



- Main cities: CAGLIARI, Olbia, Alghero, Nuoro, Oristano
- Historical overview: Sardinia is one of the most geologically ancient bodies of land in Europe. From about 1500 BC onwards, villages were built around round tower-fortresses called nuraghi. Around the 9th century BC the Phoenicians began visiting Sardinia. Subsequently they have been conquered by Romans, whose rule in Sardinia lasted 694 years. This period was followed by vandal conquest and later on started the Byzantine and the *giudicati* eras. Follow the Aragonese period there are the Spanish and Savoyard period. Sardinia became part of the Kingdom of Italy in 1861, after the Independence wars which lasted 13 years. In 1946, by popular referendum, Italy became a republic, with Sardinia being administered since **1948 by a special statute** of autonomy.
- Spoken languages: Italian, Sardinian, Gallurese, Catalan
- Climate: It can be classified in two different macrobioclimates (Mediterranean and Temperate), one macrobioclimatic variant (Submediterranean) and four classes of Continentality, resulting in a combination of 43 different isobioclimates.

«Life in Sardinia is perhaps the best that a man can wish for: twenty-four thousand miles of forests, countryside, coasts immersed in a miraculous sea should coincide with what I would recommend to the good God to give us in Paradise» – F. De André

La Maddalena Archipelago



Porto Cervo, Sassari



Nuraghi



Cagliari





The Kiss, Francesco Ciusa

Grazia Deledda was an Italian writer who received the **Nobel Prize for Literature** in 1926 "for her idealistically inspired writings which with plastic **clarity picture the life on her native island** and with depth and sympathy deal with human problems in general". She was the first Italian woman to receive this honour. The life, customs, and traditions of the Sardinian people are prominent in her writing. She relies heavily on geographical description and details and her work is most often concerned with transgressions. Many of her characters are social outcasts that struggle in silence and isolation. Deledda's whole work is based on **strong facts of love, pain and death** upon which rests the feeling of sin and of an inevitable fatality.

