

A YOUth Guide to Bari

A YOUth Guide to Bari was cooperatively drafted by a group of students from the University of Bari, Faculty of Modern Languages, as a follow-up activity to the Workshop **WRITING FOR TOURISM** organized at the University of Bari in May 2012. The workshop saw active participation and involvement of over 40 students working for the first time as guidebook writers under the supervision of travel journalist and guidebook author **Duncan Garwood**.

The guide was written with a specific target audience in mind, namely **Erasmus and other foreign students in Bari**. It is therefore simple, concise, and – above all – it tries to take into account the information needs of students as ‘incidental’ tourists.

The authors wish to thank Prof. Maristella Gatto for the idea behind this project, for support through all steps, and for suggesting the title of this guide, and all the students who contributed to the success of the event. Needless to say, we feel a debt of gratitude to Duncan Garwood for sharing with us his expertise and for involving us in a rewarding writing experience.

We hope you’ll find our guide useful and - why not – our city beautiful.

Bari & Around

Introduction

With its breathtaking seafront, delicious food, vibrant nightlife, hectic shopping, exciting football matches and university centre, Bari has all the ingredients to satisfy everyone!

The second biggest city in the South (about 328,458 inhabitants) and regional capital of Apulia, Bari overlooks the Adriatic Sea. It has been an important port for centuries and you can still pick up ferries for Greece and Albania - that's why it's considered the "**Bridge to the East**".

The city is characterised by the Mediterranean climate with mild, continental winters and hot and dry summers (between 30°- 40°C).

Bari Vecchia, Santa Claus & Turnip Tops

The fascinating heart of Bari is the labyrinthine "old City" (Bari Vecchia), where you can admire a number of architectural gems, such as the Basilica di San Nicola, the city's most important church dedicated to its patron saint. The basilica is a place of pilgrimage, because it contains the bones of Saint Nicholas from Myra (Turkey), the Santa Claus of Anglo-Saxon tradition.

Bari has superb food and you shouldn't miss the chance to experience traditional gastronomic treats such as *orecchiette* (typical short, ear-shaped pasta) with turnip tops and fish- and seafood-based dishes.

Cultural Mix

In the past Bari was the object of bloody contest between the Byzantines, Lombards and Saracens. At the beginning of the eleventh century there were also a lot of revolts between Byzantines and Normans. However, the arrival of the Swabians (from modern-day Germany) put an end to the autonomy of the town. These different cultures played a key role in creating the astonishing heritage and treasures of modern Bari.

Bari Today

In the last few years Bari has undergone a widespread makeover, and this continues to this day. The **maritime tradition** is still very strong. Over the centuries the city's chaotic **port** has developed as a major gateway **between Europe and the Middle East**. To witness this visit the **Levant trade fair**, a major business event held every September.

Bari is essentially a dynamic city, with a buzzing social scene. There's a large student population - so you're sure to feel at ease. Visiting Bari is a must.

Background

History

Bari's origins are uncertain, and its development has been marked by the fact that it has been ruled by many different people. It is certainly known that it was invaded and occupied by the Romans in the 3rd century BC. It was during this period that it became an important port and road junction thanks to the construction of the **Traiana Road** between Benevento and Brindisi. Its harbour was probably the principal port in the area in ancient times and the city an important fishing centre.

After the fall of the Roman Empire Bari was repeatedly invaded and conquered by the Lombards, Saracens and Byzantines.

Norman and Swabian Age

In 1071, the Byzantine dominance ended, and Bari was captured by **Robert Guiscard**, the third of the great admirals of **Norman Sicily**. The **Basilica di San Nicola** was founded in 1087 to house the relics of Saint Nicholas, which were surreptitiously brought from Myra in Lycia, in Byzantine territory. The saint was adopted by the population of Bari, and from being known as Saint Nicholas of Myra he became Saint Nicholas of Bari. The city began to attract pilgrims, and this became central to the economy of the city.

Saint Nicholas

Saint Nicholas, also called Nikolaos of Myra, was a historic 4th-century saint and Greek Bishop of Myra in Lycia. Because of the many miracles he is said to have performed, he is also known as Nikolaos the Wonderworker. He had a reputation for secret gift-giving, such as putting coins in the shoes of those who left them out for him, and thus became the model for Santa Claus - the term deriving from corruptions of the transliteration of "Saint Nikolaos". In 1087, part of the relics (about half of the bones) were furtively transported to Bari. For this reason, he is also known as Nikolaos of Bari.

In around 1132, the Normans built a **great castle** near the Basilica di San Nicola. But, during this period, the city was hit by rebellion and civil war (due to the Norman dominance), until Gueglielmo il Malo destroyed the city, leaving only the Basilica di San Nicola intact.

After the fall of the Norman Empire, Frederick II took power and, despite his great distrust towards the inhabitants of Bari, who he considered unfaithful, in 1233 he ordered the rebuilding of the castle, which from this moment was known as **Norman-Swabian Castle**.

Later, with the arrival of the Angevins and Aragonese from Spain, a period of decline started, mainly due to several civil wars and the influence of foreign bankers, to whom the Angevins sold their commercial privileges.

The Napoleonic Period

In 1813, during the Napoleonic period, **Gioacchino Murat** started building the new part of Bari: he laid the first stone just at the point of intersection between Corso Vittorio Emanuele and Corso Cavour, which are the first two sides of the "Murat Quarter". It was a new kind of urbanization, characterised by an innovative model: the "grid pattern".

Art & Architecture

Romanesque in Apulia

The Romanesque style of architecture in Apulia developed between the 11th and the 13th centuries, the period of the crusades. During the first crusade, Bari, which was under Byzantine power, conquered Myra (modern-day Turkey) and Saint Nicholas's relics were brought to town and housed in the specially-built Basilica di San Nicola. In this period, architecture in Apulia was influenced by Greek and Islamic styles, as the basilica shows. Externally, it appears like a fort with statues referring to Arabic symbols. Inside, you can visit the museum of Saint Nicholas and see glass ampullae (which contain the so-called "Manna", a liquid that comes from the saint's bones) decorated with scenes of the saint's life. The museum's collection also includes lamps, crosses, icons and votive offerings.

Another important example of Romanesque architecture is the Cattedrale di San Sabino, with its elaborate rose window decorated with fantastical and monstrous figures. Inside there are traces of Baroque elements due to work done in the 18th century.

The Norman-Swabian Period

During the 13th century, the Holy Roman emperor Frederick II arrived in Apulia and in 1233 ordered the rebuilding and fortification of the castle. Later, during the Angevin domination, it underwent several transformations and finally, after being acquired by Duke Ferdinand of Aragon, it was donated to the Sforza family and passed to Bona Sforza, Queen of Poland. The castle is surrounded by a moat on all sides, except for the northern side which was previously bordered by the sea. It is mainly composed of Aragon walls and the main Swabian tower, and now it is used for exhibitions. On the left of the main entrance there is a gallery that houses a large number of plaster casts of marble slabs, capitals, banisters, lunettes and monumental portals, all related to the Romanesque sculpture of the 12th-13th centuries.

The Bourbons and the Murat district

In 1734, Bari was governed by the Bourbon Charles III. He was succeeded by Ferdinand VI. In 1798 a revolutionary government was created by Napoleon who put Joachim Murat in charge of the government of Bari. He declared the city as capital and built the new district. This grid-shaped part of the city was built in 1819 to give it a modern image following the European architectural style of that period. Nowadays, it is the largest shopping area in the region with high street stores and smaller shops, many selling fashionable clothes and accessories.

Pinacoteca Provinciale of Bari

This important picture gallery is housed in a monumental palazzo on the seafront. It was instituted on July 12, 1928 and was named in honour of the famous Italian painter Corrado Giaquinto. It includes sections dedicated to medieval art; Venetian paintings of the 15th and 16th centuries donated by numerous Apulian churches; 15th to 17th Apulian paintings and 17th to 18th century Neapolitan school paintings. There's also a valuable collection of paintings by Corrado Giaquinto; a considerable collection of 19th century Neapolitan and Southern Italian paintings, unfortunately only partially exhibited; works of 17th to 18th Apulian majolica; Neapolitan cribs; period costumes; a Greco donation (about 50 important 19th and early 20th century paintings), and contemporary works of art.

Teatro Petruzzelli

The Petruzzelli Theatre is the largest opera house in Italy after La Scala in Milan and the San Carlo Theatre in Naples. It hosted opera and ballet celebrities throughout the 20th century, until it was largely destroyed in a mysterious fire on 27 October 1991. It reopened on 4 October 2009, after 18 years of restoration.

The Russian Church

The Russian church, in the Carrassi district, was built in the early 20th century to welcome Russian pilgrims who came to the city to visit the Basilica di San Nicola. Recently restored, the church is a bridge between eastern and western Europe. It is built in a typical Russian style and decorated with a precious icon of the saint. The interior, in the form of a Greek cross, is topped by a dome. The furniture was designed by Russian artists. In March 2009, it was finally handed over to the Russians.

Music

Bari is a melting pot of musical genres - rock, hip-hop, opera, pop and much more. If you are interested in local music, you can go to the Taverna del Maltese, near the university, where local groups will make your night special. If you are interested in Italian music, try the Arena della Vittoria, or Demodè disco, where amazing singers and groups rock. If you like dancing until sunrise, you can go to Nord Wind, where very hospitable students organize rip-roaring Erasmus parties. If you prefer a quiet night, you can go to Bari's theatres to be charmed by Italian opera - Verdi's *Aida*, Bizet's *Carmen*, Puccini's *Tosca* to name a few. So seize the moment and stay tuned into Bari's gigs!

Pubs and Discos

Taverna vecchia del maltese Via Netti 34

EKoiné ri-pub Via De Ferraris, 49abc

Nord Wind via Giannone, 18

Les Fleurs du Mal, via Suppa 24

Demodè Via dei Cedri, 14 70026 Modugno. If you are a student, you can take a bus organized by Duba, a university association (www.facebook.com/pages/DUBA/203257066424625)

Theatres

Teatro Kismet Opera www.teatrokismet.org ; Strada San Giorgio Martire 22/f

Teatro Forma www.teatroforma.org ; Via Fanelli, 206/1

Teatro Petruzzelli www.fondazionepetruzzelli.it ; Corso Cavour

Arena and Stadium

Arena della Vittoria Zona Fiera del Levante, Via Maratona

Stadio San Nicola tel 080 5055099; Strada Torrebella

Cinema in Bari

Apulia has recently contributed to the cultural renaissance of Italian cinema, most notably through the works of Apulian directors such as Bene, Placido and Rubini, but also as a setting for films by directors from all over Italy such as Piva, Veronesi and Salvadores.

Apulian Directors

Sergio Rubini, the most famous Apulian actor and director, was born in Grumo Appula (Bari) in 1956. He soon moved to Rome to study acting. Among his most successful films there is *Tutto l'amore che c'è* (All the love there is), 2000, set in some small towns like Giovinazzo, Altamura, Grumo Appula and Palo del Colle. It is a comedy about the life of a group of young people who come from southern and northern Italy who desire more freedom and wider horizons than a small town can offer. Rubini's most recent work is *L'uomo Nero* (Black man), 2009. Some scenes are set in Bari near the Ferrovie Appulo-Lucane and the Pinacoteca Provinciale. His films mostly deal with social themes of southern Italian life such as love, adultery and robbery.

Alessandro Piva is a director from Salerno. He was fascinated by Apulia and set his famous film *La Capa Gira*, 1999, in Bari. The plot is about some drug pushers but what really matters is the words, gestures and faces of the characters. The dialogue is in both Italian and local dialect (Barese) and some scenes are set in Bari Vecchia (Old Bari). Another film shot in Bari is *Mio cognato* (My brother-in-law), 2003, which tells how two brothers-in-law try to find a stolen car in Bari Vecchia and come face to face with local criminals.

Apulia has also been the set for some scenes of other films such as *Manuale d'amore* (Veronesi), *Cado dalle nubi* (Nunziante) and *Io non ho paura* (Salvadores).

Apulian Actors

The most popular Apulian actors are: Solfrizzi, Scamarcio and Luca Medici (alias Checco Zalone). Emilio Solfrizzi was born in Bari in 1962. After having worked for local television with Antonio Stornaiolo as *Toti and Tata* in

some comedies such as *Il polpo* (a parody of the famous Italian series *La piovra*), he became famous in *Sei forte maestro*, 2000, and *Tutti pazzi per amore*, 2008.

Riccardo Scamarcio was born in Trani in 1979. He made his debut as an actor in TV series such as *Ama il tuo nemico 2* and *Compagni di scuola* but he reached success with *La meglio gioventù*, (The Best of Youth), 2003, and *Tre metri sopra il cielo*, (Three Steps over Heaven), 2004. In 2007, he acted in the film *Mio fratello è figlio unico* (My brother is an Only Child) and won a “David Donatello” nomination for Best Supporting Actor for this work.

Luca Medici is one of the best Apulian comic actors. He is famous also as a singer-song-writer and impersonator. He was born in Bari in 1977 and his stage name “Checco Zalone” comes from the local expression “che cozzalone!” that means “what a boor!”. *Cado dalle nubi* (Fall from clouds), 2009, and *Che bella giornata* (What a lovely day), 2011, were really successful films in which his character, Checco, is a young singer who wants to succeed in showbusiness (*Cado dalle nubi*) or become a policeman (*Che bella giornata*). These works are partly set in Apulia (Polignano a mare and Alberobello) and in northern and central Italy, where Checco has to face the typical prejudices that many southerners have to face.

Food and Wine

Apulia's cuisine, which includes a large variety of dishes, is central to Mediterranean cuisine, today part of the UNESCO heritage. In the past Puglia was a poor region, whose economy was based on agriculture and fishing, which is why Apulian recipes are simple and genuine, using vegetables, wheat products, olive oil, fish and wine.

On the coast, you will find mostly fish dishes like *Riso Patate e Cozze*, which is rice baked with potatoes and mussels, *Ricci di mare* (sea urchins) and other seafood usually eaten raw.

Inland, typical products and dishes include *pane di Altamura*, a special kind of bread; *Fave e cicorie*, purèed broad beans with chicory; and *Bracirole al ragù*, stuffed meat rolls in tomato sauce and stuffed meat rolls.

In Bari and its surrounding area you will find specialties such as *Focaccia*, *Taralli*, *Panzerotti fritti* and *Calzone di cipolle*, which are all based on a dough made with flour and water. *Focaccia* and *panzerotti* are usually flavoured with tomato and mozzarella cheese, whilst *calzone* is stuffed with onions. Don't forget to taste *Orecchiette con le cime di rape*, a special kind of pasta with turnip tops. Finally, walking around the alleyways in Bari Vecchia, you'll see some housewives making *Sgagliozze* on the streets – sliced and fried polenta (a dish made from maize flour cooked in salted water).

The sweet of tooth will look forward to trying the desserts we typically prepared on bank holidays. For example at Carneval time you can try *Chiacchiere*, a fried dough made with flour, water and sugar. On Saint Joseph's day (19th March) people traditionally prepare *Zeppole di San Giuseppe*, fried or baked dough topped with cream and sour cherries. At Easter we make *Scarcella* (a large biscuit topped by an egg), and finally, at Christmas, you will find bakeries start selling delicious *Cartellate*, sweets dressed with a fig or wine based syrup called *vincotto*.

Wine

For people who like drinking good wine whilst eating our local specialities or chatting with friends, there are many typical wines from Bari and around, including *Allegoria* and *Ossimoro*, *Muro Sant'Angelo Barbatto* and *Chiaromonte Riserva* from Gioia del Colle; *Primitivo* from Manduria, south of Taranto; *Erbaceo* white wine by Colli della Murgia; *Epillio* white wine by Barsento and *Selva* white wine by Cantina Albea.

Food Festivals

Known as *Sagre*, these are very popular all over Apulia and ideal for enjoying typical foods, drinking wine, chatting with friends and dancing together. The most famous *sagre* for the specialties mentioned above are: *Sagra dell'orecchietta* in Castellana Grotte (August); *Sagra del polpo* in Mola di Bari (August); *Sagra della*

focaccia in Cassano delle Murge (August); Festa del vino primitivo in Acquaviva delle Fonti (November), and, to finish with something sweet, the Sagra dei dolci natalizi in Toritto (December).

Bari

Getting Orientated

Once you have arrived at the Stazione Centrale, you'll emerge onto Piazza Aldo Moro, where you will also find the Bus Terminal. You are in Bari's XIX century heart with its French-style buildings, squares and boulevards. Corso Cavour, adjacent to the railway station, is a boulevard where you can enjoy a nice stroll.

About halfway down you will find Teatro Petruzzelli on your right. The Corso ends at Piazza del Ferrarese, a popular hangout for young people and the beating heart of the city.

Bari Vecchia starts with Piazza Mercantile, where you will find Palazzo del Sedile on your right, seat of the city council. If you take Strada Palazzo di Città, you will find the Basilica di San Nicola at the end of the street. The basilica's main entrance is at the other side of the building facing Piazza San Nicola.

Some of the most popular places in Bari are also to be found in the city outskirts, and can be reached by bus from Piazza Aldo Moro. Among these:

Parco 2 Giugno: the ideal place to have a picnic in the sun;

Spiaggia Pane e Pomodoro: if you want to enjoy a sun-and-sea summer day;

Stadio San Nicola: one of the most famous stadiums in Italy designed by famous architect Renzo Piano;

Fiera del Levante: the most important trade fair in southern Italy, held in September;

City Harbour and Cruise Terminal: where many foreign tourists arrive and start their visit of the city;

Pinacoteca Provinciale: if you wish to know more about Bari's art treasures.

Sights

Basilica di San Nicola

tel 080 533711; www.basilicasannicola.it, Largo Abate Elia; 7am-8pm; the adjoining museum adult/child €3/2; 10.30am - 6.30pm daily

Dedicated to Saint Nicholas, this is the Russian Orthodox Church, donated to the Patriarchy of Moscow on 1 April 2009. It was founded in 1087 by the Benedictine Abbat Elias in an area previously occupied by the Byzantine praetorium in order to house the relics of Saint Nicholas which had been taken from Turkey by some Barese sailors. There are two feasts that celebrate the saint, now Bari's patron saint. The first, from 7th to 10th May, is celebrated with an extra-ordinary historic parade. The other is held on 6th December, and involves the inhabitants of Bari participating with their folk customs.

Bari Vecchia

The old part of the city was surrounded by a boundary wall whose remains are today known as "**la Muraglia**"(the Wall). Following the boundary wall, you'll see the city's most important square, **Piazza del Ferrarese**, where young people like to meet, especially in the evening. On the right, there is the **Margherita Theatre**. Continuing along the wall you arrive at the **Fortino Sant'Antonio**, a 14th-century tower. Finally, you can explore the heart of the old quarter, a maze of alleys and small squares.

Cattedrale di San Sabino

Piazza dell'Odegitria; 8-12.30am & 4-7.30pm Mon-Sat, 8-12.30 am & 5-8.30pm Sun

The remains of a Roman and Byzantine wall and the base of an old small church were discovered at this cathedral, which has beautiful mosaic floors, ceramics, pottery and more.

Castello Normanno Svevo

tel 080 435 7774; Piazza Federico II di Svevia; adult/young person aged 18-25 €2/14; 8.30am-7.30 pm, closed Wed

It is a Norman-Swabian Castle built outside the old quarter and protected by a moat; it is surrounded by two order of walls, the taller built by the Normans to defend themselves from attacks, the lower built by the Aragonese to resist cannonades. The interior of the castle hosts exhibitions and cultural events.

Bari Sotterranea (Bari Underground Walking Tour)

tel 347 2644058; www.eventidautore.it; €18 Mon-Fri €20 Sat-Sun; 90-minute tours daily except Wed

Discover the subterranean passages of Bari beneath the Swabian Castle. From the castle you can visit the 'succorpo' of the Cattedrale di San Sabino, and continue underground to Palazzo Simi, a palace of the 16th – 17th century.

Museo Diocesano

tel 080 521 0064; www.italguide.com/cattedrale_bari_mappa2_sito.htm ; Via Dottula; Guided tours on request; 9.30-12.30am Thu, 9.30-12.30am & 4.30-7.30pm Sat, 9.30-12.30am Sun

The Cathedral-museum is housed in the same rooms of the first floor of the Bishop's Palace which originally held the Diocesan collection of sacred art. Here are preserved vestments and rare codes such as the precious Exultet roll.

Teatro Petruzzelli

tel 080 975 2810; www.fondazionepetruzzelli.it; Via Salvatore Cognetti, 8

It is the fourth largest theatre in Italy with 1482 seats, and is a great Art Nouveau music hall. It dates back to 1898 when construction work began and it was completed in 1903. The work was led by the traders and ship-owners Onofrio and Antonio Petruzzelli. The theatre was inaugurated in 1903 with Meyerbeer's masterpiece *Gli Ugonotti*. It was almost entirely destroyed by fire in 1991 but was entirely reconstructed with public money and reopened on October 4th 2009.

Pinacoteca

tel 080 5412422-23-26-27;

http://s2ew.provincia.ba.it/pls/provinciaba/consultazione.mostra_pagina?id_pagina=129, Via Spalato 19;

adult/child & reduced € 2,58/0.52, Guided tours on request ; 9am-7pm Thu-Sat; 9am-1pm Sun

The Pinacoteca of Bari is an important Italian picture gallery that displays works of art, divided into several sections - medieval; Venetian paintings of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries; late medieval Apulian paintings; early medieval Neapolitan school; a section of Corrado Giaquinto's paintings; an important collection of nineteenth century Neapolitan and Southern Italian paintings; Tuscan "Macchiaioli" paintings; Apulian Medieval Majolica; an antique Neapolitan nativity scene; important nineteenth and twentieth century paintings; important contemporary paintings and works of art.

Fiera del Levante

tel 080 536 6111; www.fieradellelevante.it

The seat of an important trade exhibitions held in September (Orolevante, Modalevante, Expolevante). In addition to a shuttle bus service specifically arranged for visitors, Fiera del Levante is well connected to the regular bus network.

Festival

Bari's main festival, held over 7th, 8th and 9th May, is dedicated to Saint Nicholas. It's an extraordinary folkloristic and religious event that involves the entire city population and attracts pilgrims from all over Apulia and beyond. The festival's central feature is the "transferral", taking the statue from the Basilica di San Nicola out to sea and back again, thus reconstructing the deeds of the 62 sailors who, in 1087, stole Saint Nicholas' body from Myra and took it to Bari. Events kick off with a fishing boat carrying a painting of St Nicholas across the bay of San Giorgio. Later, as the sun sets, the painting reaches the Castello Svevo, where a suggestive historical parade, leads through Corso Vittorio Emanuele, Corso Cavour and the promenade of Nazario Sauro to arrive at the Basilica. Illuminations, music and fireworks on the seafront announce the official opening of celebrations. May 8th is the day dedicated to a procession carrying the statue of St Nicholas: first on land and then by sea. On 9th May in the crypt of the Basilica the rite of the Holy "manna" is performed - liquid that exudes from the saint's bones is collected and solemnly shown to the crowd of devout people. On the third and last day is the popular "Festa dei Baresi" (because it is dedicated to the citizens of Bari). Don't miss the spectacular firework display at 10pm.

Getting There

Air

The international airport of Bari '**Karol Wojtyla**' (www.aeroportidipuglia.it) is 11 km from the city centre. It is an important air hub for southern Italy served by a number of low cost airlines, such as Ryanair.

Airlines serving Bari:

AIR-BERLIN - tel 848 3920 54

AIR ITALI – tel 899 500 093

AIR ONE – tel 199 207 080

ALBANIAN AIRLINES - tel 080 5227622

ALITALIA - tel 06 2222; from abroad 00 39 06 2222

ALPI EAGLES - tel 899 500 058

AUSTRIAN - tel 02 896 342 96

BELLE AIR - tel 02 6101448 - 02 6100769

BLUE EXPRESS.COM - tel 899 199 034; from abroad 00 39 06 602 145 77

BRITISH AIRWAYS- tel 199 712 266

CARPATAIR - tel 023 600 6676

CLUB AIR - tel 899 02 29 29

EASY JET - tel 899 678 990

EUROFLY - tel 892 113; from abroad 0039 0789 52650

HELVETIC.COM - tel 02 696 826 84

ITALI AIRLINES - tel 899 500028

LUFTHANSA - tel 199 400 044

LUXAIR - tel 352 24 56 42 42

MERIDIANA - tel 199 111 333

MYAIR.COM - tel 899 500 060

RYANAIR - tel 899 678 910

SN BRUSSELS AIRLINES - tel 02 696 82 364

TUIFLY.COM - tel 199 192 692

VIRGIN EXPRESS - tel 848 390 109

VOLARE WEB - tel 199 414 500; from abroad 0039 070 46 03 397

You can consult the web site: http://www.aeroportoibari.com/compagnie_aeree_su_bari.htm

Useful airport numbers:

Switchboard- tel 080 5800200

Ticket office– tel 080 5800204

Tele check in tel 800 949 944

Customs – tel 080 5316196 – fax 080 5316196

Lost & Found office (lost luggage) tel 080 5800224

Alitalia lost luggage office - tel 080 5315411

Bari airport is well connected with the city centre.

The cheapest way to get to the city is to take an Amtab local urban bus No 16. It takes 30/45 minutes to reach Piazza Aldo Moro and the main railway station: Bari Centrale. Along the way it stops at Viale Europa, Via B. Buozzi, Via Crispi, Via Piccinni, Via Q. Sella and Corso Italia. On the way back, from Piazza Aldo Moro to the airport, it makes the following additional stops: Via A. Da Bari, Via Piccinni, Piazza Garibaldi, Via F. Crispi, Via B. Buozzi, Viale Europa, Via D'Annunzio.

The bus runs from 5am to 9.30pm, departing every 40/60 minutes. Tickets price is €0.90 for 75 minutes.

There's also a shuttle bus, Tempesta, that's a faster and more comfortable alternative, indeed it arrives directly at the railway station in about 20 minutes until 11.20pm. Buy tickets on board. It is more expensive than the regular bus, but it is advisable after 10pm when the line No 16 is no longer available.

From the airport to Bari Centrale station and vice versa it passes Via Andrea Da Bari 44 (corner Via Calefati) 5 minutes after departure from the central station.

A one-way ticket is € 4.15

The timetable depends on the flights.

A taxi to the airport costs about € 20/25.

Pugliairbus is the transport service which connects the airports of Brindisi, Foggia and Bari and also links Bari airport with Rodi, Peschici, Taranto and Matera. The ticket can be bought on line (<http://pugliairbus.aeroportoipuglia.it>) or on board.

Boat

The port (tel 080 5788511; Piazzale Colombo 1) of Bari is one of the most important in the region. It stands as a gateway between Italy and the Middle East and Balkan regions with connections to/from Albania (Durazzo), Croatia (Dubrovnik), Montenegro (Bar) and Greece (Patrasso, Igoumenitsa, Corfù).

The main crossings that arrive and depart from the port.

Ferry Services to Bari

DUBROVNIK BARI with Jadrolinija

IGOUMENITSA BARI with Agoudimos Lines, Superfast Ferries

PATRASSO BARI with Agoudimos Lines, Superfast Ferries

DURAZZO BARI with European Seaways, Tirrenia, Ilion Lines, Adria Ferries

CORFU BARI with Superfast Ferries

BAR BARI with Montenegro Lines

Ferry Services from Bari

BARI-DUBROVNIK with Jadrolinija

BARI-IGOUMENITSA with Agoudimos Lines, Superfast Ferries
BARI-PATRASSO with Agoudimos Lines, Superfast Ferries
BARI-DURAZZO with European Seaways, Tirrenia, Ilion Lines, Adria Ferries
BARI-CORFU with Superfast Ferries
BARI-BAR with Montenegro Lines

Duration of Crossings

BARI-DUBROVNIK 9 hours
BARI-IGOUMENITSA 8 hours 30 minutes
BARI-PATRASSO 15 hours 30 minutes
BARI-DURAZZO 8 hours
BARI-CORFU 8 hours
BARI-BAR 9 hours

Approximate Rates

Bari-Dubrovnik €96 deck fare; €110 seat; €119 cabin
Bari-Igoumenitsa €116 deck fare; €146 seat; €316 cabin
Bari-Patrasso €128 deck fare; €146 seat; €316 cabin
Bari-Durazzo €100 deck fare and seat; €142 cabin
Bari-Corfù €116 deck fare; €146 seat; €316 cabin
Bari-Bar €92 deck fare; €95 seat; €120 cabin

Web sites and numbers where you can find information and make your reservation:

www.directferries.it
www.traghettilines.it
www.aferry.it
www.adriaferries.com
www.elladeviaggi.it
www.porto.bari.it

How to reach the port

TRAIN

From the Central Station take bus number 20 that leads directly to the port, a few meters from the harbour, where you can find the offices.

AIRPORT

The port is accessible from the airport by taxi in about 30 minutes.

BY CAR

For those arriving in Bari by motorway, exit at "Bari Nord" if coming from north, "Bari South" if you are coming from the south. After leaving the toll booth, take the Bari bypass following for "Fair/Port". Take the "Fair Harbour" exit (exit 4) which leads into Via Napoli. Cross the street to the intersection with Via B. Queen, turn left onto Corso Vittorio Veneto and follow the seafront until you arrive at the port.

BY TAXI

From the station you can reach the port by taxi in 15 minutes for approximately €15.

ON FOOT

If you want to reach the port on foot from the station you have to take Via Domenico Nicolai and then turn left into Via Argiro. After this turn right into Via Dante Alighieri and immediately left into Corso Cavour. Go straight on towards Lungomare Imperatore Augusto.

Train

The main station of Bari is located in Aldo Moro Square.

FERROVIE APPULO-LUCANE (www.fal-srl.it/en/index.html) runs services from Apulia to Matera and Potenza.

FERROVIE DEL NORD BARESE (www.ferrovienordbarese.it) runs services from Bari to:

Bitonto (€1.30, half an hour)

Andria (€3.90, an hour)

FERROVIE DEL SUD-EST (www.fseonline.it) runs services from Bari to:

CastellanaGrotte (€2.60, fifty minutes)

Putignano (€2.90, an hour)

Alberobello (€4.50, an hour and half)

Martina Franca (€5.20, two hours)

TRENITALIA (www.trenitalia.com) runs services from Bari to:

Lecce (€19, an hour and half)

Foggia (€8.40, an hour and half)

Naples(€40.40, three hours and half)

Rome (€51, four hours)

Bologna (€43.50, seven hours)

Milan (€89, eight hours)

Turin (€119, nine hours and half)

Bus

Bari is served by different bus services.

AMTAB (www.amtab.it), runs 34 bus lines in Bari. The major terminals are located in: Piazza Aldo Moro, Domingo Park, Piscine Comunali.

AUTOLINEE NORD-BARESE (www.ferrovienordbarese.it) runs services from Bari to:

Bitonto (€2.00, forty-five minutes)

Ruvo (€2.00, an hour and twenty minutes)

Andria (€3.00, two hours)

AUTOLINEE SUD EST (www.fseonline.it) run services from Largo Ciaia to:

CastellanaGrotte (€2.60, an hour and half)

Monopoli (2.90, an hour)

Polignano a Mare (€2.30, forty minutes)

Putignano (€2.90, an hour and half)

Fasano (€3.90, an hour and twenty minutes)
Alberobello (€3.90, an hour and a quarter)
Martina Franca (€4.50, an hour and forty minutes)

MARINO (www.marinobus.it) run services from Largo Sorrentino to:
Naples (€19, three hours)
Bologna (€41, eight hours)
Rimini (€38, eight hours)
Milan (€45, twelve hours)
Turin (€50, fourteen hours)

Getting Around

Bus

Generally, you can get around central Bari on foot because it is not so big. If you want to hang around the centre or go to the suburbs, you can use the bus.

Public transport is managed by AMTAB (tel 800 450444; www.amtabservizio.it). Bus lines start at 5am and finish at 11pm.

You can buy tickets from every “tabacchi”, which are small shops characterized by a “T” sign. Anyway, you can buy tickets on the bus.

Tickets:

Ordinary one way ticket 0,90 €

Available for a one way run using the TPL Service of Bari

75 minutes-hourly ticket 1,00 €

Available to travel using the TPL Service of Bari for 75 minutes from the first convalidation

100 minutes-hourly ticket 1,20 €

It is possible to use this type of ticket for 100 minutes from the first convalidation

Daily ticket 2,20 €

Available to travel all day

Ordinary ticket sold in the bus 1,50 €

Available for 75 minutes from the first convalidation

Park & Ride Daily ticket 0,30 €

Available to travel all day using the A,B,C buses of the Park & Ride Service.

It is important to underline that tickets must be convalidated on the bus. You must keep your ticket during the journey and show it if requested.

Around Bari

Seaside Resorts

Cozze

Cozze is near Mola di Bari on the Adriatic coast, 25 Km south of Bari. Its shoreline is characterised by an incredible low cliff, even though its background is sandy.

Monopoli

This town is situated 43 Km from Bari. Its city centre has a high-medieval style and overlooks the sea, with 13 km of wonderful coastline. There are over 10 hotels and resorts. Among the most famous bathing areas are Santo Stefano, Lido Pantano, Lido Sabbiadoro, Torre Cintola, Porto Giardino, Porto Ghiacciolo, Torre Egnazia, Le Macchie, Baia del Sol. Monopoli is the city where the young Barese go.

Some 6 km from Monopoli, Capitulo is the perfect place for young people who want to have fun during summer nights!

Polignano a Mare

About 33 km from Bari, the ancient part of the city is situated on an overhanging spur. Its sea caves are very interesting from a natural point of view and also the Old Town is very interesting. Its beaches are very famous in the region. If you want a seaside holiday it is the perfect place!

There's a youth hostel (www.ostellopolignanoamare.com/it/ostello-for-young-polignano-a-mare-bari-puglia.htm) a few minutes from the city centre, immersed in the colours of flowers, in the green of olives and the light blue of the crystalline waters famous for their clearness.

Torre a Mare

Torre a Mare is a neighborhood of Bari. You can get there by AMTAB bus. The neighborhood lies at the extreme south-east part of the city, about 13 Km from the centre. It has a wonderful historic centre, but, above all, it's the perfect place to spend a hot summer day on its immense sandy beaches.

Places of Tourist Interest

Alberobello

You can visit Alberobello, a Unesco world heritage site, to see the "Trulli", buildings made of stone with pitched roofs. You can enter each "trullo" to visit it and to taste some wines and food, so it is an unique experience which takes you back to the past.

Ferrovie del Sud Est (www.fseonline.it/Default.aspx) trains serve Alberobello.

Castellana Grotte

In Castellana Grotte you can visit a complex of caves, one of the most suggestive in Italy. They open in the South-East Murge, a calcareous plateau. Visits take you along a fantastic underground path of about 1 km. Ferrovie del Sud Est (www.fseonline.it/Default.aspx) trains serve Castellana Grotte.

Castel del Monte

Castel del Monte is a 13th-century castle situated in Andria. Even though it is a bit difficult to get there, we advise you to visit it. It was built by the Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II during the 1240s. Described by the Enciclopedia Italiana as "the most fascinating castle built by Frederick", the site is protected as a World Heritage Site. Castel del Monte's geometric design is unique: the fortress is an octagonal prism with an octagonal tower at each corner.

Nuts & Bolts

Accommodation

The first place to go for information about a room is the Erasmus office in the main University building. Also try the student associations on the 2nd floor and check out the university noticeboards on the walls. You can even find ads in the newspapers such as “informannunci”, “business”, etc. available at any newsstand. The following websites might also be useful:

<http://affittistudenti.studenti.it/puglia/bari/camere-studenti-bari>

<http://bari.bakeca.it/>

<http://www.easystanza.it>

<http://www.campusxbari.it/>

<http://www.affitti-studenti.it/annunci-affitto/puglia/bari.html>

Finally you can go to an agency but it is more expensive.
To rent a room will cost approximately €200 per month.

Eating Out

As opposed to breakfast or dinner, Italian lunch (*pranzo*) is the most important meal - and is treated as such, so no sandwiches. Usually an Italian lunch begins with an appetizer (in Italian, the word *antipasto* literally translates as "before the pasto" or "before the meal"). Then there'll be a huge helping of pasta (*primo*), followed by meat or fish (*secondo*), accompanied by bread, cheese, and some other cold-cuts, maybe some veggies of some kind (*contorno*) and then a dessert - typically a selection of fruit. Wine and water (fizzy or natural) are usually served, and by the end you'll have a full tummy and be ready for a nap. If you want to eat the “Italian way”, or better “the southern way”, you can order a complete meal but you are not obliged to! You can order just one dish.

To Tip or Not To Tip: That is the question...

In most restaurants, you'll find “il coperto” and “servizio incluso” written on the menu. “Il coperto” is a cover charge, which is generally one or two euros, and includes things like bread before the meal and a glass of tap water. “Servizio incluso” means that service is included and a tip has already been figured in for you. If the experience has been brilliant, leave a couple Euros on the table to let the waiter know. You could also just round up the bill. Unlike other countries, in Italy you can tip but you don't have to!

How to save money on your coffee

Sitting at a table in most cities, in Bari as well, will cost you more than standing at the bar, and sometimes sitting at an outside table will cost even more. So, if you are just having a quick drink or bite to eat, ignore the owner's invitation to sit down (“prego, si accomodi”) and do as the Italians do, and drink standing at the bar.

Business hours

If you are into shopping or dining out you will find these business hours very useful. You will note that most shops and grocery stores close 2 or 3 hours for a lunch break. Some are open non-stop.
Department Stores (e.g. Zara, H&M...) Monday-Saturday 9.30am- 8.30pm.

Grocery stores Monday-Saturday 9am- 1pm and 4.30p -8.30pm.

Restaurants Monday-Sunday 8am- midnight. Most are closed on Monday or Tuesday.

Banks Monday-Friday 8.20am-1.20pm and 2.30pm-4pm.

Police headquarters (*Questura*) Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10am-12am.

Passport office (in the police headquarters) Monday-Friday 8.30-12.30am, Wednesday 3pm-5pm.

Post office Monday-Friday 8am-1.30pm, Saturday 8am-12.30am. If you need to go the post office in the afternoon there are just a few post offices open all day until 6.30pm: Via Postiglione 34; Viale Einaudi 13; Piazza Umberto I 31.

Electricity

The electrical current is 220 volts.

Plugs have two or three round pins. If you cannot connect your electronic device to this kind of plug you can buy an adapter at an ironmonger's.

Health

Sometimes eating spicy or different foods can also cause stomach-ache or diarrhea, so it is advisable to stock up on basic medicine.

There are pharmacies located all across Bari offering medicine and assisting with minor ailments, including: Ambrosi Pharmacy (tel 080 553 1476; Corso Sonnino 27) and De Cristo Pharmacy (tel 080 501 3138; Viale Kennedy John Fitzgerald 75/D).

For anything more serious, you should head to one of the clinics or hospitals located in and around Bari. The ER and *guardia medica* (a doctor for medical advice or a visit) closest to the city centre is the Policlinico at Piazza Giulio Cesare 11. You can walk there or go by train. It is 10 minutes ride from Bari Centrale station- Ferrovie Appulo-Lucane (corner Piazza Matteotti-Corso Italia). See the emergency numbers section for more details.

Emergency Telephone Numbers

Police 113

Carabinieri 112

Ambulaane 118

Guardia medica (doctor) 080 584 2004

Internet Access

Bari has several internet centers. Charges vary but they are quite affordable.

Rondò Residence Hotel , Corso De Gasperi, 308

Internet point di kader Abdul, Via Sagarriga Visconti 193/A

Internet point di Giovanni delle Foglie, Via Pisacane Carlo 73

Abdul Kalam Rokeya Sultana Internet Point, Via Crisanzio Scipione 73

If you bring your laptop with you, you can buy an internet key at any mobile phone store. Universities also offer free Wi-Fi for students, but you'll have to go to the secretariat to receive your own user name and password.

Money

The currency in Italy is the EURO. Euro banknotes and coins have been in use since 1st January 2002. Twelve European Union countries use the euro - Belgium, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal and Finland.

Euro banknote denominations are 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, and 500. Coin denominations are 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 cent and 1 and 2 euro.

Safety

Bari is a beautiful, friendly and largely safe city. Most crime tends to be domestic rather than directed at tourists and anti-social behaviour such as being drunk in public is not generally a problem in Bari.

However, as in all cities, you should remain cautious and vigilant. Petty crime can be a problem, so take all the usual precautions: don't leave anything in your car; don't display money or valuables; and watch out for bag-snatchers on scooters. Be careful in Bari Vecchia's dark streets at night.

Bari Vecchia (the old town) is a beautiful quarter but because of the narrow, crowded streets and the presence of tourists, it is the preferred place for local pickpockets. Don't wear jewellery while strolling in the old town and keep your money in your pockets.

Always check your change as you might be not confident with the local currency and could be short-changed when making a purchase.

Another possible risk is driving in an unfamiliar country. It is highly recommended that you take out travel insurance before visiting Bari. Visitors to Bari should be extra careful on the road, since most signs are in Italian and driving etiquettes are different to those in places such as the U.K. You should also be careful while walking and crossing the streets. Some drivers do not follow the basic driving rules!

In the summer, the sun in Bari can be very hot so you should be very careful and use the right precautions (sunscreen, sunglasses, drinking water etc.) to avoid getting sunburnt or dehydrated. The quality of the tap water is generally not good enough to drink and can cause stomach upsets and other illnesses which will compromise your holiday. You would better off buying bottled water from supermarkets and coffee bars.

Tourist information

ATP (Azienda di Promozione Turistica della Provincia di Bari) Information Point (tel 080 524 2244; Piazza Aldo Moro 33/a; 9am-7pm)

Airport Info Point (tel 080 580 0358; 9am-8pm)

Visas

Erasmus students who come from a European country do not need a visa when they arrive in Bari because Italy is a signatory of the Schengen Convention (which has abolished permanent checks at common border). Only Erasmus students from non-European and non-Schengen nations may need a specific visa. For further details, visit www.esteri.it/visti/home_eng.asp or contact an Italian consulate.

You should get your passport stamped on entry because if you don't, you could encounter problems getting a residence permit.

You do not require any permits to work or live in Bari, but after three months, you are supposed to register at the municipal registry office. Non-EU Erasmus students with five years' continuous legal residence can apply for permanent residence. Regulations change rapidly so always check the latest information.

Permesso di soggiorno

EU Erasmus students do not require a *permesso di soggiorno* (residence permit). They only need a valid passport. Non-EU Erasmus students need a special visa issued in their country of origin, with an official stamp

(*marche da bollo*). Only non-EU Erasmus students need get a *permesso di soggiorno* from the police station. Also in this case check the latest information.

Study visas

Non-EU Erasmus students must have a study visa. This can be obtained from an Italian embassy or consulate. You normally require confirmation of your enrolment, proof of payment of fees and adequate funds to support yourself. The study visa covers only the period of the enrolment but it is renewable within Italy.