



THE MINISTRY OF CARING INC.

Invites you to join Father Ronald on the trip of a lifetime ...

# Puglia Discovery

UNVEILING THE MEDITERRANEAN JEWEL

*BARI — LECCE — MATERA — BARI*

**November 1 - 11, 2023, \$4,499 pp\***

(for single supplement, please add \$1,000).

With round trip flights from JFK. For more information contact Debbe Philips  
via email at [dphilips@ministryofcaring.org](mailto:dphilips@ministryofcaring.org) , or at (302) 652-5523.



Photo by Cristian Macovei, Unsplash.com





**Beautiful Bari.** *Photo by Maria Bobrova*

**Day 1, Wednesday, November 1: Departure from JFK via ITA to Rome, Italy, connecting to Bari.**

**Day 2, Thursday, November 2: Explore beautiful Bari**

Upon arrival, your driver transfers you to your hotel for check-in. The rest of the day is at your own leisure.

**Day 3, Friday, November 3: Bari city tour**

Following breakfast at your hotel, you meet your guide and enjoy a 3-hour private guided city tour of Bari, a sparkling resort town with a lovely historic center. During the tour you stroll the maze-like Bari Vecchia - medieval heart of the city and see its major attractions including the 11th-century Basilica di San Nicola. You enjoy views of Piazza Mercantile, Piazza Ferrarese and



**One of the hidden alleys of Bari.** *Photo by Cristian Macovei*

enter the medieval Castello Svevo. You can also make a stop for a cold lemonade or iced coffee at one of the many sidewalk cafes. After the tour you return to the hotel. The rest of the day is free.

**Day 4, Saturday, November 4: Day trip to San Giovanni Rotondo**

A day trip to San Giovanni Rotondo. Situated in the Puglia region of southern Italy, San Giovanni Rotondo is renowned as the hometown of Saint Padre Pio, a beloved Italian saint. Embarking from Bari, you'll travel through scenic landscapes, passing charming towns and countryside. This magnificent pilgrimage site attracts millions of visitors each year. Inside the shrine, you can explore the sanctuary, which includes the Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie, where Padre



**Santa Maria delle Grazie.** *Photo by Mateus Campos Felipe*

Pio's tomb is located. After immersing yourself in the spiritual atmosphere, explore the town's quaint streets lined with shops selling religious items, souvenirs, and local handicrafts. Treat yourself to some traditional Puglian cuisine at one of the local restaurants, savoring dishes made with fresh regional ingredients. As your day ends, you'll depart from San Giovanni Rotondo, carrying with you a sense of peace and spiritual inspiration. The journey back to Bari allows you to reflect on the profound experience you've had in this remarkable town.

**Day 5, Sunday, November 5: Departure to Lecce with Alberobello tour**

Following breakfast in your hotel, you check out and depart from Bari and head to the fascinating countryside town Alberobello, famous for its unique, 14th century, beehive-shaped houses built



under the rule of the Earls of Conversano. These whitewashed cone-shaped dwellings are now UNESCO-listed treasures. Enjoy the views of Basilica Santi Medici and visit Alberobello's 'trulli' houses built from traditional Apulian stone before heading on toward the town of Lecce. Sunday Mass will be celebrated at a local church, as arranged by our tour guide.

#### **Day 6, Monday, November 6: Lecce tour and pastry tasting**

After breakfast, your private guide leads you on a walking of the tour, including the Lecce Cathedral, also known as the Basilica of the Assumption that houses the remains of Saint Orontius, the city's patron saint. Next, venture the Basilica of Santa Croce, a gem of Baroque architecture. Inside and out, this church is a masterpiece adorned with frescoes, sculptures, and ornate chapels. Continuing your tour, visit the Church of Sant'Irene, a small but striking church known for its unique octagonal shape. After the city tour, taste the famous sweet pastry filled with custard, "pasticciotto leccese" in a local pastry shop. Do not miss the local coffee specialty "caffè leccese" either, which is espresso on the rocks with almond syrup from the area.

#### **Day 7, Tuesday, November 7: Day trip to Locorotondo**

After breakfast, we head out for a delightfully scenic journey through the Apulian countryside towards the charming town of Locorotondo, passing rolling hills, lush vineyards, and the iconic, cone-shaped trulli houses that dot the landscape.

#### **Day 8, Wednesday, November 8: Lecce to Matera**

Following breakfast and check-out, you leave Lecce headed for Matera. Upon arrival, your driver transfers you to your hotel for check-in. The rest of the day is at your own leisure.

#### **Day 9, Thursday, November 9: Matera City Tour**

Embarking on a tour of Matera, a historic city in the Basilicata region of southern Italy, promises a profound and awe-inspiring exploration of its religious heritage and spiritual landmarks. Matera, known for its ancient cave dwellings and unique architecture, is a UNESCO World Heritage site and offers a captivating journey into the past. Your tour of Matera can begin with a visit to the Cathedral of Matera, also known as the Cathedral of Santa Maria della Bruna. Matera's

labyrinthine streets and striking views provide a backdrop for moments of contemplation and connection with the spirituality of the city. As you explore, you'll also have the opportunity to witness the traditional crafts and local traditions that have shaped Matera's cultural identity.

#### **Day 10, Friday, November 10: Day Trip to Ostuni**

As you depart from Matera in the early morning, you'll be greeted by the stunning landscape of the Apulian countryside. The drive to Ostuni takes an hour, allowing you to enjoy the scenic views of picturesque vineyards along the way. Arriving in Ostuni, referred to as the "White City" due to its dazzling whitewashed buildings, you'll instantly be captivated by its unique character. Start by strolling through the narrow, winding streets of the historic center. Make your way to Piazza della Libertà, the main square, and marvel at the grandeur of the Ostuni Cathedral with its blend of Gothic and Romanesque architectural styles and features a stunning rose window that adds to its beauty. Climb up to the ancient city walls and soak in breathtaking panoramic views of the Adriatic Sea on one side and the rolling hills of the Itria Valley on the other.

#### **Day 11, Saturday, November 11: Departure from Bari Airport for our return flight to the United States, 11:20 am local time, subject to change.**



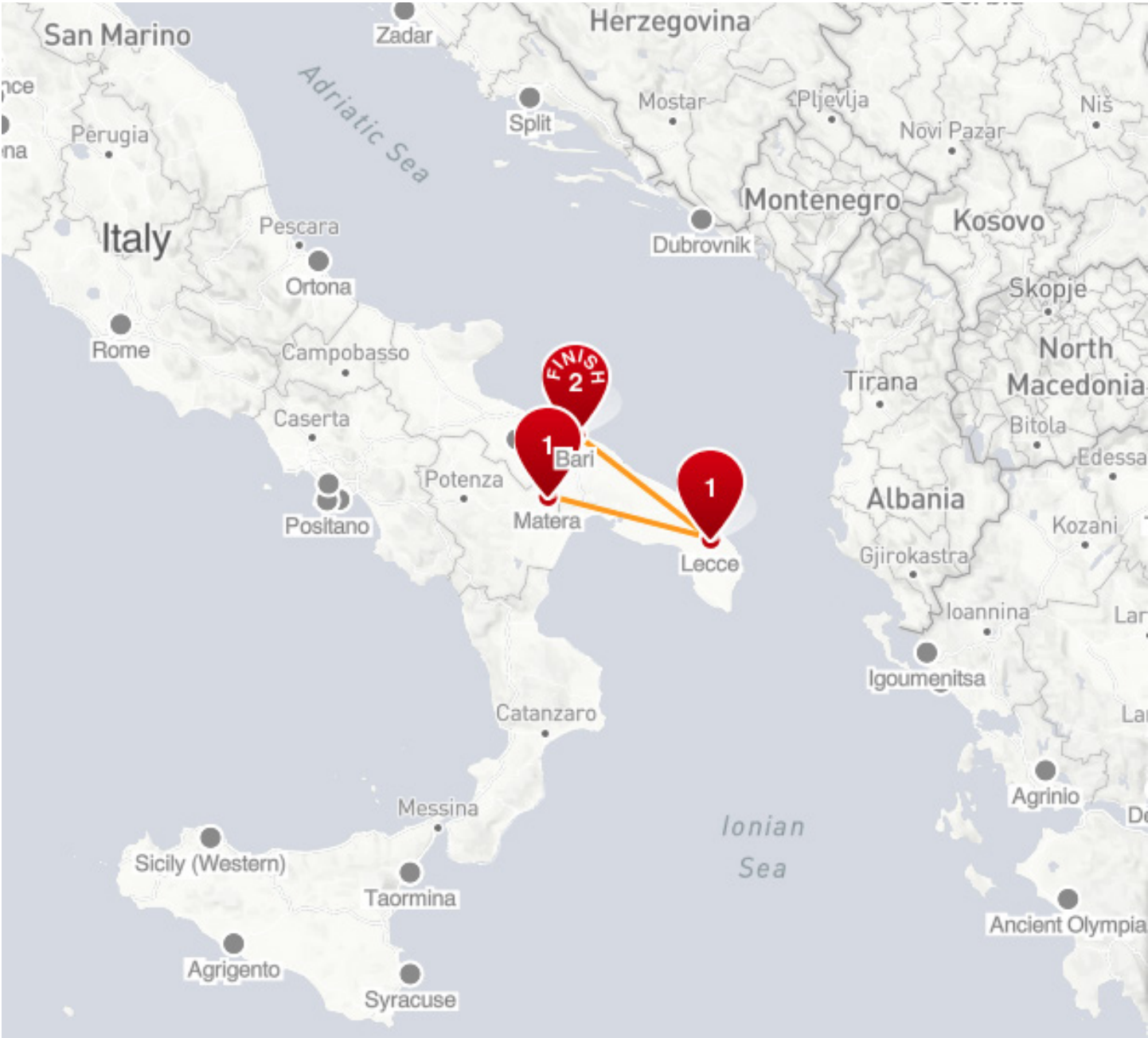
**Basilica di Santa Croce, Lecce.** Photo by Tango 7174/Wikipedia



Piazza Sant'Oronzo, Lecce. Photo by Freysteinn G. Jonsson



Cheers to our Italian adventure! Photo by Kelsey Knight





## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### What's included:

Airfare and accommodation at remarkable 4-star downtown hotels; breakfast each day. Three dinners – one in each of the cities where we stay. Airport transfers and all transportation according to the itinerary; breathtaking sight-seeing tours according to the itinerary with professional English-speaking guides.

**Not included:** tips for tour guides and bus driver, beverages at dinner, other meals not mentioned in the brochure, optional tours and services, local city taxes (1-5 euros per person per night) and all personal expenses.

### Please note:

1. Hotel availability is subject to change. In case current hotels are booked out we will provide alternative hotels of an equal value for you.
2. As a standard, our travel packages include one checked-in bag, one carry-on, and one handbag per person. Please let us know if you require additional luggage beyond our standard allowance. Please note that there may be an additional charge for extra luggage. The charge will depend on the amount and size of the luggage you wish to bring.

**Each traveler must have a valid passport to join this tour at your expense. Each traveler's passport must be valid for six months beyond November 10, 2023. Visit [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.**

We recommend each traveler make and keep a COLOR photocopy of the passport page featuring the traveler's name and photograph. This copy should be packed separately from your actual passport. We also recommend leaving a copy of this information at home with your emergency contact. Please forward a copy of your passport photo page at the time of booking.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis for an additional \$1,000.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (1-2 hours) isn't a big deal. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, Zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. You can expect some longer days balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions. You will be traveling in economy class. If you wish to upgrade to premium seats or business class, you must do so on your own.

**A deposit of \$1,499 per person is due with your reservation by July 15, 2023. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of July 15, 2023, are based upon availability.**

**Final payment of \$3,000 is due by August 15, 2023. We recommend you obtain travel insurance to protect you in the event you need to cancel due to unforeseen circumstances.**

You may wish to visit [insuremytrip.com](http://insuremytrip.com) or [squaremouth.com](http://squaremouth.com) for a variety of travel insurance plans to choose from. Please note that after submission of final payment, no refund is given; therefore, it is important to have travel insurance so that you may be reassured that you will be reimbursed in the event of an emergency where you need to cancel your trip.



**THE MINISTRY OF CARING INC.**

**Invites you to join Father Ronald on the trip of a lifetime ...**

# **Puglia Discovery**

**UNVEILING THE MEDITERRANEAN JEWEL**

***BARI — LECCE — MATERA — BARI***

**November 1 - 11, 2023, \$4,499 pp\***

(for single supplement, please add \$1,000).

**With round trip flights from JFK. For more information contact Debbe Philips  
via email at [dphilips@ministryofcaring.org](mailto:dphilips@ministryofcaring.org) , or at (302) 652-5523.**

## **ITINERARY**

**The trip includes:** Airfare and accommodation at remarkable 4-star downtown hotels; breakfast each day. Three dinners – one in each of the cities where we stay. Airport transfers and all transportation according to the itinerary; breathtaking sight-seeing tours according to the itinerary with professional English-speaking guides.

**Not included:** tips for tour guides and bus driver, beverages at dinner, other meals not mentioned in the brochure, optional tours and services, local city taxes (1-5 euros per person per night) and all personal expenses.

**Travel to and from JFK from elsewhere in the USA is not included in the cost of this tour.**

**Day 1: Departure from JFK**

**Day 2: Arrival in Italy**

**Day 3: Bari city tour**

**Day 4: Day trip to San Giovanni Rotondo**

**Day 5: Departure to Lecce with Alberobello tour**

**Day 6: Lecce tour and pastry tasting**

**Day 7: Day trip to Locorotondo**

**Day 8: Travel to Matera**

**Day 9: Matera city tour**

**Day 10: Day trip to Ostuni**

**Day 11: Departure from Bari Airport to the United States**

**For more information contact Debbe Philips at  
(302) 652-5523, or via email at [dphilips@ministryofcaring.org](mailto:dphilips@ministryofcaring.org)**

**If you are ready to complete your reservation for this trip you  
MUST complete and return BOTH SIDES of the form on the next page >>>**



THE MINISTRY OF CARING INC.

## PUGLIA DISCOVERY RESERVATION FORM

**November 1 - 11, 2023, \$4,499 pp\***

(for single supplement, please add \$1,000). **With round trip flights from JFK.**

I/we want to make the following reservation/s.

(The name of each passenger must match the details on the photo/ID page of their passport – please type or print)

### Passenger 1.

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle name/s \_\_\_\_\_

Last name \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix \_\_\_\_\_

Room type: Double room \_\_\_\_\_ Single room \_\_\_\_\_ (for single supplement, please add \$1,000) Passenger's age \_\_\_\_\_

### Passenger 1's roommate's details (if applicable)

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle name/s \_\_\_\_\_

Last name \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix \_\_\_\_\_

### Passenger 2.

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle name/s \_\_\_\_\_

Last name \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix \_\_\_\_\_

Room type: Double room \_\_\_\_\_ Single room \_\_\_\_\_ (for single supplement, please add \$1,000) Passenger's age \_\_\_\_\_

### Passenger 2's roommate's details (if applicable)

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle name/s \_\_\_\_\_

Last name \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix \_\_\_\_\_

Do any passengers listed above have any dietary requirements, food allergies, or any personal medical, mobility, or accessibility needs? YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ . If yes, please give details: \_\_\_\_\_

### PLEASE GIVE THE CONTACT DETAILS OF THE PERSON MAKING THIS RESERVATION

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle name/s \_\_\_\_\_

Last name \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone (with area code) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone (with area code) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

**TO SECURE YOUR RESERVATION, PLEASE COMPLETE THE PAYMENT DETAILS ON THE NEXT PAGE. >>>**

**A deposit of \$1,499 per person** secures your reservation. All reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. The final balance of \$3,000 is due on August 15, 2023. Travelers under the age of 18 **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

Please find enclosed my/our check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ made payable to ***The Ministry of Caring Inc.***

**Please note: there will be a 3% fee for credit card payments.** Please charge my credit card, details below:

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount to be charged \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Card holder's name as it appears on the card \_\_\_\_\_

MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ Amex ☐ Card expiration date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ CSV number \_\_\_\_\_  
Month Year

The three or four\* digit number on the front\* (or back) of the card. \*AmEx

All passengers noted on this form must sign below:

Passenger 1,  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Passenger 2,  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE INCLUDE COPIES OF THE PHOTO/ID PAGE OF EACH PASSENGER'S PASSPORT**  
(Each passenger's passport MUST be valid for at least six months after November 10, 2023)

**Please MAIL your completed form to:**

**Debbe Philips  
The Ministry of Caring Inc.  
115 East 14th Street  
WILMINGTON, DE 19801-3209**

(302) 652-5523 dphilips@ministryofcaring.org