

# Welcome Packet



## TRULLO RESTORATION WORKSHOP

April 15-29, 2018

Ceglie Messapica, Puglia, Italy



We're excited to have you join us for the **Trullo Restoration Workshop** in Ceglie Messpica, Puglia, Italy. This packet will provide you with some information that we hope will make your trip comfortable and enjoyable. Please let us know if you need more information.

This 14-day course in Puglia will offer students experience in stone restoration and immersion in the vernacular architecture of the Valle d'Itria area. The workshop will consist of two parts, a workshop construction project, as well as excursions to nearby towns and UNESCO sites to help students get a better understanding of the area.

### Contact

Amanda Roelle is the overall coordinator for the workshop and will lead the excursions and walks around the area. The workshop construction project will be lead by Thea Alvin and a local trullo builder (*Trullaro*) named Mario Santoro. Feel free to contact Amanda for any questions at [amanda@archistrati.com](mailto:amanda@archistrati.com), or Italian phone number +39 3665953582.

### Dates of the Course

The actual course dates include Monday April 16th – Saturday, April 28th. We highly encourage participating in the full workshop if you are able. There is great satisfaction that comes with working on a project from beginning to end, as well as being able to participate in all excursion days. However we understand that the full workshop option may not be available to everyone so we have designed three options. Below is the schedule that we will try to follow as closely as possible, however, we are at the mercy of the weather and work days may need to be adjusted accordingly.

April 2018						
Monday Lunedì	Tuesday Martedì	Wednesday Mercoledì	Thursday Giovedì	Friday Venerdì	Saturday Sabato	Sunday Domenica
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
						Arrival
						Arrival
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
						Pausa (Day Off)
						Departure
Excursion Day Pascarosa Walk Intro Presentation	Work Day	Work Day	Work Day	Arrival Work Day	Excursion Day Matera	Excursion Day Pascarosa Walk Intro Presentation
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
						Departure
						Departure
Work Day	Work Day	Work Day	Excursion Day Grotte / Grottaglie Sea	Work Day	Work Day	

### Registration Details

Regardless of what option you choose, an initial deposit of €500 EUR is due before March 1, 2018. The remaining is due by April 1, 2018. Students are responsible for their own travel to and from the course site (see Arrival Details), including air and train fare. If you cancel your enrollment before April 15, 2018 we will refund all payments. The workshop is limited to 8 participants (at any one time) and there is a minimum number of needed to run the course. **Please don't make any travel plans without confirming that the workshop is happening.**



## The Workshop Project

The workshop project will be to restore the roof of the trullo in the photo on the left. This trullo is part of a larger complex of structures called a *masseria*, or a country farm estate, constructed sometime around the 1870's. This particular trullo served as a chapel for the landowners and the people who worked at the farm and their families, thus the cone is topped with a cross. It is now used as a bedroom, attached to the main house.

At some point in the past the cone was plastered, probably due to water leakage, covering up the stone shingles called *chianche* that exist underneath. The objective is to restore the roof so that the *chianche* are once again visible, similar to the adjacent cone.

We will start by removing the plaster, existing *chianche* and inner layer of rubble. We will then reinstall *chianche* that can be salvaged, replace the damaged *chianche* with new, and reinstall the inner layer of rubble. Students will learn the techniques of this unique limestone shingle roof construction, from dressing the *chianche* to installing them correctly so the roof sheds water.

The goal is to complete the restoration of the roof by the last day of the workshop, April 28th. The demolition work will likely begin prior to the start of the workshop to ensure that we are able to complete the project within the workshop time frame.



*Photo of the trullo to be restored*

The workshop project and experience will be very similar to the 2015 Trullo Restoration Workshop, which you can view in detail [here](#).

The 2014 Trullo Restoration Workshop can be viewed in detail [here](#).



## **Making Travel Plans**

The workshop projects and accommodation are in the countryside of Ceglie Messapica, a town located in the Valle d'Itria area of the region of Puglia. The nearest airport to Ceglie is Brindisi. The nearest train station is Ostuni. Depending on what option you choose, arrival day is either April 15<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup>. Once you have made your travel plans send the details to Amanda via email. If you are having trouble making arrangements feel free to contact Amanda with any questions.

### Arrival by Plane

You can arrive to Puglia by plane through Bari or Brindisi, though Brindisi is closer to Ceglie. There are direct flights to Brindisi from Rome through the airline Alitalia and Ryan Air. Flights are cheaper if booked in advance.

We will be available to pick students up at the airport in Brindisi and at the train station in Ostuni on the arrival days. The time will be determined by the time that students are arriving to accommodate all arrivals. There is also a city bus (runs twice an hour, approx 10 min) from the Brindisi airport that takes you directly to the Brindisi train station. Tickets for the bus are 1€. You can buy the ticket at the bookshop in the airport. There is also an ATM in the airport for you to withdraw some euros. Once you arrive at the Brindisi train station, take the train to Ostuni (approx 25 min.).

If you arrive through the Bari airport you can take a train or bus to the main train station, Bari Centrale, and take a train to Ostuni (approx 1 hr.)

### Arrival by Train

The nearest train station to Ceglie is Ostuni, and you can arrive by train from Rome or Milan. Book via Trenitalia; [www.trenitalia.com](http://www.trenitalia.com). Again, train fare is cheaper if booked in advance.

After we know everyone's arrival times we will set the times and notify you through email.

## **What to Bring**

### Clothing:

- Work gloves
- Safety glasses
- Work boots and/or hiking boots for construction, hiking
- Light shoes or sandals for casual use
- Work clothes
- Light summer clothing
- Light sweater or sweat shirt for cool evenings or rainy weather
- Sun protection/hat or cap, sunglasses

### Personal items:

- Notebook/sketchbook/journal and pens/pencils
- Flashlight
- Mosquito Repellent
- Toiletries, soap, shampoo, sun screen, toothpaste
- Prescription medicines and anything you usually use (aspirin, Tylenol)
- Day pack for daily items and lunch
- Water bottle
- Camera, with storage and batteries or charger (and a European plug adapter)

## The Instructors

### Amanda Roelle

In 2012 Amanda left her life as a restoration architect working on the historic masonry high-rises of Chicago and now lives in a *trullo* in Ceglie. She developed [A Spasso Con Un Architetto](#) as an architectural educational initiative for exploration and engagement with the vernacular architecture of the Valle d'Itria, and founded Archistrati, an architecture and sustainability consulting firm ([www.archistrati.com](http://www.archistrati.com)). Intrigued and inspired by different ways of living on the planet, Amanda has travelled extensively. She has collaborated on sustainable building, community development, and small-scale agriculture projects in the U.S., Europe, Southeast Asia, Oceania, and West Africa. She never ceases to be amazed by our individual and collective creativity, and the endurance of the human spirit. She is thrilled to be sharing the architecture of the *trulli* and the beauty of Puglia during the course.



### Thea Alvin

Thea is currently in her 32<sup>nd</sup> season as a stone mason. She has spent many years in construction of all kinds and is well versed in interior design, drafting and vernacular historic reconstruction. While she is a self-taught sculptor, she did apprentice to two master masons for five years and spent two further years studying hammer technique. She has worked in masonry in many cultures to have a deep knowledge of style and technique, from the desert southwest of the US to the cityscape of southern China, from the steep cold of Iceland to the steep lush of the Italian Alps. At this time, she is specializing in site-specific sculptural masonry installations. She has been featured in the NYT and O Magazine, and on local and national TV programs including Super Soul Sunday with Oprah Winfrey.

### Michael Clookey

Michael spent much of his childhood reveling in a rural New York setting with pencils and paper in hand. In pursuit of his dreams, he went on to study studio art at Hartwick College, Oneonta, New York; North Country Community College, Saranac Lake, New York. During later years he took the opportunity to study in San Miguel, Mexico. For the last several years he has lived and worked with Thea in Vermont and travelled doing site-specific installations and sculpture. He continues to carve stone throughout the long winters. You can see photos of his work at [www.myearthwork.com/featured-artist/](http://www.myearthwork.com/featured-artist/)



### Mario Santoro

Mario is the workshop project *Trullaro*, or master *trullo* builder. Mario comes from Ceglie and a family of *trullari*. Thirty years ago, when he was in his twenties, there were only three *trullari* left in Ceglie - one very old and retired, another, his older uncle (also retired), and the third was his father. The art of building *trulli* around Ceglie was that close to being lost! He now builds and restores *trulli* and stone walls. He was the workshop *trullaro* for the 2014 and 2015 workshops.



## Lodging & Food

### Accommodations

You will be staying in multi-occupancy, dorm style rooms in Casa Cilona, a Bed and Breakfast in the countryside near the town of Ceglie Messapica. There are separate accommodations for men and women. Bedding and towels are provided.

Casa Cilona has multiple structures consisting of *trulli* and *lamie*, (a more standard square shaped building) and is about a 10-minute walk from the project site. There is a shared dining space that will be used as the eating area in one location. We will be walking together to the project site every morning.

Casa Cilona does not have a proper website but you can view a map [here](#) and their facebook site [here](#).



Some photos of Casa Cilona

### Food

Tonino Tuma is the owner of Casa Cilona and is an amazing chef! Three meals a day are provided. All meals are made fresh with local produce and are primarily vegetarian- a lot of pasta, vegetables, cheese, and bread. Much of the country's produce is grown in Puglia, as well as olives for oil, so there is an abundance of deliciousness! Breakfast is typically European, consisting of bread, cheese, fruit and occasionally eggs. Coffee and tea are provided. Please notify Amanda with any special dietary requirements.

### Phone and Internet

Cell phone coverage in the Pugliese countryside, even with Italian providers, can be hit or miss. There is good cell phone coverage in some areas, but check with your carrier for rates, plans, and especially whether or not to use "data" on smart phones (the latter is expensive). Public phones exist in Italy but nowadays only in bigger cities and at train stations and airports.

There is WiFi available at Casa Cilona but only in common areas around the property.



## Language

All program activities will be in English or translated. Many Italians speak English, especially in cities and tourist areas, but an elementary phrasebook may be useful to you. Below are some basic survival phrases that will go a long way.

Thank you. *Grazie.*

You're welcome. *Prego.*

Please. *Per favore.*

Yes. *Sì.*

No. *No.*

Excuse me. *Mi scusi.*

I don't understand. *Non capisco.*

I don't speak Italian. *Non parlo italiano.*

Do you speak English? *Parla inglese?*

How much does that cost? *Quanto costa?*

## Weather

It is typically hot during the day and cool in the evening. Bring a sweatshirt or sweater, swimsuit, sun protection, hat, rain gear etc.

## Passports & Insurance

You will need a passport to enter the country. It's a good idea to travel with a copy of your passport, as it will make getting a replacement much easier.

Insurance is required of all students, and should cover you for medical expenses, luggage theft, and costs incurred due to unavoidable changes in your travel itinerary. It should also cover you in the case that you have an accident and have to be flown home. Check with your insurance agent to get additional information about the coverage that they offer; it can differ depending on the agent and typically costs \$50-100. A few company's websites include:

<http://www.worldnomads.com/travel-insurance>

<http://www.statravel.com>

<http://www.travelinsure.com/>

## Money

Although many places in big cities like Rome are accepting credit and ATM cards, it's a good idea to have some Euro cash on hand. Most places in Ceglie and the surrounding towns still only accept cash. There are ATM machines in airports and trains stations, and often the machines give a better exchange rate than banks and Currency Exchange booths. There are several ATM's in Ceglie. Be sure to notify your bank that you will be using your card out of the country, as sometimes they block the card during the first foreign transaction.

Food, lodging and instruction are included in the workshop fee. There may be optional activities that require additional money. For example, in 2014 some students paid for a Pugliese cooking course as well as a night of regional music and dance performed by local musicians.



## Daily Schedule

The typical structure of a day in Puglia differs from North America, northern Europe, and even other parts of Italy. The weather in April is generally warm and sunny with the possibility of rain. Everything shuts down between 1pm and 4-5pm as this is lunch and rest time. Dinner is typically started around 8pm (at the earliest) and many restaurants don't open until 8 or 8:30.

Understanding that most people are coming from North American or northern European culture we will try to accommodate those daily structures into the construction days, but when we are on excursions or in towns our schedule will be dictated by the Pugliese daily rhythm. Evenings you will mostly be on your own besides dinner. Casa Cilona is located in an area beautiful for taking walks and spending time outdoors. The town of Ceglie is a 20-30 minute walk.

## Excursions

On the days we are not working on the project, we will be exploring the area. The excursion days and locations are noted in the calendar on page 1. All sites are chosen based on the use of stone to create human habitation: dwellings carved from stone, dwellings built of mortared stone, and dwellings built of dry stone.

During the introductory walk in the village of Pascarosia we will observe trulli in various states of disrepair as well as recently restored ones. We will visit rupestrian cave dwellings in a ravine and the nearby town of Grottaglie. We will spend a full day in the UNESCO city of Matera which was recently awarded the title of the 2019 European Capital of Culture in Italy. When available in the evenings we will visit one or two of the nearby medieval towns of Ostuni, Cisternino, and Ceglie, each with their own architectural styles.

## Suggested Reading

### On Trulli

By far the best reading in English on the construction of the *trulli*, architecture, and stone of the area is an out-of-print book called Stone Shelters by Edward Allen. Allen was a Fulbright scholar who came to the Valle d'Itria in the 60's and documented types of construction. **This book is highly recommended and will be of great use to you if you bring it along to the workshop.**

An informative, technical article was published in Stonexus magazine in Summer of 2001 called "Trulli Amazing" [http://www.stonefoundation.org/stonexus/01\\_issue/48-trulli.pdf](http://www.stonefoundation.org/stonexus/01_issue/48-trulli.pdf)

### On Matera

An important Italian memoir, Christ Stopped at Eboli by Carlo Levi, describes conditions of the area around Matera when Levi was sent there in exile in the 1935-6.