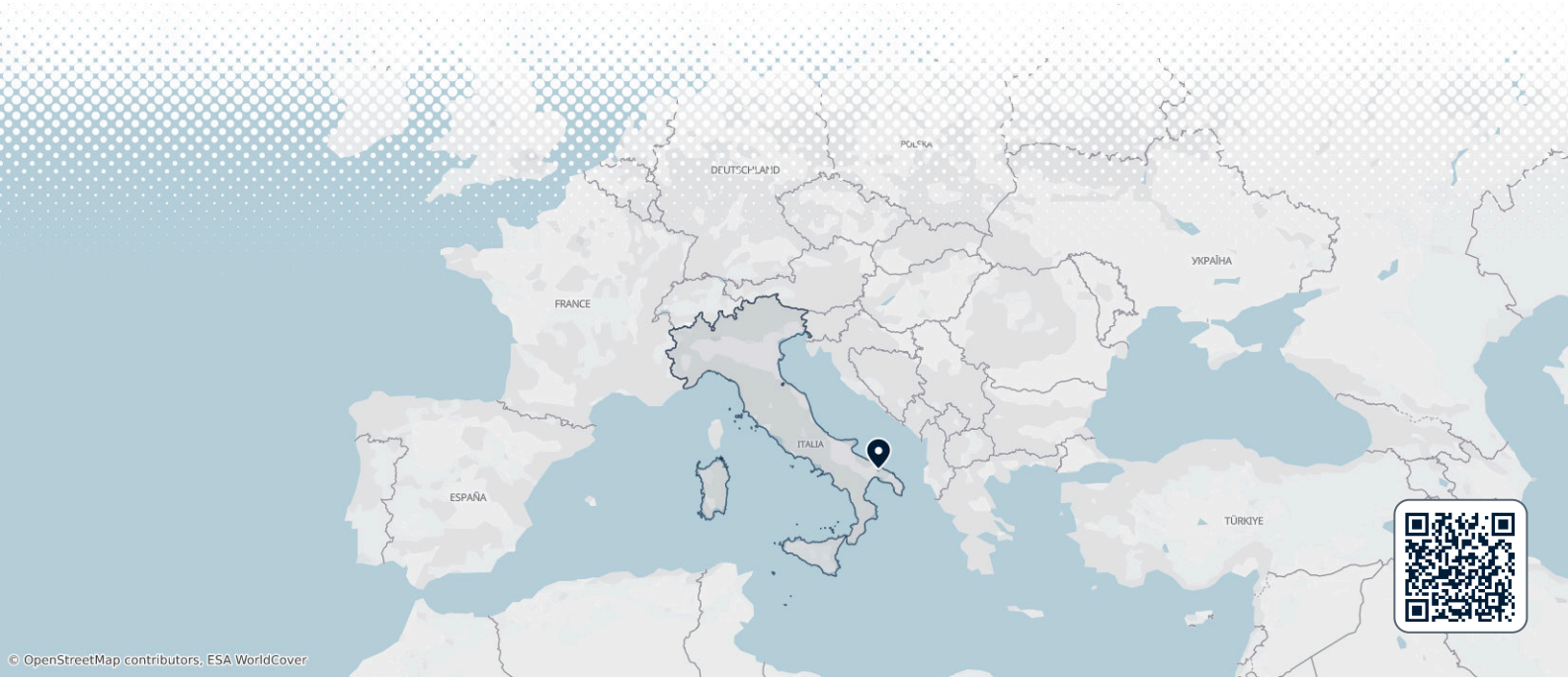


Alberobello

Apulia · Italy

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Alberobello is a small hill town in the Itria Valley of Apulia, famous for its *trulli*. These are white stone houses with cone-shaped grey roofs, built without mortar. Alberobello has more of them than anywhere else, and two whole districts are still made up of trulli. Together they form a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The town is busy with day-trippers from late morning to late afternoon, especially in summer. Early mornings and evenings are much calmer. One night is enough for the town itself, but it is also a good base for the Itria Valley, with Polignano a Mare, Ostuni and Matera within easy reach by car. Many visitors stay in a restored trullo, which is part of the experience.

When to visit

Late spring and early autumn are the best times, with warm days and fewer crowds than in summer. July and August are hot and very busy, and the stone lanes get hot at midday. Winter is cool and often rainy, but quiet. Many shops and restaurants stay open all year.

The biggest event is the **Feast of Saints Cosmas and Damian**, the town's patron saints, in late September. Pilgrims arrive on foot from nearby towns during the night, statues are carried in procession, and the main street is lit with festive lights. The feast ends with a fireworks competition.

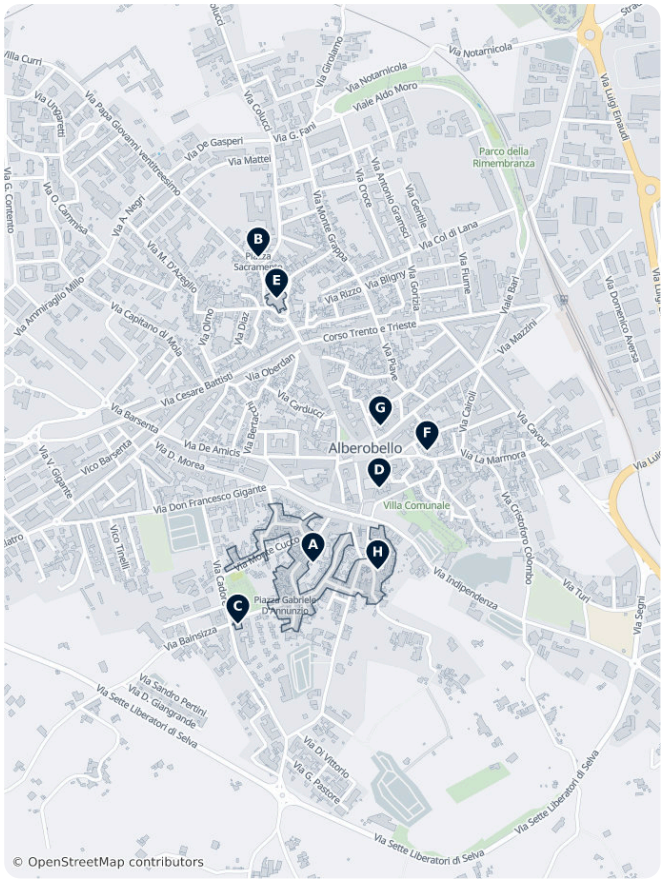
MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Fair Fair for cycling	10° / 13° Feels like 5°	8° / 4°	Dry air
February	Fair Fair for cycling	10° / 13° Feels like 5°	8° / 4°	Dry air
March	Fair Fair for cycling	12° / 15° Feels like 7°	9° / 5°	Dry air
April	Good Good for cycling	14° / 18° Feels like 10°	11° / 8°	Dry air
May	Great Great for cycling	18° / 22°	15° / 12°	Dry air
June	Great Great for sightseeing	22° / 27°	19° / 15°	22 sunny days
July	Great Great for sightseeing	25° / 29°	22° / 19°	27 sunny days · Humid air · UV 8 (Very high)
August	Great Great for sightseeing	25° / 29°	22° / 20°	25 sunny days · Humid air
September	Great Great for sightseeing	22° / 26°	19° / 16°	
October	Great Great for cycling	18° / 22°	16° / 12°	Dry air
November	Good Good for cycling	15° / 18° Feels like 11°	12° / 8°	12 rainy days · Dry air
December	Fair Fair for cycling	11° / 15° Feels like 6°	9° / 5°	13 rainy days · Dry air

Best months: May, June, July, August, September

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights

Everything in Alberobello is within walking distance, and most sights are in or around the two trulli districts.



- The A Trulli are the reason to come. The largest group is in the Rione Monti district, where about a thousand trulli line steep lanes on the hillside. Many now house shops, cafés and guesthouses. Across the main road, the smaller Aia Piccola district is quieter and still mostly residential.
- B Trullo Sovrano is the only trullo in town with two floors. It dates from the 18th century and is now a small house museum with period furniture.
- C Chiesa Sant'Antonio stands at the top of Rione Monti. Built in the 1920s, it is a full-size church in trullo style, with a cone-shaped dome.
- D Belvedere Santa Lucia is a viewpoint by the church of Santa Lucia. It gives the classic view over the rooftops of Rione Monti.
- E Basilica minore dei Santi Cosma e Damiano is the town's main church, with a 19th-century façade and twin bell towers. It holds relics of the patron saints.
- F Museo Casa Pezzolla is a local museum set in about 15 connected trulli. It shows how people lived and farmed in the Itria Valley.
- G Casa d'Amore looks like an ordinary house, but it was the first building in town made with mortar, in 1797.
- H Trullo Siamese is a double trullo with two cones and two doors. A local legend says two brothers who loved the same woman split the house between them.

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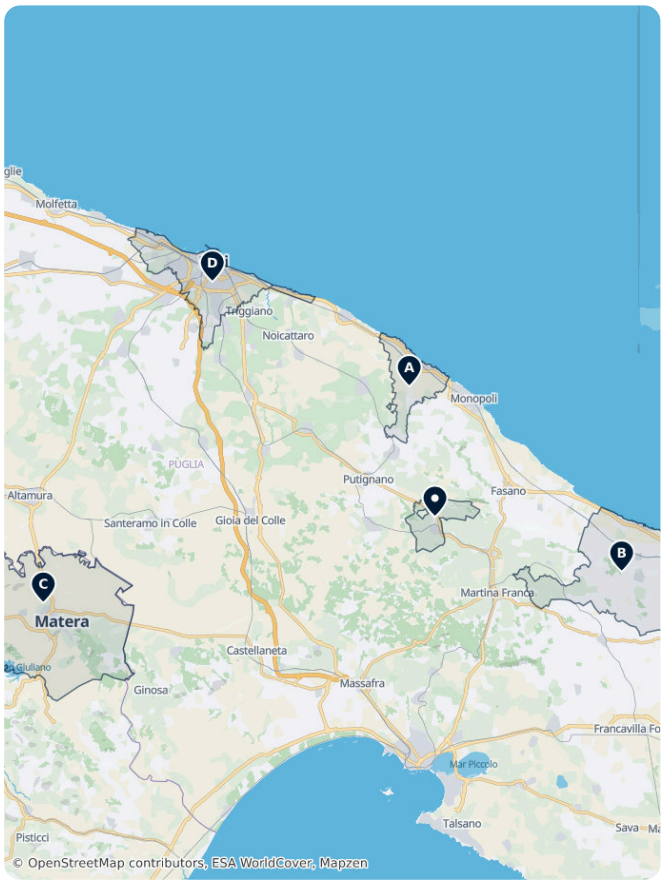
What to experience

Alberobello is about more than looking at the trulli from the outside.

- **Sleep in a trullo**: many trulli are rented out as guesthouses and holiday homes. Spending a night in one is the best way to feel how cool the thick stone walls stay in summer.
- **Look for the roof symbols**: many cones carry white symbols painted in lime, such as crosses, hearts and astrological signs. The stone tips on top of the roofs, called *pinnacoli*, also come in different shapes.
- **Watch the sunset over Rione Monti**: in the evening, after most day-trippers leave, the Belvedere Santa Lucia viewpoint is quiet and the light turns the roofs golden.
- **Cycle through the Itria Valley**: ride along country lanes between vineyards, olive groves, old stone walls and scattered trulli in the fields.

Day trips

The Itria Valley around Alberobello is full of small white towns, vineyards and old farmhouses. A car makes it easy to combine several in one day.



- **Locorotondo** (≈15 min by car or train): a round hilltop old town with white houses and views over the valley. It is known for its dry white wine.
- **Martina Franca** (≈20–25 min by car or train): an elegant town of Baroque churches and palaces. An opera festival takes place here every summer.
- **Castellana Caves** (≈20–25 min by car): a large system of show caves, with guided tours through long halls of stalactites.
- **Cisternino** (≈30 min by car): a small, whitewashed hill town. Its butcher shops grill meat to order in the evening.
- Ⓐ Polignano a Mare (≈35 min by car): a seaside town on limestone cliffs, with a famous small beach in a narrow cove.
- Ⓑ Ostuni (≈45 min by car): the "white town", a maze of white lanes on a hill above olive groves.
- Ⓒ Matera (≈1–1.5 hours by car): the ancient cave districts called the *Sassi*, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Ⓓ Bari (≈1.5–2 hours by train): Apulia's capital, with a lively old town and the Basilica of Saint Nicholas.

Where to explore

Alberobello is in the middle of Apulia, between the Adriatic coast and the Itria Valley.

- **Nearby coast and hill towns**: Polignano a Mare and Ostuni are both less than an hour away. Matera lies just across the border in Basilicata.
- **Cities**: Bari is the regional capital and main gateway. Trani has a cathedral right by the sea. To the south are Brindisi, the Province of Taranto and the Baroque Lecce Province.
- **The Gargano in the north**: the seaside towns of Vieste and Peschici, and the Isole Tremiti offshore.

Getting there

- **By air**: the nearest airport is Bari Karol Wojtyła Airport, about 70 km away (≈1 hour by car). Brindisi Airport is a similar distance to the south. By public transport from Bari airport, take the train to Bari Centrale and change there.
- **By train**: Alberobello is on the Ferrovie del Sud Est line from Bari to Martina Franca. Trains leave from the separate FSE station at Bari Centrale and take about 1.5 to 2 hours. Services are less frequent on Sundays and holidays, so check the timetable before you travel. FS Sud Est
- **By bus**: the Trulli Link bus runs from the bus terminal at Bari Centrale to Alberobello. You can buy a combined train and bus ticket from Trenitalia. Trulli Link (Trenitalia)
- **By car**: the drive from Bari takes about 1 hour.

Getting around

- **On foot**: the centre is small, and you can walk between all the sights in a few minutes. Rione Monti is on a slope with some steep lanes and steps, so wear comfortable shoes.
- **Public transport**: there is no need for local buses within town. The train station is about 10 minutes' walk from the trulli districts. Buy FSE train tickets at the station or online before boarding. FS Sud Est
- **Taxis**: there are only a few local taxis. Book through your accommodation, especially for early trains or the airport.
- **Cycling**: the town itself is hilly, but the quiet country roads of the Itria Valley are popular for cycling, and bikes and e-bikes can be rented locally.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The trulli districts and the centre are compact and walkable, though Rione Monti has some steep lanes and steps.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

The town is hilly, but the quiet country lanes of the Itria Valley are popular for cycling.

Driving

- **Do you need a car?** Not for the town itself, which is small and walkable. A car is the best way to explore the Itria Valley, since trains and buses between the villages are infrequent.
- **Parking**: use the paid car parks around the edge of the trulli area. Expect about 2 € per hour or a fixed day rate. Pay at the meters with coins or a card, or with apps such as EasyPark. Free parking near the centre is rare.
- **Restrictions**: the narrow lanes of Rione Monti and Aia Piccola are not for cars. Parking on the main street, Corso Vittorio Emanuele, is banned in the evening.

Food & drink

The food here is simple Apulian country cooking. Try *orecchiette* pasta with turnip greens, fava bean purée with chicory, and local cheeses such as *burrata*. The Itria Valley is known for *capocollo*, a cured pork neck from nearby Martina Franca, and *bombette*, small rolls of pork stuffed with cheese and grilled. Locorotondo white wine and red Primitivo are the local wines.

Most restaurants in Rione Monti cater to day-trippers. For a more relaxed meal, look around Piazza del Popolo and the streets of Aia Piccola, or eat in the evening when the town is quieter. Many restaurants in the area are set inside trulli or old farmhouses called *masserie*.

What to eat & drink

LUNCH

Pizza Margherita
Thin-crust pizza topped with tomato, mozzarella, and basil, invented in Naples and still best there.

DINNER

Spaghetti alla Carbonara
Pasta with egg, cured pork cheek (guanciale), pecorino cheese, and black pepper, a Roman classic.

Risotto alla Milanese
Creamy saffron-infused rice dish from Milan, often served alongside braised veal shank.

Lasagna · Lasagne al Forno
Layered baked pasta with ragu, bechamel, and cheese, a staple of Emilia-Romagna cooking.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Prosciutto and Cheese · Prosciutto e Formaggio
Cured ham paired with regional cheeses, a common antipasto plate found nationwide.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Gelato
Dense, slow-churned Italian ice cream, traditionally lower in fat and air than American-style ice cream.

Tiramisu · Tiramisù
Layered dessert of coffee-soaked ladyfingers and mascarpone cream, dusted with cocoa.

DRINKS

Espresso · Caffè
A short, strong shot of coffee drunk quickly, usually standing at a bar counter.

Wine · Vino
Italy is one of the world's largest wine producers, with regional styles from Piedmont's Barolo to Tuscany's Chianti.

Aperol Spritz
A bittersweet orange aperitif mixed with prosecco and soda water, a staple of the early-evening aperitivo.

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Safety & health

Alberobello is very safe, and serious crime against visitors is rare. The main nuisance is crowds in Rione Monti at midday, so keep an eye on bags in busy lanes.

Some shop owners invite you inside or onto a terrace for a view of the roofs. This is usually friendly, but they may hope you buy something. It is fine to say no politely. Many trulli are private homes, so do not enter courtyards or climb onto roofs uninvited.

In summer, carry water and a hat, because there is little shade in the trulli districts.

History

Alberobello grew from a forest settlement in the 16th and 17th centuries, on land owned by the Acquaviva family, the counts of Conversano. The counts made the peasants build their houses from dry stone, without mortar. Tradition says this let the houses be taken down quickly, so the counts could avoid taxes to the Kingdom of Naples on new towns.

In 1797 King *Ferdinand IV* of Bourbon made Alberobello a royal town and freed it from the counts' rule. People could now build with mortar, and Casa d'Amore was the first house built this way. The trulli remained the town's typical homes, and the Trulli became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1996.

The patron saints, Cosmas and Damian, have been honoured here since the 17th century. Their relics are kept in Basilica minore dei Santi Cosma e Damiano.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Italy at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR €

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY

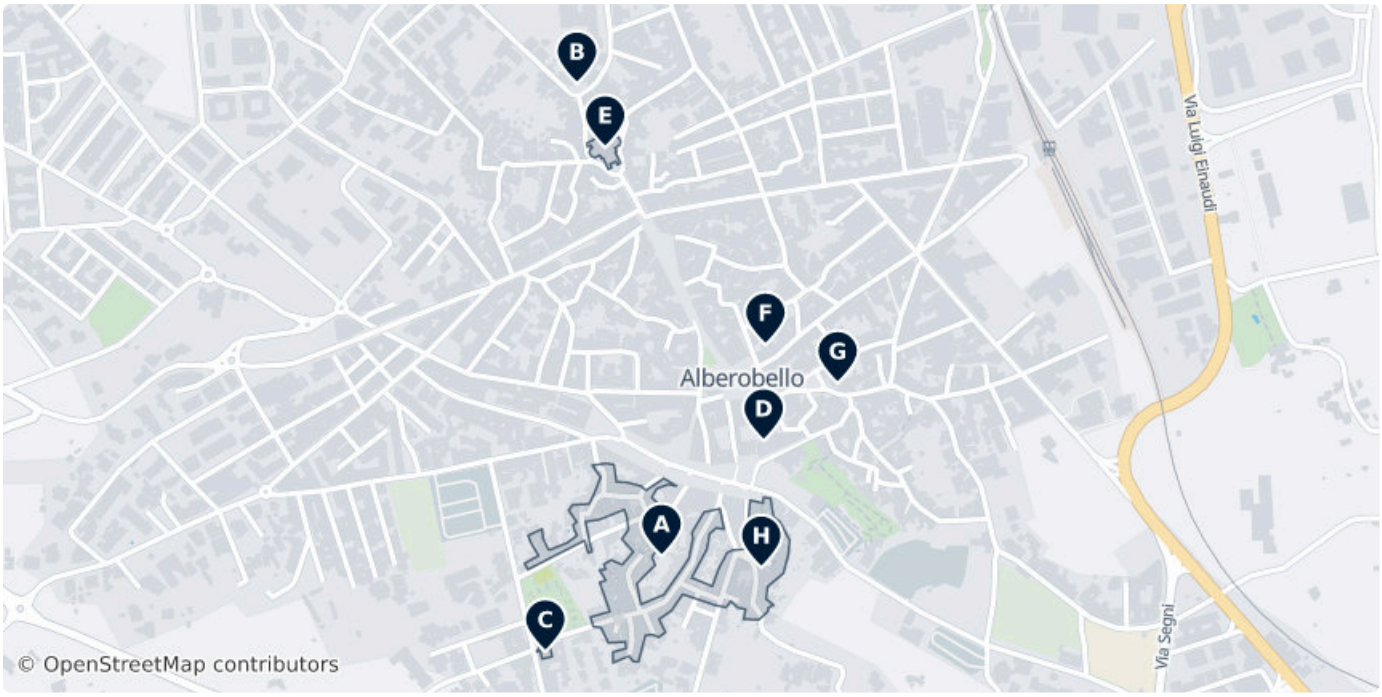
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LANGUAGES
Italian

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Alberobello's Trulli Treasures

Alberobello is home to the UNESCO-listed trulli, dry-stone dwellings with conical roofs unique to the Itria Valley. This selection features the Trullo Sovrano, the only two-story trullo, and the Casa d'Amore, which marked the architectural shift from dry-stone to mortar construction in 1797. The list includes the trullo-shaped Church of Sant'Antonio and the Neoclassical Basilica of Saints Cosmas and Damian, alongside museum complexes that detail the region's agrarian history and limestone building techniques.





A Trulli

UNESCO World Heritage limestone dwellings characterized by dry-stone construction, whitewashed walls, and conical roofs often topped with decorative pinnacles and symbols.

2 Via Monte San Michele, Alberobello 70011, Italy
(40.78217, 17.23653)



B Trullo Sovrano

The only two-story trullo in Alberobello, this 18th-century structure functions as a museum featuring period furnishings and a staircase built into the thick walls.

Piazza Sacramento 10, 70011 Alberobello
(40.78739, 17.23530)

Nov-Mar Mo–Su	10:00–12:45, 15:30–18:00
Apr-Oct Mo–Su	10:00–12:45, 15:30–18:30

trullosovrano.eu, +39 080 4326030



C Chiesa Sant'Antonio

Completed in 1926, this Roman Catholic church mimics the town's traditional architecture with its 21-meter-high conical dome and Greek cross plan.

6 Via Monte Pertica, Alberobello 70011, Italy
(40.78112, 17.23483)



D Belvedere Santa Lucia

A panoramic viewpoint providing an elevated perspective of the dense concentration of conical roofs across the Rione Monti district.

Piazza Gian Girolamo, 70011 Alberobello BA, Italy
(40.78345, 17.23802)



E Santi Medici Cosma e Damiano

A Neoclassical basilica designed by Antonio Curri, featuring a late 19th-century facade with twin bell towers and housing the relics of the town's patron saints.

13 Via Monte Calvario, Alberobello 70011, Italy
(40.78668, 17.23571)

basilicalberobello.santimedici.net/index.php/it/



F Casa d'Amore

Constructed in 1797, this landmark was the first house in Alberobello built using mortar, signifying the town's liberation from feudal laws that prohibited permanent structures.

12 Via Garibaldi, Alberobello 70011, Italy
(40.78450, 17.23805)

Tu–Th	17:00–20:00



G Museo Casa Pezzolla

A museum complex comprised of 15 interconnected trulli, documenting the history of the region through agricultural exhibits and traditional craft displays.

13 Piazza 27 Maggio, Alberobello 70011, Italy
(40.78408, 17.23910)

Mo–Su	10:00–13:00, 15:30–19:00



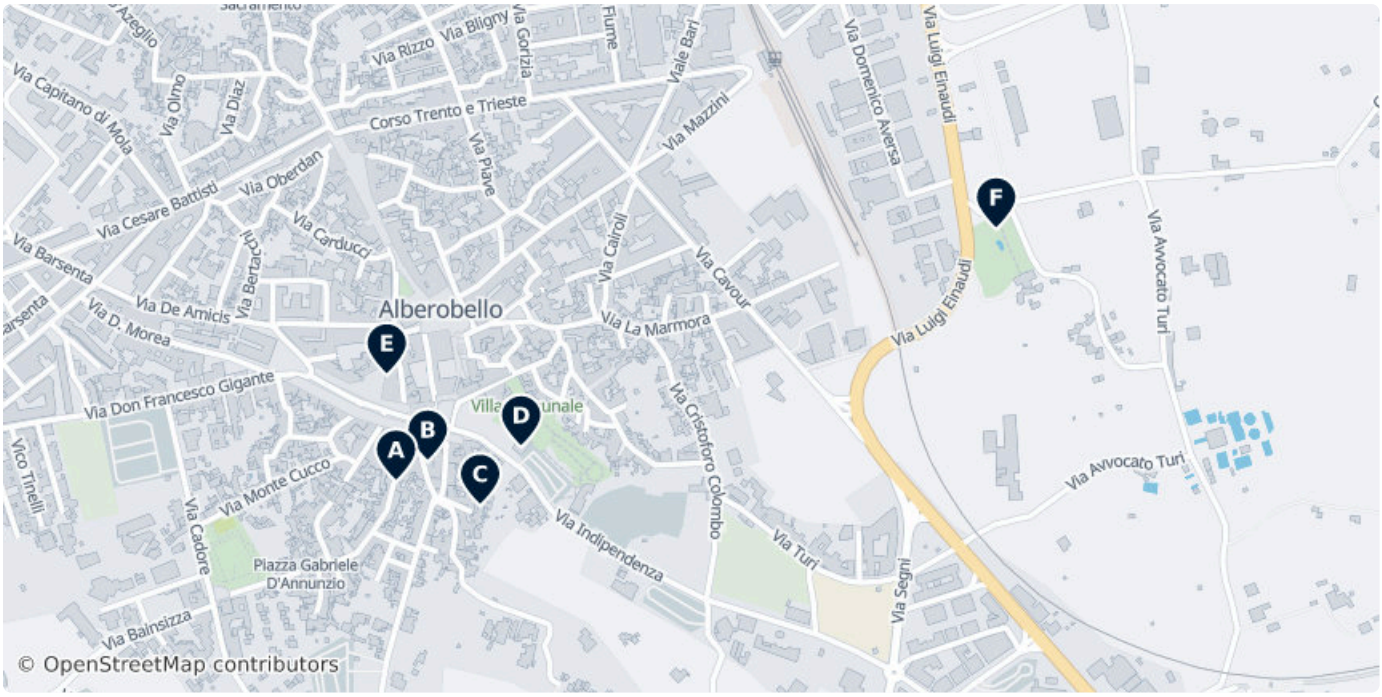
H Trullo Siamese

A double trullo with two joined conical roofs and two separate entrances, linked to a local legend about two quarrelling brothers.

Via Monte Nero, 70011 Alberobello BA, Italy
(40.78204, 17.23799)

Authentic Regional Italian Flavors

Alberobello's culinary scene is defined by traditional Apulian flavors, often served within the city's iconic limestone trulli. This selection features restaurants specializing in regional staples like orecchiette with turnip tops, local cheeses, and sun-ripened produce. Concentrated around the Rione Monti and the historic center, these establishments focus on seasonal ingredients and traditional cooking methods. From panoramic terraces overlooking stone rooftops to intimate dining rooms carved into the local rock, these spots highlight the agricultural heritage of the Itria Valley.



A L'Aratro

Traditional Apulian restaurant located in a historic trullo in the Rione Monti district. Specializes in regional dishes like orecchiette and fava bean purée using locally sourced ingredients.

(40.78239, 17.23711)

ristorantearatro.it

B Casa Nova

Located in the historic center, this restaurant serves traditional Pugliese cuisine with a focus on seasonal ingredients and local wine pairings.

(40.78259, 17.23753)

casanovailristorante.it/chisiamo.htm, +39 080 432 3292

C Il Pinnacolo

Regional restaurant featuring a panoramic terrace with views of the Rione Monti trulli. The menu focuses on traditional Apulian antipasti and handmade pasta dishes.

36 Via Monte Nero, Alberobello 70011, Italy
(40.78214, 17.23824)

D Terminal

Italian restaurant located near the central historic area, serving classic regional dishes and Mediterranean cuisine.

(40.78274, 17.23878)

E Bellavista

Situated within a traditional trullo structure, this restaurant offers Italian and regional cuisine with outdoor seating overlooking the historic district.

(40.78346, 17.23698)

F Fidelio

Italian restaurant featuring an outdoor terrace, located a short walk from the main trulli zones, specializing in classic Mediterranean flavors and local recipes.

71 Viale Einaudi, 70011, Italy (40.78495, 17.24515)

DATA SOURCES

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