
World Para Swimming
OPEN WATER CUP
SARDINIA 2026
WPS
OPEN WATER
CUP SARDINIA
2026
SARDINIA - ITALY
ALGHERO
19 SEPTEMBER '26
Manifestazione promosso dalla Regione Autonoma della Sardegna, Assessorato del turismo, Artigianato e Commercio.


EJA!
WPS
OPEN
WATER
CUP
SARDINIA - ITALY
ALGHERO
19 SEPTEMBER '26
1.5 KM FROM S3 - TO S6
3 KM FROM S7 TO S10
3 KM FROM S11 TO S14


Para
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WATER CUP
FINISH
FINP
FEDERAZIONE ITALIANA NUOTO PARALIMPICO
SARDEGNA
Progetto AlbatroS


arena



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1. ABOUT SARDINIA

Sardinia is the second largest island in the Mediterranean after Sicily, with an area of 24,100.02 km2.
With its 1,897 km of coastline, it is the Italian region with the greatest coastal development. It has organized one of the most special and important open water events of the Italian Paralympic Swimming Federation for over 11 years: the Italian Open Water Para Swimming Championships.

Sardinia is a cradle surrounded by the sea where, eight thousand years ago, a mysterious and original civilization was born, brought by sea from the other side of the ancient Mediterranean, which is why it was open to innovations and cultural influences. The Sardinians built nuraghi (typical ancient megalithic buildings) along the coast with moorings for boats, joined together to guard the sea and connected to those built inland. The island's location is strategic: it is a bustling crossroads of trade routes frequented by seafaring peoples, including the highly evolved and peaceful Phoenicians who made their base in Sardinia. They founded what would be the most beautiful, cultured and wealthy cities of their time Sulci, Bithia, Nora, Tharros and Karaly. Goods, ideas and knowledge circulated freely among the Phoenician cities and Nuragic villages until the arrival of imperialist populations eager for new domains.

First came the Carthaginians, then fell the Romans and the Phoenician cities. The Sardinians reacted heroically, as in the "lost city" of Cornus, which was defended to the last breath by the Romans. For this, it was punished, destroyed and rebuilt. The most poignant of sunsets over the sea originates from its ruins, overlooking the Gulf of Cuglieri and the cliff of Santa Caterina di Pittinurri. The Romans expanded and built their city overlooking Asinara: beautiful and imperious emerged Turris Libisonis, today the center of Porto Torres. This is an area of La Sardegna where the early Sardinian and Nuragic civilization is best preserved. Here, a short distance from the sea, stands the ziggurat of Monte d'Accoddi. It is one of the oldest and most unusual monuments of European culture. The Romans built paved roads to better govern the territory and connect the conquered cities. One of them connected Nora to Bithia on the coast, and today it is a scenic tour through unspoiled landscapes, as it was when people traveled in ancient times.



2. INTRODUCTION

The World Para Swimming, the Italian Para Swimming Federation and the AlbatroSS Sporting Association have the honor and pleasure to invite you to the World Para Swimming Open Water Cup 2026 in Alghero - Sardinia (ITA). Alghero is honored and proud to host this beautiful event. The following are useful information for the National Federations that wish to participate in this event.

3. EVENT CONTACTS

For any queries regarding the information provided in this document please feel free to contact the following contact persons:

Italian Para Swimming Federation
Luca Minelli
Phone: + 39 06 83531231
E-mail: international@finp.it

Local Organizing Committee
AlbatroSS Association
Silvia Fioravanti
Phone: + 39 338 6212062
E-mail. openwater.wps.sardinia@gmail.com

World Para Swimming
Nicole Burns
Phone: +49 160 334 8691
E-mail: Nicole.burns@worldparaswimming.org



4. EVENT KEY DATES

July 06 th	Entries and Accreditations Opening
August 07th	Deadline to send the Preliminary Accommodation Form (Form n. 1) and payment of 50% deposit
August 27th	Deadline Final Entry, deadline Accommodation form (Form n.2) roominglist ,payment of the balance
August 27th	Deadline to send travel details and transportation Form (Form n. 3)!
September 18 th	Team Leader Meeting – h. 17.00
September 18 st	Official Training – h. 15.00!
September 19 st	Competition – h. 8.30: Km 1,5 from S3 to S6 h. 10.00: Km 3,0 from S7 to S14



5. OFFICIAL SCHEDULE AND COMPETITION PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th
Arrival of the national teams, transfer to the hotels

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th
15.00 training in the competition field
17.00 Technical Meeting

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th
10.00 competition start - 1.5 km from S3 to S6
11.00 competition start – 3.0 km from S7 to S10 and from S11 to S14
13.00 prize award ceremony

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20st
Reschedule of the race in case of bad weather
Departure

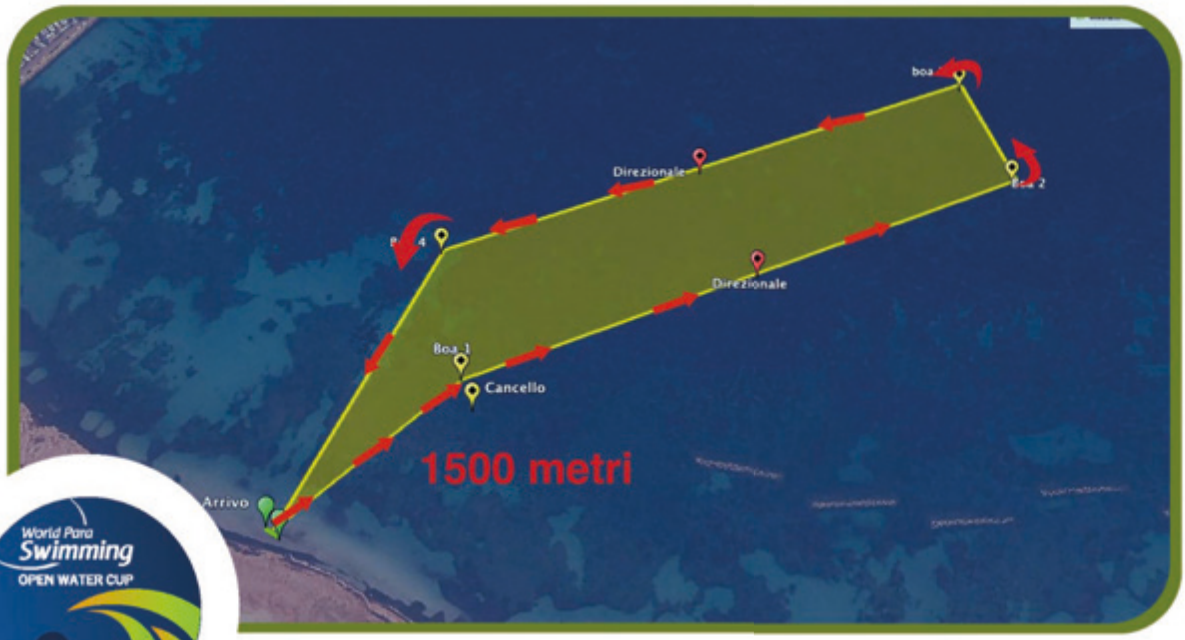
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21st
Departure

6. RACE & PRICE AWARD CEREMONY

Competition from S3 to S6 - **distance 1,5 km**
Competition from S7 to S10 + S11 S12 S13 + S14 – **distance 3,0 Km**

Competition field
Alghero's most famous beach, located in one of the most beautiful natural landscapes of the Mediterranean Sea, can be reached on foot from the northern part of the town. Lido San Giovanni stretches for 5 km of fine white sand, gently sloping down to the crystal-clear blue sea. The beach is scented with the fragrances of juniper, sea lily, and helichrysum, which adorn a pristine yet often crowded landscape. Its seabed is shallow and crystal clear, making it a favorite among families with children, young people, and nature lovers. Lido San Giovanni offers stunning views of the sea, overlooking the iconic promontory of Capo Caccia, with its majestic cliffs rising above the bay. Thanks to its environmentally conscious surroundings, this is a wonderful corner of biodiversity where relaxation and adventure blend seamlessly.

COMPETITION FIELD





7. ORGANIZATION

Since 2014, the AlbatroSS sports club has been organizing, in cooperation with the Italian Para Swimming Federation, the Italian Paralympic Open Water Swimming Championships. Such event, at the national level, will take place within the international one, as usual, this year as well. The close cooperation with the Federation has led the LOC, year after year, to offer an increasingly professional standard up to an international organizational level. The experience gained, in synergy with Aquatic Team Freedom in Water and the Italian Swimming Federation, has resulted in an ideal competition field for open water events.

The organization would guarantee:

- Organizational costs
- Transfer to and from the airport, from the hotel to the competition venue
- Accessibility to the competition venue
- International finish with touch and chip timing
- Live event
- Hospitality local Judges
- Direct relationship with the GUG (Race Officials Group of the Italian Swimming Federation)
- Teams
- Gadgets of the event
- Authorizations, competition venue with buoys,
- Safety and assistance for athletes
- Medical service
- Post race refreshments
- Prize award ceremony
- Filming of the race with 3 cameras and 1 drone
- Broadcasting on a big screen placed on the beach
- Volunteers (they don't include guide athletes)

8. LOCATION

Alghero, located in the northwestern region of Sardinia, is a charming town with just under 45,000 residents year-round, which swells with thousands of tourists during the summer months. Founded in the 12th century, Alghero still retains its distinctive Catalan character—a legacy of the Aragonese rule—reflected in its architecture, language, and local



traditions. The area has been inhabited since ancient times, as evidenced by the nearby Nuragic remains, such as the Palmavera complex. During Roman times, the region was already populated, and many archaeological finds are now preserved in the Alghero Archaeological Museum, offering a glimpse into the town's rich and layered history.



9. EVENT BROADCAST

We are working to ensure live coverage of the event. Details will be shared in the Technical Meeting. We believe that the World Para Swimming Open Water World Cup can reach large numbers of participants after the games and can only grow!

The channels to promote the event are:

- Press conference
- Designated web site
- WPS web site
- FINP web site
- Organizers' web site
- Live on TV
- Live on streaming
- Interviews
- Regional and national press organizations
- International Federation web sites
- Local, national and international press
- TV reports
- Highlights
- Social media
- Photo



10. TECHNICAL & TEAM LEADERS MEETING

The Technical Meeting (TM) will take place on September 18th at 17.00h

11. ENTRIES

Entries will only be accepted through the WPS entry system: https://db.ipcservices.org/sdms/app/login starting from 06 July.
All the athletes should hold a valid WPS license for 2026 and classification (status Confirmed, Review, Review with and without fixed date and New, however please note athletes with New status will not be eligible for medals). This event is open to athletes who are 15 years or older.

The entry fee is € 75,00 per athlete (late entries will be charged € 20). It should be paid to the following bank details: (IBAN) **IT16M0306909606100000077838** in the name of Albatross SSD Srl specifying the name of the participating athlete. No fees will be charged for staff members. Coaches are responsible for representing their swimmers at the Tehnical Meeting. The Technical Delegate of World Para Swimming together with the Head Referee will accept entries and register only swimmers accompanied by their respective coaches who are responsible for recognizing the swimmers during the competition.

12. VENUE & COURSE INFORMATION



13. ACCREDITATIONS & EVENT INFORMATION DESK

The Accreditations for all swimmers and staff members can be done through the SDMS accreditation system. Only accredited persons will be allowed access to certain areas of the venue. All accredited persons are asked to carry their accreditation cards with them at all the time and show them upon request.
Accreditation cards will be handed out at the official hotels/competition field.
We are going to create a whatsapp group in order to facilitate the communication, if you want to be included, please send Silvia Fioravanti your mobile phone number (including the country code)

14. VISA INFORMATION & TRANSPORTATION

The Italian Para Swimming Federation will facilitate the process of obtaining a visa to enter Italy by issuing a letter of support to be presented at the Italian Embassy in your country.



All participants who require a visa are requested to contact Luca Minelli (international@finp.it) no later than September 3th, 2026.
For more information on the need for a visa for entry into Italy, please visit:
https://vistoperitalia.esteri.it/home/en

Free transfer service will be provided only to Teams arriving at Alghero Airport. Local transportation between the hotels and the training/race venue will also be arranged. In order to book your transportation service, please fill in the attached form.

The LOC will facilitate airport reception and transportation services upon completion of travel information through the relevant transportation form to be sent to the LOC by the deadline of September 03rd 2026.

Transfers from other airports can be arranged upon request. We will send you a quote as needed.

15. ACCOMMODATION & MEALS

Accommodation will be assigned by the Local Organising Committee according to hotel availability and the room type requested by each delegation. While every effort will be made to accommodate the requested preferences, the LOC reserves the right to allocate hotels and room types based on availability at the time of booking.

Registrations payment and hotel reservation must be made by September 3rd
Any delays will not guarantee hotel accommodations by the organization.

Below you find the deadlines to book the accommodation for your teams:

August 7th, 2026:
Deadline for submission of the Preliminary Accommodation Form (Form No. 1) and payment of the 50% deposit.

Please complete and return the attached Preliminary Accommodation Form.



August 27th, 2026:
Deadline for submission of the Final Accommodation Form (Form No. 2), Rooming List and payment of the remaining balance.

Please complete and return the attached Final Accommodation Form.

Accommodation requests received after August 27th, 2026 cannot be guaranteed and will be accepted only subject to hotel availability.

To book your accommodation, please complete the relevant accommodation forms and send them to: openwater.wps.sardinia@gmail.com

Rates by night per person per day in Full Board:

- 150 € in single room
- 130 € in double room per person
- 105 € in triple room



PRELIMINARY ACCOMMODATION FORM
ALGHERO, Sardinia - Italy

August 7th, 2026

NAME AND SURNAME_____

Email Address _____

Phone No. _____

Country _____ **Country Code** _____

Name of National Federation _____

ROOMING LIST

NAME	GENDER	FUNCTION (coach/athlete companion)	In dd-mm	Out dd-mm	Room Type Twin/single

Date:

Signature and Stamp:

Please return this form back to our office to
openwater.wps.sardinia@gmail.com

**All information should be typed, or printed legibly, not handwritten*

CON IL PATROCINIO
REGIONE AUTONOMA DE SARDIGNA
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA
SARDEGNA
Comune di Alghero
FONDAZIONE ALGHERO
World Para Swimming
FINP FEDERAZIONE ITALIANA NUOTO PARALIMPICO
Progetto AlbatroSS



FINAL ACCOMMODATION FORM
ALGHERO, Sardinia - Italy
August 27th, 2026

NAME AND SURNAME_____

Email Address _____

Phone No. _____

Country _____ **Country Code** _____

Name of National Federation _____

ROOMING LIST

NAME	GENDER	FUNCTION (coach/athlete companion)	In dd-mm	Out dd-mm	Room Type Twin/single

Date:

Signature and Stamp: