



ITINERARI ARCHEOLOGICI IN PROVINCIA DI FOGGIA



www.gtours.it



www.apuliareport.it

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TOUR IN THE DAUNIA SUBAPENNINE MOUNTAINS

Sponsored by:

PROMODAUNIA

In collaboration with:

UNIVERSITA' DI FOGGIA

Texts of Anna Inprota and Marida Pierno (ArcheoLogica)

TECHNICAL ORGANIZATION:

GTOURS Tour Operator

Via Piave 10 – Foggia – 71121 – ITALY

Phone: +39 (0)881 313333

Fax: + 39 (0)881 313330

Mail: commerciale@gtours.it

Casalnuovo Monterotaro – Celenza Val Fortore – Pietra Monte Corvino – Motta Montecorvino - Volturino

4 days - 3 nights

1st day Thursday

Tour participants are picked up from the airport or from the railway station in Foggia. Then they are transferred by bus to one of the hotels in the area of Lucera, where the welcome cocktail is served. Dinner and overnight stay.

2nd day Friday

Casalnuovo Monterotaro – Celenza Val Fortore

Breakfast in the hotel and departure.

Casalnuovo Monterotaro:

It is not easy to define exactly the origins of the small town Casalnuovo Monterotaro, which is situated in the province of Foggia. It is probable that the first communities settled down in this area, on the slopes and on the top of the hill Monterotaro, which is about 5 km from the present town centre, around the 9th and the 10th century. Some historical documents describe the history of this borough and underline the importance of a feudatory Riccardo da Malta, who was the owner of this land in 1250 and whose name was well known as Mons Rotarus (the Round Mountain). The strong growth of the town was made possible thanks to different migration flows of the Italian

population towards the south as well as those of the Albanians, who were searching for a better life. Arriving men laid the basis for the future development of the town "Casalis Novus" between the 15th and the 16th century.

Lunch in the restaurant.

Celenza Val Fortore

Celenza Valfortore has got a very favourable location as it is situated on the border between Apulia and Molise, on the hills of the Subapennine Mountains as well as in the Fortore Valley. The town overlooks the artificial lake Occhito and it bears evidence of the ancient routes and paths where migrations of sheep and cows took place. The origins of this old town, which was once called Celenna, seem to date back to ancient times. It is believed that the first settlements were established by the Greeks and the town was founded by Diomedes in the district of Valva, which still exists. Celenza Val Tortore played the main role during the Sabellian wars against Romans, who destroyed the town. As a consequence of such events, the population decided to settle down on the hill where the present town is located. They rebuilt their dwellings and their called the new settlement "Celentia ad Valvam". In the Byzantine Period, the name was changed and it became "Celentia in Capitanata".

There were many feudatories who ruled the area under domination of the Suebi and continued their control until the rise of the Parthenopean Republic. One of the most influential noble families was the one coming from Pisa, Gambacorta, whose members were dedicated to the reconstruction and renovation of the monuments and religious buildings, which were destroyed during the earthquake in 1456.

Return to the hotel. Dinner and overnight stay.

3rd day Saturday Pietra Monte Corvino – MottaMontecorvino - Volturino

Breakfast in the hotel and departure.

Pietra Monte Corvino

The origins of Pietramontecorvino should be analysed together with the history of an ancient borough Montecorvino, as they have always had linked destinies. In the middle of the 15th century, there were many terrible battles between the Angevin and Aragonese troops which fought for the throne of Naples. The battles destroyed Montecorvino and the inhabitants looked for a safer place to live in. Some of them, farmers and shepherds, settled down in Pietra, inside caves which laid a firm basis for development of the present town Pietramontecorvino. Throughout the years, the centre of the town grew up and it was enlarged. The original architecture of its buildings is highly estimated and appreciated by the experts, who gave it a prestigious award for being one of the most beautiful villages in Italy.

Lunch in the restaurant.

Motta Montecorvino

The small town is surrounded by the hills and mountains of the Daunian Subapennine and it offers one of the most beautiful panoramic views on the area as it overlooks the Monte Sambuco. The uncontaminated environment and a rich natural heritage make it a perfect place for those who search for active

holidays as well as for those, who are interested in discovering traditions and customs of this territory. In fact, the origins of Motta Montecorvino date back to the ancient times. The architecture of the buildings give evidence of the development of the town. It was founded as a consequence of destruction of the village Montecorvino, which was attacked by the Normans in 1137. The population, which ran away, settled down in the area and founded Motta Montecorvino. At the beginning of the 15th century, the town had a very solid fortification, which was destroyed together with other buildings and precious works of art during the earthquake in 1456. In the next centuries, the growth of the town was fast but in the 19th century, the population was decimated because of the infection with the cholera virus. During the Second World War, Motta Montecorvino was invaded by Germans. Even though the town experienced many negative events, it is still considered one of the most dynamic villages in the area.

Volturino

The town's name originates from "volturnus", which is a Latin name describing the cool foehn wind which caresses the old town of Volturino all year round. Its favourable location, on the top of the hill, offers a splendid panoramic view on the Tavoliere beneath. Sometimes, on sunny days, it is even possible to see the Gulf of Manfredonia. The origins of the town date back to the Roman era but it was only in the 15th century that the development of Volturino's centre was made possible by the arrival of the inhabitants of Montecorvino, who were searching for a place to live after the cruel battles between the Angevins and the Aragonese. Today Volturino is a beautiful medieval town where tourists can breathe fresh air, drink pure spring water and enjoy delicious local dishes.

Return to the hotel. Dinner and overnight stay.

4th day Sunday return

Breakfast in the hotel. Participants are taken to the airport or to the railway station in Foggia. The end of all services.

- Individual participation without bus transport € 190,00
- Individual participation with bus transport € 245,00
- Single room supplement: € 45,00

1 person free in a single room for every 25 paying persons

PRICE INCLUDES

- Accommodation in a 3*/4* hotel for 3 nights
- HB (breakfast and dinner)
- 2 x lunch in selected restaurants
- ¼ l of wine + ½ l of mineral water for each meal
- Welcome cocktail
- Tourist guide during excursions
- Bus service (on request)
- Taxes and provision for the services

PRICES DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Extra drinks
- Admission fee
- Tips in restaurants
- Everything which is not mentioned in "PRICE INCLUDES"

- N.B. Offer is valid for a group of min. 25 paying persons.