



## *General Info*

### **Information**

Villa Rosa is the starting point to discover the attractions of Puglia, a land of history and art with its majestic monuments, a land of culture when it comes to life with events - concerts or popular festivals -, a land of food excellence - excellent wines - and land where you have endless possibilities to have fun. Built in 1930, Villa Rosa is a skillfully restored neo-eclectic residence, whose majestic portico frames the view of the Norman-Aragonese Castle of Conversano in Puglia. This magnificent Villa is a real museum where it is possible to admire period decorations and objects. In the center of a large park, with centuries-old cedar and cypress trees, next to the main house is the dependance, recently renovated in modern forms that evokes charm and elegance, with independent apartments for guests, which are offered free use the park, the swimming pool with relaxation areas and the barbecue.

## *Distances*

### **How to move in Puglia**

Better solution is to rent a car. If you want rent a Car in Conversano we suggest Norba Rent, Via Simplicio, 2A, 70014 Conversano BA

**Polignano a Mare - km 8,9 - 9 m**

**Grotte di Castellana Grotte - km 13,8 - 15 m**

**Monopoli - km 16 - 15 m**

**Alberobello - km 26,8 - 29 m**

**Locorotondo - km 41,7 - 34 m**

**Bari - km 31,9 - 35 m**

**Ostuni - km 55,7 - 39 m**

**Cisternino - km 49,6 - 40 mm**

**Martina Franca - km 43 - 47 m**

**Matera - km 62,5 - 55 m**

**Trani - km 81,6 - 55 m**

**Castel del Monte (Andria) - km 89,1 - 1h 11 m**

**Lecce - km 123 - 1h 14 m**

**Otranto - km 171 - 1h 46 m**

**Gallipoli - km 162 - 1h 40 m**



## *Cozze's Beaches*

### **Coco Beach (Paid)**



**Price:** paid

**Distance:** 8 km, 16 minutes

**Google Maps:** [Link](#)

### **Cala Arena (Paid)**



**Price:** paid

**Distance:** 9 km, 13 minutes

**Google Maps:** [Link](#)

### **Wonder Beach Club (Paid)**



**Price:** paid

**Distance:** 9 km, 14 minutes

**Google Maps:** [Link](#)



## Costa dei Trulli, Ripagnola (Free)



**Price:** free

**Distance:** 10 km, 14 minutes

**Google Maps:** [Link](#)



## *Polignano's Beaches*

### **Lama Monachile (Free)**



Price: free

Distance: 11 km, 15 minutes

Google Maps: [Link](#)

### **Cala Paura (Free)**



Price: paid access

Distance: 11 km, 15 minutes

Google Maps: [Link](#)

### **Cala San Giovanni (Paid)**



Price: paid access

Distance: 13 km, 15 minutes

Google Maps: [Link](#)



### **Torre San Vito (Free)**



Price: free

Distance: 12 km, 15 minutes

Google Maps: [Link](#)

### **Porto Cavallo (Free)**



Price: free

Distance: 14 km, 15 minutes

Google Maps: [Link](#)

### **Torre Incina (Free)**



Price: free

Distance: 21 km, 21 minutes

Google Maps: [Link](#)



## *Monopoli's Beaches*

### **Lido Porto Ghiacciolo (Paid)**



Price: paid

Distance: 25 km, 31 minutes

Google Maps: [Link](#)

### **Lido Marina Grande (Paid)**



Price: paid access

Distance: 30 km, 30 minutes

Google Maps: [Link](#)

### **Egnazia Beach Club (Paid)**



Price: paid access

Distance: 32 km, 32 minutes

Google Maps: [Link](#)



### Porto Rosso (Free)



Price: free

Distance: 22 km, 25 minutes

Google Maps: [Link](#)

### Spiaggia La Scaletta (Free)



Price: free

Distance: 23 km, 25 minutes

Google Maps: [Link](#)

### Spiaggia Tre Buchi (Free)



Price: free

Distance: 23 km, 25 minutes

Google Maps: [Link](#)



## *Top 8 things to see in Conversano*

### **1. CASTELLO E PINACOTECA - CASTLE AND ART GALLERY**

The County of Conversano belonged to four noble houses, in succession: Altavilla, Brienne, Orsini del Balzo and finally Acquaviva d'Aragona. The feud lasted from 1054 to 1806. Originally a Norman fortress, in the 15th and 17th centuries the Castle was remodeled several times, until it was transformed into a sumptuous stately home. Inside it is now located the "Municipal Art Gallery", where you can admire the large canvases of the seventeenth-century Neapolitan painter Paolo Finoglio, depicting episodes from the "Gerusalemme Liberata", the famous epic poem by Torquato Tasso.



### **2. CATTEDRALE - CATHEDRAL**

The Cathedral, in Romanesque-pugliese style, was built between the 11th and 12th centuries, renovated in the late Baroque style, and then in 1911, following a fire, restored to its original form. The gabled façade is characterized in the upper part by a fifteenth-century rose window with twelve rays and by three portals: the central one has a rich sculptural decoration with two column-bearing lions.



### **3. MONASTERO DI SAN BENEDETTO - MUSEO ARCHEOLOGICO - MONASTERY OF SAN BENEDETTO - ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM**

The Monastery of San Benedetto, called "Monstrum Apuliae" (Apulian wonder) because in 1274 Pope Gregory X conferred on the abbess (woman) bishopric functions (purely male), a situation almost unique in Western Christianity. The church and the medieval cloister are beautiful. Inside it is now located the Archaeological Civic Museum.



### **4. CHIESA DI SAN COSMA E DAMIANO - CHURCH OF SAN COSMA AND DAMIANO**

In the seventeenth century the Counts of Conversano commissioned the restructuring of an ancient church in Baroque style, naming it after the Saints Cosma and Damiano, to whom they were particularly devoted, having received a grace. The decorative apparatus inside the church is sumptuous, an authentic triumph of the Neapolitan Baroque.





## **5. CHIESA E CONVENTO DI SANTA MARIA DELL'ISOLA - CHURCH AND CONVENT OF SANTA MARIA DELL'ISOLA**

Located about 2 km from the city center, it was built in 1462 by the counts Giovanni Antonio Orsini del Balzo and Giulio Antonio Acquaviva. The church with two naves today is in late Gothic style with mostly Renaissance interior furnishings. In the apse of the oldest nave there is the cenotaph (funeral monument without the body) of Giulio Antonio Acquaviva, killed in the siege of Otranto in 1481.



## **6. CASINO DI CACCIA CASTELLO DI MARCHIONE - HUNTING LODGE MARCHIONE CASTLE**

Elegant hunting lodge, built around 1730 by the Acquaviva d'Aragona counts in a wood, 6 km from Conversano. The building, whose construction is attributed to the architect Vincenzo Ruffo of the Vanvitellian school, has a square plan, with the four vertices characterized by circular stone towers.



## **7. MASSERIA LE CERASE**

The 'Masserie' was a typical agricultural construction in Southern Italy, consisting of a set of buildings where the owners, farmers, shepherds and animals lived in close contact. "Le Cerase" is an important and rich farmhouse, with a chapel and fortified by walls and a defensive tower.



## **8. TORRE E ROVINE ARCHEOLOGICHE DI CASTIGLIONE - TOWER AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RUINS OF CASTIGLIONE**

About 5 km from Conversano, on the top of a wooded hill, stands a high tower with a square base, together with the remains of a wall and the villaio di Castiglione, abandoned at the end of the 15th century.





## *Top 10 Cities to visit near Conversano*

### **1. POLIGNANO E ABAZIA BENEDETTINA DI SAN VITO - POLIGNANO AND THE BENEDICTINE ABBEY OF SAN VITO**

The oldest part of the town stands on a rocky outcrop overlooking the Adriatic Sea. Not far away, the 10th century Abbey of San Vito Martire, of Benedictine foundation, is beautiful.



### **2. ALBEROBELLO - TRULLI**

The trullo is a typical conical construction in traditional dry stone of central-southern Puglia. Trulli were generally built as temporary shelters in the countryside or permanent homes for farmers. Much of Alberobello is made up of trulli.



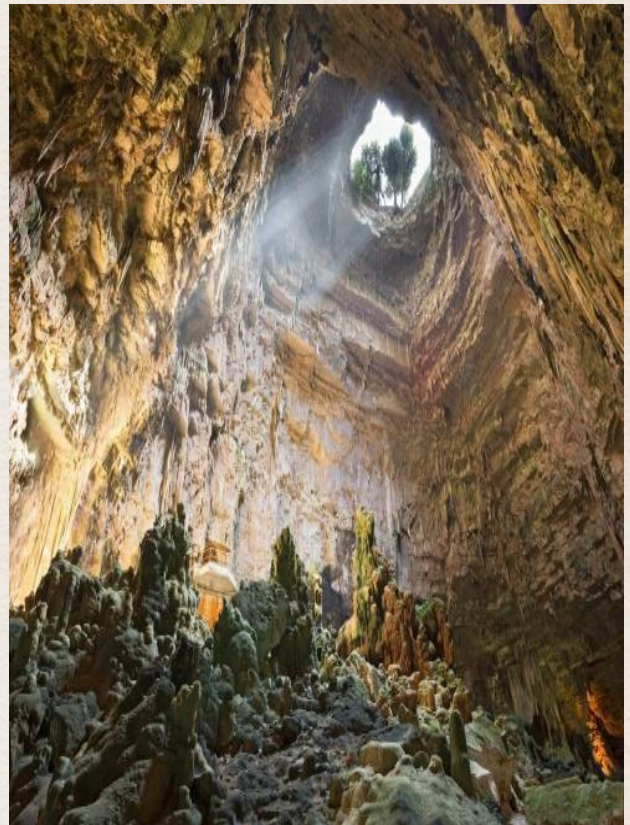
### **3. MONOPOLI**

The historic center of Monopoli is a jewel of popular architecture mixed with sumptuous religious buildings and splendid noble palaces. It is Porta Vecchia, inserted in the walls, to introduce the old part of the city, lying on the Adriatic and dominated by the Castle. The heart of the old city is the baroque Cathedral of Santa Maria della Madi.



### **4. GROTTE DI CASTELLANA**

Considered the most important speleological complex in Italy and Europe, the Castellana Caves are particularly appreciated for the richness of crystalline concretions, the considerable extension and the spectacular vastness of the natural galleries. The caves are the result of the erosive action of an ancient underground river that has dug and shaped the limestone rock for centuries.





## 5. BARI

Divided into two parts - the old city and the new city - Bari preserves, in the old historic center, fascinating narrow and twisted alleys, and numerous testimonies of the medieval and Renaissance past, such as the Castle and the Cathedral. Still, in the basilica of San Nicola the remains of the Saint are preserved from which the figure of Santa Claus derives, the Santa Claus of the Nordic countries.



## 7. TRANI

In Trani it is nice to walk between the port and the Jewish quarter of Giudecca, among ancient synagogues and craft shops. Its Cathedral, isolated on the sea, is an incredible monument of Apulian Romanesque architecture in limestone.



## 6. THE WHITE CITIES: OSTUNI - LOCOROTONDO - MARTINA FRANCA - CISTERNINO - CELIE MESSAPICA

White Cities are magical places. They are called 'white' because of the white lime used to paint the facades of houses, which is also useful for sanitizing the town in times of plague.





## 8. MATERA – I SASSI

It is known all over the world for the historic Sassi districts. Developed from the natural caves carved into the rock, used as homes, and subsequently modeled into increasingly complex structures within two large natural amphitheaters, the Sasso Cavernoso and the Sasso Baresano.



## 9. CASTEL DEL MONTE

Castel del Monte is a 13th century fortress, on the top of a hill 540 meters above sea level in the western Murgia plateau, built by Frederick II of Swabia, Holy Roman Emperor and King of Sicily. The building has an octagonal plan and an octagonal turret is inserted at each corner.



## 10. LECCE

Palaces, Churches and Monuments with their curls and their decorations in the malleable 'Lecce stone' have given the city of Lecce the current connotation of "Lady of the Baroque".



## *The Apulian Cuisine*

Is among the most varied and tasty in Italy, based on land and sea products, it is characterized using olive oil, vegetables, fish, meat, legumes and pasta.



The '*orecchiette*' (small shell-shaped pasta).



The '*frisedda*', (flour donut, soaked in cold water and seasoned with salt, oil, pepper, tomato and onion).



The '*fave e cicoria*', (puree of broad beans and wild chicory).



The meat: '*zampine*', '*bombette*', '*ghiumered*', etc..



Seafood and fish '*ricci*', '*cozze*', '*polpo*', '*calamari*' e poi '*orate*', '*saraghi*', '*spigole*' '*dentici*', '*pesce spada*', etc.



'*Panzerotti*' fried or baked are typical of Apulian cuisine: leavened dough stuffed with mozzarella and tomato. Delicious!



*Mozzarella*, *scamorza*, *scamorzone*, *burrata*, *caciocavallo*, *ricotta*, *giuncata*, *pecorino*, are the names of the delicious products, which are part of the long Apulian dairy tradition.

### Stracciatella

Made daily, and obtained by shredding fresh cream into thin filaments..

Great for pasta it also as an appetizer or snack,



### Burrata

Burrata is one of the most delicate fresh cheeses. White is made by cutting and stuffing after draining.

### Burtonza

From North to South of Italy reaching Switzerland, caciotta is a cheese spread. Initially hung, it's breast for its shape with refined



### Ricotta

A dairy product obtained from heating the whey, ricotta is made daily. It is particularly valued for its delicate taste, excellent in sweet dishes, but also in salty ones.



### Manteca

A matter of time, but to meet the needs of conservation. Cut into thin slices it's great spread on warm toast.



### Scamorze di latte di mucca o latte di pecora

A cheese pasta filata. obtained from pasteurized milk from cow or sheep, curdled with very little rennet.

### Caciocavallo

Also called provola, takes its name from the support used to hang it in pairs during its maturing. (A Caciocavallo in Italian means horse, indeed).



### Ricotta marzotica

A thick paste with a delicate taste, born to meet the needs of conservation. Made mostly of sheep's milk, often with cow's milk, it has



### Pecorino

A compact lactic paste cheese made from sheep's milk, served fresh or aged. Typical fresh that dried milk, often with cow's milk, it has particular or grated





## *Caves – Wine Cellar*

### **TERRE DI SAN VITO**



Pure Apulian wines and exceptional blends, the passion and wisdom of those who love the land and know its value.

**Directions:** Polignano a Mare BA – Strada vecchia Conversano- San Vito –

Telephone: 080 523 5218

### **CANTINE DI POLVANERA**

A long family tradition that always has its roots in agriculture. In 2003 an ambitious project was developed, aimed at enhancing the primitivo and other indigenous grape varieties in the production of quality wines.

**Directions:** Gioia Del Colle in Strada Vic.le Lamie Marchesana, 601

**Tel:** 080 758900

### **TERRECARSICHE SRL**

A long family tradition that always has its roots in agriculture. In 2003 an ambitious project was developed, aimed at enhancing the primitivo and other indigenous grape varieties in the production of quality wines.

**Directions:** Via Maestri del Lavoro, 6/8 Castellana Grotte (BA)

**Tel:** T/F +39 080 4962309

### **TORMARESCA**

Passion, courage and trust in the enormous qualitative potential that Puglia, and in particular the areas of Castel del Monte and Salento, can express, are the elements that prompted Antinori to invest in this region.

**Directions:** Minervino Murge in Contrada Torre di Isola, Loc. Tofano

**Tel:** 0831671046



## *Our Organic Olive Oil for Sale*

The family that owns "Villa Rosa Resort" for 50 years has been producing oil and wine in the countryside of Conversano. Our olive groves have about 3500 plants of different cultivars and are divided between the lands belonging to the Masseria Le Cerase and the Masseria Montefieno, from which our oils take their name.







The intensely fruity extra virgin olive oil "Le Cerase" is obtained from two Apulian varieties, such as Coratina 80% and Ogliarola Barese 20%, expertly blended. The delicately fruity "Montefieno" extra virgin olive oil is obtained from three Apulian varieties, such as Leccino 40% and Simone 50% and Cime di Mola 10%, expertly blended.

Our passion for wine grapes began in 1980, when, for pure family self-consumption, the first small vineyard of the Primitivo di Gioia del Colle cultivar was planted. This year the debut of our "Primitivo Vitus" took place, with an intense ruby red color, almost impenetrable; the nose releases aromas of dark fruit, plum, blackberry and black cherry; to the taste it is warm, soft, structured and with good persistence; it is perfect for roasted meat and long-aged cheeses.

- 100% Primitivo cultivar
- Gradation 13% vol

Call Donato for information: [\(+39\) 338 250 75 45](tel:+393382507545)

Visit our site: [masserialeceraseshop.com](http://masserialeceraseshop.com)