PUGLIA

AEROPORTI DI PUGLIA
BARI BRINDISI FOGGIA TARANTO

DTA DISTRETTO TECNOLOGICO AEROSPAZIALE

pugliasviluppo

W O R K S H O P

GROTTAGLIE SPACEPORT FOR THE *FUTURE*

Tuesday 17 June 2025

h. 3.00 - 4.00 p.m.
Regione Puglia | Italy Pavillion
Hall 1 Stand F317
INTERNATIONAL PARIS AIR SHOW 2025

INVEST IN PUGLIA
the smart region

European Union
REGIONE PUGLIA
PO FESR PUGLIA 2014-2020
Il futuro alla portata di tutti
Project co-financed by the European Union in accordance with the Operational Programme Puglia 2014-2020
Action 3.5 - Initiatives for strengthening international business development

Overview

In today's rapidly expanding global space economy, every spaceport has the potential to become a driver of economic development in the regions they serve. There are over 40 active spaceports worldwide, with a significant number of new spaceports under construction or due for completion by 2030. Whereas the U.S. is the global leader for spaceports, more and more countries across continents, from Europe to Asia, are developing commercial spaceports, looking to gain a competitive edge and enter the space race.

In Italy, the Italian government has designated Grottaglie airport, in the province of Taranto (Puglia), as Italy's first spaceport and the Italian Civil Aviation Authority (ENAC) has already approved the Regulation for the construction and operation of spaceports, taking a fundamental step towards launching a new strategic segment of civil aviation which will allow commercial suborbital flights to be carried out in Italy in the near future. Based on the new regulations, Aeroporti di Puglia (AdP), the regional airport network management company, is in the process of adapting Grottaglie airport's flight infrastructures to accommodate a new generation space vehicles and has presented the blueprint for Grottaglie's futuristic spaceport, to be built over the next 3 to 4 years, which includes not only a hangar but also a multifunctional building, intended to host a museum, a research centre and a start-up incubator.

Taranto-Grottaglie airport is also home to the GATB-Grottaglie Airport Test Bed, a new research and testing facility, funded by Regione Puglia, which, thanks to the commitment of the DTA-Technological Aerospace Cluster and its partners (Polytechnic of Bari, University of Bari and University of Salento), is due to become the most advanced research infrastructure in the European landscape for unmanned aircraft systems on board (drones), for solutions and services for the management of drone air traffic, as well as for innovative air services. Thanks to this strategic infrastructure, Grottaglie is at the centre of the development of the new space economy and a prime candidate to become the European hub for suborbital flights, as well as a centre of excellence for research and innovation in advanced air mobility, Earth observation and many other aerospace tech domains, making it a catalyst for investments by national and international aerospace industry players.

The workshop **"Grottaglie Spaceport for the future"** at Paris Air Show 2025, promoted by Regione Puglia, aims to present the strategic role of Puglia in the development of the aerospace industry, at the forefront of AAM, thanks to the GATB initiative, advancing Italy and Europe's autonomous access to space, based on the potential of the Grottaglie spaceport.

Agenda

3.00 pm	**INTRODUCTION**
3.05 – 3.50 pm	**GROTTAGLIE SPACEPORT FOR THE FUTURE** • **Patrizio Summa**, Director of Special Projects and Performance Control, Aeroporti di Puglia S.p.A. **GATB – GROTTAGLIE AIRPORT TEST-BED INITATIVE** • **Stefano Guagnano**, Area Tecnica, DTA – Technological Aerospace Cluster **GROTTAGLIE, THE PERFECT PLATFORM FOR INVESTMENTS** • **Theresa Mulloy**, Head of Communications & Inward Investments, Puglia Sviluppo
3.50 pm	**Q&A**