



## Other places of worship of historic importance

**Crypt of Original Sin** This church is accessible by reservation only and an entrance fee is charged to visit it. The church is not open for worship. Current research dates it as the oldest place of Christian worship in Matera.

**Church of Madonna delle Virtù** Although it is open to the public, it is not open for worship. An entrance fee is charged to visit it. This monumental rock church dating back to the 13th century was visited by Pope John Paul II in 1991.

**Church of Madonna delle Vergini** This rock church is accessible only on certain days and is open for worship on selected dates. The church, overlooking the canyon, is also a destination for processions from the city. Madonna delle Vergini is considered the Patron Saint of the Murgia Park.

**Madonna di Picciano Sanctuary** Open for worship, this important rural sanctuary is a destination for pilgrimage during the month of May when important religious festivals take place. Its interior is in Romanesque style. The original central part dates back to between the 12th and 13th centuries. At the end of the 16th century it underwent an inversion of its orientation. *Winter Mass times* (5 October-26 March): weekdays and Saturdays 4.30pm - Sundays and holidays: 9.30am, 11.00 am, 12.00 pm, 4.30pm, 5.30pm, 6.30pm. *Summer Mass times* (27 March - 4 October): weekdays and Saturdays 6pm - Sundays and public holidays: 9.30am, 11.00am, 12.00pm, 5pm, 6pm, 7pm.

**Church of Cristo la Gravinella** This rock-hewn church can be visited upon request and is open for worship on selected dates. It is also a destination for pilgrimage on Fridays during Lent.

**Church of Cristo la Selva** It can be visited upon request and is open for worship on selected dates. This rock-hewn church is also a pilgrimage destination in May.

**Churches of S. Lucia alle Malve, S. Giovanni in Monterrone, S. Maria de Idris and S. Pietro Barisano** Although they are all open to the public, they are no longer places of worship. An entrance fee is charged to visit it. They are all considered rock-hewn churches of considerable artistic importance and all are located within the city's historic center.

**Church of S. Maria de Armeniis** It can be visited upon request. This rock-hewn church is not open for worship. According to local legend, the church was visited by Pope Urban II in 1090.

**S. Giovanni da Matera's Birthplace** An entrance fee is charged to visit it. It is not open for worship. According to local legend, the town's most important citizen and saint, the monk Giovanni da Matera, was born here in the 11th century. A place of worship was founded on this site and a 19th-century water cistern called Palombaro del Caveoso can still be seen near it.

**Church of Ss.ma Annunziata a Piccianello** It is open for worship and to the public. Together with the Cathedral, the celebrations for the Maria SS. della Bruna on 2 July are held here. The church was built in 1957 following the demolition of the previous church, which was originally built in 1884. *Winter Mass times* (1 October-31 March): weekdays and Saturdays 9am, 6.30pm - Sundays and public holidays: 8pm, 11am, 6.30pm. *Summer Mass times* (1 April-30 September): weekdays and Saturdays 9.00am, 7pm - Sundays and public holidays: 8am, 11am, 7pm.

**The Fabbrica del Carro** This space is only open to the public on selected dates. The papier-mâché float which carries the statue of the Madonna della Bruna and Child, is created here by skilled craftsmen for the Patron Saint festival held on 2 July each year.

## Locations used for religious-themed films

**The Murgia Timone Belvedere** This panoramic point is part of the archaeological park and is open to the public. In the films *The Gospel According to Saint Matthew*, *The Passion of the Christ*, *Ben Hur*, *Jesus VR*, *Mary Magdalene*, *7 Miracles* and *The New Gospel* this location was the set of the Crucifixion.

**Via Muro** This street is open to the public. The most momentous part of the Via Crucis in the film *The Passion of the Christ* was shot here. In addition, important scenes from the films *Mary Magdalene*, *7 Miracles*, *Ben Hur* and *The New Gospel* were also shot here.

**S. Michele Arcangelo (Murgia Timone)** Also known as S. Nicola all'Appia, this church was used as one of the settings for the film *Nativity*.



CATHEDRAL OF MARIA SS. DELLA BRUNA



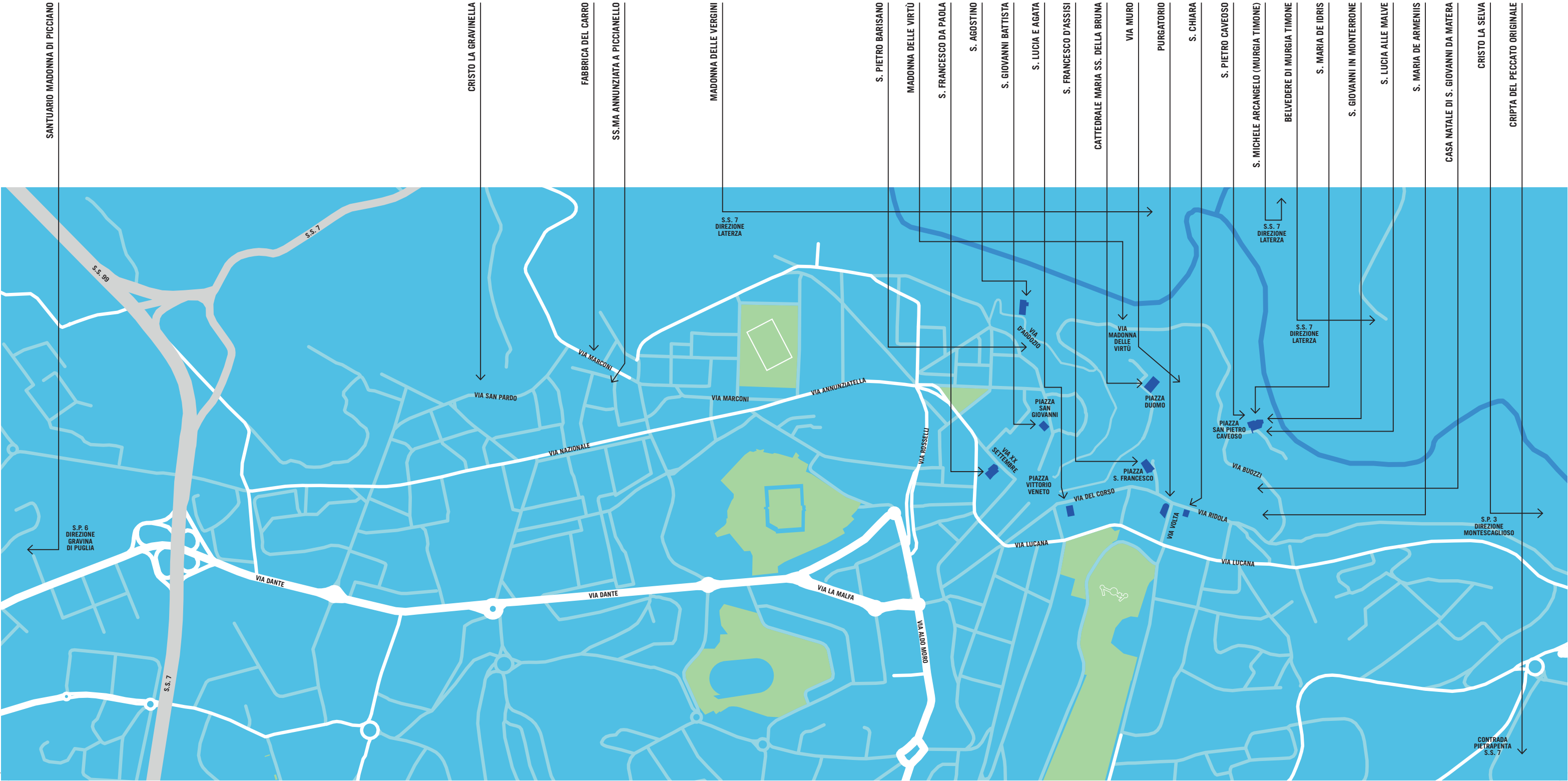
CHURCHES OF S. MARIA DE IDRIS AND S. GIOVANNI IN MONTERRONE



2 JULY AND MARIA SS. DELLA BRUNA



MURGIA TIMONE

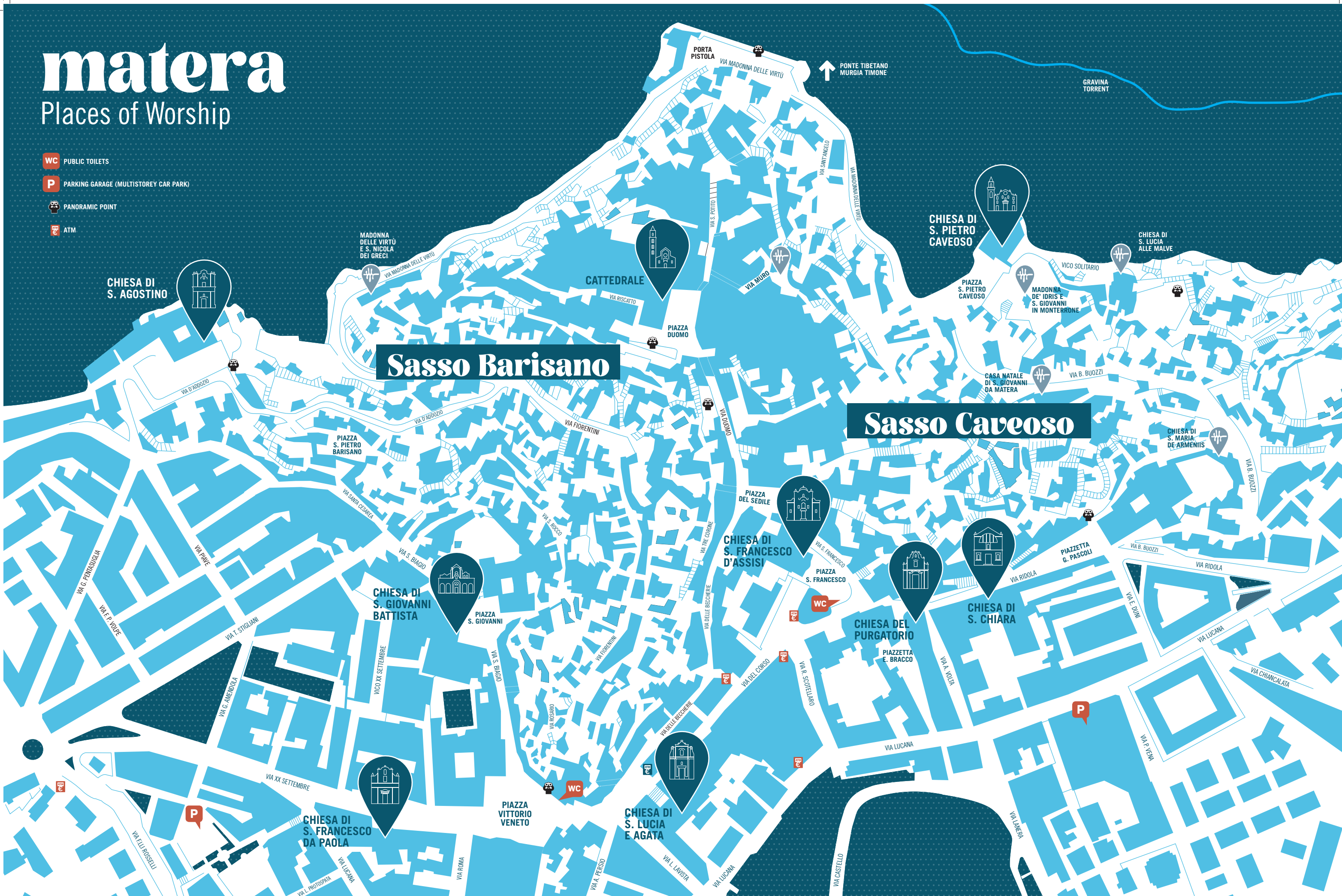




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## Places of Worship

- WC** PUBLIC TOILETS
- P** PARKING GARAGE (MULTISTOREY CAR PARK)
- PANORAMIC POINT**
- ATM**



### Churches open for worship within the historic center

**Cathedral of Maria SS. della Bruna** Named after the patron saint of the city of Matera, it was built between 1230 and 1270 in Apulian Romanesque style. Its interior has a Baroque style. *Winter Mass times* (1 October-30 April): weekdays and Saturdays 7.30am - Sundays and public holidays: 11am. *Summer Mass times* (1 May-30 September): weekdays and Saturdays 7.30am - Sundays and public holidays: 11am.

**Church of S. Giovanni Battista** Built in 1233 in Apulian Romanesque style, it was formerly known as the Church of Santa Maria la Nova. *Winter Mass times* (1 September-2 July): weekdays and Saturdays 7.30am; 7pm - Sundays and public holidays: 7.30am, 11am, 7pm. *Summer Mass times* (3 July-31 August): weekdays and Saturdays 7.30am, 7pm - Sundays and public holidays: 7.30am, 11.30am, 7pm.

**Church of S. Pietro Caveoso** Named after Saints Peter and Paul, it was built in the early 14th century and then later expanded, with the addition of a bell tower. *Winter Mass times* (1 September-30 June): weekdays and Saturdays 6pm - Sundays and public holidays: 11am, 6pm. *Summer Mass times* (1 July-31 August): weekdays and Saturdays 19.00 - Sundays and public holidays: 11am, 7pm.

**Church of S. Agostino** Built around the ancient rock Church of S. Giuliano, today the building has an 18th-century style, but its origins date back to the end of the 16th century. *Winter Mass times* (1 October-30 April): weekdays (Tuesdays and Thursdays only) 6.30pm - Sundays and public holidays: 10am. *Summer Mass times* (1st May-30th September): weekdays (Tuesdays and Thursdays only) 7pm - Sundays and public holidays: 10am.

**Church of S. Lucia e Agata** Also known as S. Lucia alla Fontana, this church was built next to the monastery of the same name at the end of the 18th century, after the nuns had been moved from the Civita district. *Winter Mass times* (1 October-30 April): weekdays and Saturdays 8.30am, 7pm - Sundays and public holidays: 8.30am, 7.30pm. *Summer Mass times* (1 May-30 September): weekdays and Saturdays 8.30am, 7.30pm - Sundays and public holidays: 8.30am, 8.00pm.

**Church of S. Francesco d'Assisi** It was transformed from its original medieval form into its current 18th-century style Apulian-Baroque style. *Winter Mass times* (1 October-30 April): weekdays and Saturdays 7pm - Sundays and public holidays: 7pm. *Summer Mass times* (1 May - 30 September): weekdays and Saturdays 7am - Sundays and public holidays: 7pm.

**Church of S. Francesco da Paola** It was built in 1774 in an area formerly outside the city limits. The Shepherds' Procession, which marks the beginning of the Festa della Bruna (Patron Saint Festival) on 2 July, ends at this church. *Winter Mass times* (1 October-30 April): weekdays and Saturdays 7pm - Sundays and public holidays: 7pm. *Summer Mass times* (1 May - 30 September): weekdays and Saturdays 7am - Sundays and public holidays: 7pm.

**Church of S. Chiara** It was built around 1670 on the initiative of the Bishop of Matera, Antonio del Rios Culminarez. *Winter Mass times* (1 October-30 April): weekdays and Saturdays 9.30am - Sundays and public holidays: 9.30am. *Summer Mass times* (1 May-30 September): weekdays and Saturdays 9.30am - Sundays and public holidays: 9.30am.

**Church of Purgatory** It is a Baroque church whose façade is dedicated to the theme of death and the redemption of the soul. It was built between 1725 and 1747. It hosts exhibitions and is used for Eastern Orthodox services, with prior consent of the local *curia*.



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## Places of Worship

