

Alta Murgia

NATIONAL PARK



AT A GLANCE

ART & HISTORY



12 MUSEUMS

12 HISTORICAL,
ARCHITECTURAL &
CULTURAL SITES

11 ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SITES

3 NATURAL SITES

GASTRONOMY



2 DOC WINE
APPELATIONS

18 DOP & IGP
FOOD PRODUCTS

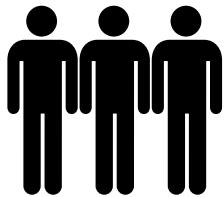
FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Festival della Ruralità (November)

An annual festival taking place during the month of November featuring exhibits, workshops and events celebrating the municipalities and typical products of Alta Murgia National Park.

VISITOR PROFILE

STATISTICS



130,000 VISITORS PER YEAR

CHARACTERISTICS

YOUTH

BOTANY ENTHUSIASTS

NATURE LOVERS

HIKERS

FOODIES

WINE CONNOISSEURS

HISTORY BUFFS

SEASONALITY



25%



0%



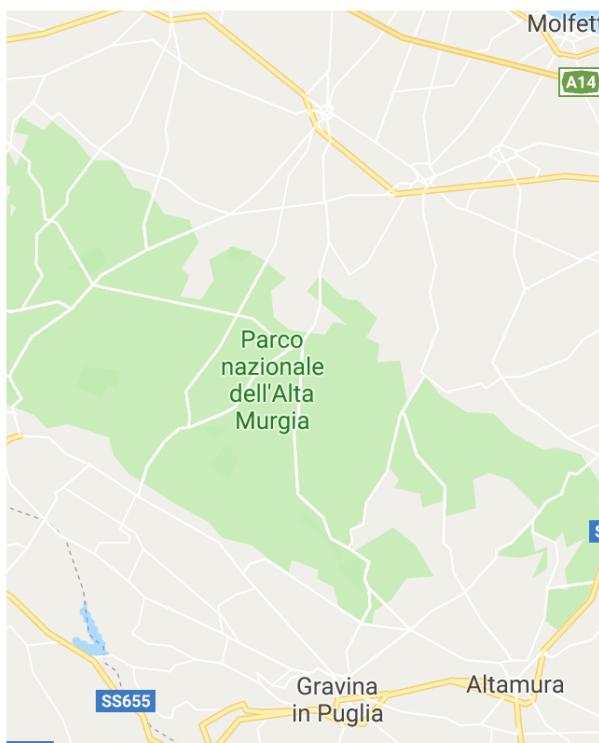
25%



50%

Alta Murgia NATIONAL PARK

Established in 2004, Alta Murgia National Park is one of Italy's newest developments. The park is located in the region of Puglia and is home to some of southern Italy's most interesting natural and archaeological sites for tourists to discover. The park also offers opportunities for visitors to discover the unique culture and cuisine originating from the region.



LOCATION

Provinces of Bari and Barletta-Andria-Trani in Puglia, Italy

CLOSEST CITY

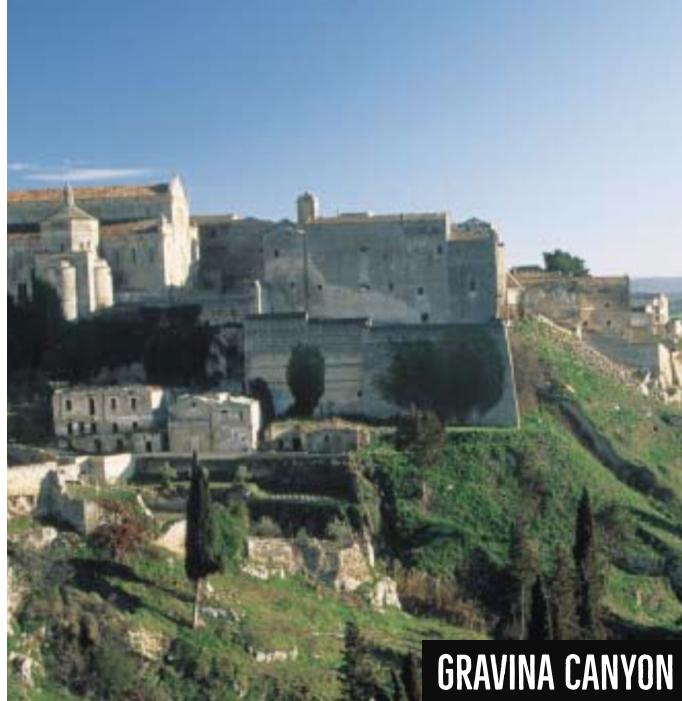
Bari
Taranto

HOW TO GET THERE?

Bari to Palese Airport:
1 hr by High Speed Train
45 mins by Car

Sightseeing NATURAL SITES

Gravina Canyon in Puglia, which extends towards Matera and Bradano has its southwest border along the protected area.



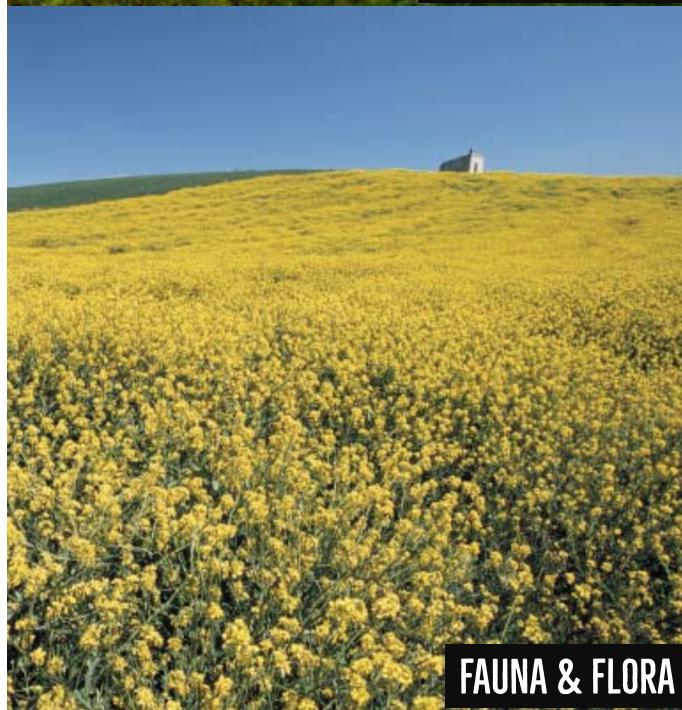
GRAVINA CANYON

Near Altamura are the impressive Karst Sinkholes of Pulicchio and Pulo, which exceed 100 and 70 meters respectively.



KARST SINKHOLES

Alta Murgia acts as a conservation area for many fauna and flora unique to the area including Europe's largest population of the Red-footed Falcon species. In the spring and summer, you can admire blooming fumitory, wild gladioli, wild marigolds, pot marigolds and daisies.



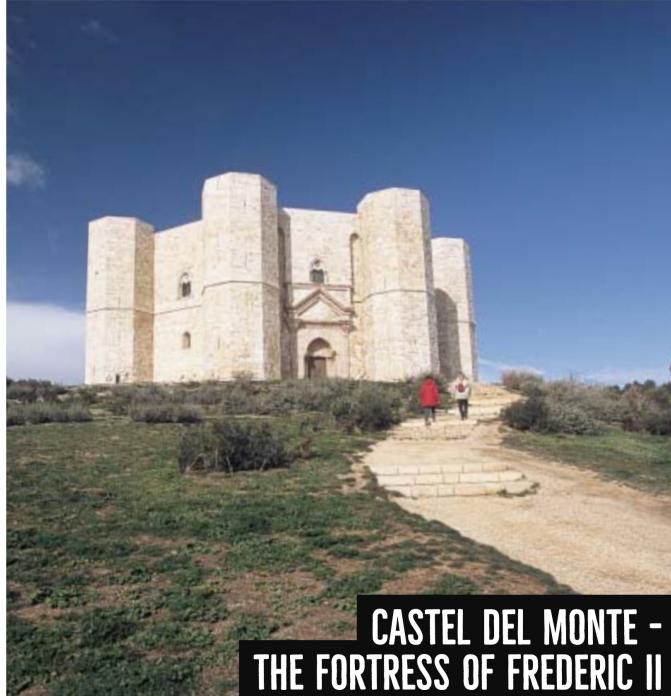
FAUNA & FLORA

Sightseeing HISTORICAL SITES

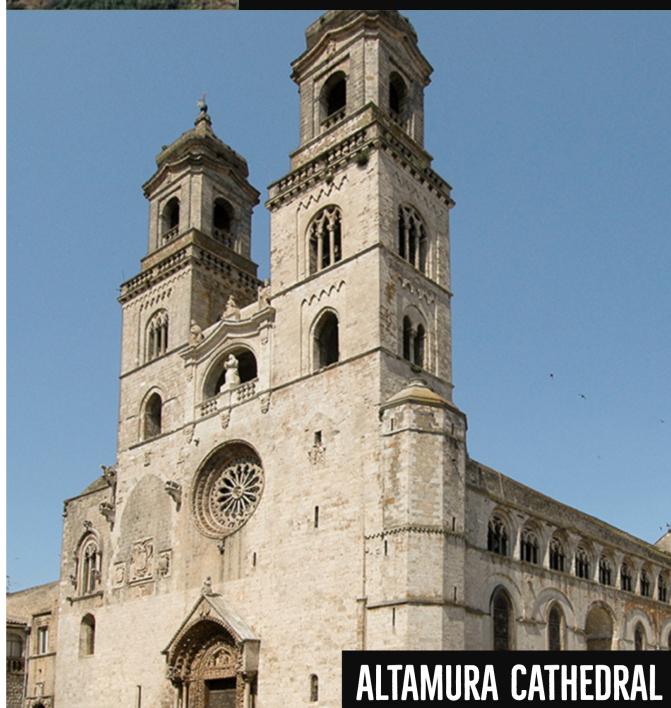
Castel del Monte, the most famous monument in Puglia, was built between 1240 and 1250. It was abandoned in the late 1700s and stripped of its marble and sculptures, yet it still astonishes visitors today.

One of Puglia's loveliest medieval churches is the cathedral of Altamura which was built in 1232. The entrance and façade of the Church are heavily sculpted and still considered masterpieces of Puglia.

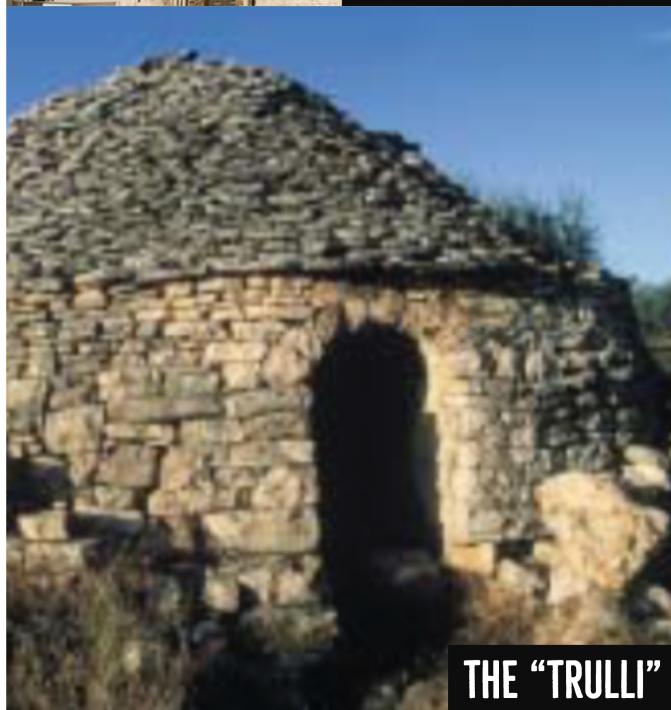
Over the centuries, humanity used the endless abundance of limestone found in the Alta Murgia to build farm houses, trulli, cisterns, wells, pagliari huts and dry stone walls. Parts of these traditional structures are still used today and are testament to the craftsmanship of local artisans.



CASTEL DEL MONTE -
THE FORTRESS OF FREDERIC II



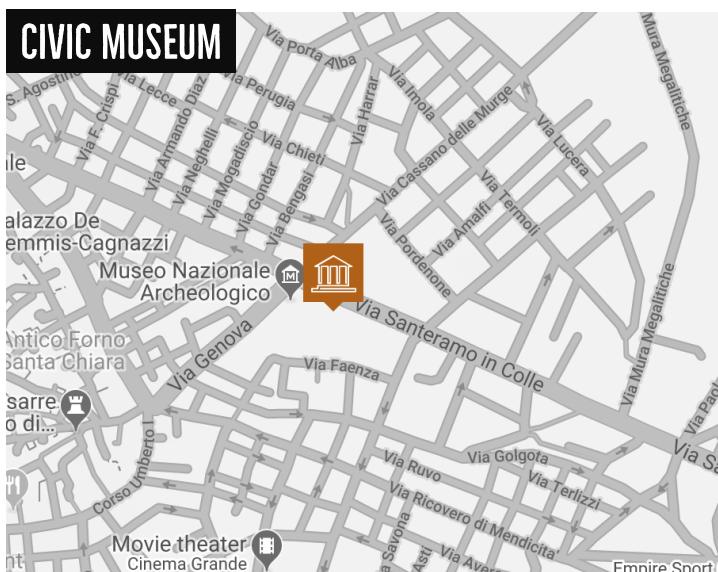
ALTAMURA CATHEDRAL



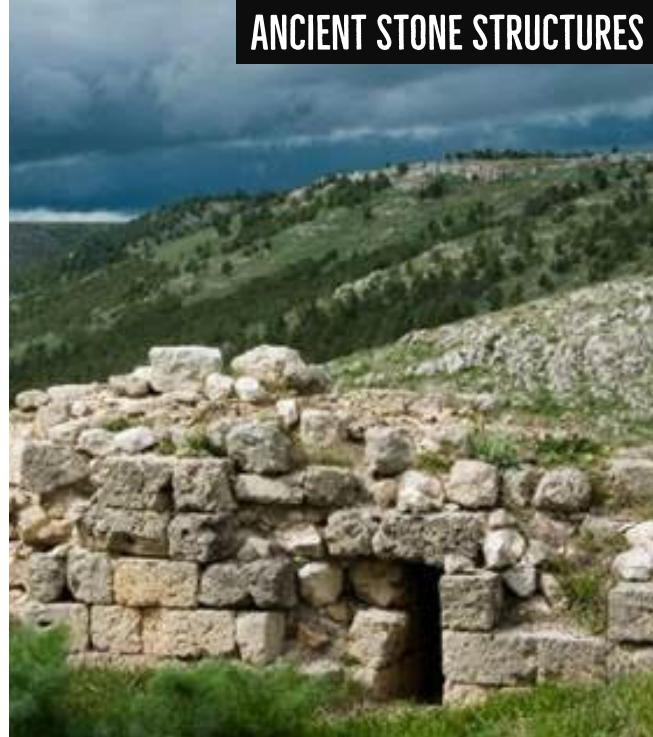
THE "TRULLI"

Sightseeing ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

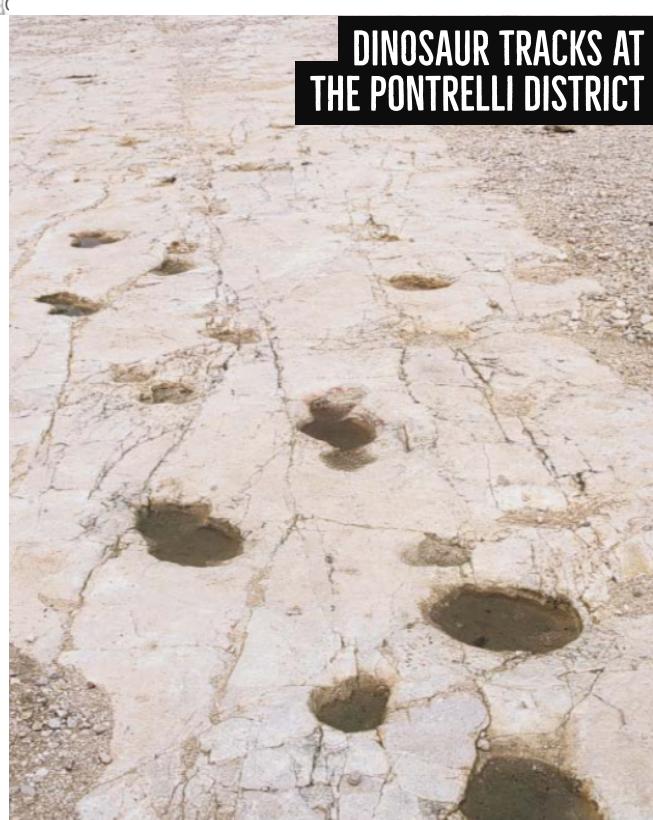
The area is rich in “Poste” buildings, which are ancient stone structures used by shepherds to protect their herds from the elements, and “Jazzi” buildings which were designed for sheep breeding.



In an abandoned quarry in the Pontrelli district, 4000 prints were found at the gates of Altamura, left by hundreds of dinosaurs of five different species. Most of the tracks are those of herbivorous dinosaurs, although a number appear to be those of carnivores. In addition, a well preserved skeleton fossil of a hominid, named the “Man of Altamura” was found in the Lamalunga Cave near Altamura. The man is estimated to have lived 150 thousand years ago.



Altamura's Civic Museum is the most interesting in the Park. It has exhibitions of ancient weapons, sarcophagi, ceramics and other relics from local tombs dating between the Bronze Age and the time of the Roman Empire.



DINOSAUR TRACKS AT THE PONTRELLI DISTRICT

Activities TO DO



WINE TASTING



FOOD TASTING

The park is located within the wine appellation of Castel del Monte DOC, which features many wineries to discover. In fact, the park is known to grow the rare red grape variety, Nero di Troia, characterized by its intense dark ruby, almost black colour. Its taste contains notes of ripe fruit and spices, black pepper and cloves. The Bombino Nero grape variety is widespread in the area.

Winery to visit:

- Le Masserie Zucaro in Andria, Puglia

The park also produces delicious cheeses such as Burrata di Andria IGP. The olive tree is widespread throughout Puglia and it is the emblem of the Murgia and Salento landscape, occupying vast expanses of terrain. Andria, on the boundary between Alta Murgia and the coast, for centuries has been the “capital” of oil-making in this part of Puglia. Tens of farms and presses offer samples and sale of the Park’s extra-virgin olive oil.

Olive oil mill to visit:

- Frantoio Raguso in Gravina in Puglia, Puglia

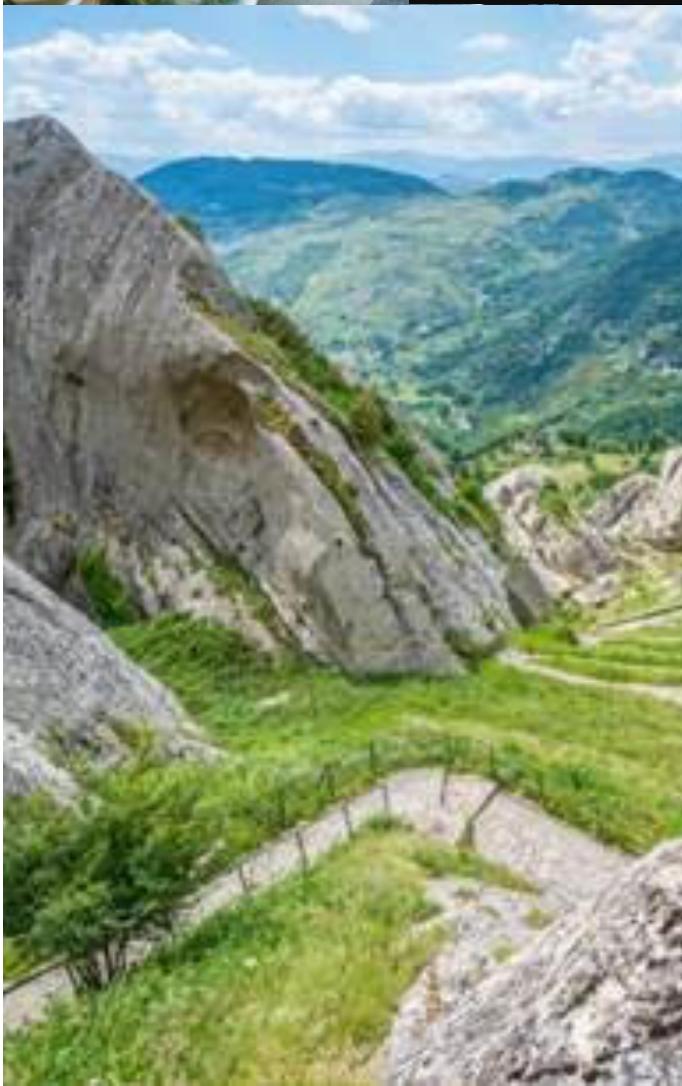
Activities TO DO



COOKING CLASSES



ARTISAN WORKSHOPS



HIKING

Difficulty Level: Low-Medium
Characteristics: Rocky Terrain
Distance: 100 km

For safety reasons, it is recommended that hikers be accompanied by a guide along the trails due to poor signage. Reservations must be made over the telephone. For groups, the capacity is 5-25 people.



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GUIDED TOURS

The park offers a wide selection of tours for visitors to choose from and reservations can be made over the telephone. Please note that group reservations are limited to 5 to 25 guests. For more information on other tours offered in the Park, please contact Murgia Tour.

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ACCOMODATIONS

4-Star Hotels	3-Star Hotels	B&Bs
110	120	170
Farm Houses	Apts	Camps
200	194	1