



GAIA
institute
La Maddalena
I t a l i a



[LIVE IT]

A scenic view of a rocky coastline. The foreground shows rugged, reddish-brown rocks sloping down towards the sea. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, with white foam from waves crashing against the rocks. A small sandy beach is visible in the distance. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

[LIVE IT]

LIVE SARDINIA

BENVENUTI !

We love what we do. Our courses offer the opportunity to live an unique experience, presenting a constant cultural exchange that allows our students to involve directly to this magnificent place. We intend that each of our students lives a memorable experience. For us the GAIA experience has also a very important meaning, we consider it a sidewise learning between our students and us.

Giuseppe Angelo Spinetti, Director GAIA Institute



ABOUT US.

We are a group of co-workers with different education experience and culture. We have the same passion for teaching and sharing our experiences and knowledge. Our goal is to provide the best service regarding quality during the stay at Gaia Institute. For us is very important that the student lives the GAIA experience.

OUR STUDENTS.

Anyone that has an interest in Italian culture and wants to live a unique cultural exchange experience can participate in our programs. We are flexible with our students, our programs are disegned so that people from any country and age can live the GAIA experience.



OUR MISSION

Our mission is not only educating our students academically but also encouraging them to experience a different culture, place and people. The GAIA experience allows developing an integrate process of learning in which the concept "Live IT " becomes the essence of our teaching.



WHERE ARE WE



LA MADDALENA

La Maddalena National Park is an archipelago that consists of 7 islands located in the North-East of Sardinia. Considered one of the most amazing places in Italy, La Maddalena is characterized by its unique landscapes full of Mediterranean culture and nature. The unique combination of rocks and blue water makes this place one of the most attractive points in Europe, receiving every year thousands of visitors. This is a land of history where not only important characters such as Giuseppe Garibaldi lived in, but also was an strategic point during World War II in which the American army established their military camps within the peculiar landscape of the island. It is worldwide known as one of the best producers of granite in Italy.



“LA DOLCE VITA”

La Maddalena lives a unique lifestyle, it is the perfect place to relax and enjoy the italian “sweet lifestyle”. Being a small place, La Maddalena is easy to walk and get around and enjoy of its beauty.



LA MADDALENA'S LIFESTYLE



"This land resembles no other place. Sardinia is something else. Enchanting spaces and distances to travel-nothing finished, nothing definitive. It is like freedom itself."

David Herbert Lawrence, Sea & Sardinia



GAIA INSTITUTE, LA MADDALENA

THE SCHOOL.

GAIA is an International Institute that offers a broad branch of courses such as Italian language and culture, landscape, architecture, art, cuisine and much more.

In 2013, with the objective of offering our students an international high quality study experience, GAIA Institute was born. Located in one of the most amazing places in Italy, GAIA courses are strongly related to its territory, as well as internationally highly qualified in collaboration with other Universities.

PARTNERS & COLLABORATORS.



OUR LOCATION & FACILITIES.

Gaia Institute is located in La Maddalena's historic centre in the distinguished building known as Palazzo Grondona. This building, built at the end of the 1800's, is situated in front of La Maddalena's main port. Its strategic position to many basic services, makes it really comfortable to reach the school even walking.



THE GAIA TEAM'S COMPROMISE.

At GAIA you are always followed by the GAIA team members. Our students are in every moment safe and guided by our teachers and staff. We see each of our students as another member of the Gaia Team.





OUR DEPARTMENTS.



ITALIAN LANGUAGE & CULTURE



ARCHITECTURE & LANDSCAPE

FLEXIBLE PROGRAMS FOR OUR STUDENTS NEEDS.

At GAIA Institute students will find flexibility regarding the courses offered by the school. Students are able to choose the program that goes best with their own interests. Our courses are organized by modules in which you are free to select the best for you!

THE GAIA EXPERIENCE

At GAIA we have as a priority understanding Italian culture throughout its local traditions, habits, gestures and all of the other elements that are of great importance in Italy. All of our courses include interaction and recreational activities outside the school so that the student can experience Italian culture further than in its teaching area.



OUR ITALIAN LANGUAGE COURSES



our approach.

Our Italian language & culture programs are characterized for being original, competitive, and flexible.

Our objective is to involve students into Italian culture. Our creative and flexible programs present a direct living and experience of the culture. A GAIA course is unique. Even though the programs are designed in base of established programs, our offer presents the opportunity to design a more personalized program where the student really gets involved with the place, its culture, and its people. Our teachers are not only prepared to transmit their knowledge but also to involve the students in other didactic activities.

ITALIAN LANGUAGE & CULTURE COURSE LEVELS.

beginner.	elementary 1-2	pre-intermediate	intermediate 1	intermediate 2	pre-advanced	lower advanced	upper advanced
Students have a low knowledge of the language so they can communicate at a minimal level.	Students achieve a basic level of understanding and communication.	Students gain a fairly good knowledge of Italian in order to interact in everyday situations	Students reach a medium level in order to interact securely with the surrounding environment.	students achieve a greater fluidity of language and they can communicate efficiently.	Students have a wide range of vocabulary and a command of all basic grammatical structure.	Students can easily comprehend natural spoken and written Italian.	At the end of this course, students, achieve native speaker competence.
A1	A2		B1		B2	C1	C2

standard course.

Lesson Duration: 45 minutes
Number of lessons per week: 20
Course length: 80 lessons (4 weeks)
Maximum number of students: 8

intensive course.

Lesson Duration: 45 minutes
Number of lessons per week: 30
Course length: 60 lessons (2 weeks)
Maximum number of students: 8



SPECIAL PROGRAMS

GAIA for Architecture.

italian language course created to meet the language requirements of students and professionals of Architecture.

Course consists of:

- Standard Italian lessons: 20/ week
- Architecture lessons: 8/week
- Level: from pre-intermediate A2
- course length: 4 weeks
- lesson: 45 minutes



GAIA for Cooking.

Course created for students with interest in italian gastronomy & cooking.

Course consists of:

- Italian Cooking lessons: 15/ week
- Level: from Elementary 1
- course length: 2 weeks
- lesson: 45 minutes



GAIA for Photography.

Course created for students with interest in italian landscape & nature photography.

Course consists of:

- Photography lessons: 15/ week
- Level: from pre-intermediate A2
- course length: 2 weeks



GAIA for Survival.

Italian language course created for those who want to learn the basic italian expressions used during a trip in Italy.

Course consists of:

- Survival Italian lessons: 20/ week
- course length: 2 weeks
- lesson: 45 minutes



GAIA for Families.

Italian language course created for families that want to experience the italian lifestyle.

Course consists of:

- italian lessons: 15/ week
- Minimum number of persons: 3
- Maximum number of persons: 7
- course length: min. 1 week
- lesson: 45 minutes



GAIA for Youth.

Italian language course for high-school students (up to 17 years old) that are interested in studying italian.

Course consists of:

- italian lessons: 20/ week
- course length: min. 2 week
- lesson: 45 minutes
- maximum number of students: 8





LIVE THE GAIA EXPERIENCE



GAIA FOR SUSTAINABILITY

OUR COMMITMENT WITH ECOLOGY AND OUR TERRITORY.

GAIA presents the opportunity to experience directly the nature of this place. We are located inside a National Park where an ecological balance and nature are strongly manifested. For GAIA respecting the natural environment is a priority. All of our activities are thought to be eco-friendly and to arouse in our students the importance of sustainability.



OUR CONTRIBUTION.

Our contribution is not only creating consciousness, we also work as a research center with the objective to develop solutions in eco-environmental matters. Since 2009 our Architecture & Landscape Department with the collaboration of different international universities organizes workshops, international contests, and summer school programs with the objective to approach topics related to landscape and sustainable design solutions.

EDUCATING TOWARDS ECO-RESPONSABILITY.

Throughout our research projects we intend to create a socio-ecological consciousness about the natural territory. We offer an interdisciplinary approach to these topics thanks to the collaboration of professors, researchers, and experts in natural areas.

OUR WORKSHOPS & COMPETITIONS.

Throughout our workshops and contest we try to involve students and professionals to present different solutions regarding environmental & sustainability issues.



OTHER ACTIVITIES

Sustainability and eco-responsability start by understanding the territory itself. At GAIA we present this opportunity by several activities related directly to La Maddalena's territory. The diversity of natural highlights make of La Maddalena a perfect place to develop these other sports and activities.

KAYAKING.



SAILING.



BIKING.



CLIMBING.



DIVING & SNORKELING.



EXCURSIONS.



WINE & VITICULTURE.



COOKING.



ENTERTAINMENT



USEFUL INFORMATION

CLIMATE

During summer the climate is hot and very characteristic of the mediterranean. From May up to September the average temperature may be around 25-30 degrees celsius.

In winter the climate is very different, having temperatures of 10-15 degrees.

VISAS

European citizens don't need a visa for entering Italy. On the other side, citizens from non-european countries must contact the italian embassy in their country for further information. Regularly, non-european citizens can stay a period no longer of 90 days with a tourist permit.

INSURANCE

Even though La Maddalena is a very safe and calm place where our students are always supervised by our staff, we offer the possibility to buy an insurance that covers the period of your stay. For further information you should contact the school.

TRANSFER SERVICE

At GAIA we try to satisfy our students from the moment of their arrival, that is why we offer airport transfer service from Olbia's airport to La Maddalena.

ACCOMMODATION

Stay Sardinia in collaboration with GAIA Institute offer accommodation service to our students. Presenting different solutions such as apartments and home staying, we try to satisfy our users by selecting the best quality regarding accommodation at good prices.



www.stay-sardinia.com

HOW TO GET HERE.



PLANE. The nearest airport is located around 40km from La Maddalena at the city of Olbia. Olbia's airport is highly frequented during summer season. Meridiana Fly, also known as Air Italy, constantly flies from Rome, Milan & Turin. Easy Jet is another airline that flies to Olbia Costa Esmeralda's airport at lower prices.



FERRIES. Olbia's and Golfo Aranci's are the nearest ports from La Maddalena, both are approximately 40 km from the island. The top ports of departure are Civitavecchia (near Rome). Livorno (near Florence), Genova and Naples.



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