

#TARANTO
forCRUISESHIPS



Port Network Authority
of the Ionian Sea

Port of Taranto

SUMMARY

GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION



HISTORY OF THE CITY



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BERTHING AND CONNECTIONS



PORT & CITY - *RECEPTION & FOLKLORE*



WHAT WE OFFER



WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR



GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION



TARANTO is in a baricentric position, in between Suez and Gibraltar, with respect to the East and West Mediterranean routes of cruise ships. It is about 1000 nautical miles from Suez.



#TARANTO
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Taranto, the ancient cradle of Magna Graecia

Rich with monuments, theatres, temples and schools, made wealthy thanks to agricultural production and trade exchanges with the homeland, Taranto (then called Taras) was known as the capital of **Magna Graecia**.

«**The pearl in the Ionian Sea**», Taranto is a bridge between East and West.

The massive **Doric columns** are the remains of a temple facing the sea, dedicated either to a God or a Goddess – it is still uncertain whether it was Poseidon or Aphrodite.

As in many cities in the Magna Graecia, the great **Goddess Persephone** was worshipped also in Taranto. A great statue depicting the Goddess can be admired in the Archaeological Museum.

HISTORY OF THE CITY



Sparta and Taranto, mother and daughter

Taranto was founded in 706 BC by a young Spartan warrior named **FALANTO**, the only colony far from the homeland. Before leaving, Falanto was told the following words by the Delphi Oracle: **"When you see rain from the clear sky, you will overtake territory and city."** During the voyage, his ship was wrecked. Falanto was rescued by a **dolphin**, hence the symbol of the city, and led to shore. Falanto, exhausted, fell asleep on the knees of his wife Etra, who started crying. Falanto, whose face was wet with the tears of Etra (clear sky), understood the sense of that prophecy that until then seemed like a puzzling enigma. Thus, after having landed on the East coast at Saturo, the Spartans moved westward to found the ancient **TARAS**.



SEA and LAND ADVENTURES



SEA AND LAND ADVENTURES

In Taranto active holidays are an unforgettable experience, a dive into history and nature.

Staying fit and active is a pleasure and you can choose whichever activity suits you best: from **swimming** in the azure waters of the beaches, to **exploring** the Gulf of Taranto and its wonderful underworld of cetaceans, **snorkeling** or **surfing** the waves: it will be an unforgettable experience for the entire family. The journey becomes even more adventurous while **biking** across the vineyards and the country roads of the Valle d'Itria, **free-climbing** the cliffs of the gravine or **trekking** in the WWF Oasis La Vela.



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CANOEING and SNORKELING



Canoeing, in balance between land, water and sky and guided by experienced volunteers, you can enjoy the landscape of the Mar Piccolo from the same point of view of the animals that inhabit it.
Discover the sealife in Mar Piccolo with **snorkeling**: its waters are home to the biggest colony of seahorses in the Mediterranean.



TREKKING



Trek along the picturesque path along the Strait of Aiedda, one of the few rivers in the Ionic arc of Taranto. Among the Mediterranean bush, vineyards and olive groves. The walk includes stops worthy of historical and architectural notes: the masseria "Lamia", greek-Roman era ruins, the former convent of the Battandieri and the wonderful sources of Cervaro.



BIRD WATCHING



Trek along the picturesque path along the Strait of Aiedda, one of the few rivers in the Ionic arc of Taranto. Among the Mediterranean bush, vineyards and olive groves. The walk includes stops worthy of historical and architectural notes: the masseria "Lamia", greek-Roman era ruins, the former convent of the Battandieri and the wonderful sources of Cervaro.



DOLPHIN WATCHING



The scientific association **Jonian Dolphin Conservation** studies the life of Cetaceans inhabiting the Gulf of Taranto. The biologists will lead you on a dolphin watching "ecotour" with noiseless motorboats to have an up-close meeting with the dolphins and learn about their life. Sighting chances are more than 90%. If you are really lucky you may have the chance to stumble upon sperm whales!
LINK: The Jonian Dolphin Conservation official website <https://www.joniandolphin.it>



KITE SURF - WIND SURF STAND UP PADDLE



Challenging the waves or just slowly paddling on the crystal clear waters in the pristine environment of the Taranto coast: you can do both in the sun-kissed Gulf of Taranto, and much more. Many sports associations offer lessons and equipment and are able to recommend the ideal spot based on your skills. Certified instructors will teach you kite surf, Stand up paddle (SUP), bodyboard, windsurf and surf.
Link: Sports associations
<https://www.asdkitesurftaranto.com>
<http://www.circolovelicoazimuth.it>



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RELAXING AT THE BEACH



Puglia boasts a 540 miles (860 km) long sun-kissed coastline with golden beaches and crystal clear waters.

Many beaches along the Jonian coast near Taranto carry the Blue Flag and "Sails" certification, awarded by Legambiente and the Touring Club of Italy to the country's most gorgeous beaches.



FREE CLIMBING - HIKING



The beautiful ravine of the Jonian Area are a natural paradise.

The ravines are real canyons, more than 60, surrounding Taranto in the area including the towns of Statte, Castellaneta, Palagiano, Laterza, etc (approx. 20 km and more from Taranto). The heights span from 100-300 to 300-500 meters above sea level; the cliff faces are rather narrow and deep descending to 200 meters.

In this wild paradise, the birthplace of the 11th-century Apennine civilization, there are churches and many dwellings dug into the rock and tufa stone, some of which have yet to be explored.

Link: the official website of the CEA the Environmental Education Center which promotes the park <http://www.cealaterza.it>



ZIPLINING AND SUSPENSION BRIDGE



The **ANGEL'S FLIGHT** is a zip-line suspended between the tops of two small towns, Castelmezzano and Pietrapertosa. Tied in total safety with a harness, attached to the steel cable, you will live the thrill of flying for a few minutes above the beautiful landscape of the Lucanian Dolomites about 1000 metres above the ground at a speed of 100 km/h.



The **MOON BRIDGE** is an exciting 300 meters walk on a suspension bridge at the height of 120 meters above the ground near the picturesque ruins of a Middle Ages Castle.



BIKING



Explore the most beautiful places in the areas around Taranto surrounded by nature and history, stone-built masserie (ancient farmhouses), olive groves and vineyards.

SEA AND LAND ADVENTURES



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Spartan Race

Taranto has hosted in 2016 the famous “**Spartan Race**”, a competition inspired by the tough physical exercise that Spartans had to endure in order to train themselves for war.

The participants share the belief in discipline and most of all in mutual support, as many of them help each other getting up if they fall during the race, or if they have any difficulty.

This way sport lovers from all over the world find their homeland in Taranto, the **Daughter of Sparta**.

SEA AND LAND
ADVENTURES - events



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Grottaglie European City of Sport 2020

With the objective to educate its citizens and especially young people to the values of community, sharing and health, the town of Grottaglie crafted a program of activities and investments which led to its candidacy and winning of the title of **European City of Sport for year 2020**. Next year the town will be the location of both regional and national paralympic sports tournaments, and furthermore will start up the construction of new facilities, among which the Citadel for Paralympic sports and bike sharing spots in town. Grottaglie is already carrying out an intense activity of promotion of sports among its citizens regardless of age, sex, and physical ability, involving swimming, soccer, trekking, run, volley, and all the sports practiced by its 40 associations.

SEA AND LAND
ADVENTURES - events





Ikkos - The Athlete from Taranto

At the dawn of human history, the ancient Greeks put at the core of their civilization physical activity, which was the greatest expression of strength, loyalty, respect: values which are celebrated in sports even today. According to some, one of the greatest athletes of his time was born in Taranto: **IKKOS**.

The skeleton found in Taranto and exhibited at the **National Archaeological Museum** is known as "the athlete from Taranto", winner of the Panathenaic games.



DID YOU KNOW

Today the legacy of **IKKOS** is still alive and represented by the athletes that have received the medal of the **ORDER OF IKKOS**, which symbolizes that coaching, hard work and respect are fundamental in sports.

MEET FAMOUS
PEOPLE FROM
TARANTO





Rodolfo Valentino

It is not an exaggeration to use the term “legend” when referring to Rodolfo Valentino. The silent film era star was born in 1895 in **Castellaneta**, a town about half an hour’s drive from Taranto, and became famous in America thanks to his charming looks, becoming known as Latin Lover.



DID YOU KNOW

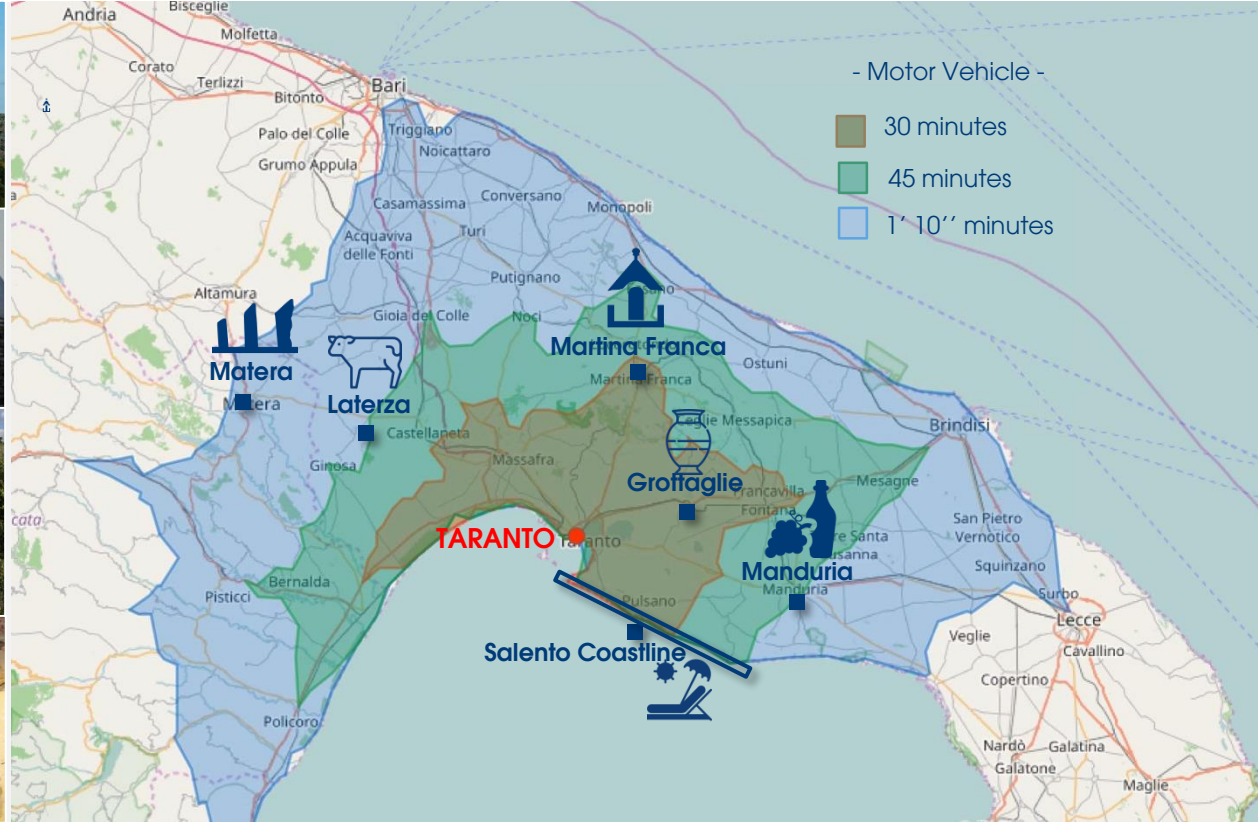
During his trips to Italy Valentino met the most famous poets of the time, among which D’Annunzio. The actor used to write his own poems, such as the following:

Italy

*The earth is earth - that is its worth,
To men who walk below.
But to the soul that seeks its goal,
Each land is all they know.
One calls it Home, another Heart,
another Property,
But to the one who loves the sun
He calls it Italy.”*

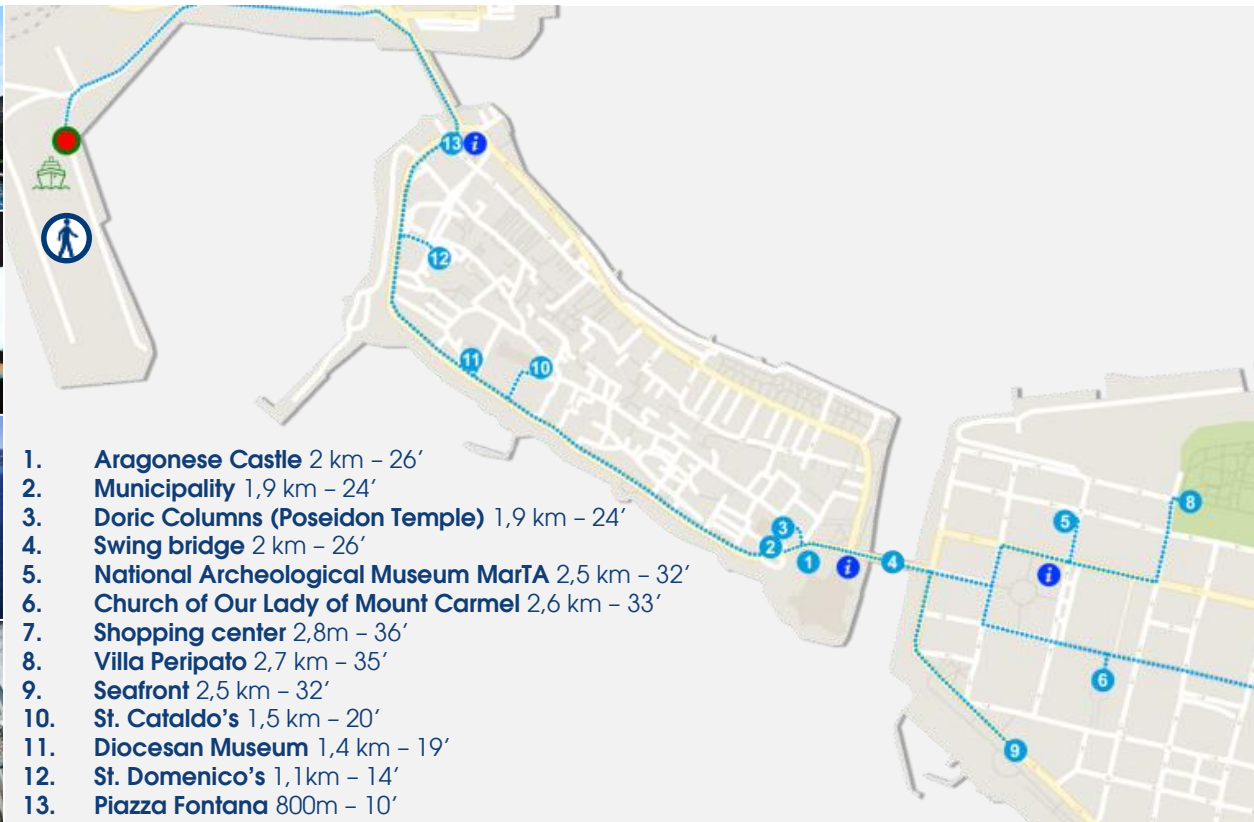


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ATTRACTIONS IN THE NEARBY AREAS AND IN THE CITY

ATTRACTIONS IN THE NEARBY AREAS AND IN THE CITY



1. **Aragonese Castle** 2 km – 26'
2. **Municipality** 1,9 km – 24'
3. **Doric Columns (Poseidon Temple)** 1,9 km – 24'
4. **Swing bridge** 2 km – 26'
5. **National Archeological Museum MarTÀ** 2,5 km – 32'
6. **Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel** 2,6 km – 33'
7. **Shopping center** 2,8m – 36'
8. **Villa Peripato** 2,7 km – 35'
9. **Seafront** 2,5 km – 32'
10. **St. Cataldo's** 1,5 km – 20'
11. **Diocesan Museum** 1,4 km – 19'
12. **St. Domenico's** 1,1km – 14'
13. **Piazza Fontana** 800m – 10'



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OTHER REASONS TO VISIT TARANTO

MARVEL AT HISTORY AND CULTURE



You will feel like travelling in time while walking around the Ionian city, from its Spartan origins **3000 years** ago, to the Renaissance. Just a hour's drive from Taranto, discover one of the most ancient cities in the world, **Matera**.

SAVOUR FOOD AND WINE



Taste Mediterranean flavors and fish based specialties in the small restaurants in the **Old Town** of Taranto. Take a tour in the nearby villages centuries-old olive groves and vineyards where extra virgin **olive oil** and delicious **DOC (Controlled Designation of Origin)** and IGT (Typical Geographical Indication) **wines** like Primitivo and Negramaro are made.

DISCOVER TRADITIONS



Discover how artisans still craft beautifully decorated **vases**, dishes and lamps in **Grottaglie**. This century old art is still alive in the village where a handful of workshops are open to visitors and display colorful creations.

SEA AND LAND ADVENTURES



There's plenty of fish in the sea, especially in Taranto! Well not fish but actually mammals. Go on **boat tours** to spot **dolphins** in the gulf of Taranto. For **trekking** lovers, the gravine (ravines) of the **valley of Itria** are the place to go.

RELAX ON THE BEACH



Treat yourself to a beach day on the famed **Salento coastline**, featuring **crystal blue water** and white sand, dotted by lavender and the typical "Mediterranean shrub".



MARVEL AT HISTORY AND CULTURE



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The Old City of Taranto

Taranto is known as the **CITY OF TWO SEAS**, as its Old Town lies on an island at the meeting point between two seas (the open sea, Mar Grande, and a wide bay with two inlets, Mar Piccolo). This strategic location has put it at the heart of important historical events.



DID YOU KNOW

*The Old City is characterized by narrow alleys and streets. The city was planned on purpose with the aim to protect the inhabitants from attackers; in fact it is difficult for two people to walk along the streets of the Old City side by side. One of these streets is known as «**Vicolo del Bacio**» (Kiss Alley), as it is impossible for people who cross this road not to brush against each other.*

**MARVEL AT
HISTORY AND
CULTURE**



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The Aragonese Castle

Overlooking the Ionian sea, Taranto's famous Renaissance ancient fortress, the **Aragonese Castle**, was built in the 15th century by the King of Naples Ferdinand of Aragona.

Today, there are guided tours of the Castle every day and also many events and exhibitions going on throughout the year.



DID YOU KNOW

The Castle was chosen as a location for Michael Bay's new film "Six Underground" with Ryan Reynolds and Melanie Laurent. The scenes were shot on the "Kismet", the famous 95 m long mega yacht which berthed at the Castle for a few days.

MARVEL AT
HISTORY AND
CULTURE





MarTA

As the ancient capital of Magna Graecia, Taranto houses one of the most important archaeological museums, the **National Archaeological Museum of Taranto**, also called the **MarTA**, boasting one of Italy's most important archeological collections.

The main attraction of the museum is the impressive collection of ancient gold jewellery in all of Italy.

An incredible display of beautiful bracelets, elegant earrings and precious artifacts shows the evolution of the “**gold-work**” in the city between the 4th and 3rd centuries BC.



DID YOU KNOW

The Ministry of National Heritage and Culture financed the videogame app **Past For Future**, about the mysterious disappearance of a woman in Taranto that a boy of London will investigate discovering the treasures in the National Archaeological Museum.



Play Store



App Store

MARVEL AT
HISTORY AND
CULTURE



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MUDI - Diocesan Museum

Considered one of the largest museum complexes in Italy, the **Mudi (Diocesan Museum)** is set up in the former Archiepiscopal seminary of Taranto in the heart of the historic centre, just a stone's throw from the Cathedral.

The museum displays more than **300 artworks** which walk the visitor through the ecclesiastical and religious history of the province from the 7th to the 20th century, through sacred furniture, relics, sculptures and paintings of exceptional cultural value, such as the "Assumption of the Virgin Mary" attributed to Domenico Carella, or the precious "Ecce Homo" by Paolo De Matteis.

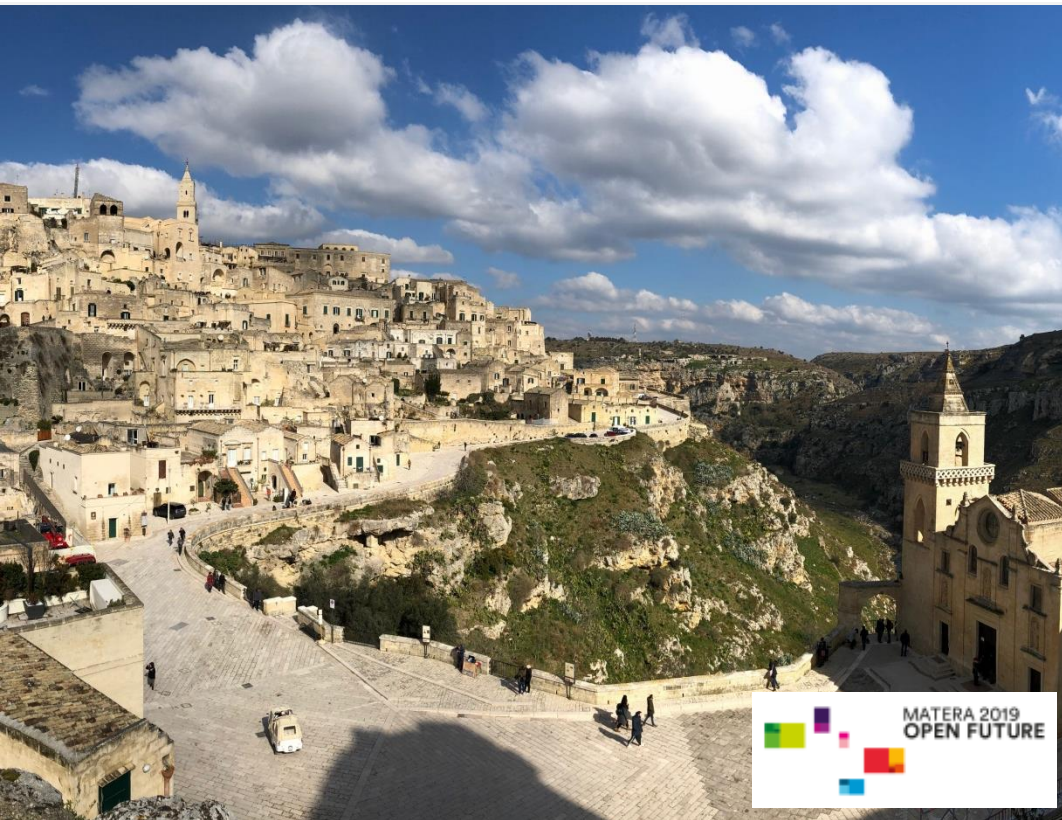


DID YOU KNOW

The biggest topaz in the world (more than 1.5 Kg) is exhibited at the MuDi.

MARVEL AT
HISTORY AND
CULTURE





Matera

European Capital of Culture 2019

About an hour's drive away from Taranto lies the ancient Cave city of Matera. You will feel like travelling in time while visiting this city, one of the oldest human settlements in the world, having been populated since 10.000 B.C.

Declared a **UNESCO World Heritage** in 1993, today Matera is the **European Cultural Capital** for the year 2019



DID YOU KNOW

The Sassi were made world-famous in 2005 when Mel Gibson's movie **"The Passion"** was shot there.



MARVEL AT
HISTORY AND
CULTURE





Messapic Walls Archaeological Park

The wonderful **Mura Messapiche** (Messapic City Walls) Archaeological Park of Manduria, which covers about 150,000 square metres, is surrounded by two circles of walls and it is one of the largest and important sites in Italy.

Outside the megalithic walls, with three circles of walls built to face the expansion of Taranto, there is the wonderful necropolis with more than 2,000 messapic tombs dating back to the 6th – 2nd century BC.

MARVEL AT
HISTORY AND
CULTURE



SAVOUR FOOD AND WINE



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Fishing tourism

During the excursion a stop is made to enjoy a swim in the clear waters of the Cheradi Islands, an ideal area for fishing, and finally there is a moment dedicated to **cooking the fresh catch** and **tasting the flavors of the Taranto cuisine**.

Octopuses, squilla mantises, caramote prawns, sargos, congers, gilt head breams are hauled onboard as our fishermen do everyday and are cooked on the spot for your lunch on the fisher boat.

SAVOUR FOOD
AND WINE





Olive oil and wine tastings

The characteristic feature of Apulian landscape are vineyards and thousand-years-old olive groves.

Today these products are one of Puglia's world known outstanding features. Passengers can tour the **cantine (wineries)** and sample the best wine grape varieties, among which are **Negramaro, Primitivo, or Verdeca** (and many more).

In the frantoi (olive mills) the process involved in producing the oil will be explained and of course there will be an invitation to savour the produce, even with typical bread and cheese.

SAVOUR FOOD
AND WINE



100 Farmhouses and the Green Road

The ancient fortified farmhouses in the province of Taranto, the so called **masserie**, are being turned into hotels and restaurants, where courses of traditional Apulian cuisine are held for both international and national guests.

In a charming whitewashed setting, where stone walls preserve ancient history, guests can take part in experience based tours: local chefs are pleased to reveal the secrets of preparing **orecchiette** (traditional ear shaped pasta), **mozzarella** (a kind of soft cheese) and **Apulian bread** during select workshops.

SAVOUR FOOD
AND WINE



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DISCOVER TRADITIONS



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Taranto: The Procession of the Holy Mysteries

Taranto, whose traditions are held dear, has always been famous for its religious events. For centuries on every Friday the city has been participating in the **Holy Procession of the Mysteries**. Figures dressed in the typical dress of the “**perdone**”, white sash with a white hood and only two holes for the eyes, walk slowly along the funeral music, played by the band for the death of Christ.

For spectators it's a beautiful event, for the devotees it is the most sublime divine manifestation.

DISCOVER
TRADITIONS





The pottery of Grottaglie

Tucked away in Puglia, the heel of the boot, **Grottaglie** is a small gem and a new shore destination from Taranto. Guests will be charmed and artistically involved in this village with earthenware laden roofs and pottery workshops, as Grottaglie boasts an ancient tradition of **ceramic art**.

During the tour an expert artisan will guide visitors in the creative process of making a vase with a treadle wheel.

DISCOVER
TRADITIONS





The Itria valley

The Valley, an extensive karst depression, includes the beautiful towns of Alberobello, Locorotondo, Martina Franca, Ceglie Messapica, Cisternino and Fasano, the so called "borghi" that is characteristic small villages with preserved historic centre.

The Valley is dotted with thousands of trulli, small limestone dwellings with cone shaped roofs, held together without mortar.



DID YOU KNOW

The animated series for kids Trulli Tales takes place among the trulli. Its copyright was acquired by Disney which will broadcast the series in Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

**DISCOVER
TRADITIONS**





Quay 1:

Length (m): 240

Draught: 8,5

Operational Space (m²): 1,800

Availability: Currently available

Pier 1 - East Side:

Length (m): 320

Draught: 9 (in the future)

Operational Space (m²): 1,600

Availability: Available in the future

Pier 1 - West Side:

Length (m): 330

Draught: 11

Operational Space (m²): 13,000

Availability: Currently available

Quay 2:

Length (m): 290

Draught: 10

Operational Space (m²): 9,000

Availability: Currently available



Falanto Port Service Center

The Port Network Authority's objective is to provide Taranto with a new **sea-culture**, encouraging the union of the port, the city and the environment into a single experience.

The Port Network Authority has planned the construction of a Multipurpose Service Center on the Molo S. Cataldo as well as the renovation of the pier's East side berthing quay.

The works foresee the realization of a multipurpose building dedicated to the following activities:

Promotion of maritime culture; multi purpose auditorium, meeting rooms, areas for exhibitions and educational activities; Passenger services; "meet and greet" services (information point, lounge area, bar, restrooms).

Works will be completed for cruise season 2020/2021.

BERTHING AND
CONNECTIONS



Port Network Authority
of the Ionian Sea

Port of Taranto





New Waterfront

The requalification of S. Cataldo Pier as waterfront is carried out with the aim to reintegrate the city of Taranto with the port.

The structure between the seaside and the buildings is a medium of passage between two systems.

The path ends at the port gateway tower, which represents a landmark in the urban landscape.

The various technological possibilities allow this solution to be versatile.

**BERTHING AND
CONNECTIONS**

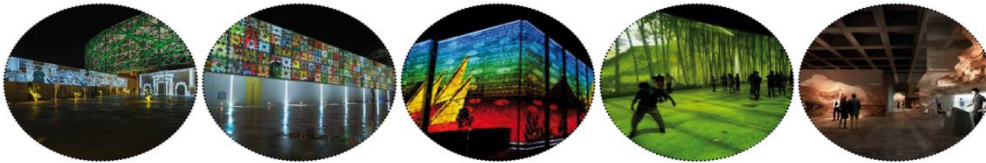
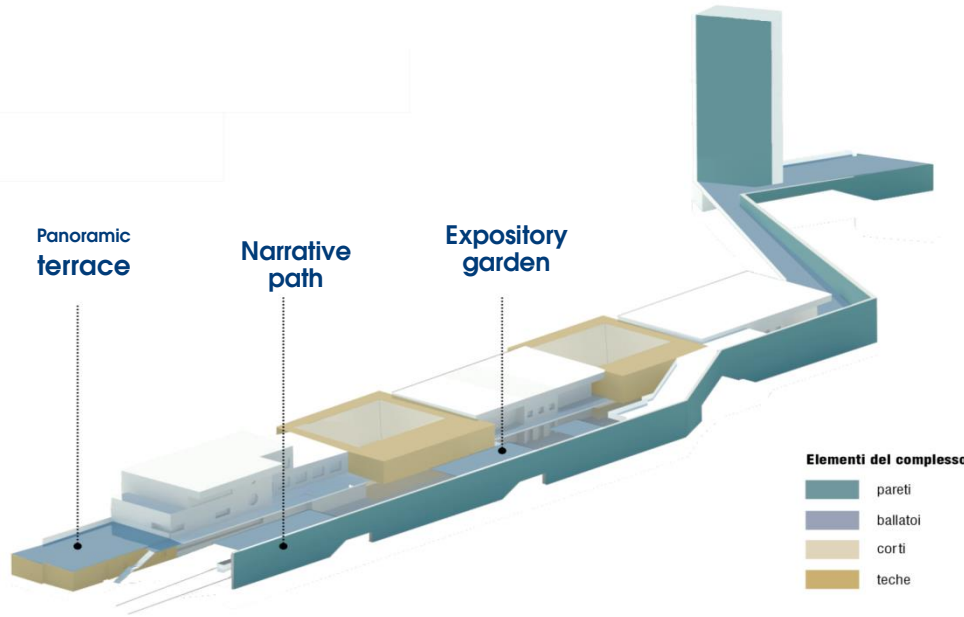


New Waterfront

The exhibition and narrative path will involve a few areas of the Falanto Port Service Center, the uncovered areas of the existing buildings, the paths at different levels and the wall in the Observatory Tower.

The exhibition path starts in the Falanto, where dedicated areas will narrate the **sea culture** and the **history of the city** as well as its **relationship with the port and the Mediterranean Sea**.

The narrative path continues in the area between buildings interpreted as «rooms» of an open exhibition, integrated with the surrounding environment.



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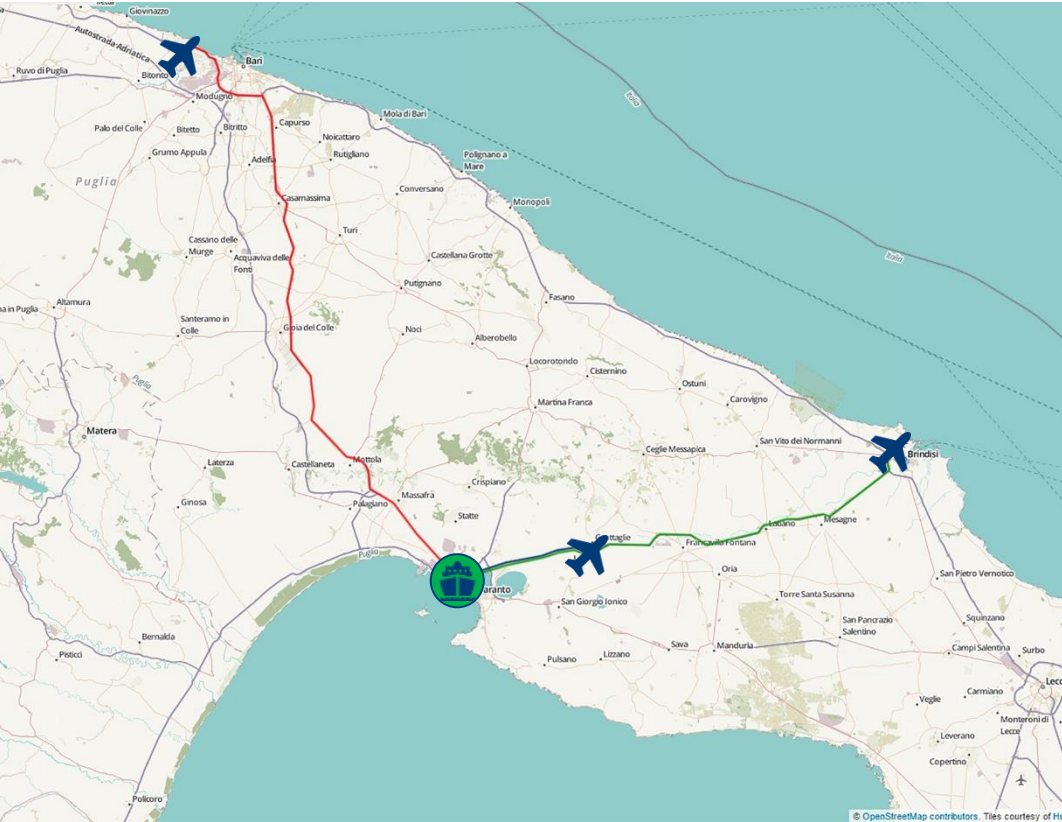


Swan Project

The SWAN project (Sustainable Water Aerodrome Network) is part of the EU2014/2020 cooperation program between Greece and Italy with the aim to connect Gallipoli, Nardò and Taranto with the Greek Islands. The participants are the Corfu port authority, the Corfu Municipality, the Port Network Authority of the Ionian Sea, the Gallipoli and Nardo Municipalities, with the support of the Italian Maritime Aviation and Master Ludi. The project foresees the construction of infrastructure for seaplanes in the ports of Taranto, Gallipoli and Santa Maria al Bagno in Italy and in Corfu, Paxos, Erikusa, Matraki and Othoni in Greece. These facilities will be dedicated to civil protection, environmental monitoring, rescue and assistance and to develop **seaplane tourism with connections between Puglia and Greece.**

BERTHING AND
CONNECTIONS





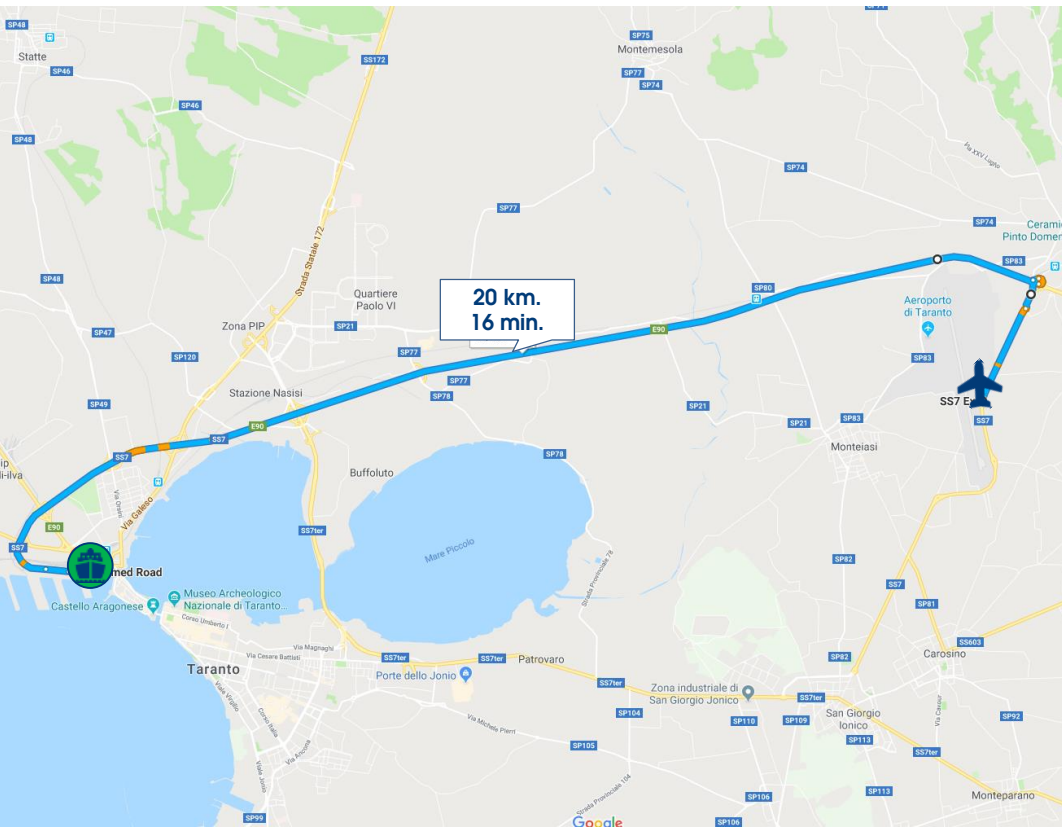
The airports of **Bari** and **Brindisi** are located at 90 km and 75 km respectively from the Port of Taranto, providing daily flights to and from key centres in Italy and Europe.

The **Apulia airport network** represents then, for location and infrastructures, one of the most interesting European and Italian realities. Its favorable position in the middle of a strategic area like the Mediterranean, makes it an essential asset inside continental transport networks.

- Taranto - Grottaglie
- Taranto - Brindisi
- Taranto - Bari

BERTHING AND CONNECTIONS





The airport of **Grottaglie**, where the aircraft manufacturing company **LEONARDO** - on behalf of Boeing - operates, is about 20 km from Taranto and is connected to the seaport by a road that runs directly from the port's Northern Gate.

Grottaglie has a 3.2 km runway, thus offering scope for an additional mode of transport for **passengers** and goods handled at the Port of Taranto.

The airport is ready for turn-around and **charter flights**, thus enabling Taranto to become a "home port" for **embarking** and **disembarking** cruise passengers.

BERTHING AND CONNECTIONS





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BERTHING AND
CONNECTIONS



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RECEPTION & FOLKLORE

For the **reception** of cruise passengers, this Port System Authority has prepared a tensile structure that offers shelter for the walk from the cruise ship to the shorex buses and **shuttle service**.

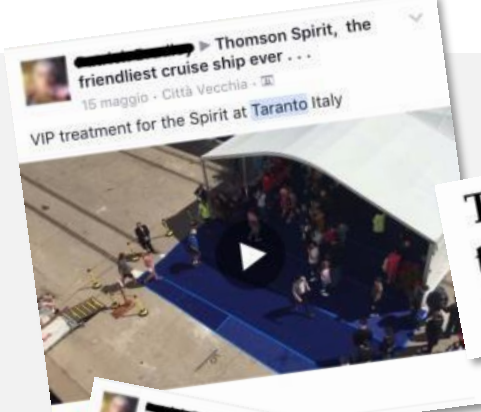
Passengers are welcomed by English speaking personnel of this Authority as well as students, who provide information on the city.

Cruise passenger were welcomed by **pizzica** dancers in the city. This famous traditional folk dance, known as the pizzica, part of the family of the **tarantella**, originated during the Middle Ages.



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CRUISERS' FIRST IMPERSSIONS



Thomson promotes the first call to Taranto: success is the fruit of a good job

A more efficient organization. The service is ok



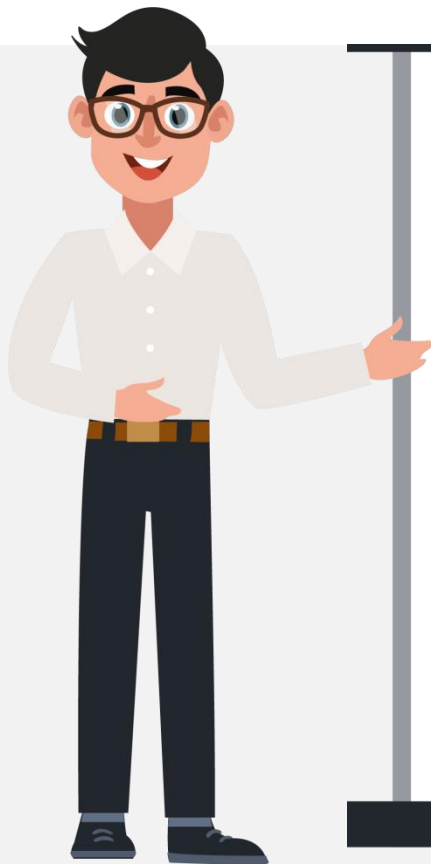
Thomson gives an 'encore' and cruisers dive into the sea. Yesterday the second call. "beautiful city, I want to drink your coffee"

Cruisers in the city, let's get into a habit. A new warm welcome. The old city stormed by visitors.

"Thank you, Taranto" from the cruise ship. "commitment and dedication, great feedback" but "it's good to keep in mind that one stop does not make the season and this is just the beginning"



#TARANTO forCRUISESHIPS



Taranto is a **BRAND NEW** destination port in the Mediterranean ready to welcome upscale cruisers who are looking for a **UNIQUE** experience

Our cruise port features:

- **Shuttle buses** from the berthing quay to the heart of the city (cost is split between cruise line and Municipality)
- **Tensile structure** for waiting time on the quay
- Smooth **rail and road connections** to the national network
- Wide variety of **shore excursions** within short reach
- Taranto is the perfect port of call for excursions to **Matera**, Europe's cultural Capital for 2019 and UNESCO World Heritage site
- Possibility to establish **fly&cruise** traffic thanks to the connection with the nearby airport of Grottaglie (20 km)
- The airport of Grottaglie is fully equipped and ready to operate **charter flights** to/from China. Its runway is one of the longest of the South of Italy
- new **Port Center** currently under construction, with space available for concession to terminal operators. The Center will host facilities such as restaurants and rooms dedicated to education and leisure
- Competitive and efficient **nautical services**

WHAT WE OFFER

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forCRUISESHIPS



WE ARE
LOOKING FOR



Private players who intend to operate part of a cruise terminal in concession.

Private players who intend to run cruise as well as flight business organizing charter flights from/to China, using the nearby airport of Grottaglie. Thus the port of Taranto could become suitable home port for fly&cruise traffic

Cruise lines interested in calling at Taranto



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