



# PANTELLERIA

A new destination  
in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea

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PANTELLERIA



Pantelleria, *the Black Pearl of the Mediterranean*, a place to discover and respect, with its dark rocks carved by the wind, its sharp forms softened by the roundness of the white dammusi dwellings, its natural hot springs and rejuvenating mud, the precious legacy of the volcano from which the island originated.

The original Arab name for the island was Bint al-Riyāh (بنت حايلا), meaning *Daughter of the Winds*, after the strong gales that can arise off the north coast of Africa.





The music of the wind lashes out suddenly on the cliffs, as if wanting to remind us that nature, here, is the absolute master. At the same time it embraces the sea of a blue so intense that one seems to be lost in a dream that tells the tales of an Africa closer than we could have ever imagined.



The island is characterized by its dammusi, archaic architectural structures made in stone, immersed harmoniously in the Zibibbo vineyards. This architecture is unique, reflecting that man had to bend to the will of nature, which here reigns supreme. Unusual stone gardens were created to protect the citrus trees from the wind. Typical dry stone walls weave between the curves of the white dammusi dwellings. Black volcanic lava stones emerge within the green landscapes that slope down to the sea through ingenious terracing.





# PANTELLERIA

General info





Pantelleria is part of Sicily, but the island actually lies much closer to Africa than Italy. It is precisely this privileged position (Homer called it *the navel of the Mediterranean*) which gives the island its look and its culture rich in contrasts, a place of Arabic forms and typical scents of Southern Italy.

In the middle of the Mediterranean Sea: 110 Km the distance from Sicily and only 70 Km from the coasts of Tunisia.



#### General information

- dimensions: 84,5 km<sup>2</sup>
- perimeter: 52 km
- max. height: 836 meters
- inhabitants: 7496
- annual touristic arrival: 110.000 circa
- main town: Pantelleria
- other towns: Scauri e Khamma
- connections by flight: IATA Code PNL (see next page)
- connections by ferry: from Trapani twice a day (6 hours one way)
- connections by fast ferry: from Trapani during the high season (2 hours one way)



Pantelleria has been increasingly becoming a classy place since the 80's thanks to the arrival of glamour VIPs, like Armani, and from then on many national and international famous people, such as Madonna, Sting, Ferri, Zingaretti. Many other celebrities bought their own dammusi on the island. The number of young tourists is also growing, changing the focus of their vacations from Ibiza to Pantelleria. These phenomena increased the prices of the houses on the island and helped to reach a big overall growth, which will also lead to a strong development of the real estate market.





There are direct flights to Pantelleria from Milan, Bergamo, Rome, Venice, Verona, Turin, Bologna and Naples that leave on Saturday and Sunday (or in some cases also on Monday, Wednesday and Friday) during the high season.

It's possible to take daily flights to reach Pantelleria from the three main airports in Sicily, which are Palermo, Trapani and Catania (Pantelleria is a destination that can be easily combined with both east and west Sicily).



Palermo, Trapani and Catania airports have all daily flight connections with the main Italian cities. Connections subject to changes.





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A full-page background image showing a vast, calm blue sea under a clear blue sky. In the distance, a range of low mountains or hills is visible on the horizon. The water has a subtle texture of small waves.

# PANTELLERIA

Many faces  
Just one island



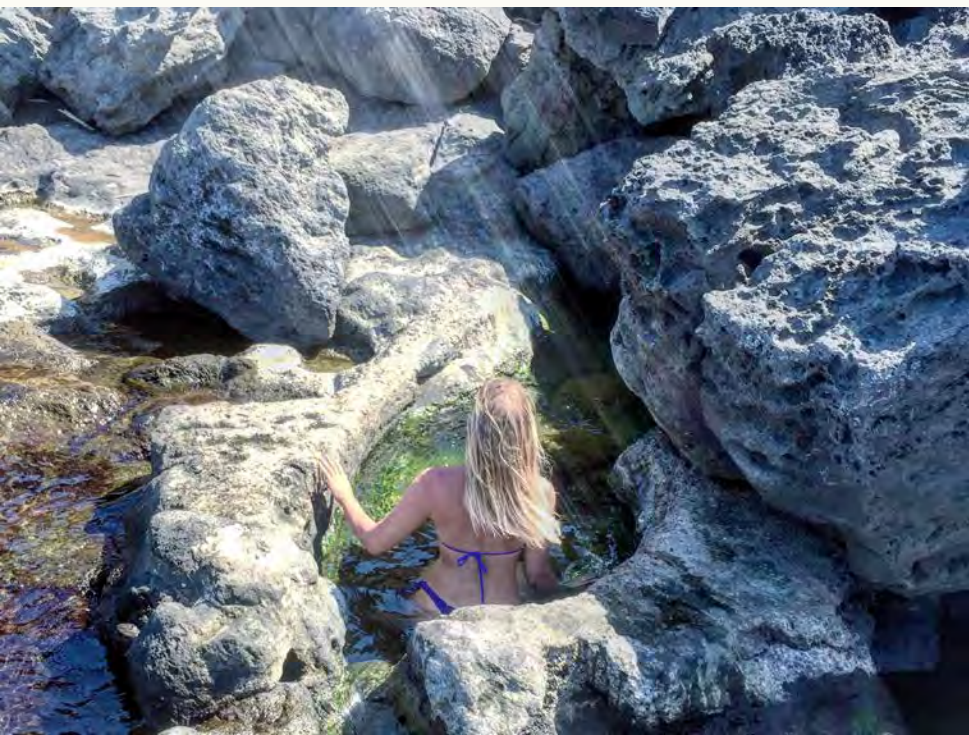


## **THERMALISM**

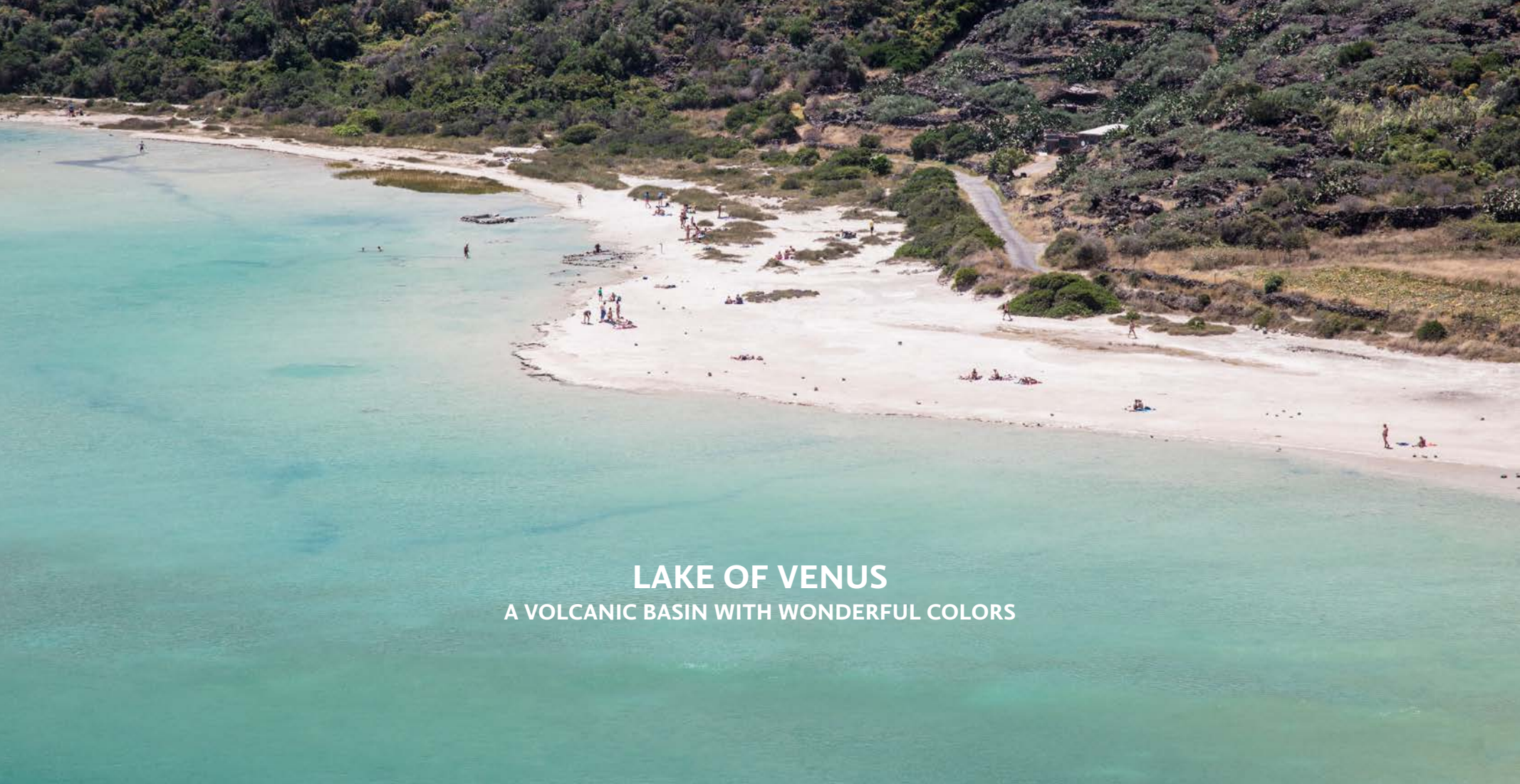
### **SECONDARY VOLCANIC ACTIVITY OF THE ISLAND**

With an area of 83 km<sup>2</sup> (32 sq mi), Pantelleria is the largest volcanic satellite island of Sicily. The last eruption occurred below sea level in 1891 and today phenomena related to volcanic activity can be observed, such as hot springs and fumaroles. The highest peak, the Montagna Grande, reaches 836 m (2,743 ft) above sea level. The islanders speak *Pantesco*, a Sicilian dialect influenced by Arabic.









## LAKE OF VENUS

A VOLCANIC BASIN WITH WONDERFUL COLORS

The island is very special even for the various attractions scattered throughout the area, such as the Lake of Venus, a volcanic basin of incredible colours, partially filled in part by hot springs that flow from the sandy shores. Its seabed is rich in valuable mud for body care. In spring and autumn, the lake becomes a natural observatory of the passage of many varieties of birds.

The springs that feed it are almost all concentrated on the southern shore and have temperatures between 40C and 50C.







An aerial photograph of a rugged, rocky coastline. The rocks are dark and jagged, with several people visible on them. The water is a deep, vibrant blue-green, with white foam from waves crashing against the rocks. The overall scene is dramatic and scenic.

## SEA

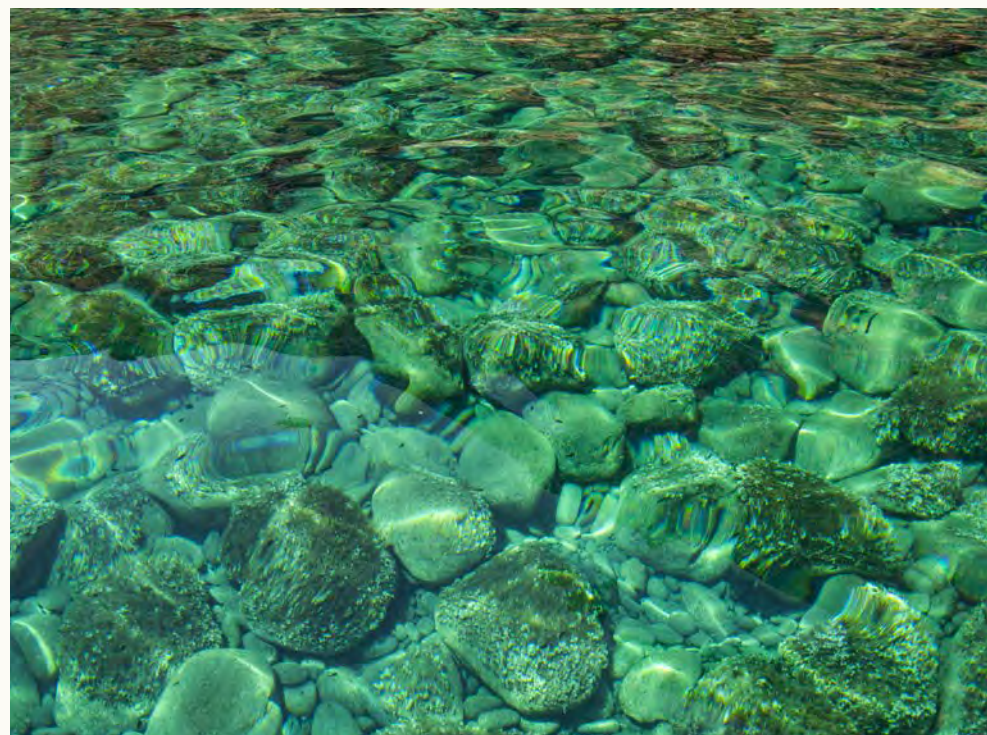
### BLACK ROCKS TO REACH THE WATER

The island stands out, amongst other things, for its rugged coastline and the green countryside overhanging the sea. This isn't a place of sandy beaches, but rather one of small coves with crystal clear waters, spectacular and mysterious caves and a comfortable descent to the sea over smooth rocks. Quaint gulfs with their warm volcanic waters to be explored together with deep and silent underwater worlds, rich in history, which create a real diving paradise.













## HINTERLAND

THE TRUE SOUL OF THE ISLAND

The *Montagna Grande* is characterised by 1500 hectares of forest, mainly composed of the Maritime and Aleppo pines. Scrublands are everywhere with heather, rosemary, thyme and broom. The ancient paths, once mule paths, crossing like a spider web all over the island for dozens of kilometres, today have new life thanks to the Pantelleria National Park and cover a distance of about 200 km accessible as hiking trails and 38 km of the paths are also suitable for mountain-bikers or trekking. The island is immersed in uncontaminated nature, meeting endemic species of flora and fauna with fascinating, strong contrasts of colours and scents.













## UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE

PEOPLE EFFORTS BECOME HUMANITY HERITAGE

The island of Pantelleria, recently proclaimed UNESCO World Heritage site for the Alberello vine training system and for the dry wall of rocks, is an island that stands out for the rural character of the area. The people of Pantelleria were born as farmers, in the course of history they were able to model a harsh territory, creating terraces that today characterize the island and allow the cultivation of the local products.





The typical fertility of the volcanic soil has favoured, since ancient times, the cultivation of grapevines. *Zibibbo* is the predominant grape variety of the island, grown on very low plants to be protected from the wind. This very sweet type of grapes is used to produce an excellent dry white wine and a dessert or meditation wine with the bouquet and taste of grapes dried in the sun, the *Passito di Pantelleria*.





## ARCHAEOLOGY

AN OPEN AIR MUSEUM

As a crossroad of the Mediterranean, Pantelleria nurtures treasures and tales of the distant past.

Pantelleria offers a true mosaic of cultural heritage, evidence of the many cultures and peoples that have graced its shores over millennia. You can discover the island from the beginning of time through the era of the Roman Empire. Of special interest are the Sesi, Pantelleria's historically unique megalithic tombs.







The background of the entire image is a photograph of palm trees silhouetted against a warm, orange-hued sunset sky. The palm fronds are detailed and spread across the upper half of the frame. In the lower right, a dark, rectangular building is partially visible.

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