



VILLA DEL MAGO

Galatone

Accommodates (max)	10
Bedrooms	5
Bathrooms	3



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In silence, amid the four winds, this building has dominated for more than six centuries the enormous expanse with vineyards and centuries-old olive trees.

Villa del Mago was built in the **15th century** as a fortified tower to protect itself from attacks from the sea. In the 17th century, the **Tafuri barons**, who no longer needed protection, transformed the tower into a magnificent **manor house**, a masterpiece of **Baroque architecture**.

It is a medieval tower that has been transformed in time into a noble villa, enriching the construction with numerous baroque decorations. On the façade, in fact, decorations and capitals carved in the local *carparo* stone were added and the interior was enriched with various decors, frescoes, vaults, arches and noble emblems of the family. On the other hand, the small doors in the interior of the building are evidence of the construction dating back to the Middle Ages.

Finally, on the outside, a charming **citrus grove**, decorated with columns, has been created.

NEARBY

Only a few minutes from the crystal-clear sea, the property offers the possibility to quickly reach the **Ionian coast** and its famous white sandy beaches. The villa is located among the three baroque towns of **Galatone**, **Galatina** and **Nardò**, rich in history, where countless historical residences, palaces and *masserie* are concentrated, allowing for cultural outings just a few steps away. The country roads between the stonewalls all around the property are ideal for cycling to the sea or in the direction of Galatina.

MAIN DISTANCES

25 km from Lecce station

73 km from Brindisi airport

188 km from Bari airport



ABOUT THE VILLA

The villa covers two levels, with all community spaces on the ground floor.

The **living room**, dining table, and kitchen are tucked together in one area, with a **fireplace**. The 8-seater dining table sits within the large **kitchen**, with a long stretch of countertops against the wall and enough circulation space for group cooking.

The open kitchen is fully equipped with an oven, dishwasher, microwave, fridge and freezer, stove, coffee maker, espresso machine, blender, and induction cooker, as well as utensils and tableware.

Guests are accommodated in **4 bedrooms in the villa**, two on each floor, with double beds. There are **two bathrooms**, one on each floor, stocked with **homemade soaps**. The one on the ground floor has a shower and the one above has a bathtub.

The **outbuilding** with **1 bedroom and 1 bathroom** can accommodate other 2 guests.

AMENITIES

Air conditioning

Heating

Wi-fi

Security system

Swimming pool 4x12 m (open May-Sep)

Old bread oven

Small wooden house for children

Parking lots

Barbecue

Welcome basket and handmade soap

Linen and bedsheets

Towels and toiletries

Final cleaning

Weekly change of bed linen and kitchen and pool towels



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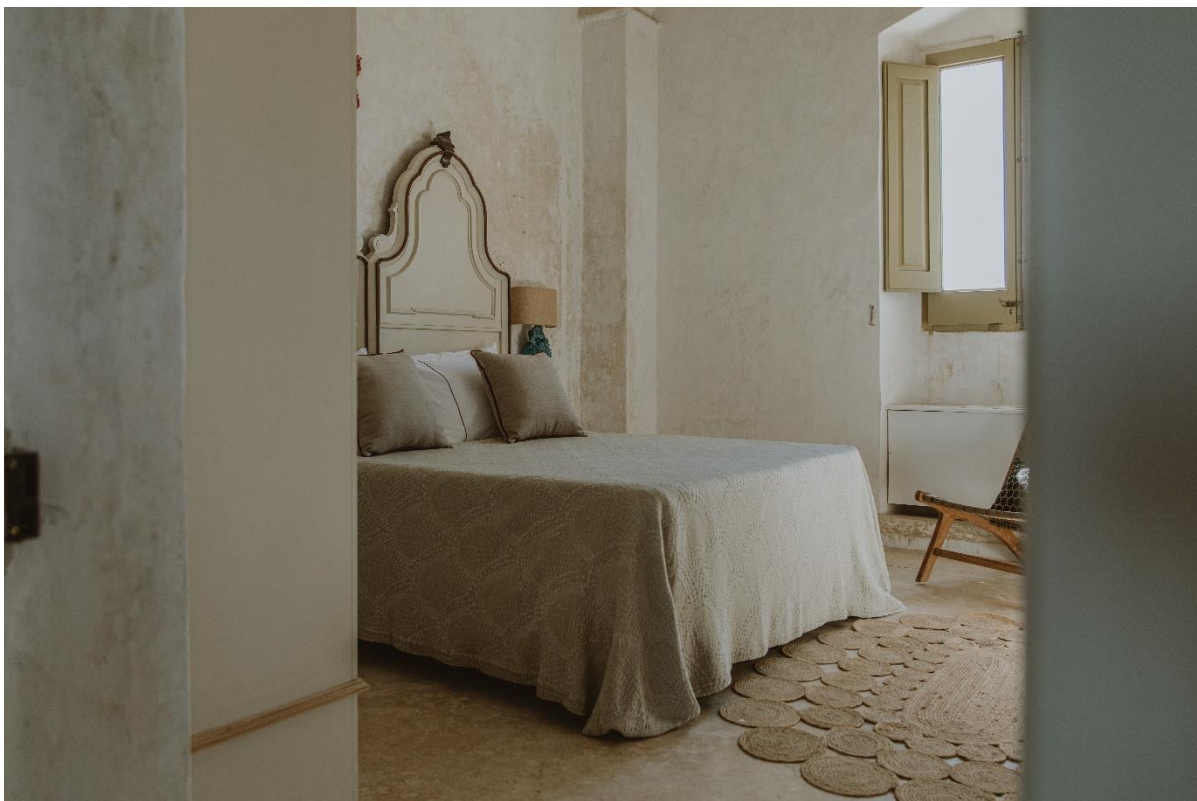


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RECOMMENDED EXPERIENCES

1. Bike & Cooking in Gallipoli
2. Gallipoli between land & sea
3. Porto Selvaggio, nature & prehistory



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1. BIKE & COOKING IN GALLIPOLI (BICYCLE EXCURSION + COOKING CLASS)

- DEPARTURE POINT: Gallipoli old town – DURATION: full day
- TRAVEL DISTANCE: approximately 30 km – DIFFICULTY: easy

ITINERARY

It starts in the morning from the village of **Gallipoli**, a fishing town located in southern Puglia, overlooking the Ionian Sea. In a few kilometers we reach **Alezio** (ancient Messapian city, where there is an interesting museum on pre-Roman civilizations) and then **Sannicola**. Cycling on secondary country roads, among olive trees and dry-stone walls, we reach "**Tenuta mamma Anna**" - a family-run "agritourism" where cooking class takes place.

The products are harvested directly from the family garden and then move on to the preparation: "pitta di patate" (a kind of potato gateau, with a stuffing of tomatoes, olives, capers, onion and tuna), "pittule" (some fried dough balls), filled with tomatoes and capers, or empty to taste with honey), **hand-made orecchiette** (a typical local pasta, shaped like an ear, prepared with fingers and a knife), "pasticciotto cake" (a cake made with shortcrust pastry, filled with chantilly cream); these are some of the dishes that we prepare.

Following family lunch. On the way back we have the possibility to visit the baroque city of Galatone and the "radio museum" of Tuglie. The route is easy and suitable for everyone.

2. GALLIPOLI BETWEEN LAND & SEA

- DEPARTURE POINT: Station of Gallipoli – DURATION: full day
- TRAVEL DISTANCE: approximately 35 km – DIFFICULTY: average/easy

ITINERARY:

Gallipoli and its inland still retain traces of the wealth that the lamp oil trade generated for centuries. First stop is at Alezio to visit the **Messapic Museum**, then we go on to Tuglie for the amazing **Radio Museum** (all the items, including telegraphs, are still in working order!) or for the **Museum of Rural Life**.



Heading back toward the coast, in the **Porto Selvaggio Natural Park** we have a picnic lunch in the shade of the pine forest and, for those who feel like it, a refreshing swim in the cool spring waters. Return to Gallipoli by sunset.

3. PORTO SELVAGGIO, NATURE & PREHISTORY (HIKING)

- DEPARTURE POINT: Santa Caterina (Nardò) – DURATION: half day(4h)
- TRAVEL DISTANCE: 10 km – DIFFICULTY: easy

ITINERARY:

The route of this hike covers the Natural Park of Porto Selvaggio, one of the most charming coastal areas of Salento.

We start out by visiting the **Torre dall'Alto** – also called Tower of the Damned – and we walk in the pine forest, between the **macchia mediterranea** (a particular type of shrubland), up to **Uluzzo Tower**. Here are some of the most important caves in Europe: Neanderthal settlements that have given their name to a prehistoric period, the “Uluzziano age”. Passing along wide paths, we reach the beach of Porto Selvaggio and then the **Cave of Capelvenere**, where, according to legend, Cupid was born, before finally returning to our departure point.



OTHER EXPERIENCES

BIKING:

Otranto, balcony of the East

Lecce & its seaside

Lecce & its countryside

The Grecìa Salentina

Cycling to the end of the world: Leuca

Lecce between art & taste

HIKING & WALKING:

Cipolliane trek

Otranto, balcony of the East

Street food tour in Lecce

AND MORE:

Rikshaw tour

Sailing trips

Horse Riding

Kayak

Diving

Lecce between art & taste