



PALAZZO MARGHERITA





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“The Palazzo Margherita for me is a dream come true. Its magical gardens, the family gathering in the magnificent salon for whatever purpose; celebrations, intimate teas or evening films. It is a painted palace, with frescos on its ceilings and walls, palatial rooms with countless details, modern in terms of its systems, music and cinema available like hot and cold running water; yet the patina of its epoch is preserved, and when the children are there, delight is everywhere.”

-Francis Ford Coppola



LOCATION

Palazzo Margherita is a luxury hotel in Italy situated in Bernalda, a small hilltop town near the Ionian Sea in the Basilicata region of Southern Italy. Located in the province of Matera, which is famous for its ancient cave dwellings, historic houses and unspoiled villages, Bernalda is relatively unknown to tourists. It is just twenty minutes from numerous pristine, white-sand beaches; one can choose between quiet seclusion or beach-club action and shoreside tavernas. While the nearby region of Puglia has become popular for sightseeing, Bernalda is one of a few beautiful towns where the food and wine have remained authentic and untouched by mass tourism. The townspeople welcome visitors with a genuine hospitality that makes every guest feel like a local.





## HISTORY

Palazzo Margherita, built in 1892 in Bernalda by the Margherita family, is a true 19th century palazzo. The town was the birthplace and home to Agostino Coppola, Francis Ford Coppola's grandfather, who always referred to it affectionately as "Bernalda bella." Francis purchased the Palazzo in

2004 with the desire to transform it into a small, luxurious Italy boutique hotel, believing it was time to introduce visitors to this stunning and still undiscovered region.



The surrounding countryside, which was settled by the Greeks before the Roman era, 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 called Sassi di Matera (meaning "stones of Matera"), a UNESCO World Heritage Site.







## DÉCOR

The Palazzo has been completely restored by Francis Coppola and acclaimed French designer Jacques Grange, creating a luxurious, authentically Italian experience that ushers guests into a private world of palatial comfort, surrounded by gardens, courtyard and swimming pool, all just steps from a small, bustling town in which the visitor is a friend and neighbor rather than a tourist.

Francis wanted the Palazzo to become a place that his children would want to visit again and again, and therefore invited the whole family to contribute ideas to the design. It is this very sense of family that distinguishes The Palazzo Margherita as one of the most charming small luxury hotels in Italy. The interior is styled with tiled floors as well as Moroccan and Baroque-inspired hand-painted fresco ceilings. Grange designed some of the exotic tiles and furniture, including one of the most beautiful suites, which is in a Tunisian style to honor Francis Coppola's Tunisian-born grandmother. All of the floors in the Palazzo have been restored from the original marble.







## PRIVATE GARDEN

One of the Palazzo's most magical features is its large private garden, fully enclosed and maintained with a focus on historic preservation. Built around a baroque fountain, the garden extends through a web of secret pathways, natural arbours, allées of fruit trees and fertile beds of herbs, citrus trees and organic vegetables, all of which supply our kitchen. For guests, the garden is a place to stroll and relax, and to enjoy meals throughout the day and evening.







## SWIMMING POOL

Hidden at the far end of the gardens, our swimming pool is a generously proportioned 10 metres by 5 metres and intended for family enjoyment, with bathrooms, showers, cabins for changing, and full bar and food service. Here, guests can take pleasure in a quintessentially Roman experience: swimming in a private pool within a walled garden in the heart of an Italian town.



## 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

Reminiscent of the film of the great Italian director Luchino Visconti, this opulent salon is a place for reading, playing cards, enjoying afternoon tea and drinks; upon request, 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 of our boutique hotel in Italy also hosts occasional concerts and other live performances.





# 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.





## 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 on request, hands-on classes demonstrating how to prepare typical regional dishes, handmade pasta and pizza.





## 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, mingling with the local life and sipping our delicious Italian coffee. Open daily for lunch and dinner.





# DINING AT PALAZZO MARGHERITA

Our kitchen is always open and meals are tailored to your 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.

Our breakfast is fresh, regional, varied and absolutely delicious.











Grigliata



Gazebo







Family style dinner in our courtyard





## BEACH CLUB

Within 15 minutes of the Palazzo, many miles of sandy beaches extend along the cobalt-blue shores of the Ionian Sea, where we have a special private area of a beach club close to the old pine forest.

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.





# ACCOMMODATIONS





# SUITE NINE

Francis

Integrating subtle elements of Tunisian design, a historical influence in Southern Italy, this picturesque suite has a fully-furnished 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 expansive foyer 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.













# SUITE FOUR

*Sofia*

Inspired by Sofia Coppola; the décor of this suite 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 with a clawfoot bathtub. French doors from the bathroom and bedroom lead to a fully-furnished private terrace.













# SUITE 7

Roman

This Modernist designed suite was inspired by Roman Coppola. Its Art Deco furniture, elegant slate bathroom, and restored Arts and Crafts fresco lend an international flair. The suite includes a fully-furnished shared terrace for dining or relaxing outdoors as well as a Juliette balcony that opens to the beautiful garden and courtyard below.









# SUITE EIGHT

Gia

This romantic suite was designed as a gift to Gia Coppola, Francis’s first granddaughter. Many years ago, when the Palazzo was still the private home of the Margherita family, the owner, Giuseppe asked local artisans to paint the ceiling with a romantic mythological scene of Cupid and Psyche in order to bestow good fortune and a happy marriage for his beloved daughter. It features a large walk-in closet, a separate dressing area and dining space, a balcony viewing the main street and town square. Additionally a spacious bathroom features a clawfoot bathtub and separate shower.









## SUITE SIX

This majestically proportioned suite pays tribute to Italian décor of the early 20th century, combining simple elegance with bold ornament. A Juliette balcony opens onto the main street and leafy town square of our Italy luxury resort. 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.



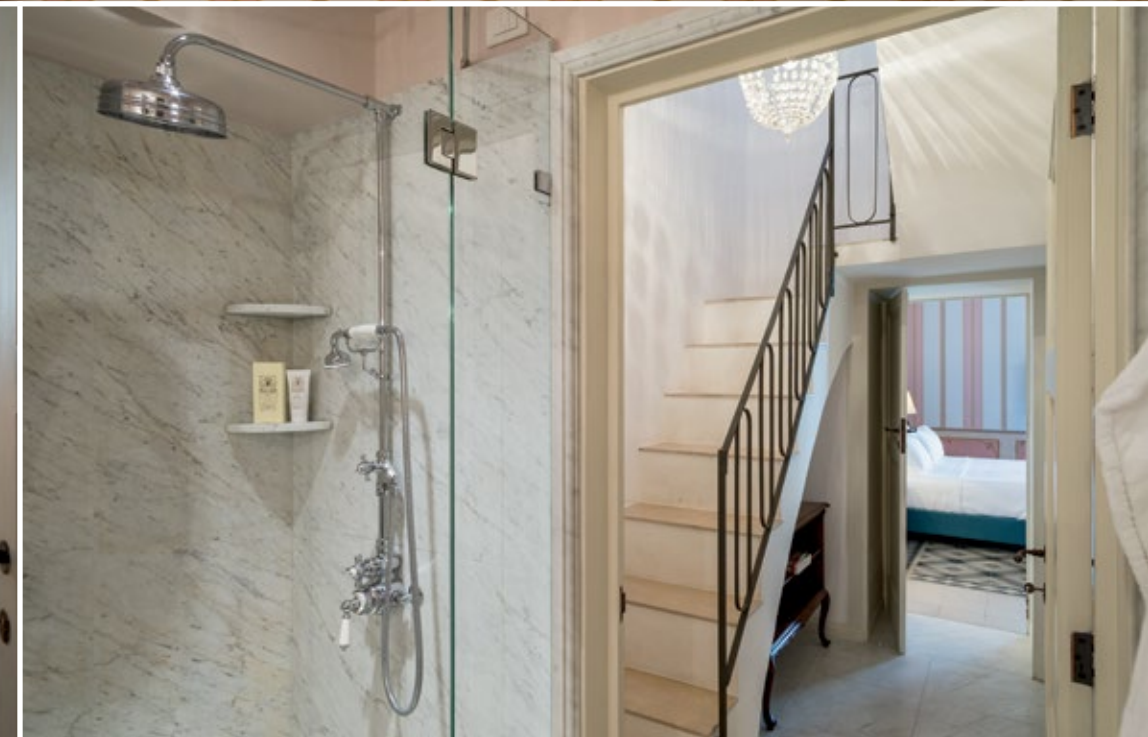


# SUITE FIVE

Classic Italian décor lends this suite a warm ambiance with a modern touch. A secret back staircase leads to an upstairs loft, whose single bed and sitting room make it an enchanting hideaway for a child, or a perfect private reading room for adults. 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.









## GARDEN SUITE ONE

This suite embodies the elegance of Italian country house style and opens directly onto the courtyard garden and fountain. Situated on the ground floor, it features a spacious, ensuite sitting room, a large bathroom with a clawfoot bathtub and separate glass shower among its many details.









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.





# GARDEN THREE

This charming room is located on the ground floor and embodies the simple elegance of Italian country house living, with grand, barn-like doors that open onto the inner courtyard creating a setting that is both sophisticated and rustic. A luxurious bathroom includes a clawfoot bathtub and separate glass shower.







*Matera at night*

## DISCOVER THE REGION

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.

Small mountain villages dot Basilicata's sculpted hills, offering an experience of life untouched by tourism, setting us apart from other Italy luxury hotels. 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.

Within twenty minutes of the Palazzo many miles of sandy beaches extend along the cobalt-blue shores of the Ionian Sea. Choose between quiet seclusion or beach club action.





Matera, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The ancient cave dwellings, known as “Sassi,” have been continuously inhabited since Paleolithic times.



Matera, the Crypt of the Original Sin. Scenes from the Old and New Testaments are depicted in a cycle of frescoes dating back to the 9th Century A.D.





“La Palomba” Sculpture Park

Abstract sculptures occupy a site on the ancient archeological grounds in Matera. Known as “La Palomba” Sculpture Park, the public garden sprawls over six hectares of an obsolete tufa stone quarry typical of the geological landscape in the area. At the origins of the sculptural park is the contemporary sculptor Antonio Paradiso



Craco

This medieval village dating back to the 11th century AD became a cultural and military center under the reign of Frederic II. It was permanently evacuated in 1963 and now is a fascinating Ghost Town to visit.





Metaponto  
Founded in the eighth century B.C.,  
Metaponto was an important city of  
Magna Grecia. Magna Hera Temple  
(6th century B.C)



Bernalda, the church of San Bernardino.



Patron Saint Festival of San Bernardino



Old Bernalda





Aliano is located on a clay spur in the Calanchi (Badlands) landscape. In this magical place you can visit Carlo Levi's house, a writer and painter who was exiled here during the fascist period.  
Today Aliano is a Literary Park where many activities take place all year round.



The Calanchi (Badlands), a nature reserve in Montalbano Ionico.



The Monticchio lakes and Abbey of St. Michael (967 A.D.) are in a Regional Preserve, situated at the foot of Mt. Vulture, on the slopes of an ancient volcano crater.



Vulture of Frederick II Castles and archeological museums.





Pollino National Park

It is the national park in southern Italy that straddles the regions of Basilicata and Calabria. It is Italy's largest national park.



Lucanian Dolomite Regional Park

Castelmezzano is a village that is built within rocks, as its people adapted to the surrounding nature.





Martina Franca, a beautiful baroque town.



The Adriatic Coast with the fishing villages of Apulia.



Valle D'Itria, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The traditional and enchanting stone huts with conical roofs are known as "Trulli."



Locorotondo is built on a circular plan. The beauty of the historical center is represented by its labyrinth of white alleys.





#### Masseria Fortificata Experience

This is a traditional “fortified” masseria.

For hundreds of years, these types of farms were built to withstand attacks by roving bandits.

It is a unique opportunity to share a typical day with the local farmhands, help them to produce typical cheeses or focaccia and conclude with an informal lunch or candlelit dinner with the owners.







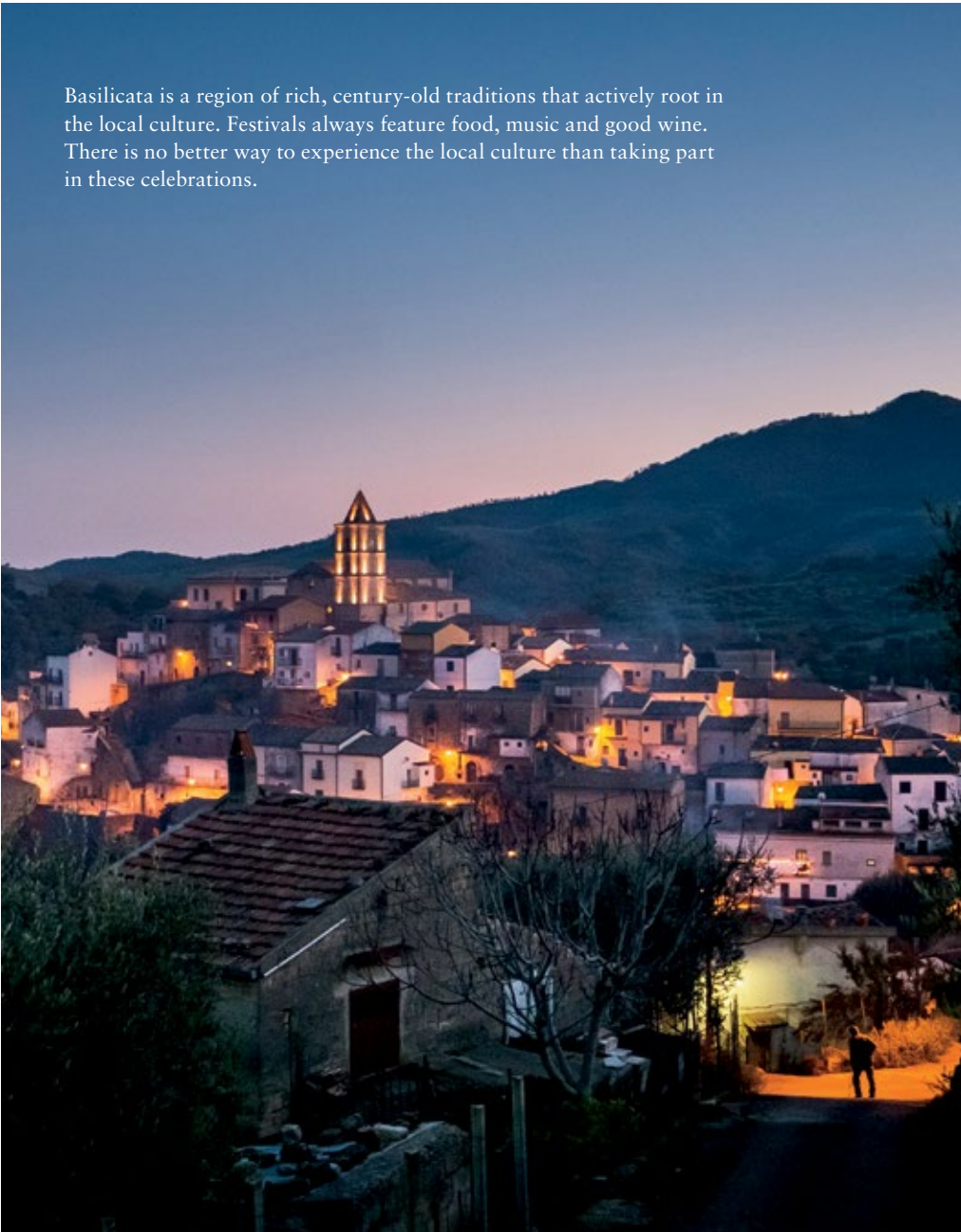
Granted private access to an area of the Park of the Ravines, walk through this distinctive landscape and conclusive candlelit dinner surrounded by this outstanding scenery.



Experience a traditional family dinner in the beautiful grounds which extend before an ancient masseria and winery immersed in the bucolic setting of fertile vineyards.







Basilicata is a region of rich, century-old traditions that actively root in the local culture. Festivals always feature food, music and good wine. There is no better way to experience the local culture than taking part in these celebrations.



Olive harvest and olive oil tasting



Cheese making experience in a local family cheese production



Oliveto Lucano, "La notte dei forni"



A unique tour and tasting in the Vulture area, visiting the historic cellars dug by Franciscan monks in the 14th century.



Traditional and artistic artisanal ceramics produced in the nearby town of Grottaglie



Upon request, master tailor Angelo Inglese can personalize suits and shirts in just a few days.







