

A narrow, colorful street in Sardinia. The buildings are painted in warm tones of pink, orange, and yellow. There are balconies with white railings and potted plants. A blue bench is visible on the right side of the street. The text "SARD" is overlaid in large white letters, and "THE MOST BEAU" is overlaid in smaller white letters below it.

# SARD

## THE MOST BEAU

MEDITERRANEA



A photograph of a narrow street in a village. The street is paved with light-colored stones and has a person sweeping the ground. The buildings are colorful, with orange, yellow, and green walls. There are balconies with metal railings and potted plants. The text "ROMANIA" is written in large white letters across the top, and "BEAUTIFUL VILLAGES" is written in large white letters across the middle. The text "IN DESTINATION" is written in large white letters across the bottom.

# ROMANIA

## BEAUTIFUL VILLAGES

by  
**MARIO MASCIULLO**

Touristica International

Carloforte, a Street View

# IN DESTINATION



"Sardinia is a land of humble and wild beauty that coexists with the golden cradle of charm and the world jet set, a land that encompasses different cultures, the legacy of its millenary history full of mystery, an island that reserves great emotions". Sandra concludes ..."And let's add up, dreams!"

The Comment by

**SANDRA BONAFEDE**

President and Organizer of Wonder Italy



Sadali waterfall and watermill

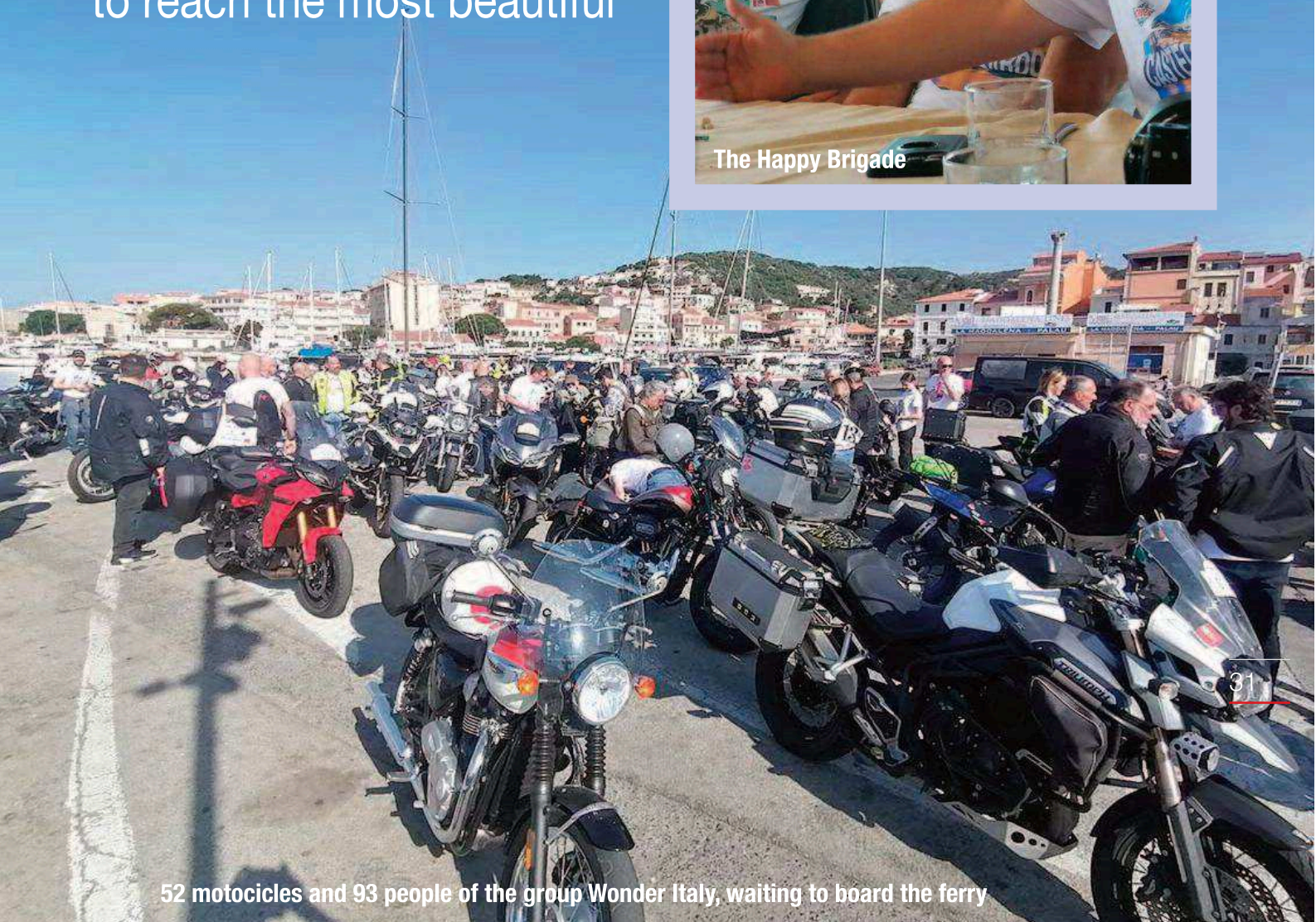


Wonder Italy has long been promoting the knowledge of the villages, “small settlements with a marked historical and artistic interest” to a growing public. And it also reinforces the invitation to reach the most beautiful

villages in Italy also by motorcycle, a strong symbol for young people.



The Happy Brigade



52 motocycles and 93 people of the group Wonder Italy, waiting to board the ferry



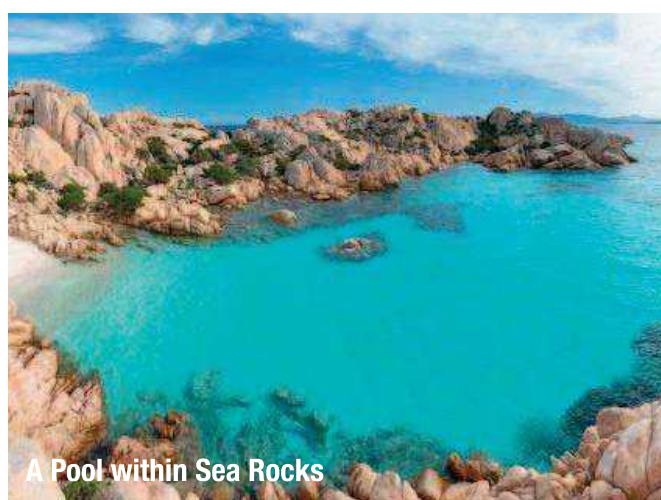


A lift to the top for the... lazy!

**T**he recent May-June 2023 trip celebrated the participation of 49 large-engined motorcycles from Italian and foreign brands involved in sponsoring the event. At their guide “intrepid” motorcyclists mostly professionals from different companies from various Italian regions ready to tackle the thousands of kilometers (with passengers) included in the sometimes impervious Sardinian route, which lasted nine days.

Each stop is a welcoming ceremony of the motorcyclists and workers who have come from the “Continent” by the mayors. The brief ceremony of exchanges-symbols of the municipalities with those of Wonder Italy and the Association “**The Most Beautiful Villages of Italy**”, ritual pleasantries, visit of the Borgo takes place in the gazebo. The organized libations enhance the food and wine specialties of the region.

The first stage from the port of arrival, Olbia to La Maddalena, in the **La Maddalena Archipelago National Park** of the same name, La Maddalena was born 250 years ago, from an uninhabited island to tourist excellence.



A Pool within Sea Rocks

This year the settlement of La Maddalena, the island city located in the north of Sardinia, turns 250 years old, two and a half centuries of existence which will be celebrated with many events: **cultural and sporting initiatives, without forgetting the food and wine to the many tourists who visit the island every year.**

Overlooking the **Gallura**, the most famous sub-region of Sardinia for the presence of the renowned **Costa Smeralda**, attracting the wealthiest international jet set.



## CAPRERA, THE ISLAND OF GARIBALDI

Caprera is the second largest island in the archipelago of La Maddalena, also included in the Park, a marine and terrestrial protected area famous for the beauty of its coasts and beaches and for the particularity of the flora characterized by the thick Mediterranean scrub full of pine forests and woods of holm oaks. The coast features inlets and coves of spectacular beauty, including the well-known **Cala Coticcio**.

Caprera is connected to La Maddalena by a bridge and an isthmus on which the access road to the Garibaldi museums runs. **Giuseppe Garibaldi**, internationally recognized hero of the Italian Risorgimento, defined as “**the hero of two worlds**”, after various unsuccessful attempts to free Rome from papal dominion, in 1871 he retired to his home in Caprera, to spend the last years of his life and died in 1882.

### TEMPLE PAUSANIAS

Defined as “**the city of stone**”, a picturesque historic center made up of buildings and granite floors and tree-lined avenues with parks and springs, a place to relax and enjoy the healthy mountain air in the center of Gallura.

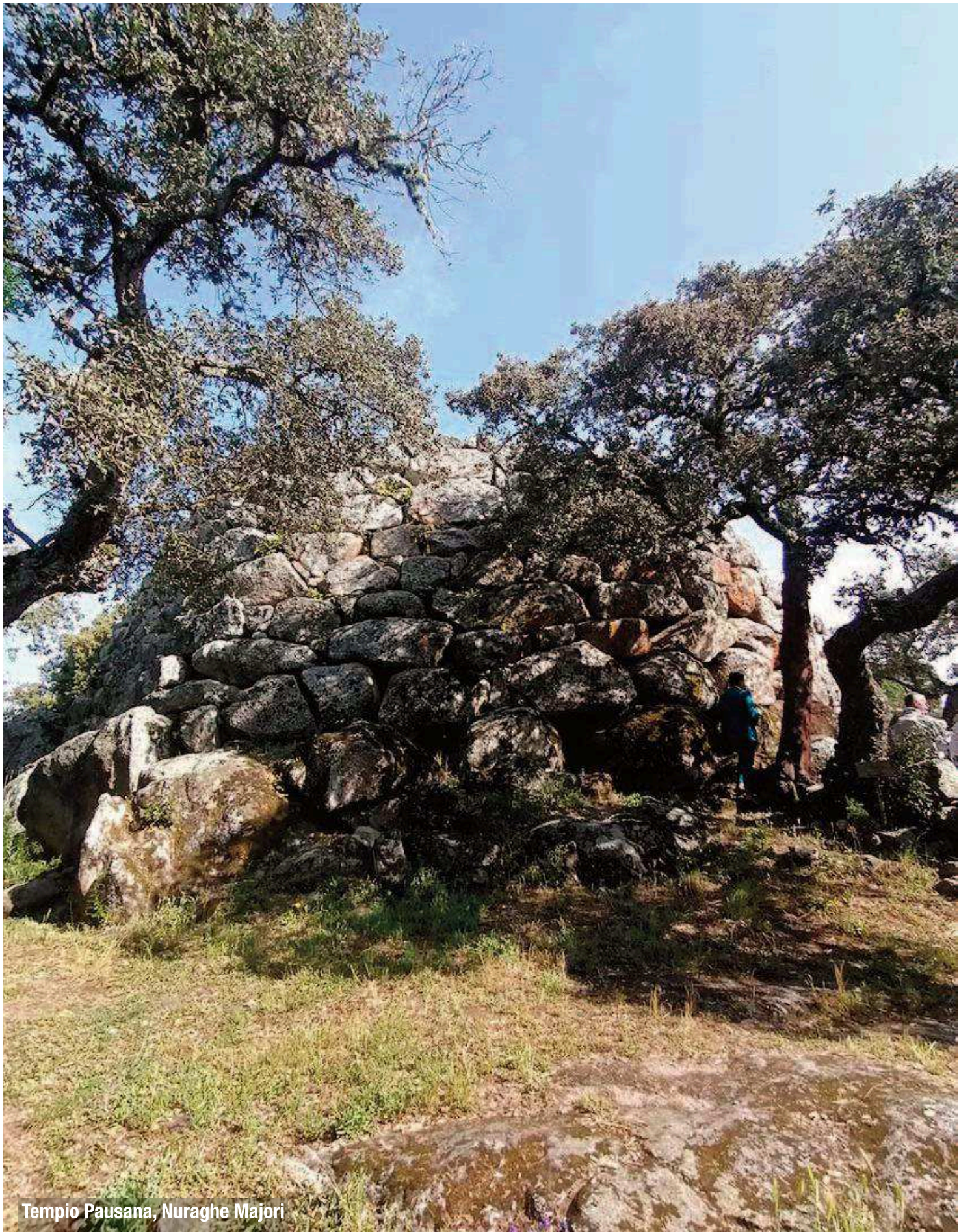


Caprera Cala Portese Restaurant



Village food specialities









Tempio Pausania, the Stone City

## CASTELBALDO

It is supposed that in Roman times it was the mythical Tibula, in the Middle Ages it was certainly an impregnable fortress for centuries, protected by mighty walls and 17 towers. **The original nucleus of Castelsardo was built around the Doria castle, dating back, according to tradition, to 1102**, but more likely to the end of the 13th century. current seat of the evocative Mediterranean Weaving museum, one of the most visited in Sardinia. Abbot (1586). Today it is part of the exclusive Club of the most beautiful villages in Italy and maintains the noble pose of a fortified lordship intact, thanks to the ramparts and steep stairs.



The Mayor of Castelsardi A.M. Capula and Sandra Bonafede

## ALGHERO

**Alghero** is a city on the northwestern coast of Sardinia. Surrounded by ancient walls, it is known for its paved historic centre. **Its Catalan Gothic-style buildings include the Cathedral of Santa Maria**, with an impressive bell tower, the Guillot Palace and the 14th-century Church of San Francesco. The nearby Church of San Michele boasts a colorful dome decorated with tiles. The Coral Museum of Alghero exhibits red corals.

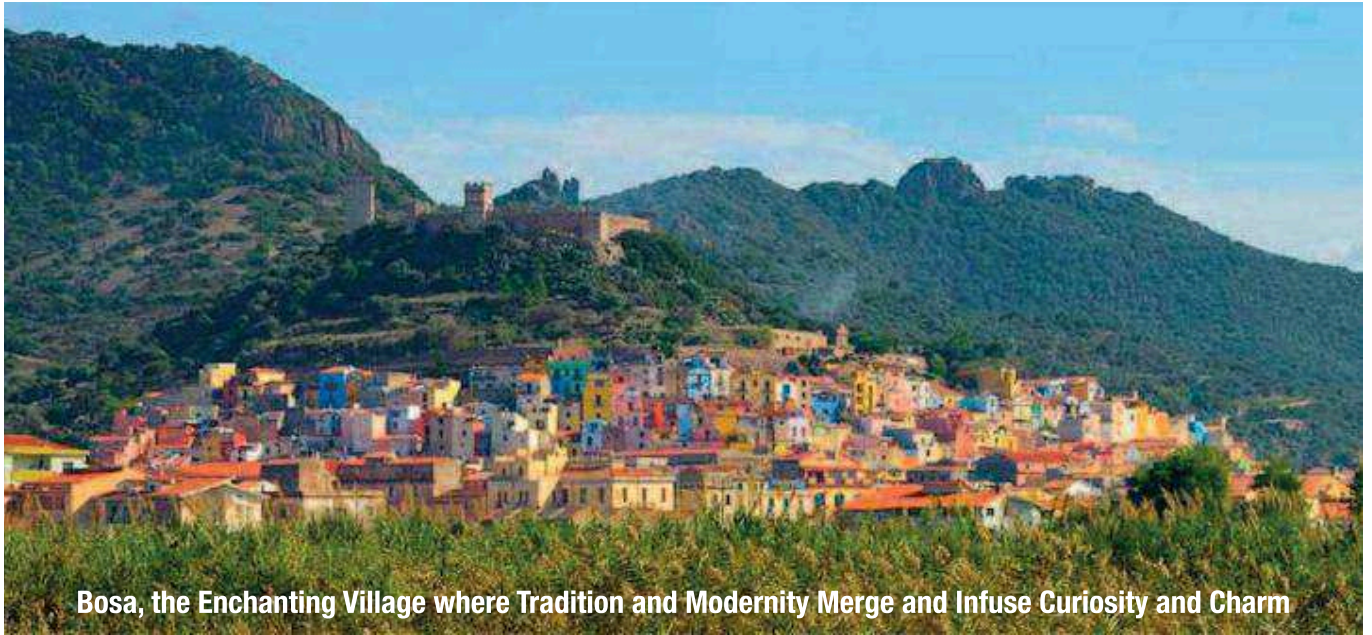


Cattedral di Santa Maria



Castelsardo, the Phenomenon of the Figures Forged by the Wind on the Rocks over the Centuries





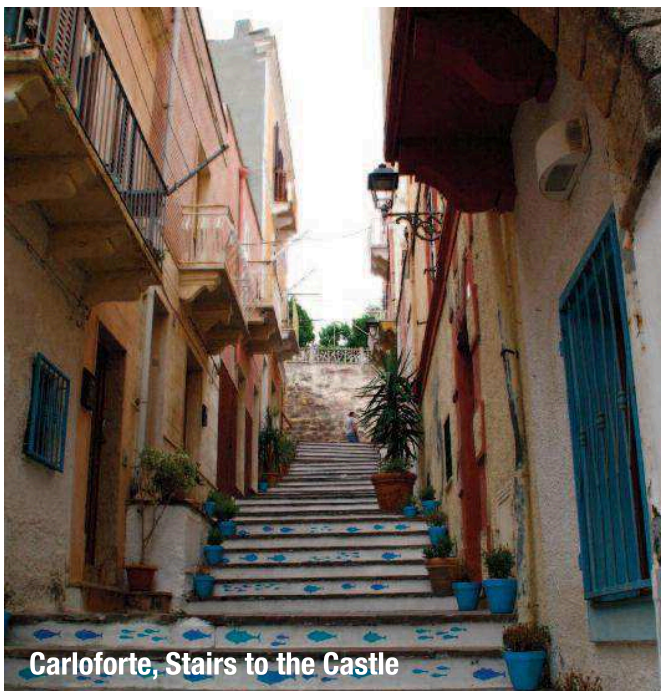
**Bosa, the Enchanting Village where Tradition and Modernity Merge and Infuse Curiosity and Charm**

## BOSA

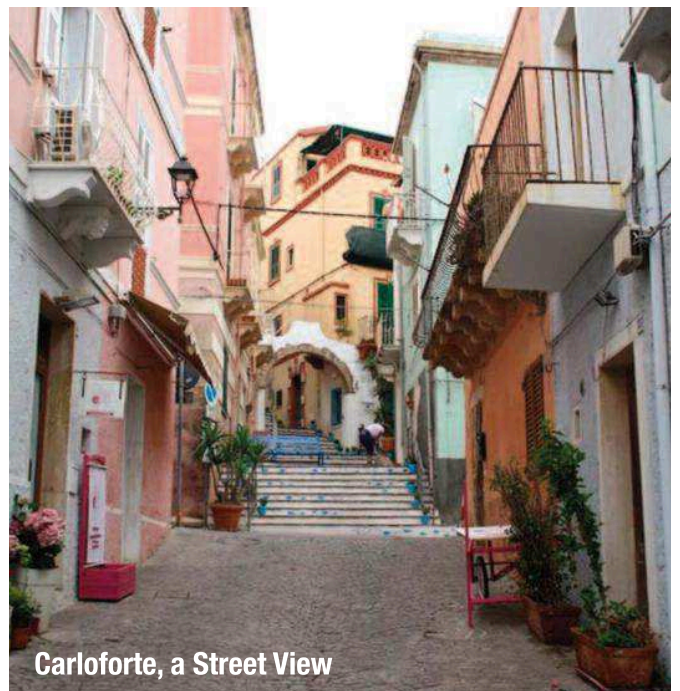
**An enchanting village where tradition and modernity merge and infuse curiosity and charm.** The first vision of Bosa is the historic district of sa Costa, made up of colorful houses that climb the slopes of the Serravalle hill, dominated by the Malaspina castle, dating back to the 12th century. Reachable on foot: the panorama of the town from above. The poetic Lungotemo with the Ponte Vecchio that straddles the Temo, the only navigable river in Sardinia, and alongside it the ancient tanneries, which recall the roots of a very famous center in Italy from the mid-1800s to the beginning of the 1900s for the production of leather.

## CARLOFORTE

**U pàize is a Ligurian village in Sardinia:** it preserves the language and culture of the founders, the fishing families originating from Pegli and coming from the Tunisian island of Tabarka (where they had lived since the 16th century). In 1738, the tabarchinis obtained permission from King Carlo Emanuele III to colonize the island of San Pietro, uninhabited and called '**degli sparrowhawks**' since the times of the Phœnician settlement (8th century BC), followed by the Punic one, with temple and necropolis. The same fishermen, 40 years later, would also found Calasetta on the facing island of Sant'Antioco (ancient Sulcis).



**Carloforte, Stairs to the Castle**



**Carloforte, a Street View**





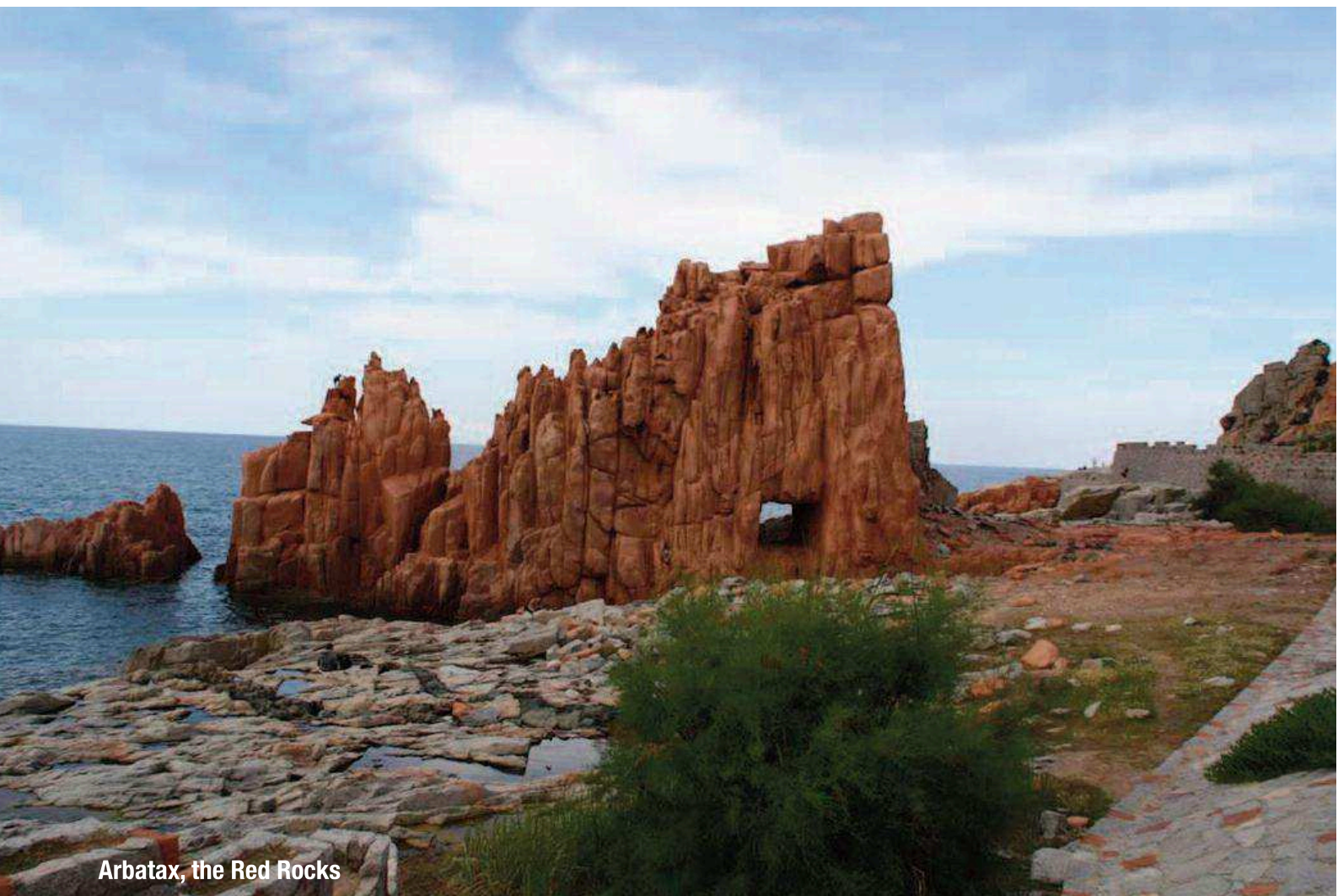
**Madonna dello Schiavo Church**

Still closely linked to Pegli and Genoa, is the only center of the island, with six thousand inhabitants. Small streets and alleys that climb up a slight slope, with colorful glimpses and views of the sea, with a small port and ancient defensive fortifications, of which watchtowers and sections of walls with forts remain.

In the architecture of the village, included in the club of the most beautiful in Italy, the Palassiu of the early twentieth century stands out, today the Giuseppe Cavallera film theater, and the church of the **Madonna dello Schiavo**, which houses the wooden statue venerated by the tabarchini, a symbol of faith and solidarity union of the community.







Arbatax, the Red Rocks

## ARBATAX AND TORTOLÌ

The name Arbatax, derives from Arabic and means fourteenth tower, the village was in fact developed around the Tower of Saint Michael, which is the fourteenth, stretching from the south, of a complex network of fortified towers built, from 1570, by the Spanish monarchy along the coast of Sardinia as a defence against Saracen invaders.

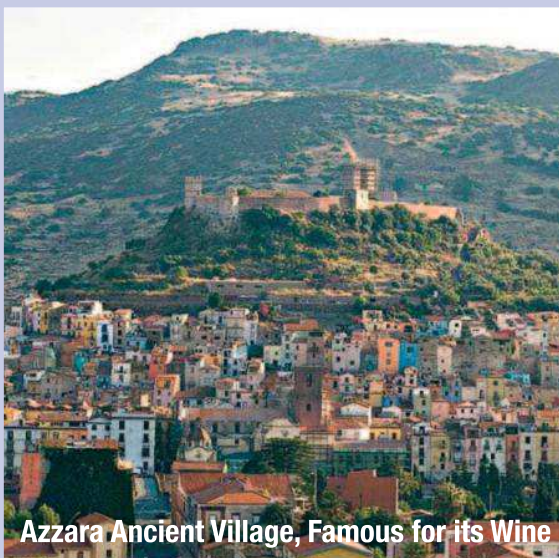
A village of fishermen, originating from the island of Ponza, it is a fascinating hamlet, destination for the ships which link the island to the continent and site of a tourist marina which offers important services to the yachtsmen who sail along the eastern coastline.

**Arbatax Park** is located on a peninsula of over 60 hectares of unspoiled nature, a magical place that welcomes the only Resort in the world with a modern concept of global well-being inserted within a nature reserve, **the Bellavista Park**.

**Nuraghe S'Ortali 'e su Monti**, or the nuraghe San Salvatore, has a wall to plant irregularly elliptical, non-canonical, a central tower and lateral towers dating back to 1500 b.c. In stratigraphy were found also burials in Roman times. The entrance has an architrave surmounted by a triangular window, with the purpose of lightening the weight of the masonry. The block of architrave originates from the reuse of a menhir, perhaps coming from the alignment (which remain two) that insists on the nearby hill.

A village whose existence dates to before 1300. In the historic center, there are some of the typical architectures of the Campidano, among the best preserved and valued ever but it has certainly had a very ancient frequentation, we can even speak of the Paleolithic and Neolithic, thanks to the numerous testimonies found in its territory. At a short distance (800m) the Ancient Baths inside the homonymous luxury hotel dating back to Sadali, excursion along the fairy path with a visit to the Bel See, the Su Stampu de Su Turnu waterfall and the Is Janas Caves 26 million years old.





Azzara Ancient Village, Famous for its Wine

## AZZARA

On the south-western slopes of **Gennargentu**, in the center of Sardinia, an ancient village stands out, **famous for its wine, textile tradition and modern artistic inspiration.**



Lollove, detail by Piernando Piredda

**La Maddalena MA&MA Hotel,**  
built between the rocks



## LOLLOVE

(12 resident inhabitants) retains the medieval structure and forms of the ancient Sardinian rural villages. The Fraction of **Nuoro** is made up of small houses made of stone, with the earth as a binder. Among the abandoned ruins and the few inhabited houses stands the seventeenth-century church of **La Maddalena**, in late Gothic style. It is an extension of an older pre-existing church.



Lollove Village, Local Dresses













Posada, Medieval Village

## POSADA

**Medieval village** whose historic center stands on the slopes of a hill, but the city territory extends to the coast. The closest beach to the center is **Su Tiriartzu**, of medium-grain golden sand bathed by a blue-green sea, surrounded by dense vegetation; and return from **Olbia to Livorno**.

42 Bringing with it the memory of an enchanting journey full of colors, sounds, scents of native aromatic plants, and smells in the pristine air of dense forests of wild nature and medicinal plants. The color of the sea and the very fine sand. The sound of the wind whistling through the reeds, as described by **Grazia Deledda** Nobel Prize for Literature in her novel **Canne al Vento** (1913).

The signs of the many civilizations that have invaded the island from time to time, as evidenced by the flag with the **four Moors**, “without ever dominating it”. An island that is almost a continent.

From the beaches of La Maddalena and Asinara to the mines of Sulcis, from the stones of the nuraghi to the Roman remains, from the Basilica of the Santissima Trinità di Saccari to the walls of Alghero, stories, traditions, legends that make this land a magical and mysterious place. The meeting with its people, listening to their very particular language, bringing with you, in your eyes, the color of a sea of incredible beauty. “This land is like no other place.” It was written by the Englishman **Herbert Lawrence**, one of the many travelers on the **Grand Tour** in the 19th century. *How not to be proud of his famous phrase?*

Our compliments to the mayors of the villages visited, melting pots of art and culture, keepers of a past and traditions not to be forgotten. **T**



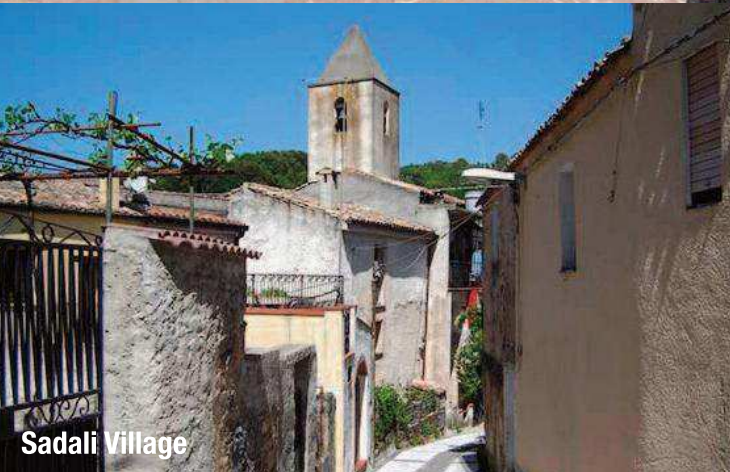




The Mayor of Castel Sardi A.M. Capula and Sandra Bonafede



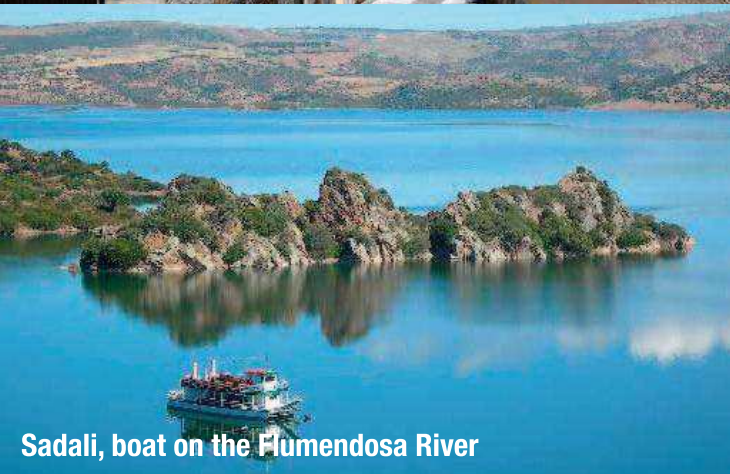
A view of Ancient Lolloi Village



Sadali Village



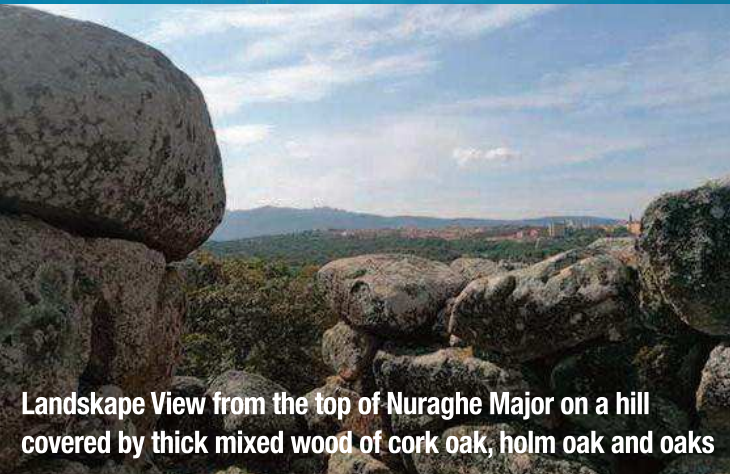
Tour Members highlight the Flag of Sardinia and that of the Most Beautiful Villages in Italy



Sadali, boat on the Flumendosa River



Local crafts and corals



Landscape View from the top of Nuraghe Major on a hill covered by thick mixed wood of cork oak, holm oak and oaks



Group Photo