

## Corsica: a mountain in the sea

Heavenly beaches, unspoiled creeks, steep mountains and exotic flora, dense coastal scrub. Corsica is a mosaic of landscapes, both sea and rock, hospitable and wild. The French call it the "Isle of Beauty" and the painter Matisse said it is where "all is colour, all is light".



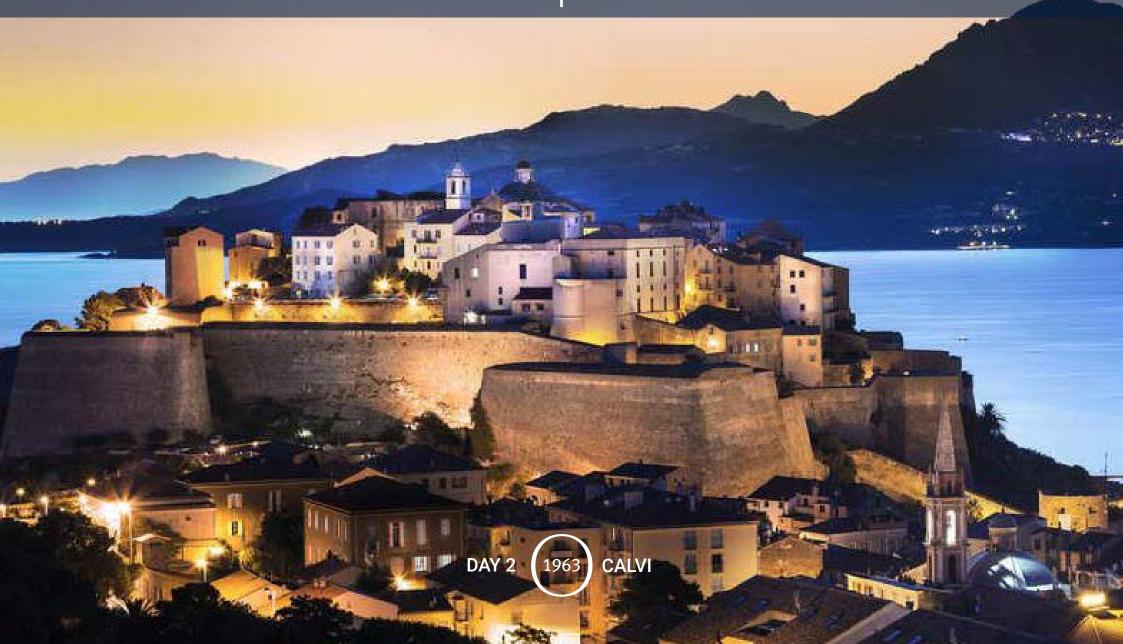
At only half an hour from the port of Bastia Trade and International Airport, Saint-Florent enjoys a privileged location. Its vicinity to the west offers easy access to Agriate and its exceptional sandy beaches, surrounded by fragrant maquis. Its location in the hollow of one of the most beautiful bays of the Mediterranean, which inspired many poets and writers, is now a popular resort, but this ancient Roman city has not lost any of its authenticity. You will discover ancient buildings such as the 12th century Cathedral of Nebbio and a 15th century citadel which seems to crown the village, also enjoy strolling along the waterfront and check out the constant activity from the marina, located in the heart of the village.

DAY 1 (1963

SAINT FLORENT

"The magnificent Calvi". The pure waters, rich heritage sites and fantastic history make Calvi a true gem of the Ile de Beauté. The port town of Calvi, in the Balagne region of northwest Corsica, boasts the intrigue of traditional Corsican culture while effortlessly maintaining the comforts of a modern resort. A colourful array of buildings, cobbled streets climbing up to a Genoese citadel, harbourside cafes and silver sand.

You will find picturesque views of nature's scenic beauty at every turn, and there are many enjoyable places to spend time both in Calvi itself and the surrounding region.



The coast of the Gulf of Porto is one of Corsica's most famous landscapes, and rightly so- with its dramatic sculpted red rock and sweeping bays it has to be seen to be believed. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Gulf of Porto is magnificent with its red granite cliffs overlooking the sea.

It includes the following must-see sites: the Piana creeks in the South, and the Girolata peninsula as well as the Scandola nature reserve in the North. The small seaside resort of Porto, and its landmark Genoese Tower, is very popular with tourists in the summer.



THE GULF OF PORTO: CREEKS OF PIANA, GULF OF GIROLATA & THE SCANDOLA RESERVE



Ajaccio is the capital of Corsica and the island's largest city. Its modern history is dominated by the figure of Napoléon, who was born here. His presence is everywhere in Ajaccio, yet not in an overpowering sense; indeed the city wears its layers of history with a light touch. This is seen in the narrow streets and the lovely, varied architecture, particularly the fabled cathedral. The city also has a beautiful harbour area with numerous boats and yachts, arriving from French ports such as Marseille, Nice and Toulon – something that lends the area a Côte d'Azur feel. To the North, the Gulf of Sagone is a vast bay that opens between the Gulfs of Ajaccio and Porto. With hillsides cloaked in dense maquis, and beaches flanked by oak and olives it is the ideal base for walkers or beach lovers, away from the hustle and bustle of Ajaccio.



Cupabia is a large open bay of white sand, reachable through a small winding road from the small coastal village of Porto-Pollo. With a beautiful untouched mountain surrounding it. Watch the cows in off-season; they have priority over you on those grounds! The coastal town of Propriano is found on the coast of southwest Corsica, at the head of the Valinco Gulf and northwest of Sartene. Much of the building in Propriano dates from the early 19th century, when the port was established and most of the town constructed. Although the same location had previously been occupied by the Romans and Greeks little remains of early Propriano, which was frequently attacked and mostly destroyed by pirates during the 18th century.

DAY 5 1

## 1963 CUPABIA BAY OR PROPRIANO

If you are on a search for your corner of paradise, look no furtherthe intoxicating beauty of the pristine Roccapina beach will transport you to a place you have always imagined in your dreams. Shaped by natural elements, the lion is not the only guardian of the place. If you look around you will see many other shapes and strange characters. Near the lion is the Roccapina tower, one of the many Genoese towers scattered along the Corsican shoreline. Wait for sunset and the red light on the rocks and watch something wonderful taking place.

DAY 6 (1963) ROCCAPINA GULF

The grottos are yet another treasure that the Bonifacien coastline offers. Some of the grottos can be visited by boat, other smaller ones can be reached on a jet ski or kayak... for those who prefer to be closer to the waves. Bonifacio is a star attraction in Corsica, drawing visitors to marvel at its medieval houses precariously teetering on the edge of imposing limestone cliffs. Bonifacio's Old Town, with a labyrinth of narrow streets and historic buildings, was built by the Genoese and is a fascinating place to wander around. Its natural harbour bears a striking resemblance to the home of the Laestrygonians referred to in Homer's Odyssey. Bonifacio also boasts a busy marina filled with impressive yachts and lined with chic bars, restaurants and hotels, enhancing the vibrancy of this fashionable coastal resort. Add to this the fact that Bonifacio is close to several idyllic, unspoiled Corsican beaches as well as staggeringly beautiful mountains, and you have a near perfect, varied holiday destination.

DAY 7 (1963) BONIFACIO

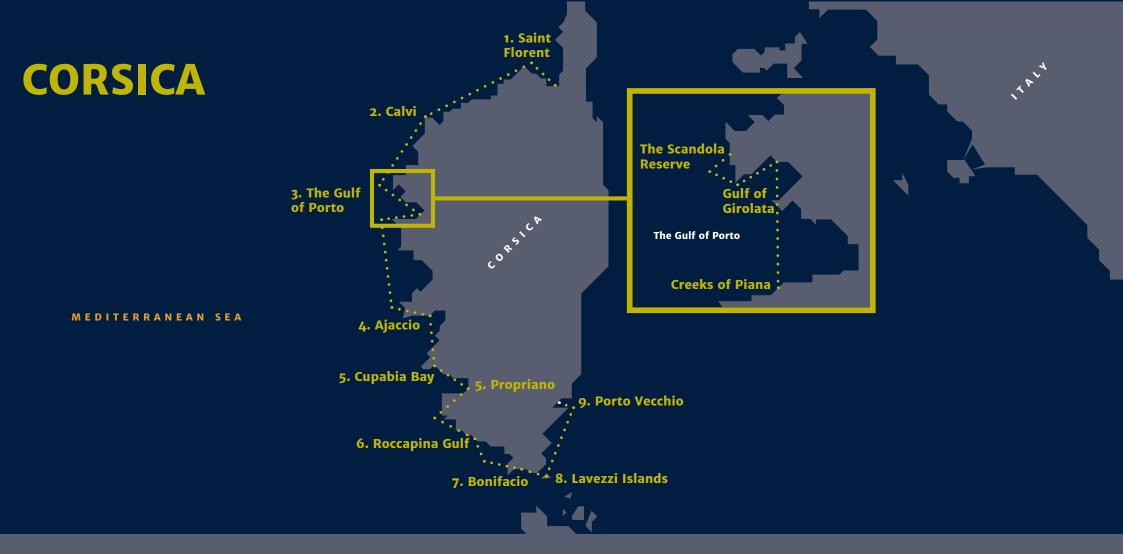
Lavezzu, Cavallo, Ratinu, Piana... these are some of the granite islands that form the Archipelago of Lavezzi, and this haven is now a nature reserve. A protected paradise between sky and sea. The lles de Lavezzi are a group of small, barren uninhabited granite islands, 10 kilometres southeast off the coast of Bonifacio, with beautiful shell sand beaches and azure-colored sea. The islands are of rare beauty with the turquoise ultramarine and emerald waters that compliment the bright hues of the granite. Take a private dive with a qualified instructor to discover the astonishing diversity of the underwater life and scenery. Windsurfing, kayak or paddle surf are other options to do here. If you want to eat, a lunch at the Hôtel & Spa des Pêcheurs in Cavallo Island will be the choice.

LAVEZZI ISLANDS DAY 8 1963

Porto Vecchio hosts a vibrant marina, a bustling port with Roman origins and a series of beaches, all overlooked by a picturesque old town and a 16th century fortification. Shamelessly seductive and fashionable, Porto Vecchio is dubbed the Corsican St-Tropez, and it's no wonder. Sitting in a marvellous bay, it's the kind of place that lures French A-listers and wealthy tourists. Its picturesque backstreets, lined with restaurant terraces and designer shops have charm, and are watched over with grace by the beautiful ruins of an old Genoese citadel. Although there is no beach in the town, some of the island's best, and most famous, beaches are close by.



PORTO-VECCHIO



	International airport	Language	Currency		Average air temperature	Average water temperature		Distances	
	Ajaccio-Napoleon Bonaparte Int. Airp.	French	Euro		21° C - 28° C May - October	18° C - 24° C May - October		Day 1: Embark Day 2: 25 nm. Day 3: 22 nm. Day 4: 20 nm. Day 5: 17 nm.	Day 6: 11 nm. Day 7: 12 nm. Day 8: 5 nm. Day 9: 15 nm.
CORSICA (1963) USEFUL DATA									