



Vivere il Parco

ENJOY THE PARK



Info-Calendar 2024



Green List
Protected | Conserved Areas



EUROPARC
Turismo Sostenibile
nelle Aree Protette

Gaining bearings among the symbols



Activities by boat or motor vessel



The Agronomist's House, Pianosa Park Info



Environmental education activities



Activities in museums



Visits to Pianosa's catacombs



Nature-themed activities



Biowatching, Birdwatching, and Seawatching activities



Night sky observation activities



Geology or minerology-themed activities



Activities with aperitifs or tastings



Activities for children



Activities at dawn or sunset



Discovering marine mammals in the Pelagos



Meet the expert to discover Geology



Meet the expert to discover Biodiversity



Guided tours in the former prison areas



Hiking and outings with long walks



Snorkelling or educational activities in the sea



Sea kayaking activities



Bike tourism or excursions involving biking



Activities in historical sites: towers, forts, retreats, towns



Archaeology-themed activities



Guided tours with travel by carriage



Guided tours with travel by bus

Tuscan Archipelago National Park

Parco Nazionale Arcipelago Toscano

The Protected Area extends for about 177 km² on land and embraces a large stretch of sea (about 615 km²), including all the islands in the Archipelago. In particular, half of the area of Elba and Giglio is protected; in Capraia only the small, inhabited part of town is excluded from the Park's area. Montecristo, Pianosa, and Gorgona are strictly protected, with access being regulated in accordance with sustainability criteria. Lastly, access to Giannutri is free of charge, although for most of the island it is necessary to be accompanied by guides. These islands differ in the geological nature of their lands, in their landscapes, and in the gems of biodiversity they are home to, as well as in their history and the human events that have brought life to these places' past. There are spots for immersing oneself in turquoise water; open spaces drenched in the golden light of sunsets; green landscapes of holm oak woods punctuated by geometric, cultivated terraces; and large expanses of colourful flowers extending towards the sea. Beyond that limit opens the realm of pioneer plants lying on the rocks and rising to the cliffs overlooking the sea, or the sea rocks that are home to small, sandy coves gently scoured by wave action. As we move along the inland pathways we encounter small towns, still well preserved, with ancient, fortified bulwarks that bring to mind the tumultuous events of dominations past.



The seven protected islands

ELBA is Italy's third island in terms of area (224 km²), stretching a maximum of 27 km from east to west, and 18 km from north to south. Lying 10 km off the Tuscan coast, it is subdivided into seven municipalities: Campo nell'Elba, Capoliveri, Marciana, Marciana Marina, Porto Azzurro, Portoferraio, and Rio. The territory is prevalently hilly and mountainous: the granite western massif culminates in Mount Capanne (1,019 m), the Archipelago's highest peak. Always known for its deposits of iron ore, the island is characterized by an exceptional variety of rocks and minerals, bearing witness to a series of complex geological events that led to its formation.

GIGLIO is the Archipelago's second-largest island (23.8 km²). Lying about 15 km to the west of the Monte Argentario promontory, it is traversed by a chain of reliefs culminating in the Poggio della Pagana (496 m); although prevalently granite, on its western side it presents a fragment of ancient sedimentary and metamorphic rocks with veins of iron ore that were extracted until the 1960s from mines situated in the village of Campese.

Covering an area of 19.3 km² and the Archipelago's third largest island, **CAPRAIA** lies 54 km west of the mainland coastline and 28 km from Corsica. An island of volcanic origin, it is prevalently mountainous, with a backbone of reliefs cutting wholly across it, culminating in Mount Castello (445 m).

MONTECRISTO is the fourth-largest island (10.4 km²) and the one furthest from the mainland (about 63 km). Already frequently visited during the Roman Age, in the fifth century it became home to St. Mamilian, who founded a monastic community on the island that remained active until the sixteenth century. It has been a strict nature reserve since 1971, and a biogenetic nature reserve since 1988. The only mooring is located at Cala Maestra, where the Villa Reale rises.

Covering an area of 10.2 m², **PIANOSA** is the Archipelago's fifth-largest island. It lies 14 km SSW of the Elban coast, about 27 km SSE of Montecristo, and approximately 40 km east of Corsica. Visited by prehistoric humans and ancient navigators, it is home to items bearing witness to the Neolithic, Chalcolithic, and Bronze Ages. Maritime residential facilities were located on the island in the Roman Age, and Augustus's grandson Agrippa Postumus was banished there during the imperial period. Until 1998, it was inaccessible to tourism **GIANNUTRI** (2.6 m²), with 11 kilometres of rocky coastline, is the southernmost of the Tuscan islands. The only landing points, the Cala Spalmatoio and Cala Maestra bays, have narrow, gravel beaches. All around lie splendid sea bottoms abounding with biodiversity. The archaeological site of the Roman Villa Domitia may be visited in the company of specialized guides.

GORGONA is the smallest (2.2 m²) and northernmost of the Archipelago's islands. Lying 36 km off the coast, it is home to a prison farm, and has just over 5 km of coastline. The mountainous territory on the western side culminates with the Punta Gorgona cape (225 m). The eastern side is riven by three small valleys, the northernmost of which descends to the sea near the small beach and the village/landing of Cala dello Scalo.

Pelagos Sanctuary for Mediterranean Marine Mammals

The Arcipelago Toscano National Park is entirely included within the Pelagos Sanctuary for Mediterranean Marine Mammals, a marine protected area of about 87,500 m² between Italy, France, and the Principality of Monaco. It extends into the Corsican-Ligurian-Provençal Basin from Escampobariou Cape (near Toulon) to Capo Falcone and Capo Ferro (Sardinia), and to the boundary between Tuscany and Lazio. The area is home to a high level of biodiversity that, in addition to blue whales, sperm whales, and dolphins, boasts about 8,500 species of marine animals.



2021 – 2030 Decade of Ocean Science

Oceans cover 71% of the planet’s surface, and their health is essential for life on Earth and for human well-being. Marine life is suffering due to global warming, pollution, and the overfishing of certain species. For these reasons, the UN decided to proclaim a “Decade of the Sea” starting January 2021. Officially titled the “Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development,” the initiative’s aim is to raise sensitivity and mobilize people on this topic, and to promote the progress of knowledge about the oceans with a view to developing collective solutions. The purposes include that of fostering international cooperation in the field of ocean science and coordinating research programmes.



A commitment to sustainable tourism

The Park Authority has joined the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism (ECST) promoted by the Europarc Federation, a methodological tool and a certification by which to improve management of tourism in the protected areas. The Charter’s central element is collaboration among all the stakeholders interested in developing a common strategy and a plan of action for tourism development, with the common goal being the protection of the natural and cultural heritage and the continued improvement of tourism management to the benefit of the environment, the local population, businesses, and visitors. The Park is currently spearheading a five-year Action Plan (2021-2025) shared with the social partners and consultable using the link and QR code: ECST: www.islepark.it/visitare-il-parco/carta-europea-turismo-sostenibile

e dal qr code a lato:



10 ECST PRINCIPLES TO BE FOLLOWED



- 1) To protect the landscape, biodiversity, and cultural heritage
- 2) To support conservation through tourism
- 3) To reduce the ecological footprint, pollution, and waste
- 4) To offer visitors accesses safe for all abilities
- 5) To effectively communicate the area's uniqueness
- 6) To guarantee social cohesion
- 7) To strengthen the local economy
- 8) To offer skills training to operators
- 9) To monitor the performance and results of tourism
- 10) To communicate actions and foster involvement in the Charter

4 LINES OF STRATEGY IDENTIFIED FOR THE PARK'S TERRITORY

A TERRITORY TO BE MANAGED

- Sustain the activities to protect and monitor the natural capital, geodiversity, the historical and cultural heritage and the territory more generally, also through actions for monitoring alien species and the optimal management of beaches and of the coastal strip, including the possible identification of marine protected areas.
- Guarantee the maintenance of the trail network and the recovery of the structures functional to the sustainable exploitation of the Tuscan Archipelago.

AN OFFER TO BE DIFFERENTIATED

- Deseasonalize tourism through the variety of experiences (nature tourism, geotourism, cultural and wine & food tourism, outdoor tourism, etc.) and of educational activities that the territory offers to the informed tourist.
- Imagine a brand for the Tuscan Archipelago to be conveyed through a coordinated communication aimed at promoting a sustainable destination that is "not just the sea."

A FOOTPRINT TO BE REDUCED

- Reduce environmental impacts by operating towards a carbon-free and plastic-free territory (alternative energies, water cycle, food waste, circular economy, waste management, ...) and take action against the effects of climate change.
- Rethink internal mobility and links in the setting of the Tuscan Archipelago, in order to grow local businesses and improve the islands' tourism offerings.

A COMMUNITY TO GROW

- Consolidate the Park's role and "presence" on the territory, through listening, collaboration, and the sharing of management objectives with local players, in order to make them increasingly informed about the potentials of sustainable tourism.
- Promote youth entrepreneurship and an economy complementary to summer tourism (quality agriculture, sustainable fishing, short supply chain, innovative and outdoor services).

UNESCO MAB Biosphere Reserve

Recognized in 2003, the UNESCO MAB Tuscan Islands Reserve consists of the Archipelago seven islands, some small islands between the Tuscan coast and Corsica, and the sea that surrounds them – environments containing a large geological and biological diversity representative of the Mediterranean region. The UNESCO MAB (Man and the Biosphere) programme develops the bases within the natural and social sciences for the rational and sustainable use and the conservation of the biosphere's resources, and for the improvement of the general relationship between people and their environment. In keeping with these objectives, the Tuscan Islands Biosphere Reserve promotes projects and initiatives aimed at protecting natural resources and incentivizing a sustainable economic development benefitting local communities.



The UN 2030 Agenda

On 25 September 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, identifying 17 Sustainable Development Goals crucial for humanity’s survival: education, health, social protection, work, climate change, environmental protection. Committed to the daily action of protecting what is fragile, precious, and threatened, Arcipelago Toscano National Park (PNAT), in its catalogue of 2024 services, proposes activities, experiences, workshops, and events aimed at promoting behaviours and lifestyles that can contribute towards achieving these ambitious objectives. Of the 17 goals identified by the UN, PNAT is focusing its attention on some of these that are more organic to its own mission, in the conviction that great changes on a global level can be generated by the set of small, individual gestures, and that daily, informed choices can contribute towards the building of a “life on Earth that is sustainable, pacific, prosperous, and fair for all.”

Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Goal 7. Ensure clean and accessible energy

Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Goal 13. Take urgent action at all levels to combat climate change

Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems

Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development



The National Park on the prestigious Green List

Some have called it the “Nobel Prize for nature”; others consider it the global elite of protected natural areas. In essence, it is a list that names and certifies the nature reserves and parks that are the best on a global level in terms of protecting natural resources and of sustainable management of the territory. This is the “Green List” promoted and guaranteed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the leading global body in the matter of protected areas. In 2021, Arcipelago Toscano National Park was added to this prestigious and restricted club of super-Parks. The IUCN’s Green List currently names 61 protected areas in 16 countries around the world.



Only three Italian Parks have earned this honour, which certifies the attainment of high management standards for those protected areas that have demonstrated constant commitment to four strategic pillars: governance, programming, management, and the results of conservation. While the global experts sent by the IUCN for verification in the field appreciated the extraordinary natural capital characteristic of the Tuscan Archipelago, they also noted and positively viewed the many actions and the various projects that the management body has conducted over these years in order to conserve the environmental values showing respect for the local communities, and in keeping with the objectives for sustainable development promoted by the UN in its 2030 Agenda. The Parks are the crown jewels in the global system of protected areas, a fundamental reference, both in technical terms and as relates to governance, for the maintenance of the natural resources essential for the health and the economy of all.



Green List
Protected | Conserved Areas

A Park to be experienced



Rules and recommendations

During your visit, please follow the principles of good manners and common sense in order to enjoy the Park while listening in silence to the wind and the sounds of nature, and to follow its rhythms, as you discover the place with the aid of Park Guides who will make the experience a unique one. To enjoy the nature, you are asked to follow these simple rules:

- riporta a casa i tuoi rifiuti;



- DO NOT stray from the marked trails



- If you see animals, keep your distance and DO NOT disturb them



- DO NOT light fires; if you see a fire, report it by calling 800 425 425



- DO NOT pick plants and flowers, or collect fossils and minerals



- Take your waste home with you; LEAVE NOTHING on the territory



- Keep your dog on a leash at all times



Park Info and Environmental Education Centres

The Visitor Centres on the Island of Elba (Marciana, Lacona, Rio nell'Elba, and Portoferraio) have everything that relates to the protected natural area: information, more complete details, services, merchandise, recommendations on places to discover and activities to be booked. The Environmental Education Centres organize guided tours and educational workshops.



INFO PARK PORTOFERRAIO

Viale Elba 2, Portoferraio - Tel. 0565 908231

From 1 November to 31 March:

Monday to Saturday, 9:00 AM -3:00 PM;

Sunday, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

From 1 April to 31 October:

Monday to Sunday, 9:00 AM-7:00 PM

INFO PARK LACONA

SP30, Lacona / beach - Tel. 0565 1930778

From 1 May to 15 June and from 16 to 30 September:

Tuesday to Sunday, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

From 16 June to 15 September:

Monday to Sunday, 9:00 AM-6:00 PM

INFO PARK PIANOSA

Tel. 0565 908231

From 15 March to 31 October:

Monday to Sunday, 11:00 AM-4:30 PM

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE (CEA), DUNE SYSTEM, LACONA

SP30, Lacona / beach

Open from 1 May to 1 October

based on the calendar of workshops and activities; consultable at

parcoarcipelago.info





CASA DEL PARCO MARCIANA

Fortezza Pisana, Marciana
Tel. 0565 940110 - 348 7039374

From 30 March to 16 June and from 1 October to 1 November:

Friday (10:00 AM-1:00 PM, October only)
3:00 PM-6:00 PM

Saturday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM
and 3:00 PM-6:00 PM

Sunday 10:30 AM-1:00 PM
Monday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

From 17 June to 30 September:

Monday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM
Tuesday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM
Wednesday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

and 3:30 PM-6:30 PM

Friday 3:00 PM-7:00 PM

Saturday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM
and 4:00 PM-7:00 PM

Sunday 10:30 AM-1:00 PM

CASA DEL PARCO RIO NELL'ELBA

Loc. Canali, Rio
Tel. 0565 943399

From 31 March to 31 May:

Friday and Saturday,
10:00 AM-1:00 PM and 4:00 PM- 7:00 PM;
Sunday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

From 1 to 30 June and from 1 to 14 September:

Thursday, Friday, Saturday
10:00 AM-1:00 PM and
4:00 PM-8:00 PM; Sunday
10:00 AM-1:00 PM

From 1 July to 31 August:

Tuesday 4:00 PM-8:00 PM
Thursday, Friday, Saturday
10:00 AM-1:00 PM and 4:00 PM-8:00 PM;
Sunday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

From 15 September to 31 October:

Thursday, Friday, Saturday 10:00 AM-1:00
PM and 4:00 PM -7:00 PM;
Sunday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM



FORTE INGLESE
PORTOFERRAIO

FORTE INGLESE (ENGLISH FORT) PORTOFERRAIO

Via Giagnoni 5, Portoferraio (above the
hospital, ascending from Via San Rocco)

From 1 March to 14 June and from 16 September to 31 October

Every weekend from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

From 15 June to 15 September

Every day from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

From 1 November to 1 March

Open based on the events calendar.

Information: Portoferraio's Park
Information Centre

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE “FORTEZZA PISANA”

Facility operated with the presence of a Park Guide accompanying visitors on their journey to discover the protected area, with particular reference to western Elba. Multimedia spaces and interactive applications explain the genesis and geological evolution of the Tuscan Archipelago, providing in-depth analysis of the issues connected to climate change and to the protection of geodiversity and biodiversity. Admission is free of charge.



“Marciana tells its story” – with final aperitif

From 1 June to 1 November, every Wednesday from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Departure from the scenic terrace of Casa del Parco, with introduction to the island’s nature and history. Walk amid lanes and alleyways of the picturesque village of Marciana, discovering its history. The visit ends with an aperitif at the bistro in the small town square. Booking required. € 15 –€ 4 reduced price (children 5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



“Marciana tells its story” – the village’s craftspeople

Months of July and August, Saturday from 6:30 PM to 19:30 PM

Discovering the village’s artisans, and the passion with which they transform the treasures and products of the Park’s territory, recovering traditional craftsmanship. € 8.

POZZO DEI DESIDERI – The art of woodworking, in the past and in the present. Wood items built by Alessandro, speaking about Elba’s tree life. 6 July and 3 August.

ARTENATURALE – Using the active ingredients of local plants and herbs to create artisanal soaps. A visit to Agnese’s shop. 13 July and 10 August.

BOTTEGA ARTISTICA DI OMERO – Elba as seen by Omero at his art workshop and through his finely crafted miniatures and watercolours, as we rediscover the value of the landscape with an Elban par excellence. 20 July and 17 August.

CAPEPE – A choice of Marciana’s seasonal fruit and the production of jams and preserves. Meeting with Doriana at her workshop. 27 July and 24 August.



Musei—
Arcipelago
SISTEMA MUSEALE
DELL'ARCHIPELAGO TOSCANO

CEA Casa del Parco Marciana



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE “FRANCO FRANCHINI”

The Rio Environmental Education Centre is the Rio Visitors' Centre located on the eastern side of the Island of Elba, a district that has always been suited to mining activity. Aided by the Park Guide and by interactive applications, visitors enter into contact with the island's extraordinary geological and mineral heritage; with spaces dedicated to food and agriculture, teaching activities, and history. Admission is free of charge.

Nature painting workshops

Nature painting and creativity workshop for adults and children, every Tuesday in July from 5:00 to 6:30 PM. Learning and using of various techniques like watercolour and pencil, and practical hints on using colour: an occasion to observe nature carefully, to memorize characteristics and details, and then to depict them on paper. Participants are responsible for their own materials. Free of charge; booking required.



Thursday summer workshops

Workshops for adults and children every Thursday in July and August from 5:00 to 6:30 PM. “Discovering the sea and its inhabitants” – “Let's discover the Mediterranean maquis” – “The plastic monster: using plastic objects to create artworks” – “The Elban treasure: ore and minerals” – “Alien invasions: exotic or non-native alien species” – “Let's navigate! The winds, knots, and bearings” – “Let's colour with natural earths.” Free of charge; booking required.



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE “RAFFAELLO FORESI”

Located in the island’s central area, the facility organizes activities for children and adults on topics of environmental education, developed through games and activity: learning the meaning of the word “biodiversity”; animals and plants that live in the Park. Protected by the Park, the adjacent dune system becomes the starting point for a set of nature-themed activities led by Park Guides. Every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Summer workshops for children 8-11 years of age – Every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday; from June to September, 2:00-4:00 PM.

Summer workshops for children 5-7 years of age – Every Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday; from June to September, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM

Snorkelling with Park Guide – Every Tuesday in July and August, 11:00 AM, Duration: 1h30m

Mondays from 15 June to 15 September – 2 activities, alternating weeks
Aperitif with typical products and guided tour of the dune system, with Park Guide, 6:00 PM, Duration: 2 h. Booking required. € 10; € 5 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age; free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

Evening nature activities for children and families: discovering the Dune in the company of the Park Guide. Booking required; free of charge.

Special: Mindful Eating - Monday 1 July and 5 August

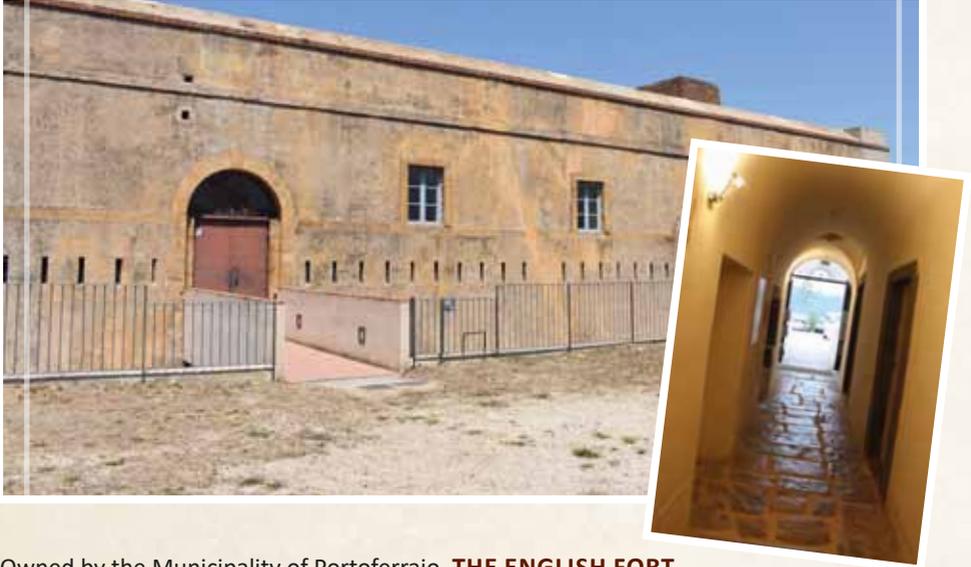
An informed aperitif with mindful eating instructor Antonella Vitacca. “Mindful eating,” a practice that helps find a healthy relationship with food. Followed by a mindful aperitif, taking the time to eat using all five senses. From 6:30 to 8:30 PM. Booking required. € 10; € 5 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age; free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.





FORTE INGLESE

PORTOFERRAIO



Owned by the Municipality of Portoferraio, **THE ENGLISH FORT**

(Forte Inglese) is an eighteenth-century defensive structure built by Cosimo III, Grand Duke of Tuscany, to protect the city. Enlarged by Napoleon during his Elban exile, the Fort was used in many different ways until its recent restoration. In addition to the building's historic value, the Fort is also appreciated for its scenic position dominating the city and harbour of Portoferraio.

Today, the structure's evocative environments are home to the permanent exhibition of the scientist-photographer Giorgio Roster; the NAT-LAB nature laboratory; a multimedia space on alien species; the large painting by the artist Luciano Regoli entitled *Lo sbarco di Napoleone all'Elba* ("Napoleon landing on Elba") and a PRISMA chamber for meteor observation.



FORTE INGLESE



THE GIORGIO ROSTER EXHIBITION - Created by collaboration between the National Park and the Municipality of Portoferraio, the exhibition dedicated to Giorgio Roster, a Florentine scientist who was an assiduous visitor to Elba starting in 1875, is housed in the spaces at the English Fort. A physician and hygienist, he devoted himself passionately to Elban mineralogy, to botany, and to photography. Titled *“L’Elba di Giorgio Roster. La trasformazione del paesaggio tra Otto e Novecento negli scatti dello scienziato fotografo”* (“Giorgio Roster’s Elba. The transformation of the landscape between the nineteenth and twentieth centuries in the scientist-photographer’s snapshots”), the exhibition collects photographs of Elba from more than a century ago, offering a journey through the island’s historic, natural, and geological excellence, thanks to images, the scholar’s belongings, and videos on the people in his entourage. A touchscreen display allows separate access to the vast Roster collection in the digital library of **Museo Galileo**, the **University of Florence’s museum system**, and **Biblioteca Comunale Foresiana** in Portoferraio. The exhibition may be visited during the English Fort’s opening days and hours. (see pg. 14).

ALIENS PROJECT (LIFE ASAP) - At the English Fort, a special multimedia space is available for exploring knowledge of our territory’s **alien species**, which thus become virtual sentinels of biodiversity: as visitors play with augmented reality, they learn how to recognize the Park’s alien species, to sight them in the surrounding environment, and to assess the risks and environmental threats connected with their spread.

PRISMA PROJECT - Thanks to a synergy between the National Park – which supported and in part financed the project – and the Municipality of Portoferraio, which has opted to host the device, **Associazione Astrofili Elbani** has installed, at the English Fort, Elba’s first astronomical research instrument. Part of a vast network of all-sky cameras distributed throughout Italy, **the PRISMA chamber** has the purpose of recording the passage of all the brightest meteors, also known as shooting stars: in fact, as the oldest rocks in the Solar System, meteorites can offer us information on what took place when the Sun and the planets – including the Earth – were formed. The live images taken by the English Fort’s PRISMA chamber will be freely consultable online.



NAT-LAB is the nature laboratory at the English Fort (Portoferraio), set up by the **World Biodiversity Association** in collaboration with the **National Park**. NAT-LAB holds the most important entomological collection of species presents in the Tuscan Archipelago. Here, nature researchers are working to create more zoological and botanical collections dedicated to the Tuscan Archipelago. NAT-LAB promotes the sharing of knowledge thanks to an educational classroom devoted to valorizing the local environmental heritage. Here, one may, upon booking, carry out laboratory and study activities under the expert guidance of the Curator Leonardo Forbicioni. Workshops and guided tours with small nature observations and experiences are held during the summer period, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM, on the following dates: **13 and 27 June; 11 and 25 July; 8 and 22 August**. Booking required; participation is free of charge.





LEGAMBIENTE

Arcipelago Toscano



MOLA WETLAND

Housed in a recovered farmhouse in the Park, the Aula VerdeBlu “Giovanna Neri” lecture hall is located in the most important wetland on the Island of Elba, to protect this essential ecosystem.

The facility is managed by Legambiente Arcipelago Toscano and by ASD Diversamente Marinai, working together to guarantee an action of supervision over the area and to provide visitors with the information they need to learn about and protect this precious treasure chest of biodiversity.

The hall, which has spaces equipped to welcome visitors, is enriched with a garden planted with native species that provide nourishment for foraging bees and butterflies. Mainly outdoor activities are offered, suitable for all, aimed at deepening knowledge of the wetland, of the habitats of Community and regional interest, and of the fauna – above all the birdlife connected to marsh environments – that lives or nests at the site or makes the site its temporary home.

Località Mola – For information and bookings: Luca - 3283085244; Federica - 3393868970.

From 1 October to 31 May: Monday from 2:30 to 4:30 PM (tours; booking required).

From 1 June to 30 September: open by appointment or for special events included on the calendar.



Aula Verde e Blu - Mola



The “La Natura al centro” (Focus on Nature) Festival

Protecting nature is certainly the core business of the Arcipelago Toscano National Park, which has activated many significant protection projects in keeping with its institutional mission: to guarantee the conservation of biodiversity and safeguard the territory’s geological and geo-mineral heritage. This is why the National Park has been awarded the prestigious International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) international certification. In terms of conservation, the projects currently being carried in the enormous district of the protected natural area range from studying and monitoring bat populations to surveying the areas where colonies of shearwaters feed; from protecting natural pollinators to monitoring passeriformes; from studying the presence of spiders in the Tuscan Archipelago to monitoring the vegetation on the various islands; from increasing the nesting population of osprey to actions to monitor and protect the monk seal; from combating alien species to studies aimed at reducing and minimizing the impact caused by waste at sea.



To some of these projects, the Park’s 2024 programme will dedicate the “La Natura al centro” (“Focus on Nature”) Festival – a rich array of events and conferences aimed at disseminating to the public the results of its own research, monitoring, and protection actions through the experiences gained in the field.

For the experts involved and the appointments on the calendar, see below.



Marco Isaia
naturalist,
Università di
Torino



Leonardo Forbicioni
entomologist,
vice presidente
W.B.A. onlus



Giulia Mo
marine biologist,
ISPRA - Istituto
Superiore per la
Protezione e la
Ricerca Ambientale



Lorenzo Lazzaro
naturalist,
Università di
Firenze



Sabrina Agnesi
biologist,
ISPRA - Istituto
Superiore per la
Protezione e la
Ricerca Ambientale



Letizia Marsili
marine biologist,
Università di
Siena



Gianna Dondini
chiropterologist,
MuNAP - Museo
Naturalistico
Archeologico
Appennino Pistoiese



Marco Zuffi
naturalist,
Museo di
Storia Naturale
dell'Università di Pisa



Clarissa Giacolini
veterinary,
president of
Ordine Veterinari
di Grosseto



Giampiero Sammuri
biologist,
president of
Parco Nazionale
Arcipelago Toscano



Simone Vergari
chiropterologist,
MuNAP - Museo
Naturalistico
Archeologico Appennino
Pistoiese



**La Natura
al centro**



Whale watching in the Pelagos Sanctuary

The Arcipelago Toscano National Park is entirely included within the Pelagos Sanctuary for Mediterranean Marine Mammals. Eight species of cetaceans – the spotted, bottlenose, and common dolphin, the beaked whale, the grampus, the pilot whale, the sperm whale, and the common blue whale – make their home in the Sanctuary, and the monk seal may be sighted on occasion. To allow visitors to discover this extraordinary natural heritage, the Park organizes, every Monday during the summer, a Whale Watching excursion in collaboration with the motorboat “Mickey Mouse,” in the company of a Park Guide with expert knowledge of marine biology.



WHALE WATCHING

Every Monday from 17 June to 30 September

In the waters of the Arcipelago Toscano National Park, in the heart of the Pelagos Sanctuary for Mediterranean Marine Mammals: one of Europe’s largest protected areas that, in addition to blue whales, sperm whales, and dolphins, is home to about 8,500 species of marine animals. Discovering the cetaceans that populate the sea around the Tuscan Islands: we will navigate along Elba’s southeastern coastline, in the company of the marine biologist and Park Guide, who will help us get the most out of this extraordinary experience.

Appointment: 9:15 AM. Marina di Campo, boarding of motorboat “Mickey Mouse” – Duration: 5h30’. Booking required. € 50, € 30 reduced price for 5-12 years of age. Minimum age: 5. Onboard lunch included. No pets allowed.

Geo-Experience in the Tuscan Islands



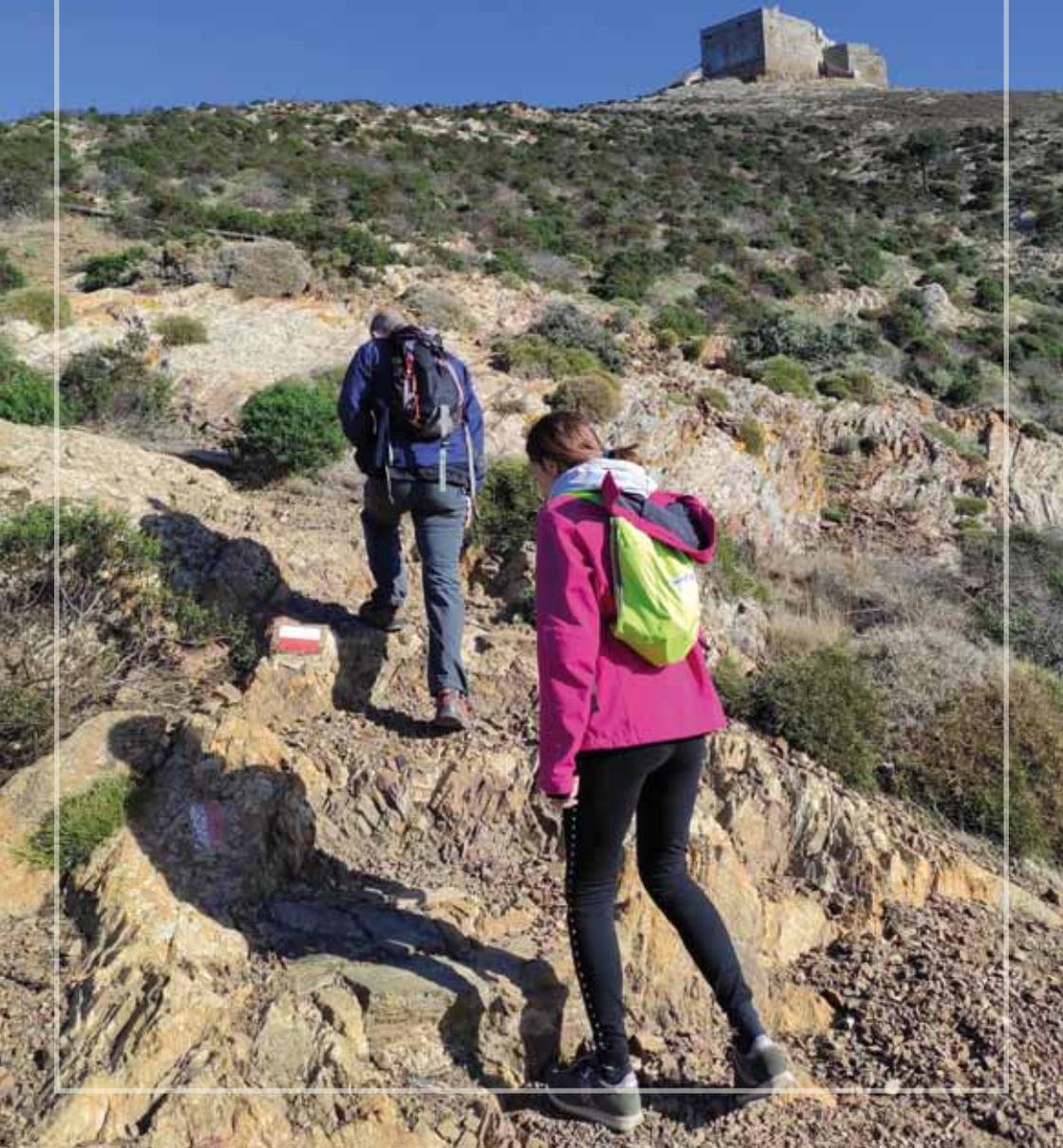
The Island of Elba has been defined as a “grand, open-air, geo-mineralogical museum.” Nearly 250 minerals have been identified on the island, with a very high average per square kilometre. The rocks there – sedimentary, magmatic, metamorphic, and hydrothermal – range between 5 million and 450 million years of age, and formed in both oceanic and continental contexts. All the main geological processes are well represented and observable here. Equal abundance is found on the Archipelago’s other islands: sedimentary on Pianosa; the ancient volcano on Capraia, and the limestone half-moon on Giannutri.



The island’s resources have been known and exploited since Antiquity, and their territories have seen a variety of mining and extraction activities, from the iron mines and granite quarries on Elba to the hematite deposits on the Island of Giglio, which are among the most important in Europe. Making the most of this invaluable heritage is one of the National Park’s institutional duties, as also stated by the consolidated law on protected areas which establishes the safeguarding of its “geological and geomorphological formations”: to do this, the Park, in synergy with the Miniere di Calamita mine, Parco Minerario di Rio mining park, MUM – Museo Mineralogico Luigi Celleri and various experts from the world of the university and research, holds geology- and mineralogy-related events – called “geo-experiences” – on all the islands, offering geology hikes, sea kayaking with expert geologists, geo-excursions by boat, conferences, and geology-themed workshops for children. Look for the icons and discover all the events!

Island of Elba

Activity Calendar 2024



Winter in the Park



LEGAMBIENTE



SUNDAY, 3 FEBRUARY

Biodiversity in Mola – Bioblitz with iNaturalist

On the occasion of **World Wetlands Day** (2 February); in collaboration with Legambiente Arcipelago Toscano, prizes are awarded in a citizen science contest: along with WBA experts, we will collect data to feed into the iNaturalist platform – “Biodiversità della palude di Mola” (Mola wetland Biodiversity) project. Appointment: 3:00 PM, Aula VerdeBlu lecture hall, Loc. Mola. Duration: 3 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy. Free event; booking required.

SUNDAY, 11 FEBRUARY

Who lives in the water during the winter?

On the occasion of **Darwin Day** (12 February), an appointment for everyone, in collaboration with Legambiente Arcipelago Toscano and WBA experts, to discover the myriad forms of life populating the wetland environments and watercourses. Children will be given their own naturalist’s notebooks free of charge, to note down their observations and discoveries. Appointment: Aula VerdeBlu lecture hall, Località Mola, 3:30 PM – Duration: 2 hours. Free event; booking required.



SATURDAY, 16 MARCH

Hiking the ancient quarries in collaboration with MUM

CWalking on the highlands of Cavoli we reach “La Nave” – “the boat”: a famed block of semifinished granite. We then continue amid the Mediterranean vegetation and dry-stone walls that delimited the ancient farmland, to the large Elban sheepfold (CApril di Marco) and the ancient quarry of granite columns that lie amid the vegetation.

Appointment: 11:00 AM, at the end of the dirt road beyond Residence “Le Formiche,” Cavoli – Duration: 2 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy. Booking required. € 8; € 4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



Spring in the Park

SATURDAY, 30 MARCH

Galleria del Ginevra: guided tour with the geologist

Elba's only underground mine contains the recent history of the mining activities carried out in Capoliveri: although the mine itself closed in 1981, it has reopened its gates to offer a descent into the island's "iron heart." Joined by an expert, we will visit one of the tunnels, discovering the geological history of Europe's largest magnetite deposit. Followed by a visit to the Museun. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Museo della vecchia Officina, Capoliveri. Duration: 3h30m – Degree of difficulty: medium. Booking required. € 18, € 15 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age. Minimum age: 5.



SUNDAY, 31 MARCH

Opening of the Volterraio Fortress for a guided tour

Afternoon opening of Fortress, from 4:00 to 7:00 PM. Visitors can reach the entrance on their own (ascending to trail 255) and visit the monument in the company of the Park Guide. No booking required. Tickets € 8, € 4 reduced price for visitors over 65 years of age, residents of the Tuscan Archipelago and children 5-12 years of age. Free of charge for disabled persons and those accompanying them, children 0-4 years of age and students who are residents of the Tuscan Archipelago (up to 19 years of age).



MONDAY, 1 APRIL

Hiking in Ischia and Fonza

We start from La Foce, the eastern end of the Marina di Campo beach. From the cliff, we take trail no. 248 which ascends amid the dwellings to the long, scenic section immersed in the Mediterranean maquis, and its plants that can withstand high salinity, strong winds, drought, and heat. We pass the characteristic Ischia cove and continue along the coast to the wild beach of Fonza. Participants bring their own packed lunch. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Marina di Campo, Loc. La Foce – Duration: 4 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium-easy. Booking required. € 8, € 4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



Island of Elba

SATURDAY, 13 APRIL

Hiking at Capo Stella: observing the stars, measuring the darkness

On the occasion of **International Dark Sky Week**, in collaboration with Astrofilii Elbani and Astrofilii Pisani, and with CNR expert Luciano Massetti. A nighttime stroll to discover what light pollution is, and the impact it has on the natural environment. Accompanied by experts, we will use a portable dark sky meter to measure the darkness, followed by observation of the starry sky using the telescopes provided by Associazione Astrofilii. Appointment: 9:00 PM, Lacona, Capo di Stella – Duration: 2h30m – Degree of difficulty: medium. Booking required. € 8, € 4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



SUNDAY, 14 APRIL

Birdwatching in the Mola wetland

Two billion migratory birds pass by way of Italy every year, and areas like our island's wetlands, where they can rest and stock up on food and water, are particularly important for their journey's success. Spring is the ideal moment to make interesting observations. Birdwatching with the Park Guide, sheltered amid the vegetation or behind specially placed blinds. In collaboration with Legambiente Arcipelago Toscano. Appointment: 5:30 PM, Mola wetland – Duration: 2 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy – Free event.



LEGAMBIENTE



THURSDAY, 25 APRIL

Orchids on Calamita

Excursion from the town of Capoliveri towards the former mining area, where the famous iron ore was extracted, to discover a genuine sampling of spontaneous orchids. On the uncultivated slopes, you will be surprised by the abundance of flowers and orchids pretty much everywhere, growing like daisies: *Ophrys incubacea*, *Serapias*, *Anacamptis papilionacea*, and *Anacamptis pyramidalis*. Appointment: Vecchio Municipio (old city hall), Capoliveri 10:00 AM – Duration: 3 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy. Booking required. € 8, € 4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



Island of Elba



SATURDAY, 27 APRIL

Porto Aperto, discover the Port of Portoferraio

Guided tour of the port of Portoferraio in collaboration with Autorità di Sistema Portuale del Mar Tirreno Settentrionale - port authority of the northern Tyrrhenian (sixteenth edition of the **Porto Aperto** project; Italian Port Days and the European Day of the Sea). The route will wind its way between the wet dock, the pier, the Medici Fortress, and the port's piers, until reaching Torre del Gallo and Torre della Linguella, providing a complete picture of Portoferraio's port and urban fabric. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Gattaia Infopoint, Portoferraio – Duration: 2h30m– Booking required; free of charge.



SUNDAY, 28 APRIL

Look what's hopping!

On the occasion of **World Frog Day**, a workshop for children on the Archipelago's amphibians. Together, we will build a pop-up card that small frogs and toads will hop out of, as we learn through play about the main endemic fauna on our islands (hyla sarda, emerald green toad, and painted frog), their habitats, and their importance. Appointment: 3:00 PM, Lacona Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 2 hours – Booking required; free of charge.



WEDNESDAY, 1 MAY

GTE (Grande Traversata Elbana) road and surroundings: from Procchio to Mount Perone, passing by way of the Etruscan site

From the Procchio hill, we take the GTE road that rises up Mount Castello (226 m) where, in the Mediterranean scrub, the ruins of an Etruscan fortress can be glimpsed. The path continues like a tunnel amid the vegetation, to the intersection with trail 121 for Sant'Ilario, where it becomes persistently steep until Mount Perone (50 minutes later). Appointment: 10:00 AM, Procchio hill bus stop – Duration: 5 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium-demanding. Booking required. € 8, € 5 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.





SUNDAY, 5 MAY

The Way of the Mastic Plants

A hike along trail 150 that links the town of Marciana Marina to the village of Sant'Andrea. A scenic excursion overlooking the sea, following the network of historic mule trails amid rockroses, myrtle, broom, and heather, in the holm oak woods. This section of what is referred to as the "perfumed trail" is characterized by numerous mastic plants. In collaboration with Fondazione Acqua dell'Elba. Appointment: 10:00 AM La Fenicia beach, Marciana Marina – Duration: 5 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium – Booking required. € 8, € 5 reduced for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

WEDNESDAY, 8 MAY

Hiking on the Capo Stella promontory and aperitif with typical products



In collaboration with Camping Laconella, Camping Valle Santa Maria, and Camping Appartamenti Tallinucci, a loop on the narrow cape that separates the two bays, offering visitors an evocative view while immersed in the colours and scents of the Mediterranean scrubland: the enchanting bays of Golfo Stella, the beaches and the western coast of Calamita with Capoliveri and the Gemini Islands. The hike ends with an aperitif featuring typical products. Appointment: 9:30 AM – Spiaggia di Margidore – Duration: 2h30m – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required; free of charge.



SATURDAY, 11 MAY

A bridge for migrations: biowatching with the expert

On the occasion of **World Migratory Bird Day**, a stroll in Marciana with the ornithology expert, to sight migrating birds that choose our island for stopping or nesting. Appointment: 6:00 PM, Marciana, Casa del Parco Duration: 2 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy. Booking required; free of charge.



Island of Elba

SUNDAY, 12 MAY

Clean beaches and sea bottoms

Begun in 2014, the Beach Litter investigation is one of the most important citizen science initiatives on an international level. Along with Legambiente, we will be cleaning a beach in the eastern area and, with the assistance of the Park's scuba guides, the area's sea bottoms: the collected waste will be appropriately registered and catalogued, with the objective of helping to enlarge the beached waste database built by volunteers on a European level. After the experience, participants will enjoy a snack. Appointment: 3:00 PM, Aula Verde Blu, Loc. Mola – Duration: 2 hours.

Booking required, free of charge.



LEGAMBIENTE

SATURDAY, 18 MAY

“Domus mellifera,” a home for bees

On the occasion of **World Bee Day**, in collaboration with the WBA and Acqua dell'Elba, a hike on the trails equipped with some “Domus Mellifera” structures: artificial nests for honeybees, capable of accommodating swarms that autonomously make their homes in them, thereby ensuring the maintenance of natural colonies evolving with the environment and not managed or conditioned by humans in any way. The walk will be followed by a presentation of the project, which will also involve placing more Domus Mellifera nests on the island. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Marciana, Casa del Parco – Duration: 3 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy – Participation free of charge.



SATURDAY, 18 MAY

Spiders are not insects! – conference

An evening with the expert **Marco Isaia** – Department of Life Sciences and Systems Biology, University of Turin – who will help increase our knowledge about these organisms, intriguing “sentinels” of climate change, and will share with us some of the data collected during the research efforts carried out on behalf of the Park authority on our territory to further our understanding of the spiders of the Tuscan Archipelago. Children's corner with dedicated activity led by the Park Guide. Appointment: 9:00 PM – English Fort, Portoferraio. Duration: 2 hours. Participation free of charge.



SUNDAY, 19 MAY

The spiders of Elba – a walk with the expert

An easy hike in the Lacona area, to discover the spiders that inhabit our land. Joined by **Leonardo Forbicioni** of the WBA, curator of NAT-LAB, the expert **Marco Isaia** will acquaint us with some of them and talk to us about the research he is carrying out on the territory of the Archipelago, revealing how the study of these small animals can give us with broad perspectives, and providing information about how the ecosystem they belong to functions. Appointment: 2:30 PM, Lacona Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 2 hours – Booking required; free of charge.



Island of Elba

FRIDAY, 24 MAY

Hiking in Viticcio

A guided hike along trail no. 249 from Viticcio to Forno and back. The excursion is followed by a snack with local products offered by Hotel Scoglio Bianco, and a presentation of the book *Il Golfo di Viticcio* by Marisa Sardi, with stories and anecdotes about the gulf and its marine biodiversity. Appointment: 3:00 PM, Hotel Scoglio Bianco, Viticcio – Duration: 4 hours – Difficulty: easy. Booking required for the event; free of charge.



SATURDAY, 25 MAY

A hike with an expert to discover the cornflowers of eastern Elba – from Le Panche to Mount Castello

On the occasion of **European Day of Parks**; departing from the equipped area of Le Panche, we follow the route of the GTE (Grande Traversata Elbana) road towards the highest peak on this side, Cima del Monte - 515 metres – for a majestic view. We continue to the slopes of Mount Castello and return along trail 220 to close the loop. We will be in the company of the expert **Lorenzo Lazzaro** – University of Florence, with whom we will discover a protected habitat and a cornflower that lives only here. Appointment: 11:00 AM Rio, Loc. Le Panche. Duration: 4 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium. Booking required for the event; free of charge.



Island of Elba

SUNDAY, 26 MAY

A hike with the expert amid the prunella flowers

An interesting hike in the company of the expert **Lorenzo Lazzaro** – University of Florence, to the Madonna del Monte sanctuary and then on to Serraventosa, allowing us in just a few hours to range from the flora typical of the Apennines to the colourful scrubland: from the yellow of *Genista desoleana* Valsecchi to the violet of *Viola corsica ilvensis*, in order to observe and gain familiarity with the island's endemic species, their importance, and the threats to their conservation. Appointment: 2:30 PM Casa del Parco, Marciana – Duration: 3 hours. Difficulty: medium-easy. Booking required for the event; free of charge.



SATURDAY, 1 JUNE

The old railway trail

On the occasion of **International Day of Mines**, a hike along the route of the old railway that linked the Vallone work site to the point of embarkation near the Innamorata beach, opposite the Gemini Islands. Visit to Museo della Vecchia Officina, where settings typical of mines are reproduced, and snack with the miner's bread called "Schiaccia del Minatore." Appointment: 2:00 PM, Capoliveri, Spiaggia dell'Innamorata – Duration: 4 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium. Booking required. € 12, € 4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



Summer in the Park

SUNDAY, 2 JUNE

Butterfly festival



Legambiente Arcipelago Toscano, along with the Arcipelago Toscano National Park and the University of Florence, organizes the traditional guided hike at the “Santuario delle Farfalle Ornella Casnati” butterfly sanctuary. Appointment: 10:30 AM, Monte Perone area picnic – Duration: 4 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy. Booking required; free of charge.

SATURDAY, 8 JUNE

Cleaning of Cavo's sea bottoms and citizen science for scuba divers



In collaboration with Cavo Diving, on the occasion of **UNESCO World Oceans Day**, a day dedicated to the sea. In the morning, cleaning of the sea bottoms with scuba divers (and beach cleaning open to all). In the afternoon, a Citizen Science dive with Park Guide to discover marine biodiversity; particular attention to certain priority species of the Habitats Directive. Briefing with scuba divers before the dive, to be done in an area to be reached by inflatable raft. Morning appointment: 9:30 AM, Porticciolo di Cavo, open participation – Afternoon appointment: 2:30 PM, Porticciolo di Cavo – Duration: 3 hours – Booking required. € 45. Max number of participants in afternoon activity: 12.

SUNDAY, 9 JUNE

Light a firefly



A night-time stroll with red LED headlamps to reduce light pollution. Among the organisms active at night, some have developed effective strategies to communicate, like fireflies, which have organs capable of generating small flashes of light to illuminate spring nights. We explore the world of fireflies to discover their delicate life cycle and the secret that enables them to produce high-efficiency light. We will raise questions about the fragile balance that binds this species to the environment, and about the problems caused by light pollution. Appointment: 9:00 PM, Località Enfolà – Duration: 2 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy. Booking required. € 8, € 4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

SATURDAY, 15 JUNE

In Cammino nei Parchi. Hiking along the San Bartolomeo trail



In collaboration with CAI Isola d'Elba. From town of Pomonte along trail no. 104, through an area of ancient agricultural tradition, we ascend the southern slopes of Mount San Bartolomeo to reach the remains of the Romanesque church by the same name. The path then descends towards the small town of Chiessi and connects back to Pomonte by way of trail no. 126. An immersion into Elba at its truest, amid ancient farmlands invaded by Mediterranean scrubland. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Pomonte. Duration: 4 hours – Difficulty: demanding. Booking required; free of charge.



Island of Elba

SUNDAY 16 JUNE

Beware of the turtle!

An event organized by Legambiente Circolo Arcipelago Toscano on the occasion of **World Sea Turtle Day**, to discover loggerhead turtles (*Caretta caretta*) nesting on our coasts. Inauguration of the beach monitoring season to discover and protect any nests and a theoretical/practical course on recognizing their tracks, open to the entire population. Appointment: 5:30 PM, Aula Verde Blu lecture hall, località Mola – Duration: 2 hours – Free of charge; booking required.



LEGAMBIENTE

MONDAY, 17 JUNE (AND EVERY MONDAY UNTIL 30 SEPTEMBER)

Whale watching in the Pelagos Sanctuary

In the waters of the National Park and of the Pelagos Sanctuary for Mediterranean Marine Mammals, Discovering the cetaceans that populate the sea around the Tuscan Islands. We will navigate along Elba's southeastern coastline in the company of the marine biologist and Park Guide, who will help us get the most out of this extraordinary experience. Appointment: 9:30 AM, Marina di Campo harbour, (Mickey Mouse) motorboat. Duration: 5h30'. Booking required. € 50, € 30 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, onboard lunch included. Minimum age: 5. NO pets allowed.



FRIDAY, 21 JUNE

Aperitif at the Roman Villa delle Grotte

Guided tour of the Roman Villa delle Grotte, one of the most important archaeological remains in the Tuscan Archipelago. The complex rises on the promontory overlooking the Gulf of Portoferraio, dominating the entire stretch of sea between the Piombino shoreline and the city's landing. Long defined as a "Villa," it might change its identity in light of the latest excavations: we will explore this topic with the Park Guide, during the tour. The tour will be followed by a small aperitif while enjoying the majestic panorama. Appointment: 6:00 PM, Roman Villa delle Grotte – Duration: 2 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy. Booking required. € 12.



SATURDAY, 22 JUNE

Rio's Gustosentiero

From Casa del Parco, we head into the historic Valle dei Mulini, the "valley of mills," to see the remains of 22 mills, and stop at the "La Lecciola" agritourism facility to visit the vegetable garden and the laboratory reproducing the ancient seeds of Patresi black cabbage – a new addition to the Regional Seed Bank. We continue towards Mount Fico where the farmlands, alternating with Mediterranean scrubland, are devoted to viticulture. A stop at Montefico's Le Sughere farm where we will visit the wine cellar and barriquerie, and enjoy a wine tasting. Appointment: 2:00 PM, Casa del Parco, Rio – Duration: 3 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required. € 8, € 4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



Island of Elba



SUNDAY, 23 JUNE

The curative properties of plants on the magical night of St. John

Plants have always accompanied human beings over the course of their history, from the gatherer of the Neolithic to the farmer of today. This co-evolution has created an intense bond between us and plant species – a bond still fully evident today in the traditions and customs that include the use of plants. During the shortest night of the year, the Park Guide will accompany us on a walk to recognize the medicinal plants used to create ancient natural remedies. Appointment: 5:30 PM, Marciana, Casa del Parco – Duration: 2 hours. Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required. € 8, € 4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

MONDAY, 24 JUNE

Whale watching in the Pelagos Sanctuary

See the programme for Monday, 17 June.



WEDNESDAY, 26 JUNE

Geological kayaking with an expert

We will admire the porphyry and tourmaliniferous aplites of Enfola and Sansone from a special vantage point: the sea! The steep cliffs characteristic of the area will allow us to study in detail the shape, appearance, and mineralogy of these rocky bodies that on land are covered with vegetation. Starting from the southern side of the natural isthmus, we will travel clockwise around the promontory. After visiting the evocative Grotta dello Sbruffo, we will kayak by the Scoglio della Nave rock, flanking the steep cliffs to the north, to Sansone's white-pebble beach. Stop for a swim along the way. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Località Enfola – Duration: 2 hours – Booking required. € 30. Minimum age: 14; minors must be accompanied.



THURSDAY, 27 JUNE

The monk seal in the Tuscan Archipelago: past and present

We meet Giulia Mo and Sabrina Agnesi, researchers from the Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale – ISPRA), to discover the characteristics of this rare marine mammal, fewer than 700 specimens of which survive in nature, that has returned to the Archipelago's waters in recent years. To be followed by a small tasting of local products. Children's activity corner led by the Park Guide. Event in collaboration with Hotel Hermitage. Appointment: 9:30 PM, Bar Maitù, Loc. Biodola – Duration: 2 hours – Participation free of charge.



Island of Elba

FRIDAY, 28 JUNE

Nature snorkelling by boat

Sea excursion led by Park Guide divers/marine biologists. Meeting and checking of the participants' equipment and their technical preparation. Departure from Portoferraio by open inflatable raft, stopping along the coastline or on the small islands for snorkelling activities. Minimum age: 14; minors must be accompanied by a responsible adult – Booking required. € 45 including equipment rental. Appointment: 4:45 PM at the "Diving in Elba" location at Hotel Airone (San Giovanni). Duration: 2h15'.



MONDAY, 1 JULY

Whale watching in the Pelagos Sanctuary

See the programme for Monday, 17 June. On p. 36.



THURSDAY, 4 JULY

The changing climate: non-native species in an aquatic environment

Climate change amplifies the effects of all the other threats to the marine ecosystems. The Mediterranean is the sea that has warmed most quickly over the past 50 years, and one of the consequences of this acceleration is the spread of exotic species like the nutria, the tiger mosquito, the Louisiana crayfish, and the water hyacinth. We will talk about this topic with Professor **Letizia Marsili** (University of Siena), who will also explain to us the actions undertaken by institutions to combat these new threats. Children's activity corner with the Park Guide. To be followed by a small tasting of local products. Appointment: 9:00 PM at Casa del Parco, Marciana – Duration: 2 hours – Participation free of charge.



FRIDAY, 5 JULY

Nature snorkelling by boat

Sea excursion led by Park Guide divers/marine biologists. Meeting and checking of the participants' equipment and their technical preparation. Departure from Portoferraio by open inflatable raft, stopping along the coastline or on the small islands for snorkelling activities, allowing us to appreciate the island's underwater nature.

Minimum age: 14, minors must be accompanied by a responsible adult – Booking required. € 45 including equipment rental. Appointment 3:15 PM at the "Biodivers" diving location within the Camping Reale camping ground (Spiaggia di Reale, Porto Azzurro). Duration: 2h1.



Island of Elba

SATURDAY, 6 JULY

A moonless evening at Volterraio

A special evening of history, science, and myth. We will climb up to the Fortress to witness the sunset. We will visit the monument with the Park Guides and learn to orient ourselves among stars, constellations, and myths associated with them. An absolutely can't-miss event for astronomy lovers and photographers, for a moonless night beneath one of Italy's darkest skies. Appointment: 8:30 PM, Le Casermette parking area, Volterraio – Duration: 3 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium – Hiking shoes and lighting instruments required – Booking required. Tickets € 20, € 10 reduced price for residents and visitors over 65 years of age. € 5 reduced price for residents over 65 years of age and children 5-12 years of age. Free for resident students (up to 19 years age). Minimum age: 12.



MONDAY, 8 JULY

Whale watching in the Pelagos Sanctuary

See the programme for Monday, 17 June. On p. 36.



THURSDAY, 11 JULY

Nature snorkelling by boat

Sea excursion led by Park Guide divers/marine biologists. Meeting and checking of the participants' equipment and their technical preparation. Departure from Cavo by open inflatable raft, stopping along the coastline or on the small islands for snorkelling activities, allowing us to appreciate the island's underwater nature. Minimum age: 14, minors must be accompanied by a responsible adult – Booking required. € 45 including equipment rental. Appointment: 2:45 PM at "Cavo Diving," Cavo marina. Duration: 3h15'.



FRIDAY, 12 JULY

Bats! Let's learn about them while we save them

A conference with **Gianna Dondini** to discover the morphology, habits, and behaviour of these elusive flying mammals. Joined by the veterinarian **Clarissa Giacolini**, we will learn what to do if we come upon specimens in distress. Final experience with the use of a Bat Detector and other interception tools, led by **Simone Vergari**. A Park Guide will welcome children with a dedicated activity. To be followed by a small tasting of local products. Appointment: 9:30 PM – Forte Inglese, Portoferraio. Free of charge.



SUNDAY, 14 JULY

The sound of summer

An evening appointment in the Mola wetland to be immersed in the sounds of summertime nature: we will sit in silence in near the VerdeBlu lecture hall to listen to the calls of the various animals, among which we will recognize some birds and amphibians that live in or pass through the vegetation. Appointment: 9:00 PM Aula VerdeBlu lecture hall, Loc. Mola – Duration: 2 hours. Free event; booking required.



Island of Elba

MONDAY, 15 JULY

Whale watching in the Pelagos Sanctuary

See the programme for Monday, 17 June. On p. 36.



THURSDAY, 18 JULY

Nature snorkelling by boat

Sea excursion led by Park Guide divers/marine biologists. Minimum age: 14; minors must be accompanied by a responsible adult – Booking required. € 45 including equipment rental. Appointment: 2:45 PM at “Cavo Diving,” Cavo marina. Duration: 3h15'. **See 11 July event.**



MONDAY, 22 JULY

Whale watching in the Pelagos Sanctuary

See the programme for Monday, 17 June. On p. 36.



WEDNESDAY, 24 JULY

Roman Villa delle Grotte – conference with the archaeologist

Presentation of the book *Archeologia e storia nella rada di Portoferraio. La villa romana di San Marco* by archaeologist **Franco Cambi**, who will document the last 11 years of excavations and research on an archaeological setting that is being qualified as less and less as “rustic” place and increasingly as a stately home surrounded by environments dedicated to handicrafts. To be followed by a small aperitif. Appointment: 6:00 PM, Roman Villa delle Grotte – Duration: 2 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy. Booking required. € 12.



THURSDAY, 25 JULY

Nature snorkelling by boat

Sea excursion led by Park Guide divers/marine biologists. Minimum age: 14 anni, minors must be accompanied by a responsible adult - Booking required. € 45 including equipment rental. Appointment: 2:45 PM at “Cavo Diving,” Cavo marina. Duration: 3h15'. **See 11 July event.**



FRIDAY, 26 JULY

Meet the impollinators

Conference led by **Leonardo Forbicioni**, curator at the NAT-LAB nature museum, on the results of research on our territory; monitoring of various insect groups - butterflies, bees, hoverflies, moths – that contribute towards performing functions as impollinators in ecosystems, and are therefore essential for conserving biodiversity, the very basis of our own existence. A Park Guide will offer activities for children on the same topic. To be followed by a small tasting of local products. Appointment: 9:00 PM, English Fort, Portoferraio. Participation free of charge.



Island of Elba

MONDAY, 29 JULY

Whale watching in the Pelagos Sanctuary

See the programme for Monday, 17 June. On p. 36.



WEDNESDAY, 31 JULY

Hiking and snorkelling: the island's green and blue

From the Guardiola beach, we follow a coastal trail immersed in Mediterranean scrubland, shaded by a forest of holm oak through which the sea may be glimpsed. After about 45 minutes, we reach the small, Porticciolo beach for snorkelling with the Park Guide. Return by the same route. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Campo all'Aia beach– Duration: 3 hours – Difficulty: easy– Booking required. € 20. Participants are responsible for their own equipment; rental available upon request. Minimum age: 14; maximum number of participants: 8.



THURSDAY, 2 AUGUST

Nature snorkelling by boat

Sea excursion led by Park Guide divers/marine biologists. Minimum age: 14; minors must be accompanied by a responsible adult – Booking required. € 45 including equipment rental. Appointment: 3:15 PM at the “Biodivers” diving location within the Camping Reale camping ground (Spiaggia di Reale, Porto Azzurro). Duration: 2h15'. **See 5 July event.**



MONDAY, 5 AUGUST

Whale watching in the Pelagos Sanctuary

See the programme for Monday, 17 June. On p. 36.



Island of Elba

TUESDAY, 6 AUGUST

Mount Perone. Observing the sky with Astrofili elbani

The August sky through the telescopes of Associazione Astrofili Elbani. In the Perone park, aided by headlamps and flashlights, we will orient ourselves among the constellations and observe the most beautiful objects in the summer sky. An evening of science and mythology in one of the darkest locations in Elba. Appointment: 9:00 PM, Mount Perone picnic area – Duration: 2 hours – € 8; € 4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age; free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. More information: Info Park.



FRIDAY, 9 AUGUST

Nature snorkelling by boat

Sea excursion led by Park Guide divers/marine biologists. Minimum age: 14; minors must be accompanied by a responsible adult – Booking required. € 45 including equipment rental. Appointment: 16:45 at the “Diving in Elba” location at Hotel Airone (San Giovanni). Duration: 2h15'. See 28 June event.



MONDAY, 12 AND 19 AUGUST

Whale watching in the Pelagos Sanctuary

See the programme for Monday, 17 June. On p. 36.



MONDAY, 19 AUGUST

Aperitif at Villa delle Grotte

Guided tour of the Roman Villa delle Grotte, one of the most important archaeological remains in the Tuscan Archipelago. Although the archaeological complex that rises on the promontory opposite Portoferraio was long defined as a “Villa,” it might change its identity in light of the latest excavations. The tour will be followed by a small aperitif. Appointment: 6:00 PM, Roman Villa delle Grotte – Duration: 2 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy. Booking required. € 12.



Island of Elba

WEDNESDAY, 21 AUGUST

Hiking and snorkelling: the island's green and blue

From the Guardiola beach, we follow a coastal trail immersed in Mediterranean scrubland, shaded by a forest of holm oak through which the sea may be glimpsed. After about 45 minutes, we reach the small, Porticciolo beach for snorkelling with the Park Guide. Return by the same route. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Campo all'Aia beach– Duration: 3 hours – Difficulty: easy– Booking required. € 20. Participants are responsible for their own equipment; rental available upon request. Minimum age: 14. Maximum number of participants: 8.



FRIDAY, 23 AUGUST

Snorkeling naturalistico in barca

Sea excursion led by Park Guide divers/marine biologists. Minimum age: 14; minors must be accompanied by a responsible adult - Booking required. € 45 including equipment rental. Appointment: 3:15 PM at the "Biodivers" diving location within the Camping Reale camping ground (Spiaggia di Reale, Porto Azzurro). Duration: 2h15'. See 5 July event.



FRIDAY, 23 AUGUST

Loggerhead turtles (*caretta caretta*) nesting in northern Tuscany

A meeting with the expert Marco A.L. Zuffi (University of Pisa), joined by volunteers from Legambiente Arcipelago engaged in protecting the nests, as we deepen our knowledge of one of the most ancient living reptiles and talk about how we can better accommodate it on our beaches, starting with a proper lighting of the shorelines and management of the beaches. A Park Guide will be on hand to entertain children with an activity dedicated to them. The meeting will be followed by a small tasting of local products. Appointment: 6:00 PM Stabilimento Pino Solitario, Fetovaia. Duration: 2 hours – Participation free of charge.



MONDAY, 26 AUGUST

Whale watching in the Pelagos Sanctuary

See the programme for Monday, 17 June. On p. 36.



TUESDAY, 27 AUGUST

Aia di Cacio. Observation of the sky with Astrofili elbani

An evening dedicated to observing the sky and stars through the telescopes provided by Associazione Astrofili Elbani. A moonless night, perfect for a close-up view of Saturn's rings and the details of the fainter nebulae, beneath one of Italy's darkest skies. Appointment: 9:00 PM, Rio nell'Elba, Loc. Aia di Cacio – Duration: 2h30m– Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required. € 8; € 4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age; free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



Island of Elba

FRIDAY, 30 AUGUST

Night-time excursion by motorboat to observe the starry sky

Aboard a small motorboat, we will sail offshore along the southern coast, looking for the perfect sky, providing an opportunity to gaze at the starry heavens far from the lights of dry land. We will do so in the company of members of Astrofilii Elbani, who will help us orient ourselves amid the marvels of the summer sky. We will use special instruments to measure light pollution, and with CNR expert **Luciano Massetti** we will discover how important it is to protect the night sky, for the well-being of so many species, including our own. Appointment: 8:30 PM, Marina di Campo harbour – Duration: 3 hours – Booking required. € 50, Minimum age: 12.



MONDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER

Whale watching in the Pelagos Sanctuary

See the programme for Monday, 17 June. On p. 36.



FRIDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER

Nature snorkelling by boat

Sea excursion led by Park Guide divers/marine biologists. Minimum age: 14; minors must be accompanied by a responsible adult – Booking required. € 45 including equipment rental. Appointment: 16:45 at the “Diving in Elba” location at Hotel Airone, San Giovanni. Duration: 2h15’. See 28 June event.



SATURDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER

Geological kayaking with an expert

From Marina di Campo to Fonza, amid the veins of magma and ancient, submarine landslides. The gulf’s beautiful stratified rock successions are also visible from afar. From the Marina di Campo beach, we will kayak alongside the sandy shore and then the steep cliff until reaching the Fonza cove, as we seek to reconstruct the Island of Elba’s geological evolution through observation of these spectacular outcroppings. Stop for a swim along the way. Appointment: Marina di Campo beach, 9:00 AM first shift, 11:00 AM second shift – Duration: 2 hours – Booking required. € 30.

Minimum age: 14; minors must be accompanied.



SUNDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER

Barefoot in the Park

Joined by Legambiente volunteers and everyone who chooses to take part, we will create a sensory trail in the proximity of the Aula VerdeBlu lecture hall, which will allow us to experience, under our own feet, a variety of natural materials to improve proprioception and equilibrium, as well as to recover a direct relationship with nature. After the experience, we will enjoy a snack together. Appointment: 10:00 AM Aula VerdeBlu lecture hall, Loc. Mola - Duration: 6 hours – Free of charge; booking required.



Island of Elba

MONDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER

Whale watching in the Pelagos Sanctuary

See the programme for Monday, 17 June. On p. 36.



SUNDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER

Hiking on Mount Serra and predatory birdwatching

A short loop from Aia di Cacio. Walking along the southeastern flank of Mount Serra to the summit, we reach one of the Island's most scenic points, from which, thanks also to the expert on hand, we will be able to observe birds of prey on their southward migration: we may sight passing honey buzzards, marsh harriers, and sparrowhawks. Meanwhile, the kestrel and peregrine falcon are present year round, nesting in the nearby rocks. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Aia di Cacio – Duration: 3 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy. Booking required. € 8; € 4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



The summer's "Parco Junior"

Attività per bambini all'isola d'Elba

Activities for children on the Island of Elba; free marine biology workshops with Park Guide, right on Elba's beaches. Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:30 to 11:30 AM

14 June	ENFOLA	12 July	CHIESSI	9 August	CHIESSI
19 June	CAPOBIANCO	17 July	LA FENICIA	14 August	BARBAROSSA
21 June	LA FOCE	19 July	SANT'ANDREA	16 August	PATRESI
26 June	INNAMORATA	24 July	CAMPO ALL'AIA	21 August	LE GHIAIE
28 June	PATRESI	26 July	POMONTE	23 August	POMONTE
3 July	LE PRADE	31 July	STRACCOLIGNO	28 August	NISPORTINO
5 July	FETOVAIA	2 August	FETOVAIA	30 August	PATRESI
10 July	ENFOLA	7 August	LA PAOLINA	4 September	CAPOBIANCO

Autumn in the Park

MONDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER

Whale watching in the Pelagos Sanctuary

See the programme for Monday, 17 June. On p. 36.



SUNDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER

Harbour walk

On the occasion of **World Car-Free Day** (22 September), a slow walk for the whole family, leading from the San Giovanni thermal basin to Villa delle Grotte, the luxurious Roman residence from the first century BC. In collaboration with Italia Nostra Arcipelago Toscano. Appointment: 3:00 PM, Portoferraio, Terme S. Giovanni Duration: 4 hours – Difficulty: easy – Booking required. € 8; reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



MONDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER

Whale watching in the Pelagos Sanctuary

See the programme for Monday, 17 June. On p. 36.



WEDNESDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER

Hiking at Capo Stella and aperitif with typical products

In collaboration with Camping Appartamenti Tallinucci, Camping Laconella, Hotel Capo Sud, and Camping Valle Santa Maria, a loop on the narrow cape that separates the bays, offering an evocative view amid the colours and scents of the Mediterranean scrubland: Golfo Stella, Calamita's western coast and the Gemini Islands. Followed by aperitif with typical products. Appointment: 9:30 AM Spiaggia Margidore – Duration: 2h30m– Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required; free of charge.



SATURDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER

GTE (Grande Traversata Elbana) road. The Emperor's trail

A wooded trail rises steeply to the military track on the GTE road. Amid holm oak, cork oak and pine trees and the Mediterranean scrubland, we come back down by another route, closing the loop. At the end aperitif with typical products, in collaboration with Hotel Il Caminetto and Agriturismo I Girasoli. Appointment: 4:00 PM, Villa San Martino car park, Portoferraio – Duration: 3 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy. Booking required. € 8; reduced price for children 5-12 years of age; free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



MONDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER

Whale watching in the Pelagos Sanctuary

See the programme for Monday, 17 June. On p. 36.

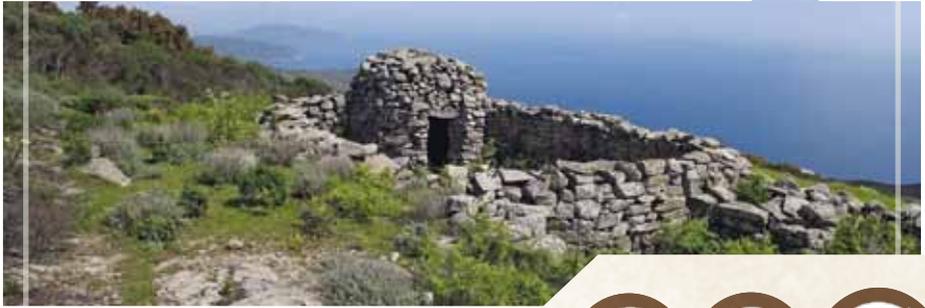


Island of Elba

SATURDAY, 5 OCTOBER

GTE road (Grande Traversata Elbana). Pomonte - Colle Grottaccia

In the Pomonte valley, amid the vestiges of an agricultural, pastoral Elba. Indeed, the area was once covered with vineyards to higher elevations. Leading to an elevation of 620 m, the rather demanding route is enriched with sections of ancient granite pavement. Return to Pomonte along the GTE sud southern road. Final snack at hotel CETS. Appointment: 10:00 AM – Duration: 6 hours – Difficulty: medium-demanding. Booking required. € 8; reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



SUNDAY, 6 OCTOBER

Celleriite, a new species of tourmaline!

On the occasion of UNESCO International Geodiversity Day, a conference with Federico Pezzotta, mineralogist and Scientific Director of Museo Mineralogico MUM in San Piero. Collected in San Piero in 2008 inside a large geode, the mineral sample has been studied and officially recognized as a new species, assigned the name “celleriite” in honour of Elban mineralogist Luigi Celleri. To be followed by a guided tour of MUM and a small tasting of local products. Children’s corner with mineral observation activities. Appointment: 9:00 PM, MUM, San Piero – Duration: 2 hours – Free of charge.



SATURDAY, 12 OCTOBER

Conference and mineral hike. The metalliferous resources of the Island of Elba

Discovering old quarries where iron ore was mined; meeting at Palazzo del Burò, a short museum visit, then exploration of the mines with a brief excursion. Followed by a conference at Casa del Parco di Rio on Elba. Appointment: 2:00 PM, Rio Marina Palazzo del Burò, Via Magenta, 26 – Duration: 2 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium – Booking required; free of charge. Children’s corner with microscope and lab, called “una cassetta piena di tesori” or “a boxful of treasures.”

Island of Elba

SUNDAY, 13 OCTOBER

Turtle aperitif

The nesting season comes to a close: a gathering event for all the volunteers committed to monitoring the beaches and the nests, but open to all sea turtle lovers. Appointment: 3:00 PM, Aula Verde e Blu lecture hall, Mola – Duration: 2 hours. Free event; booking required.



SATURDAY, 19 OCTOBER

Rio's Gustosentiero

From Casa del Parco, we head into the historic Valle dei Mulini, the “valley of mills,” to see the remains of 22 mills, and stop at the “La Lecciola” agritourism facility to visit the vegetable garden and the laboratory reproducing the ancient seeds of Patresi black cabbage – a new addition to the Regional Seed Bank. We continue towards Mount Fico where the farmlands, alternating with Mediterranean scrubland, are devoted to viticulture. A stop at Montefico's Le Sughere farm where we will visit the wine cellar and barriquerie, and enjoy a wine tasting. Appointment: 2:00 PM, Casa del Parco, Rio – Duration: 3 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required. € 8, € 4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



SUNDAY, 20 OCTOBER

Chestnut festival in Marciana

Walking in the autumn woods with the Park Guide to discover the colours and shapes of the leaves, make a little leaf collection, and create a sensory composition. For children and families. Appointment: 3:00 PM, Casa del Parco, Marciana – Duration: 2 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy. Free event; booking required.



SUNDAY, 27 OCTOBER

Chestnut festival in Poggio

From Marciana to Poggio, along the ancient rights of way, on a hike to discover the Apennine-type vegetation along the slopes of Elba's Mount Capanne. The large chestnut groves were exploited in the past for their fruit and lumber – an interesting example of sustainable economy that we will discuss during the walk. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Marciana, Casa del Parco – Difficulty: medium/easy – Duration: 3 hours – Booking required; free of charge.



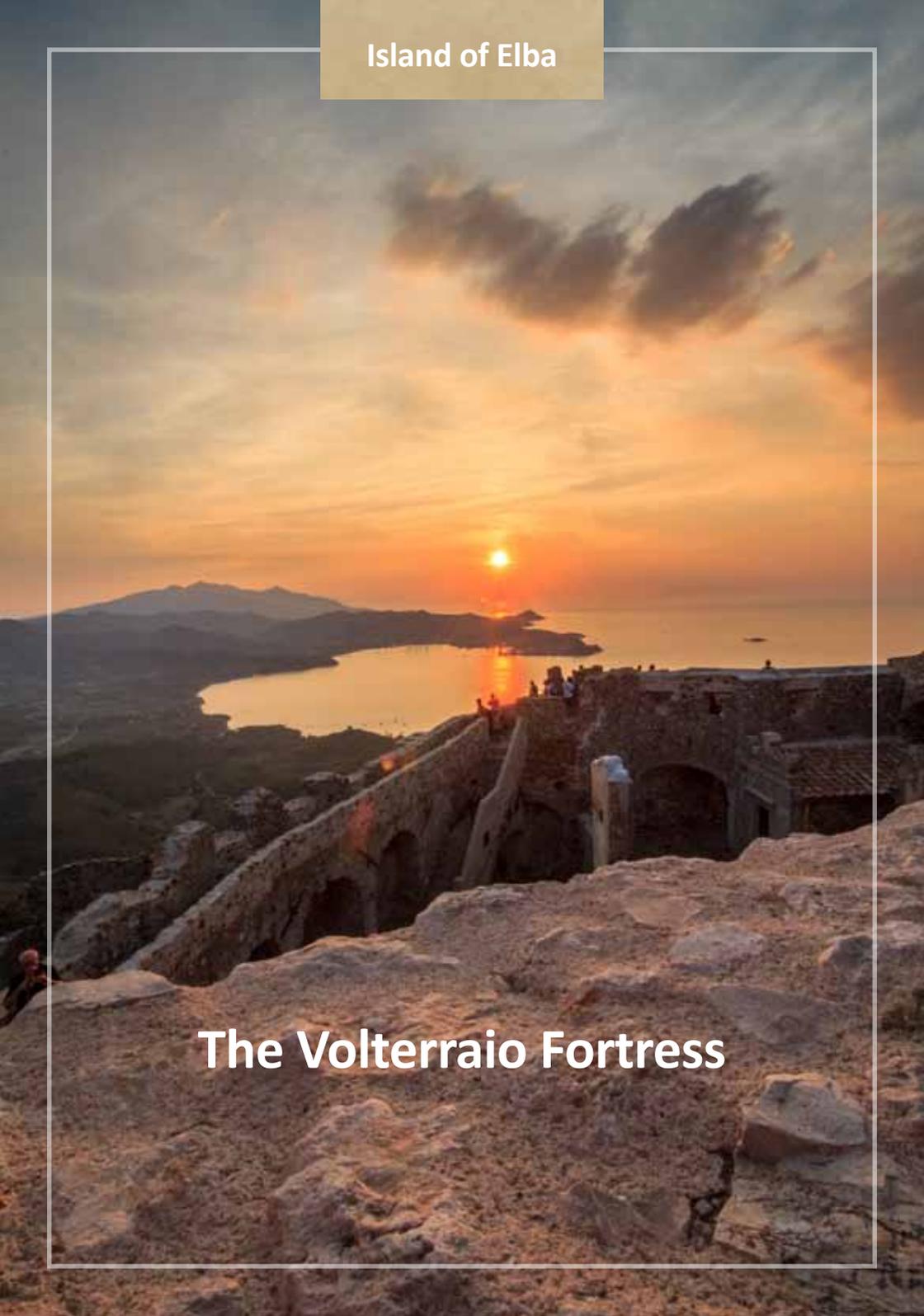
FRIDAY, 1 NOVEMBER

Elba's donkey farm: “C'era una volta un'isola”

Taking a sensory approach to the donkey in its enclosure, trying some donkey riding through the olive grove, and visiting the small museum called “C'era una volta un'isola” (“Once upon a time, there was an island”). An excursion immersed in the evolution of the Mediterranean scrubland, until arriving at a magnificent forest of holm oak, along a cool trail. Booking required. € 20, children 5-12 years of age € 10 – free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. Two visiting shifts, at 10:00 AM and at 5:00 PM.



Island of Elba



The Volterraio Fortress

Visiting Elba's most evocative site



The **Volterraio Fortress**, one of the historic places most beloved by Elbans, has been restored by the Park Authority, and has been open to visitors for several years. Strategically and scenically positioned, Volterraio is the island's most evocative and magical site, especially when reached at sunset. Emerging as if by enchantment from the rock it is set into, the fort soars to a height of 395 metres above sea level. The place was chosen by the Etruscans for building the first lookout post and, also during the Etruscan period, the highland was part of an efficient and intelligent system of fortified villages which appear to have lit fires to communicate with one another. The structure took on its final appearance in the late 13th century when the Maritime Republic of Pisa decided to repurpose it. An impregnable fortress yesterday, and an evocative terrace overlooking Elba and the other islands of the Tuscan Archipelago today. A breathtaking panorama shows the profile of Elba's eastern ridge, while the graceful shape of the Island of Pianosa and the austere silhouette of Montecristo can be made out on the horizon. The central part of the island rises before us, with the gentle hills, large, southern gulfs, and the inimitable morphology of the Gulf of Portoferraio, with the imposing Mount Capanne behind it. Further to the right is the untamed island of Capraia and, in the background, the snowy mountains of Corsica with Capo Corso extending northward.



Island of Elba



TYPES OF VISITS

1) Guided tour of the Volterraio Fortress.

Hike and admission included.

The departure time will be suited to the season, and announced at the time of booking. The excursion will take place once a minimum number of 6 participants is reached. Footwear suitable for difficult terrain is needed, as well as lighting instruments, like headlamps or flashlights, for afternoon excursions.

Booking required. Ticket € 20, € 10 reduced price for residents of the Tuscan Archipelago and visitors over 65 years of age. € 5 reduced price for residents of the Tuscan Archipelago visitors over 65 years of age and children 5-12 years of age. Free of charge for disabled persons and those accompanying them, and students who are residents of the Tuscan Archipelago (up to 19 years of age). Minimum age: 5.

Consult the calendar of available excursions at:

parcoarcipelago.info



2) During the summer season (15 June-15 September), the Volterraio Fortress will be open every day but Tuesday, from 5:30 to 8:30 PM, and, following the hiking trail, visitors will be able to reach the monument's entrance on their own, and pay a visit with the assistance of the Park Guide there.

No booking required. Tickets: € 8, € 4 reduced price for visitors over 65 years of age, residents of the Tuscan Archipelago, and children 5-12 years of age. Free of charge for disabled persons and those accompanying them, children 0-4 years of age, and students who are residents of the Tuscan Archipelago (up to 19 years of age).

seIf/ Sea Essence International Festival 2024

Marciana Marina – Island of Elba, 28-30 June

In its sixth edition this year, Sea Essence International Festival is the first international festival dedicated to the **preservation and appreciation of the sea and its essence**. A preservation and appreciation to be understood as protection of the sea's environment, of its biodiversity and its species, but also of its beauty, its history and its contribution to the growth of cultures and societies. In essence, a preservation and appreciation of what it means for us to be human beings.

Our mission is to make people love the sea, because it is only through a true and authentic passion like love that every objective, even those that appear to be unachievable, becomes possible. Our vision is to return to

the sea its deservedly central role, starting from renewed efforts in economics, politics and society as a whole, all aiming towards this purpose. For this reason, we thought of an event ranging from reason to emotion, which at same time is intended to make people think and dream about the sea. An eclectic event, meant to discover the deepness of the essence of the sea whilst keeping a central focus on the human being, its dreams, virtues and aspirations. Narrated with the voice of history, economics, arts, anthropology, culture, politics, music, cinema and society as a whole, with such an inclusive approach as to welcome all the souls of the sea.



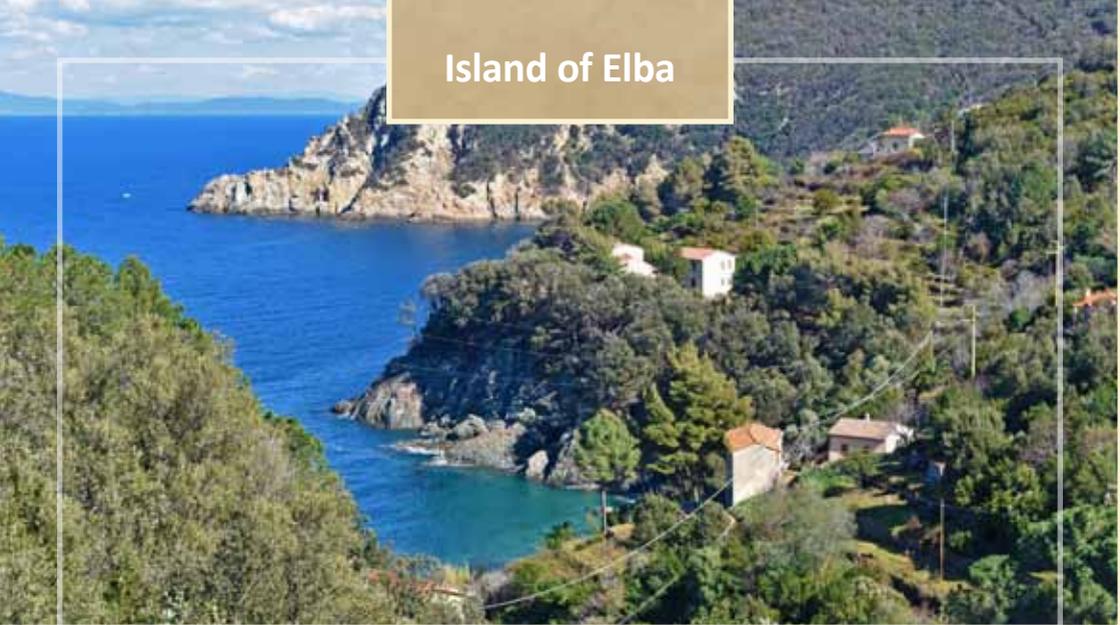
Among the projects followed as part of the “culture” of Fondazione Acqua dell’Elba, the event is held every year in Marciana Marina, an ancient, seafaring Elban village in the heart of the Tuscan Archipelago, a privileged vantage point of the sea and its issues. The event will take place over three days, from Friday, 28 to Sunday, 30 June 2024, and its structure includes educational, recreational, scientific, and dissemination activities. In this case, the typical day is structured as follows: • Morning: vivi/SEIF/ - educational and recreational activities for children organized with Legambiente - Tuscan Archipelago section • Late afternoon: workshop/SEIF/ seminars providing deeper analysis of cultural, social, and political issues, and significant case histories. • Evening: live/SEIF/ - shows and concerts. The theme of this edition of SEIF is “Connections”: the aim is to promote the relationship

that the sea has activated now and in the past, in both environmental and in economic and social terms.

For more information and to relive the 2023 edition, visit: [<https://www.fondazioneacquadellelba.org/it/sezioni/4-cultura.html>]www.fondazioneacquadellelba.org/it/sezioni/4-cultura.html. To review all the editions and for updates on the 2024 programme, visit www.seaessence.eu



Island of Elba



The Scented Trails

A slow hike to discover the history and the environmental, scenic, and historical wonders of Tuscany's smallest municipality and its environs, amid urban trails and ancient ways, country roads, vineyards, abandoned vine stands, small country churches and surprises, as we enjoy the island's scents while suspended over the coastline and over an endless, blue sea.

Appointment at the Marciana Marina Pro Loco organization to sign the release and for a description of the route, which changes every Sunday. The hikes are carried out alternatively in the morning and afternoon. The organizers reserve the right to change scheduling and programmes, which will be announced on the initiatives social media and its Facebook page. Organized by Legambiente Circolo Arcipelago Toscano, Acqua dell'Elba, Arcipelago Toscano National Park, and Pro loco Marciana Marina.

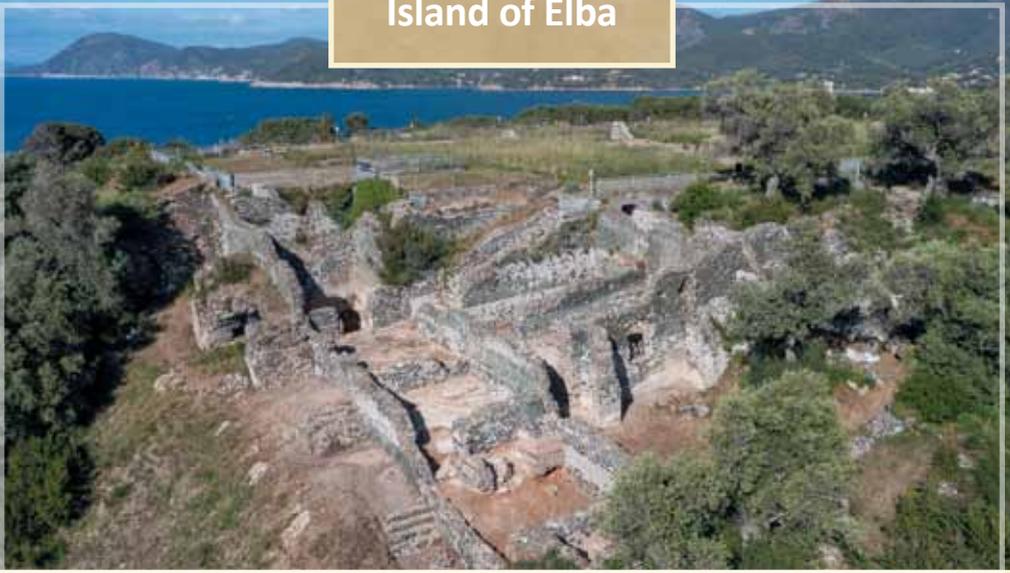
For information on the programme and the free excursions, visit:

legambientearcipelago.it



LEGAMBIENTE

Circolo Arcipelago Toscano



Fondazione Villa Romana delle Grotte

Begun in 2016 on the occasion of the Villa's reopening to the public, the collaboration between Fondazione Villa Romana delle Grotte and Arcipelago Toscano National Park is strengthened again this year with a series of initiatives aimed at promoting the archaeological complex (first century BC) as manmade heritage included within the territory of the National Park. The Park programme will include some excursions to the Roman Villa, with a guided tour to discover that the Roman Villa delle Grotte might not in fact have even been a villa! Given the major presence of water-related architecture elements – baths, pipes, pools, and cisterns – and some finds unearthed in the complex and housed at Museo Archeologico della Linguella, scholars have hypothesized that it housed a bath installation and, during a certain historical phase, a shrine linked to water worship.

Workshops, conferences, and guided tours in the company of expert archaeologists are organized yearly at the Roman Villa delle Grotte. For updates on the initiatives, visit: villaromanalegrotte.it

villaromanalegrotte.it



Island of Elba



The Island of Elba Mining Park

The Mining Park (Parco Minerario Isola d'Elba) came into being in 1991, to revitalize the areas degraded by iron mining and to promote the socioeconomic development of local communities, but also to preserve a geological, mineralogical, and historical mining heritage of inestimable value. A park within a Park – the Arcipelago Toscano National Park – to be explored on foot, by bike, or aboard a sightseeing train for a timeless adventure, retracing the old railroad and the stories of the people that lived, loved, and transformed it. A complete visit to the Mining Park includes a stop at two interesting museums.

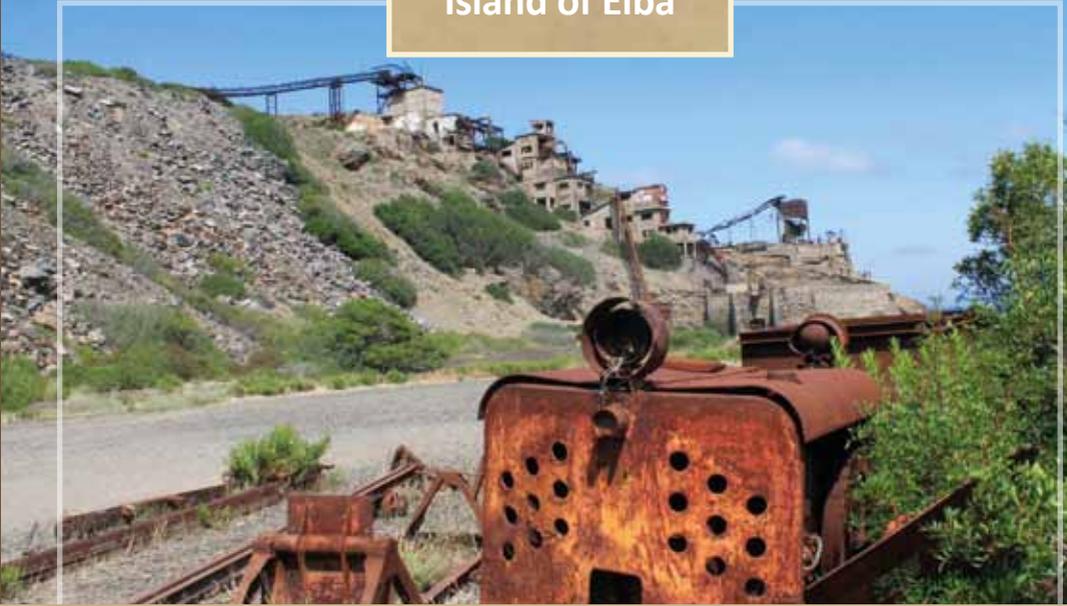
The Mineral and Mining Art Museum (Museo Minerario di Rio Marina) is located in the town of Rio Marina, in the mines' historic headquarters (Palazzo del Burò), and covers about 700 m². The first section of the museum is dedicated to the mineral collection, one of Elba's most important, which includes specimens of exceptional beauty. The museum itinerary then proceeds with the Island's geological history and its deposits, exploited from the Etruscan Age to 1981. The museum also houses faithful reconstructions of certain mining environments, including small tunnel section, made by industrial archaeology experts using the original material and the work tools found in the old sites.

The Archaeological Museum of the Mining District (Museo Archeologico del Distretto Minerario) – Rio nell'elba focuses on the history of eastern Elba – a history largely linked to its extraordinary mineral resources, exploited from Prehistory to the modern age

Information:

parcominelba.it





The mines of Mount Calamita

Capoliveri's mines are located on Mount Calamita, whose name ("magnet") originates from the iron ore magnetite present there. This is one of the Island's wildest and most evocative areas, with sunny beaches, scenic trails, and the only underground mines in all of Elba. The mineral deposits are Calamita, Ginevro, and a small site named Sassi Neri. For centuries, they provided a great many jobs for the Elban populations, and especially for Rio Marina, Rio Elba, and Capoliveri. Although, after 3,000 years of exploration, productive activity was suspended in 1980, the deposits are not depleted; in fact, a great deal of iron is still available below sea level.

To discover the ancient, fascinating history of the iron, and to retrace the miners' laborious toil, guided tours of the Ginevro mine and at Museo della Vecchia Officina are available.

The Calamita and Ginevro mines are located one after the other, about 7 km apart. To reach them, visitors take Via dei Minatori, the ancient miners' road, now partially unpaved, that winds along a scenic overlook of considerable beauty, with Corsica, Pianosa, Montecristo in the distance, and the tourism destinations of Pareti, Morcone, and Innamorata below.

Information:

minieredicalamita.it



Island of Elba



Marciana



Sede del Parco



AVENZA MAPS

Download the free app from the Avenza Maps platform for the official map of Elba's trails



Rio nell'Elba



Zona umida di Mola



Lacona



Island of Pianosa

**Calendar
activities 2024**

LA CASA DELL'AGRONOMO DELL'ISOLA DI PIANOSA



THE AGRONOMIST'S HOUSE

Built during the so-called Ponticelli period (referring to the Ponticelli who was Pianosa's prison warden between 1871 and 1881) and certainly completed prior to 1875 as documented by a print bearing this date and showing the finished building, the Agronomist's House was not actually built just for the Agronomist, a person who did in fact reside there, but also to house the prison farm's other employees. This was certainly one of the finest buildings in all of Pianosa, built, according to the taste at that time, in eclectic style, with decorative elements that are found elsewhere on the island, such as at Forte Teglia and Palazzo della Specola.

The Agronomist's House was restored and turned into a museum, thanks also to the proceeds from the tickets for accessing the island paid to the Park by its many visitors during the 2000 – 2021 period, amounting to € 1,114,386. Although the project cost far more (about € 2 million), without the visitors' contribution the Park would never have had the resources to complete the work.



Island of Pianosa



TOUR ITINERARY

The ground floor is dedicated to the history of Pianosa: in the first room, the image of the agronomist Ponticelli appears in a video, welcoming the visitors. A timeline on a large panel guides the guest through the island's history, relating it to its geological, archaeological, and architectural expressions.

The upper floors are dedicated to the island's nature. Pianosa's territory is illustrated by a model that can be enjoyed interactively. By pressing different buttons, visitors can listen to a descriptive audio while the corresponding areas on the island light up to display the distribution of the various environments: submerged and surface rocks, beaches, sandy sea bottoms, scrubland, maquis, abandoned pastures. A room is dedicated to the Pelagos Sanctuary for Mediterranean Marine Mammals, an area marked by a high degree of biodiversity within which the National Park is entirely included. The top floor displays panels on Pianosa's animal life and a sort of birdwatching position from which visitors can observe reproductions of various specimens of birdlife and listen to their songs.

Descending back down to the ground floor towards the exits, visitors are greeted by the island's sea bottoms which, thanks to underwater videos, are projected onto the walls, offering a virtual immersion into Pianosa's sea.

Touch panels are available throughout the itinerary, written in Braille and with audio to accompany vision-impaired visitors in their enjoyment of the experience.

Bookings at Pianosa's Park Information Centre, admission € 5 – € 3 reduced admission for children 5-12 years of age; free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

The Park Information Centre is located on the ground floor of the Agronomist's House, welcoming visitors as they disembark on the island. Here, Park Guides provide information on the visits and excursions scheduled every day, and a bookshop offers information material, merchandise, and publications relating to the protected area.

Tel: 0565 908231.

From 15 March to 31 October: Monday to Sunday 11:00 AM-4:30 PM. Winter openings based on availability of ferry service.

MUSEO DELLE SCIENZE GEOLOGICHE E ARCHEOLOGICHE DELL'ISOLA DI PIANOSA



MUSEUM OF GEOLOGICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCES

For the first time, specimens of rocks, fossils, and archaeological finds, Pianosa's real treasures, are shown where they were unearthed, thanks to a permanent exhibition on the island. The exhibition reveals Pianosa's history starting from the most ancient rocks dating to about 19 million years ago to the deposits from the last glacial period, and follows human traces from the Upper Palaeolithic to the Roman Age and the Middle Ages. The abundant presence of fossils and of the first inhabitants are closely linked to the geological and palaeographic evolution of the "non-island" as it developed into the island we know today. The history of this precious and fascinating patch of earth is told by explanatory panels, videos, and educational/dissemination workshops.



CATACOMBE DELL'ISOLA DI PIANOSA



CATACOMBS OF THE ISLAND OF PIANOSA

Comprising nearly 700 burials dug into the stone, the Early Christian catacomb complex is located in the eastern sector of the island, and within the town of Pianosa. The cemetery has all the morphological and monumental characteristics that are the mark of the other catacombs dug in Late Antiquity in the various centres of peninsular and insular Italy, making Tuscany the northernmost region where funerary monuments with features of this kind have been recognized. The management of the catacomb – which must have been excavated more or less during the second half of the third century AD, with use extending at least into the fifth century – has been entrusted to the Park Authority by the Papal Commission of Sacred Archaeology. Guided tours: bookings at Casa del Parco Pianosa or online at parcoarcipelago.info. Admission € 5 – reduced admission € 3, children 5-12 years of age; free of charge for disabled persons and those accompanying them, as well as for children 0-4 years of age.



Island of Pianosa



Daily excursions along the indicated itineraries, exclusively in the company of an authorized guide. Access to the town and the Cala Giovanna beach is free. No pets or companion animals may be brought in, except for leashed animals in the area of the town ([see pag. 67](#)). Excursions are planned every day from 15 March to 31 October. During the remainder of the year, based on availability of ferry service, excursions will be available (hiking, mountain biking, and museum sites), to be booked directly onboard.



VISIT TO THE AGRONOMIST'S HOUSE

Guided tour of the building restored by the Park Authority and of the exhibition trail illustrating, with panels, interactive videos and audio itineraries, the agricultural biodiversity, the island's natural features, and the historical period that transformed it with the settlement of the prison. **Guided tour** - Duration: 1 hour – € 10; € 5 reduced admission for children 5-12 years of age; free admission for children 0-4 years of age. **Admission only** - € 5; € 3 reduced admission for children 5-12 years of age 5-12; free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



VISIT TO THE TOWN AND THE CATACOMBS

A walk amid the evocative structures of the village of Pianosa, to learn about the history and customs of the communities that have lived here, on a historic itinerary that extends from the Stone Age to the nineteenth-century settlements. Duration: 1h30m. € 10; € 6 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age; free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



VISIT TO THE TOWN WITH CATACOMBS AND THE MUSEUM

The visit allows guests to discover the evocative Early Christian catacomb complex, the history of the village's oldest and most beautiful buildings, and the Museum of Geological and Archaeological Sciences, where the island's true treasures are shown in a permanent display. Duration: 2 hours. € 15; € 8 (5- 12 years of age); free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. € 15; € 8 (5- 12 anni), esenti bambini 0-4 anni.



Island of Pianosa



NATURE HIKE

An easy hike in the southeastern area. The loop provides a look at the old prison structures, discovering the island's natural expressions and its geological and archaeological history. Closed shoes or hiking boots required. Bring an adequate supply of water. Duration: 2 hours – € 10; € 5 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age; free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



MOUNTAIN BIKE

Mountain biking along the island's flat roads and trails. There are two itineraries to choose from: the northern one, about 10 km long, visiting the Roman Port at the island's northern end, the Belvedere, and the spectacular Cala Brisighelli; and the southern one, about 13.5 km long, stopping at the "Agrippa" maximum security wing, the unforgettable Cala della Ruta, and other places along the entire southern and western coastline. Duration: 2 hours — € 15. Minimum age: 12 (no children on child seats). Minors must be accompanied by an adult. Helmets and closed shoes required. Bring an adequate supply of water.



SEA KAYAKING

Sit-on-top kayaking to discover the island's eastern coastline, starting from the Cala Giovanna beach. An extraordinary opportunity to navigate in the protected area's waters, along the island's rocks and spectacular coastlines. Duration: 2 hours – € 25. Minimum age: 14. A minimum of kayaking experience and ability to swim is required. Minors must be accompanied by an adult. Safety gear must be worn.



SNORKELING

Donning fins, mask, and snorkel to observe the marine flora and fauna along a stretch of coastline rich with biodiversity. Conceived for small groups of visitors who will be able to admire an intact marine environment as only a protected area can guarantee. Minors must be accompanied by an adult. A fair degree of open-water experience and ability to use the equipment is required. Duration: 1h30m (about 50 minutes in the water). Length: about 1 km. € 15. Minimum age: 14.



GUIDED TOUR BY CARRIAGE

A slow, gentle way to experience the island's nature, beauty, and charm, and particularly recommended for families with children. The excursion traverses the wings of the former prison and the Orti di Pianosa gardens, with some stops during which the Guide will recount the history of the Penal Colony. Adults € 20; € 14 children 5-12 years of age; free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. Duration: 1h30m.



AT DAWN AND SUNSET

Hiking, mountain biking, kayaking, and snorkelling excursions and visits to the museum sites, at dawn and sunset, for those spending the night on the island: the type of visit is established in accordance with a calendar available at Pianosa's Park Information Centre.



TOUR WITH PARK GUIDE INSIDE THE "AGRIPPA" MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON

Brought into being by General Dalla Chiesa in the 1970s as a criminal sanatorium, the facility became a maximum security prison, first for inmates held for crimes of terrorism and then, in the 1990s, for Mafia criminals sentenced to "hard time" (the well-known "41bis regime"). This particular detention area is now open to visitors for the first time since the penitentiary closed. The visit will include the round-trip bus journey. Duration: 1 hour. Minimum age: 5. Cost: Adults € 20; € 14 for children 5-12 years of age.



GUIDED BUS TOUR WITH ADMISSION TO THE "AGRIPPA" MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON

Seated comfortably on the air-conditioned bus to discover the island's nature and its farming and penal history. An experience enriched with photo stops, like the one to admire the splendid Cala del Bruciato cove. On the way back, a stop and admission to the "Agrippa" penitentiary wing, once for those doing "hard time," now open to visitors for the first time since the penitentiary closed. Duration: 2 hours. Minimum age: 5. Cost: Adults € 30; € 20 for children 5-12 years of age.



Island of Pianosa

Suggestions for safe and pleasant enjoyment of sporting services:

Excellent health conditions – good physical shape – suitable clothing (closed footwear for hiking and mountain biking) – adequate water supply – ability to swim (snorkelling and kayaking) – basic experience in using a paddle – height adequate for the gear.

Excursions are booked online; follow the link and QR code
parcoarcipelago.info/pianosa



How to reach the island of Pianosa

Daily ferry service – Aquavision motorboat line

Arriving at Pianosa from the Island of Elba (Marina di Campo) and from Piombino as well during the high season. Departure: Piombino 8:30 AM – Marina di Campo 10:00 AM – arrival in Pianosa at 10:45 and 5:00 PM – Marina di campo 5:45 PM – arrival in Piombino at 7:30 PM. Appointment and tickets at Marina di Campo 30-45 before departure (Information point, Piazza dei Granatieri, Marina di Campo). Aquavision ticket office. Tel: 0565 976022. For confirmation of timetables, fares and online ticketing: aquavision.it

Weekly link (Tuesdays) - Toremar Ferry

Departing from Piombino and stopping at Rio Marina. Departure: Piombino 08:20 AM – Rio Marina 09:20 – arrival in Pianosa at 11:10 AM; Return: Pianosa 2:10 PM – Rio Marina 4:00 PM – arrival in Piombino at 5:10 PM. Toremar ticket office in Rio Marina tel.: 0565 960131



AVENZA MAPS

Download the free app from the Avenza Maps platform for the official maps of [Elba](#) and [Pianosa](#)



Diving in Pianosa



In the protected sea strip, the National Park has provided some mooring buoys to permit diving and the sustainable usability of underwater itineraries.



Diving within Pianosa's biological protection area is permitted to small groups of divers accompanied by environmental scuba guides authorized by the Region of Tuscany, or with diving clubs accredited by the Park Authority. Diving in Pianosa is an evocative and exciting experience. The underwater spectacle is truly unique: groupers, lobsters, sea eagles, yellowtails, moon fish, and barracuda.

Visitors can book dives exclusively at one of the authorized diving clubs, the list of which can be consulted on the webpage islepark-pianosa-immersioni and using the QR code next to this text. For information: Park Information Centre 0565 908231.



Island of Pianosa



The village of Pianosa

100 m



Catacombe



1 Casa dell'Agronomo
The Agronomist House
Info Park - Info point

2 Museo delle Scienze
Science museum

3 Catacombe / Catacombs

4 Ristorante - Bar
Restaurant - Bar

5 Hotel Milena

6 Mostra fotografica
Ass.ne Difesa di Pianosa
Photo exhibition
Pianosa Defense Association

7 Forte Teglia
Teglia Fort

8 Piazzetta della chiesa
Church square

9 Imbarchi molo Teglia
Ferry boarding pier

10 Toilette

11 Muro Dalla Chiesa
Dalla Chiesa wall

12 Spiaggia balneabile
Bathing beach

13 Bagno di Agrippa
Bath of Agrippa

 Area consentita ai cani
Area allowed for dogs

Daily excursions



Visit the islands in the Archipelago, in low and high season, by purchasing a package including both sea transport and the guided tour service with Park Guide: this service may be purchased directly online at

parcoarcipelago.info



Island of Pianosa

Special departures in April and May with exclusive vessel from Piombino, departing at 8:30 AM, returning at 6:30 PM.

28 APRIL – 5 MAY – 19 MAY – 26 MAY

Guided tour including round trip from Piombino, ticket for entry into protected area and Park Guide service. Sea transport may be combined with 1 excursion, choosing between

- Guided tour of the town and of the National Park's museum facilities – Agronomist's House, Museum of Geological and Archaeological Sciences, and Early Christian Catacombs. After disembarking, introduction to the island's natural and human history. The visit will allow us to discover the history of the village's oldest and most beautiful buildings and to visit the Park's new museum offerings, including the recently renovated Agronomist's House. Duration 2h30m (6 hours on the island) – Length: about 4 km– Degree of difficulty: easy. Cost: Full price: € 65 – € 50.00 reduced price (children 5-12 years of age); free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

- Mountain biking excursion - Arrival in Pianosa, presentation of the island, and delivery of bicycles; brief introduction to the itinerary and warnings on bicycle use. Itinerary along the southwestern coastline, traversing the old prison structures, to savour the island's essence and learn about Pianosa's extraordinary natural history. Duration: 2h30m (6 hours on the island)– Degree of difficulty: easy. Cost: € 65. Minimum age: 12..

- Hiking excursion - A non-demanding loop providing a look at the old prison structures, while discovering the island's natural expressions, and its geological and archaeological history. Duration: 2 hours (6 hours on the island) – Degree of difficulty: easy. Cost: € 65 full price - € 50.00 reduced price (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

Island of Giannutri

Special springtime departures with exclusive vessel from Porto Santo Stefano, departure at 10:00 AM – returning 5:00 PM.

17 MARCH

Guided tour including round-trip journey from Porto Santo Stefano, entrance ticket to the protected area and Park Guide service. Departing from Porto Santo Stefano, this tour offering includes a ferry to discover the small island in the National Park. The visit starts from the Cala Maestra bay followed, amid the rocky cliffs and scented trails of the Mediterranean scrubland, by the remains of a Roman Villa built in the first century AD by the powerful Domitius Ahenobarbus family. This is followed by a nature visit lasting about 1 hour, which will lead participants inside the protected area, amid spurge and mastic plants, as they enjoy extraordinary views. Free time after the excursion. Duration: 2h30m (5 hours on the island) – Degree of difficulty: easy – Cost: € 60 full-price; € 40 reduced price for children 5 to 12 years of age; free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



Giglio Island

Summer departures from the Island of Elba – embarking at Porto Azzurro, 9:30 AM, returning 6:30 PM.

12, 19, 26 JUNE – 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 JULY – 7, 21 AUGUST

Guided tour including round-trip journey from Elba and Park Guide service.

Discovering the island's true soul in the company of the Park Guide: an experience in contact with the island's genuine essence. After disembarking at Giglio Porto, transfer by taxi to Giglio Castello, situated at an elevation of 400 metres. Carved into the granite and completely surrounded by defensive walls, it is one of the Mediterranean's most evocative and authentic Medieval villages. Upon concluding the visit to the village, return to Giglio Porto is planned, following the ancient mule trail that linked the two towns: an approximately 1 hour walk on an easy, scenic trail, with long stretches in the shade. After the visit, free time before re-embarking. Alternatively, the return to Giglio Porto can be made by public transport, taxis, or bus at the participants' expense, to be paid onsite.

Degree of difficulty: medium. Cost: € 55 full-price - € 45.00 reduced price (5-12 years of age); free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



Capraia Island

Summer departures from the Island of Elba – embarking at Porto Azzurro, 9:30 AM or at Marciana Marina 10:00 AM, returning 6:00 PM (Marciana Marina) and 6:30 PM (Portoferraio).

14, 21, 28 JUNE – 5, 12, 19, 26 JULY – 2,9,23 AUGUST

Guided tour including round-trip journey from the Island of Elba and Park Guide service.

The Park Guide will accompany participants as they discover the aspects of natural history – at the La Salata Environmental Education Centre – and the small village’s secrets, from Torre del Porto to Forte San Giorgio and the church of San Nicola. Upon leaving the town, the itinerary continues along the Reganico trail to Cala dello Zurletto bay, amid ancient farm terraces and Mediterranean scrub. A brief stop and an opportunity to swim in the turquoise waters before continuing on to the harbour. After the visit, free time before re-embarking. Duration: 3h30m (5 hours on the island) – Degree of difficulty: medium. Cost: € 55 full-price - € 45 reduced price (5-12 years of age); free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

Excursions are booked online: parcoarcepelago.info



Montecristo Island

Activity Calendar 2024

Montecristo Island

Discovering the island of treasure

Montecristo is a state nature reserve contained within the National Park. Visits to the island are restricted and are made possible thanks to the agreement between the National Park and the Carabinieri Biodiversity department of Follonica. Excursions are booked directly online at parcoarcipelago.info/montecristo

Getting to the island

Thanks to the links provided by the Park, the island is reached for daily excursions departing from the indicated port based on the calendar available on the booking site. The possibility for access (disembarking and museum visit) by private vessel is regulated and managed by the Carabinieri Biodiversity department of Follonica. Tel.: 0566 40673.



Guided excursions

Daily excursions follow the itineraries indicated below. Visitors must have their own water supply and packed lunch. Appropriate footwear is required: high hiking boots with deep tread, as well as comfortable apparel suitable for the excursion activities. In the absence of appropriate footwear, in the Guides' judgment, participation in the visit may be denied. Swimming is absolutely prohibited. Excursion cost: € 130 (€ 60 residents of the Tuscan Archipelago, 100 available spots every year). Costs include round-trip maritime transport, guide service. Minimum age: 12. In the event of adverse weather conditions, make-up dates will be offered.



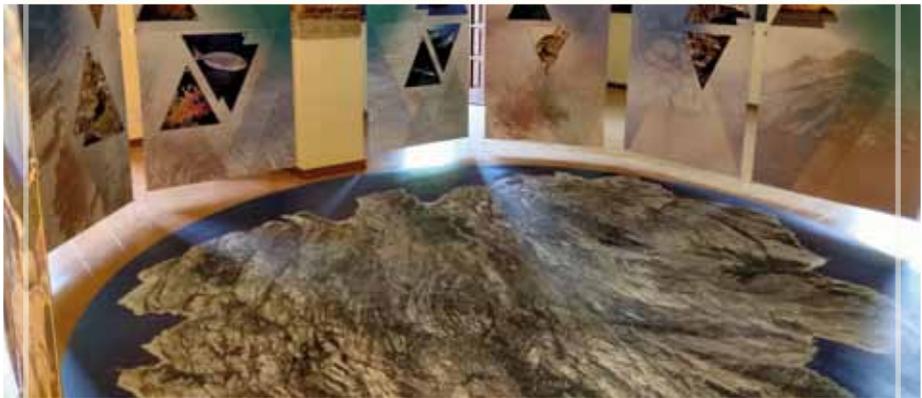
- A** Cala Maestra - Belvedere – Villa Reale; Length: 2,031 m - Degree of difficulty: medium - Duration: 2 hours
- B** Cala Maestra – Monastero – Villa Reale; Length: 3,110 m – Degree of difficulty: high - Duration: 3 hours
- C** Cala Maestra - Villa Reale – EcoMuseo; Length: 2,000 m - Degree of difficulty: easy - Duration: 2 hours

Montecristo Island



Casotto dei Pescatori

Within the framework of the Life Projects, the structure called Casotto dei Pescatori has been recovered. Manned by the offices of the Forestry Carabinieri, it functions as a visitors' and information centre.



Nature Museum and flower collection

The small educational room in the renovated Museum allows visitors to explore content relating to the island's flora, fauna, history, and archaeology, using explanatory panels, finds, and multimedia tools offering pleasant opportunities for more in-depth knowledge. In the museum's vicinity, visitors will enjoy a flower collection conserving many elements of the island's flora, including some endemic species.

The European Diploma of Protected Areas

In 2018, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe renewed the Island of Montecristo's European Diploma of Protected Areas (assigned the first time in 1988): an international recognition assigned to natural and semi-natural areas of European importance for the preservation of biological, geological and landscape diversity, and that must also be subject to an adequate protection regime associated with a programme of sustainable development. In Italy, only 8 sites have been so honoured.



Montecristo Island

Calendar of visits

Departure from Piombino with stopover at Porto Azzurro

March
Sunday 17
Sunday 24
Saturday 30

April
Monday 1
Saturday 6
Sunday 7
Saturday 13
Sunday 14

May
Sunday 19
Saturday 25
Sunday 26

June
Saturday 1
Sunday 2
Saturday 8
Sunday 9

September
Saturday 7
Sunday 8
Saturday 14
Sunday 15
Saturday 21
Sunday 22

Departure from Porto Santo Stefano with a stopover at Giglio Porto

May
Saturday 18

June
Friday 14



AVENZA MAPS

By downloading the free application, on the Avenza Maps platform, the official map of the trails of **Montecristo**



Island of Gorgona

A scenic view of the Island of Gorgona, featuring a stone tower on a cliffside overlooking the sea. The tower is a reddish-brown structure with a crenellated top and a circular opening. The cliffside is covered in lush green pine trees and a stone path leads up to the tower. The sea is a deep blue, and the sky is clear.

Activity Calendar 2024

The Park's forbidden island

Included within the National Park, Gorgona is home to a penitentiary. Visits are therefore restricted and made possible thanks to the agreement between the Park Authority and the Prison Administration. Excursions are booked directly online at:

parcoarcipelago.info/gorgona

Getting to the island

The island is reached departing from Livorno by Toremar ferry service. For information on costs and the visiting calendar, contact the Park Information Centre: Tel.: 0565 908231.

The Roman Villa

The island is home to the remains of a Roman villa dating to between the late first century BC and the start of the first century AD, unearthed in a dig conducted by Tuscany's Superintendence for Archaeological Heritage: the five adjacent environments conserve some portions of mosaic pavement and walls with painted plaster.



Guided excursions

Cost: € 45 full price – € 36 for children from 5 to 12 years of age – free of charge for children 0 to 4 years of age. The cost includes round-trip maritime transport, ticket to access the protected area, and Guide service. The hiking excursion starts from the Belvedere terrace and reaches Torre Nuova (a tower of Medici origin, located in the upper part of the town, protecting the harbour) using the unpaved roads built by the Prison Administration. Upon reaching Punta Paratella, a stop may be made to enjoy a magnificent view over Cala Maestra bay. This is followed by the island's small historic cemetery and Rocca Vecchia, the island's oldest fortification, from the Pisan era. The excursion itinerary is partially shaded. Length: 6 km – Ascent: 250 m – Duration: 3 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium-easy. Download the free app from the Avenza Maps platform for the official map of Gorgona's trails.

March

Saturday 23
Saturday 30

April

Monday 1
Martedì 2
Saturday 6
Saturday 13
Saturday 20
Saturday 27

Calendar

May

Saturday 4
Saturday 11
Saturday 18
Saturday 25

June

Saturday 1
Saturday 18
Saturday 25
Monday 17
Saturday 22
Saturday 29

July

Monday 1
Saturday 6

Monday 8

Saturday 13
Monday 15
Saturday 20
Monday 22
Saturday 27
Monday 29

August

Saturday 24

September

Monday 2
Monday 9
Saturday 14
Saturday 28

October

Saturday 5
Saturday 12
Saturday 19
Saturday 26

Island of Gorgona



By downloading the free application, on the Avenza Maps platform, it is available the official map of the trails

[Gorgona](#)



Island of Gorgona



Experiencing the Wild Island



LA SALATA ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE

Information Point of the Tuscan Observatory for Biodiversity

The information centre located in the tourist port provides all the information needed to visit Capraia thanks to the tourist infopoint, managed in collaboration between the National Park, the Capraia Island Municipality and the Pro Loco. Multimedia displays in virtual reality and interactive applications make it possible to relive the geological formation of the Tuscan Archipelago and in particular the volcanic apparatus from which the Island of Capraia was formed, as well as to discover the opportunities for fruition through the trail network. A specific exhibition is dedicated to the International Marine Mammal Sanctuary 'Pelagos' with images of its extraordinary inhabitants. The courtyard houses splendid life-size models of bottlenose dolphin, common dolphin, stenella and monk seal. Here you can book excursions with a Park Guide to explore the trails, geological and archaeological treasures and the island's extraordinary marine protected area. Free admission. Tel. 320 9606560 - 347 7714601.

OPENING HOURS

1 April to 31 May and 15 September to 1 November

Morning - Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Afternoon - Friday from 17:30 to 19 Saturday and Sunday
16:30 to 18:00

1 June to 15 September

Morning - Monday to Sunday from 9:00 to 13:00

Afternoon - Monday to Sunday from 15:30 to 19:30

Evenings - Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 21:30 to 23:00



Island of Capraia

PALMENTI

The Municipality of Capraia, with the scientific supervision of the Superintendence for Archaeology, Fine Arts, and Landscape for the provinces of Pisa and Livorno, and thanks to financing from the INTERREG ISOS – Isole Sostenibili Project carried out by the National Park, has activated a cultural itinerary to rediscover the island’s ancient farming traditions. Now the age-old palmenti – vats dug into stone and used for wine production – may be visited. Used at least starting from the sixteenth century, the palmento was where the bunches of grapes were pressed to extract their juices. The three sites that could already be visited – Forte San Giorgio, San Leonardo, and Segalaio – have been joined by others thanks to recent digs, located in the Il Piano area. A dedicated trail equipped with explanatory panels has enhanced the enjoyment of these sites.



THE MONK SEAL

Around Capraia, within the Pelagos Sanctuary for Mediterranean Marine Mammals, there are frequent sightings of sea mammals like dolphins and blue and sperm whales. After decades of absence, there is now confirmation of the monk seal’s presence along the coastline. It is a species endemic to the Mediterranean and the contiguous waters of the Atlantic, where it survives in reproductive units amounting to a few hundred individuals concentrated in the southernmost areas of the Mediterranean and along the coastline of the Atlantic Sahara and the island of Madeira. Arcipelago Toscano National Park organizes special boat excursions along the island’s coasts to discover Capraia’s marine life. If you choose to use your own vessel, please follow some simple rules so as not to disturb the monk seal or other animals, and consult the map at the link below or use the QR code to find out in what areas you can navigate freely.

[Capraia-avviso-natanti](#)



Island of Capraia

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION

The archaeological exhibition is housed in the church of Sant'Antonio, displaying a series of important archaeological finds discovered on the island and in its surrounding waters. Of these, the most evocative are from what has been called "Tomb 13," discovered by the eastern side of the church of Santa Maria Assunta during the 1983 excavation campaign which, in addition to a series of Medieval and modern-era burials, also yielded a tomb from Late Antiquity, dated to the fifth century AD. The remains of the skeleton and the grave goods allow the burial to be attributed to a soldier probably not of native origin, perhaps a Frank in Avitus's Imperial Army who died during the Battle of Corsica of 456 AD. The exhibition is included in a broader context of initiatives aimed at valorizing the island of Capraia's historical and archaeological heritage, implemented by the Municipality of Capraia in collaboration with Arcipelago Toscano National Park, with the scientific supervision of the Superintendence for Archaeology, Fine Arts, and Landscape for the provinces of Pisa and Livorno.

BOTANICAL TRAIL

Institutions, companies, and citizens have lent their cooperation to this valorization project: the Arura and San Rocco farms, following a commitment taken on in the setting of the ECST (European Charter for Sustainable Tourism) certification, experimentally developed the Botanical Trail, and then completed it thanks to support and financing from the National Park. The main objective is to "learn about, in order to recognize," plants, flowers, and fruits of spontaneous plants in the maquis and more, creating a permanent place for education and experience, and allowing those who traverse it to venture into the island with a greater awareness provided by the recognition of the main botanical species that are present there. About 300 metres long, the trail extends along the ancient Roman Road that leads from the port to town, passing by the spring and crossing the bridge over the Vado del Porto ford. The port is reached starting from the church of Santa Maria Assunta by following the road for the village called "Le Sughere," or from town starting from the church of San Nicola, following Via San Leonardo, and continuing towards the port with the Palmento di San Leonardo wine vat to one side. The trail is free to use and open to everyone, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Spring is the ideal moment to pay it a visit.



Island of Capraia

IL MIGLIO BLU

Swimming, snorkelling, and swimtrekking in an extraordinary natural swimming pool. Capraia's Miglio Blu ("blue mile") is a corridor reserved for safe swimming; freely accessible, no navigation, anchoring, or mooring is allowed within its confines. It extends along a coastal strip that stretches in front of the inhabited area of Capraia – from the Grotto beneath Torre del Porto to Torretta al Bagno. The corridor, 1100 m in length, is marked by 22 buoys. A round-trip swim covers more than one nautical mile.



PRO LOCO Island of Capraia 2024 EVENTS



Capraia Rock Trail.

In the island's suggestive setting, amid breathtaking views, a trail competition suited to expert runners.

Minigiraglia. Sailing between Capraia and Corsica.

Tango Experience Capraia isola. Milongas and lessons with instructors for all levels.

Capraia Smart Island. A three-day event to present the main experiences available on the market to increase the supply chains' sustainability: energy, waste, water cycle, energy efficiency in buildings, port management, and sustainable land and sea mobility.

Sagra dei Saperi delle Terre di Mare. The "festival of flavours of the lands of the sea," with the preparation and tasting of typical dishes and products.

Capraia Sail Rally. Competitive sailing organized by Associazione Vele Storiche Viareggio.

Capraia Musica Festival. Nineteenth edition. An appointment with excellent music in the island's characteristic places.

"Muovasi la Capraia" Festival, between the sea and dreams. Evenings of theatre, cinema, and literature.

Biblioteca della Torre del Porto. Library opened for lending services and events calendar.

Capraia Yogathon. Yoga marathon to practise together, benefiting from all the volcanic island's energy.

Festa per la Madonna dell'Assunta. Traditional religious festival of the Assumption, with procession by the sea, fireworks, and the island's Palio Marinaro competition.

Beer festival

Sagra del Totano. A long-established event attracting thousands of tourists every year, the flying squid festival comprises two main events: the flying squid fishing competition and the festival proper, with stands run by the island's restaurants

For information:

prolococapraiaisola.it

Activity Calendar 2024



Spring in the Park

SUNDAY, 31 MARCH

The Zenobito loop: the island of Capraia's geotourism itinerary

A guided excursion to discover the island of Capraia's geomorphological history through the reading of the environment. Starting from the town's main square and upon reaching Mount Arpagna, a splendid observation point for a 360° view where we will stop for a packed lunch, we will descend into the Piana dello Zenobito: an indescribable plain that is impressive for its wild beauty. From here, we will see the magnificent Cala Rossa. From the southern end of the island guarded by the Genoese tower, we will travel along a coastal trail that will bring us back to town. Appointment: 09:00 AM, Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 7 hours – Degree of Difficulty: very demanding – Booking required. € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age), free admission for children 0-4 years of age. Equipment: hiking boots, water supply (2.5 litres per person), packed lunch.



Island of Capraia

SUNDAY, 5 MAY

The former Agricultural Penal Colony, between history and nature

In 1873, Capraia also saw the establishment of an Agricultural Penal Colony: an entire sector of the island was set aside to accommodate the institution, organized in “wings” for carrying out the prison’s operational and productive activities. This easy, beautiful excursion travels a scenic road connecting the various prison wings, taking us “inside” as we pass through the ancient official entrance arch in the area of the former Agricultural Penal Colony and walk through the wings to discover the history of the penal colonies on the Tuscan Archipelago and on Capraia, while observing the environment and its transformations. Appointment: 2:00 PM, La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 2h30m– Degree of difficulty: medium-easy – Booking required. € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



SATURDAY, 25 MAY

From bay to bay, through valleys and fords: Vado del Porto and the Reganico trail

The only volcanic island in the Tuscan Archipelago, Capraia is a treasure chest of biodiversity – a richness we will discover on a fine excursion departing from the port. The itinerary flanks the delightful Vado del Porto ford, along which we may have a look at the flowering plant species that enrich the island’s “Botanical Trail.” Upon reaching the “Old Quarry,” the ancient site of extraction of volcanic rock, we will travel along the enchanting Reganico Trail to reach Cala dello Zurletto in a succession of surprising habitats, as we observe the species of flora and fauna there, and the “legend” of the island’s geomorphological history. Appointment: 2:00 PM, La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 3h30m– Degree of difficulty: medium-easy – Booking required. € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



SUNDAY, 26 MAY

Capraia and the Stagnone loop: unique biodiversity

On the occasion of **European Day of Parks**. Stagnone (“big marsh”) is a small lake of natural origin (the only one in the archipelago) set along the “mountainous” spine of the island of Capraia. The loop that allows us to reach it is a magnificent itinerary for discovering this marvellous territory’s biodiversity and to understand its unique character. Step by step, we will grasp the surprising succession of environments on the only Tuscan Archipelago’s only volcanic island, admire its landscapes of igneous rocks, learn about the history of its community and the transformations of the environment, observe the most characteristic and most unique species, as well their strategies and adaptations, and discover the uniqueness of its flora and fauna in a real spectacle of biodiversity.

Appointment: 09:00 AM, Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 5 hours.

Difficulty: Demanding – Free of charge; booking required.



Summer in the Park

SUMMER IN THE PARK FOR EVERYONE

Families, teens and children to discover the nature and history of the islands of the Tuscan Archipelago National Park, excursions, guided tours, educational workshops, conferences and citizen science to know and experience the nature and culture of the Protected Area intensely.

SUMMER IN THE PARK JUNIOR

For children aged 6 to 11, environmental education, didactic games and workshops; activities related to the marine ecosystem and the most significant environments of the Park: animal and plant species, natural history, conservation, sustainability.

EVERY MONDAY IN THE SUMMER, THE PARK OFFERS THE EXPERIENCE OF SEAWATCHING AND WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN

Seawatching: A boat ride around the island of Capraia, dedicated to marine fauna

The guided tour with small, local vessels is an experience that allows the visitor to discover the Island Capraia's wild beauty and its natural heritage. As we gaze at the island's coasts (inaccessible on foot) and the surrounding sea through the binoculars provided by the Natural Park, we will be able to observe leaping tunas or dolphins, seagulls or falcons in flight, diving pygmy cormorants, or a petrel gliding at the water's surface. With a little luck, some exceptional species might be sighted, like the osprey or the monk seal; but there will also be time for a dip in the island's crystal-clear water. Appointment: 5:30 PM, La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 2 hours – Booking required. € 30 full price; € 20 reduced price (5-12 years of age); € 10 (0-4 years of age).



PARK MONDAYS



Island of Capraia

PARK MONDAYS

Children's workshop at the La Salata Environmental Education Centre (CEA): The marine mammals in the Pelagos Sanctuary



Common bottlenose and spotted dolphins, common blue whales, and sperm whales are just some of the species of marine mammals that frequent the sea of the Tuscan Archipelago, part of a particularly important area defined as the "Pelagos Cetacean Sanctuary": just the occasion also to learn about the rarer and lesser-known species, their characteristics, and their abilities.

Appointment: 9:30 PM, Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 1h30m– Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required; free of charge.

ON TUESDAYS, THE PARK OFFERS A VARIETY OF EVENTS TO EXPLORE THE ISLAND IN ALL ITS NUANCES

Informative meetings on scientific subjects, events dedicated to local productions, small tastings. For dates and times, contact the La Salata Environmental Education Centre (CEA).

Some offerings:

Dawn excursion on Mount Arpagna



A hike dedicated to the magical landscape from night to day: walking beneath the starry sky, in the silence of nature, we will reach the special observation point of Mount Arpagna, from which to enjoy the spectacle of sunrise. A truly unforgettable experience of marvellous immersion in the extraordinary environment of the island of Capraia. Equipment: hiking boots, water supply, packed lunch, sweater/jacket, flashlight. Appointment: 4:00 AM, Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 6 hours – Difficulty: demanding – Booking required. € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

Equipment: hiking boots, water supply (1.5 litres per person), packed breakfast, jacket, flashlight/cellphone with flashlight function.

And at last, we went out... to measure the darkness!



Turning our gaze to the night sky, the stars have always been a spectacle that has elicited people's enormous curiosity and wonder. But how does one assess the quality of the night sky, and therefore the impact of light pollution? A brief excursion in the company of Dr. Luciano Massetti, a researcher at CNR-IBE, will allow us to discover what light pollution is, measure its impact with specific instruments, and be thrilled by the magic of Capraia's night. Appointment: 9:30 PM, La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 2 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required. € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

PARK TUESDAYS



Dawn by boat

A thrilling experience devoted to the transition from night to day, from a special observation point, the sea. Setting sail under a starry sky, we will stop at the beautiful Cala della Mortola bay, reachable only by boat, to admire the dawn and enjoy a daybreak swim. Returning onboard, we will have a guided tour around the island to discover its heritage of nature, scenery, and geology. Appointment: 05:00 AM, La Salata Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 2h30m – Guide service € 10 – Boat service (payment on board) € 30. Number of participants: 8. Booking required.



Market exhibition of Capraia's farms: the island's knowledge and flavours

Wine, honey, cheeses, beer, jams, preserves, and liqueurs are an expression of the marvellous volcanic island and the result of the producers' skilful work, carried out with attention to tradition and with continuous research and innovation, while respecting a territory that belongs to Arcipelago Toscano National Park and the UNESCO MAB Biosphere Reserve. The local produce market exhibition will provide an opportunity to learn about local farming enterprises and to discover the knowledge and flavours of Capraia. Appointment: 10:00 PM, La Salata Environmental Education Centre (CEA). Duration: 1h30m – Free admission.



Cooperativa Maricoltura e Ricerca: Capraia's "sea farm"

Cooperativa Maricoltura e Ricerca, the marine aquaculture and research cooperative, is an extraordinary example of excellence in fish production in Italy. Committed since its creation to achieving the goal of a high-quality product that respects the well-being of animals, it is indicated by the European Commission as a model of sustainable aquaculture. The evening, in the company of the cooperative's founders, will be a meeting open to questions and curiosities, dedicated to history, to the achieved results, and to future objectives, in pursuit of the economy of sustainability and of a great passion: the sea. Appointment: 10:00 PM, La Salata Environmental Education Centre (CEA). Duration: 1h30m – Free admission.



Capraia's sky: a treasure chest filled with stars

The Astronomy Group from Rosignano Marittimo's Museo di Storia Naturale will enliven an evening of astronomical observations beneath the incomparable sky of the island of Capraia. An introductory meeting at the La Salata Environmental Education Centre (CEA) will allow visitors to learn some basic notions relating to the movements of the heavenly bodies, the main constellations during that period, and the approach to observation using telescopes. In a guided walk, participants will then reach the place where observations will be made through telescopes that will reveal double stars, star clusters, nebulae, and galaxies. Appointment: 10:00 PM, La Salata Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required. € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age); free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

Island of Capraia

ON WEDNESDAYS IN THE PARK: NATURE OR GEOLOGY-THEMED BOAT RIDES, SUNSET HIKING, AND VISITS TO LOCAL PRODUCERS

Seawatching: boat ride around the island to discover the coasts and the marine fauna

26 JUNE, 10-24 JULY, 7-21 AUGUST, 4 SEPTEMBER

Appointment: 09:15 AM, La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 2 hours – Booking required. € 30 full price; € 20 reduced price (5-12 years of age); € 10 (0-4 years of age).

Description: see Monday's Seawatching (p. 90)



Geowatching: boat ride to discover the Tuscan Archipelago's only volcanic island

19 JUNE, 3 - 17 - 31 JULY, 14-28 AUGUST, 11 SEPTEMBER

A boat ride with small, local vessels is an experience that allows visitors to comprehend the wild beauty of Capraia, the Tuscan Archipelago's only island of volcanic origin. During the guided tour, we will "read" the environment through direct observation. Relying on the Geotourism Map created in collaboration between the National Park and Parco the Institute of Environmental Geology and Geoengineering of the National Research Council (CNR), we will discover the island's geomorphological "story," as we come to understand the value of this geological heritage. During the circumnavigation we will stop at sites with extraordinary emotional impact that cannot be reached on foot, and enjoy a dip in the island's crystal-clear water. Appointment: 09:15 AM, La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 2 hours – Booking required. € 30 full price; € 20 reduced price (5-12 years of age); € 10 (0-4 years of age). Visitors must have swimming equipment.



PARK WEDNESDAYS



Island of Capraia

**Hiking dedicated to the sunset: guided excursion
in the former penal colony, arriving at the Il Dattero area**

19 JUNE, 31 JULY, 14 AUGUST, 11 SEPTEMBER, 18 SEPTEMBER

A guided hike perfect for the excitement of discovering the island of Capraia. Traversing the former prison farm and observing the structures and environment, we will become acquainted with a little-known but highly important page of history: that of prison farms in the Tuscan Archipelago. Upon reaching the Il Dattero area, a magnificent, natural cliff towering over the western coast, we will admire the enchanting sunset. We will come back by the same route, enjoying the spectacle of the night-time sky lit by the Milky Way and by the countless stars visible in Capraia's famed darkness. Appointment: hours vary based on time of sunset – CEA La Salata (port) – Duration: 5 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium-easy – Booking required. € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. Equipment: hiking boots, water supply (1.5 litres per person), packed dinner, jacket, flashlight/cellphone with flashlight function.



PARK WEDNESDAYS



**Hiking for locally-sourced production with the
“Dattero” area sunset, paired with a visit to local producers**

A guided hike to learn about the history of the former Agricultural Penal Colony and the productive activities present in the area, and to discover the wild nature of Capraia. Starting from the port, we will traverse the penitentiary's wings to reach one of the production outfits and learn about its history, philosophy, and its products.

Visit to “Il Saracello,” a local dairy farm. We will become acquainted with the characteristics of the sweet-natured goats raised on Capraia, rearing methods, and dairy production. A small, complementary assortment will allow us to appreciate the quality of this traditional production that is now unique in the territory. **10 JULY, 7 AUGUST, 4 SEPTEMBER**

Visit to Valle di Portovecchio, a multifunctional farm that has been active for more than 25 years. The founders will acquaint us with their activities and their excellent, high-quality productions (honey, preserves, jams, liqueurs), which we will enjoy in a small, complementary assortment. **3 JULY, 17 JULY, 28 AUGUST**



Island of Capraia

PARK WEDNESDAYS

Visit to La Mursa, a local farm with a family flavour. On the ancient terracing, we will learn about the produce that is farmed and about the special viticultural activities, cultivation techniques, and production methods, enriching the experience with a small, complementary assortment. **26 JUNE, 24 JULY, 21 AUGUST**

Dopo la visita raggiungeremo la località 'Il Dattero' per ammirare il tramonto. Dal After the visit we will reach the Il Dattero area to enjoy the sunset. From the evocative observation point high over the island's western coast, we will return to the port beneath the spectacle of the night-time sky. Appointment: 5:00 PM, La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 5 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium – Booking required. € 15; € 8 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. Equipment: hiking boots, water supply (1.5 litres per person), packed dinner, jacket, flashlight/cellphone with flashlight function

THE PARK HAS CHOSEN THURSDAYS ON CAPRAIA FOR A HIKE "IN THE DARK" AND FOR A DIVE INTO THE EXTRAORDINARY, PROTECTED WATERS

Snorkelling for adults: surprising habitats and marine organisms along Capraia's coasts



All we need are fins, mask, and snorkel to discover the extraordinary beauty of the island of Capraia's sea bottoms: amid the dark volcanic rocks and on the sandy bottoms, we will observe the countless species and habitats recognized both in Italy and internationally, that characterize the surprising biodiversity of its sea. This is the time for an unforgettable experience! Appointment: 5:00 PM, La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 1h30' Degree of difficulty: easy - Booking required. € 30. Minimum age: 14; minors must be accompanied by an adult.

Night-time excursion to Santo Stefano: a sensory itinerary to discover nature



A guided excursion along the easy trail from town to the Romanesque church of Santo Stefano Protomartire, in the Il Piano area. As we get used to walking in the dark and silence of the night, we will stop to admire a marvellous, starry sky, thanks to the low level of light pollution. We will use our senses to discover the territory: through guided experiences, sound, smell, touch, and even taste will be precious tools for appreciating the nature around us, even in the dark. Upon reaching the small, parish church we will discover the history of the building and of the monastic community once present in Capraia. Appointment: 9:30 PM, Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 1h30m – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required. € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. Equipment: hiking boots, water supply, jacket, flashlight/cellphone with flashlight function.

PARK THURSDAYS

Island of Capraia

FRIDAYS ARE RESERVED FOR DISCOVERING THE ISLAND'S HISTORY AND ITS PRODUCTS. EVENING ACTIVITY FOR THE YOUNGEST VISITORS

The island of palmenti: a guided tour of the Tigghielle archaeological area



21 JUNE, 12 JULY, 19 JULY, 13 SEPTEMBER, 20 SEPTEMBER

Capraia might be called the island of palmenti, age-old wine vats dug into the stone and used for the pressing of grapes and wine production. An itinerary immersed in the Mediterranean scrub will allow us to visit Le Tigghielle, the small archaeological area that is home to the most numerous nucleus of palmenti, and to understand these structures' significance in the historic, economic, and social setting in the past. Imagining the life and appearance of long-ago Capraia, we will reach Il Piano, a beautiful natural basin protected by reliefs and an ancient colonization site, as shown by the presence of the small parish church of Santo Stefano Protomartire. Here we will admire the vineyard landscape, which to this day characterizes the island's agricultural areas. Appointment: 5:30 PM, Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 2h30m – Difficulty: medium-easy – Booking required. € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

Hiking for locally-sourced products. From flora to the table the island's flavours on our plates: Arura Azienda Agricola



28 JUNE, 26 JULY, 30 AUGUST

Common or unique, and always precious: the plants on the island of Capraia are an expression of the territory's evolution and at the same time represent its future due to their countless properties. A guided excursion from the town to the port along the Botanical Trail to observe and become acquainted with the island's plant life, from the most characteristic species to the rarest ones, and their uses. The excursion will end with a stop at Arura Azienda Agricola, where Susanna and Adriana Casini will tell us about their farm's history and allow us to discover its excellent products and enjoy a "seasonal" tasting to appreciate the flavours that, between tradition and experimentation, bring all the flavours of the Mediterranean scrubland straight to the table. Appointment: 5:30 PM, Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 2h30m – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required. € 15; € 8 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. Equipment: hiking boots, water supply.

Hiking for locally-sourced products. Wines of the sea on the Tuscan Archipelago's volcanic island: Azienda Biologica La Piana



9 AUGUST, 16 AUGUST, 23 AUGUST

This easy, beautiful excursion will allow us to discover the marvellous Il Piano, one of the island's agricultural production sites, frequented in ancient times. Here, within the National Park, a short distance from the age-old grape-pressing vats called palmenti, is the "historic" vineyard of the Azienda Biologica La Piana farm. As we stroll through the vine rows with the farm's owner Alice Bollani, we will discover the types of grapes and cultivation methods, the history of the farm, and its products. Through a comparative testing, we will appreciate the special characteristics of the wines produced just a stone's throw from the sea on the Tuscan Archipelago's volcanic island. Appointment: 5:30 PM, Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 2h30m – Degree of difficulty: easy. Booking required. € 15; € 8 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. Equipment: hiking boots, water supply.

Island of Capraia

Hiking for locally-sourced products. The laborious lives of bees and honey production: Azienda Agricola San Rocco

5 JULY, 2 AUGUST, 6 SEPTEMBER

A guided excursion along the marvellous Reganico Trail, amid the Mediterranean scrub and maquis, in search of the pollen and nectar plants that bees love. Upon reaching the Azienda Agricola San Rocco farm, we will visit the apiary with its founder Roberta Bonomo. We will discover the fascinating hive “macro-organism” and the laborious lives of bees, the history and methods adopted in organic beekeeping and the farm’s products. Returning to town, we will pay a visit to the new building to observe the tools and equipment used in the various processing phases.

The experience will be enriched by a small, complementary assortment to appreciate Capraia honey, the result of the close relationship between people and the environment. Equipment: hiking boots, water supply. Appointment: 5:30 PM, Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 2h30m – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required. € 15; € 8 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



PARK FRIDAYS



Activities for children and families: the stars tell their stories

Observing the night-time sky is like reading a big storybook: stars, constellations and planets are the protagonists of fascinating stories, ancient myths, and faraway legends. Just a short walk outside of town, we will discover the “darkness” in Capraia, and with our eyes turned skyward we will admire the wonder of the night-time sky, learn to recognize the main stars, the constellations, and the visible planets, and become acquainted with myths, stories, and legends about the starry sky. Appointment: 9:30 PM, Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 1h30m – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required; free of charge.

Required equipment: blanket, jacket.

ON SATURDAYS, WE ARE OFF TO DISCOVER THE MARINE CREATURES AND VISIT THE VILLAGE OF CAPRAIA

Seawatching: boating around the island of Capraia dedicated to marine fauna

Appointment: 08:30 AM, La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 2 hours – Booking required. € 30 full price; € 20 reduced price (5-12 years of age); € 10 (0-4 years of age).

Description: see Monday's Seawatching (p. 90).



Guided tour of the village and the archaeological exhibition

As we stroll through the evocative, stone-paved streets, from Piazza della Chiesa to Forte San Giorgio and Torre del Porto, we will observe the most significant buildings but also the traditional homes and items bearing witness to daily and productive activities, through which we will discover the life of long ago and the events that marked the history of the island community. At the end of the itinerary, a guided tour of the archaeological exhibition will acquaint us with the most ancient colonizations, with the fascinating finds recovered on land and at sea, housed at the evocative complex of the former Franciscan monastery, a structure of enormous architectural, historic, and cultural value.

Appointment: 5:30 PM, Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 2 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required. € 4 (guide service). Admission ticket to archaeological exhibition to be paid onsite.



SUNDAYS ON CAPRAIA: A SUNSET ON A CLIFF OVER THE SEA

A hike dedicated to the sunset: escursione guidata nella Ex Colonia Penale fino al 'Dattero'

A guided hike perfect for the excitement of discovering the island of Capraia. Traversing the former prison farm and observing the structures and environment, we will become acquainted with a little-known but highly important page of history: that of the presence of prison farms in the Tuscan Archipelago. Upon reaching the Il Dattero area, a magnificent, natural cliff towering over the western coast, we will admire the enchanting sunset. From the marvellous observation point, we will walk the path in reverse, enjoying the spectacle of the night-time sky lit by the Milky Way and by the countless stars visible in the darkness of Capraia. Appointment: hours vary based on time of sunset – La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 5 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium-easy – Booking required. € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. water supply (1.5 litres per person), packed dinner, jacket, flashlight/cellphone with flashlight function.



Island of Capraia



WEDNESDAY, 17 JULY

Wings in the blue: the osprey

A conference led by Giampiero Sammuri, biologist and President of the Arcipelago Toscano National Park, to learn about this fascinating bird of prey, which is disappearing from our skies but is reproducing again in Italy thanks to a monitoring and protection project that has involved several protected areas. Absent from the Tuscan Archipelago for 90 years, in 2021 the osprey chose the island of Capraia for nesting. Appointment: 9:30 PM, La Salata Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 1h30m – Participation free of charge



FRIDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER

The monk seal in the Tuscan Archipelago: past and present

We meet Giulia Mo and Sabrina Agnesi, researchers from the Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale – ISPRA), to discover the characteristics of this rare marine mammal, fewer than 700 specimens of which survive in nature, that in recent years has returned to the Archipelago's waters. Appointment: 9:30 PM, La Salata Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 2 hours. Participation free of charge.

Autumn in the Park

SUNDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER

Excursion to Punta del Trattoio

An enormously fascinating itinerary to discover the wonder of the island's "volcanic" landscapes and its scenic views, flora, and fauna. Starting from the town's main square we will travel along the beautiful and historic mule trail that leads towards Mount Arpagna. Shortly before the peak, we will descend to the wild Punta del Trattoio, where we will stop for a packed lunch before an extraordinary view overlooking the island's western coast. Along the way, we will make stops for explanations that will allow us to better grasp the island's "volcanic beauty," the characteristics of its vegetation, and its habitats and species of flora and fauna of interest for conservation. Appointment: 09:00 AM, Piazza Milano – Duration: 6 hours — Difficulty: Demanding – Booking required. € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. Equipment: hiking boots, water supply (1.5 litres per person), packed lunch.



SUNDAY, 6 OCTOBER

Excursion to the Tigghielle palmenti: exceptional offerings of the island of Capraia

A fine, guided excursion towards the heart of the island of Capraia will allow us to visit the Tigghielle archaeological area, where we will observe a marvellous nucleus of palmenti, vats for the pressing of grapes and wine production. Although they are also to be found on the other islands of the Tuscan Archipelago, we will discover the exceptional nature of Capraia's palmenti; as we observe the fine vineyards in the Il Piano area, we will be able to imagine the life and productive activities of the past. Appointment: 2:00 PM, Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 2,5 hours – Difficulty: easy – Booking required. € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



Island of Capraia



SATURDAY, 26 OCTOBER

Dry stone walls in the former agricultural penal colony

Rock has always been an ally to people who have used it since antiquity in the art of dry stone walls, which were useful for terracing and to practice agriculture, protect their crops, mark property, and use the land. Inscribed on the UNESCO list of the intangible cultural heritage of humanity in 2018, dry stone walls characterize the island of Capraia's cultural landscape, from the coast to the inland areas, whether hidden amid the vegetation or recovered for modern productive activities. We will discover them on the guided excursion in the area of the island's former penal colony. Appointment: 2:00 PM, La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 2h30m – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required. € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



SUNDAY, 3 NOVEMBER

A morning at Sella dell'Acciatore

Flanking the Vado del Porto and travelling down the path of the ancient mule trail that traverses the island, immersed in the Mediterranean scrub, we will arrive at "Il Piano," a beautiful, natural basin occupied by vineyards surrounded by green hills. Continuing along the mule trail, we will reach the enchanting Sella dell'Acciatore where, from a fantastic natural overlook high over the western coast, we will admire the sea, the soaring coastline, and Corsica. After a stop to observe the species of birds that frequent the area and of the flowers that have colonized this habitat of particular value for conversation, we will follow the same itinerary back to town. Appointment: 09:00 AM, Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 3 hours 30m – Difficulty: medium-demanding – Booking required. € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

Excursions are booked online at parcoaripelago.info/Capraia

Getting to the island of Capraia

The island of Capraia may be reached year round, lying at approximately 2 hours and 45 minutes by boat from the port of Livorno. There is no need to ferry your car to visit the island, since the only vehicular road, 800 metres in length, is served by bus links, and there are limitations during the periods of increased tourism. The ferry for Capraia is run by Toremar, tel.: 0586 896113. Toremar tel. 0586 896113.



AVENZA MAPS

Download the free app from the Avenza Maps platform for the official map of Capraia



Island of Capraia



Island of Giglio

With the Park between trails





GIGLIO HARBOUR PARK INFORMATION CENTRE - CASA DEL PARCO

Via Provinciale, 9 - Giglio Porto - Tel.: 0564 809400

Now active at the main office of the Island of Giglio Pro Loco association – thanks to a strong collaboration between it, the Municipality, and the Park Authority – is the new information point that allows visitors to discover all the offerings for using the National Park, and in particular the islands of Giglio and Giannutri. There, a variety of promotional and dissemination materials is available, as well as official maps in order to enjoy the trail network in Giglio and Giannutri. The information point coordinates with the Park Information Centre for the booking of scheduled excursions. The facility is enriched with an exhibition space (“Casa del Parco,” with entrance on the ground floor) where visitors can view images of the extraordinary natural and archaeological beauty characteristic of the protected area, but also videos dedicated to the trail network and to the Pelagos Sanctuary for Mediterranean Marine Mammals, as well as more in-depth explanations of the environments and the cultural values of the islands of Giglio and Giannutri

**March to October: every day from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM and from 2:00 to 6:00 PM.
November to February: Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.**



AVENZA MAPS

Download the free app from the Avenza Maps platform for the official map of [Giglio](#)



Activity Calendar 2024

Spring in the Park

SATURDAY, 30 MARCH

Colours and scents of spring

Excursion along the crest of the island of Giglio, with modest rises and spectacular views over the coastline and the Tuscan Archipelago, immersed in the scents of the springtime blooms and of Mediterranean perennials. The Park Guide will accompany participants in a sensory immersion focused on sight and smell, for a full experience of the benefits of physical and mental contact with nature. Packed lunch. Appointment: 10:00 AM Giglio Castello, bus stop – Duration: 6 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium. Booking required. € 8, € 4 reduced price (5 - 12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



Island of Giglio

SATURDAY, 27 APRIL

Spontaneous plants in the Tuscan Archipelago: uses and traditions

Hiking excursion with Park Guide heading south from Giglio Castello, to discover the Mediterranean spontaneous plants in the island's territory, correlating medicinal purposes, typical culinary traditions, and general uses common to the islands in the Archipelago. Packed lunch. After lunch, return on foot to Giglio Castello; free poster for all participants. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Giglio Castello, Piazza Gloriosa – Duration: 6 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required. € 8, € 4 reduced price (5 - 12 years of age), free for children 0-4 years of age.



WEDNESDAY 1 MAY

Fava beans, Pecorino cheese, and Ansonaco wine at the Capel Rosso lighthouse

Travel by your own car from Giglio Castello to the end of the scenic road in the Capel Rosso area, followed by a hike to the very end of the island to admire its characteristic, smooth granite faces and enjoy the view. At around 12:30 PM, we will return from the rocks to the Capel Rosso lighthouse, where we will be welcomed by the owners, the Mura sisters, for tour of the lighthouse and a typical snack with fava beans, pecorino cheese, and Ansonaco wine. Return to Giglio Castello by 4:30 PM. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Piazza Gloriosa, Giglio Castello – Duration: 6 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium – Booking required. € 8, € 4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. Snack € 20, € 10 for children up to 14 years of age.



SUNDAY, 26 MAY

Walking builds an appetite!

On the occasion of European Day of Parks. Hiking with a Park Guide from Giglio Castello to Cala degli Alberi, in the island's wildest area. After a 2-hour walk, we will arrive at the Azienda Agricola Biologica "Barbara Arienti" farm, reachable only by sea or hiking trail. Upon arrival, lunch with products from the establishment, which raises a variety of farm animals. The produce is all organic, and the wheat is raised entirely using ancient cultivars. After lunch, a tour of the farm. 4:30 PM departure for Giglio Porto, by taxi boat. Upon arrival, free time before the ferry's departure. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Giglio Castello, Piazza Gloriosa – Duration: 7 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium. Cost for lunch (upon request), all inclusive, € 35. Cost for boat trip, 3 person minimum, € 10 per person. Excursion free of charge. Booking required. Costo del pranzo (su richiesta) tutto incluso € 35. Costo del passaggio barca, minimo 3 persone, € 10 a persona. Escursione gratuita su prenotazione.



Summer in the Park

E... STATE NEL PARCO PER TUTTI. Famiglie, ragazzi e bambini alla scoperta della natura e della storia dell'isole; escursioni, visite guidate, laboratori didattici, conferenze e citizen science per vivere intensamente la natura e la cultura dell'Area protetta.

E... STATE NEL PARCO JUNIOR. Laboratori gratuiti per bambini da 6 a 11 anni, educazione ambientale, giochi didattici, laboratori; sull'ecosistema marino e sugli ambienti del Parco: specie animali e vegetali, minerali, conservazione, sostenibilità.

EVERY WEDNESDAY, SUMMER IS FOR THE YOUNGEST VISITORS

PARK WEDNESDAYS

For children: an appointment with nature

An appointment to discover the island's natural riches, dedicated to its youngest visitors: weekly appointments with the Park Guide on Wednesday mornings, alternating a workshop on the island's minerals with a stroll in the woods, in order to become acquainted, through play, with the world of trees and plants. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Piazza Gloriosa, Giglio Castello – Duration: 2 hours. Free event; Booking required. Maximum 10 participants.



SATURDAY STARGAZING

PARK SATURDAYS

Hiking beneath the stars: Poggio della Pagana

An evening excursion with the Park Guide that, in less than a half-hour of walking, will take us to Poggio della Pagana at 496 metres above sea level, the highest point on the island of Giglio, to admire the all-round landscape and the sunset to the west. Participants pack their own dinner. As soon as darkness falls, visitors will admire the starry sky and its constellations in one of the island's areas where the light pollution is lowest. Participants will appreciate personal contributions both in terms of technical material (e.g. binoculars or telescopes) and of sharing accounts about the starry sky, in order to make the evening more unforgettable. Appointment: two hours before sunset, Giglio Castello, Piazza Gloriosa – Duration: 3 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium. Booking required. € 8; € 4 reduced price (5 - 12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



Island of Giglio



Hiking for locally-sourced products

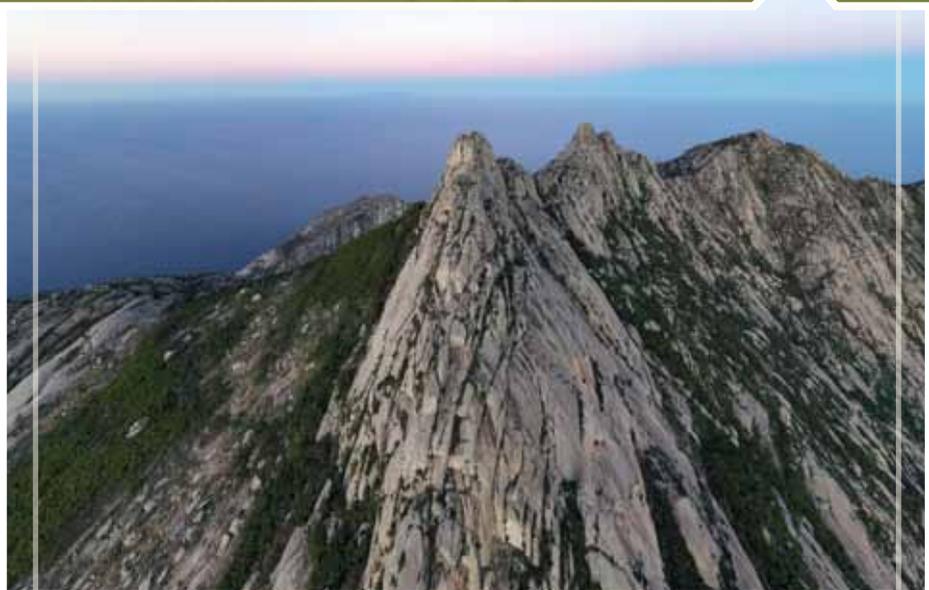
During the summer, hikes will be offered with tastings at farms that develop local productions: wine, honey, vegetables, and other tasty products that encapsulate all the island's scents and flavours, and bear witness to the profound relationship between people and nature in these ancient agricultural areas in the heart of the MAB Tuscan Islands Reserve. Information available at Park Information Centre. **See p. 104.**



THURSDAY, 11 JULY

Protecting biodiversity on the Island of Montecristo

The extraordinary and excellent offerings of the most fascinating of the Tuscan islands, recounted by Park President Giampiero Sammuri through his experiences as biologist and the many projects that Arcipelago Toscano National Park has conducted on Montecristo, which has also been classified as a State Nature Reserve and has obtained the European Diploma for Protected Areas. Appointment: 6:30 PM, Giglio Campese – Duration: 1h30'. Participation free of charge.



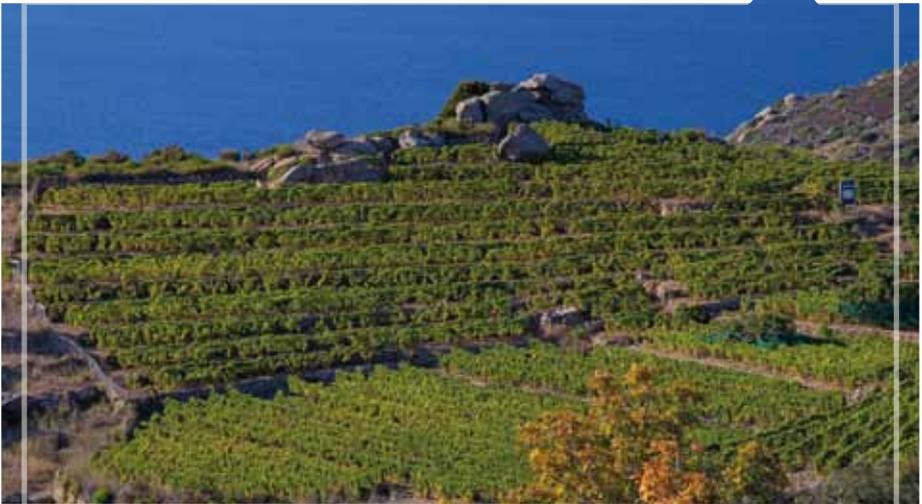
Autumn in the Park



SATURDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER

Hiking amid agriculture and nature

An excursion with Park Guide into the northern part of Giglio, accompanied by the scent of the cultivated and spontaneous September fruits that characterize this area of the island. Ancient and newer cultivars highlight this territory's extraordinary biodiversity: the Ansonica grape, blood peaches, sorb, white and black figs, hawthorn, Rosa Canina... a jubilee of scents, colours, and flavours. Participants bring their own packed lunch. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Piazza Gloriosa - Giglio Castello – Duration: 6 hours – Difficulty: medium. Booking required € 8, € 4 reduced price (5 - 12 years of age); free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



SUNDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER

Following the tracks of donkeys

A south-to-east nature excursion with Park Guide towards the Azienda Agricola "Barbara Arienti" farm, which raises the last donkeys present on the island. Called "Micci Amiatiini," over the centuries they were used for their labour. After a 2-hour walk, arrival at Cala degli Alberi, a bay that can be reached only by sea or on foot. Optional lunch based on the farm's organic products. After lunch, return by boat by 4:30 PM to Giglio Porto. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Giglio Castello, Piazza Gloriosa – Duration: 6h30m – Degree of difficulty: medium/high. Booking required. € 8, € 4 reduced price (5 - 12 years of age); free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. Optional lunch, booking required, € 35 per person, to be paid on site, return boat € 10 per person.

Island of Giglio

SUNDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER

On the road of the dolmens

From Giglio Castello heading south, towards the crossroads in the Le Porte area, where different trails meet. From here, we will follow the trail that leads to the Cannelle beach, home to numerous megaliths, a dolmen and a menhir broken in two. These fascinating prehistoric elements will be accompanied by beautiful views, offering new ways to experience these places with their original beauty intact. Packed lunch. Arrival at the enchanting Cannelle beach is scheduled for mid-afternoon. Return to Giglio Porto by 4:30 PM, on foot or, for those who so desire, by taxi buses.

Appointment: 10:00 AM, Piazza Gloriosa, Giglio Castello (bus stop). Duration: 6h30m—
Degree of difficulty: medium. Booking required for the event. € 8, € 4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



Bookings at parcoarcipelago.info/giglio

Island of Giglio



Giannutri island





Strolling between history and nature

Archaeological trail



In Giannutri, amid the rocky cliffs and scented trails of the Mediterranean scrubland, visitors may admire the remains of a Roman villa: an ancient residential complex with a maritime landing, and once a headquarters for ships stopping by and for otium, built in the first century AD by the powerful Domitius Ahenobarbus family, from which Emperor Nero descended. The visit is enriched with new archaeological elements that have been the subject of recent restorations: following the operations to consolidate three rooms adorned with mosaics, the environments of the tabernae, decorated with geometrical mosaics, are once again on view in all their splendour. The admission price helps finance their care and maintenance. Duration: approximately 40 minutes – Degree of difficulty: easy - Ticket € 8; free of charge for children and youths 0-18 years of age, disabled persons, and those accompanying them.

Nature trail



Giannutri, a green and windy island, is completely comprised within Arcipelago Toscano National Park, including the adjacent sea. Mediterranean scrub prevails over rock, but the island is also home to maritime and Aleppo pines. Spurge, juniper, and rosemary are in flower. A small paradise: 500 metres wide, about 5 kilometres in length, it can be fully enjoyed in a pleasant walk. Accompanied by the qualified guides, visitors can leave the “corridor” – the road linking Cala Spalmatoio to Cala Maestra, and the only one that can be travelled independently – and discover the island’s trails and its majestic nature. Tickets: € 10; € 5 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age; free of charge for children 0-4 years of age, disabled persons, and those accompanying them. Duration 1h30m.

Visits are possible from spring to autumn based on the yearly calendar available at the booking site parcoarcipelago.info/giannutri.

Giannutri island

Day excursion – Tour with history and nature tour, boat from Porto Santo Stefano included



Departing from Porto Santo Stefano, a tour offering including ferry, to discover the National Park's small island. Appointment at 9:30 AM with the guide at the port, Banchina Toscana, embarking 9:45 AM by Mareggiglio ferry. Arrival in Giannutri after an hour at sea. Day dedicated to discovering the island's nature and history; there will in fact be a guided tour of the Roman Villa archaeological complex and a nature excursion. The tour begins from the Cala Maestra bay, to be followed by the remains of a Roman Villa amid the rocky cliffs and scented trails of the Mediterranean scrubland. This is followed by a nature tour that will take the participants inside the protected area and will have a duration of about one hour. The itinerary will be adjusted to the season and the weather conditions. A lunch break, with packed lunch to be brought by the participants, will be scheduled at the end of the historic tour or along the nature trail, based on the day's timing. At the end of the excursion, free time with the possibility of having a swim at Cala Maestra or Cala Spalmatoio. Duration: approximately 2h30m – Degree of difficulty: easy – Ticket € 60 full price; € 38 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age; free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. Visits are possible from spring to autumn based on the yearly calendar available at the booking site parcoarcipelago.info/giannutri

Day excursion – History tour, boat from Giglio Porto included



Departing from Giglio Porto, a tour offering including ferry, to discover the history of the National Park's small island. Appointment at 10:00 AM with the guide at the port of the island of Giglio, departure at 10:30 AM by Mareggiglio ferry. Arrival in Giannutri after an hour at sea. Day dedicated to discovering the island's history; there will in fact be a guided tour of the Roman Villa archaeological complex. The tour begins from the Cala Maestra bay, to be followed by the remains of a Roman Villa amid the rocky cliffs and scented trails of the Mediterranean scrubland. The ancient residential complex with a maritime landing, once a headquarters for ships stopping by and for otium, was built in the first century AD by the powerful Domitius Ahenobarbus family, from which Emperor Nero descended. The archaeological site was reopened in 2015. At the end of the excursion, free time with the possibility of having a swim at Cala Maestra or Cala Spalmatoio. Duration: approximately 1h30m – Degree of difficulty: easy – Ticket € 45, € 28 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age; free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

Giannutri island

Visits are possible from spring to autumn based on the yearly calendar available at the booking site parcoarcipelago.info/giannutri.

THE LABYRINTH MOSAIC

The Giannutri archaeological site offers a new, precious jewel to visit: the Labyrinth Mosaic. Its black and white tesserae have rediscovered their ancient splendour after complex restoration. Now, the centre of the labyrinth depicts the Greek myth of Theseus killing the Minotaur, with Ariadne to the side, holding her famous ball of thread while awaiting her hero. The precious find's current position is not the one of its initial discovery (at the entrance to the patrician villa) but, for conservation purposes, inside the evocative enclosed environment, also of Roman origin, called the cryptoporticus. The Labyrinth Mosaic may be visited. Admission costs € 5; just ask the Park Guides on the boats and on the island.



Spring in the Park

Trip to the lighthouse

SUNDAY 26 MAY

On the occasion of European Day of Parks, the Park offers, on defined dates, a “special” hike, which leads to the Faro di Punta di Capel Rosso lighthouse located on the southern end of the island. The evocative itinerary will take us through a stretch of dense Mediterranean scrubland, amid spurge and mastic plants, while we enjoy extraordinary views. Duration: approximately 3 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy. Excursion booking required, free of charge, which may be combined with the tour of the Villa Romana archaeological complex (at a charge).

Online booking at

parcoarcipelago.info/giannutri.



Admission tickets to protected area

For those disembarking on the island by their own transport, tickets for admission to the protected area, collected by the Park Authority, may be purchased (€ 2.50) at the bars at Cala Spalmatoio and Cala Maestra or online at parcoarcipelago.info/giannutri.

parcoarcipelago.info/giannutri.

Getting to the island

The island is linked from Porto Santo Stefano based on the calendar available at maregiglio.it (departing 10:00 AM; returning 4:00 PM). During the summer season, there is also a weekly link (Thursdays) from the island of Giglio.



AVENZA MAPS

Download the free app from the Avenza Maps platform for the official maps of [Giglio](#) and [Giannutri](#)



Giannutri island



The 'corridor' - The road from Cala Spalmatoio to Cala Maestra is the only one that can be travelled independently





ECST hospitality facilities

The certification of the hospitality facilities under the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas (ECST) Phase 2 is a useful tool for orienting visitors in their choice of the excellent things the territory has to offer. Many facilities have adhered to the regulations developed under the supervision of Europarc Federation and Federparchi, with the involvement of the operators in the local tourism supply chain. These pages list the hospitality facilities that have obtained certification and the right to bear the ECST mark. The operators have signed a series of commitments with the Protected Area, in the awareness of offering better hospitality in a territory comprised within the perimeter of Arcipelago Toscano National Park and the UNESCO MAB Biosphere Reserve. The goals are as follows:

- 1 - to improve its tourism offerings and to strengthen collaboration with the Park Authority: to offer quality service, provide information on the National Park and on the UNESCO MAB Biosphere Reserve, develop activities for customer on the discovery of the protected territory, develop effective and responsible promotion, work jointly with other tourism enterprises operating within the district of the Park and of the UNESCO MAB Biosphere Reserve;
- 2 - to pay attention to its own environmental behaviour: to implement water- and energy-saving actions, reduce waste, consume more responsibly, manage the structure while respecting the surrounding environment, and involve personnel and customers in environmental management;
- 3 - to support local development and protection of the territory: to support the local economy and products, influence tourism flows towards lesser-known areas or to the vicinity of the activity, and contribute to local projects and initiatives.



AGRITURISMO DEI GIRASOLI

tel. 339 419 2257
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agriturismodeigirasoli.com/
Via di S. Martino, 38 - 57037, Portoferraio



AGRITURISMO LA LECCIOLA

tel. 349 3541404
giulia@lalecciola.com
lalecciola.com
Località La Lecciola 2 – 57039, Rio



AZIENDA AGRICOLA LE SUGHERE DEL MONTEFICO

tel. 345.3585035
agriturismo@lesughere.it - lesughere.it
Loc. Le Perelle Montefico – 57038, Rio



CAMPING APPARTAMENTI TALLINUCCI

tel. 0565 964069
info@campingtallinucci.it
campingtallinucci.it
Via del Mare 213 – 57031, Capoliveri



CAMPING ENFOLA

tel. 0565 939001
info@campingenfola.com
campingenfola.com
Loc. Enfola – 57037 Portoferraio



CAMPING LACONELLA

tel. 0565 964228
info@campinglaconella.it
campinglaconella.it
Via Laconella 431– 57031, Capoliveri



CAMPING VALLE SANTA MARIA

tel. 0565 964188

info@vsmaria.it

vsmaria.it

Via del Mare 91 – 57031, Capoliveri



CAMPING VILLAGE ELBA DOC

tel. 0565 949966

info@elbadoc-campingvillage.it

elbadoc-campingvillage.it

Località Cavo – 57039, Rio



CAMPING VILLAGE SCAGLIERI

tel. 0565 969940

info@campingscaglieri.it

campingscaglieri.it

Località Scaglieri – 57037, Portoferraio



CASA PER FERIE SASSI TURCHINI

tel. 392 2394607

info@sassiturchini.org

sassiturchini.org

Loc. Sassi Turchini – 57036, Porto Azzurro



HOTEL BARRACUDA

tel. 0565 976893

info@hotelbarracudaelba.it

hotelbarracudaelba.it

Viale Elba 46 – 57034, Marina di Campo



HOTEL BIODOLA

tel. 0565 974812

info@biodola.it

biodola.it

Loc. Biodola – 57037, Portoferraio



HOTEL CAMPESE

tel. 0564 804003
welcome@hotelcampese.com
hotelcampese.com
Via della Torre 18 – 58012, Giglio Campese



HOTEL CASA ROSA

tel. 0565 969931
casarosa@elbalink.it
elbasolare.it
Località Biodola – 57037, Portoferraio (LI)



HOTEL CORALLO

tel. 0565 906042
info@elbacorallo.it
elbacorallo.it
Via del Passatoio, 28 – 57030 Pomonte (LI)



HOTEL CAPO SUD

tel. 0565 964021
info@hotelcaposud.it – hotelcaposud.it
Via del Capo Marinaro 311 – 57031, Capoliveri



HOTEL CASTELLO MONTICELLO

tel. 379 1380303
info@hotelcastellomonticello.com
hotelcastellomonticello.com
Loc. Monticello, 1 – 58012, Giglio Porto



HOTEL DANILA

tel. 0565 969915
info@hoteldanila.it
hoteldanila.it
Località Scaglieri – 57037, Portoferraio



HOTEL DEL GOLFO

tel. 0565.9021
info@hoteldelgolfo.it
hoteldelgolfo.it
Via delle Ginestre 31 – 57030, Marciana



HOTEL FABRICIA

tel. 0565 933181
info@hotelfabricia
hotelfabricia.com
Località Magazzini – 57037, Portoferraio



HOTEL FRANK'S

tel. 0565 968144
info@frankshotel.com
frankshotel.com
Località Naregno – 57031, Capoliveri



HOTEL GALLI

tel. 0565 988035
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hotelgalli.it
Via Fetovaia 115 – 57034, Marina di Campo



HOTEL HERMITAGE

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Località Biodola – 57037, Portoferraio



HOTEL IL CAMINETTO

tel. 0565 915700
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hotelilcaminetto.it
Via San Martino 56 – 57037, Portoferraio



HOTEL LA GUARDIA

tel. 0564 808077
laguardiahotel.it
reservations@laguardiahotel.it
Via Thaon de Revel 45 - 58012, Giglio Porto



HOTEL MONTEMERLO

tel. 0565 988051
info@hotelmontemerlo.it
hotelfetovaia.it
Via del Canaletto 240 – 57034, Fetovaia



HOTEL PARADISO

tel. 0565 939034
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elbaparadiso@gmail.com
Loc. Viticcio, 41 - 57037 Portoferraio



HOTEL PUNTO VERDE

tel. 329 3427411 - info@puntoverdehotel.it
puntoverdehotel.it
Viale degli Etruschi 207 – 57034,
Marina di Campo



HOTEL RISTORANTE VILLA RITA

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villarita.it
Via dei 4 Archi 31 – 57030 Marciana



HOTEL SANT'ANNA DEL VOLTERRAIO

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Località Bagnaia – 57039, Rio



HOTEL SCOGLIO BIANCO

tel. 0565 939036
info@scogliobianco.it
scogliobianco.it
Località Viticcio – 57037, Portoferraio



HOTEL VILLA OTTONE

tel. 0565 933042
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villaottone.com
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HOTEL VITICCIO

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LA MANDOLA ECO HOSTEL

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RESIDENCE CAPOBIANCO

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B&B VILLA EL MAR

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IL GAMBERINO

tel. 335 627 4056

ilgamberino.capraia@gmail.com

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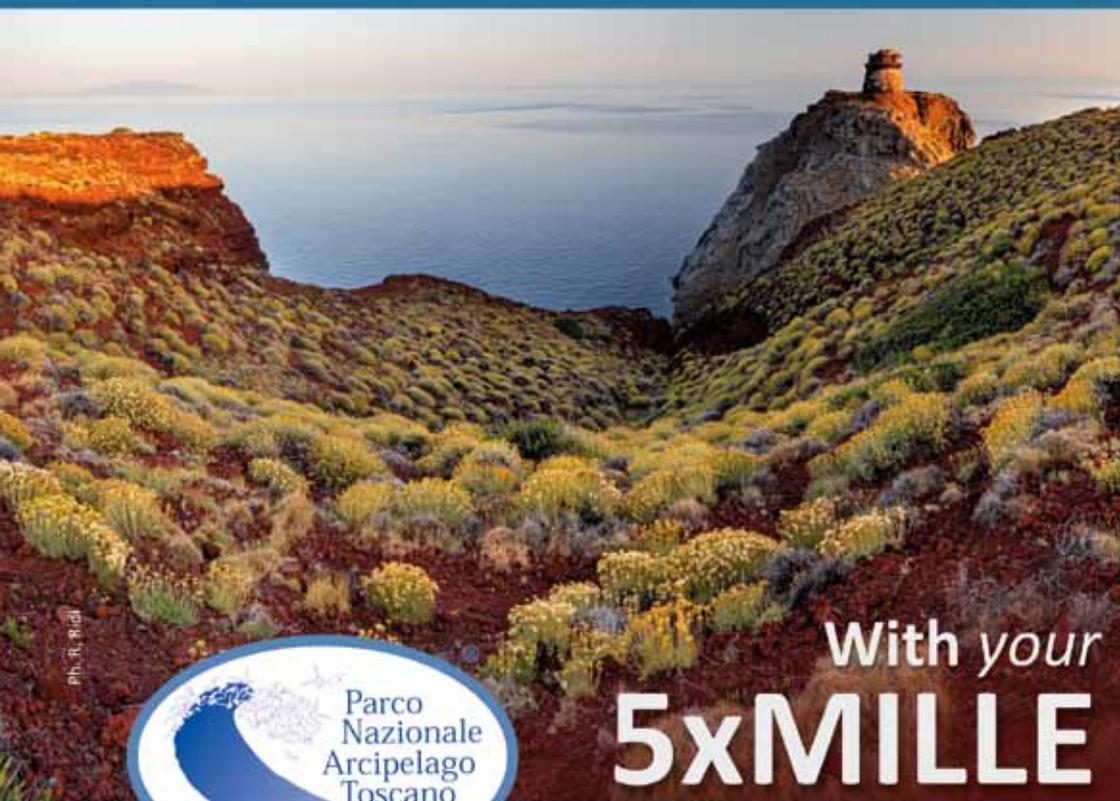
- Tenere puliti i terreni e le aree verdi intorno alla propria abitazione
- Non gettare mai mozziconi di sigaretta o fiammiferi ancora accesi
- Non parcheggiare mai l'auto sopra erba o foglie secche
- Non abbandonare mai rifiuti nel bosco e/o fuori dai contenitori dedicati
- Evitare in prossimità di vegetazione l'uso di strumenti di lavoro meccanici che possano generare scintille

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Photo:

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