

Isn't it nice that these sardines have each other to keep them company while we're stuck in the house. But we're going to take you on a video tour of Sardinia (and, no, sardines do not come from Sardinia).

Sardinia – Known for the most beautiful blue waters in the world.

Most people who visit Italy go to the typical places: Florence, Venice, Rome, Sorrento, etc. But the island of **Sardinia** is filled with natural wonder and very often overlooked as

destination. Miles and miles of beaches and turquoise water are the main draw. But we've picked six places you should know about with a video at the end. The waters will take your breath away and the powdered-sugar sand will amaze you.

- 1) How does climbing down (and up again!) 656 steps strike you? That's how many there are to visit *Neptune's Grotto*. (Or you could make it easy, if the water is calm, and take a boat from the Port of Alghero.) The long seaside staircase *escala del cabirol*, or "goat steps," lead you to the grotto. Inside, there is a large saltwater lake and both stalactites and stalagmites.
- 2) While it is impossible to name just one beach as the most beautiful, La

Pelosa Beach is without a doubt one of them. Languid turquoise waters and soft sugar-white sand are on one side and lush Mediterranean vegetation on the other.

- 3) The *Gola di Gorropu* is often called Italy's Grand Canyon. Almost 1,500 feet down and a mile wide, there are trails to hike, rivers to raft, and places to swim. If you believe in myths, keep your eyes out for *Sa mama de Gorropu*, Sardinia's very own Bigfoot!
- 4) *Capo Testa* has the wind-sculpted granite boulders polished into soft shapes, and the water is deep and crystal clear. At the nearby *Cala dei Corsari*, the water is so clear you can spot submerged Roman-era columns.
- 5) *Cala Brandinchi* beach is so beautiful that locals call it Little Tahiti. Bounded on one side by a cool pine forest and shallow deep turquoise water on the other, the soft white sand completes the paradise effect.
- 6) The town of *Castelsardo* shows up on a lot of "prettiest towns in Italy" lists for good reason. With a castle, beautiful beaches, and spa hotels, there is a lot to like. Another highlight here includes the rock formation known as the *Roccia dell'Elefante*.

Here's the video. Put on that swimsuit and take a dive into the blue waters.

One interesting note about the language of this beautiful island: the names of the sites don't look much like names in Italian. That's because Sardinia had a very different language before it became annexed to Italy. While Italian is spoken widely now, there are over one million inhabitants who still speak the original language, *Sardo*. Compared to the mainland Italian dialects, Sardo is virtually incomprehensible for Italians. It is closer to Spanish than Italian and it's considered to be the closest descendant of Latin.

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