



# THE TRAVEL CLUB

## Pre-Departure Itinerary

### Puglia

#### Five Nights, Breakfast & Dinner Daily

**Sunday, November 7 - Saturday, November 13, 2010**

This fall, separate yourself from the crowd and discover **Puglia**, one of southern Italy's most mysterious and intoxicating provinces. Located on the heel of the boot, facing the Ionian and Adriatic seas, Puglia boasts ancient cathedrals, lively fishing villages and medieval hilltowns. Puglia also produced one-tenth of the wines drunk in Europe (and you'll enjoy a wine tasting to see why) and its olive oil is renowned. Your four star accommodations are located in **Conversano**, a historical town and a "citta d'arte". You'll enjoy excursions specially designed to introduce you to this beautiful region, including the hill town of **Ostuni** with its dazzling white washed buildings, the picturesque cone-shaped houses of the **Trulli of Alberobello** and Castel del Monte, a medieval manor built by Frederick II, both of which are listed as UNESCO sites. You'll also visit **Castellana Grotte**, a fantastic underground "natural temple," **Locorotondo** (reminiscent of Jerusalem) and **Lecce**, known as the "Florence of the south" for its baroque monuments.

#### Includes

- Round-trip regularly scheduled **Alitalia Airlines** flights from Boston to Bari, via Rome
- Five nights' four-star accommodations at **Grand Hotel D'Aragona**, Conversano
- Ten meals: five buffet breakfasts, five dinners
- **One cooking demonstration, one wine tasting**
- Round-trip, private airport/hotel transfers with assistance
- Sightseeing and touring
- Services of professional local tour manager

#### Rates

**\$1,119** per person double occupancy  
**\$1,359** single occupancy

Triple occupancy may be available upon request.  
Add \$380 taxes, fees, charges and surcharges.  
Passport required.

#### Features

Full day excursion to Locorotondo and Ostuni, half-day excursion to Lecce, full day excursion to Castellana Grotte and the Trulli of Alberobello, excursion to Castel del Monte and Trani with wine tasting.

#### Please note:

This is an exclusive SOMC group  
Not escorted by a Show of the Month travel host.

## DAILY ITINERARY

### Day 1: Departure from Boston

Depart from Boston this evening for your overnight flight to Rome.

### Day 2: Arrive Rome, transfer to connecting flight to Bari – transfer to Conversano

Upon arrival in Rome you'll transfer to your domestic flight to Bari. At Bari airport you'll be met by our Tour Manager and taken by motor coach to the Hotel D'Aragona in Conversano. In the afternoon, there will be an orientation meeting to acquaint you with the program itinerary. Dinner at the hotel this evening with beverages included. **(D)**

### Day 3: Locorotondo

After breakfast you'll depart for Locorotondo, a hill town of concentric streets lined with whitewashed buildings. Locorotondo's nickname is the balcony of the Valle D'Itria because of its stunning valley views. Later you'll visit the town of Ostuni -- resting on three hills, it gives the visitor a unique fairytale vision of shining whitewashed buildings standing out against the clear blue sky. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight **(B, D)**

#### **Day 4: Castel del Monte**

Today you'll enjoy an excursion to Castel del Monte, an UNESCO world heritage site. This majestic, octagonal medieval manor was built during the reign of Frederick II. Later you'll visit the Rivera Winery for a wine tasting along with local specialties and Trani, a picturesque town on the Adriatic Sea. Return to the hotel, view a cooking demonstration and enjoy dinner and overnight. **(B, D)**

#### **Day 5: Castellana Grotte**

In the morning you'll depart on an excursion to Castellana Grotte. Tour this fantastic underground world -- sculpted by the flow of a subterranean river -- including a natural temple, carved out of the limestone in strikingly transparent stalactites and stalagmites. In the afternoon you'll visit the Trulli of Alberobello -- picturesque cone shaped houses that take you back in time to simpler country life and are a UNESCO World Heritage site. Return to hotel for dinner and overnight. **(B, D)**

#### **Day 6: Lecce**

Today you'll visit Lecce, Puglia's Baroque Pearl. Due to the richness of its setting, Lecce is defined as an elegant, sumptuous, open-air exhibition of baroque art. It has countless monuments, one of Italy's most beautiful squares - the Piazza del Duomo -- and a Roman amphitheatre. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight. **(B, D)**

#### **Day 7: Depart for Boston**

Transfer to the Bari airport for your return flight to Boston, via Rome. **(B)**

**Proof of Citizenship** is required for all trips outside the United States. U.S. citizens require a valid Passport for travel to Italy with at least 6 months' validity. Passports are the responsibility of each traveler.

**PLEASE NOTE:** This pre-departure itinerary is designed to give you an idea of how this itinerary is structured. We reserve the right to make any changes to your final itinerary if deemed necessary, at any time prior to departure.

**PLEASE NOTE:** This is not your final itinerary. You will receive final documents (itinerary, tickets (if applicable), etc.) approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure. Although we try our best to ensure that information is accurate at the time of publication, we are not responsible for any error, omission, misprint or liability that results from the use (or misuse) of this information.