



SHORT CRUISE "SEARCH FOR THE SEAL"

Full day - Sailing for 28 nautical miles day return - Route: Arbatax, Isolotto d'Ogliastra, Pedra Longa, Cala Goloritze, Cala dei Gabbiani, Grotte del Fico, Cala Mariolu - Daily departure at about 9.00 o'clock from Arbatax Harbour.

The route goes North throughout which it is possible to admire the coastal landscape in its rocky formations and the colours of its waters. Shortly after the departure, having passed **Santa Maria Navarrese**, you can see the stack of **Pedra Longa**: a long rock needle (**Agugliastra**) from which the name "Ogliastra" may derive. It rises majestic from the sea up to 128 metres.

Immediately after, behind it, you can see the little gulf **Golfetto di Forrola** under **Punta Giradili**, one of the highest cliffs of the Mediterranean Sea, 730 metres long. If you like, you can soon receive "baptism" in the clear waters of Baus where a natural source of fresh water gives you a first cool deep emotion.

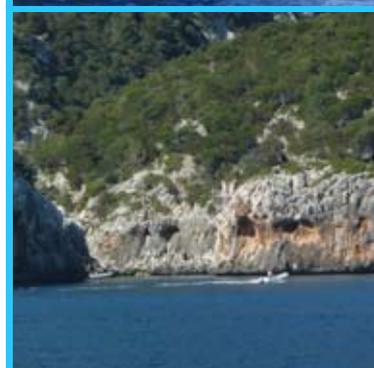
Before leaving again, a quick aperitif and fresh drinks, crackers and tasty snacks will be supplied on board. On the way, along the coast of Baunei, we can briefly stop nearby **Grotta dei Colombi** (The Doves' Cave), where by means of a tender we can approach it to see the seasonal nest-building of the so-called Eleonora's falcons.

After passing **Capo Monte Santo**, we can enter the **gulf of Orosei** where you can admire the little natural fiords of **Portu Pedrosu** and **Porto Quau**, small characteristic bays hollowed out in the rock. Then we will arrive at **Cala Goloritzè** (Goloritzè Cove), a real pearl of the Sardinian coast, considered one of the most famous and loved ten beaches in the world. This cove is particularly famous for the deep shades of blue which tinge its sea, amazing consequent result of the flowing out of some underwater sources and some marble rocks remoulded by the passing of time. The candid white of the beach, made up of lots of little pebbles, stands out all of a sudden against the sky-blue of the waters.

The enchanting Paradise of **Cala Goloritzè** is still further embellished by the famous rocky arch stretching towards the sea and by the imposing Goloritzè needle, destination no to be missed. Here sea bathing is compulsory. By means of a tender we can stop at the adjacent little beach of the Sources and admire the absolutely unique colours and shades of the sea, which make this cove one of the most beautiful in the Mediterranean.

Our skipper will accompany you throughout an exciting **snorkelling** to discover the underwater world. While you are enjoying this Paradise, the crew, besides guaranteeing you support on board, will prepare a tasty lunch with a typical seafood starter, a first course based on a "unique" fish recipe, followed by fruit, typical local pastries and herbal wines. This recipe of a light and mouth-watering lunch is maybe the reason for the famous longevity of our place.

After lunch we can carry on our cruise along the coast and decide whether to reach **Cala Mariolu** (Mariolu Cove), characterized by thin white sand and shallow water, visited for its wonderful naturalistic scenery and sea beds; or to approach **Cala dei Gabbiani** (The Seagull's Cove), only a few metres far from **Cala Mariolu**, where waters are crystalline blue thanks to the light effects created by the sun reflecting into the sea bed. Here you can have another swim, possibly stopping on the very white sandy beach, or, if you prefer, visiting **Grotta del Fico** (the Figtree Cave), the last shelter of the monk seal.





Towards 16.30 we will return to the **gulf of Arbatax** and during the hour's trip you can decide whether to sunbathe at the wide areas of the bow and the stern or to stay in the shade possibly having a cool drink. On the way back we will see the Isolotto d'Ogliastra in front of us for a last swim and a happy toast to celebrate a wonderful day spent together.

Unless otherwise stated, the return to the boarding point is towards 18.30. During the whole excursion, the skipper will give you all the information and explanations necessary to enjoy this really unique experience to the full and turn this simple boat trip into a day to remember spent with friends.

For information and/or reservations: info@chartersardinia.com

VISIT TO GROTTA DEL FICO

Grotta del Fico has been open to the public since August 2003 and is famous today for being one of the most beautiful, important and picturesque caves in **Sardinia**. In addition, Grotta del Fico is famous because until the 1980s it had been the last shelter of the monk seal, a mammal that unfortunately today is considered extinct.

Grotta del Fico opens 10 metres above sea level along the extraordinary limestone wall of the **gulf of Orosei**, located between the wonderful beaches of **Cala Mariolu** and **Cala Biriola**. It is possible to enter the cave thanks to easy footways which allow to walk in absolute safety along the fossil bed of an ancient river.

Entering the cave is like entering an enchanting place where the blue of the sea outside makes room for the golden colours of the rock formations inside, in a landscape and atmosphere which have a real unique charm and where you can really perceive the grandeur and wonder of nature.

Inside Grotta del Fico professional guides will be able to tell you the history and secrets of this cave that has been explored up to 1.800 metres up to now, but that surely hides in its midst other and new wonders still to be discovered. The visits inside the caves last about one hour and we suggest bringing a cardigan or jacket with you because of the temperature change inside.

PRICES ON REQUEST

Excursion price "**Search for the Seal**": boarding for a total of maximum 10 people (the price is the same if the number of passengers is less than ten), full day excursion and boat-hire with skipper included, crew, fuel, mid-morning snack, seafood lunch, afternoon aperitif, tender services, snorkelling guide and equipment, boat service up to Grotta del Fico.

