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SMALLGROUP
TRAVEL



SmallGroup Travel tour of Sardinia 2018

Day 1 – 12th September 2018 Arrival in Alghero

Welcome to Sardinia! Upon arrival at the airport, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. The remainder of the day is yours at leisure to relax. (Arrival could also be at Olbia depending on flight times)

3 nights Hotel Catalunya

Day 2 – 13th September 2018 Alghero

Today it is time to head out and explore. Your first stop is The Necropolis of Anghelu Ruju which is an old cemetery with 38 hypogea, dating back to the late Neolithic period (3000 A.C.). The archaeological site, formed by a prehistoric complex "Domus de Janas", is one of the most important in Sardinia. Il Nuraghe Palmavera, dating back to the Bronze Age is an interesting example of nuraghe twin tower

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complex surrounded by a Nuragic village. The landscape here is beautiful and filled with fertile vineyards where some of the most prestigious wines in Sardinia are produced. Near the two archaeological sites, you can also visit the famous wine cellars Sella & Mosca and enjoy a wine tasting.

Dinner this evening, in Alghero, you will have your meal in an authentic familiar farmhouse, settled in a vast green area. It offers an interesting gastronomic journey showcasing the island's genuine flavours. Within the 100ha. complex, guests can find, among others, the typical Sardinian buildings ("pinetta"), a playing area and a wine bar. Cooking courses (bread and cheese making) and different sheep farming activities (traditional sheep-shearing and milking) can also be set up. (B,D)

Day 3 – 14th September 2018 Dolphin Watching & Snorkelling

This morning, explore Alghero. It is a beautiful city in a beautiful location situated on the north- western coast of the island of Sardinia, and is a medieval fishing port surrounded by imposing stone walls on the sea, founded by arabs. The city was taken by Catalan colonists in the fourteenth century, and as a result there is an enticing mix of Spanish/Italian cultures: delicious Catalan cuisine, impressive monuments built during Aragonese rule and rolling vineyards on the outskirts of the city.

Alghero is also called Barcelonetta, (Little Barcelona) and all the street signs are both in Catalan and Italian. The old town is a labyrinth of narrow streets, most of which are free from cars, making it a great area to wander around while savouring the local life. If you have visited Barcelona, this area of Alghero will remind you the Gothic Barrio. Some interesting sights to see in this area are the Piazza Civica, the Cathedral, the Churches of Saint Francis and Saint Michael, the sea walls of the citadel.

This afternoon enjoy a wildlife tour designed for observing marine life, coastal shores and landscapes. You will discover the sea and the coast of the Gulf of Alghero living a memorable experience meeting wild dolphins in their habitat. Thanks to the presence aboard of the researchers of MareTerra NPO, you'll learn the techniques of scientific monitoring, with which researchers seek out and study these particularly elusive animals. The second part of the trip is dedicated to the knowledge of the coast of Alghero and to the observation of other marine species. You will observe the most beautiful cliffs and coast of the Marine Protected Area of Capo Caccia and Isola Piana, you will swim in waters less frequented by tourists, and a biologist will lead you to the underwater observation of the seabed and its fauna doing snorkelling. During the return to the port we will offer you a snack of local food. (B)

Day 4 – 15th September 2018 Tharros & Cabras

Depart from your hotel, and head in the direction of Cagliari. The first stop will be at the picturesque village Bosa, famous for its Malvasia wine. Enjoy a boat trip on the Temo River which will take you into the city centre, approx 30 minutes). From here, you will drive to Tharros. It was an ancient city on the west coast of Sardinia and is currently an archaeological site in San Giovanni di Sinis. It lies on a peninsula that forms the northern cape of the island. Tharros seems to have been one of the most considerable places on the island. You will also stop to visit the fishermen village of Cabras and its Municipal Museum, where the results of the excavations in the necropolis of Mont'e Parma were gathered, at the base of the hill of the same name. In the Museum of Cabras, in particular, a selection of male statues are shown, six in total (three boxers, two archers and a warrior), as well as four models of nuraghi. Thanks to modern technology, museum visitors can take a virtual tour that lets you explore the complex sculptural Mont'e Prama. (B)

4 nights Hotel Nautilus

Day 5 – 16th September 2018 Cagliari

Depart to explore Nora. Founded by the Phoenicians around the 9th century B.C. as a strategic location in the Mediterranean, Nora was an important resting point before continuing the long travel to Britain in search of raw materials.

From here, continue on to Cagliari, the capital city of the Sardinia Region. Cagliari, or Karalis as it was once called, has its most ancient heart on the hill called “Castello” (Castle) situated in a panoramic position, that dominates the surroundings. You will go from the Belvedere towards Porta Cristina and walk among the antique walls where you can admire the S. Pancrazio tower, the Piazza Palazzo (Palace Square) with the beautiful S. Maria Cathedral (Archbishop seat), and the Prefects palace, once residence of the Viceroy Carlo Alberto. After reaching the Terrace Umberto I, that surmounts the Bastion of S. Remy, you will descend the stairs to join your bus.

Today you will also visit the Cagliari Archaeological Museum. The National Archaeological Museum of Cagliari, moved to its present location in 1993, the first floor offers a chronological and didactic of the history and culture of Sardinia, prenuragic the Age (6000 BC. Approximately) until the Byzantine period (VIII century AD), through the materials of the old museum collections. The upper floors of exhibit materials according to topographic criteria, highlighting the most important archaeological sites in the provinces of Cagliari and Oristano. The chronological journey begins with an exhibition of artefacts related to the cultures of the Neolithic, Eneolithic and early Bronze Age, from some of the major sites, such as the rock shelter of Su Carroppu Sirri (Carbonia) or the housing settlement and funerary Cuccuru S'Arriu (Cabras), with stone statuettes of goddesses; many materials related to the culture of Ozieri Eneolithic, Filigosa, Monte Claro, Abealzu, the Campaniforme.

Of exceptional importance and interest is the collection of small bronzes that have a rich variety of representations: warriors armed with bow or sword, chiefs, female deities, figures bidders, women and men at work, but also animal representations, among which prevail the bull and the deer. They testify to the social organisation and public religious and daily life of the Nuraghic civilization. Subsequent phases of the Phoenician colonisation and domination Punic, between the eighth and third centuries BC, are well represented by the reconstruction of the Tophet of Tharros (Cabras) and materials from sites of Nora (Pula), Monte Sirai (Carbonia) and Sant'Antioco. From the Roman period are the black-glazed ceramics, thin-walled, Italic, Gallic, African, glasses and lamps. Some interesting lead ingots that have, embossed, the name of the Emperor under which they were produced. There is also notable jewellery Punic and Byzantine jewellery.

Leaving the city, you will also see the Basilica of Bonaria, dedicated to the Holy Virgin who protect sailors, and then travel back to your hotel. (B)

Day 6 - 17th September 2017 Nuragic Complex

The Nuragic complex of “Su Nuraxi”: This archaeological site belongs to a period of great expansion of the Nuraghe civilisation and represents its architectural styles. This site is the most important and most well-conserved of the entire island. (B)

Day 7 – 18th September 2017 Nuoro

Departing towards Oliena, you will head to Nuoro. Nuoro is considered the heart of Sardinia, as this town has well preserved Sardinian traditions and culture. Here Grazia Deledda was born, a world- wide well-known writer and Nobel prize winner for literature in 1926. A beautiful destination is the Chiesetta della Solitudine, situated along the street that arrives at the mount Ortobene. This nice, little church preserves the tomb of Grazia Deledda. From Mount Ortobene, you will be able to admire a spectacular view overlooking the vast landscape. After the visit of Nuoro , continue on to Orgosolo, the symbol of the Barbaric culture and known for its murales: paintings that depict the way of life and represent the social unrest and a silent protest against the government during the late 1960s. In Orgosolo, you will pause for a typical lunch with the shepherds. For lunch, you will discover the most genuine flavours of this ancient land. In the mountain sheepfold, the shepherds cook their lunch open air, under the shade of the olm-oaks and age old junipers, among the natural environment and the flavours and perfumes. The typical menu, based on salami, cheese, boiled sheep with "patat'a perras" and roasted pork, typical bread, becomes tasty twice if accompanied by the full-bodied local wine, the cannonau of strong colour and taste. After lunch enjoy a walking tour of Orgosolo. (B,L).

2 nights Su Gologone Hotel

Day 8 – 19th September 2017 Ogliastra

Cruise along Ogliastra. Depart from Cala Gonone harbour in the morning to discover one of the most savage areas of Sardinia, the Gulf of Orosei. The Mini Cruise is a trip that lasts all day and it allows you to admire and take photos of all the beaches, caves and the most beautiful sights of the coast up to Cala Goloritzé. There are three long stops at the most beautiful and famous beaches of the Gulf: Cala Luna, Cala Mariolu and Cala Biriola. You can further enhance this tour by also choosing to visit the “Grotta del Bue Marino”. It is strongly recommended for those planning a one day trip to Cala Gonone as it allows you to appreciate the natural beauty of the Gulf of Orosei. Return to Cala Gonone harbour. (B)

Day 9 – 20th September 2017 Cruise La Maddalena

No vacation in the north east of Sardinia would be complete without a cruise through the fantastic Archipelago La Maddalena - a national marine park and protected marina area. Uninhabited islands, pristine beaches and crystal clear water all combine to make this a day to remember. Your itinerary will include stops at the smaller islands, sightseeing on the only inhabited island, and a delicious lunch on board your chosen vessel. There is plenty of time for swimming today. (B,L)

2 nights Hotel La Vecchia Fonte, Palau

Day 10 – 21st September 2018 The Little Green Train

One way to explore the island’s interior is to board the Trenino Verde (Little Green Train), a vintage diesel locomotive that puffs its way through forests, over bridges, and through tunnels into some of the island’s most scenic mountain areas. The Trenino Verde travels time-worn routes among forests, over bridges, and through tunnels into some of Sardinian’s most beautiful mountain areas. Pass through vineyards and cork forests, over bridges and through tunnels and along the shores of Lake Liscia while winding our way

up into the mountains to the town of Tempio Pausania. Our guides will take you on a walking tour of the old town showing you its secret corners and amazing boutiques.

Before lunch, visit a cork factory and discover the techniques used to transform this versatile material. The trip will finish in Palau, where the bus will be waiting to take you to explore the two most important VIP destinations on the north eastern coast of Sardinia – Puerto Cervo and Puerto Rotondo. Why not stroll through the piazza or along the harbour and browse the exclusive boutiques? There is also a beautiful beach here for a swim. (B)

Overnight Hotel La Vecchia Fonte, Palau

Day 11 – 22nd September 2018 Departure

Following breakfast, the day is yours at leisure until it is time to transfer to the port for your ferry to Corsica. (B).

End of Services

I look forward to sharing this wonderful island with you!

Sue

Cost of the Tour

Price per person twin share 16 people travelling together

\$3375 AUD standard room

Price per person twin share 14 people travelling together

\$3810 AUD standard room

Price per person twin share 12 people travelling together

\$4105 AUD standard room

Price per person twin share 10 people travelling together

\$4520 AUD standard room

Single Supplement \$970 for standard room.

Inclusions:

- Return private airport transfers
- 10 nights accommodation
- Private Transportation
- Services of a local guide
- Entrances fees for sites as per the itinerary
- Sightseeing as per the itinerary
- 10 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 1 Dinner

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Exclusions:

- International air tickets to/from Sardinia
- Other food and beverage in addition to the above
- Early check-in and late check out charges from the hotel
- Visas
- Travel Insurance
- Expenditure of a personal nature such as drinks, souvenirs, laundry, tipping etc

Note:

All rates are per person in AUD.

Transfers are based on all passengers arriving together. If your transfer is outside of this time, additional charges may apply.

Duration for excursions mentioned in the descriptions are approximate, and can vary for operational reasons.

SmallGroup Travel is not responsible for visa and vaccination regulations.

Travel Insurance is mandatory to travel on a SmallGroup Travel tour.

Conditions of Payment:

You are required to fill in the SmallGroup Travel Booking Form. Once completed you will receive and invoice with payment details. Credit card payments will incur a fee of 1.1% for Visa and 3% for American Express.

A deposit of \$1000 per person is required to secure your reservation.

Full payment is required by June 16, 2018.

Please ensure you have read and understand SmallGroup Travel Privacy Policy and Booking Conditions.

<https://www.travelmanagers.com.au/terms-and-conditions/>

Crooked Compass is not responsible for any belongings of the passengers carried during any services rendered by its ground operators, such as transfers or tours

Cancellation conditions for land services:

Unless mentioned otherwise all transfers and excursions are inclusive of local English speaking guide, changing in each area.

Duration for excursions mentioned in the descriptions are approximate, and can vary for operational reasons. In case this number of hours is exceeded for any reason that is out of our responsibility, the additional hours of use can be subject to charge.

Programs are expected to be carried out as described, however Crooked Compass and its ground operators reserves the right to change or adjust itineraries for the safety of our passengers.

In case of very early departures we cannot guarantee the included breakfast at the hotel. Depending on hotel and time there might be no breakfast at all or a reduced breakfast. At all hotels Check-in Time is usually after midday and Check-out before 11:00h. An Early-Check-in (ECI) or Late-Check-out (LCO) must be requested and can be provided upon surcharge subject to availability.

Crooked Compass is not responsible for visa and vaccination regulations.

Travel Insurance is mandatory to travel on a Crooked Compass tour.

Liability: Crooked Compass liability will be limited to the reimbursement of services supplied for failure of services contracted by its ground operators.

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Crooked Compass cannot be held liable for any injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity occasioned by air-carriers or third-party suppliers and by natural phenomena, sickness, war, quarantine, strike, or any other kind of force major or by attendance to Federal Police, customs and Health Authorities regulations.

Crooked Compass cannot be held liable for any injury, damage or loss of any kind caused by or resulting from tours that involves higher risk (beach buggy, 4x4 wheel tours, helicopter flight and speed boats). These tours are not covered by our insurance. Clients participate at their own risk and will be required to sign a waiver prior to departure on these tours

Our general terms and conditions apply.

Validity of this offer:

All listed prices and conditions except airfares are valid for 7 days after quotation date.

For any bookings received after this deadline the rates and conditions may change.

Cancellation conditions for land services:

Unless otherwise specified, tours can be cancelled up to 60 days prior to arrival with loss of deposit and airfares. Thereafter, cancellation fees of 10% to 80% of the total package rate may apply. In case of no show on hotel or land services or cancellations shortly prior to arrival date, we may charge 100% cancellation fee. After departure, no refund.

Cancellation fees for flights and for cruise packages are subject to more restrictive cancellation conditions and will be informed separately.

Crooked Compass only charges cancellation fees that are charged by our suppliers. Please ensure you have read and understand our Privacy Policy and Booking Conditions.

Please contact me if you have any further questions

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