



Ufficio Stampa - Press Office

The rally is one of the Port Authority's challenge to promote cruise's tourism

Also this year, the Port Authority will welcome the "Rally d'Italia e Sardegna", in the name of a partnership which is now consolidated by the organization of the most important spring sporting event in Gallura. As to the past there will be some innovation, though. First of all, the size of the area intended for headquarters: seventy thousands square metres overall where service park and staff village will stand, plus a dirt patch north of the Port which will be used as crowd, staff and port vehicles parking space. In the second place – and that's a considerable detail – the "village" will be allowed to stay longer in the "Cocciani" area. As a matter of fact, the organization and the Port Authority decided to extend its stay from the 5th to the 22nd of May, without encumbering goods' loading and unloading operations nevertheless. "We are really glad to renew our welcome to the "Rally d'Italia e Sardegna" and to its staff – Paolo Piro, president of the Port Authority of Olbia and Golfo Aranci, says – in the name of the wholesome sport, of a tradition innate in our everyday life and – very important – of the feedback Sardinia will get. This is an opportunity that our Authority, very committed in promoting its Ports and – indirectly – its territory, could hardly miss". The Rally is the setting of all events that in the coming weeks the Port Authority will welcome. On the 17th of May, from 8 a.m., in conjunction with the competition, the Pier n°8 of the "Isola Bianca" will be one of the fundamental stays of the *Periplo Marino Mariano* which will take the simulacrum of the Virgin Mary of Bonaria to the seven main ports of Sardinia. For the occasion, the Authority will work together with Provincial Administration, Municipality, Diocese, Port Authority, Police, voluntary organizations and S.Simplicio's celebration committee. An essential synergy geared to give a worthy welcome to Sardinia's Patroness that, on the following day, will be in Golfo Aranci to meet Her believers once again. Furthermore, the Pier n°9 – built for Cruise ships – is scheduled to be inaugurated on the 17th of May, in Olbia, together with the *Viale Isola Bianca* which underwent a drastic makeover. This will strengthen more and more the position of Olbia in the Mediterranean cruising system. "2008 is giving us great results as for cruises – Piro states – We doubled 2007's cruise ships presence, since this year we have 104 cruise ships on our schedule. Over the years, we keep on improving our system building new infrastructures and studying new strategies and synergies with local Administration and dealers. This cooperation is fundamental to pamper those 200.000 people from all countries who will visit our town and afterwards will spread the news across the Atlantic, promoting Gallura free of charge for the future. That is why – the President adds – events as the Rally, which coincides with the call of two cruise ships in the Port of Olbia, can become a strong point to show to those who chose Mediterranean – and, consequently, our ports – to spend a holiday on board of these sea jewels". Obviously, not forgetting those five million passengers passing through Olbia e Golfo Aranci to reach all Sardinia's holiday destinations and – inspired by events like the Rally – could opt for a further stop in town.



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Resort



PEVERO GOLF CLUB
Costa Smeralda



MARINA DI PORTO CERVO
Costa Smeralda



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IL MONDO DELL'UFFICIO



Aeroporto
Olbia Costa Smeralda
GEASAR



ENTE FORESTE
DELLASARDEGNA



POLIZIA
di Stato



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