

Otranto, Puglia, Italy

Italy's heel tip faces Albania across the Adriatic — Otranto's medieval walls, a floor-to-ceiling mosaic that rewrites the Middle Ages, and impossibly blue water make this one of the Mediterranean's most rewarding small-ship stops.

Tender (large ships) / Pier (small ships)

Typical call: 6–8 hrs

Currency: Euro (€)

Language: Italian

🚢 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender for large ships; small/luxury vessels dock at Molo San Nicola

Best For: Medieval history, beach days, Puglian food, independent exploring

Walk to center: 5–10 min flat waterfront walk (~500 m) to the old town gate

Don't Miss: The 12th-century Tree of Life mosaic inside Otranto Cathedral

🚗 Getting around: 🚕 **Taxi** ✅ €8–€15 · 📱 **Rideshare** ❌ not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Otranto Cathedral & Martyrs Chapel** — The entire nave floor is covered by an extraordinary 12th-century mosaic — a 'medieval visual encyclopaedia' depicting...
- Aragonese Castle** — This hulking 15th-century fortress dominates the harbor, built by the Aragonese after the Ottoman siege.
- Cava di Bauxite (Red Lake)** — A disused open-air bauxite mine about 2.5 km south of the port where a vivid emerald lake has formed against striking...
- Baia dei Turchi Beach** — Six kilometres north of Otranto, this wild pine-fringed beach is where the Ottoman fleet landed in 1480 — today the...
- Day Trip to Lecce** — Known as the 'Florence of the South', Lecce is 35–40 minutes away and packed with lavish Baroque architecture carved...

BEST WALKS

- Old Town & Cathedral Loop** 1–1.5 hrs · Easy · 1.5 km · Flat — From the harbor, follow the lungomare to Porta Alfonsina and enter the old town.
- Coastal Walk to the Bauxite Lake** 2.5 hrs round trip · Moderate · 5 km · Some uneven ground — Head south along the coastal path from the port toward Punta Palascia.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		65°	53°	9d
Jun		82°	68°	5d
Aug		88°	74°	3d
Sep		80°	69°	7d
Oct		72°	62°	9d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 6:08AM–7:24PM · Jun 5:16AM–8:16PM · Aug 5:57AM–7:42PM · Sep 6:27AM–6:54PM · Oct 6:56AM–6:05PM

Currency: Euro (€)

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Wear non-slip shoes. The old town's polished limestone cobblestones are beautiful but treacherously slippery — even on dry days.
- Plan around the riposo (siesta). Shops, restaurants, and even the cathedral can close 13:30–16:30. Hit the cathedral in the

Otranto, Puglia, Italy — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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| 1 Ipogeo di Torre Pinta | Ancient underground tomb with frescoes, a historical site. | 2 Church of Saint Mary Magdalene | A beautiful, historic church dedicated to Mary Magdalene. |
| 3 HYDRA Boat Trips | Company offering scenic boat trips along the Otranto coast. | 4 Cappella della Madonna dell'Altomare | A charming seaside chapel with beautiful views. |
| 5 Salento in BOAT TRIPS - Boat trip Otranto | Another company offering scenic boat excursions from Otranto. | 6 Torre del Serpe | Historic coastal watchtower offering panoramic views. |
| 7 Cripta Bizantina di San Salvatore | Ancient Byzantine crypt with fascinating frescoes. | 8 Torre Sant'Emiliano | Historic coastal watchtower with scenic views. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |