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The most beautiful Puglia hotels for a holiday in southern Italy

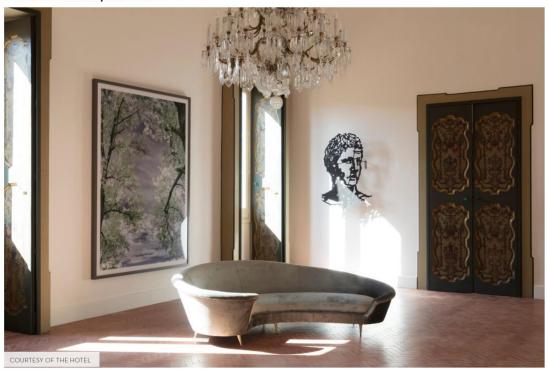
Browse the best hotels in Puglia, Italy's stylish sunny heel ${\sf BY\ CAROLINE\ LEWIS}$

A little more on the unpolished side than its rural counterparts such as Tuscany, the heel of <u>Italy</u>'s boot is nonetheless as charming as the rest of the country – and these are the very best Puglia hotels to book this year.

Highlights in this sunny southern region include golden towns such as Lecce – known as the <u>Florence</u> of the South, and with good reason – fishing villages along the Adriatic coast and, of course, the food – this is where burrata hails from. Other delicacies visitors should not miss include orecchiette pasta, sea urchins, fava beans and wild chicory, and taralli (crisp rings of dough that are just perfect with your nightly aperitivi).

And if you want to see the area's famous conical trulli houses, don't miss the town of Alberobello and the Itria Valley.

Palazzo Luce, Lecce



<u>Palazzo Luce</u> is an elegant B&B in cream-coloured, Baroque Lecce. If you're hoping to explore this beautiful southern city, this is the perfect Puglia hotel, since it's within the historic centre, with the Roman amphitheatre just opposite.

It's the passion project of a collector, so you can expect an impressive array of art on display. The 'Luce' part of the name means 'light', a nod to the palazzo's airy interiors.