



Gallipoli

The old Town



Gallipoli is called:
“The beautiful town”

The old and
the new
town are
connected
by a bridge

Location and size



Gallipoli has about 20,000 inhabitants and it is located at the south of Italy, Apulia region, province of Lecce, in the Gulf of Taranto, surrounded by the Ionian Sea.

Lecce, the provincial town, is about 40 kilometers outside Gallipoli. Over here is the FS (Ferrovie dello Stato) station and a regional railway station that connects Lecce to Gallipoli and Gallipoli to Casarano.

Brindisi is the nearest airport, about 80 kilometers away.

A network of local roads and many bus companies connect Salento cities and places.

There are also 2 harbours in Gallipoli: commercial and touristic one.

The History

Greeks built and called the town : Kalè polis (beautiful town). It joined forces with Taras (Taranto) in 265 B.C. against Roman people.

However, it was not strong enough so it became a Roman Municipium.

The vandals looted the city in the 5th century A.D.

Several people fought to protect Gallipoli. First were the Norman people, the Swabians, then the Angevins and the Bourbon people

During the reign of Bourbon , In the 18th century, the harbour of Gallipoli became the most important lamp oil platform in the Mediterranean because of its lamp oil production.





- Tourism is becoming more and more important;
- olive oil and wine are produced in the region;
- in the hinterland, we can find vegetables and food production;
- fishing also plays an important role in the economy of the country;
- after a long crisis, the shoe industry is slowly increasing again.

The economy

Some tourist sites

As Lecce, Gallipoli is a Baroque city. An example are The cathedral and many apartment buildings in the old town .

In the old town there are also some main churches , such as Santa Maria della Purità and San Francesco D'Assisi.



The Castle (13th – 17th century)

The Castle of Gallipoli was built under the Swabians and, after, under the Angevins in the 13th century. Later it was changed further. Now the Castle is made up of a square base with four towers at the corners. A huge polygonal tower has a commanding position overlooking south-east direction. After a long neglected period, the Castle was reopened in 2014, renovated and made accessible again to visitors. Since Fourteenth century, to protect the old town, surrounding walls, with towers and bastions, were built.



The hellenistic Fountain

The Greek fountain is the oldest fountain of Italy. He dates back to the 3rd century B.C.
Now the fountain stands near the bridge which connects the oldest part of the town to the new one.
Later new heraldic figures of various lords of Gallipoli were added to ancient representations.





- The underground oil mill
- The "Emanuele Barba" museum
- The "Garibaldi" theatre
- The "Tito Schipa" theatre

Other
places you can
see in Gallipoli