



APPLICATION FORM¹ Selection 2021

Name of the site	Ventotene
Country of the site	Italy
Website	http://www.comune.ventotene.it
Name of the organisation	municipality of Ventotene
Web address of the organisation	segreteria@comune.ventotene.it

Insert here the main picture about the site



Il Pozzillo: historical landing point in Ventotene inside the Roman port

¹ Before filling the form, read the guidelines available at http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/creative-europe/actions/heritage-label/apply_en.htm

SUMMARY OF THE APPLICATION *(max 1 page)*²

S.1 Description of the site *(max 150 words)*

. Ventotene and SantoStefano are 50 km off the coast between Rome and Naples. Both have always been considered ideal places to border:

- Villa Giulia, where Giulia, daughter of Augustus and other important Roman women, were confined. It is a vast archaeological area that also includes the Roman port, the wells and the fishpond;
- the Bourbon prison of Santo Stefano, where the opponents of the fascist regime were confined. After the formation of the Italian Constitution, advanced methods of rieducating prisoners have been experimented;
- a political prisom was created on Ventotene where Italian intellectuals opposed to the Fascist regime were confined. There, in 1941, Altiero Spinelli and Ernesto Rossi signed the Manifesto "For a free and united Europe".

Detention on these islands actid as a political laboratory to visualize how to guarantee peace, pursue freedom, defend democracy and cooperation between peoples.

S.2 European significance of the site *(max 60 words)*

The prison of Santo Stefano is the result of the Enlightenment movement which circulated in Europe at the end of the 18th century. After Brexit, the Italian government committed itself to making a European School there.

For the birth of Europe everyone refers to the Manifesto of Ventotene which proposes the establishment government, parliament and justice on federal lines rather than nationalism to guarantee peace in Europe.

The European Parliament building in Brussels bears the name of Altiero Spinelli. He is buried on Ventotene

S.3 Project *(max 150 words)*

The aim is to make Ventotene not only the symbol of Europe, but also the promoter that helps everyone to remember where, when and why the idea of Europe was born, in order to sustain its life and role.

The method used aims to make the community of Ventotene and those who collaborate with its development of the desiderd result. The history of "detention" in every age will be used as a demonstration of the need for a united and democratic Europe.

The actions to be pursued are:

- to make the historical heritage accessible and sustainable,
- to restruct St. Stephen's Prison as a School of Europe,
- increase the competence and dimension of hospitality for varieted target group from all over Europe,
- attract tourists, researchers, artists, scholars and young people from all over Europe,
- gather together different realities of the European continent and islands in order to strengthen cooperation, defend peace and protect democracy.

² Anytime a max number of words is mentioned in the form, it has to be applied either to the English version of your application or to the other language of your application.

S.4 Operational Capacity (Max 150 words)

The management is guaranteed by the mayor who makes use of his collaborators of:

- the European Project, which follows European initiatives and projects,
- culture section and events,
- the Protected Marine Reserve (sea museum and ornithological museum),
- the archaeological area and its museum
- the library,
- the historical archive and the detention documentation centre,
- communication contact: web (<http://www.ventoteneisolamemorabile.it>)
- social media (<https://www.facebook.com/comunicazioneventotene>)

.The Soprintendenza per i Beni Archeologici Culturali (local office of MIBACT), owner of the archaeological heritage and supervisor of council management.

The local council makes use of an association (TerraMaris), which provides tourist guides and the operational management of the Museums.

The Ministry of Environment supervises and finances the Protected Marine Reserve.

The Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Tourism (MIBACT), through a special Commissioner, works to recuperate and designate new use of the Santo Stefano Prison with a dowry of 70.000.000,00 € (<http://www.commissariocissantostefano.governo.it>).

The Lazio Region finances European projects and initiatives and involves the Municipality in projects of which it is leader, such as DESTIMED, European project for environmental tourism (<https://destimed-plus.interreg-med.eu/>).

PART I. THE APPLICANT AND THE SITE

I.A. The applicant

Full name of the organisation	Municipality of Ventotene		
Street and number	Piazza Castello 1		
Post code	04031	City or region	Ventotene (Lazio)
Country	Italy		
Name of the contact person for EHL application	Renato Di Gregorio		
Telephone	3355464451		
E-mail	progettoeuropa@comune.ventotene.it		

I.B. General information about the site

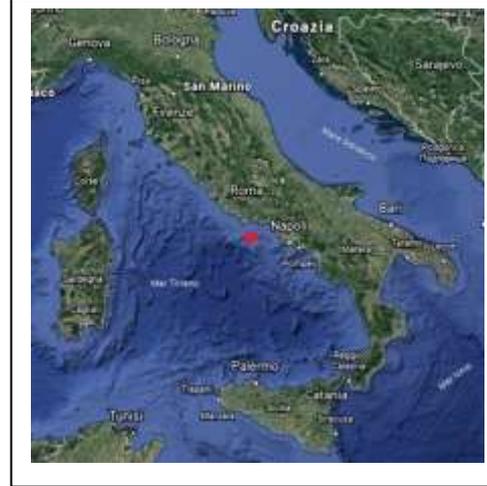
Name of the site	Municipality of Ventotene		
Street and number	Piazza Castello 1		
Post code	04031	City or region	Ventotene (Italy)
Country	Italy		
Website	http://www.ventoteneisolamemorabile.it		
Social media links	https://www.facebook.com/comunicazioneventotene		
Site manager	Mayor Gerardo Santomauro		
Telephone	+39.3384282566		
E-mail	sindacosantomauro@gmail.com		
Legal Owner of the site	Municipality of Ventotene		
Managing authorities	Municipality of Ventotene		

I.C. Description of the site

I.C.1. Location maps and photos of the site (max 2 pages). Please caption the photographs.



Representation of Ventotene and its location in Italy



The Ventotene lighthouse and the tomb of Altiero Spinelli in Ventotene



The place in Ventotene destined to the political confinement, and the majolica tiles placed today on the places where the confined people could manage the canteens, small laboratories, the library and walk followed by the guards



The Bourbon prison on the island of Santo Stefano, from above and inside



Archaeological area: Villa Giulia and Roman port dug into the rock



Archaeological Museum and Ornithological Museum



Germany, Italy and France in Ventotene to testify that Europe lives also after Brexit. The island of Santo Stefano can be seen behind the heads of government

I.C.2 Description and history of the site *(max 400 words)*

The two islands (Ventotene and Santo Stefano) are 50 km from the coast. It is said that Ulysses also passed here, attracted by the sorceress Circe.

Augustus, the Roman emperor, had an imperial villa built there, the port, the wells to gather rainwater and the fish tank. In the villa he then confined his daughter Giulia. Other Roman emperors followed his example.

The Bourbons decided to populate Ventotene in 1772. On Santo Stefano they then built the Prison, inaugurated on 26th September 1795.

Francesco Carpi, was inspired for its building by Jeremy Bentham who had just published his book "Panopticon". The work answered the most modern and enlightened principles of construction that circulated in Europe at the end of the eighteenth century.

In addition to common criminals, patriots who fought for the Italian Risorgimento (Luigi Settembrini, Silvio Spaventa, Giuseppe Morelli) were also imprisoned here. Since 1939, during the Fascist era, opponents of the regime were imprisoned there too. It was closed in 1965.

After the publication of the Italian Constitution, the new director, Eugenio Perucatti (1952), created a new policy of detention on Santo Stefano. He changed the concept from "punishment" in favour of "rehabilitation" of prisoners; an example for the whole of Europe even today.

In 2019 the Italian Government began to work for its reconstruction by investing 70 million euros. It will become a museum, a European research centre, a place of training for Europeans and hospitality for artists, writers and researchers from all over Europe.

In 1939 a border town was built on Ventotene to exile politicians and intellectuals who were opponents of the fascist regime.

Here, in 1941, Altiero Spinelli and Ernesto Rossi wrote, with others, the Manifesto "for a free and united Europe", generally known as "the Manifesto of Ventotene", inspiring the construction of a federal Europe.

On 10 and 11 October 1981, Altiero Spinelli, when celebrating the 80th anniversary of the Manifesto, proposed to use Ventotene as training center for young people in European values. For 40 years, 250 young people have been trained on Ventotene about European federalism.

Meanwhile Ventotene and Santo Stefano have become important tourist destinations targeted to intellectuals and young people who find a pleasant and welcoming environment here where they can live in complete freedom and enjoy valuable intellectual exchanges.

PART II. THE THREE CRITERIA

II.a. The symbolic European value of the site (400 words).

Describe clearly how your site meets one of the following objectives (or more than one if relevant):

- i) *The cross-border or pan-European nature of the site;*
- ii) *The place and role of the site in European history and European integration. Its links with key European events, personalities or movements;*
- iii) *The place and role of the site in the development and promotion of the common values that underpin European integration.*

The prison of Santo Stefano was built in Ventotene according to the Enlightenment ideas that circulated in Europe at the end of the eighteenth century. It was conceived by the ideas that inspired the Italian Cesare Beccaria in writing the book "Dei delitti e delle pene" and the English scholar Jeremy Bentham who had published his Panopticon.

The Manifesto "For a free and united Europe" was written on Ventotene, which inspired the constitution of Europe. The programme in support of its federalist configuration has never ceased to exist. 10 and 11 October 1981, when the 40th anniversary of the Manifesto was celebrated on Ventotene, Altiero Spinelli proposed that the island should become the seat of federalist training initiatives, especially for young Europeans.

On 3 July 1987 the Altiero Spinelli Institute for Federalist Studies was founded in Ventotene. Its members were the Lazio Region, the European Movement, the European Federalist Movement and the Municipality of Ventotene. For forty years the Institute has been organising on the island the programme wanted by Spinelli for the training of young Europeans interested in carrying on the idea of Europe contained in the Manifesto.

The training carried out in Ventotene has thus become an opportunity for personalities, scholars, politicians, researchers, academics, people of culture who meet and share ideas each year about Europe. Ventotene has thus continued to be a "laboratory" in the support of idea of Europe, but also to stimulate its federalist structure.

When England's exit from Europe threatened the very life of the European Union, Italy (Matteo Renzi), Germany (Angela Merkel) and France (Francois Hollande) chose to meet in Ventotene in August 2016 to witness the Union's solidity. The Italian Government has respected the commitment made on that occasion and has invested 70 million euros to restore the Santo Stefano prison and make it "La Scuola d'Europa".

Its realization was entrusted to the Hon. Silvia Costa, a former European MEP, as Extraordinary Commissioner. Work has already begun.

<http://commissariocissantostefano.governo.it/comunicazione/comunicati-stampa/al-via-gli-interventi-di-somma-urgenza-per-il-carcere-e-per-l-approdo-della-marinella/>

The place has been chosen, since the end of the Second World War, for events of all kinds because it recalls the European spirit and its origin.

This activism has earned Ventotene the recognition of City of Culture 2019 of the Lazio Region, the Diploma of Europe of the Council of Europe, in 2019, "Place of Memory and Island of Europe" (Law 12 August 2020 of the Lazio Region).

II.B The project for the site

II.B.1 Raising awareness of the European significance *(max 400 words)*

Outline the general strategy and objectives of your project to raise the awareness of the European significance of your site. Describe how the project will address European audiences. Present first the current situation, then your strategy and objectives. Finally, tell us what visibility and communication activities you will implement should your site receive the Label.

The current situation

At the end of 2016, a "participatory planning" activity with the Ventotene Community led to the sharing of a development strategy focused on the role that Ventotene has in Europe. Hence the motto: Ventotene, the Island of Peace - Gateway to Europe. Since 2017, the role of contact person for the Europe Project was established. In 2018 the "Comites of Europe" was established, created to bring together all the pro-European movements interested in carrying out activities on Ventotene. A policy of integration between the initiatives of the movements and members of the community has been activated, starting from the seminars organised together with the Institute of Federalist Studies or Altiero Spinelli. The population was involved in the process of narrating the historical events of the two islands.

Strategy

The strategy that the Administration pursues is to make the local community the protagonist of the initiatives to be carried out on the two islands, overcoming the role of being a "**place**" where others celebrate Europe and acquiring the role of a "**territorial organization**" able of organising education and training initiatives on European history and values together with partners from all over Europe.

Objectives:

- to develop an entrepreneurial capacity on the part of the local community in the implementation of initiatives that attract people from all over Europe to the two islands,
- to prepare the local community to communicate effectively with visitors who speak other languages through language training programmes,
- to educate the community in European values.

Communication activities

A website has been activated that makes specific reference to European initiatives but also aims to represent the entire cultural heritage of the two islands (www.ventoteneisolamemorabile.it).

A Facebook page for social communication has been created

(<https://www.facebook.com/comunicazioneventotene>) describing the initiatives undertaken almost daily.

It is planned to develop information content in several languages and to add a variety of tools to improve internal and territorial marketing for a European target group.

Improving visibility after the European Heritage Label

Communication tools in European languages will be strengthened. In addition to the Interrelation Networks already launched with:

- the 20 municipalities on the Path of the Founding Fathers and Founding Mothers of Europe,
- the 48 realities that have already obtained the Label,
- the European islands of the Mediterranean.

The intention is to bring Ventotene to Europe and not only Europe to Ventotene.

II.B.2 Information activities, signposting and staff training

(max 250 words)

Describe how your strategy, outlined in IIB1, will make use of information activities, signposting, staff training and other related activities to raise awareness of the European significance of the site through. Tell us first what has been done so far and then present the actions you intend to implement as of 2022. Under question II.B.8, list each activity you wish to carry out.

What has been done

In 2016 the whole island community followed a programme of "participatory planning" and shared the strategy of making Ventotene: "the Island of Peace and the Gateway to Europe".

In 2017 all the Municipality's staff followed a training programme on Communication to support this choice.

In 2018 the Coordination of European Movements and Cultural Associations was established to plan initiatives inspired by Europe.

Starting from 2019, posters have been installed in Ventotene, in Italian and English language and with QRCode, along 6 recommended routes.

By 2020 a public services company will be set up, with the Municipality as shareholder, to allow the integrated management of cultural heritage and services. On 7th November 2020 it will be approved by the City Council of Ventotene.

Future actions:

- to increase the use of digital tools to show the historical and cultural heritage of the island, ,
- to develop direct dialogue with European stakeholders,
- to consolidate the Coordination of European initiatives on the two islands,
- to make Ventotene communicate through regional MEPs,
- to disclose Ventotene within the Brand Network and other Networks being established,
- to continue to train Staff and the Community to European values.

The restructuring process of Santo Stefano Prison will be used to fuel the communication programme. **1 million of euros** has been allocated for **Communication**.

Two workshops have already been organised on 16 and 17 September involving the Minister for the South and Territorial Cohesion, Giuseppe Provenzano, and also the President of the European Parliament, David Sassoli.

The 80th anniversary of the publication of the Manifesto will be celebrated in 2021. The Italian Ministry of Economic Development has already been asked to print a souvenir stamp.

II.B.3 Educational activities (250 words max)

Describe the educational activities you propose, especially for young people. These should aim to increase the understanding of the common history of Europe, and also of its shared yet diverse heritage which strengthen the sense of belonging to a common space. Tell us first what has been done so far and present the actions you intend to implement in this area as of 2022. Under question II.B.8, list each activity you wish to carry out.

In recent years, training on the island of Ventotene has grown enormously. 1500 students and their teachers are already hosted in the school camps of Ventotene. Students can thus combine moments dedicated to sea sports (sailing, swimming, diving) with moments of historical study (Place of political confinement and Europe).

An agreement signed in 2020 with the United Network will bring 300 young students to the island of Ventotene every week for five months a year, simulating the function of the European Parliament.

Added to this are the recurrent training programmes for European students and teachers conducted by the Association La Nuova Europa (School of Europe programme), the Istituto Altiero Spinelli (Federalist Seminary), the Historical Archives (Journey of Memory) and the Municipal Library (Italian Schools).

The programmes that have been carried out historically on the island for years will be consolidated and those resulting from recent agreements and the new ones allowed by the School of Europe that will be built in Santo Stefano will be developed.

The availability of accommodation will be increased through the renovation of the Hotel Smeraldo, which is now in disuse.

The restoring of the Santo Stefano prison complex will multiply the quantity and quality of hospitality for European training and self-training initiatives.

The accreditation process of the available premises (School and multipurpose hall), as professional training facilities, for the management of European public funding will be completed.

Training will also be activated at Italian and European schools, also for young people, New teaching methods will be experimented.

The agreement with the Fondazione Famiglia Sarzi (historic family of Italian puppeteers) will allow education and training with the puppets of Ernesto Rossi (signatory of the Manifesto).

The agreement signed in 2019 with the Research Institute for Intervention Training will allow the municipality to continue to use the methodology of participatory process.

II.B.4 Promoting multilingual access to the site (250 words max)

Describe first how multilingual your site is at present. Then present the actions you intend to implement in order to increase multilingualism, if your site receives the Label. Under question II.B.8, list each activity you wish to carry out.

The current situation of multilingualism on the site

For the type of tourism that hosts: young people, artists, politicians, scholars and people of culture, the Island of Ventotene already has a good preparation in the use of the most common languages, especially in the accommodation facilities (hotels and restaurants).

The rest of the community, which also uses the few meeting places as if they were their own backyard, is proud to speak a strange dialect of mainly Neapolitan origin.

As far as the first group of people is concerned, it is a question of widening the range of languages spoken, especially if the cooperation programme with Eastern European countries (see Poland) is successful. However, an important operation of language training must be carried out on the rest of the population, combining it with a process of awareness of the role that the place strategically wants to play.

Actions to strengthen multilingualism

The training action that is planned to be carried out will be developed for:

- those responsible for reception and sales facilities: hotels, restaurants, bars, agencies, shops, grocery shops;
- guides to the cultural heritage of the two islands: proloco, TerraMaris members, staff of the Protected Marine Reserve;
- a significant part of the population: divers, tutors, port staff, fishermen, some elderly people, seasonal workers, members of the Twinning Committee;
- the contact staff of the Municipality: municipal police, culture office, administration.

They will be carried out with a methodology that combines language learning with that necessary enable people to describe places and their history.

II.B.5 Being an active member of the European Heritage Label network of sites (250 words max)

Describe your expectations of becoming a member of the EHL network. Under question II.B.8, list each activity you wish to carry out.

The expectations that the Administration has of the entry into the European Heritage Label network are as follows:

- to grow in competence on the basis of the experience gained by those who have gone before us and to grow together with them,
- to export Ventotene and its history to other places (Italians and the rest of Europe), but also to import the history of these places with a mutual enrichment,
- share Community funding programmes to support development expenditure on the first two points,
- integrate the networks in which Ventotene already participates (DESTIMED and the Path of the Founding Fathers and Founding Mothers of Europe) with that of the European Heritage Label.

Some activities have already been activated (workshop held on Ventotene on 16th September 2020).

A first partnership has already been established with the Fondazione Triestina di Casa Alcide De Gasperi.e with the Archaeological Park of Ostia Antica, both awarded the Label.

Ventotene will take part in the meetings of the Municipalities that have the Label recognition and that will be organized by the Italian Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

With the places awarded the Trademark it will be considered to establish real "twinning". In the meantime, a collaboration agreement has already been formalised with some of them.

A tourist package suitable for each individual country will be prepared, developing a fruitful collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Italian Embassies Abroad and the Embassies in Italy of European countries. The initiative has already been successfully launched with the Italian Embassy in Poland and the Polish Embassy in Italy by virtue of an agreement already signed in 2013 with the associated municipalities of lower Lazio.

II.B.6 Using new technologies, digital and interactive means

(250 words max)

Describe your general approach to increasing the European attractiveness of your site through the use of new technologies, digital and interactive means. Tell us first what has been done so far and then present the actions you intend to implement in this area as of 2022. Mention how you will use it to 1) attract virtual visitors, 2) enhance the in-situ interpretation of your site and 3) enhance its interpretation on the web. Under question II.B.8, list each activity you wish to carry out.

The new technologies for Ventotene are used to:

- make the historical heritage owned usable in all European countries and in the rest of the world,
- showing digitally, with reconstruction in 3D mode and with films / documentaries, the places of detention;
- build immersive realities on the two islands to make those who physically visit the places experience the life and works of the inmates.

The website: www.ventoteneisolamemorabile.it was created in 2019 to show the digital solutions that the Administration has begun to implement, thanks to the funding provided by the Lazio Region on municipal projects (see VOL: Ventotene online, https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=3385113284890573&id=630856663649596

Signs will be installed in the most significant points of the two islands with at least bilingual writings and QR codes connected to the website. At the moment the work, which began in Ventotene and will continue on Santo Stefano.

On Santo Stefano there will be a museum itinerary, both real and virtual, which highlights the principles underlying its particular structure and illustrates the changes that have taken place over time.

A historical narrative will be privileged that makes visitors relive the reality of prison life, through interactive multimedia installations.

The digitization of archives present elsewhere (see Cassino Prison) will be promoted in order to have them on site, part of the historical archive.

The intention is to network the official documentation of the EU, of Italian and European university archives and libraries and of research centers with on-site terminals and printers to make a remote library accessible to scholars, researchers, students hosted on the two islands. Some cells will be made available for the use of the countries of Europe.

II.B.7 Artistic and cultural activities, including contemporary creation (250 words max, optional to answer)

Describe your approach in the area of artistic and cultural activities - including contemporary creation - that foster the mobility of European culture professionals, artists and collections, stimulate intercultural dialogue and encourage linkage between heritage and contemporary creation and creativity. Tell us first what has been done so far and then present the actions you intend to implement as of 2022. Under question II.B.8, list each activity you wish to carry out.

On Ventotene cultural events have been organized for several years:

- music: jazz (Noises in the Island), classical (VentoMusic), choristers (Choir festival)
- literature: literary festival (Gita al Faro) with hospitality, for a week, of writers to write books on the island (tenth edition)
- crafts: construction and launch of hot air balloons. They are carried out by the island community in all important events. Original majolica is also made.
- sport: swimming from Ventotene and Santo Stefano inspired by Europe

In Santo Stefano spaces and residences will be recovered for groups of artists who want to spend a residential period on the island to create works of art of various kinds

We intend to organize high profile annual meetings:

- a Ventotene Seminar that brings together political representatives, institutions and scholars on European issues, on the model of the State of the Union of the EUI of Florence or the Lecture Spinelli of the CSF,
- a startupper event on specific topics such as e-governance, new technologies, etc .; similar events on the model of a mini-Ambrosetti Forum,
- a forum of think tanks modeled on the European Think Tanks Forum of the Jacques Delors Institute in Paris or the Idea Lab of CEPS in Brussels,
- a meeting on Peace in the World hosting in particular the islands of the Mediterranean and in particular Lampedusa with which the twinning is underway,
- a scientific conference with some members of the Label Network.

II.B.8 The listing of activities to implement your project					
Activity	Present situation	Details of actions	Intended outcome	Start date of action	Indicator
Activity 2.1: Consolidation of Governance	being part of the Network of European cities and Mediterranean islands	<i>Action 1:</i> Publicly owned service company	United management of assets	May 2021	Statute approval
	Autonomous museums of different nature	<i>Action 2</i> create Ecomuseum	Overall offer	March 2021	Integration offered on the web
	Driving staff under contract	<i>Action 3:</i> Permanent employment	Personnel employed by the Service Company	June 2021	Contracts
Activity 2.2: Digitization of heritage and accessibility of places	The exile area was physically removed and the accessibility is critical in some places	<i>Action 1 :</i> Digitally recreate places, stories and characters and the accessibility must be improved	Making the Heritage visible online and immersive in places and create accessible routes	November 2021	Number of digitized places . Number of accessibility routes
	The Manifesto covered the ideas of Constitution	<i>Action 2 :</i> give value to Characters who wrote the Constitution	Enhance the political laboratory	September 2021	Number of digitized places
	Low competence in the use of tools	<i>Action 3 :</i> project subjects	Enhance the political laboratory	May 2022	Number of operators and specialization courses

Activity 2.3: Being part of the Network of European cities and Mediterranean islands	Few formalized relations with other European countries	<i>Action 1:</i> Friendship and Twinning Pacts	Consolidate the Way between the 20 cities	March 2021	Number of signed Twinning
	Few relations with other European islands	<i>Action 2:</i> Friendship and Twinning Pacts	Consolidate the Way between the 20 cities	December 2022	Number of signed Twinning
	Regional European projects	<i>Action 3:</i> project subjects	Building the Mediterranean Network	December 2022	Number of European projects managed

II.C The organisational capacity of the site

II.C.1 Management of the site (300 words max)

Outline the overall management plan for your site and specify if further developments are planned within the next four years.

General management plan

The management of the historical, cultural and environmental heritage of the two islands is ensured by an articulated and flexible structure, composed of the following parts:

- the Municipality governs the strategies for maintaining, developing and promoting the Heritage,
- the Marine Protected Reserve follows all the structures and activities concerning the environment (the sea, flora and fauna),
- the Terra Maris Association deals with the management of the historical heritage present on Ventotene and Santo Stefano and provides guides for the various historical and environmental excursions,
- ProLoco takes care of the events and the arrangement of the places, tools and rooms available (Terracini multipurpose room),
- a municipal councilor follows the cultural programs that are developed on the two islands
- the person in charge of the Europe project follows the initiatives related to the European theme on the two islands and in Europe,
- the two Business Networks present in Ventotene take care of the reception system and its promotion,
- the Europe table plans the European activities on the two islands and in Europe. The Table is composed of: European Movement, New Europe, Ass. Santo Stefano in Ventotene, European Federalist Movement, Altiero Spinelli Institute of Federalist Studies, Ventotene-Santo Stefano political confinement documentation center. It is chaired by the Mayor and has the Head of the Europe project as secretary.

At the same time, the extraordinary Commissioner for the restoration of the Santo Stefano prison works, on behalf of the Italian Government, on the restoration of the prison, on the cultural activities that will be developed in the restored premises and on the related communication

Any further developments in the 4 years

It counts on:

- give stability to the staff of the TerraMaris Association,
- consolidate the structure of the Proloco and the planning skills of its members,
- set up a public service company, owned by the Municipality of Ventotene,
- give the shape of an Ecomuseum to the entire heritage distributed on the two Islands,
- set up the Committee of the Italian and European Universities of Ventotene and the Network of Good Management Prisons,
- constitute "the Garden of the Righteous" with Gariwo.

II.C.2 Preservation of the site (250 words max)

Outline the legal protection your site enjoys at present, then describe the current state of conservation and whether any conservation work is planned within the next four years.

The current state of conservation

The archaeological area, the Archaeological Museum and even all the archaeological material not exhibited but preserved in the basement of the Town Hall, in Piazza Castello, are owned by the State and therefore under the jurisdiction of the Superintendence of Archeology, Fine Arts and Landscape for the provinces of Latina and Frosinone. The Municipality takes care of their use.

The second world war has respected the two islands, unlike the municipalities of the coast where the bombings of the allied forces have almost entirely destroyed all the historic centers for which Ventotene preserves an original habitat characterized by the typical colors of the Mediterranean islands.

The Marine Protected Reserve has also defended the life forms of its sea, which thus preserves its treasures for the benefit of the divers and schools present for them in Ventotene.

We will try to protect and control the cliffs of the coast using state-of-the-art technological systems and using the funds of the Lazio Region of the PUA (Regional Plan for Use of Beaches).

Conservation and development interventions

In programme:

- develop an excavation plan to bring to light other archaeological areas present also by hosting teachers and students of prestigious European universities who have a special agreement with the supervision of the aforementioned Superintendency,
- continue collaboration with the Lazio Region to include the Blue Economy in the Smart Specialization Strategy of the new programming of European funds for the seven-year period 2021-2027,
- follow the initiative of the Association of the Minor Islands (ANCIM) which supports the Italian Government's policy of attention towards the needs of the islands.

II.C.3 Reception facilities, visitors' information and signposting

(250 words max)

Describe the current reception facilities and list any future improvements you are planning to undertake within the next four years.

Current reception tools

The visitor who arrives on Ventotene is accompanied by illustrated signs that immediately show him the recommended historical, cultural and environmental itineraries. If you reach the island by hydrofoil, you will find six large colored panels that illustrate six itineraries.

If you get off the ferry, find a large panel indicating the six routes and the significant stops for each.

Continuing along the Roman port to reach the historic center, you will find directions to reach the island of Santo Stefano. At the end of the first ramp of Bourbon origin is the Tourist Information office, where you can get brochures on the two islands and make reservations to be accompanied by specialized guides.

On the island there are signs with illustrations in Italian and English of the significant stages.

On the website www.ventoteneisolamemorabile.it paths for the preparation of the visitor with automatic translation in different languages are reported. The QRcodes on the illustrated signs are linked to the website and allow you to listen to the illustrations with your smartphone.

Expected improvements

The improvement program includes:

- extend the illustrated signs to Santo Stefano,
- produce brochures in multiple languages and put QRcodes on the signs of the six itineraries for listening in multiple languages,
- allocate a room for the illustration of the island's cultural, historical and environmental heritage,
- increase the linguistic competence of the current guides and increase their number
- develop equipment for environmental education, especially marine
- connect the diving activities with that of the archaeological and marine museums,
- produce presentation tools to be in advance provided to entities that organize visits to the islands.

II.C.4 Public access (250 words max)

Describe how you ensure access to your site for the widest possible public. Mention any future site adaptations or staff training you are planning to undertake within the next four years.

Access to the two islands

Ventotene can be reached, via Formia, with the ferries and hydrofoils of the private shipping company (Laziomar), twice a day. In the summer the number of runs increases and those from Ischia and Naples are also activated.

Santo Stefano can be reached by boats moored in the Roman port. A heliport was recently built there. Ventotene also uses the Roman port and three dams to moor the boats and has a heliport for emergency transport.

All the historic sites in Ventotene are easily accessible to those with physical limitations because the island is an open-air museum.

The QRcode-equipped panel allows the visually impaired to listen to the descriptions of the places and the history that has passed through them.

Adjustments planned

For Santo Stefano accessibility will be provided within the works of the 70 million Euro program, starting from the ports of docking.

A new port will be built on Ventotene to accommodate a large number of pleasure boats. The project has already been defined and also the funding. The enlargement of the port has already been approved by the City Council. A public company will be set up for the management of port services.

The technological access system to the municipal offices located on the second floor of the Castle will be restored.

Young local people will find employment and specific training for the management of port services will be provided for them. For this reason the two existing Business Networks (VentotEuropa and Mito delle Sirene) are expanding their team.

II.C.5 Special attention for young people (250 words max)

If young people have privileged or prioritised access to the site, present it here. Then describe any future activities you are planning to undertake in this area within the next four years.

Attention to young people

The VentotEuropa Business Network gathers around 1500 teachers and students every year, hosting them according to the "school camp" method. It is accredited by the Ministry of Education.

The New Europe Association annually organizes the School of Europe involving young people and teachers from European countries.

The Municipal Study Center organizes "Journeys of Memory" for teachers and students.

The Library annually organizes seminars for high school students.

The Altiero Spinelli Institute for Federalist Studies involves, every year, about 250 young Europeans for the federalist seminary.

Ventotene has been accredited to manage the youth of the Universal Civil Service from 2021 onwards and is also the leader for the municipalities of Ponza and Santi Cosma e Damiano.

Actions envisaged

The recent agreement of the Municipality of Ventotene with the United Network, for the "Ventotene-Capital of Europe" project, aims to bring 150 young people to the island each week for six months a year.

The "Ventotene - Schools of Italy" project aims to bring the history gained in Ventotene and Santo Stefano to the Schools of Italy and Europe and to encourage the stay in Ventotene to experience the deepened history first in the place of residence. There are already agreements with Schools of Lazio, Puglia, Sicily and Emilia Romagna.

The Convention stipulated with the Sarzi Foundation will lead to the representation of Ventotene in Italian and European primary schools by means of the puppet Fagiolino, used by Ernesto Rossi (co-signer of the Manifesto).

With the project financed by the Lazio Region (Memorable Year, 122 thousand Euros), the tools necessary for teaching are being adapted.

The Santo Stefano recovery project will offer new spaces and new hospitality opportunities for young people from all over Europe and will allow for high quality educational equipment.

Work is underway to establish a hotel school in Ventotene for cruise ship personnel.

II.C.6 Sustainable tourism (250 words max)

Present the marketing plan for the site as a tourist destination. Then describe any future actions you are planning to undertake in this area within the next four years.

The goal of the administration and economic operators of Ventotene is to "seasonalize" the tourist reception.

The enhancement of the European role also has this purpose.

The reconstruction of Santo Stefano will increase the influx of quality tourism even in the spring and autumn months. For the months from November to April, the focus is on the residences of artists who can find it comfortable to stay on the two islands to draw inspiration for the realization of their works.

The hypothesis of creating a new port will be a great tourist attraction for a high-end tourist target.

The activities carried out by the Marine Protected Area and the Ornithological Observatory attract environmental tourism (see: <http://www.riservaventotene.it>).

The didactic structure for studies will be expanded:

- marine and migratory fauna,
- distinctive crops (see lentils), both in their traditional form of cultivation and in the innovative forms typical of the circular economy.

Ventotene is involved in the Interreg-MED Project "DESTIMED PLUS - Ecotourism in Mediterranean Destinations: From Monitoring and Planning to Promotion and Policy Support" (Interreg-MED code 5278), (<https://destimed-plus.interreg-med.eu>).

The hypothesis is also being pursued of hosting people on Ventotene who have to work in Smart working because of the Corona virus pandemic and are looking for a safe place to reside. For this reason, the power of the available internet network is being enhanced by making it free.

The acquisition of the European Heritage Trademark will increase the attractiveness of the two islands. The marketing action that will carry out the reconstruction of the Santo Stefano prison will increase the power of the tourist offer of the places.

II.C.7 Communication of the European significance of the site

(250 words max)

Outline your current communication strategy for the site. Then present additional communication activities to highlight its European significance which you plan to undertake in this area within the next four years.

The strategy pursued from 2017 onwards is contained in the slogan "Ventotene Island of Peace-Gateway to Europe". The communication strategy pursued is to make Ventotene not only a symbolic place, but a strategic subject for the support of Europe.

The website, built in 2019 (www.ventoteneisolamemorabile.it), allows you to represent the role that Ventotene plays for Europe and the initiatives that are activated on the two islands in its name. It also serves to constantly justify its existence against the sovereignty of all times.

Altiero Spinelli has his tomb in Ventotene and the building of the European Parliament bears his name. An ideal bridge between the two symbolic places of Europe, but also contexts of daily action. Spinelli, from his tomb in Ventotene, seems to check that every year, for forty years, the Seminar of federalist studies, which he wanted, has been carried out, to train young people from all over Europe to continue his ideal battle for a federal Europe (yes see: <http://www.istitutospinelli.org>).

The delivery of the "Ventotene's Key to Europe" and the Manifesto to Emmanuel Macron in 2019, and to David Sassoli in 2020 is aimed at recognizing people who are committed to supporting, defending and developing the idea of Europe.

The Lazio Region has issued a law (n ° 12 of 12 August 2020) which defines Ventotene "Place of Memory and ideal reference for safeguarding the inspiring values of the European integration process" and recognizes an economic gift to celebrate the European day every year.

II.C.8. Environmentally friendly management of the site (250 words max)

Outline your approach to integrating the protection of the environment in your day-to day management of the site and in the way you welcome visitors. Then present any future actions you are planning to undertake in this area within the next four years.

Strategy for the integration of environmental protection

The Marine Reserve protected by a decree of the Ministry of the Environment (Official Gazette, No. 190 of 14.08.1999) was established in Ventotene. It pursues:

- conservation of ecological, flora-vegetational, faunistic, geomorphological and naturalistic-environmental characteristics;
- the management of ecosystems in ways suitable for achieving integration between man and the natural environment, also by safeguarding anthropological, archaeological, historical and architectural values and agricultural and traditional activities;
- the promotion of activities compatible with the conservation of the natural resources of the reserve;
- the implementation of study and scientific research programs, with particular reference to the special characteristics of the territory;
- the implementation of environmental education programs.

Added to this is the presence of the Ornithological Observatory connected with ISPRA (Higher Institute for Environmental Research) and committed to studying the migration of birds that arrive from Africa en route to Northern Europe and their return in the winter.

With funding from the Italian Ministry of the Environment for one million euros, Ventotene is carrying out the SILENZIO project for energy saving, electric mobility on its land and at sea.

This makes the two islands a natural oasis and a European symbol for how European environmental policies can be adequately and conveniently applied.

The planned actions

More structured educational and training programs are planned. For this reason, a collaboration has been activated with various research and environmental education centers in Italy. :

Furthermore, having been chosen as an experimental area at European level for environmental tourism (DESTIMED), it is hoped to gain significant experiences in this regard.

II.C.9 The international outreach and recognition of your site

(250 words max)

Describe the current international networks your site is part of and any international recognition it currently has. Then present any other international outreach you are planning to undertake within the next four years, in addition to the EHL.

Ventotene is part of the:

- European Network of Municipalities awarded the Diploma of Europe since 2019,
- European Network that the DESTIMED project of the Interreg program has set up for ongoing research aimed at identifying the best ways to promote and manage environmental tourism,
- Institute of Federalist Studies Altiero Spinelli which is managed by the Movement of European Federalists and which allows the Administration to have relations with European institutions.

It established the European Committee in 2018 with several European movements.

It has an agreement with the European Movement which allows it to communicate with European countries.

The actions that have been launched and which are expected to be developed in the coming years are:

- the Path of the Founding Fathers and Founding Mothers, which leads to the creation and coordination of a network with 20 European municipalities that have hosted personalities who have committed themselves to the construction of Europe. The Italian municipalities have already joined the identified network,
- the Mediterranean island network: collaboration programs already started with Lampedusa, Ithaca, Rethymno. ANCIM (Association of Italian smaller islands) was also involved
- , the Network of European Islands with the recognition of the European Island of the Year: project started in 2017 with Kefalonia,
- collaboration with the municipalities of Lower Lazio involved in the battles of Montecassino in the last war and with the municipalities that have twinned with them, starting with the numerous Polish municipalities of the PROMEMO project (www.associazioneseraf.it),
- the network of Italian companies awarded the European Heritage Label. The collaboration with the Trentino Foundation of the De Gasperi House and with the Archaeological Park of Ostia Antica has already been formalized.

II.C.10. Operating budget of the site (maximum 1 page)

Outline the current operating budget for the overall management of the site (conservation works excluded). Please include: annual running costs, communication costs, cultural, educational, research, networking activities costs. Identify also the principal sources of income available to the site.

Main sources of income:

- 70.000.000,00 € from the Italian Government for Santo Stefano (2020-2025),,
- 300.000,00 € per year from the Ministry of the Environment for the Reserve,
- 150.000,00 € a year from the Lazio Region for the Memorial Day, from 2020 onwards,
- 35.000,00 € a year from the Lazio Region and the Spinelli Institute for the federalist week,
- Taxation.

It also counts:

- on the funding for the projects that the Administration and various bodies linked to it submit to the regional, national and European notices and calls for proposals,
- on the voluntary work of experts of national importance working for the Administration

Annual operating costs: 2019

Communication costs: these are borne by volunteers. Two part-time professionals with an estimated value of 30,000.00 € are employed to manage the website www.ventoteneisolamemorabile.it, the facebook page and the relationship with the Press. To these are added 1.000,000,00 € allocated for communication initiatives for Santo Stefano and Ventotene.

Costs for cultural activities:

- 170.000,00 € for cultural initiatives.

Costs for educational activities:

- 122.000,00 € for the Memorable Year,
- 35.000,00 € for the week of federalist studies,
- 20.000,00 € for the School of Europe

To these costs are added those made, coordinated and financed by the organising bodies.

Costs for research activities:

- a share of the 70.000.000,00 € for the Santo Stefano recovery project,
- a share of the 300.000,00 € annual fee, paid by the Ministry of the Environment,
- a share of the 1.000.000,00 € of the Silenzio project, financed by the Ministry of the Environment.

Costs for contact activities:

- 40.000,00 € for scientific directors,
- 38.000,00 € for the Terra Maris guides,
- 10.000,00 € for municipality people.

Consolidation of Governance