



UNIONE EUROPEA



REPUBBLICA ITALIANA



REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA  
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

# Port and coastal towers of Arbatax

Patrimonio culturale  
**SARDEGNA** Virtual Archaeology



## ■ Amphora with ovoid body (VI century B.C.?)

The Arbatax sea has returned and keeps on returning evidence of the past. Including the amphorae<sup>1</sup> representing one of the most frequent finds.

Found by Lieutenancy of Arbatax in 1992, this ovoid amphora (fig. 1) with a short flared neck and cylindrical handles, is 53 cm high with a diameter of 42. It is dated, though with some doubts, to the VI century B.C.

For shape and handles, it can be compared to Etruscan amphorae (figs. 3-4), but it differs for the kind of rim, here straight and irregular.

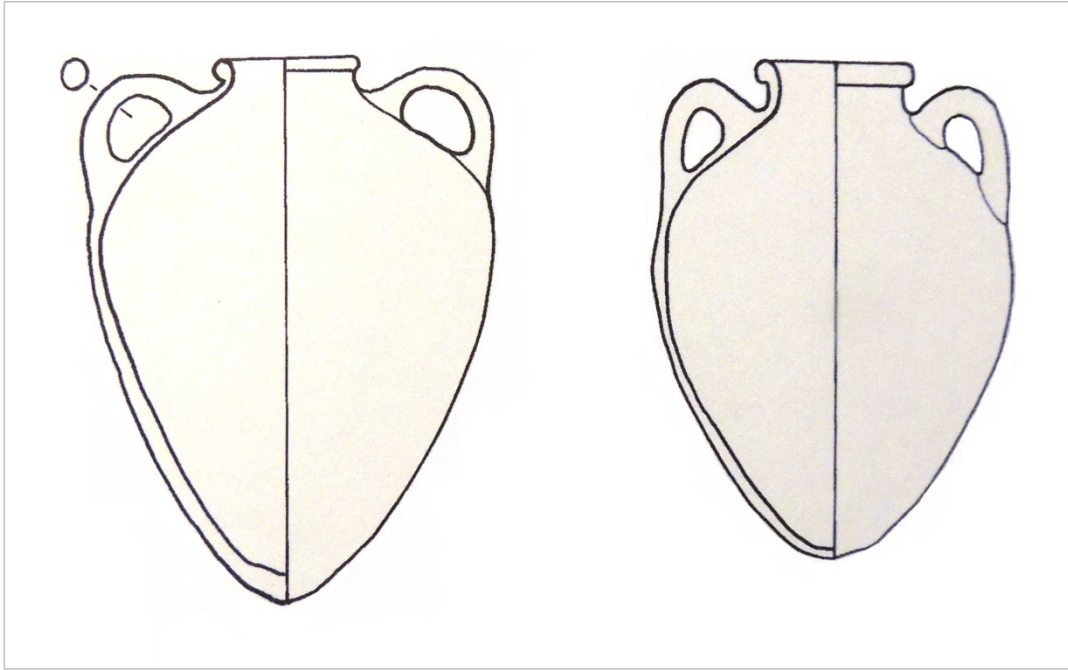
From the end of the VII century B.C., in southern Etruria they began producing amphorae to be used to export the region's wine; this lasted until the III century. These containers were found in several coastal centres of the Italian peninsular and in several wrecks along the coasts.



**Fig. 1** - Ovoid amphora from the Arbatax sea (from Salvi et alii 2005, p. 72).

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<sup>1</sup> The term “amphora” indicates a tapered or globular terracotta container with two handles, used in ancient times to transport liquids (wine, oil) or solid foods (wheat or other cereals).



**Fig. 2** - Etruscan amphorae, VII-VI century B.C. (from CARVALE, TOFFOLETTI 1998, p. 77).



**Fig. 3** - Etruscan amphora type Py 1/2, VII-VI century B.C. (from CARVALE, TOFFOLETTI 1998, p. 76).





**Fig. 4** - Etruscan amphora type Py 4A, V-III century B.C. (from CARVALE, TOFFOLETTI 1998, p. 79).



## ■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Maria Grazia Arru

## ■ Bibliography

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## La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



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