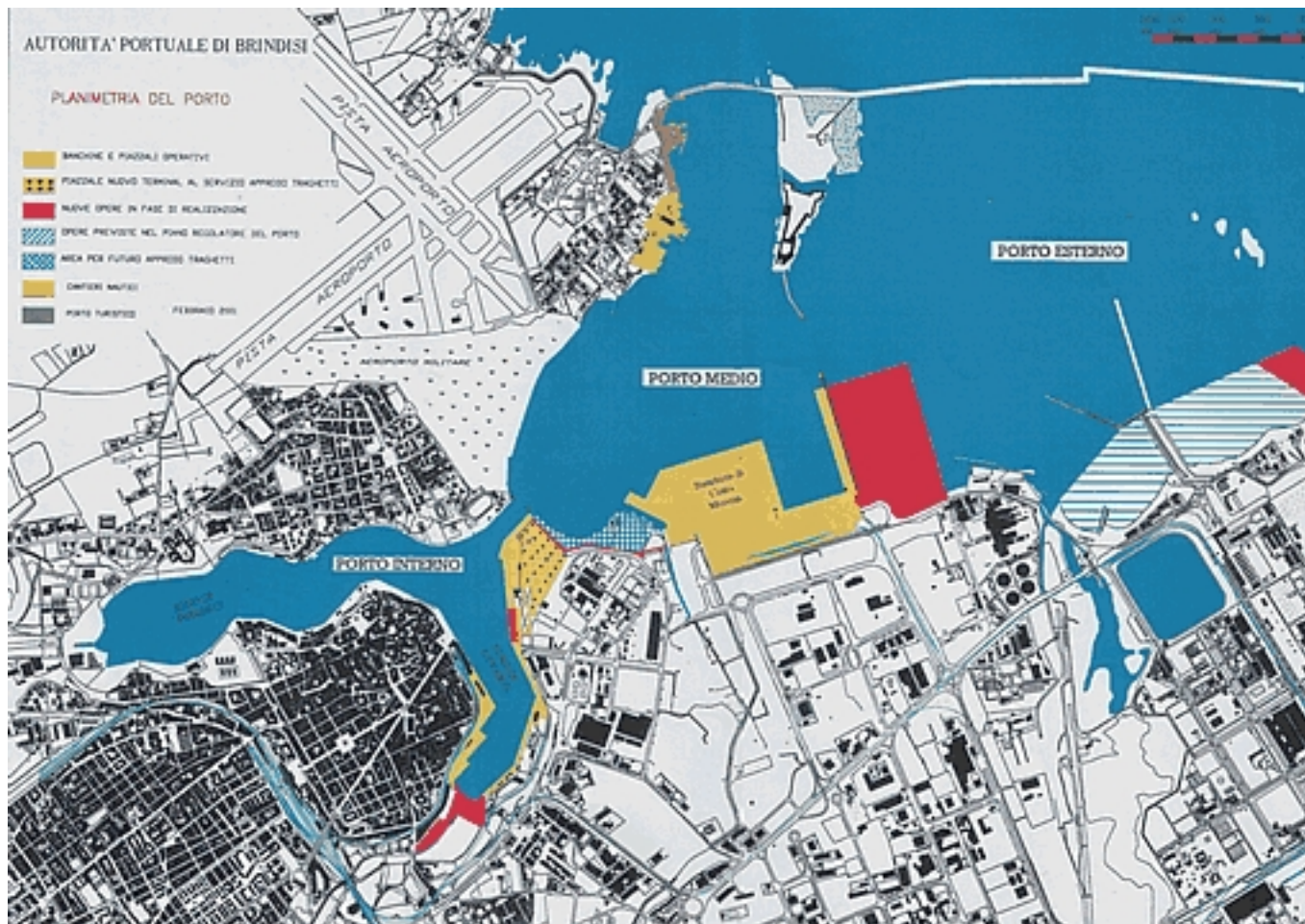


Brindisi has a wonderful natural harbour that, thanks to its conformation and geographic position (latitude 40°39'00" north, longitude 17°58'00" east), has always been known as one of the safest of Adriatic Sea. It is located in a wide funnel-shaped bay wedged into the coast. Brindisi has always been considered as the Gate to the East, and has been for decades the privileged point for binding Italy, Greece and East Mediterranean Sea.



During years, the city developed and extended only towards inland, due to already existent military and industrial installations that constrained the civilian expansion. The unique branched conformation of natural harbour of Brindisi is the effect of the erosion corresponding to the mouth of water streams: Cillarese channel that nowadays ends into West Cove, and

Palmarini-Patri channel that ends into East Cove; they formed a river valley that subsequently was flooded by the sea.

In the past there was a third "branch" of the inner port, called Mena Channel, that was closed and filled up during XVIII century, nowadays corresponding to Corso Garibaldi.

In the past, other two channels ended in the medium port; in the Middle Age they were named Delta and Luciana, and afterwards known as Fiume Grande and Fiume Piccolo. They are still visible in the nearby of industrial area, and are interesting naturalistic resources.

### **Docks and utilities**

In East Cove of Inner port there are ten active docks, including Santa Apollinare, Punto Franco, Feltrinelli, Carbonifera, Dogana and Centrale.

In the Medium port, mainly dedicated to commercial traffic, there are the docks named Costa Morena and Punta delle Terrare.

In the External port there are the industrial docks.