

#### **INFO-CALENDAR 2025**









MINISTERO DELL'AMBIENTE E DELLA SICOREZZA ENFRIENCA





Environmental education activities



Nature-themed activities

Biowatching, Birdwatching, and Seawatching activities



Meet the expert to discover Biodiversity



Geology or minerology-themed activities



Meet the expert to discover Geology



Activities with aperitifs or tastings

Activities for children



Night sky observation activities

Activities at dawn or sunset



Bike tourism or excursions involving biking



Hiking and outings with long <mark>walk</mark>s



Guided tours with travel by carriage



Guided tours with travel by bus

Activities by boat or motor vessel

(2)

Discovering marine mammals in the Pelagos Sanctuary

Snorkelling or educational activities in the



Sea kayaking activities

Activities in museums



Activities in historic sites: towers, fortresses, retreats, towns



Archaeology-themed activities

The Agronomist's House, Pianosa Park Information Centre



Visits to Pianosa's catacombs



Guided tours in the former prison areas

## **Arcipelago Toscano National Park**

The Arcipelago Toscano National Park comprises seven island unique for their climate, geology, flora, fauna, history, and legends, that stand out for the diversity of the natural environments created by a rather complex geodynamic evolution. The plant life is prevailingly Mediterranean, while the flora abounds with endemic species – those present exclusively in these places given their insularity. Animals are extraordinarily biodiverse both on land and in the sea, particularly as relates to birdlife: the Tuscan Archipelago is in fact a stopping and nesting place for many birds. The islands' geodiversity is also exceptional: all the main geological processes are well represented and observable, with a surprising variety of minerals. 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, Giannutri may be freely accessed, although for most of the island it is necessary to be accompanied by guides.



## The seven protected islands

**ELBA** is Italy's third largest 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 exploited until the 1960s with 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 5th century it became home to St. Mamilian, who founded a monastic community on the island that remained active until the 16th 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 because of the penitentiary located there.

**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 degree of biodiversity that, in addition to blue whales, sperm whales, and dolphins, boasts about 8,500 species of marine animals.

Pelagos Sanctuary for Mediterranean Marine Mammals

> Arcipelago Toscano National Park

# 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 in order to achieve 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





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#### 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 plasticfree 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

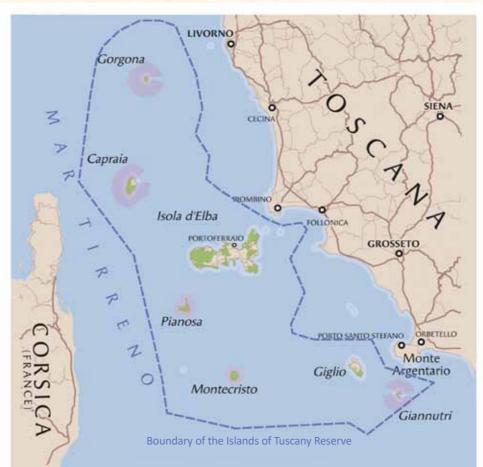
Consolidate the Park's role and "presence" on the territory, through listening, collaboration, and the sharing of management objectives with local players, in order to make them increasingly informed about the potentials of sustainable tourism.
Promote youth entrepreneurship and an economy complementary 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 2025 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



# Arcipelago Toscano National Park (PNAT) 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 87 protected areas around the world.

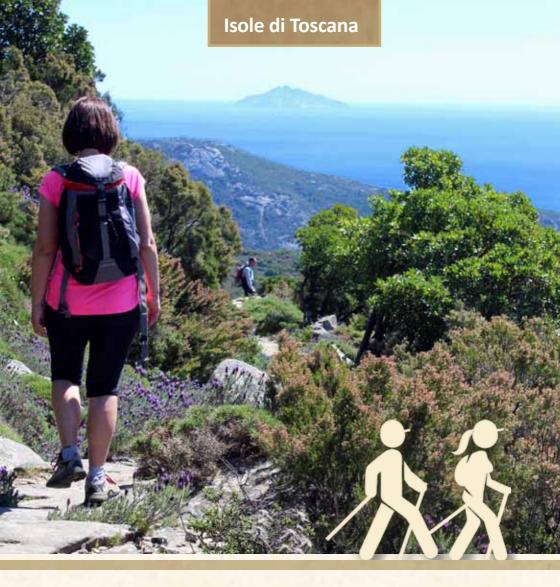


Only three Italian Parks have earned this honour, which certifies the attainment of high management standards for those protected areas that have demonstrated constant commitment to four strategic pillars: governance, programming, management, and the results of conservation. While the global experts 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



# **Hiking Elba**

The island of Elba is the ideal place hiking tourism, thanks to the National Park's extensive network of paths covering about 375 km – in most cases, age-old roads linking the towns to once-cultivated areas now reclaimed by the sweet-smelling, colourful Mediterranean scrub. The best way to enjoy the island's wild heart, from the scenic highlands to the coasts soaring over the sea, is to dedicate a few days to two interesting paths: the GTE (Grande Traversata Elbana) road, and Via dell'Essenza.

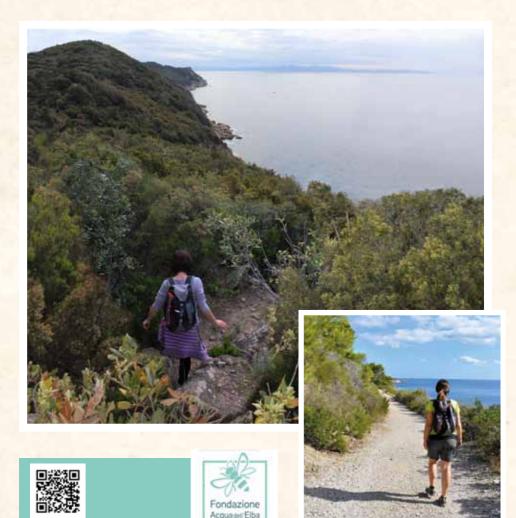
## **GTE, 'Grande Traversata Elbana' road** (*The Great Elba Island Crossing*)

Known among hikers who generally cover it in 3-4 days, this path follows the mountain ridges, providing breathtaking views while displaying the island's natural, historic, and archaeological sights. The GTE starts from Cavo and forks near Mount Capanne into two branches: the northern one to Patresi (GTE Nord) and the southern one to Pomonte (GTE Sud), for a total of 56 km and 48 km respectively. The itinerary – which can be taken in reverse, from west to east – connects to several trails, allowing visitors to choose the variant most suited to their needs. The Park has identified more than 30 points of interest that may be consulted **online**.



# Via dell'Essenza (The Way of Essence)

This road was recently developed thanks to an interesting collaboration between the National Park and Fondazione Acqua dell'Elba. Stretching for about 67 km around Mount Capanne, the coastal path is subdivided into 8 stages, each of which named for a plant typical of the Mediterranean scrub (mastic, heather, lavander, rockrose, juniper, rosemary, holm oak, and myrtle). For each stage, 5 points of interest have been identified; their descriptions may be consulted online.



# Grande Traversata Elbana (GTE)

The Great Elba Island Crossing







# Rules and recommendations for your Park experience

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:



• 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 Information 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.



PARK INFORMATION CENTRE, 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

PARK INFORMATION CENTRE, 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

PARK INFORMATION CENTRE, 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



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#### **CASA DEL PARCO MARCIANA**

Fortezza Pisana, Marciana Tel. 0565 940110 - 348 7039374

#### From 30 March to 15 June and from 1 October to 31 October:

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 16 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 4:00 PM-7:00 PM Friday 4:00 PM-7:00 PM Saturday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM and 4:00 PM-7:00 PM



# FORTE INGLESE (the English Fort) PORTOFERRAIO

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



#### CASA DEL PARCO RIO NELL'ELBA

Loc. Canali, Rio Tel. 0565 943399

#### From 30 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

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 CASA DEL PARCO "FORTEZZA PISANA"

Operated with a Park Guide accompanying visitors on their journey to discover the protected area, the facility is dedicated to the environments characteristic of the National Park, with particular reference to the western sector of the Island of Elba: granite landscapes, chestnut groves, and the cultural heritage of the sheepfolds called caprili. Multimedia installations and interactive apps explain the genesis and geological evolution of the Tuscan Archipelago, while examining issues connected to climate change and the protection of land and sea biodiversity and geodiversity – precious treasures that the Tuscan islands preserve. The facility hosts educational workshops and includes spaces for entertainment activities. Guided tours along the paths in the surrounding area and visits to the historic centre of Marciana start from here. Admission is free of charge.

#### "Marciana tells its story"

#### A walk in the age-old village, with a Park Guide

#### From 19 June to 4 September, every Thursday from 9:30 to 11:00 PM

Appointment in town, in front of the pharmacy, for an introduction to the island's nature and history. A walk amid the lanes and alleyways of the picturesque village of Marciana, discovering its history: the religious and military buildings, the museums housing interesting archaeological finds, the Medieval village's importance as a vital refuge from the pirates' coastal raids. A break from the more lively and frenetic Elba, amid extraordinary natural landscapes and majestic views, in the heart of the National Park. Booking required.  $\in 8 - \notin$ 4 reduced price (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. In July and August, a shuttle bus from Marciana Marina is available, to be paid onsite.





RIO NELL'ELBA



## ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE CASA DEL PARCO "FRANCO FRANCHINI"

The Rio Environmental Education Centre is the Visitors' Centre on the eastern side 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 about and applying various techniques like watercolour and pencil, along with 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.

#### Summer workshops for adults and children

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 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.

Nature print workshops every Thursday in October from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Workshop with hand printing technique to make bookmarks using autumn leaves. Free of charge; booking required.





\rcipelago





#### **"RAFFAELLO FORESI" ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE**

Located in the island's central area, the facility organizes activities for children and adults on topics of environmental education, developed through workshops, walks and conferences. Protected by the Park, the adjacent dune system becomes the starting point for a set of nature-themed activities led by Park Guides.

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

Summer workshops for children 5-7 years of age – Every Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday; from June to September (also Sunday in August), 11:00 AM-12:30 PM. Monday, 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. Booking required; free of charge.

#### **Every Tuesday in July and August**

Snorkelling with Park Guide - 11:00 AM, Duration: 1h30m. Booking required; free of charge. Special: Mindful Eating – Monday, 7 July

An appointment with Antonella Vitacca. "Mindful eating," a practice that helps people 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.

Reserved for guests over 15 years of age.

#### Hiking and Yoga - Monday 4 August

Brief hike on the beautiful Capo Stella promontory for breathtaking views, to a clearing where we will stop to practise listening and conscious body movement.

From 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. Booking required. € 10; € 5 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age.







# FORTE INGLESE





Owned by the Municipality of Portoferraio, THE ENGLISH FORT 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. 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 19th and 20th 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. The exhibition may be visited during the English Fort's opening days and hours (see pg. 18).

#### PROGETTO ALIENE (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.

#### **PROGETTO PRISMA** (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 camera 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.



NAT\*LAB

IL LABORATORIO DEL NATURALISTA

**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: 12 and 26 June; 10 and 24 July; 7 and 21 August. Booking required, participation is free of charge.



FORTE INGLESE

Forte Inglese - NAT LAB - Portoferraio



Housed in a recovered farmhouse in the Park, the Aula VerdeBlu Lecture Hall "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.



# 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.

In terms of conservation, a great number of projects are currently being carried in the enormous district of the protected natural area, in both the land and sea environments: to some of these projects, the Park's 2025 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.

Here are the experts involved, and the appointments on the calendar.



Marco Isaia naturalist, Università di Torino



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



Letizia Marsili marine biologist, Università di Siena



Andrea Vezzani ornithologist, Centro Ornitologico Toscano

# Geo-Experience in the Tuscan Islands



The island of Elba has been defined as a "grand, open-air, geo-mineralogica. 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: 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, geo-excursions by boat, and conferences. Look for the icons and discover all the events!



# The Life SEA.NET project

The scheduling of the free events organized thanks to Life SEA.NET will continue throughout 2025. Financed by the EU's LIFE Programme, the project is aimed at improving the management of Nature 2000 marine sites – that is, the world's most extensive system of protected areas, founded upon principles of coexistence and balance between the conservation of nature and human activities, and the sustainable use of resources (sustainable agriculture, forestry, and fishing).



The actions of raising awareness and providing information in the Tuscan Archipelago are promoted by the Arcipelago Toscano National Park, in collaboration with Pirene S.r.I. The Life Sea.Net initiatives will be implemented along the entire Italian coastal strip in the Nature 2000 marine sites managed by the various project partners identified by the group leader Legambiente. The common objective will be to promote marine conservation and to raise environmental awareness through a series of engaging and educational activities.

The appointments in the Tuscan Archipelago will be divided into several categories.



#### **FISHERMEN'S CAFÉ**

Called "FISHERMEN'S CAFÉ," these convivial gatherings with fisherfolk, two on the Island of Elba and one on the Island of Capraia, aim to foster dialogue and cooperation between fisherfolk and the authorities managing the Nature 2000 sites, while promoting mutual trust and approval towards environmental protection and sustainable development policies.

#### BIOBLITZ

This citizen science campaign will actively involve the islands' inhabitants in identifying and collecting data on the marine species present in the Tuscan Archipelago. This will be done using the specially created Life Sea.Net project app, which allows users learn in greater depth about the species present in the Nature 2000 marine sites, where they can be found, and how to recognize them. The app will also allow users to report the species' presence simply by taking a photo with their smartphones and sending in the coordinates.

#### **MARE AMICO**

Summer micro-events. Events with researchers and fisherfolk, excursions at sea, cleaning of beaches and sea bottoms, debates. Awareness-raising activities targeting pleasure boaters stopping or anchoring in some of the islands' bays, where specially trained environmental guides will be glad to provide essential information on the Nature 2000 sites and on the best practices to be adopted in order to be perfect bathers or boaters.

#### **BEACH CLEAN UP**

Events dedicated to cleaning several beaches on the various islands, that aim at getting inhabitants and visitors alike personally involved in respecting the sea.

For more details on the initiatives and the calendar, scan the QR code. Information and bookings are also available e-mail: eventi@pirene.it



Isola d'Elba Island of Elba

# 2025 activities calendar



# Winter in the Park

#### **SUNDAY, 2 FEBRUARY**

World Wetlands Day

Since Antiquity, human beings, in their movements, have more or less purposefully contributed to transporting and spreading animal and plant species. Today, of the causes of biodiversity loss worldwide, biological invasions are considered second only to habitat destruction. Joined by WBA Vice President Leonardo Forbicioni, we will explore this issue in greater depth, with particular attention to the invasive freshwater species threatening our islands' ponds. Appointment: 3:00 PM Mola, Aula VerdeBlu Lecture Hall – Duration: 2 hours - Participation free of charge.

#### **SATURDAY, 15 FEBRUARY**

#### Adapting: animals' - and humans' - strategies

On the occasion of **Darwin Day**, a workshop for children and families with the Park Guide: we discover how land species adapted to the aquatic environment and how these strategies inspired the equipment people use to explore the marine and submarine environment. Appointment: 3:30 PM, English Fort, Portoferraio – Duration: 2 hours. Booking required; free of charge.

# Spring in the Park

#### **SUNDAY, 23 MARCH**

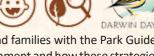
#### GTE road and environs. From Campo ai Peri to Porto Azzurro, heading east

Starting from the Casa Marchetti plain, we will travel a section of the GTE - Grande Traversata Elbana (see pg. 12) - road that will rise gradually in elevation as the vistas grow broader and broader. We will use trail 210 to descend to Porto Azzurro. The event ends with a stop at the Azienda Agricola Arrighi farm for a meeting with producers and a small tasting. Return journey by public bus. Appointment: 9:30 AM, GTE Campo ai Peri Stop – Duration: 5 hours Degree of difficulty: demanding. Booking required. € 15; € 8 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age.

#### **SUNDAY, 6 APRIL**

#### Mountain biking on Calamita

On the occasion of the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace, a bicycle excursion on the paths and white roads of Mount Calamita, amid majestic landscapes, to discover the ancient mining trails. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Capoliveri, Piazza del Cavatore – Duration: 3 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium-demanding. Booking required. € 25 including bike and helmet rental. Minimum age: 12.















#### FRIDAY, 18 APRIL

#### Hiking on Monte Capanne – Elba's peak

After traversing the ancient village of Marciana with its narrow alleyways and picturesque squares, we take the path that rises towards the Madonna del Monte sanctuary amid chestnut trees and Mediterranean scrubland. Skirting Mount Giove, we cross the GTE (Grande Traversata Elbana) road to undertake the steepest part of the itinerary. Upon reaching the peak, our efforts are amply repaid by a view that embraces Corsica, the Archipelago, and the Tuscan coast. Return along trail 101 which passes by way of San Cerbone and ends in Marciana – or return by cable car for those who so prefer. Appointment: 9:00 AM in front of the Marciana pharmacy – Duration: 6 hours – Degree of difficulty: very demanding - Booking required. € 8. Minimum age: 16. High hiking boots required. The cable car is charged separately, to be paid onsite.



#### **SATURDAY, 19 APRIL**

#### Hiking along Via dell'Essenza - Via dell'Erica

A hike that starts from La Zanca and takes trail 150, which rises through abandoned dry stone walls along wooded paths that open onto sudden panoramas. Along the way, we may observe some imposing specimens of tree heather. Continuing towards Patresi, we will detour towards the Punta Polveraia lighthouse and reach the island's western extremity. Climbing back up, we will close the loop, returning along the provincial road. Appointment: Località La Zanca, 10:00 AM – Duration: 5 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium – Booking required.  $\in 8, \notin 4$  reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

#### SUNDAY, 20 APRIL

#### **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 via trail 255) and visit the monument in the company of the Park Guide. No booking required. Tickets  $\in 8$ ,  $\notin 4$  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, 21 APRIL**

#### From Seccheto to Fetovaia on Via dell'Essenza

From the town of Seccheto, trail 137 will take us up to the Sughera plain area (339 m above sea level) marked by the rockrose scrub; we will then take trail 135 which descends sharply amid rich vegetation of broom and myrtle, amid spectacular views of the gulf, down to the Fetovaia beach where we will stop for a seaside picnic. Return to Seccheto along the same route. Duration: 4 hours - Degree of difficulty: easy – Appointment: Seccheto, 10:30 AM. Booking required.  $\in 8, \notin 4$  reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

#### FRIDAY, 25 APRIL

#### **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 via trail 255) and visit the monument in the company of the Park Guide. No booking required. Tickets  $\in 8$ ,  $\notin 4$  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).

#### **SATURDAY, 26 APRIL**

#### The GTE (Grande Traversata Elbana) road ... in the dark!

On the occasion of International Dark Sky Week. Shortly after the Colle Reciso quarry, we take trail no. 266 which continues towards Portoferraio, following a broad, former military road immersed in a lush Mediterranean scrub. After travelling a section of road, we retrace our steps and stop in a clearing to observe the night sky using telescopes provided by Associazione Astrofili. Appointment: 8:30 PM, Colle Reciso, Portoferraio – Duration: 3 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required.  $\notin$  8,  $\notin$  4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

#### **SUNDAY, 27 APRIL**

#### GTE road and environs. The Tonietti mausoleum

Starting from the Cavo seafront, we take the GTE (See pg. 12) road near the Frugoso, beach to reach the Tonietti Mausoleum, a funeral chapel built in the early 20th century, considered by many to be the most significant Elban work by the architect Adolfo Coppedè, the master of Italian Art Nouveau. In the springtime, the path bursts into the colours of blossoming rockrose and broom. Appointment: 3:00 PM, Lungomare di Cavo – Duration: 3 hours – Difficulty: medium-demanding. Booking required.  $\in 8, \notin 4$  reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

#### THURSDAY, 1 MAY

#### **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 (trail 255) and visit the monument in the company of the Park Guide. No booking required. Tickets  $\in$  8,  $\notin$  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).









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#### SATURDAY, 3 MAY

#### Biodiversity in Mola – Bioblitz with iNaturalist

In collaboration with Legambiente Arcipelago Toscano: along with WBA experts, we will collect data to enter 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 – Difficulty: easy. Booking required; free of charge.

#### SUNDAY, 11 MAY

#### **Clean beaches and sea bottoms**

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 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 together. Appointment: 3:00 PM, location to be announced (Information: Info Park) – Duration: 2 hours – Booking required; free of charge.

#### FRIDAY, 16 MAY

#### Focus on nature. Spiders: extraordinary, bioindicators!

The negative image that accompanies spiders has always sparked colourful folklore, with the effect of delaying the scientific community's acquisition of knowledge about their taxonomy, biology, and ecology. **Marco Isaia** (University of Turin), tasked by the Park Authority with studying the spiders of the Tuscan Archipelago, reveals to us how spiders can be used as "bioindicators": organisms that allow us to assess the quality of an ecosystem. Appointment: English Fort, Portoferraio, 9:00 PM – Duration: 2 hours. Participation free of charge.

#### SATURDAY, 17 MAY

#### Focus on nature. Spiders - Hiking with an expert along the Buraccio trail

Discovering the spiders that inhabit our territory. Joined by **Leonardo Forbicioni** of the WBA, curator of NAT-LAB, the expert **Marco Isaia** will acquaint us with some spiders and talk to us about the research he is carrying out on the Archipelago, revealing how the study of these small animals can give us broad perspectives, and providing information about how the ecosystem they belong to functions. Appointment: 2:30 PM, località Buraccio, Portoferraio – Duration: 2 hours – Booking required, free of charge.









#### **SUNDAY, 18 MAY**

#### Rio's GustoSentiero, the "flavour trail"

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, guardian of the Island of Elba's Seed Bank, to visit the vegetable garden and the agricultural biodiversity laboratory. 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: 4:00 PM, Casa del Parco, Rio – Duration: 3 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required; free of charge.

#### FRIDAY, 23 MAY

#### **Fireflies and lanterns**

Appointment at the Lacona Environmental Education Centre, where every family can personalize a lantern built with recycled material. Departure for a brief walk in the dunes and pine forest to observe fireflies by candlelight. Appointment: Lacona Environmental Education Centre, 8:30 PM – Duration: 2h30m – Degree of difficulty: easy. Booking required; free of charge.

#### **SATURDAY, 24 MAY**

#### GTE road and environs – The green radius

European Day of Parks. A hiking loop starting from the farming village of Patresi. Amid Mediterranean plant life and chestnut woods, we reach the Madonna del Monte Sanctuary. We continue on for the Serraventosa sheepfold and descend along the "green radius" section. Appointment: 10:00 AM in Patresi, Hotel Belmare – Duration: 5 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium – Booking required; free of charge.

#### SUNDAY, 25 MAY

#### Monte Capannello Itinerary

European Parks Week. Starting from Le Panche, we take GTE (Grande Traversata Elbana) road no. 262 and continue towards the eastern ridge until reaching Mount Capannello, for a panoramic view with a glimpse over the Portoferraio harbour. We follow the path, as it bursts into the colours of blooming rockrose and broom, until the intersection with trail 253, where we continue the loop to the starting point. Appointment: 3:00 PM, località Le Panche, SP32 road, Volterraio– Duration: 2h30m – Degree of difficulty: medium. Booking required for the event; free of charge.

#### SATURDAY, 31 MAY

The documents tell the story: production and commerce in Elba's mines (1881-1945) On the occasion of the National Day of Mines. Meeting at Palazzo del Burò, from which we will be off to discover the archives at Archivio Storico delle Miniere, with a brief visit to the museum and the places in the town of Rio Marina where ore was loaded. Followed by a transfer to the Parco di Rio nell'Elba house for a conference presenting the unpublished results of the research carried out in the mines archive. Appointment: 2:00 PM, Rio Marina, Palazzo del Burò – Duration: 3 hours. Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required for the event; free of charge.











# Summer in the Park

#### SUNDAY, 1 JUNE

#### Butterflies and other pollinators. Focus on nature exhibition.

A conference led by Leonardo D'Apporto, University of Florence, during which we will discover how various insect groups (butterflies, bees, hoverflies, moths) contribute towards performing functions as pollinators in ecosystems, and are therefore fundamental for conserving biodiversity. In collaboration with WBA Arcipelago Toscano. Appointment: 9:00 PM, English Fort, Portoferraio – Duration: 2 hours – Booking required; free of charge.

#### **MONDAY, 2 JUNE**

#### **Butterfly festival**

Legambiente Arcipelago Toscano, along with the 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 picnic area -Duration: 4 hours – Difficulty: easy. Booking required; free of charge.

#### SATURDAY, 7 JUNE

#### Lacona's GustoSentiero, the "flavour trail"

Hiking with an open-air snack as we discover Lacona's "flavour trail": GustoSentiero. The coastline is home to the Tuscan Archipelago's last dune area, with the inland area historically used for farming which to this day, in spite of the strong tourism development, still plays a strategic role with high-quality agricultural production. A visit to the Regali Rurali farm and to Ristoro Agricolo Orti di Mare to become acquainted with local production, and for everyone to enjoy a tasty snack together. Appointment: 4:00 PM, Lacona Environmental Education Centre - Duration: 3 hours - Degree of difficulty: easy. Booking required; free of charge.

#### **SUNDAY, 8 JUNE**

World Oceans Day. The breathing of the sea and the wonders of the Pelagos Sanctuary Workshop for children and families to become familiar with the only international area dedicated to the protection of marine mammals and their habitats in the Mediterranean Sea. We will discover the world of Cetaceans through sensory explorations, games, and creative activities, observing the morphological and biological differences between dolphins and whales populating the Pelagos Sanctuary. Appointment: 3:00 PM, Lacona Environmental Education Centre – Duration: 2 hours.

Booking required; free of charge.

#### **SATURDAY. 14 JUNE**

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#### In Cammino nei Parchi. The best of the GTE road

Hiking in collaboration with CAI, Island of Elba subsection. Starting from Marciana, we ascend to the Madonna del Monte Sanctuary, then detouring onto trail 110 which, with a constant, even rise, passes beneath Mount Giove and joins the northern GTE until it reaches the highest point of the route, Mount Cote. Return along the same trail. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Marciana, Casa del Parco – Duration: 6 hours – Degree of difficulty: demanding. Booking required.  $\in 8, \notin 4$  reduced price for children 5-12 years of age.











# WHALE WATCHING IN THE PELAGOS SANCTUARY

The Arcipelago Toscano National Park is entirely included within the Pelagos Sanctuary for Mediterranean Marine Mammals. To allow this extraordinary natural heritage to be discovered, the Park organizes Whale Watching excursions in collaboration with Motobarca Mickey Mouse.

Discovering the cetaceans populating the sea around the Tuscan islands: we will navigate along Elba's southeastern coast in the company of the marine biologist and Park Guide, who will help us get the most out of this extraordinary experience. Appointment: 8:45 AM, Marina di Campo harbour, Motobarca Mickey Mouse motorboat - Duration: 5h30m. Booking required for the event.  $\leq$  55,  $\leq$  35 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age. Onboard lunch and swimming stop included. No pets allowed.



EVERY MONDAY FROM 16 JUNE TO 1 SEPTEMBER EVERY THURSDAY FROM 3 JULY TO 4 SEPTEMBER

#### **MONDAY, 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 theory/practice course for recognizing their tracks. Open to all. Appointment: 5:30 PM, Aula Verde Blu lecture hall, località Mola – Duration: 2 hours – Free of charge; booking required.

# 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 by open inflatable raft, stopping along the coastline or on the small islands for snorkelling activities, in order to appreciate the island's underwater nature. Minimum age: 14; minors must be accompanied by a responsible adult – Booking required. € 55 including equipment rental.

12, 19, 26 JUNE - Appointment: 2:45 "Cavo Diving," Cavo marina. Duration: 3h15m.
11 JULY, 9 AUGUST, 5 SEPTEMBER - Appointment: 4:45 PM at the "Diving in Elba" location at Hotel Airone (San Giovanni). Duration: 2h15m.

**4 JULY AND 29 AUGUST** - Appointment: 3:15 PM at the "Biodivers" diving location at Camping Reale (Reale Porto Azzurro beach). Duration: 2h15m.

# SUNDAY, 22 JUNE

#### The night of moths

An outdoor evening in the company of Leonardo Forbicioni – WBA along with the Park Guide Giulio Colombo who, as part of the European Starlight project, promotes sustainable tourism experiences on Elban territory that focus on the night sky. Along with the experts, we will attract and observe moths, discovering how light pollution influences the behaviour of these important pollinators. Appointment: 9:30 PM, English Fort, Portoferraio – Duration: 2 hours – Participation free of charge.

# **MONDAY, 23 JUNE**

#### Herbal hike on St. John's Eve

Plants have accompanied humans throughout their history, from Neolithic gatherers to the farmers of today. This co-evolution has created an intense bond between us and plant species, a bond that is still clear today in the traditions and customs that employ 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.







# **SATURDAY, 28 JUNE**

#### The ants of the Tuscan Archipelago – conference

Italy is home to about 270 species of ants distributed throughout the peninsula, some of which are endemic to the larger islands. These highly social insects have been present on our planet since the Cretaceous period. The book that will be presented by the authors – Leonardo Forbicioni, Elia Nalini, and Antonio Scupola – is the first real description of the current state of the ants of the Tuscan Archipelago, establishing the situation of this highly important family on our islands. Appointment: 9:30 PM, English Fort. Duration: 2 hours.

# **SATURDAY, 5 JULY**

### 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 archaeological complex rises on the promontory and overlooks 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.

# WEDNESDAY, 9 JULY

# Animals of the wetland area

An evening in collaboration with Legambiente Arcipelago Toscano, during which the importance of the wetlands and of their extraordinary biodiversity will be explained, also by projecting images of animals – from amphibians to birds, from reptiles to insects – and of the main plant species that may be found there. Appointment: 9:30 PM – Aula VerdeBlu Lecture Hall, Mola – Duration: 2 hours. Free of charge; booking required.







# SATURDAY, 12 JULY

#### Climate change and invasive species in the Mediterranean

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 discuss 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. Appointment: 9:00 PM, English Fort– Duration: 2 hours – Participation free of charge.

# WEDNESDAY, 16 JULY

# **Reconnecting: an experience of Mindfulness in Nature**

Through sensations and emotions, rediscovering our connection to all life on this planet. Short exercises on perceptions, the body, and breathing. Appointment: 9:00 PM - Aula VerdeBlu Lecture Hall, località Mola – Duration: 2 hours. Free event; booking required, in collaboration with Legambiente Arcipelago Toscano.

# SATURDAY, 19 JULY

# 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 western Elba. Appointment: 9:00 PM, Mount Perone picnic area – Duration: 2 hours –  $\in 8$ ;  $\notin 4$  reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

# WEDNESDAY, 23 JULY

Listen to... the plants!

In collaboration with Legambiente Arcipelago Toscano. Nature buzzes with noise; even plants emit electrical signals that can be "listened to" using special devices. An experience of contact and listening led by Ida Goglia, for an immersion in the musical language of nature. Appointment: 7:00 PM, Aula VerdeBlu Lecture Hall, Mola – Duration: 2 hours - Booking required; free of charge.

# SATURDAY, 26 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 over the Portoferraio harbour. We will visit the monument with the Park Guides and learn to orient ourselves among the stars, the constellations, and the 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, Road for Volterraio – Duration: 3 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium – Hiking shoes and lighting instruments (headlamps and flashlights) are 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. Gratuito Free of charge for resident students (up to 19 years of age). Minimum age: 12.









# WEDNESDAY, 30 JULY

#### Deep blue: screening of underwater images

A virtual immersion in the waters of the Tuscan Archipelago. A screening of underwater videos to discover the wonders lying concealed beneath the waters that surround our gorgeous islands. Suited to adults and children curious to know more about the depths of the sea. Appointment: 9:00 PM, Aula VerdeBlu Lecture Hall, località Mola – Duration: 2 hours. Free event; booking required.

# **SATURDAY, 2 AUGUST**

**Aperitif at the Roman Villa delle Grotte** See the description for 5 July

# SUNDAY, 10 AUGUST

#### Seawatching

Excursion by boat departing from Marina di Campo harbour; after about a hain nour at sea, the excursion will reach the Scoglio della Corbella rock, opposite the island's southeastern coast. While at sea, the Park Guide will help participants observe and recognize the marine fauna. Upon arrival there will be a swim, with guided snorkelling available. Appointment: 3:00 PM, boarding of "Mickey Mouse" motorboat, Marina di Campo - Duration: 3 hours. Booking required.  $\leq$  30,  $\leq$  20 reduced price (5- 12 years of age).  $\leq$  15 Additional fee for guided snorkelling.



# SATURDAY, 16 AUGUST

**Aperitif at the Roman Villa delle Grotte** See the description for 5 July.





## SATURDAY, 23 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.  $\in 8$ ;  $\in$  4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age; free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

# SUNDAY, 31 AUGUST

**Seawatching** See the description for 10 August

# **SUNDAY, 14 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.  $\in 8$ ;  $\in$  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"

#### Activities for children on the Island of 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

 13 June
 ENFOLA

 18 June
 CAPOBIANCO

 20 June
 LA FOCE

 25 June
 INNAMORATA

 27 June
 PATRESI

 2 July
 LE PRADE

 4 July
 CHIESSI

 9 July
 ENFOLA

- 11 July SANT'ANDREA
- 16 July LA FENICIA
- 18 July PATRESI
- 23 July CAMPO ALL'AIA
- 25 July POMONTE
- 30 July STRACCOLIGNO
- 1 August CHIESSI
- 6 August LA PAOLINA

- 8 August SANT'ANDREA
- 13 August BARBAROSSA
- 15 August PATRESI
- 20 August LE GHIAIE
- 22 August POMONTE
- 27 August NISPORTINO
- 29 August PATRESI
- 3 September CAPOBIANCO







# **Autumn in the Park**

# **SUNDAY, 21 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 1st century BC. In collaboration with Italia Nostra Arcipelago Toscano. Appointment: 3:00 PM, Portoferraio, Terme di San Giovanni Duration: 4 hours – Difficulty: easy – Booking required.  $\notin$  8;  $\notin$  4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

# **SUNDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER**

Isola d'Elba. Volterraio: walking on the bottom of the ancient Tethys Ocean Excursion up Mount Volterraio in the company of the geologist Giulio Colombo, to enjoy a splendid view and learn to read geological maps, while observing rocks that are the

remains of ancient, now disappeared ocean bottoms. Visit to the fortress. Appointment: 2:30 PM, Casermette parking area – Duration: 3 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium. Booking required. € 8; € 4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age. Reserved for guests over 5 years of age.

# **SATURDAY 4 OCTOBER**

#### Biodiversity in Mola - Bioblitz with iNaturalist

In collaboration with Legambiente Arcipelago Toscano, a citizen science activity: along with WBA experts, we will collect data to enter into the iNaturalist platform – "Biodiversità della palude di Mola" ("Mola wetland Biodiversity") project. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Aula VerdeBlu Lecture Hall, Loc. Mola Duration: 3 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy. Booking required; free of charge.

# **SUNDAY, 5 OCTOBER**

# Geo-experience: visit to MUM and Grotta d'Oggi

On the occasion of UNESCO International Geodiversity Day. A visit to MUM - Museo Mineralogico Luigi Celleri and its beautiful collection of pegmatites. To be followed by a brief excursion to one of the area's most important minerology sites, Grotta d'Oggi: an archaeological and mineralogical itinerary to discover the people and places that made San Piero's minerals famous. Appointment: 3:00 PM, San Piero, MUM - Duration: 4 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. Museum admission ticket € 4.50; reduced admission € 2.50.









Italia Vostra



# **SATURDAY, 11 OCTOBER**

#### Hiking the red rocks with the geologist

Settimana del Pianeta Terra – Planet Earth Week. Hike starting from Nisportino and reaching the Spiaggia dei Mangani beach. A demanding itinerary that visits the Punta delle Casette promontory, the Pietre Rosse (red rocks) coastal stretch from which the Portoferraio harbour may be seen. Assisted by the expert Giulio Colombo, we will listen to the geological history as told by jaspers and radiolarites. After a stop at the Mangani cove, we return the way we came. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Rio Elba, Nisportino – Duration: 6 hours – Degree of difficulty: demanding – Booking required. € 8; € 4 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

SETTIMANA del PIANETA TERRA

# **SUNDAY, 12 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.

# **SUNDAY, 19 OCTOBER**

#### Chestnut festival in Marciana

For children and families. Appointment: 3:00 PM, Casa del Parco, Marciana – Duration: 2 hours - Degree of difficulty: easy. Free event; booking required.

# **SUNDAY, 26 OCTOBER**

#### **Chestnut festival in Poggio**

From Marciana to Poggio, along the ancient rights of way, on a hike to discover the Apenninetype 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 Mediterranean scrubland, until arriving at a magnificent forest of holm oak, along a cool trail. Booking required.  $\leq 20$ , children 5-12 years of age  $\leq 10 -$  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

# La Fortezza del Volterraio 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.





# **TYPES OF VISITS**

1) Guided tour of the Volterraio Fortress. Trekking e ingresso inclusi.



Hiking 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  $\leq 20$ ,  $\leq 10$  reduced price for residents of the Tuscan Archipelago and visitors over 65 years of age.  $\leq 5$  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:  $\in 8, \notin 4$  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).

# Our partners' initiatives to discover the territory



# **Self**/ Sea Essence International Festival 2025

Marciana Marina – Island of Elba 27-29 June

In its seventh edition this year, Sea Essence International Festival is the first international festival dedicated to the preservation and appreciation of the sea and its essence. The 2025 edition will be dedicated to the theme "COMMUNITY." In a time of growing fragmentation and disconnect, the sea becomes a symbol of unity, linking lands, cultures, stories, and people. Three days dedicated to exploring the beauty of communities as a unifying force, filled with debates, meetings, educational activities and environmental volunteering, in which marine and coastal communities will take centre stage, demonstrating how collaboration can generate value for the sea and for people. To keep abreast of the 2025 programme, visit: **www.seaessence.eu** 



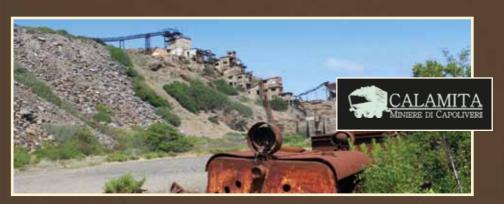
# The Scented Trails

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 a host of surprises, as we enjoy the island's scents while suspended over the coastline and an endless, blue sea. The appointment is at the Marciana Marina Pro Loco organization. The itinerary changes every Sunday, alternating between morning and afternoon. The programmes will be announced on the initiative's social media and its Facebook page.



# 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 (1st century BC) as manmade heritage included within the territory of the National Park. At the Roman Villa delle Grotte, workshops, conferences, and guided tours in the company of expert archaeologists are organized every year. For updates on the initiatives, visit: **villaromanalegrotte.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. For centuries, they were the greatest source of employment for the Elban populations, and especially for Rio Marina, Rio Elba, and Capoliveri. After more than 3,000 years of exploitation, productive activity was suspended in 1980, even though the deposits are not depleted. To discover the ancient, fascinating history of iron, guided tours of the Ginevro mine and at Museo della Vecchia Officina are available. Information: **minieredicalamita.it** 



# Parco Minerario Isola d'Elba (the Island of Elba Mining Park)

The Mining Park 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 – Rio Marina and the Archaeological Museum of the Mining District (Museo Archeologico del Distretto Minerario) – Rio nell'Elba. Information: **parcominelba.it** 





# Help us prevent FOREST FIRES

If you spot a forest fire, call this number:

800 425 425



# Always follow these rules:

Do not throw away cigarette butts or matches that are still lit;

Do not light fires in the woods, only use the equipped areas;

Never leave the fire and before leaving make sure it is completely out;

If you have to park your car make sure the muffler is not in contact with dry grass;

Do not abandon rubbish in the woods or in illegal dumps, it is a dangerous fuel;

# the map of the island of Elba





AVENZA MAPS

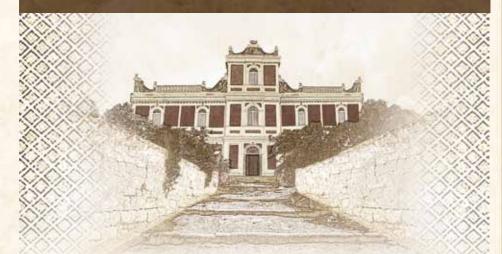
Download the free app from the Avenza Maps platform for the official map of **Elba**'s trails



Isola di Pianosa Island of Pianosa

2025 activities calendar

# La Casa dell'Agronomo dell'Isola di Pianosa



# THE AGRONOMIST'S HOUSE, ISLAND OF PIANOSA

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 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  $\in 1,114,386$ . Although the project cost far more (about  $\notin$  2 million), without the visitors' contribution the Park would never have had the resources to complete the work.



Casa dell'Agronomo Info Park



# **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  $\leq 5 - \leq 3$  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**

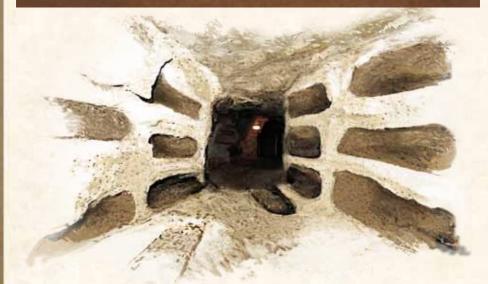
For the first time, specimens of rocks, fossils, and archaeological finds, Pianosa's real treasures, are shown where they were unearthed, thanks to a permanent exhibition on the island. The exhibition reveals Pianosa's history starting from the most ancient rocks dating to about 19 million years ago 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.



Museo delle Scienze Geologiche e Archeologiche

# 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 3rd century AD, with use extending at least into the 5th 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.

Catacombe di Pianosa

Island of Pianosa



# DAILY EXCURSIONS

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 p. 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 farm. Duration: 1 hour –  $\notin$  10;  $\notin$  5 reduced admission for children 5-12 years of age; free admission for children 0-4 years of age. Entrance alone:  $\notin$  5;  $\notin$  3 reduced admission for children 5-12 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.  $\in$  10;  $\in$  6 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age; free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



# **MOUNTAIN BIKING**

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  $- \notin 15$ . 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.



# NATURE HIKE

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

# **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 –  $\in$  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.

# SNORKELLING

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.

# TOUR WITH PARK GUIDE INSIDE THE "AGRIPPA" MAXIMUM

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  $\in$  20;  $\in$  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: 1h40m. Minimum age: 5. Cost: Adults  $\in$  30,  $\notin$  20 for children 5-12 years of age.

# **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  $\notin$  20;  $\notin$  14 children 5-12 years of age; free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. Duration: 1h30m.

# **GUIDED TOURS 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.a.





# **GUIDED, ARCHAEOLOGY-THEMED HIKE**

Guided tour of the Museum of Geological and Archaeological Sciences, followed by an excursion along the hiking path into the centre of the island to reach the archaeological site, whose recent excavations will be explained to us by the guide. Duration: 2 hours – Length: approximately 3 km. Difficulty: easy. Cost:  $\in$  15,  $\in$  8 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free for children 0-4 years of age.



# VISIT TO THE MUSEUM AND THE BATHS OF AGRIPPA

Guided tour of the Museum of Geological and Archaeological Sciences. We continue towards the recently restored Baths of Agrippa, where we will admire the structures' interiors, floors, and the remains of wall paintings. Guided tour of the archaeological site and return to town. Duration: 2 hours – Length: approximately 1.6 km. Degree of difficulty: easy. Cost:  $\in$  15,  $\in$  8 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



# MOUNTAIN BIKING, WITH VISIT TO THE "AGRIPPA" WING

An excursion with an itinerary stretching along the southern coast. On the way back, near the Sembolello wing, a detour towards the "Agrippa" maximum security area, and a guided tour. Duration: 3 hours – Length: approximately 12.3 km. Difficulty: medium. Cost: € 30. Reserved for guests over 12 years of age.

# **Island of Pianosa**

# Suggestions for a safe and pleasant experience:

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

Excursions are booked online Follow the link and the 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 AM

Return: Pianosa 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 minutes before departure (Information point, Piazza dei Granatieri, Marina di Campo). Aquavision ticket office, tel.: 0565 976022. To confirm schedules and rates and for online ticketing, visit: **aquavision.it** 

#### Weekly link (Tuesdays) - Toremar Ferry

Departing from Piombino and stopping at Rio Marina. Departure: Piombino 8:20 AM – Rio Marina 9:20 AM – 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.



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

**islepark-pianosa-immersioni** webpage and using the QR code next to this text. For information: Park Information Centre 0565 908231.





AVENZA MAPS

Download the free app from the Avenza Maps platform for the official maps of Elba and Pianosa



100 m

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104

8

2

Casa dell'Agronomo Meeting point escursioni The Agronomist House Excursion meeting point Info Park - Info point



Museo delle Scienze Science museum



Catacombe / Catacombs

**Ristorante - Bar** Restaurant - Bar



4

Hotel Milena

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

OTTO

6

7 Forte Teglia Teglia Fort



Piazzetta della chiesa deposito bagagli Church square luggage storage

Imbarchi molo Teglia 9 Ferry boarding pier

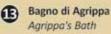


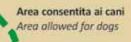
Toilette Toilets

Muro Dalla Chiesa Dalla Chiesa wall

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Spiaggia balneabile Bathing beach





Isole di Toscana Tuscan Islands

# **Daily Boat 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.

# 27 APRIL - 11, 18, 25 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:  $\leq 65 - \leq 50.00$  reduced price (children 5-12 years of age); free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

• Mountain biking excursion with visit to the "Agrippa" wing - Arrival in Pianosa, presentation of the island, and delivery of bicycles; brief introduction to the itinerary and warnings on bicycle use. On the itinerary we will discover the old prison structures, savour the island's essence, and listen to Pianosa's extraordinary natural history: the human events, its crystal-clear sea, and the spectacular vistas. Entrance into the "Agrippa" maximum security prison. 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 nature 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.

# **Giglio Island**

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



# 18, 25 JUNE – 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 JULY – 6, 20, 27 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. Duration: 3 hours (5 hours on the island) – Degree of difficulty: medium. Cost:  $\in$  55 full price –  $\notin$  30 reduced price (5-12 years of age; free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

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# **Island of Giannutri**



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

# **30 MARCH AND 6 APRIL**

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 1st 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:  $\in$  60 full-price;  $\notin$  40 reduced price for children 5 to 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)

# 20, 27 JUNE – 4, 11, 18, 25 JULY – 1, 8, 22, 29 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.

# Isola di Montecristo

**Island of Montecristo** 

# 2025 activities calendar

# **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. For the excursions planned on the two special dates, upon the Park Guides' examination of the participants' physical condition and level of preparation, access to the most demanding excursion (itinerary D) may be denied. **Rates** 

€ 140 - € 60 residents of the Tuscan Archipelago, 100 spots available per year Special dates, itineraries A-B-C € 150; itinerary D, € 180.



Cala Maestra – Belvedere – Villa Reale

Length: 2,031 m – ascent: 230 m – Degree of difficulty: medium – journey time: 2 hours.

- Cala Maestra Monastero Villa Reale Length: 3,558 m – ascent: 460 m – Degree of difficulty: high – journey time: 3h30m.
- **Cala Maestra Villa Reale Nature Museum and flower collection** length: 1,000 m – Degree of difficulty: easy – journey time: 2 hours.

**Cala Maestra – Monastery – Monte della Fortezza (peak)** ength: 5,900 m – ascent 645 m – Degree of difficulty: very demanding/ technical – journey time: 5h30m. Trail with climbing aids. Degree of difficulty: EE. Attention: for experienced hikers only.

Costs include round-trip maritime transport, guide service. Minimum age: 12. In the event of adverse weather conditions, make-up dates will be offered.



# Il Casotto dei Pescatori (Fishermen's Cottage)

Within the framework of the Life Projects, the structure called Casa 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 offers content relating to the island's flora, fauna, history, and archaeology, using explanatory panels, finds, and multimedia tools. In the museum's vicinity, visitors will enjoy a flower collection conserving many specimens 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**: 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.



# **Visiting Calendar**

Departure from Piombino, stopping at Porto Azzurro

March Saturday 22 Sunday 23 Saturday 29 Sunday 30 April Saturday 5 \* Sunday 6 Saturday 12 Sunday 13

May Saturday 17 Sunday 18 Saturday 24 Sunday 25 Saturday 31 June Sunday 1 Saturday 7 Sunday 8

September Sunday 7 \* Saturday 13 Sunday 14 Saturday 20 Sunday 21 Departure from Porto Santo Stefano, stopping at Giglio Porto

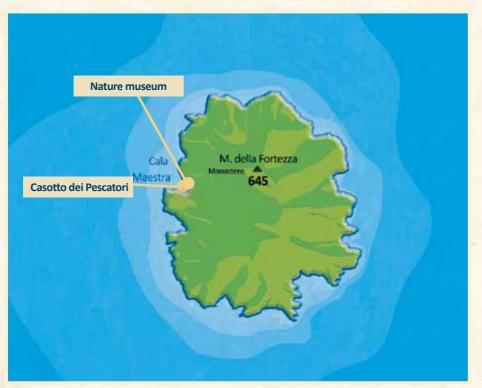
May Friday 16

**June** Friday 13

\* special dates: the stop on the island is an hour longer, offering itinerary D (see p. 70)



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



# Isola di Gorgona Island of Gorgona

# 2025 activities calendar

# 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 1st century BC and the start of the 1st 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**

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. Cost:  $\in$  55 full price -  $\notin$  45 for children from 5 to 12 years of age – free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. The cost includes round-trip maritime transport, ticket to access the protected area, and Guide service.

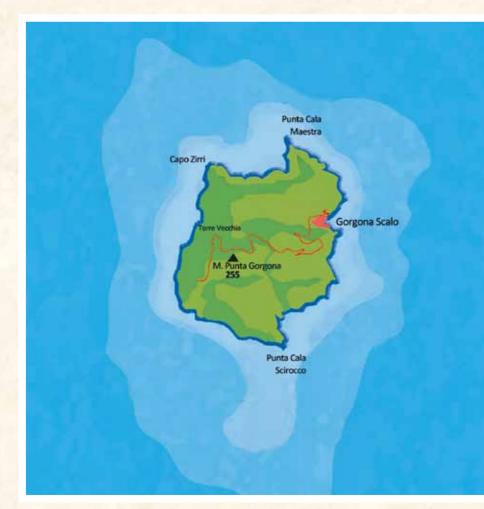
## **Visiting Calendar**

April	June	July	August	October
Saturday 12	Saturday 7	Saturday 5	Saturday 2	Saturday 4
Saturday 26	Saturday 14	Monday 7	Saturday 23	
	Monday 16	Saturday 12	Saturday 30	
May	Saturday 21	Monday 14		
Saturday 3	Monday 23	Saturday 19	September	
Saturday 10	Saturday 28	Monday 21	Saturday 6	
Saturday 17	Monday 30	Saturday 26	Saturday 13	
Saturday 24		Monday 28	Saturday 20	
Saturday 31			Saturday 27	



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





## Isola di Capraia Island of Capraia

# 2025 activities calendar





## "LA SALATA" ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE

#### Information point of the Tuscan Observatory for Biodiversity

This facility located in the marina provides all the information needed for visiting Capraia, thanks to the information point operated in collaboration between the National Park, the Municipality of Capraia Isola, and the Pro Loco organization. With virtual-reality multimedia installations and interactive applications, visitors can relive the geological formation of the Tuscan Archipelago and, in particular, of the volcanic apparatus from which the Island of Capraia was formed, as well as discover the opportunities for enjoyment using the network of trails. A specific installation is dedicated to the Pelagos Sanctuary for Mediterranean Marine Mammals, with images of its extraordinary denizens. Displayed in the courtyard are splendid, actual-size models of the spotted, bottlenose, and common dolphin, and of the monk seal. Here, excursions may be booked with the Park Guide to discover the trails, the island's geological and archaeological treasures, and the extraordinary marine protected area. Admission free of charge. Tel: 320 9606560 - 347 7714601.

#### HOURS

From 1 April to 31 May, and from 15 September to 1 November Morning – Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM Afternoon - Friday from 5:30 and 7:00 PM Saturday and Sunday From 4:30 to 6:00 PM From 1 June to 15 September Morning – from Monday to Sunday, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM Afternoon – from Monday to Sunday, from 3:30 to 7:30 PM Evening - Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:30 to 11:00 PM



#### 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 16th 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 II 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. zone puoi navigare liberamente.

Capraia-avviso-natanti



#### 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 5th 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 time to pay it a visit.



PE

#### **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, 1,100 m in length, is marked by 22 buoys. A round-trip swim covers more than one nautical mile.

#### PRO LOCO ISOLA DI CAPRAIA, 2025 EVENTS

**Capraia Rock Trail.** In the island's suggestive setting, amid breathtaking views, a trail competition suited to expert runners. Sagra dei Sapori 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 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.

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

Rotta delle Capre. The "Goats' route," sailing at San Vincenzo/Cecina – Capraia.

Swan yacht rally. Sailing to Capraia, reserved for yachts designed by the New York studio Sparkman & Stephens.

**Start-of-summer festival celebrating the solstice.** In Piazza Milano, music and live readings for children.

**Capraia Musica Festival.** 20th 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.



# PROLOCO CAPRAIA ISOLA

**Cinema beneath the stars.** A biweekly evening appointment in the cloister of the church of Sant'Antonio.

L'Accademia dell'Acciuga. The cultural association promoting the use of oily fish celebrates its 12th year with a noncompetitive, wine & food sailing event to defend the culture of the sea.

**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.

"Piero Ottone" international sea literature prize, dedicated to Italian and foreign narrative works on themes relating to "sea, islands, and navigation." End-of-summer festival and water polo tournament.

Totano's cup. Sail and fishing competition.

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



# Spring in the Park

#### **SUNDAY, 20 APRIL**

#### Capraia and the Stagnone loop: unique biodiversity

Stagnone ("big marsh") is the only lake of natural origin in the Tuscan Archipelago), set along the "mountainous" spine of the island of Capraia. The loop is a magnificent itinerary in its variety of environments, allowing visitors to discover the territory's biodiversity and to learn about the particularly precious natural habitats and the unique features of its abundant animal and plant life. Appointment: 9:00 AM, Piazza Milano (town) - Duration: 6 hours - Degree of difficulty: demanding – Booking required.  $\notin$  8.00;  $\notin$  4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

Equipment: hiking boots, water supply (2.5 litres per person), packed lunch.



#### **THURSDAY, 1 MAY**

**Excursion to the palmenti of the Tigghielle: features exceptional to the Island of Capraia** Coinciding with the Sagra dei sapori festival/Start-of-summer festival/other event A pleasant guided excursion venturing into the heart of the island of Capraia will allow us to visit the Le Tigghielle archaeological area, where we will observe a marvellous nucleus of palmenti, wine vats for the pressing of grapes in wine production. Although they are also present on the other islands of the Tuscan Archipelago, we will discover the exceptional features of those on Capraia. When viewing the beautiful vineyards in the Il Piano area, we will be able to imagine life in a different time and the productive activities of the past – and even more greatly appreciate the flavours of today! Appointment: 2:00 PM, Piazza Milano (town) - Duration: 2.5 hours - Degree of difficulty: easy - Booking required.  $\in$  8.00;  $\in$  4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

#### SATURDAY, 3 MAY

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

A guided excursion to discover the geomorphological "story" of Capraia, the Tuscan Archipelago's island of volcanic origin. From the town's main square, we will ascend Mount Arpagna, a splendid observation point for a 360° view, after which we will descend to the Piana dello Zenobito plain at the island's southern tip, from which we will see the magnificent Cala Rossa dominated by the powerful Genoese tower. A scenic trail high over the coast will take us back to town. Appointment: 9:00 AM, Piazza Milano – Duration: 7 hours – Difficulty: very demanding – Booking required.  $\in$  8.00;  $\in$  4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

#### SATURDAY, 24 MAY

#### **Excursion to Punta della Teja**

On the occasion of European Day of Parks. Starting from the La Salata Environmental Education Centre in the harbour and traversing the former Agricultural Penal Colony with the penitentiary wings designed for the various working activities of the island's inmates, we will take the trail that follows the coast from above to reach Capraia's northern tip. In a succession of gorgeous views, we will reach Punta della Teglia, dominated by Torre delle Barbici soaring over the sea. Return via the same trail. Appointment: 11:30 AM, La Salata (CEA) –Duration: 5h30m – Degree of difficulty: medium-demanding. Booking required.  $\notin 8$ ;  $\notin 4$  (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

#### SUNDAY, 25 MAY

#### Flying over the island – citizen science with the ornithologist

"Isole Rare," a project carried out by the National Park thanks to National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) funds, focuses on the protection of habitats and species important to our island environments. Working alongside the expert, we will be able to recognize a variety of birds - marine birdlife, Sylviidae, or the species that frequent open habitats or agrosystems - through listening or sighting. We will then record our observations on the Ornitho platform. Itinerary from the harbour to town via the Vado del Porto ford and the Roman mule trail, and from town to the Terrazza della Bellavista terrace. Appointment: 11:30 AM and 2:30 PM, La Salata (CEA) – Duration: 3 hours – Difficulty: easy – Booking required for the event; free of charge.









# Summer in the park

#### SUMMER IN THE PARK FOR EVERYONE

Families, youths, and children discovering the nature and history of the islands of the Arcipelago Toscano National Park, excursions, guided tours, educational workshops, conferences and citizen science, for an intense experience of the Protected Area's nature and culture.

#### THE SUMMER'S PARCO JUNIOR

For children 6 to 11 years of age: environmental education, educational games and workshops; activities connected to the marine ecosystem and to the Park's most significant environments: animal and plant species, natural history, conservation, sustainability.

#### **MONDAYS IN THE PARK**

## 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

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 petral gliding at the water's surface, with the possibility of sighting some exceptional species, like the osprey or monk seal. The guided tour aboard local vessels will acquaint visitors with the surprising stars of marine wildlife, as they discover the island's environment and history while enjoying a can't-miss dive into its crystal-clear water. Appointment: 5:30 PM, La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) - Duration: 2 hours - Booking required.  $\leq$  30,  $\leq$  20 (5-12 years of age);  $\leq$  10 (0-4 years of age).

#### Children's workshop at the La Salata Environmental Education Centre (CEA)

**Beneath the waves: a place for everyone.** AAn evening activity for children, dedicated to the marine environment and to its small inhabitants. Through reproductions of the natural environments of Capraia, we will make a game of finding the right place for each plant or animal. Appointment: 9:30 PM, La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 1h30m – Booking required; free of charge.





#### **TUESDAYS IN THE PARK**

## 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. An experience of immersion in the extraordinary environment of the island of Capraia. Appointment: 4:00 AM, Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 6 hours – Degree of difficulty: demanding – Booking required.  $\notin$  8,  $\notin$  4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

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

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.

#### Dawn by boat

A thrilling experience devoted to the transition from night to day, enjoyed at sea. Setting sail under a starry sky, we will stop at the beautiful Cala della Mortola bay to admire the dawn. Returning onboard, we will have a guided tour around the island to discover its heritage of nature, scenery, and geology, and enjoy a swim in its crystal-clear water. Appointment: hours vary based on time of sunrise; La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 2h30m – Booking required. Guide service € 10.

Boat service (payment on board) € 30.

#### 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, while respecting a territory that belongs to Arcipelago Toscano National Park and the UNESCO MAB Isole di Toscana 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 (port) 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 will be a meeting open to questions and curiosities, in pursuit of the economy of sustainability and of a great passion: the sea. Appointment: 10:00 PM, La Salata (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. The evening 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, which will reveal double stars, star clusters, nebulae, and galaxies. Appointment: 9:30 PM Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 1h30m -Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required.  $\in 8, \notin 4$  (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



#### Gazing beyond the stars in the skies of Capraia

With the help of astronomers from the Arcetri (National Institute for Astrophysics) Observatory, we will discover the beauty of the night sky. In addition to offering a view through the telescope at some objects present in the sky, from the planets in our Solar System to star clusters, from nebulae to the Milky Way and the Andromeda Galaxy, Edvige Corbelli and Daniele Galli will answer the public's questions, recount the ancient and recent discoveries about the Universe, and reveal the secrets of what we will be able to admire and imagine when we look up. Appointment: 9:30 PM Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 1h30m - Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required.  $\in 8, \notin 4$  (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

#### Dawn, Yoga & Hiking

An appointment dedicated to the reawakening of nature: joined by Veronica Somma, a yoga instructor with a diploma from Carlos Fiel's Sadhana school and for years a collaborator at the Capraia Yogathon, we will start the day with a dawn yoga session in the splendid setting of the Bellavista terrace, to be followed by a hike along the gorgeous Reganico trail, allowing us to be immersed in the island's wild nature and to enjoy its energy. Appointment: hours vary based on time of sunrise; Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 1h30m – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required.  $\leq 15$ ,  $\leq 8$  (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

#### Underwater lights and noise...what are their effects?

What impact do light and noise pollution have on aquatic biodiversity? We will find out along with Elena Maggi, a professor of ecology at the University of Pisa and coordinator of the European project Aquaplan, who has been engaged in the study of marine ecosystems for years. The evening will be a meeting to learn about the aspects, consequences, and results of the research aimed at assessing light and noise pollution with particular reference to the island's sea, a treasure chest of biodiversity protected by Arcipelago Toscano National Park. Appointment: 10:00 PM, La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 1h30m – Free admission.

#### WEDNESDAYS IN THE PARK

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

#### Geowatching: boat ride to discover the Tuscan Archipelago's only volcanic island 18 JUNE, 2, 16 AND 30 JULY, 13 AND 27 AUGUST, 10 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. Making stops at sites with extraordinary emotional impact that cannot be reached on foot, we will have the opportunity to enjoy a dive into the island's crystal-clear water. Appointment: 9:15 AM, La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 2 hours – Booking required.  $\leq$  30 full price;  $\leq$  20 reduced price (5-12 years of age);  $\leq$  10 (0-4 years of age).







Seawatching: boat ride on the island of Capraia to discover the coastlines and marine fauna

#### 25 JUNE, 9 AND 23 JULY, 6 AND 20 AUGUST, 3 SEPTEMBER

Appointment: 9:15 AM, La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) -Duration: 2 hours – Booking required. € 30 full price; € 20 reduced price (5-12 years of age);  $\in$  10 (0-4 years of age).

Description: see Monday's Seawatching.

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

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 prison farms in the Tuscan Archipelago. Upon reaching the II Dattero area, a magnificent, natural cliff towering over the western coast, we will admire the enchanting sunset; we will return via 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; 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.

#### Hiking for locally-sourced production with the Il 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 farms and learn about its history, philosophy, and products. After the visit, we will continue the itinerary to the II Dattero area to enjoy the view of the sunset, and then return to the harbour beneath the marvellous, starry sky.

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.

#### 9 JULY, 6 AUGUST, 3 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, highquality productions (honey, preserves, jams, liqueurs), which we will enjoy in a small, complementary assortment.

#### 2 AND 23 JULY, 27 AUGUST









**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.

#### 25 JUNE, 16 JULY, 13 AUGUST

**Appointment:** 5:00 PM, La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 6 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.

#### **THURSDAYS IN THE PARK**

# 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. The appointment starts on land with an introduction to acquaint us with the nationally and internationally recognized habitats and the organisms characteristic of this area's surprising marine biodiversity. Using a local vessel, we will then explore the stretches of coastline unreachable on foot, choosing the best sites in accordance with the conditions of the sea, with the safety of onboard assistance. In the water, we will be able to recognize the habitats and the countless species populating them, and admire Capraia's extraordinary beauty beneath the waves for an unforgettable experience. Appointment: 5:00 PM La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 1h30m – Degree of difficulty: easy - Booking required.  $\notin$  30.00.

#### Night-time excursion:

#### a sensory itinerary to discover nature and the sky

As we grow used to walking in the dark and silence of the night, we will travel along an easy path towards the heart of the island using our senses to discover the territory: sound, smell, touch, and even taste will be precious tools for discovering the nature around us and perceiving its extraordinary beauty, even in the dark. Lying on the volcanic rocks, we will admire the marvellous starry sky that the low light pollution makes possible, in which we will identify the main constellations while learning the myths associated with them. Appointment: 9:30 PM, Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 1h30m – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required.  $\notin$  8;  $\notin$  4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.





#### FRIDAYS IN THE PARK

#### FRIDAY HIKING FOR LOCALLY-SOURCED PRODUCTS AND EVENING ACTIVITY FOR THE YOUNGEST VISITORS

# The island of the millstones: guided excursion and visit to the archaeological area of Tigghielle

Capraia could be called the island of the palmenti, ancient vats dug out of the rock and used for pressing grapes and making wine. An itinerary immersed in the Mediterranean scrub will allow us to visit Le Tigghielle, the small archaeological area where the most numerous nucleus of 'palmenti' is located, and understand the significance of these artefacts in the historical, economic and social context in the past. Imagining the life and appearance of Capraia of the past, we will reach II Piano, a natural basin protected by the reliefs and an ancient settlement site, testified to by the presence of the small parish church of Santo Stefano. Here we can admire the vineyard landscape, which still today characterises the island's agricultural areas. Meeting point: 17:30 Piazza Milano – Duration: 2 hours and 30' – Difficulty: medium-easy – Booking required. & 8; & 4 (5-12 years), free 0-4 years.

20 AND 27 JUNE, 15 AUGUST, 12 AND 19 SEPTEMBER

#### From the Mediterranean scrub to the table: Arura Azienda Agricola

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 along Capraia's beautiful Botanical Trail will allow us 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 an aperitif with the flavours of the Mediterranean scrubland. 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.

#### 4 AND 18 JULY, 8 AUGUST

#### Wines of the sea from the volcanic island: Azienda Biologica La Piana

This easy, beautiful excursion will allow us to discover the marvellous II 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.  $\leq$  15;  $\leq$  8 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years.

#### OF AGE. 1, 22, AND 29 AUGUST

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#### Capraia, island of honey: Azienda Agricola San Rocco

A guided excursion along the marvellous Reganico Trail, amid the Mediterranean scrub and maguis, will acquaint us with the pollen and nectar plants that bees love. In the San Rocco area, we will pay a visit to the Azienda Agricola San Rocco farm's apiary whose founder, Roberta Bonomo, will introduce us to the fascinating life of the bees on the island of Capraia, the farm's history, and its organic products, while offering a small tasting assortment. 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.

#### 11 AND 25 JULY, 5 SEPTEMBER.

#### 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. We will discover the "darkness" in Capraia just outside of the village, 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.

#### SATURDAYS IN THE PARK

## 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: 8:30 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

#### 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 – Difficulty: easy – Booking required. € 4.







#### **SUNDAYS IN THE PARK**

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

#### A hike dedicated to the sunset: Guided excursion in the former penal colony, arriving at the II Dattero area

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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 II 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: mediumfacile – Booking required.  $\in$  8;  $\in$  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.

# **Autumn in the Park**

#### **SUNDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER**

#### Capraia and the Stagnone loop: unique biodiversity

Stagnone ("big marsh") is the only lake of natural origin in the Tuscan Archipelago), set along the "mountainous" spine of the island of Capraia. The loop is a magnificent itinerary in its variety of environments, allowing visitors to discover the territory's biodiversity and to learn about the particularly precious natural habitats and the unique features of its abundant animal and plant life. Appointment: 9:00 AM, Piazza Milano (town) - Duration: 6 hours - Degree of difficulty: demanding – Booking required.  $\in$  8.00;  $\notin$  4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. Equipment: hiking boots, water supply (2.5 litres per person), packed lunch

#### SATURDAY, 11 OCTOBER

Excursion to the palmenti of the Tigghielle: features exceptional to the Island

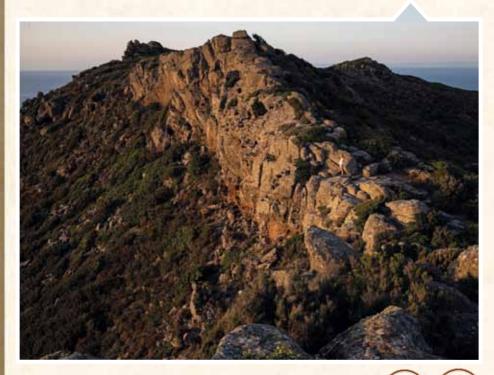
A pleasant guided excursion venturing into the heart of the island of Capraia will allow us to visit the Le Tigghielle archaeological area, where we will observe a marvellous nucleus of palmenti, wine vats for the pressing of grapes and wine production. Although they are also present on the other islands of the Tuscan Archipelago, we will discover the exceptional features of those on Capraia and, when viewing the beautiful vineyards in the II Piano area, we will be able to imagine life in a different time. Appointment: 2:00 PM, Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 2.5 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required.  $\in 8$ ;  $\in 4$  (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.





#### **SATURDAY, 25 OCTOBER**

An unforgettable island: excursion to the penal colony with sunset in the II Dattero area The guided excursion, of both historic and natural interest, traverses the area of Capraia's former prison farm and reaches the marvellous II Dattero area: a natural terrace soaring over the sea, affording views of the expanse all the way to Corsica and Liguria on the horizon, in a silence broken only by the sound of the wind or sea, or by bird calls. A unique place for admiring that magic moment when day turns to night, before returning beneath a starry sky. Appointment: 3:00 PM, La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) Duration: 5h30m – Degree of difficulty: medium-facile – Booking required.  $\in 8; \in 4$  (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.



#### **SUNDAY, 26 OCTOBER**

#### The places have a story to tell: Capraia's cemetery

Located a short distance from town and surrounded by Mediterranean scrub, the Capraia cemetery is a place of peace and serenity immersed in the island's silence. Shaded by cypress trees, the tombstones and the small chapels contain the memory of people and families prominently featured in some pages of the island's history. On a guided tour respectful of the location, we will discover this small treasure chest of memory, recollection, and affection. Appointment: 10:00 La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 1h30m – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required.  $\in 8$ ;  $\in 4$  (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

# Island of Capraia

#### SATURDAY, 1 NOVEMBER

The former Agricultural Penal Colony, between history and nature

In 1873, Capraia also saw the establishment of an Agricultural Penal Colony, which closed in 1986. The easy, guided excursion will allow us to discover the island's marvellous environment and its transformations. In the company of Paolo Guarente, a former penitentiary police officer, we will travel down the gorgeous, scenic road that links the old wings into which the colony was organized, and, through the accounts of life experience, discover a Capraia from different time.

Appointment: 10:00 La Salata (port) Environmental Education Centre (CEA) – Duration: 2.5 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required. € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

#### **SUNDAY, 2 NOVEMBER**

Morning on the Patello promontory

The guided excursion will allow us to discover the historic mule trail that traverses the island to the II Piano area, where we will visit the ancient parish church of Santo Stefano Protomartire. We take the beautiful trail called "Sentiero perduto dello Zenobito" ("the lost trail of the monastery") until we reach the marvellous Patello promontory that dominates Cala del Ceppo bay. From here, we will admire a spectacular vista towards the island's southern tip and over the sea, from the Tuscan coastline to Elba, Montecristo and Pianosa, and even Corsica.

Appointment: 9:30 AM Piazza Milano (town) – Duration: 3 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium – Booking required. € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

Excursions are booked online at parcoarcipelago.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.



Download the free app from the Avenza Maps platform for the official map of **Capraia**'s trails.











Isola del Giglio Island of Giglio

# 2025 activities calendar

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#### **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 dan 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**'s trails



# **Spring in the Park**

#### FRIDAY, 25 APRIL

#### Lighthouse on the Fenaio promontory, Scopeto loop

A scenic hike amid agriculture, nature, and outcroppings of stone. Route description: hike through nature and vegetable gardens, with breathtaking vistas. After a brief stop at Giglio Castello, departure for the hike around the Fenaio promontory, traversing the Olivello valley until reaching the Campese bay. After the hike is over, there will be an opportunity to swim at the beach. Mixed terrain, earth, and granite rocks, exposed to the sun. Equipment: poles recommended, hiking boots, at least 1.5 litres of water, packed lunch, headwear, sunscreen, sunglasses, swimsuit and beach towel (optional). Appointment: 10:00 AM, Giglio Castello bus stop – Duration: 6 hours – Length: approximately 8 km; Ascent: 175 m; descent 550 m - Degree of difficulty: medium. Booking required;  $\in$  8;  $\in$  4 (5-12 years of age). Activity recommended for guests over 12 years of age.



#### **SATURDAY, 26 APRIL**

#### From Giglio Castello to Capel Rosso; blossoming on the high sea.

A loop that takes us from Castello to the Capel Rosso lighthouse, traversing a great variety of environments with breathtaking vistas and unspoilt nature, continuously climbing and descending amid hills and scented Mediterranean scrub. Return along the paved road that leads back to Giglio Castello. Mixed terrain, earth, and granite rocks, partially exposed to the sun. Equipment: poles, hiking boots, at least 1.5 litres of water, packed lunch, headwear, sunscreen, sunglasses. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Piazza Gloriosa, Giglio Castello. Duration: 7 hours – Length: approximately 14 km; ascent: 600 m; descent: 600 m – Difficulty: demanding (given the length of the itinerary) – Booking required;  $\in 8$ ;  $\notin 4$  (5-12 years of age). Activity recommended for guests over 12 years of age.

#### SUNDAY, 27 APRIL

#### Giglio coast to coast

An itinerary traversing the island from the eastern to the western side, with the medieval village of Castello providing an evocative landscape. A journey into nature, but also into history and local culture. For the more adventurous, there is the possibility of swimming in the splendid Campese bay. Mixed terrain: earth, and granite rocks, exposed to the sun in some sections. Equipment: poles, hiking boots, at least 1.5 litres of water, packed lunch, headwear, sunscreen, sunglasses, swimsuit and beach towel (optional). Appointment: 10:00 AM, Giglio Porto, Park Information Centre – Length: approximately 6 km; ascent: approximately 400 m; descent: approximately 400 m – Duration: 6 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium – Booking required; € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age). Activity recommended for guests over 12 years of age.

#### **SATURDAY, 24 MAY**

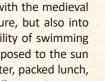
#### Nature mission from Porto to the Caldane beach and back

On the European Day of Parks, a hike along the Giglio's rocks, visiting two marvellous beaches. Along the way, brief activities to explore and be immersed in nature together: an outing for the whole family. Mixed terrain: earth, and granite rocks, exposed to the sun. Equipment: hiking boots, at least 1.5 litres of water, packed lunch, headwear, sunscreen, sunglasses, swimsuit and beach towel. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Giglio Porto, Park Information Centre – Length: approximately 5 km (round trip); minimum ascent – Duration: 6 hours – Difficulty: easy – Booking required. € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. Small children: only when transported in baby carrier or suitable backpack.

#### SUNDAY, 25 MAY

#### In search of the painted frog – citizen science with the expert

"Isole Rare," a project carried out by the National Park thanks to National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) funds, focuses on the protection of habitats and species important to our island environments. A hike from Giglio Castello to Campese, during which, guided by an expert naturalist, we will be off to discover the habitat of a small amphibian endemic to the Mediterranean - the Sardinian painted frog which, in the Tuscan Archipelago, lives on Giglio and Montecristo, and is the island's only amphibian. Equipment: hiking boots, at least 1.5 litres of water, packed lunch, headwear, sunscreen, sunglasses. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Giglio Castello – Duration: approximately 5 hours – Difficulty: medium. Booking required; free of charge. Small children: only when transported in baby carrier or suitable backpack.







# **Summer in the Park**

#### **TUESDAYS IN THE PARK**

#### EVERY TUESDAY, SUMMER IS FOR THE YOUNGEST VISITORS

#### 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 Tuesday 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: 10:30 AM, Piazza Gloriosa, Giglio Castello – Duration: 2 hours. Free event; booking required, Maximum 10 participants.

#### WEDNESDAYS IN THE PARK

#### THREE EVENING EXCURSIONS ON ALTERNATING WEDNESDAYS DURING THE SUMMER

A sunset from Giglio Campese to the Faraglione rock formation, ending with a swim on

#### 11 AND 25 JUNE - 9 AND 23 JULY - 6 AND 20 AUGUST - 3 AND 10 SEPTEMBER

Starting from Giglio Campese, we take the beautiful, shady trail that leads to the Faraglione rock formation. A captivating, varied itinerary to be followed with particular caution in certain steep sections, it leads to the scenic point that offers a nearly complete view of the western side of the island: the Baia di Campese coast all the way to the Fenaio promontory – and, on clear days, the island of Montecristo to the north and, to the south, the Franco promontory. Before you lies the spectacular, imposing Faraglione rock formation. Stop for a swim at Cala dei Pozzarelli. Mixed terrain, earth, and rocks, exposed to the sun. Equipment: hiking boots, at least 1.5 litres of water, headwear, sunscreen, sunglasses, swimsuit and beach towel. Appointment: 6:30 PM, Giglio Campese beneath the Tower – Duration: 2 hours – Degree of difficulty: medium. Booking required.  $\in 8 - \notin 4$  reduced price (8-12 years of age).

#### Discovering the orchard – hike with tasting 18 JUNE, 30 JULY, AND 27 AUGUST

A scenic nature walk will take us to the Scopeto area, where Michele Galeotti cultivates an orchard and vineyard; in recent years, he has combined his passion for the land with his love of cooking: we will taste his simple, local dishes and the wine typical of the island for an al fresco, sunset dinner. Appointment: 7:00 PM Giglio Castello – Duration: 3 hours – Booking required; € 35, reduced price € 25 (5-12 years of age) including guided excursion and tasting.



Island of Gi<u>glio</u>





#### Sunset boat ride with Park Guide 2 AND 16 JULY - 13 AUGUST



A boat ride along the island's coast, with a Park Guide on Board who will acquaint participants with the most characteristic sites, some of which reachable only by sea: the Guide will provide the participants with information on Giglio's geological evolution and the island's marine biodiversity; there will be an opportunity to sight local fauna and birdlife during the boat ride. Along the way, participants can enjoy a swim in the crystal-clear water. Equipment: Small backpack, at least 1.5 litres of water, snack, headwear, sunscreen, sunglasses, swimsuit and beach towel. Appointment: Giglio Porto Park Information Centre – Duration: approximately 3 hours. Booking required.  $\leq 55$ ,  $\leq 35$  reduced price for children 5-12 years of age years of age.



#### **THURSDAYS IN THE PARK**

## THURSDAY IS DEDICATED TO THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF GIANNUTRI



#### Day excursion – History tour, boat from Giglio Porto included EVERY THURSDAY FROM 19 JUNE TO 11 SEPTEMBER

DEPARTING from Giglio Porto, a tour offering including ferry, to discover the history of the island of Giannutri. Appointment at 10:00 AM with the guide at Giglio's port, departure at 10:30 AM by Maregiglio ferry. Arrival in Giannutri after an hour at sea. The tour begins from the Cala Maestra bay and continues amid the rocky cliffs and scented trails of the Mediterranean scrubland, to the remains of the imperial villa of Domitian dating to the 1st century AD – an archaeological site connected to the powerful Domitius Ahenobarbus family, from which Emperor Nero descended. At the end of the excursion, free time with the possibility of having a swim at Cala Maestra or Cala Spalmatoio, or a guided tour of the recently restored Labyrinth Mosaic (Cost:  $\in$  8 to be paid onsite starting at 19 years of age, free of charge for those 0 to 18 years of age). Duration: approximately 2 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy – Ticket  $\notin$  45,  $\notin$  28 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age, free of charge for children 0-4 years of age.

#### **FRIDAYS IN THE PARK**

#### SUMMER FRIDAYS: MORNING HIKE ENDING WITH A SWIM

#### Hike from Giglio Castello to Giglio Campese, ending with a swim 13 AND 27 JUNE – 11 AND 25 JULY - 8 AND 22 AUGUST – 5 SEPTEMBER

Departure from the splendid Medieval village of Giglio Castello; after a brief visit, we exit through the Pisan city walls and take a mule trail that descends along the western side, amid small, terraced vineyards, wells, and seasonal streams of such great importance to the island's ecology. The intense scent of the Mediterranean scrub and the vista over the Campese bay will accompany us on this lovely stroll. At the end, those who wish to do so can enjoy a swim in the bay's crystal-clear water. Appointment: 8:00 AM, Piazza Gloriosa, Giglio Castello – Duration: 2 hours - Booking required.  $\notin 8 - \notin 4$  reduced price (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. Small children: only when transported in baby carrier or suitable backpack.

#### Hike from Giglio Castello to Arenella, ending with a swim 20 JUNE, 4 AND 18 JULY – 1, 15 AND 29 AUGUST, 12 SEPTEMBER

From Giglio Castello using the old mule trail, amid ancient terraces and Mediterranean scrub, a scenic itinerary about 1.5 kilometres in length and a 400-metre ascent takes us to the Cala dell'Arenella cove. Upon reaching the cove, visitors can't miss the experience of a swim: the highly varied bottom alternates sand, rocks, and meadows of Posidonia – the ideal habitat for marine wildlife! Visitors return on their own. Appointment: 8:00 AM, Piazza Gloriosa, Giglio Castello – Duration: 2 hours – Booking required.  $\in 8 - \notin 4$  reduced price (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. Small children: only when transported in baby carrier or suitable backpack.

# **Autumn in the Park**

#### SATURDAY, 4 OCTOBER

#### Nature mission from the harbour to the Caldane beach and back.

A hike along the Giglio's rocks, starting from Porto and visiting two marvellous beaches; along the way, brief activities to explore and be immersed in nature together... an outing for the whole family. Mixed terrain: earth, and granite rocks, exposed to the sun. Equipment: hiking boots, at least 1.5 litres of water, packed lunch, headwear, sunscreen, sunglasses, swimsuit and beach towel. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Giglio Porto, Park Information Centre – Length: approximately 5 km (round trip); minimum ascent – Duration: 6 hours – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required.  $\in 8$ ;  $\in 4$  (5-12 years of age), free of charge for children 0-4 years of age. Small children: only when transported in baby carrier or suitable backpack.







#### **SATURDAY, 11 OCTOBER**

#### Giglio coast to coast

An itinerary that combines several trails, allowing us to depart from the island's eastern side and arrive on the western side, via the medieval village of Giglio Castello; a journey into nature that changes along with the natural environment and with the local history and culture. And for the more courageous, there is the possibility at the end of the itinerary for a swim in the splendid Campese bay. Mixed terrain: earth, and granite rocks, exposed to the sun in sections. Equipment: poles, hiking boots, at least 1.5 litres of water, packed lunch, headwear, sunscreen, sunglasses, swimsuit and beach towel (optional). Appointment: 10:00 AM, Giglio Porto, Park Information Centre – Length: approximately 6 km; ascent: approximately 400 m; descent: approximately 400 m - Duration: 6 hours - Degree of difficulty: medium – Booking required; € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age). Activity recommended for guests over 12 years of age.

#### **SATURDAY, 18 OCTOBER**

From Giglio Castello to Capel Rosso; autumn colours on the high sea.

A loop that takes us from Castello to the Capel Rosso lighthouse, traversing a great variety of environments that will provide an all-round view of this extraordinary island in the Archipelago. The itinerary provides an alternating succession of breathtaking vistas and unspoilt nature, in a continuous climb and descent halfway up the coast amid the hills and a Mediterranean scrub still scented and enriched with autumn berries; return along the paved road that leads back to Giglio Castello.

Mixed terrain, earth, and granite rocks, partially exposed to the sun. Equipment: poles, hiking boots, at least 1.5 litres of water, packed lunch, headwear, sunscreen, sunglasses. Appointment: 10:00 AM, Piazza Gloriosa, Giglio Castello – Duration: 7 hours – Length: approximately 14 km; ascent: 600 m; descent: 600 – Degree of difficulty: demanding (given the length of the itinerary) – Booking required;  $\in 8$ ;  $\notin 4$  (5-12 years of age). Activity recommended for guests over 12 years of age.

#### SATURDAY 1 NOVEMBER

Lighthouse on the Fenaio promontory, Scopeto loop.

A scenic hike amid agriculture, nature, and outcroppings of stone.

Route description: hike through nature and vegetable gardens, with breathtaking vistas. After a brief stop at Giglio Castello, departure for the hike around the Fenaio promontory, traversing the Olivello valley until reaching the Campese bay. After the hike is over, there will be an opportunity to swim at the beach. Mixed terrain, earth, and granite rocks, exposed to the sun. Equipment: poles recommended, hiking boots, at least 1.5 litres of water, packed lunch, headwear, sunscreen, sunglasses, swimsuit and beach towel (optional). Appointment: 10:00 AM, Giglio Castello bus stop – Duration: 6 hours – Length: approximately 8 km; Ascent: 175 m; descent 550 m - Degree of difficulty: medium. Booking required; € 8; € 4 (5-12 years of age). Activity recommended for guests over 12 years of age.

Excursions are booked online at parcoarcipelago.info/giglio









# Isola di Giannutri Island of Giannutri

# 2025 activities calendar





# 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 1st 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  $\in$  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. Duration: 1h30m. Tickets:  $\notin$  10;  $\notin$  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.

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 Porto Santo Stefano, this tour offering includes a ferry to discover the small island in the National Park. Appointment at 9:30 with the port guide, Toscana pier, embarking at 9:45 by Maregiglio ferry. Arrival in Giannutri after an hour at sea. This day dedicated to the discovery of the island's history and nature will in fact include the 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 EVERY THURSDAY FROM 19 JUNE TO 11 SEPTEMBER

Departing from Porto Santo Stefano, a tour offering including ferry, to discover the history of Giannutri. See detail, p. 100 (Giglio).



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 opposite the villa's entrance but, for conservation purposes, it is placed inside the evocative enclosed environment, also of Roman origin, called the cryptoporticus. The Labyrinth Mosaic may be visited. Admission costs  $\in 8$ ; just ask the Park Guides on the boats and on the island. A combined Roman Villa + Mosaic ticket is available, at a cost of  $\in 15$ ;  $\in 8$  reduced price (5-12 years of age).



#### **NEW: DAWN AND SUNSET SERVICES!**

On Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 12 June to 14 September, the following guided tours and excursions are available for those staying on Giannutri or reaching it by their own vessels.

#### Nature tour, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday morning

An easy hike during the coolest hours of the day, to discover the protected area of Giannutri – which may be visited only with a Gude – and to reach the Capel Rosso lighthouse. Appointment: 8:30 AM – Duration: 2 hours - Degree of difficulty: easy - Booking required;  $\notin$  10 full price,  $\notin$  5 reduced price for children 5-12 years of age.

#### Archaeological tour, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evening

Tour of Villa Domizia and of the Labyrinth Mosaic, followed by a tasting of local products and sunset aperitif at one of the island's bars. Appointment: 6:30 PM – Duration: 1h30m – Degree of difficulty: easy – Booking required. € 35, single price (free of charge for children 0-10 years of age).

# Spring in the Park

#### SATURDAY, 24 MAY

#### Geo Experience: Giannutri from north to south

On the occasion of European Day of Parks, a hike to appreciate the geology of Giannutri in the company of the geologists Luca Foresi and Gianluca Cornamusini – University of Siena. The itinerary traverses the island from north to south, reaching the Capel Rosso lighthouse with stops at Cala Maestra and Cala Brigantina. Upon reaching the lighthouse, in the Grottoni area we will observe the imposing action of the karst process: large dolinas, caves, and arches of unexpected size. Appointment with the guide: 9:30 AM, Porto Santo Stefano, Toscana pier, embarking on Maregiglio vessel – Duration: 5 hours with a brief stop for lunch – Degree of difficulty: medium. Free of charge; booking required. Participants are responsible for sea passage

#### parcoarcipelago.info/giannutri.

#### **Protected area access tickets**

For those disembarking on the island with their own vessels, the ticket the Park Authority charges for access to the protected area (€ 2.50) may be purchased at the bars in Cala Spalmatoio and Cala Maestra, or online at 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 as well.



Download the free app from the Avenza Maps platform for the official maps of **Giglio** and **Giannutri** 







# **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. The operators have signed a series of commitments with the Protected Area:

1 - to improve its tourism offerings and to strengthen collaboration with the Park;

2 - to focus attention on its own environmental behaviour;

3 – to support local development and protection of the territory. The following is the list of hospitality facilities that have obtained certification and the right to display the ECST brand. For more information, scan the QR code.

Agriturismo dei Girasoli, Portoferraio Tel. 339 419 2257 - agriturismodeigirasoli.com

**Agriturismo La Lecciola**, Rio nell'Elba Tel. 349 3541404 - lalecciola.com

Azienda Agricola Le Sughere del Montefico, Rio Nell'elba - Tel. 345 3585035 - lesughere.it

**Camping Appartamenti Tallinucci**, Capoliveri Tel. 0565 964069 - campingtallinucci.it

**Camping Enfola**, Portoferraio Tel. 0565 939001 - campingenfola.com

**Camping Laconella**, Capoliveri Tel. 0565 964228 - campinglaconella.it

**Camping Valle Santa Maria**, Capoliveri Tel. 0565 964228 - vsmaria.it

Camping Village Elba Doc, Cavo Tel. 0565 949966 - elbadoc-campingvillage.it

**Camping Village Scaglieri**, Portoferraio Tel. 0565 969940 - campingscaglieri.it Casa Per Ferie Sassi Turchini, Porto Azzurro Tel. 392 2394607 - sassiturchini.org

Hotel Barracuda, Marina Di Campo Tel. 0565 976893 - hotelbarracudaelba.it

Hotel Biodola, Portoferraio Tel. 0565 974812 - biodola.it

Hotel Casa Rosa, Portoferraio Tel. 0565 969931 - elbasolare.it/hotel-isolaelba/hotel-casa-rosa

Hotel Corallo, Pomonte Tel. 0565 906042 - elbacorallo.it

Hotel Capo Sud, Capoliveri Tel. 0565 964021 - hotelcaposud.it

Hotel Danila, Portoferraio Tel. 0565 969915 - hoteldanila.it

Hotel Del Golfo, Marciana Tel. 0565.9021 - hoteldelgolfo.it

Hotel Fabricia, Portoferraio Tel. 0565 933181 - hotelfabricia.com



Hotel Frank's, Capoliveri - Tel. 0565 968144 frankshotel.com

Hotel Galli, Fetovaia - Tel. 0565 988035 hotelgalli.it

Hotel Hermitage, Portoferraio Tel. 0565 9740 - hotelhermitage.it

Hotel Il Caminetto, Portoferraio Tel. 0565 915700 - hotelilcaminetto.it

Hotel Montemerlo, Fetovaia Tel. 0565 988051 - hotelfetovaia.it

Hotel Paradiso, Portoferraio Tel. 0565 939034 - hotelparadisoelba.it

Hotel Punto Verde, Marina di Campo Tel. 329 3427411 - puntoverdehotel.it

Hotel Ristorante Villa Rita, Marciana Tel. 0565 908095 - villarita.it

Hotel Sant'anna del Volterraio, Rio Tel. 0565 961219 - volterraio.it

Hotel Scoglio Bianco, Portoferraio Tel. 0565 939036 - scogliobianco.it Hotel Villa Ottone, Portoferraio Tel. 0565 933042 - villaottone.com

Hotel Viticcio, Portoferraio Tel. 331 2716471 - hotelviticcio.it

**Tenuta Delle Ripalte**, Capoliveri Tel. 0565 94211 - tenutadelleripalte.it

**Residence Capobianco**, Portoferraio Tel. 0565 915308 - residencecapobianco.it

**B&B Villa El Mar**, Portoferraio Tel. 347 481 6227 - villaelmar.it

Hotel Campese, Giglio Campese Tel. 0564 804003 - hotelcampese.com

Hotel Castello Monticello, Giglio Porto Tel. 379 1380303 - hotelcastellomonticello.com

Hotel La Guardia, Giglio Porto Tel. 0564 808077 - laguardiahotel.it

La Mandola Eco Hostel, Capraia Isola Tel. 0586 1754324 - lamandolacapraia.com

**Il Gamberino**, Capraia Isola Tel. 335 627 4056 ilgamberino.capraia@gmail.com

Parco Nazionale Arcipelago Toscano

#### islepark.it

information and reservations: Info Park Tel. 0565 908231

parcoarcipelago.info





#### Photo:

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# www.islepark.it







