



Crossing the **Pigionati Channel** you enter the main port, naturally divided in two parts, West and East Coves; at this point one meets the Italian Sailor Monument (called also the **Big Rudder**) built in 1933 in the shape of a rudder, which stands 54 meters tall.

Together with the Romans Columns it is considered the symbol of the city. The funds for this construction took approximately 10 years to collect and the famous tenor Tito Schipa took a particular interest in this project contributing the takings from his concerts.

At the base of the monument is a sacred chapel in memory of the fallen sailors during both world wars as well as the bell from the battle ship "Benedetto Brin", which sank in the port of Brindisi in 1915. In the upper square at the entrance there are two anchors which are relics from Austrian-Hungary battle ships as well two submarine cannons of the same era.

A marble Our Lady statue has been put at the top of the monument in 1954. From the top of monument the panoramic view to the city and harbour is most

impressive ( [photo](#) ).

Timetable for visiting the Italian Sailor Monument:

Winter period (October 1st - March 31st):

from tuesday to sunday 09.00 am - 01.00 pm; 02.00 pm

- 04.30 pm.

Summer period (May 1st - September 30th):

from tuesday to sunday 09.00 am - 01.00 pm; 03.00 pm

- 08.00 pm.

Every month, on the first Sunday at 11.00 am, a Mass  
is celebrated in the  
sacred chapel.

is celebrated in the