



ITALY

SARDINIA LIBERATED

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parallelotzero





Sant'Antonio di Santadi (Arbus). Just a little bit away from the firing range of Capo Frasca, a float is being prepared for the festival of Sant'Antonio, which takes place during the middle of June.

- ▶ Since 2018 some of Sardinia's beaches, former firing ranges, have been "liberated"
- ▶ Those beaches are: Is Arenas Biancas and Porto Tramatzu (Teulada), a cove located on the firing range of Capo Frasca (Arbus) and Cala Murtas (Villaputzu)
- ▶ An agreement between the region and the Ministry of Defence has established the suspension, from June to September, of live-fire training exercises
- ▶ 60 per cent of the Italian military's overall presence is in Sardinia, with more than 30,000 hectares of occupied land
- ▶ The ranges have always divided the Sardinian population between pro (for the economic benefits) and contra (for environmental and touristic reasons)



Villaputzu, the long beach of Cala di Murtas at sunset. Six kilometres long, the beach has always been partially off-limits due to the firing range of Salto di Quirra - detachment Capo San Lorenzo: since 2018, the beach has been open to the public in summer, from June to September.



Villaputzu. Antonello Murgioni, 55 years old, collects the milk he has got from his sheep. Despite the military's efforts to get him to leave (and 27 denunciations), Antonello has never left his family's land, land which was expropriated with the foundation of the firing range in 1956. Today he continues to live on the land of the firing range of Salto di Quirra.



The beach of Porto Tramatzu (Teulada). Tourists in front of the buildings of the former bathing establishment for employees of the Ministry of Defence, which is located within the firing range of Capo Teulada. This expanse of the beach (together with the pre-existing buildings) has definitively belonged to the municipality of Teulada since the summer of 2018.



Sant'Antonio di Santadi (Arbus). Just a little bit away from the firing range of Capo Frasca and along the road which skirts the military area, a piece of graffiti criticising the presence of the military bases.

A few military beaches have been opened to the public. But it's only a drop...

The spectacular dunes of Is Arenas Biancas are part of one of the most beautiful areas in all of Sardinia. But they fall within the military firing range of Capo Teulada, and their access to the public has always been problematic. That is, until the summer of 2018. An agreement between Sardinia and the Ministry of Defence has made the beach officially accessible, and not only Is Arenas Biancas: the beach of Porto Tramatzu, a stretch of Capo Frasca, and the six, uncontaminated kilometres of Cala Murtas have also been freed from the burden of military servitude. Crumbs really. Because today sixty per cent (thirty thousand hectares) of the Italian military's overall presence is still concentrated in Sardinia. "A disproportionate and anachronistic burden," the regional president, Francesco Pigliaru, explains, "which has had serious repercussions on the lack of economic development in the entire region."



Villaputzu. Watchtower and barbed wire close to the beach of Cala di Murtas. Six kilometres long, the beach has always been partially off-limits due to the firing range of Salto di Quirra - detachment Capo San Lorenzo: since 2018, the beach has been open to the public in summer, from June to September.



The beach of Porto Tramatzu (Teulada), two lifeguards from the bathing establishments pushing a paddleboat into the water. Behind them to the left are the buildings of the former bathing establishment for employees of the Ministry of Defence, which is located within the firing range of Capo Teulada. This expanse of the beach has definitively belonged to the municipality of Teulada since the summer of 2018.



Cagliari. An aerial view of the Carlo Ederle barracks, on the slopes of Colle di Sant'Elia and just a few metres away from the beaches of Calamosca. The entire structure – 22,456 square metres – is in the process of being definitively ceded to the municipality.



Sant'Antonio di Santadi (Arbus). Just a little bit away from the firing range of Capo Frasca, a flock of sheep belonging to the Pili family (Efisio Pili is in the centre) moves to go drink at sunset.



Marceddi (Arbus). Just a little bit away from the firing range of Capo Frasca, a family spends the afternoon fishing in the waters to the east of the firing range.



Sant'Antonio di Santadi (Arbus), the rocky beach of S'Enna e S'Arca, just a few metres away from the firing range of Capo Frasca. Since the summer of 2018, it has been definitively open (from June to September) to civilian use.



Sant'Antonio di Santadi (Arbus), just a little bit away from the firing range of Capo Frasca. In the local church a woman prays to the wooden statue of Sant'Antonio, which, as legend has it, local fishermen found in the sea at the end of the 1500s and has been an object of veneration ever since.



The beach of Is Arenas Blancas (Teulada), known for its dunes of white sand. Located on the firing range of Teulada, the beach and the dunes have been open to the public from June to September and during Easter festivities, since summer 2018.



The beach of Porto Tramatzu. Tourists from Bergamo sunbathing in front of the buildings of the former bathing establishment for employees of the Ministry of Defence, which is located within the firing range of Capo Teulada. This expanse of the beach (together with the pre-existing buildings) has definitively belonged to the municipality of Teulada since the summer of 2018.



Sant'Antonio di Santadi (Arbus), the rocky beach of S'Enna e S'Arca, just a few metres from the firing range of Capo Frasca. Since 2018, it has been definitively open (from June to September) to civilian use.



Sant'Antonio di Santadi (Arbus). The fence which still separates the rocky part which runs from the beach of S'Enna e S'Arca to the beginning of the firing range of Capo Frasca and up to the point of S'Achivoni, at the centre of the image. Since 2018 the entire area has been definitively open to civilian use (in summer) but only along the specific piece of coastline.



Sant'Antonio di Santadi (Arbus). Just a little bit away from the firing range of Capo Frasca, a float is being prepared for the festival of Sant'Antonio, which takes place during the middle of June.



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Villaputzu.Torre Murtas, the northernmost part of the area with respect to the beach of Cala di Murtas. The XVII-century tower, built to defend the coast from attacks from the sea, is in an area that is off-limits due to the firing range of Salto di Quirra - detachment Capo San Lorenzo.



Sant'Antonio di Santadi (Arbus), just a little bit away from the firing range of Capo Frasca, the village is being prepared for the festival of Sant'Antonio, which takes place during the middle of June.



Villaputzu. Erminia Emanuela Melis, the partner of Antonello Murgioni, 55 years old, has brought the sheep to pasture. Despite the military's efforts to get him to leave (and 27 denunciations), Antonello has never left his family's land, land which was expropriated with the foundation of the firing range in 1956. Today he continues to live on the land of the firing range of Salto di Quirra.



Villaputzu, tourists relaxing on the beach of Cala di Murtas at sunset. Six kilometres long, the beach has always been partially off-limits due to the firing range of Salto di Quirra - detachment Capo San Lorenzo: since 2018 the beach has been open to the public, from June to September.



Villaputzu, a tourist and his dog along the path which leads to the beach of Cala di Murtas. Six kilometres long, the beach has always been partially off-limits due to the firing range of Salto di Quirra - detachment Capo San Lorenzo: since 2018, the beach has been open to the public, from June to September.



Sant'Antonio di Santadi (Arbus), the rocky beach of S'Enna e S'Arca, just a few metres from the firing range of Capo Frasca. Since 2018, it will be definitively open (from June to September) to civilian use.



Sant'Antonio di Santadi (Arbus). Just a little bit away from the firing range of Capo Frasca, every day Antonio (on the left) and his brother Efisio Pili milk the 600 sheep of their farm.



Villaputzu. Tourists on the beach of Cala di Murtas. Six kilometres long, the beach has always been partially off-limits due to the firing range of Salto di Quirra - detachment Capo San Lorenzo: since 2018 the beach has been open to the public, from June to September.



Sant'Antonio di Santadi (Arbus). Two teenage boys getting ready to fish for sea urchins along the rocky part of the coast which runs from the beach of S'Enna e S'Arca to the beginning of the firing range of Capo Frasca. Since 2018 the entire area has been definitively open to civilian use (from June to September).



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