

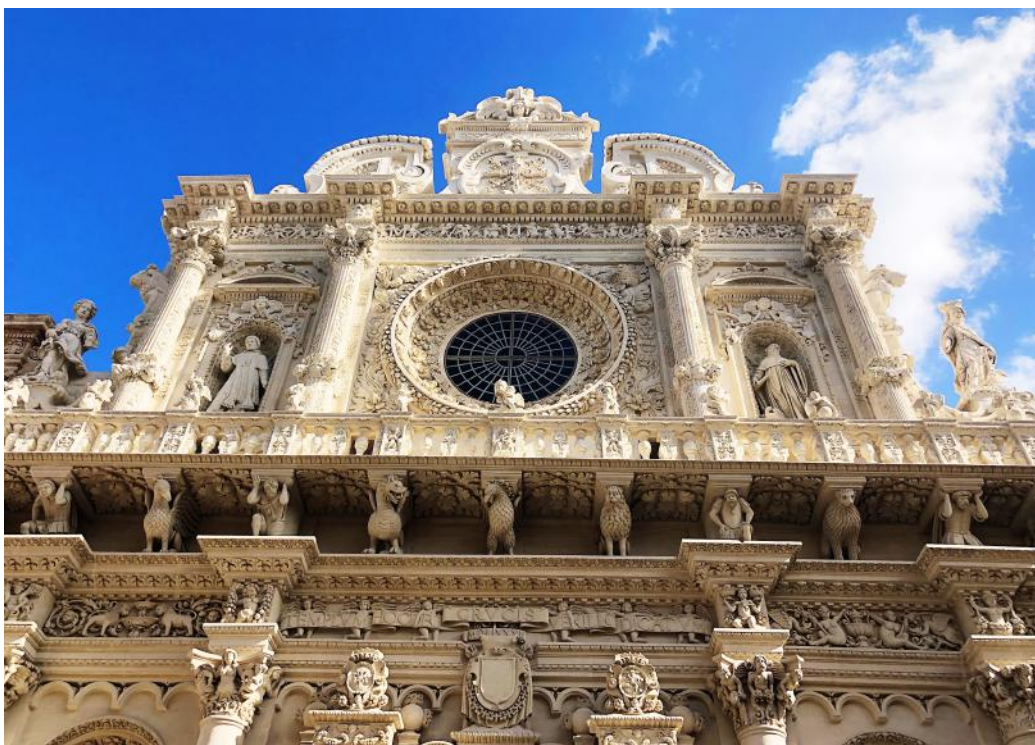


# LEECE



*A hub of baroque architecture & undeniable style*

Home to some of the most spectacular baroque architecture of the Puglia region, Lecce is a minefield of rich history, quirky buildings and an adorable, lively atmosphere that it sure to draw the attention of anyone, whether it is your destination city or you are just passing through. The city is filled with some of the most magnificent examples of 17-18<sup>th</sup> century architecture and styling that southern Italy has to offer. The town itself has a staggered history, being overthrown and harshly contested throughout time, though it was restored to Roman rule in 549 and remained for five centuries. Since the 11<sup>th</sup> Century Lecce has had extreme political and commercial importance, being linked to the Crown as one of the most important cities of Southern Italy.



*Explore.*

Littered throughout the winding maze of streets is some of the most pristine examples of Roman Architecture. Gargoyles, beasties and gremlins watch over the city from their perches high above the city, nestled upon sights such as Napoli, Basilica Di Santa Croce,

Cathedral and Amphitheatre. Even passing by the cities gates you will be drawn in, eager to explore and delve deep into the rich history of the city. The main city gate, Porta Napoli, was built to resemble Roman triumphal arch, and is a must see of the City. During the 14<sup>th</sup> Century, a monastery was built where the, now, Basilica Di Santa Croce resides. The dominant façade decorated with ornate Roman architecture that Lecce has to offer was established over thousands of years, being a gradual development through historical occurrences that has slowly formed the impressive city you see today. As any large Roman city would contain, the cities amphitheatre is located in the centre. It is awash with history and stories of the Leeces' past; hosting battles between gladiators, and wild and exotic animals alike, as well as public executions, acted as a public meeting place for the town folk. This dominant and immense structure itself could define Lecce; a town that connected two sides of the Italy during a time of immense power, struggles and uncertainty.

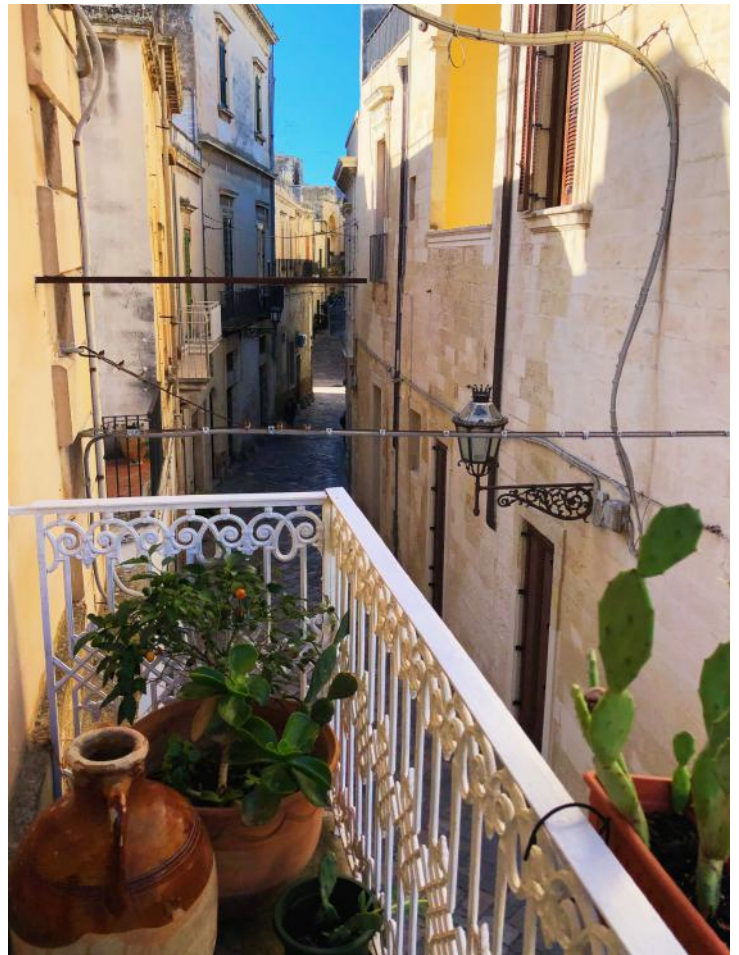


## Stay.

As with any city, you are overwhelmed with accommodation options. Highly recommended is, 'I 4 Balconi'. Excellent hospitality, large and well styled rooms with balconies offering views picturesque up the quaint streets and a price that is unbeatable.

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/I+4+Balconi/@40.3502986,18.1704028,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m8!3m7!1s0x13442ee227f469c5:0x4896a4507e626cf5!5m2!4m1!1i2!8m2!3d40.3502945!4d18.1725915>





## Eat.

Scattered throughout the maze of twisting cobble stone streets, are an abundance of high end restaurants, niche cafes, gelaterias, cheap eats and of course authentic pizzerias showcasing the best example of Italian cuisine.

If you are looking for a fine dining food experience, paired with some of the best wines Italy has to offer, be sure to check out Osteria Degli Spiriti, <https://www.osteriadeglispiriti.it/>,

If you are seeking a more relaxed and authentic ambience to enjoy with friends or family, you can't go past Osteria Da Angiulino, <https://www.google.com/maps/place/Osteria+Da+Angiulino/@40.3563108,18.1682888,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x13442ee47553b5cb:0x59c97a106fdef86e!8m2!3d40.3563108!4d18.1704775>

Like many who visit the region, a cheap, easy yet authentic pizza is what you will be looking out for. Although there are many options, one of the best in the city is Ciro Pizzeria, located right near Napoli Gate. The vegetarian pizza, with grilled vegetables is highly recommended. <https://www.google.com/maps/place/Ciro+Pizzeria/@40.3563233,18.1681146,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x13442ee6f7fe1f27:0xe199a003fbbf4ab4!8m2!3d40.3563233!4d18.1703033>,

Regardless of the dining experience you are in search of, or which restaurant you choose. Lecce will once again not fail to impress.

## Drink.

Once you've had dinner, you will want to delve further into the city and see where the array of twisting streets can take you. Finding a good place to extend the night with some drinks is far from a struggle. Nestled throughout the city are vast array of excellent cocktail bars.

Colonial Bar is one of the finest examples, cocktails based on Cuban rum and fruit. Each drink will have you feeling as if you have arrived in the Caribbean. With wine offerings and either Cuban or Salentine appetizers. Colonial will be a sure place to remember

<http://www.colonialbar.it/>

If cocktails aren't your thing, a stop at Nandos' Bieretheque is recommended. A one stop shop for everything Beer. Nando has years of experience serving and recommending beers, so will no doubt be able to find the right one for you.

[https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Attraction\\_Review-g194791-d4995868-Reviews-Nando\\_s\\_bieretheque-Lecce\\_Province\\_of\\_Lecce\\_Puglia.html](https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Attraction_Review-g194791-d4995868-Reviews-Nando_s_bieretheque-Lecce_Province_of_Lecce_Puglia.html)