



29 Dec 2018 – 19 Jan 2019

From \$6290* per person twin share

Ex Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Perth, Hobart, and Darwin.

Our preferred carriers are QATAR and Emirates Airlines. Other airlines can be used if desired or if seats become scarce but the price may vary. All travel is organised by Axis Travel Centre.

(*The price includes airfares, fuel levies, land content & tour escort. Add \$450 for single supplement. Tour may be tax deductible for teachers. Changes to travel dates can be applied for, subject to seat availability at same or similar costs of package.)

Experience New Year's Eve in Italy – January 2019

Over three fabulous weeks, the Lecce Italian Language Experience will immerse you in the Italian language surrounded by the culture, history and culinary delights of Lecce and the Salento. And this year we spend New Year's Eve in Lecce. On 31 December celebrate the arrival of 2019 with a special New Year's Eve dinner followed by a concert in Piazza Sant'Oronzo to see in the New Year Italian style – all included.

Whether you have already been to Italy or whether it is your first time, Baroque Lecce, the School of Italian for Foreigners and the unexplored south are waiting. A truly memorable experience in this amazing part of Italy is guaranteed.

This tour is for people who love Italy, and who want to learn Italian or improve their Italian language proficiency. Italian language beginners are very welcome. For complete immersion why not take up the option of Homestay accommodation (+ single supplement) and give your Italian an even bigger boost.

This tour is also suitable for Australian teachers of Italian seeking a professional development opportunity in Italy during their annual vacation and as such may be tax deductible.

IMPORTANT: This tour is offered in the peak travel season. You should book early to secure your outbound and return seat and to avoid price rises and disappointment.

The package includes

- Return Economy Class airfare to Rome and a one-way connecting airfare to Brindisi
- Arrival and departure meet/greet and transfer assistance if on group flights
- New Year's Eve in Italy – only for you, a special dinner and event to see in the New Year
- Three weeks of intensive language tuition at the School of Italian for Foreigners in Lecce
- Certificate awarded on satisfactory completion of the course.
- Accommodation in a self-contained apartment in the historic old city
- Optional Homestay accommodation to help build your Italian proficiency
- Excursions to the historic towns of Gallipoli, Otranto, Alberobello and Ostuni
- Cooking classes
- Experienced bi-lingual tour leader with extensive local knowledge and experience
- 24/7 Travel Agency support via Axis Travel Centre (SA)
- Axis Travel Centre is a BOOKSAFE™ travel agency. See below for more information.

** The quoted cost is an estimate only. The variables are airfares, accommodation and tuition fees. The final airfare cost will depend on the airfare chosen and time of purchase. Accommodation costs and tuition fees are paid in Euro.*

Additional Costs

- Quality Travel insurance is essential – this can be arranged by Axis Travel Centre
- Travel and accommodation in Italy away from Lecce after 19 January 2018
- Your own discretionary spending including food, entertainment, and other expenses
- Individual or group activities not organised by the school.

Free time

There is plenty of free time with many days off, including most afternoons. Catch a train to Bari for that big city experience, hire a car and explore the region some more, or just relax and soak up the ambience of beautiful Lecce. Or hit the shops - there is great shopping in Lecce and nearby Bari, especially with the winter sales starting on Saturday 7 January.

Cost of living

The south of Italy is relatively inexpensive – for example you can buy a pizza and a beer for less than 10 Euro (about \$15). You can live very comfortably on \$AU50 – \$AU100 per day.

My services to you as tour leader and participant

- I will be there 24/7 to provide assistance, support, advice, and information
- I will be your link to the School of Italian for Foreigners
- I will be available to be your interpreter if you need one
- I will share with you my knowledge, experience and passion for Lecce and the riches it has to offer.

Travel Itinerary

The following is an indicative 21 day travel itinerary departing from Australia on 29 December, arriving in Rome on 30 December and a one-way connecting flight to Brindisi on the same day. The itinerary allows for 19 nights in Lecce, departing from Rome on Saturday 20 January, and arriving back in Australia on Sunday 21 January.

You can decide to be part of the formal group dates (29 Dec - 18 Jan) or you can build in more travel either before or after the core dates. Before you pay airfares in full, please advise us if you wish to amend flight dates and cities of arrival and departure, or class of airfare into or out of Europe. The professional staff at Axis Travel Centre will assist and guide you.

After tickets are paid for, strict amendment and cancellation fees apply. These will be detailed to you before you commit.

Additional nights in Lecce can be purchased for \$60 pp per night single or \$50 pp per night double. It is your responsibility to organise travel and accommodation after 18 January. This is able to be done in advance through Axis Travel Centre or from Lecce while you are there. The tour leader can assist you with any travel arrangements made in Lecce. The two most commonly used travel options after Lecce are:

- Train to Rome then continue your journey back to Australia or for more travel in Italy and Europe. Book your train fare in Lecce. It should cost about €60 (about \$90).
- Fly from Brindisi to continue your journey. Use Axis Travel to book your flight. Travel to Brindisi airport from Lecce via the Airport Shuttle for €20 (about \$30) or by private taxi for about €60 (about \$75).

Date	Description
Sat 29 December	Depart Australia
Sun 30 December	Arrive in Italy then connect to Lecce
Mon 31 December	Italian language course begins
31 Dec – 18 Jan	The January 2018 Lecce Italian Language Experience
Fri 18 January	Italian language course finishes
Sat 19 January	Depart Lecce for Rome
Sun 20 January	Return to Australia

***Please note: Departure dates are flexible. This is a suggested itinerary only. It is a guide only to assist those who do not wish to extend their stay or must be back in Australia for the week beginning 21 January.**

I'm convinced. What next?

Airfares are subject to change as is the exchange rate. You can join the group at any time subject to places being available, but delaying your decision may mean higher airfares. Return seats in January will be at a premium so the sooner you commit and pay the better.

**Conditions (please read carefully)

The Lecce package is conditional on using Axis Travel Centre for flights as part of our group booking and costs may vary if exchange rates, fuel levies or fares change. Exact costs will be quoted to each before monies requested.

A copy of each traveler's passport is required before booking.

A \$550 deposit to hold the package (airfare and Lecce component) is required per person. It will be deducted from the final balance, but is non-refundable.

Payment of a deposit will hold your place on flights and the tour but costs may vary until your final payment is made. We strongly recommend paying the total package price as soon as practical to avoid increases that may occur. Changes to fares, fuel levies, security, and airport charges can increase the cost as can changes to exchange rates and the availability of seats on flights.

Once the balance is paid the package price is locked in and guaranteed as per the package price applicable on that day.

Fees will apply should you change your flight or airfare or if you cancel your booking.

If you can afford a little luxury, Economy Class fares can be upgraded to Business Class or First Class upon application to Axis Travel Centre.

Quality travel insurance is very important. Axis Travel Centre offers a quality product with no excess payable on claims. By all means shop around and compare but beware of cheap products. A low purchase price will almost certainly mean limits on what can be claimed and excess payments to be paid on claims, sometimes on individual items claimed.

The **BOOKSAFE™** © **Monetary Guarantee** means that all monies paid to Axis Travel Centre are protected against insolvency on the part of airlines or suppliers or Axis Travel Centre itself. It is provided at no extra cost to you and provides a rare but absolutely critical protection of your financial investment.

24/7 travel agency support and assistance, and other services provided by the tour leader are only available to those who book through Axis Travel Centre. Axis Travel Centre has over 38 years' experience in the travel industry and come fully accredited through IATA, ATAS, AFTA, AMEX, and CRUISECO.

Please consider my invitation to join the Lecce Italian Language Experience in January 2019. Contact Max Najar at Axis Travel now on 08 84331133 to book and reserve your place. See their details below. Please contact me if you would like more information.

Raffaele Tardivo - Tour Organiser and Leader

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Program dates are fixed however the daily program is subject to change.

	Sunday 30 December	Monday 31 December	Tuesday 1 January	Wednesday 2 January	Thursday 3 January	Friday 4 January	Saturday 5 January
Week 1 30 Dec - 5 Jan	2.30 pm Arrive in Rome and then to Brindisi and Lecce 7pm Arrive in Lecce	9am to 11am Welcome, orientation and placement test 11am to 1pm Walking tour of Lecce From 9.00pm New Year's Eve Event	New Year's Day Public holiday	9am to 1pm Language course 5pm to 8pm Cooking class	9am to 1pm Language course	9am to 1pm Language course 2pm to 4pm Language course	Day trip Galatina, Gallipoli and Presepe Vivente

	Sunday 6 January	Monday 7 January	Tuesday 8 January	Wednesday 9 January	Thursday 10 January	Friday 11 January	Saturday 12 January
Week 2 6 Jan – 12 Jan	The Epiphany Public Holiday and free day	9am to 1pm Language course	9am to 1pm Language course 5pm to 8pm Cooking class	9am to 1pm School visit – Visit to a private school	9am to 1pm Language course 2pm to 4pm Language course	Day trip Otranto and the Adriatic coast	Free

	Sunday 13 January	Monday 14 January	Tuesday 15 January	Wednesday 16 January	Thursday 17 January	Friday 18 January	Saturday 19 January
Week 3 13 Jan – 19 Jan	Free	9am to 1pm Language course 5pm to 8pm Cooking class	9am to 1pm School visit – Visit to a public school	9am to 1pm Language course 6.00pm Excursion La Focara di Novoli	9am to 1pm Language course 2pm to 4pm Language course	9am to 1pm Course ends 1pm Final lunch	Depart Italy