



UNIONE EUROPEA



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REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA
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Palace of Baldu

Patrimonio culturale
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■ The territory of Luogosanto during the Phoenician Age

The Phoenicians and Punic people were populations settled on the Gallura coastline, especially in the area of Olbia (fig. 1) - where the Phoenician presence dates back to the mid 8th century B.C. – as well as in the immediate hinterland.

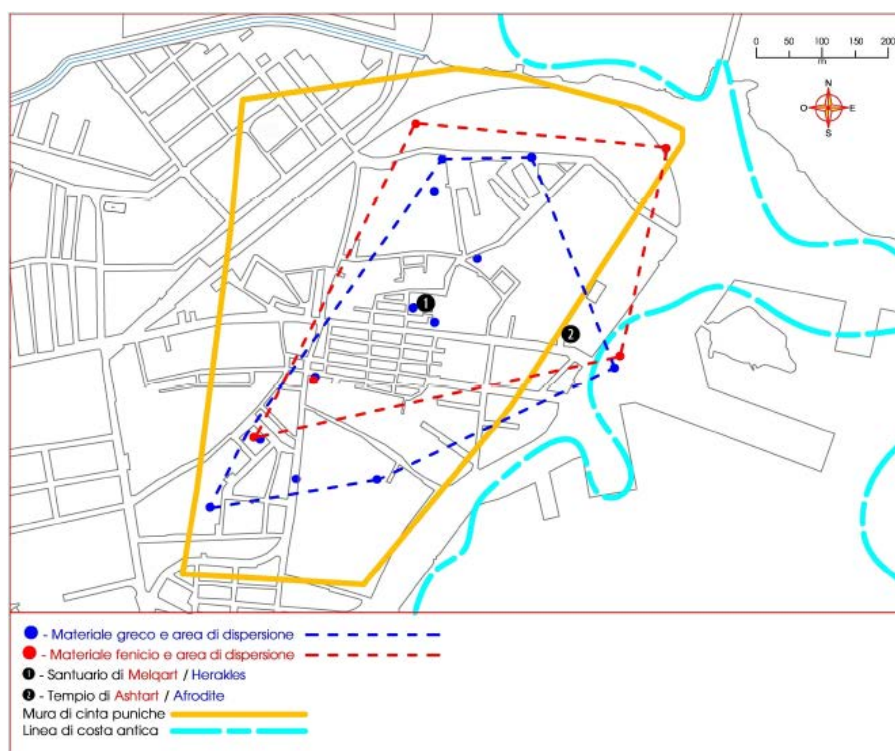


Fig. 1 - Olbia, dispersal area of Phoenician and Greek artefacts (from D’Oriano 2010, p. 11, fig. 2).

To date, the hinterland of Gallura has not produced any evidence related to contacts with or domination by these people: a passage from Pausanias could be linked to this as during the second century BC, he stated that all Sardinians had been subjugated by the Carthaginians, outside the Ilienses and Corsicans (fig. 2).



Fig. 2 - Non-urbanised populations of Sardinia (from Mastino 2005 p. 307, fig. 35).

The latter, who probably originated from Corsica, belong to the group of populations in the high Gallura area who blocked the Phoenician-Punic colonisation (fig. 3) and made the Roman one difficult too.

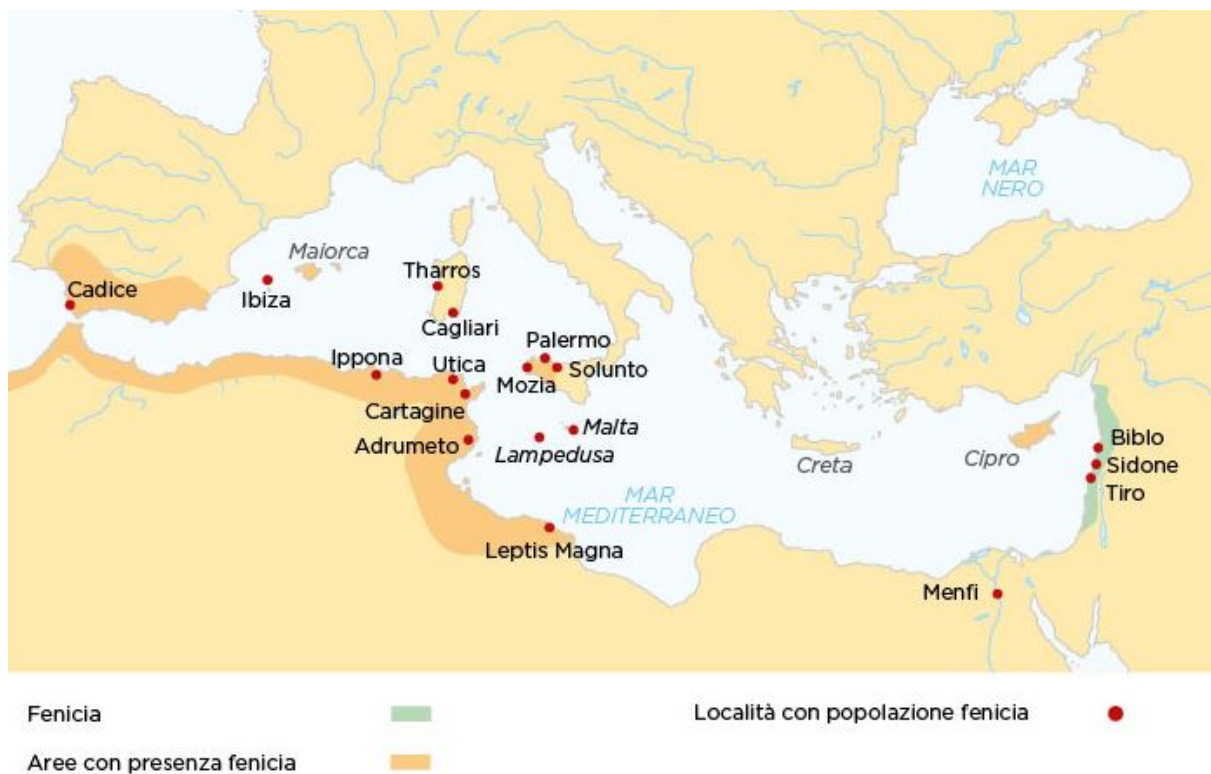


Fig. 3 - Phoenician colonisation showing city-states in Phoenicia and the main centres of expansion (from <http://dizionariopiu.zanichelli.it/storiadigitale/p/mappastorica/287/la-colonizzazione-fenicia>).

No evidence relating to this period has been found (IX-III centuries BC) in the municipal area of Luogosanto, perhaps because of the set back position of its centre away from the commercial routes which ran along the coast. It is possible that future research might reveal more elements concerning this historical period. During the transition period between the Carthaginian domination and the Roman conquest of Sardinia (238 BC), according to Pausanias, the Balari people, African mercenaries or Iberians who settled in upper Gallura, reached the island – later giving the area its name of Balariana (Balaiana) Luogosanto - following desertion from the Carthaginian troops, after the end of the first Punic War (264-241 BC); in the Corsican language their name means "refugees or deserters".



■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Claudia Cocco and Dr. Francesca Collu

■ Bibliographic abbreviations

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La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



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