

Day 3: Cagliari to Seulo via Barumini

The ancestral history of the Sardinians



Su Nuraxi - Barumini

As we discussed the goal is arriving in Barumini as early as possible to do join the group visit with the first english speaking group, and also to beat the crowds, tha usually arrive little later.

The road is easy, as soon as you leave the main SS 131 road you'll enter the Marmilla area and the landscape gets extremely interesting, in September you'll see its rolling hills with all patches of brown and olive groves.

Just before Barumini you'll see the distinctive cone shaped hill of Las Plassas, crowned with the ruins of its medieval castle.

After you park at the Su Nuraxi Archaeological site, you'll have the ticket counter there, while the toilets and a bar are on the other side of the road. My recommendation is first buying the tickets, then going to the toilet/bar.

Consider that in September the first visit starts at 9, but to be sure it's going to be held in english you (we) need to call in advance. The visits starts every other 30 minutes, so in general there's not much time to wait.

The visit lasts about 50 minutes, wear proper shoes, not flip flops, have water and a hat for the sun. When you enter the Nuraghe you'll have to cross a narrow corridor to arrive to the inner court of the complex, it's ok unless you suffer severe claustrophobia. The ticket costs 14€ and allows you entry also to Casa Zapata, but given the fact you have to drive until Seulo I'd skip it.

<https://www.fondazionebarumini.it/en/area-archeologica-nuraxi/>

The Menhirs – Villa Sant'Antonio and Laconi

Left su Nuraxi you head to Seulo, and the area is very important for the menhirs, huge tall stones shaped like obelisks and insert into the soil, dating back approximately to 4 thousand years ago, so before the Nuragic civilization started.

Here you have two possible visits:

You can do a little detour to drive to the Menhir Curru Tundu in Villa Sant'Antonio, it's the tallest menhir of Sardinia, after you park it takes about 15 minutes walk, along the same road you'll see as well a good example of "Domus de Janas" necropolis.

So consider an hour detour in total.

<https://www.sardegnaturismo.it/en/explore/villa-santantonio>

Or you stick to the direct road to Seulo and you'll arrive in Laconi, where you'll drive in any case, here you have a fascinating museum about the Menhirs, so you could do both, and this depends again at what time you decide to start in the morning.

<https://www.sardegnaturismo.it/en/explore/menhir-museum-museum-prehistoric-statuary-sardinia>.

Laconi is an interesting places, it has the ruins of a medieval castle and the Aymerich park, named after a noble family still leaving in Sardinia. You can have lunch here, like at the good "La Cascata".

Seulo

After lunch you drive to Seulo, you'll feel like you are lost, because the road crosses very remote areas and even has a partially collapsed part, no worries it's safe and it's the road that locals do.

You could arrive to the hotel, get refreshed and drive 5 minutes to Massimiliano and Michela to visit their sheepfold and have a cheese tasting and a talk about their life.

My suggestion is also dedicating one hour to walk in town, do not expect a beautifully preserved Tuscan village but it's definitely fascinating, so you'll see the elderly people sitting in the doorsteps and also have a drink in one of the bars of Seulo. If you don't have the time that day, you can do it the following morning, before leaving to Orgosolo.

Dinner options

This is what I feel: having dinner at Massimo and Michela is a great experience, but there's the language barrier so it works the best when it's with a guide. Michela speaks a "broken" english, which is ok for a tasting, their teen daughter speaks a good english but it's not possible to be sure she will be there until few days before. So I'd reserve dinner there just if we are sure the girl can be there, otherwise I'd go for a tasting then dinner at Hotel Miramonti, where Patrizia and Cristina will prepare something magnificent for you, trust them.

Logistics and driving times

The total driving time is 2 hrs and half, even including the Menhir in Villa Sant'Antonio.

7.45 Departure from Cagliari

8.40 Arrival in Barumini

9.00 – 10.00 Visit Su Nuraxi

10.00 departure to Menhir Corru Tundu

11.30 Departure to Laconi

12.00 Arrival in Laconi and lunch at La Cascata

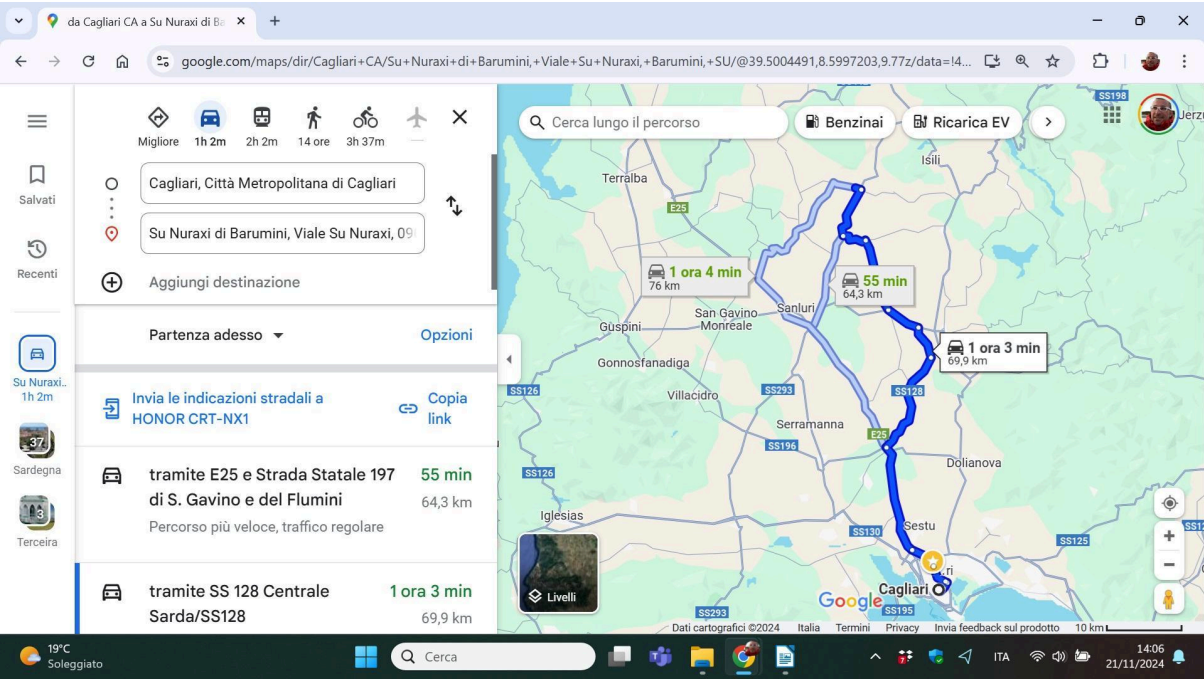
2.00 Visit the Menhir museum

3.00 Drive to Seulo

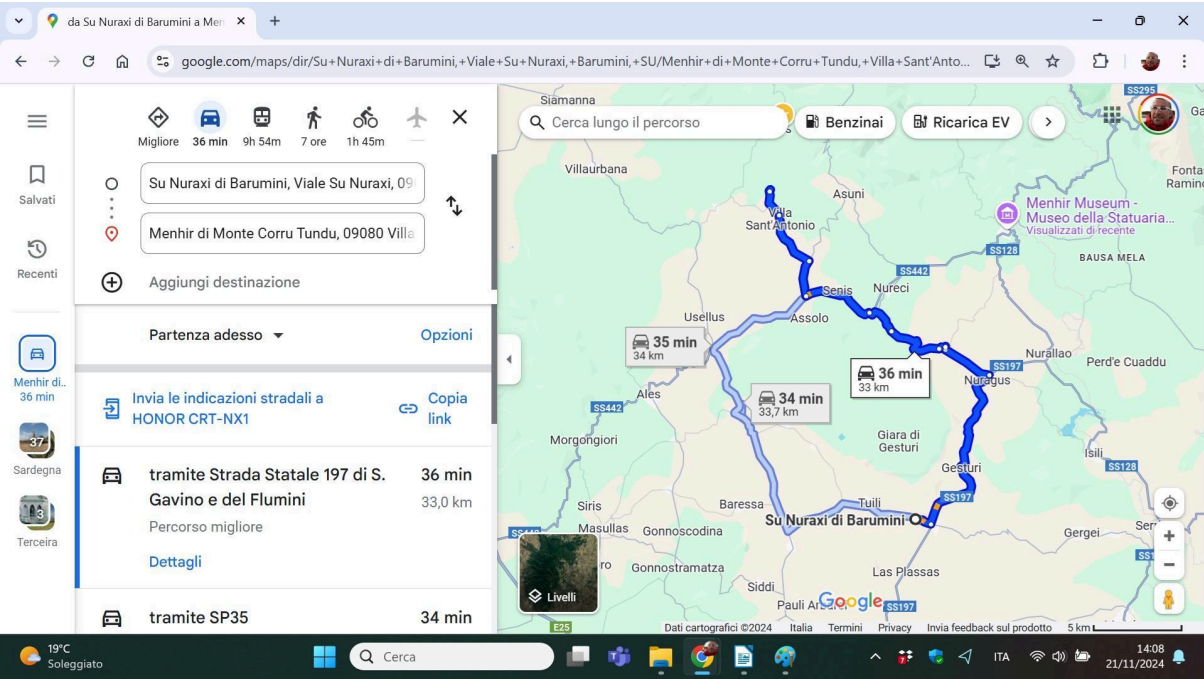
4.00 Arrival at Hotel

7.00 Visit and dinner with Massimo&Michela

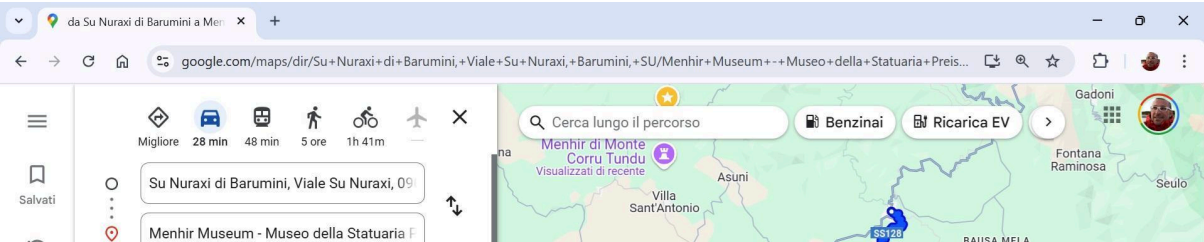
Drive Cagliari to Barumini



Drive Barumini to Menhir Corru Tundu



Drive Barumini to Laconi



Drive Laconi to Seulo

