



Trekking and Scuba Diving on Isola del Giglio

Isola del Giglio

Giglio is the second biggest island of the Tuscan archipelago. There are 3 villages on Giglio: Giglio Porto on the East side, Giglio Campese in the North and Giglio Castello on the hill. A small harbor is at Giglio Porto, hopeless full in the summer months.

Already inhabited in the Stone Age, and subsequently used by the Etruscans, possibly as a military outpost, Giglio went through one of its most important period under Roman rule, when the island became a commercial junction of maritime trade between the various Provinces. The importance of the island is highlighted by the recovery of numerous Roman shipwrecks. The islands period of glory is connected to the presence of the Roman aristocrat family Domizi Enobarbi that made it a fundamental marine junction for trade between the different provinces within the empire.

During the XVI century, Giglio suffered many pirate raids at the hands of the Saracens - the most terrible being the one of Khair ad-Din, better known as Barbarossa. The last of these raids occurred on November 18th 1799. Commemoration, 18th November, Giglio Castello

The yearly procession in commemoration of the Saint Mamiliano and the legendary victory over the pirates is on 18th November,.

Both mining and the extraction of granite were popular at the time of the Romans as testified by the many granite columns, from the Isola del Giglio, that can be found in many of Rome's churches and in various Italian basilicas. The closing down of the mines in 1962 triggered a new beginning for the island characterised by the current shift towards tourism.

In **Giglio Porto**, a picturesque place with multicoloured houses, there is the Torre del Saraceno tower, which was built at the request of Ferdinand II in 1596, and Caletta del Saraceno with nearby remains of an adjoining fish farm of Domizi Enobarbi.

Just 2 miles south of the port there is Cannelle, a beach of fine white sand and shallow waters. Another small beach is Caldane and it is accessible only by foot, but walking here for about 20 minutes is really fascinating. In the northern part of the island there is the beach of Arenella. At Campese there is also a campsite.

The medieval village of **Giglio Castello**, located on the hill, at 400 m above sea level. Built by the Pisanis in the 12th century, several times enlarged and restored by Dukes of Tuscany, Giglio Castello is well preserved from the inside. Giglio Castle is located in the central and highest domestic Isola del Giglio. The housing medieval origins are characterized by imposing Rocca aldobrandesca, part of the whole construct castellano together with features and well-preserved walls and some towers.

Good anchoring grounds in the Campese bay, protected from southerly winds, and at two bays adjacent to the harbor. Good ground, if the weather permits it, at Cala dell'allume in the Northwest of the island.





Trekking on Isola del Giglio

Hiking Paths on Giglio Discovering the secrets of the island with some characteristic walks. While the Isola del Giglio is known for its sun, sea and sand, it also offers plenty of opportunities for keen hikers. You will find a number of interesting walks to try as an alternative to lolling around on the seaside.

Giglio's hills and mountains with their wild and untouched beauty are ideal destinations for hiking. Although this aspect of the island's appeal is relatively underdeveloped, the unspoiled nature with its thick shrubs of Mediterranean macchia, breathtaking views on the Tuscan Archipelago and impressively sculpted granite outcrops that do the landscape make for superb backdrops of some spectacular walks. Especially in springtime, when the island explodes in colours, Isola del Giglio becomes a picture of incredible beauty.

Hiking Paths Giglio

1) Castello - Capel Rosso

Castello- Le Porte - Mortelleto - Capel Rosso (6 km, ca. 3 hours)

2) Castello - Sasso Ritto

Castello - Le Porte - Castellucci - Sasso Ritto (4,5 km, ca. 2 hours)

3) Le Porte - Cala Torricella

Le Porte - Cala Toricella / Cala degli Alberi (4 km, ca. 1 1/2 hours)

4) Le Porte - Cala delle Cannelle

Le Porte - Cala delle Cannelle (2 km, ca. 30 minutes)

5) Porto - Caldane

Porto - Cannelle - Capo Marino - Caldane

(2 km, 30 minutes by car)

6) Porto - Castello

Porto - Monticello - Castello (2 km, ca. 1 hour)

7) Castello - Campese

Castello - Campese (2 km, ca. 1 hour)

8) Vaccarecce - Punta del Fenaio

Vaccarecce - Scopeto - Punta del Fenaio

(2 km, 40 minutes)

9) Campese - Allume

Campese - Allume (1,5 km, 30 minutes)

10) Castello - Campese

Castello - Dolce - Campese (4 km, ca. 2 hours)

11) Castello - Capel Rosso

Castello - Capel Rosso (6 km, 30 minutes)

12) Capel Rosso - Cala degli Alberi

Capel Rosso - Poggio Falcone - Cala degli Alberi (2 km, 40 minutes)

13) Castellucci - Bredici

Castellucci - Bredici (2 km, ca. 20 minutes)

14) Campese - Faraglione

Campese - Cala del Gesso - Faraglione (2 km, ca. 30 minutes)



Scuba Diving on Isola del Giglio

The Giglio Isle, with its never too cold, crystal clear waters and its many caves and ancient wrecks, makes it one of the best scuba diving spots in Italy.

Sea beds rich in fish, morays, barracudas and giant tunafish, some reaching 3 meters in length, inhabit the deeper waters. On a clear Spring or Summer day, dolphins and whale-calves can be seen out in the calm, open waters. Camping site Baia del Sole, Giglio Campese

The camping site Baia del Sole is located close to the beach of Campese, and offers 100 places. Arranged in terraces, all areas have sea view.

Some of the most beautiful diving spots on Giglio Isle

- 1) Tralicci
- 2) Secca i Pinocchi (Secca I)
- 3) Secca delle Secchi (Secca II)
- 4) Punta del Fenaio
- 5) Cala Monella
- 6) Punta del Morto
- 7) Secca della Croce (Secca IV)
- 8) Cala Cupa
- 9) Le Scole
- 10) Zampa di Gatto
- 11) Scoglie di Pietrabona
- 12) Cala del Corvo
- 13) Cala dell' Allume



Diving Centers on Giglio Island

International Diving

Giglio Porto
58012 Isola del Giglio (GR)
www.internationaldiving.it

Max Shark

Giglio Porto, Via Oreglia 3
58012 Isola del Giglio (GR)
www.maxshark.it

Skindivers Technical Scuba Diving

Via T. De Revel 7, Giglio Porto
58012 Isola del Giglio (GR)
www.skindivers.it

Deep Blu Diving College

Via Provinciale 30, Loc. Campese
58012 Isola del Giglio (GR)
www.divingcollege.it

Campese Diving Center

Via di Mezzo Franco 14, Loc. Campese
58012 Isola del Giglio (GR)
www.cdc-giglio.de

Giglio Diving Club

Via della Torre Campese, Loc. Campese
58012 Isola del Giglio (GR)

Tourist Information Pro Loco

Proloco Isola del Giglio
T/F: 0564 809400
Via Umberto 1°
58013 Giglio Porto

Camping site Baia del Sole, Giglio Campese

The camping site Baia del Sole is located close to the beach of Campese, and offers 100 places. Arranged in terraces, all areas have sea view.

Campeggio Baia del Sole
Loc. Sparavieri - Campese
58012 Isola del Giglio

Parco Nazionale dell'Arcipelago Toscano
uscany Walking Festival
www.tuscanywalkingfestival.it

The "Walking Festival" will take place in the National Park of the Tuscan Archipelago from April 3rd to May 10th 2010.