



PALAZZO MARGHERITA

## FACT SHEET

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- LOCATION:** Palazzo Margherita is situated in Bernalda, a small hilltop town in the Basilicata region of Southern Italy. Located in the province of Matera, which is famous for its ancient cave dwellings, dramatic landscapes and historic houses, Bernalda is relatively unknown outside of Italy. It is just ten minutes from the coast, where miles of white sand beaches border the Ionian Sea, as this part of the Mediterranean is known. While the neighboring region of Puglia has become popular with tourists, Bernalda remains largely undiscovered—one of a few remaining parts of Italy where the culture, food and wine remain authentic and untouched by the world beyond. The townspeople offer a genuine hospitality that makes every visitor feel more like a friend or neighbor than a tourist. It is said that anyone who visits Bernalda cannot resist returning.
- HISTORY:** Palazzo Margherita, a true 19th century palazzo, was built in 1892 in Bernalda by the Margherita family. The town was the birthplace and home to Agostino Coppola, Francis Ford Coppola's grandfather, who always affectionately referred to it as "Bernalda bella." The small town holds a special place in the family history, which is what drew Francis to first visit it in the 1960's. He acquired the Palazzo in 2005.
- The surrounding countryside, which was settled by the Greeks before the Roman Empire, is part of the Hellenic Magna Graecia—the coastal areas of Southern Italy—where the thriving local agriculture produces sumptuous fruits and vegetables, as well as the Aglianico grapes used to make wines of the same name. Nestled between the ancient cities of Metapontum and Matera, the area is rich with history, including haunting primordial cave dwellings referred to as "Sassi," which have been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- DÉCOR:** Completely restored in collaboration with acclaimed French designer Jacques Grange, the Palazzo offers a luxurious yet authentic Italian experience, with vast bedrooms, ornate reception rooms and an inner courtyard opening onto a world of private gardens and a

swimming pool.

In keeping with Francis's desire to create an environment his children would want to continually return to, the entire family collaborated with Grange in contributing personal details to individual rooms, adding to the special atmosphere of visiting a private home. The interior is styled with tiled floors and hand-painted fresco ceilings with a taste of Moroccan and Neoclassical flair. Some of the furniture and finishes were personally designed by Grange, and the floors have been restored from the original marble, with additional craftsmanship provided by painters and artisans in the region.

## **ACCOMMODATIONS:**

The intimate resort has seven large suites and two garden rooms. Each is a unique work of art and features luxurious linens and elegant bathrooms. Many of the rooms feature a large terrace and/or a Juliette Balcony; some face the charming interior garden, others look onto the leafy town square. All rooms were individually designed in order to capture the essence of being in a very special home.

**Garden Suite One** - This suite embodies the elegance of Italian country house style—an airy, traditional room that opens directly onto the courtyard garden and fountain. Situated on the ground floor, it also features a spacious, en-suite sitting room with a floor to ceiling window that heightens the effect of being sequestered in one's own private garden. The large bathroom includes a clawfoot bathtub and separate glass shower among its many details. Queen-sized bed. 550 square feet (50 square meters). *Maximum occupancy of three people with additional twin bed*

**Garden Two** - An elegant and traditional room that opens directly onto the lush private garden and fountain. It features vaulted ceilings, a large closet and a writing desk. A beautifully appointed bathroom is highlighted by a clawfoot bathtub beneath a window that overlooks the garden. Queen-sized bed. 320 square feet (30 square meters). *Maximum occupancy of two people*

**Garden Three** – Like our other garden rooms, this one embodies the simple elegance of Italian country house living. Grand barn-like doors that open onto the inner courtyard create a setting that is both sophisticated and rustic. A luxurious bathroom includes a clawfoot bathtub and separate glass shower. Queen-sized bed. 370 square feet (35 square meters). *Maximum occupancy of three people with additional twin bed*

**Suite Four (Sofia)** – Jacques Grange designed this suite in collaboration with Sofia Coppola; its mood is delicate and feminine, with hand-painted frescos evoking a misty summer garden at dawn. A Juliette balcony off the bedroom overlooks the courtyard and the palatial bathroom has a steam shower and a clawfoot bathtub. French doors from the bathroom and bedroom lead to a fully-furnished private terrace that offers a magical view of the garden and fountain. King-sized bed. 670 square feet (60 square meters). *Maximum occupancy of two*

**Suite Five** – Classic Italian décor lends this suite a warm ambiance with a modern touch. A secret back staircase leads to an upstairs small loft, whose single bed and sitting room make it an enchanting hideaway for a child, or a perfect private reading room for adults. (It is said that it was the room of the Palazzo's young maid, Palmetta, who had given her heart to the dashing Agostino Coppola.) The room also features a majestic ceiling with a hand-painted restored fresco, and spacious bathroom with a clawfoot bathtub and separate shower. A Juliette balcony faces the main street and town square, a perfect spot to enjoy coffee or tea. King-sized bed. 670 square feet (60 square meters). *Maximum occupancy of four people with additional twin bed*

**Suite Six** – This majestically proportioned suite pays tribute to Italian décor of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, combining simple elegance with bold ornament. A Juliette balcony opens onto the main street and leafy town square. The magnificent ceiling, with a restored, hand-painted fresco, and the spacious bathroom with clawfoot bathtub and separate shower add to the room's comfortable formality. King-sized bed. 590 square feet (55 square meters). *Maximum occupancy of three people with additional twin bed*

**Suite Seven (Roman)** – This Modernist-inspired suite was designed by Jacques Grange in collaboration with Roman Coppola. Its Art Deco furniture and lighting, elegant slate bathroom, and restored fresco of the same period lend an international flair. It includes a fully-furnished shared terrace for dining or relaxing outdoors as well as a Juliette balcony that opens to the beautiful courtyard below. A lavish bathroom includes a separate shower and clawfoot bathtub. King-sized bed. 465 square feet (45 square meters). *Maximum occupancy of two people*

**Suite Eight (Gia)** - This romantic suite features a subtle Rococo design with a delicate fresco on the ceiling representing Cupid and Psyche, symbolizing good fortune and happy harmony to lovers. It was commissioned at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century to celebrate the wedding of the daughter of Mr Margherita, and after the restoration, was gifted to Gia Coppola, Francis's first granddaughter precisely for its delicate and feminine decor. A large walk-in closet and separate dressing room add to the dramatic scale of the suite. A balcony offers a view of Bernalda's main street and town square, a perfect spot from which to enjoy the spectacle of unhurried, small-town life. A spacious bathroom includes a clawfoot bathtub and separate shower. King-sized bed. 780 square feet (70 square meters). *Maximum occupancy of three people with additional twin bed*

**Suite Nine (Francis)** - Integrating subtle elements of Tunisian design—a historical influence in Southern Italy—this picturesque suite has a fully-furnished shared terrace overlooking the garden and courtyard. The style is intended to honor Francis's Tunisian-born grandmother, Maria Zasa. A striking tiled fireplace and an anteroom with a large writing desk add to the regal splendor of this suite. A luxurious bathroom includes a clawfoot bathtub and separate shower. Walls and high ceilings feature beautifully restored painting and frescos. 800 square feet (75 square meters.) *Maximum occupancy of two people*

**AMENITIES & SERVICES:** Palazzo Margherita's dedicated staff is available to assist guests with any needs. On-property services and room amenities include:

- Room service
- Refrigerator with fully-stocked mini-bar
- State-of-the-art Loewe flat screen 3-D television
- BluRay DVD player
- Loewe iPod docking music station
- Fine Quagliotti linens
- Luxurious Santa Maria Novella bath products
- Extensive collection of Italian Cinema on the Palazzo's digital network
- Private garden filled with flowers, herbs and fruit trees
- Complimentary Wifi Internet connection
- Culinary cooking classes
- Swimming pool
- Complimentary use of bicycles

- Salon with movie screenings of professional quality, concerts or other events

## RESTAURANTS & BARS:

Dining at Palazzo Margherita is tailored to individual preference. Guests can enjoy traditional Southern Italian cooking or a delicious casual meal served in our eat-in kitchen, the Cinecittà Bar, the Salon, or beside the swimming pool. Romantic courtyard and garden dining as well as in-room service are also available throughout the day. Guests who dine with us are invited to join a cooking class during the day, in which our cooks will show how to make typical local pasta. Guests dine on handmade ceramics from the southern Italian village of Grottaglie.

**Eat-In Kitchen** - In the Palazzo's large, welcoming kitchen, guests can experience firsthand the traditional cooking of Basilicata (also known as LUCANIA). For keen cooks, our local chefs give daily demonstrations of how to prepare typical regional dishes. For everyone, the kitchen offers a cozy, social environment for sharing meals, meeting the cooks and enjoying authentic Southern Italian cooking.

**Cinecittà Bar** - At the front of the Palazzo, the Cinecittà Bar is a traditional café and pizzeria that spills out onto Bernalda's main street and looks onto the town square. It is a perfect spot for people-watching and mingling with the local life.

**Family Bar** - The Family Bar is an intimate private bar and dining room where guests can enjoy coffee or meals throughout the day, and pre-dinner cocktails and appetizers in the evenings.

**Pool Bar** - The Pool Bar is located in our garden and offers a selection of wine, cocktails and other beverages to enjoy while relaxing in the sun. Food from our main kitchen can also be ordered from here and delivered poolside.

**Salon/Screening Room** - Reminiscent of the famous Palazzo featured in the great Italian director Luchino Visconti's movie 'The Leopard', the opulent salon is during the day a place for reading, playing cards, enjoying afternoon tea and drinks; at night, it becomes a cinema, equipped with professional-quality sound and projection, and a vast database of movies, including Francis's personally-curated collection of Italian classics. The Salon will also host occasional concerts and other live performances.

## SPA SERVICES:

Luxury spa services can be arranged in-room including:

- Jet Lag Recovery massage
- Ayurvedic massage
- Energetic Anti-stress massage
- Relaxing massage

## TOURS & ACTIVITIES:

### Beaches

Within 15 minutes of the Palazzo, we have a special private area of a beach club close to the old pine forest, which extends along the cobalt-blue shores of the Ionian Sea, as this stretch of the Mediterranean is known. We can transport our Guests to this secluded beach with a free shuttle service (departure at 10:30 am in the morning and return at 4 pm to the Palazzo) where they can choose to book either an umbrella or a gazebo. In addition, we suggest either a picnic lunch (prepared by our chefs) or a characteristic lunch with fresh fish of the day, caught by local fishermen.

### **Sports & Outdoors**

Two eighteen-hole golf courses are less than a half-hour drive from the Palazzo. Tennis courts are also nearby. For hikers, the Pollino National Park, Italy's largest, offers spectacular mountain trails and wildlife an hour's drive from the Palazzo. Locally, we provide bicycles and itineraries for fitness and sightseeing tours.

### **Monuments & Museums**

From neolithic cave dwellings to the ancient Greek ruins outside Metaponto to the superb contemporary sculpture museum in Matera, Basilicata is home to a diverse array of cultural and historical attractions. Our concierge will suggest itineraries to match every interest (including anyone with a penchant for horror! The abandoned ghost town of Craco is a 40-minute drive away).

### **Local Towns and Villages**

Basilicata is home to many beautiful and historic towns. Just 40 minutes from Bernalda is the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Matera, where ancient cave dwellings, known as Sassi, have been reclaimed as picturesque churches, homes, museums and restaurants. Matera, recently named as the 2019 European Capital of Culture, is also home to MUSMA, the Museum of Contemporary Sculpture. Small mountain villages dot Basilicata's sculpted hills, offering an experience of life untouched by tourism. Just across the border in neighboring Puglia, the town of Grottaglie is famous for its ceramics.

### **Food & Wine**

Bernaldas's trattorias, along with those in neighboring towns, exemplify the hearty, seasonal cooking of Basilicata: the multi-course antipasti, home-made pastas, fresh produce, grilled meats, fish and seafood. Nearby agritourism welcome visitors to further explore the region's artisanal foods. Guest can visit and dine at an ancient Italian "masseria" or farmhouse. Also, trips can be made to local wineries, where delicious and full-bodied red wines are produced from the Aglianico grape, which thrives in the volcanic soils of Basilicata.

### **GETTING TO PALAZZO MARGHERITA:**

Guests may fly into Bari Airport, located one hour and twenty minutes from the property, or Brindisi Airport, located one hour and twenty minutes from the property. Bari Airport has connections to several airports in Italy and throughout Europe. Private charters can fly into the Taranto-Grottaglie Airport located in Grottaglie, Italy. Private transports are available upon request. Up to 9-seat jets can fly also into "E.Mattei" Pisticci Airport (15 minutes from the property – complimentary transfer from/to the hotel).

### **IMAGE DATABASE:**

<http://www.coppolaresorts.com/Account/LogOn?ReturnUrl=%2fpress%2fdownloads>  
Password: Shellphone93

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### **MEDIA CONTACTS:**

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