



The Trulli Houses of Apulia

Dotted about the Apulian countryside on the heel of Italy, you'll get used to seeing odd-looking farm buildings with conical roofs which look a bit like miniature oast houses. Some are in disrepair while others have been restored and painted brilliant white. But nothing prepares you for the astonishing scene that awaits you in the town of Alberobello.

The buildings in question are 'Trulli' - ancient dry stone huts which probably first started to appear in the region in pre-historic times. Used as both houses and outbuildings, the single room structures could be extended by building another one on the side with a connecting hole through the walls. This idea has been taken to an unbelievable level in the amazing 16th century Monti district of Alberobello where over a thousand Trulli are packed into its little lanes and streets.

You can marvel at the UNESCO-listed Trulli houses of Alberobello on an eight holiday which includes visits to no less than four other UNESCO World Heritage sites, all very different in character - the ancient stone 'sassi' houses of the Matera ravines, the Swabian castle of Castel del Monte, the Santa Sofia church in Benevento, and the Royal Palace at Caserta.

## Apulia & Royal Caserta

**Departs September 1 & October 2 2017**

**8 days from £889**

**Flying from Stansted**

**Price Includes:**

- Return direct flights from Stansted
- 7 nights hotel HB accommodation (3 Caserta & 4 Barletta)
- Walking tour of Caserta and entrance to the Royal Palace
- Excursion to Trani and Castel del Monte
- Visits to Alberobello, Matera and Benevento
- Services of a tour representative



## The Cinque Terre, Portofino & the Italian Lakes

**Departs September 19 2017**

**8 days from £949**

**Flying from Southend & Stansted**

**Price Includes:**

- Return direct flights from Southend & Stansted
- 7 nights HB accommodation (3 on Lake Maggiore, 4 in Santa Margherita Ligure)
- Train ride on the Three Valleys Railway
- Visits to the Cinque Terre, Portofino and Pavia
- Services of a tour representative

Nowhere in the world do the cliffs plunge more spectacularly into the sea than in Italy's Cinque Terre. The Cinque Terre is a stretch of coastline comprising five villages on the Ligurian Sea south of Genoa. The cliff sides are covered in vine and olive terraces. There's no road as such so villagers still use boats, footpaths and, since the 1920's, the train to get from one to another.

The arrival of the train changed the lives of the youngsters of Riomaggiore and Manarola. A 1km footpath was cut into the cliffs for the navies building the rail tunnel. Before that, young lovers from the two villages would have to use a boat or a mountainous mule path to see each other. Since then, they can use the path now called Via della Amore - or Lovers' Lane.

You can have a great day hopping on and off the train along the Cinque Terre during a seven night holiday with flights from your local airport. Not only that, you'll enjoy four nights half-board in Santa Margherita Ligure on the coast and three nights half-board in Stresa on Lake Maggiore. While you're in Santa Margherita you have a boat trip to the millionaires' haunt of Portofino. In Stresa, you have a free day to enjoy the lake. Travelling between the two, you visit the old port city of Genoa and the wonderful renaissance monastery of La Certosa near Pavia.



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