply a tourist walk, but a journey through the time and culture of one of the most fascinating cities in Italy.

**Inclusions:**      **Private Local Guide in Matera**

**Exclusions:**    **Lunch**

**Extras not mentioned**

## Matera

### October 01st - COOKING CLASS AND DINNER

Afternoon transportation (if needed) to the location of the Cooking Class.

The experience begins with a tour of the farm and olive mill, with an explanation about the olives and the extra virgin olive oil that is produced, a tasting of the fresh produce directly on the farm, and a tasting of the extra virgin olive oil. Afterwards, there is a hands-on workshop on making fresh pasta, where each guest has their own workstation to make their own fresh pasta, which they will then eat during the meal.

After the pasta, guests go into the kitchen and watch the preparation of a traditional local sauce to accompany the freshly made pasta, as well as another typical local recipe. Finally, everyone sits down for a hearty dinner featuring the dishes prepared together, along with other traditional appetizers and a dessert. All beverages are included in the experience.

\*\*\* Some details of the experience may slightly change, while always maintaining the value of the activity unchanged.

**Inclusions:**      **Transportation (if needed)**  
                         **Cooking Class for all participants**  
                         **Dinner and drinks**

**Exclusions:**      **Extras not mentioned**

## Matera

### **October 02nd - TRANSFER TO LECCE. VISIT THE ITRIA VALLEY: LUNCH, WINE TASTING AND STOP IN MARTINA FRANCA AND LOCOROTONDO**

Leave from Matera in the morning and head toward Lecce with your private Bus.

On your way, make a stop at the enchanting wine district of Itria Valley, renowned for its exquisite white wines and the robust Primitivo red.

Enhance your experience with a visit to a local winery, where, in addition to touring the cellar, you can enjoy a tasting of 4 local wines accompanied by regional specialties (such as taralli and olives, a selection of cured meats, and traditional Puglian cheeses).

The journey will continue with the discovery of some of Puglia's most picturesque villages, such as Locorotondo and Martina Franca, where you'll take a brief stroll to explore these charming and quintessential towns.

Late afternoon arrival in Lecce.

- Inclusions:**      **Bus at disposal full-day**  
                         **Light Lunch and Wine Tasting**
- Exclusions:**    **Extras not mentioned**



## Lecce

(October 02nd - October 05th)

**October 02nd - GRAND HOTEL DI LECCE - 3 Nights**

IN 10/02 OUT 10/05

#8 Classic Double

**Inclusions:     Daily Breakfast**

## Lecce

### October 03rd - LECCE GUIDED WALKING TOUR

Meet your Private Guide at the Hotel and enjoy a half-day Walking Tour of the so-called "Florence of the South", Lecce.

Marvel at the breathtaking baroque architecture, awe-inspiring churches, and elegant buildings crafted from exquisite honey-colored local stone, a hallmark of the city's unique charm. Discover the intricate details of Lecce's famous façades, adorned with masterfully carved cherubs, flowers, and mythical creatures.

Explore the fascinating ruins of the Roman amphitheater, still visible in the heart of the central square, Piazza Sant'Oronzo.

Stroll through the narrow streets lined with artisan workshops, where local crafts like papier-mâché take center stage, and savor the vibrant atmosphere of this cultural gem.

The tour will end in Lecce downtown. Free time.

**Inclusions:**      **Private Local Guide in Lecce**

**Exclusions:**    **Lunch**  
                     **Extras not mentioned**



## Lecce

### October 03rd - COOKING CLASS AND DINNER: Traditional Salento Dishes

The southern part of Puglia (the "heel of Italy") is called Salento. Lecce is its main city, and here traditions and cuisine differ slightly from the rest of Puglia.

With a short bus ride, you will reach the countryside just outside Lecce, arriving at a beautiful location, the venue for tonight's Food Experience!

This Cooking Class focuses on authentic traditional cuisine, known as "poor kitchen," based on very simple ingredients (durum wheat semolina and water). Each participant will have their own station and will manually work with the raw materials to create "orecchiette," "maccheroncini," and "sagne 'ncannulate" (types of Salento pasta), all under the guidance and assistance of an instructor.

The course lasts about an hour and a half, and continues with dinner.

\*\*\* Wine can be purchased separately, by the glass or by the bottle, upon request.

**Inclusions:**      **Cooking Class with Dinner included  
(3 courses, dessert, water)**

**Exclusions:**    **Extra wine**

## Lecce

### **October 04th - DAY TOUR TO DISCOVER THE SALENTO REGION AND ITS OLIVE OIL**

Morning departure with your Bus to reach in 45 minutes the picturesque Otranto, Italy's easternmost town: the Albanian coast is just 850 miles away and if weather is clear you'll be able to see it!

Discover the highlights of the charming Otranto with the help of a Local Private Guide, including the 11th-century Romanesque cathedral, home to stunning medieval mosaics, and the massive Aragonese Castle, offering its marvelous sea panorama. Otranto is also one of the most sought-after summer destinations in Italy, blending traditions, crystal-clear sea, delicious food, and warm hospitality.

Free time and Lunch at leisure.

Early afternoon departure to a nearby Farmhouse to taste the local production of Extra-virgin Olive Oil and enjoy the typical landscape made of magnificent centuries-old olive trees.

**Inclusions:**      **Bus at disposal as per Itinerary**  
                         **Private Local Guide in Otranto**  
                         **Olive Oil Tasting**

**Exclusions:**     **Lunch**  
                         **Extras not mentioned**



## Lecce

### October 05th - TRANSFER TO BARI WITH STOP IN OSTUNI AND ALBEROBELLO

Departure from Lecce with your Bus.

On the way to Bari, enjoy a couple of stops by two unique towns in central Apulia: Ostuni and Alberobello.

Also called the white town, OSTUNI is one of the most stunning cities in southern Italy famous for the dazzling effect of its whitewashed houses. Ostuni is a genuine and charming example of Mediterranean architecture, characterized by a series of levels, staircases, small roads, alleys, arches.

To follow reach ALBEROBELLO, the so-called "Capital of the Trulli". The trullo is a fascinating architectural feature of this area of Apulia, a building with conical roof made without mortar. Alberobello has special status internationally - designated a UNESCO world heritage site - because its collection of some 1,500 trulli in an urban environment is unique.

Late afternoon arrival in Bari.

**Inclusions:**      **Bus at disposal as per Itinerary**

**Exclusions:**    **Meals / Extras not mentioned**



## Bari

(October 05th - October 08th)

**October 05th - MOVENPICK HOTEL BARI - 3 nights**

IN 10/05 OUT 10/08

#8 Classic Double

**Inclusions:      Daily Breakfast**



## Bari

### October 06th - VISIT CASTEL DEL MONTE AND TRANI WITH ITS SEA-FRONT CATHEDRAL

With a short ride, reach the iconic castle of Castel del Monte with your bus.

Castel del Monte is significantly different from all the remaining castles of Apulia (and Italy), because to its unusual octagonal shape.

You will meet a Private Guide on site, who will also escort you to the next stop of the day. In the afternoon, you will visit Trani, a charming seaside town home to an iconic Cathedral reflected in the waters of the Adriatic Sea, one of the most beautiful examples of Puglia's Romanesque architecture (and one of the very few cathedrals in Europe located by the sea!). Enjoy a walk by the picturesque port of Trani and its narrow white-stoned alleys.

**Inclusions:**      **Bus at disposal as per Itinerary**  
                         **Private Local Guide full-day (up to 6 hours)**  
                         **Castel del Monte admissions**

**Exclusions:**    **Meals**  
                         **Extras not mentioned**

## Bari

### October 07th - BARI VECCHIA GUIDED WALKING TOUR

Thanks to its central location, you will meet a Bari Guide directly in your hotel lobby: within a few steps, you'll find yourself in "Bari Vecchia" (Old Bari) to enjoy a 3-hour walking tour.

Discover stunning churches, including the Cathedral of San Sabino, which is overshadowed by the imposing Svevo Castle. One of the city's most captivating treasures is the Basilica of St. Nicholas (Nicholas is the patron saint of Bari), a magnificent example of Apulian Medieval architecture where the holy relics of the famous saint are preserved.

In addition to its historical and architectural richness, one of the attractions of the Old Town is the local women who prepare the typical Apulian pasta – orecchiette – right on the streets. On some occasions, you can even buy it directly from them.

**Inclusions:**      **Private Local Guide in Bari**

**Exclusions:**    **Lunch**

**Extras not mentioned**

## Bari

### October 07th - FAREWELL DINNER

Unfortunately, the journey has come to an end...

It is time to say goodbye, and of course, it could only happen with one last, unforgettable evening at the restaurant!

Together with your Tour Escort, enjoy a dinner in the center of Bari - 3 courses and wine included, of course.

\*\*\* END OF SERVICES \*\*\*

**Inclusions:**      **3-course dinner with dessert, water, and 1/2 wine per person**  
**Exclusions:**    **Extra drinks / food**



## Bari

### October 08th - ...do you need help with the transfer today?

From Bari, you can take a DIRECT TRAIN to Rome or use the city AIRPORT to reach Italian international airports and some others in Europe (London, Paris, Berlin, and more).

Private transfers are also available to the closest international airports, Naples and Rome Fiumicino.

#### \*\*\* NEED A PRIVATE TRANSFER? \*\*\*

- From the Hotel to Bari Railway Station  
Private Sedan - EURO 80.00
- From the Hotel to Bari Airport  
Private Sedan - EURO 93.00
- From Bari to Naples International Airport  
Private Sedan - EURO 770.00
- From Bari to Rome Fiumicino Airport  
Private Sedan - EURO 1060.00

## **YOUR HOTEL:**

### **SORRENTO**

#### **HOTEL CONTINENTAL SORRENTO - 3 Nights**

IN 09/27 OUT 09/30

#8 Double Classic with Balcony

### **MATERA**

#### **HOTEL SAN DOMENICO AL PIANO - 2 Nights**

IN 09/30 OUT 10/02

#8 Double Classic

### **LECCE**

#### **GRAND HOTEL DI LECCE - 3 Nights**

IN 10/02 OUT 10/05

#8 Classic Double

### **BARI**

#### **MOVENPICK HOTEL BARI - 3 nights**

IN 10/05 OUT 10/08

#8 Classic Double

## **What is not included**

- Tips
- Beverages and meals not mentioned in the program
- Travel Insurance
- Optional Excursions

## **General Booking and Payment Terms & Conditions**

### **BOOKING TERMS**

- At the time of concluding the tourist package contract or, in any case, as soon as possible, the Organizer (ITALY DESIRE) or the Seller must provide the Traveler with a copy or confirmation of the contract on a durable medium.
- The tourist package contract is deemed perfected, resulting in the conclusion of the contract, only at the moment when the Organizer sends confirmation, even via telematic system, to the Traveler.
- The Traveler must communicate to the Seller, before booking, any specific requests that are considered subject to the contract only if possible, recorded in writing in the contract and accepted by the Organizer.
- Travel documents (e.g. vouchers) will be delivered to the Traveler in a timely manner before departure and the Traveler must keep them and bring them along during the trip, in order to use the services regularly booked, together with any other documents (e.g. plane tickets) provided by the Seller. The Traveler is required to verify the accuracy of the information on the aforementioned documents and in the travel contract and to immediately notify the Seller of any errors. The Traveler must communicate to the Organizer the details of the participants exactly as reported on the personal identification documents.
- No claim shall be deemed valid if it concerns a service or part of the package that is not indicated anywhere in the contract as Included (the "Inclusions" category listed in the itinerary subject to the contract shall prevail).

### **PAYMENT / CANCELLATION TERMS**

- Deposit of 30% (or higher depending on circumstances) is required to hold the space once it is confirmed.
- Balance of payments is due no later than 45 days prior to arrival.
- Clients may use credit cards, with no extra fee, for payments and will be sent a secure link
- Cancellations received between the time of deposit and 60 days before departure do not incur a penalty, and clients will be refunded their entire deposit, minus 3% bank fees incurred during payment and the cost of non-refundable services (such as train tickets and admission tickets).
- Cancellations received after final payment has been made and less than 45 days before

departure are subject to full penalty and no refunds will be made.

- In case of Hotel Bookings, or Apartments/Villas, a separate cancellation policy is applicable (which can be advised as and when required).
- Train or Ferry Tickets and Entrance Fee are never refundable.

## **CHANGES AFTER DEPARTURE**

- If, due to unforeseen circumstances not attributable to the Organizer, it becomes impossible to provide a substantial part, in terms of value or quality, of the combination of travel services agreed upon in the package travel contract during its execution, the Organizer will offer, at no additional cost to the Traveler, adequate alternative solutions of a quality, where possible, equivalent or superior to those specified in the contract, to ensure the continuation of the package, including the possibility that the Traveler's return to the point of departure is not provided as agreed. If the proposed alternative solutions result in a package of lower quality than that specified in the package travel contract, the Organizer will grant the Traveler an appropriate price reduction.
- The Traveler may reject the proposed alternative solutions only if they are not comparable to what was agreed in the package travel contract or if the granted price reduction is inadequate.
- If it is impossible to arrange alternative solutions or if the Traveler rejects the proposed alternative solutions that comply with the previous point, the Traveler will be entitled to a price reduction.

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