- **OUR VALUES**
- THE 777 CREW ITALIAN STYLE - NUVOLARI LENARD
- TEMPOTEST MARINE: HIGH-END MARINE **UPHOLSTERY**

CARTOGRAPHY

- **GARGANO & TREMITI ISLANDS** 14 APULIA'S ADRIATIC COAST
- CALABRIA, BASILICATA & APULIA'S IONIAN COAST INDEX AND KEY TO SYMBOLS

LOCALITIES

- BARI APULIA 112 POLIGNANO A MARE • APULIA
- BRINDISI APULIA **CROTON • CALABRIA**
- 134



Onshore itineraries

134 Croton

- An unforgettable land of a thousand shades
- The Angel's Flight between nature and history
- The land chosen by the Gods
- CARDINAL MARKS

BASILICATA

RULES FOR MANOEUVRING 159

Technical section

- NAVIGATION BULLETINS BEAUFORT SCALE OF WIND SPEED
- FORMALITIES AND INFO: ITALY
- 14 Cartography

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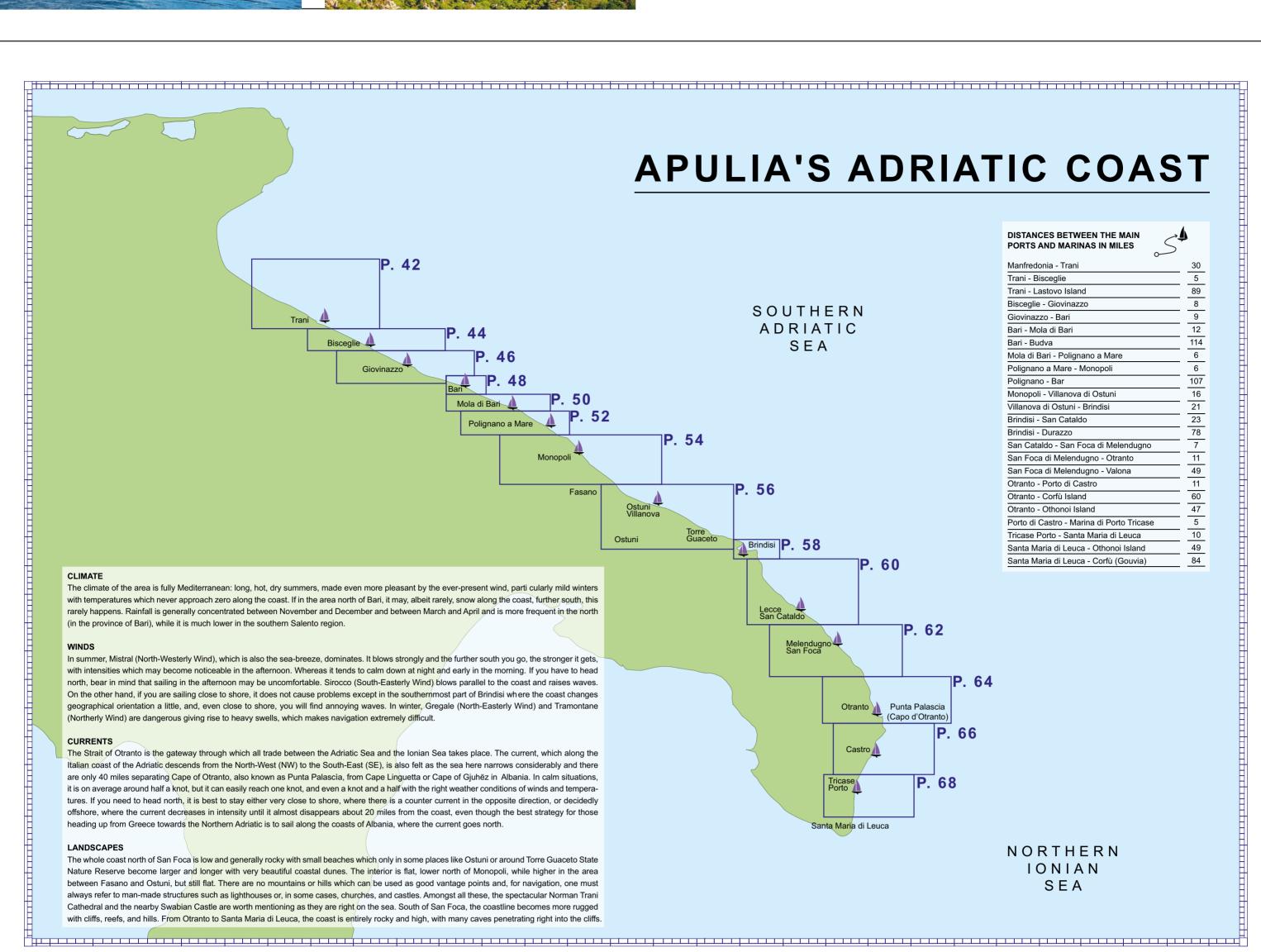
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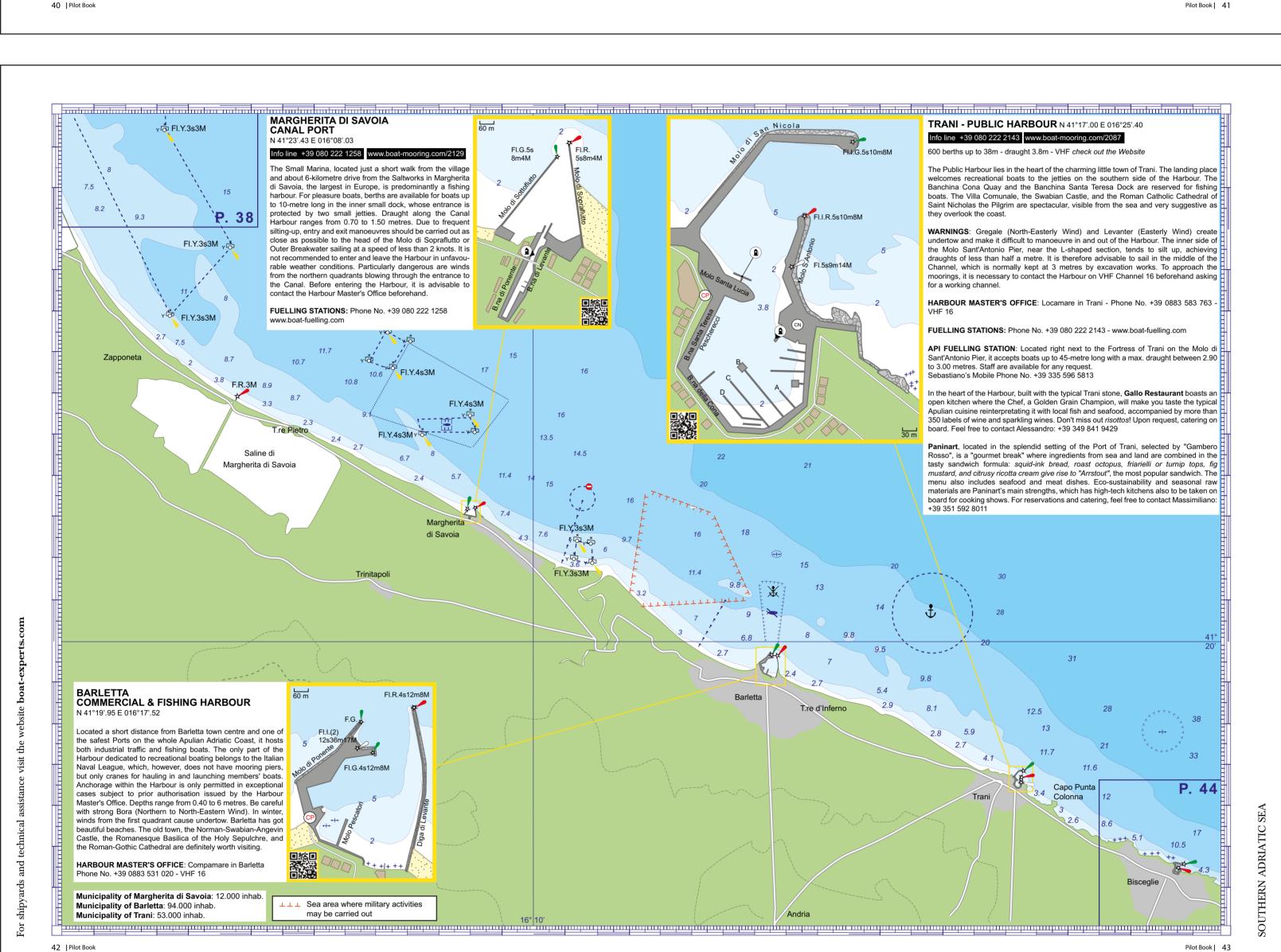
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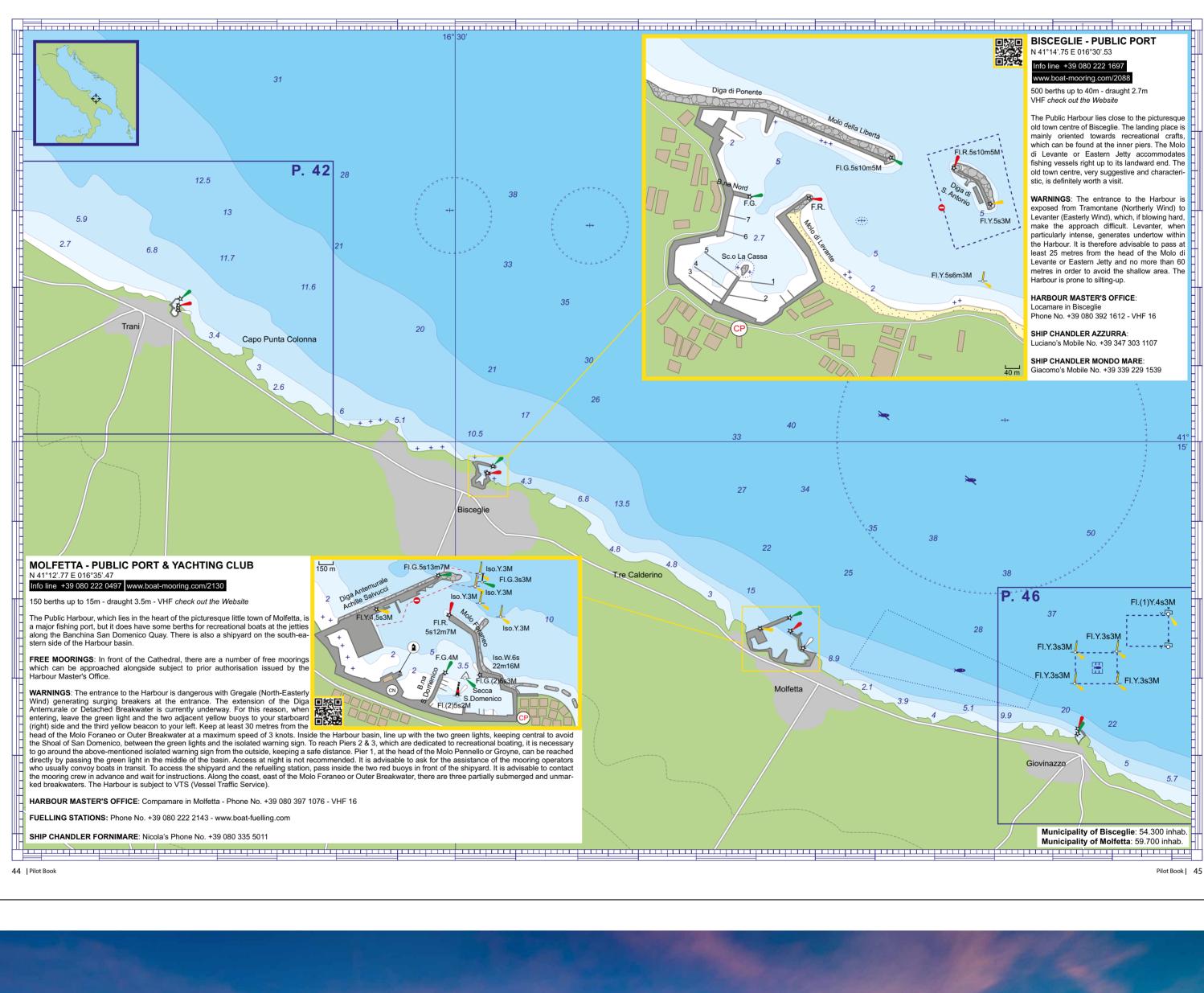


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HARBOUR

CURIOSITIES

to the iconic figure of Domenico Modu-

gno (1928-1994): the interpreter of the re-

nowned Flying...in the blue-painted blue sky,

the Italian song par excellence, is today

visit the

shipyards and technical assistance

his boat. Cala Ponte Marina, designed Polignano a Mare, known as The Pearl Cala Ponte Marina, nestled in one of according to the highest modern of the Adriatic, perched on the high and the most evocative stretches along the standards of comfort, safety and quality, Apulian Coast, represents an exclusive mooring place to make a stop and enjoy the countless fascinating landscapes. The body of water enclosed within the Outer Breakwater to the north is equipped with a main pier and eight floating piers and has over 300 berths for yachts up Situated just a few minutes' drive from

is a true "Marine Resort". The excellent geographical position represents an ideal starting point for as well as for fascinating lands such as drop into the sea. Greece, Croatia, and Montenegro. and his native land were sometimes difficult - especially in the early years of his Polignano a Mare will forever be linked

remembered by a Statue on the Kroton's nacular of San Pietro Vernotico and the gust 26th, 1993, and which was attended

indented coastline, with its unaltered charm and a succession of alleyways winding among the typical white houses, and leading to the renowned "loggias", several Italian top tourist destinations, open stone balconies overlooking a sheer However, relations between Modugno in which Modugno played the part of a Sicilian - long fed the public's belief that the singer and actor was of island rather career, when the rising artist interpreted than Apulian origin. The final reconci-

to over 40 metres in length, including the Harbour, you may easily reach

all useful services for vachtsmen and the enchanting medieval village of

several songs written in the vernacular of liation between Modugno and Poligna-

San Pietro Vernotico, the village of Brin- no a Mare took place with a great peace

disi where he had lived since the age of concert entitled Modugno comes back home,

seven. The similarity between the ver- which the singer held in the town on Au-

Seafront Promenade named after him. Sicilian language - along with some films by 70,000 spectators. **E**VENTS

The Possible Book Literary Festival, founded in 2001 in the nearby Castellana Grotte, has been held in Polignano a Mare since 2005. Organised by the Cultural Association Artes, the summer event offers meetings with authors and book presentations, held in the squares of the old town. The Festival is currently one of the most popular cultural events in Apulia and all over southern Italy, with the participation of the most prestigious names of international culture. In addition to this literary event, there are a series of equally popular and appreciated side events such as The Possible Wine Festival, an

autumn festival dedicated to the town and

regional food & wine, teeming with tastin-

gs, debates, and workshops.

Arriving at the Marina of Polignano, so-called Cala Ponte Marina, we suggest you move first towards north-west to

THINGS

to SEE

Cavallo and Porto Contessa and the precious Abbey of Saint Vitus Martyr. At first, a place of worship of Basilian monks, then turned by the Benedictines into a real Abbey (11th century), the building boasts a splendid 17th-century loggia with staircase. The building is currently may visit the internal church and its Mumay see the Sighting Tower intended for its defence. To reach the town, go down from Cala Ponte Marina towards Emanuele II. It houses a stone-carsouth-east, until the Little Swallow's Cave (a diving destination) and the Waterfront Promenade named after Domenico Modugno. At this point, we are Clock Palace is the fact that its owners standing close to the tourist heart of Po-still hand-load the clock on the façade. lignano: Cala Porto Cove, also known The Baroque-style Church of the Pur- Monopoli.

HISTORY The first human settlements of the town of Polignano a Mare date back to the Neolithic Age, with findings dating back to the 6th-4th millennium BC and discovered in Monks and trade exchanges with the Vethe hamlet of Santa Barbara. The Mannetians. The events linked to the War of fred Hypogeum found here represents a the League of Cognac led, between the significant evidence of the transition pha- late 15th and the early 16th centuries, to se between Prehistoric and Protohistoric an ephemeral Venetian domination over Apulia, and belongs to the Culture of the town, which ended with the Treaty of of the Province of Matera where it origical ce (1530). The definitive passage of the nated, and from which started a dense network of ceramics processing and trade spread throughout southern Italy. The foundation of the colony called Neápolis,

meaning New City, is then attributed to

Pre-Roman times, the town consolidated

its commercial vocation, thus attracting

first Roman Bridge over Lama Monachi-

first translation of the relics of the town's tural liveliness.

the attention of the political powers of tion of Italian States, known as Risorgi-

Southern Italy: it is believed that in the mento, the final name of Polignano was

4th century BCE, Neápolis became a established by adding the denomination

Syracusan colony by the tyrant Diony- "a Mare" (1862). In the 20th century, the

sius II. In Roman times, Polineanum (later history of Polignano continued smoothly.

Polignano) continued to flourish com- combining agriculture and fish trade with

mercially thanks to the opening of the a high level of accommodation and tou-

Trajan Way (109 AD) - along which the rism infrastructures (since 2008, the town

le, literally meaning Monastic Monk, was Blue Flag certifying quality of water and

built. Tradition places in the year 801 the bathing services) as well as a growing cul-

and built in 1830. Beneath it, there is the smaller one-span Roman Bridge, built reach the hamlet of San Vito, with the in the 2nd century AD along the Trajan small and pleasant Beaches of Porto Way, which connected Benevento with Brundisium (modern Brindisi). Once left Lama Monachile, you may quickly reach the old town of Polignano, which may be reached by crossing the main entrance so-called Marquis Arch, also known as Porta Grande: built in 1530, it is surmounted by a small Church dating back a private property, but on Sundays, you to late 16th century, containing a representation of the Crucifixion inside the barrel seum. In the area around the Abbey, you vault. The Mother Church of Polignano a Mare, dedicated to Saint Mary of the Assumption, rises in Piazza Vittorio

as Lama Monachile. This inlet is so-cal-

led as in the past, groups of monk seals used to pass through its waters. The access

to the Cove is possible only through the

staircase connected to the Bourbon Bri-

dge, featuring five arches, 15-metre high

ved Nativity scene painted by Stefano from Putignano and the Patron Saint's relics. A special feature of the adjacent Patron Saint - Saint Vitus Marty - into

the present Abbey named after him, at the time used by Basilian Monks. In the Late Middle Ages, agriculture along with the town's economic system modernised thanks to the influence of the Benedictine town to the Aragonese was marked by the strengthening of its defensive structures. In the first half of the 19th century, the Bourbons added a new five-arched Bridge to the aforementioned Roman the Iapigians (2nd millennium BC). In Bridge over Lama Monachile, which is

still the modern access to the famous

Monachile Cove. Following the Unifica-

has been regularly awarded the FEE's

the 16th century) dominates the Incina Cove, a spectacular natural outdoor pool located at the border with the territory of

gatory is undoubtedly another jewel of

the old town, built in the 18th century on

a former place of worship also used as a

cemetery for the poor people: the ancient

function is recalled by the dark skulls

carved on the architrave of the entrance

portal. The interior of the Church features instead a 19th-century polychrome

majolica flooring. The south-eastern

part of Polignano offers in turn a sequen-

ce of spectacular and fragile Sea Caves,

whose access is strictly regulated: among

the most suggestive points, it is worth mentioning the Sella Cave, which, following

the collapse of the interior of the vault in

ancient times, saw the creation of a real Natural Bridge. Here, the Contempo-

rary Art Museum named after Pino

Pascali (one of the most important

20th-century artists in Apulia, who died in

1968 at the age of 33 and a leading expo-

nent of Italian Arte Povera, literally meaning

Poor Art, of the 1960's) is not to be missed.

Whereas, the Incina Tower (defensive

coastal tower built by the Aragonese in



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Pilot Book | 123