

Cagliari



Cagliari is the capital of the region and the most important city of Sardinia, with a metropolitan area of about half a million inhabitants. The capital of the island has a soul consisting of a millenary history, culture, nature, beach tourism and night life, an attractive mix that fascinates the visitor, charmed by the views of Castello, the ramparts and the Roman remains, the Sardinian sea, as well as by the dynamism of a surprisingly lively city.

Built on seven hills that identify other city districts (Castello, Tuvu Mannu, Tuvixeddu, Monte Claro, Monte Urpinu, Bonaria, San Michele), the

city has its original nucleus in Castello district, the highest point of the city overlooking the surrounding area.

Cagliari protects the history and the memory of the ancient cultures that succeeded in the city. During the centuries the numerous and different people that inhabited Cagliari, infused a homely character toward the visitors. The testimony of the different cultures is evident through its streets: the Punic in the ruins of the Necropoli of Tuvixeddu, the Roman Karales in the magnificent amphitheatre, the Byzantine in the Basilica of San Saturnino, the Pisan with the

tall towers and the Piedmontese one with the Royal Palace. Prints and millenary traces to discover along the narrow lanes where only carts and carriages passed by. A few steps suffice, among ancient and new buildings, to all of a sudden enjoy the enchantment of fascinating monuments that tell the history of the city.

The city is also a perfect eco-system, suspended among sky, earth and water. Water in Cagliari is not only the sea. A few steps from the long beach lie lagoons and natural reserves unique all over Europe. In the old saltworks, that at sunset wear purple-red hues. The city is framed, on the east side by the Molentargius pond, natural reserve and perfect habitat for many plants and animals species. Looking west, the lagoon of Santa Gilla, magic place for the early Punic settlements.



Watching Cagliari from the sea, one has a feeling of entering a scenic city, easy to see due to the immediacy of its landscape, in constant variation from the points of view. The African look given by the palms trees and the yellow limestone are tempered by the architecture markedly western and this combination of character so distant makes the city unique in its diversity.