

Ostuni is one of the most stunning cities in southern Italy famous for the dazzling effect of its whitewashed houses. It is a genuine and charming example of Mediterranean architecture.

The city of Ostuni is a series of levels, staircases, small roads, alleys, arches. Hints of the Middle Ages are at hand in every corner, in every view to the sea, in the portal of a palace, in the walls of a convent or the front of a church.

Ostuni is called the "white city" because of the colour of the houses in the ancient part of the city (which is similar to an Arabic "Casbah"). Here the atmosphere is fantastic, very romantic and its streets are like a labyrinth of beauty corners to discover.

The brightness of its whitewashed houses, set against the pink-tinged brown of its principal monument, makes the town stand out in the green of the surrounding area. This happy combination of the natural and the manmade has made Ostuni one of the most attractive cities in the region and an essential part of any tour of Italy.



*Ostuni historical centre by night*



*Typical white walls*

The maze of well-preserved winding streets makes for a fascinating amble, the town buzzes on summer nights and there are some exceptional views - particularly from Largo Castello over the woods to the north. Bits of cavorting Baroque twist out of unexpected places, including an ornamented eighteenth century obelisk, 21m high, dedicated to St Oronzo, which stands in Piazza della Libertà (aka Piazza St Oronzo) on the southern edge of the old town. This is the focal point on summer Saturday nights for hordes of people who drive in from the countryside around, meet up with their friends, pack out the bars and cafés and listen to the music coming from the sound system.



*Ostuni Downtown*



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