Sardinia

Why Go?

As DH Lawrence so succinctly put it: ‘Sardinia is different’. Indeed, where else but on this 365-village, four-million-sheep island could you travel from shimmering bays to near-alpine forests, granite peaks to snow-white beaches, rolling vineyards to one-time bandit towns – all in the space of a day? Sardinia baffles with its unique prehistory at 7000 nuraghic sites, dazzles with its kaleidoscopic blue waters, and whets appetites with island treats like spit-roasted suckling pig, sea urchins, crumbly pecorino cheese, Vermentino whites and Cannonau reds.

Over millennia islanders have carved out a unique identity, cuisine, culture and language. And whether you’re swooning over the mega-yachts in the Costa Smeralda’s fjord-like bays or kicking back at a rustic agriturismo (farm stay accommodation), you can’t help but appreciate this island’s love of the good life. Earthy and glamorous, adventurous and blissfully relaxed, Sardinia delights in being that little bit different.

Includes

- Cagliari ............. 851
- Oristano ............ 861
- Alghero ............ 868
- Sassari ............. 874
- Olbia ............... 876
- Nuoro ............... 882
- Supramonte ........ 884
- Golfo di Orosei .... 888

Best Places to Eat

- Trattoria Lo Romani (p871)
- La Pola (p855)
- Dolceacqua (p877)
- Il Portico (p883)
- Locanda di Corte (p868)

Best Places to Sleep

- Casa Solotti (p883)
- B&B Domus de Janas (p880)
- Angedras Hotel (p870)
- Hotel Nautilus (p854)
- B&B Lu Pastruccialeddu (p878)
- Agriturismo Codula Fuili (p889)

When to Go

Cagliari

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Feb Pre-Lenten shenanigans, from Carnivale madness to medieval jousting at Oristano’s Sa Sartiglia.

Mar-May Spring wildflowers, Easter parades, and hiking without the heat and crowds.

Jun-Aug Sun-kissed beaches, open-air festivals and folksy fun at Nuoro’s Sagra del Redentore.
**Sardinia Highlights**

1. **Gola Su Gorropu** (p885) Walking on the wild side in Sardinia’s most spectacular gorge.

2. **Costa Verde** (p861) Feeling the lure of the sea on the windswept beaches of Sardinia’s southwest coast.

3. **Il Castello** (p851) Wandering the medieval backstreets of Cagliari’s rocky citadel.

4. **Costa Smeralda** (p878) Rubbing bronzed shoulders with the rich and super-famous.

5. **Nuraghe Su Nuraxi** (p861) Boning up on prehistory at Sardinia’s sole World Heritage Site.

6. **Golfo di Orosei** (p888) Dropping anchor in brilliant...