

MARINA OF THE MONTH

MARINA DEL GARGANO

MANFREDONIA, ITALY

Nestled in a sheltered bay in the heart of the Adriatic, this new marina offers an unrivalled range of cruising possibilities



British boaters will feel right at home with the pontoon berthing



With 24-hour access and balmy winter temperatures, this marina offers easy, all-year-round boating

Taken last year, this photo shows the impressive scale of Marina del Gargano, with Manfredonia town behind

TWO WEEKS FREE!
Only for MBY readers

Sundowners on the clifftop are just an easy cruise away from the marina



The Gargano peninsula is dotted with natural gems



Pull into one of the many deserted bays inaccessible by land

Marina del Gargano is a stunning new facility, offering 700 fully serviced berths and all the conveniences we've come to expect of modern marinas. From here you can strike for Croatia and its jaw-dropping Dalmatian Islands, Greece and its crystal clear Ionian, as well as the growing playground of Macedonia. Or you could take it easy and spend your time on this undiscovered Italian coast, soaking up its old-world charm.

LOCATION

Marina del Gargano sits in the Gulf of Manfredonia, adjacent to Manfredonia old town and within walking distance of all the town's major attractions. It's surrounded by the Gargano National Park, a spectacularly diverse area of rocky coast, pine-covered hills, lush wetlands and abundant wildlife. Bari is the closest airport, just 100km from the marina, and is served by direct flights from London. You can also fly into Naples, which is easy to get to from most major UK airports. The marina is then a 220km journey, or roughly two-hour drive, through some of Italy's most stunning scenery.

CRUISING AREA

The Gargano peninsula acts as an enormous windbreak, protecting boats from northerly and *mistral* winds, making anchoring in one of the countless empty bays along the peninsula's southern shore an absolute doddle. There are beaches galore around the peninsula, and a visit to the picture-postcard town of Vieste, right on the tip of the giant promontory, is a must. One of the most tempting cruising prospects will be the Dalmatian Islands of Croatia, just a few hours'

easy navigation away. Piercing blue water, sheltered cruising and bustling waterside towns await you. Spend a weekend over there and then hop back across to the comfort of Marina del Gargano – it really is that easy. Longer passages can be made north along the coast to the unique attractions of Venice, or south to Greece's countless islands.

FACILITIES

There are 700 moorings, for boats from eight to 60 metres, as well as a 130-ton travel lift, 24-hour security, concierge service, lounges, restaurants and boutiques. It's a truly family friendly marina, with plans to build a swimming pool later this year, as well as a children's play area. Tax-free fuel, pump out, Wi-Fi and all the usual water and electricity points are just a few more of the benefits. With 24-hour access and winter temperatures that rarely fall below 5°C, Marina del Gargano offers simple, all-year-round boating.

BERTHING COSTS

The marina is taking bookings now for its opening in June. All the major infrastructure will be in place this summer, with final completion of all cosmetic work next year. Annual berths are available, and 30-year leases are also on offer and make an attractive investment opportunity. The marina is built around pontoon berths, and not the classic Med-style stern-to berths, so British boaters will feel right at home. *MBY* readers can have two weeks' free berthing if they email the marina with their name, boat type and its LOA. [MBY](mailto:enquiries@marinadelgargano.co.uk)

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