

You can visit one of the most beautiful protected marine areas in Sardinia-The Protected Marine Area of Capo Carbonara (AMPCC), just a short drive away from our Residence.

It is located in the south-east part of Sardinia and was established with the Minister's Environmental Decree in 1998. It was modified in 1999 and completely rewritten in 2012.

It comprises a surface area of about 14,360 hectares, from Cala Pisano to Punto Is Proccheddu and includes the part of the sea that surrounds the islands of Serpentara and Cavoli, as well as numerous minor rocky cliffs like those of Congresso, Proci, Santo Stefano and Varggioloni and various shallows like those of the Anchors, Berni, Dotti, Libeccio, Mezzo, Piscadeddu and Santa Caterina.

The AMPCC is the third largest marine area in Sardinia and it is subdivided into four levels of protection: Zone A (total reserve), zone B (general reserve), zone C (partial reserve) and zone D (experimental reserve).

These sea areas are particularly relevant in that they are marine areas created by the waters and by their corresponding sea beds, as well as the parts overlooking the coastal flora and fauna, and for their scientific, ecologic, cultural, educational and economic importance. (Law n. 979/82 Sea Protection)

As mentioned above, the area is subdivided into four (4) distinct zones and into different levels of protection which regulate conduct based on their different needs of conservation, but not placing absolute limits on the traditional sea activities. These zones are marked by geographical coordinates and on the cartography attached to the Foundational Decree published in the 'Gazzette Ufficiale' (Official Publication) for their particular importance.

Zone A is marked by yellow buoys in the sea and by yellow poles on land equipped with nocturnal blinking lights.

## **Zone A**

is of total reserve. All activities that can cause damage or disturbance to the marine environment are prohibited. Zone A is the true heart of the reserve. In that zone, located in limited areas, generally only activities of scientific research and of authorized services are allowed.

It is allowed:

- access to the personnel of the 'Ente Gestore' (Management) for services and to scientific personnel for authorized research.
- the realization of underwater guided tours, regulated by the 'Ente Gestore' Management in the neighboring areas, according to established routes, taking into account the high demands of environmental protection.
- rescue and surveillance.
- service provided by the Management.

It is prohibited:

- swimming
- professional, recreational, sportive and underwater fishing.

- the passage of vessels except for those belonging to the Protected Marine Area or authorized by them (AMPCC).

## **Zone B**

of general reserve. A series of activities is allowed and regulated by the Management which uses the environment with the least possible impact to it. All the activities of zone A are permitted.

Allowed as well:

- the navigation of boats and vessels at low speed, not exceeding 10 knots.
- underwater guided tours regulated by the Management of the Protected Marine Area with the terms present in the Operational and Organizational Regulations.
- swimming
- free underwater diving without air tanks in full compliance with the regulations of the Management and of the ordinance of the Port Authority.
- docking or anchorage in the designated structures provided by the Management or compatible with the sea bed protection requirements (sandy or rocky sea beds).
- light fishing with selected equipment that doesn't damage the sea beds (single spot nets, traps or gill nets) only to professional fishers who reside in the town of Villasimius since the date that Decree n. 60 of the 7<sup>th</sup> of February 2012 with the terms present in the Operational and Organizational Regulations.
- sportive fishing only to residents or the equivalent (owners of second homes, boat lots at the Naval League of Villasimius, annual lots at the Marina of Villasimius) with the technique and quantity established in the Operational and Organizational Regulations.
- whale-watching (observance of cetaceans) according to the terms established in the Operational and Organizational Regulations.

It is prohibited:

- underwater fishing
- free-diving with air tanks.
- use of water-scooters or similar means of water transport, water skiing or similar recreational activities.

## **Zone C**

of partial reserve., in which sustainable use of the sea with modest environmental impact are allowed and regulated by the Management. This zone represents the buffer zone between the zone of greater naturalistic value and external sectors of the Protected Marine Area (AMP). The activities of zone B are permitted.

It is also permitted:

- access to transport ships.
- the navigation of boats and vessels at low speed, not exceeding 10 knots. Docking or anchorage in the designated areas determined by the Management or compatible with the requirements of sea bed (sandy or rocky) conservation.
- free underwater diving with or without air tanks held subject to authorization by the Management according to the terms present in the Operational and Organizational Regulations.
- whale-watching (observance of cetaceans) according to the terms established in the Operational and Organizational Regulations.

It is prohibited:

- underwater fishing.
- use of water-scooters or similar means of water transport, water skiing or similar recreational activities.

## **Zone D**

of Experimental Reserve, extends two (2) miles from the coast, establishes still another buffer zone adding an important element to protection.

The activities of zone C are permitted.

It is also permitted:

- the navigation of boats and vessels at low speed, not exceeding 20 knots.

It is prohibited:

- underwater fishing.
- use of water-scooters or similar means of water transport, water skiing or similar recreational activities.