



STOREX By IFB2

TOUR“...unusual Sardinia...”

1st day

Welcome to Sardinia!

Arrival of participants from all origin City by flight or ferry-Boat.

Eventual transfer from Airport or Port to Cagliari Hotel. Evening free for leisure and relax. **Briefing-presentation** of tour and welcome “**aperitif drinks**”. Dinner and overnight at Cagliari Htl.

Optional after dinner, short sightseeing tour of “**Cagliari by night**”

2nd day

After breakfast the journey begins from **Cagliari** (Karalis, the former name given by Phoenician), capital of Sardinia. Sightseeing in the city, the unique **water-game Roman’s amphitheatre**. The panorama of the “**Golfo degli Angeli-(Angel’s Gulf)**” and the “**Sella del Diavolo-(Devil’s Saddle)**” with their fantastic Legend.

The **archaeological Museum** with the most important findings from Nuragic and Phoenician-Punic civilisations, considered one of the most important in Mediterranean Area. The **Basilica of San Saturnino** an important post-Romanic church dated before V^o century A.C. The old district of **Castello** with its **cathedral S. Maria** dated back to the XIII century, the Pisan walls, Spanish ramparts and characteristic towers: “**Elephant’s Tower**”, “**San Pancrazio’s Tower**”. Short visit to the “**Basilica of Bonaria**” the bigger and most beautiful church in town famous for the Legend, which characterised its creation. Visit of the beautiful downtown **Via Roma, Piazza Yenne, Church of S. Anna**, the elegant **Bastion of S.Remy** and the Hispanic-neoclassic **Palace of Major**.

Return to hotel for dinner and overnight at Cagliari.

3rd day

After breakfast, departure to the west coast of south Sardinia.

Arrival to **Nora** the ancient capital of Sardinia. A sixteenth century tower dominates a promontory by which you may see the vestiges of the ancient town, that was founded by **Phoenicians** as a double port of call for their sea trading: one port sheltered from the west wind and another shielded from the mistral. Nora began a **Punic** and then a **Roman city**, but it disappeared around the third century B.C., perhaps because of a cataclysm. Today it is possible to visit the remains of a Punic background, of **Roman buildings**, of a **Punic-Roman temple**, of thermal baths decorated with beautiful **mosaics** and above all a practically intact theatre which date back to the **Imperial era**. The sea still preserves a part of the old city of Nora, that sank because of an earthquake.

Many buildings are no more recognizable under the crusts of sea and time. There is a myth that says that Nora was founded by **Norace**, son of **Ninph Erithia and Ermes**, who arrived in Sardinia from Iberia. The archaeological excavations demonstrate that

Phoenicians probably founded Nora in the seventh century B.C.

Carthaginian monuments are represented by few graves, **Tanit Temple (Phoenician goddess)** and some **cisterns** called “a bagnarola”. Nora ruins are facing to one clean and white sandy beach called “Su Guventeddu”.

Afternoon continuation of the trip towards **Barumini**. Visit to one of the most important archaeological places in Mediterranean area: **SU NURAXI**, the biggest and most famous of them and a good taste of the primitive grandeur of the island’s only indigenous civilization. The snag is access: the site lies a kilometre outside the village of Barúmini, 50km north-east of Cágliari. Its dialect name means simply “the nuraghe” and not only is it the biggest nuraghic complex on the island, but it’s also thought to be the oldest, dating probably from around 1500 B.C. Comprising a bulky fortress surrounded by the remains of a village,

Su Nuraxi was a palace complex at the very least – possibly a capital city.

The central tower once reached 21m (now shrunk to less than 15m), narrow passageways and stairs, connect its outer defences and inner chambers. The whole complex is thought to have been covered with earth by Sards and Carthaginians at the time of the Roman conquest, which may account for its excellent state of preservation. Continuation to **ORISTANO** small historical City Dinner and overnight in Hotel



4th day

After breakfast in hotel, departure to the **North-west** along the western panoramic coast for the fascinating river city of **Bosa** (the small Sardinia’s Venice). Short sightseeing crossing the city centre to admires its churches from the 1500’s and 1600’s, the “**Castello dei Malaspina**” and the characteristic shell-shaped rocks of the river Temo.

Arrival in **Alghero** and visit to the sea-front and fascinating historical Hispano-Catalano city centre. A walk around the old town should include the seven defensive towers which dominate Alghero’s centre and **surrounding walls**.

From the **Giardino Púbblico**, the **Porta Terra** is the first of the massive bulwarks: known as the **Jewish Tower**, it was erected at the expense of the prosperous Jewish community before their expulsion in 1492. Beyond is a puzzle of lanes, at the heart of which the pedestrianized Via Carlo Alberto, Via Principe Umberto and Via Roma have most of the bars and shops. At the bottom of Via

Umberto stands Alghero’s sixteenth-century **Cathedral**, where Spanish viceroys stopped to take a preliminary oath before taking office in Cagliari. Its unprepossessing entrance is round the other side on Via Menno; inside, the lofty nave’s alternating pillars and columns rise to an impressive octagonal dome. In fact, most of Alghero’s finest architecture dates from the same period, and is built in a similar **Catalan-Gothic style**. Two of the best examples are a short walk away: the **Palazzo dalais** on Piazza Civic, and the elegantly austere Jewish palace **Palau Real** in Via Sant’Erasmus. Dinner and overnight stay in Alghero Hotel.





5th day

Breakfast in Hotel. Weather permitting, visit by boat of the famous marine caves called "grotto di Nettuno" and Capo Caccia with its wild nature and rocks.

(Alternative - if bad sea or meteo-conditions, excursion to Capo Caccia will be done by BUS). Free visit and shopping in Historical centre of Alghero. Dinner and overnight stay in Alghero's Hotel.

6th day

Breakfast in Hotel. After few miles from Alghero, we will find and visit the necropolis of Anghelo Ruju, which is over 5000 years old, the nuragic village of Palmavera (1500-1000 BC) with a double tower structure, and with a large "Consiliare" (Council) Hut, where is located the throne of the tribe's chief. During the diggings, several findings have been found and brought to the museums of Sassari and Cagliari. Traces of ancient Roman remains, bear witness to a continuous human presence in this area. Then departure to Sassari direction. Right on the main Sassari-Olbia road, the SS 597, 15km inland from Sassari, rises the tall bell incredible tower of Santa Trinità di Saccàrgia cathedral, its conspicuous zebra-striped facade marking its Pisan origins.

Built in 1116, the church owes its remote location to a divine visitation, informing the wife of the Giudice of Logudoro that she was pregnant. It has survived remarkably well, with unique lovely Gothic capitals at the top of the entrance porch.

Evening, arrival to Olbia & Costa Smeralda district, Dinner and overnight at Hotel



7th day

Breakfast in hotel. Depart to the Costa Smeralda. The tour will have its "start" with an overview by our Bus of the Coast, approximately 40 km of beaches and the sea along the north-west coast. The name of the area is related to the particular color of the sea, transparencies green and turquoise (Emerald). The wonderful landscape that is dominated by granite rocks that time and winds have carved into marvelous shapes that stimulated the popular imagination in attributing the most fantastic names.

We arrive to Porto Rotondo and the Marinella Gulf, our Tour will take you in highly contrasting habitat, absolutely glamorous and elegant tourist area where you can meet all kinds of VIP (Actors, Politic, Famous Business Men, Writers) in every corners....absolutely different yet with the silent beautifully fascinating and mysterious hinterland. All in Sardinia is a mystery the silent Nuraghe in the fertile charming countryside where are still with the sheep, the main source of income in the region.

We will arrive to the "pearls" of the Costa Smeralda Baja Sardinia, the village of San Pantaleo and the exclusive Porto Cervo, the famous glamour vacation spot. Here we can walk freely and enjoy the elegant shopping area with shops of major fashion brands.

Or admire the many local crafts, from wood to ceramic, from the most imaginative twists of straw in the manufacture of cork and wrought iron. Sardinia is still so, to discover and to live: let's try and have fun together in the depths of this unknown maze. Our tour continues to Arzachena and its wonderful bay, Cannigione well known for its resorts and beaches. The tour ends in the charming and colorful village of Palau. Old fishermen port, today connecting Island and Mainland.

From Palau we can see the south coast of Corsica and the Island of La Maddalena Archipelago.

It's time to return to our hotel for Dinner and overnight.



8th day

Breakfast in Hotel and boarding the flights (Airport of Olbia or return to Cagliari) or Ships (port of Olbia or P.Torres) to mainland. When leaving Sardinia ...the warm hug of its colours, spots, nature and panorama... will remain on your eyes and mind for long time...The Sardinian traditional special way to say good-bye, but come back : "ASSIBIRI !!!" ... Simple but full of means

OFFER NOT VALID IN HIGH AND PEAK SEASON (FROM 15/07 TO 30/08)

INCLUDED: accomodation (in Half Board), transfers & tour leader during all tour.

NOT INCLUDED: flight's tickets, museum's tickets, meals, drinks, extras

OPTIONAL EXTENSION TRIP

- **Olbia-Santa Teresa di Gallura** situated just below the fascinating Costa Smeralda and the enchanting creeks. Continuation of the trip to Santa Teresa di Gallura where, weather permitting, it is possible to view the south coast of the island of Corsica. Afternoon departure to Arzachena boarding again Costa Smeralda, visit of the unique typical "Giant Thumb" named "coddu vecchiu" special mysterious ruins of primordial Sardinian civilisation.
- **Nuoro-Orgosolo** /in Barbagia region/Visit to the Ethnographic Museum and its collection of jewellery, traditional costumes, ornaments and carpets. Followed by a visit to Mount Ortobene park which is situated in a panoramic area of granite masses. Possibility to organize a special wild traditional meal with shepherds of the mountains.

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