



Mare Nordest 2025

Tutti i riflessi del mare

XIV ed.

Mare  Nordest.

**23→24→25
maggio 2025**

Piazza
Unità d'Italia
Trieste

MISSION

Following the success of previous editions, MARE NORDEST and its partners reaffirm their position in 2025 as a key reference point for activities related to the sea. Thanks to a large tensile structure and unique experiences in Piazza dell'Unità d'Italia in Trieste, renowned for its cosmopolitan charm, the public will be able to explore themes that unite environment, culture, science, sport, and art.

Trieste, with its rich mosaic of cultures, stands out as a crucial meeting point in the heart of Europe, serving as a bridge between Western and Eastern Europe. Its history and tradition make it a Central European city that promotes inclusivity and cooperation while looking forward with renewed determination eastward. Thanks to its strategic port and commercial vocation, Trieste facilitates cultural and economic exchanges, helping to create new networks of friendship among nations.

MARE NORDEST has always believed in and focused on the role of this wonderful city and the intrinsic value of collective effort it embodies, considering it a destination oriented toward the future, ready to play a central role with its gaze set on new and adventurous horizons.

PROGRAM – Environment, Culture, Science, Sport, and Art

- 4th International Underwater Activities Exhibition and Trident d'Oro Award: Building on previous successes, the Trident d'Oro and Academy Award will return to Trieste for the 2025 event, attracting prominent guests from around the world. In collaboration with the AISTS International Academy of Sciences and Technical Diving, these prestigious recognitions, considered the "Nobel" of the sector, will be awarded to distinguished personalities from various countries. This year, the Trident d'Oro will feature four prominent figures in diving and underwater research:

- Giulia Boetto – Research Director at the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) and Director of the Camille Jullian Centre, one of the most important archaeology labs in southern France, specializing in underwater archaeology since its founding in the 1970s. With a degree in Classics and specialization in classical archaeology from the University of Turin, she has participated in numerous underwater excavations in Italy and France. Since 2004, she has led wreck studies at the ancient port of Naples and, after joining CNRS in 2007, started the "Adriboats" underwater archaeological research program in collaboration with Croatian institutions. This project received the prestigious Simone and Cino Del Duca Foundation award from the French Academy in 2024. She teaches naval archaeology to students in the MoMArch international master's program and is the editorial director of *Archaeonautica*, actively publishing and disseminating her research findings internationally.
- Stefano Furlani – Graduated in 2000 from the University of Trieste with a thesis in coastal geomorphology and a minor in karst lake studies. He obtained his PhD in Geomatics and Territorial Information Systems from UniTS, with a thesis on rock weathering in different environments. Since 2017, he has been an Associate Professor of Physical Geography and Geomorphology at the University of Trieste, Department of Mathematics and Geosciences. Since 2012, he has developed the GEOSWIM project—mapping long stretches of rocky Mediterranean coast by swimming, covering approximately 25,000 km annually.
- Veselin Mijajlovic – One of the leading experts in underwater mine clearance, with decades of experience in neutralizing explosive devices worldwide. His work is not just a technical task but an act of altruism and humanity, ensuring greater safety for communities affected by remnants of war. His commitment to saving lives and ensuring maritime safety, along with training new generations of divers and clearance experts, makes him a hero in his field and a true example of humanitarian dedication. Thanks to his efforts, many regions have been freed from deadly threats, and underwater ecosystems have been protected from destruction.
- François Guerrero – Full professor at the Faculty of Sports Science and Education at the University of Western Brittany (UBO) in Brest, France, where he teaches physiology related to health prevention. Co-director of the "Optimisation des Régulations Physiologiques" (ORPhy) and of the faculty since 2014. His research focuses on decompression sickness (DCS) prevention, from cellular and animal models to divers. His team, during the PHYPODE program, studied interactions between endothelial function and DCS, and will now explore the genetics of DCS. He is a member of the scientific council of the French Society of Hyperbaric and Diving Medicine (MedSubHyp). An experienced diver since 1983.
- The 2025 Academy Award will be awarded to Jonian Dolphin Conservation, a scientific research organization registered with the National Research Registry, active since 2011 in studying and monitoring cetaceans in the Gulf of Taranto (Northern Ionian Sea). Over 15 years, they conducted about 2,500 days of in-

water monitoring, resulting in 2,400 sightings of seven whale species in the Mediterranean (*Balaenoptera physalus*, *Physeter macrocephalus*, *Ziphius cavirostris*, *Grampus griseus*, *Tursiops truncatus*, *Delphinus delphis*, *Stenella coeruleoalba*). They have published over 60 scientific articles and organized citizen science projects involving around 6,000 volunteers annually from around the world (about 35% foreigners).

- **2nd Crossing of the Three Nations – International Open Water Swimming Race (individual and relay):** Italian, Croatian, and Slovenian athletes will undertake a 27 km challenge in the open waters of the Northern Adriatic, starting from Punta Salvore in Croatia, crossing the sea in front of the Slovenian town of Piran, and finishing in Trieste in front of Piazza dell'Unità d'Italia. This event will test athletes' physical abilities and celebrate international cooperation and unity through their bond with the sea. The event will be hosted by Silvia Boidi, a Triestine who is the first woman to complete the Crossing of the Strait of Bonifacio three times. The testimonial is Dino Schorn, former national open-water swimmer and one of the most remarkable figures in master swimming, who achieved a world championship victory in Fukuoka, Japan, in 2022/2023.

- **Project Batiscafo Trieste:** Trieste's Culture Councillor Giorgio Rossi will present the "Batiscafo Trieste" project, which involves building a 1:1 scale replica of the famous submersible that set a human depth record of 10,902 meters in the Mariana Trench in 1960. Based on original designs, the project has received funding from the City of Trieste, the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region, and private sponsors, with a team of engineers, historians, and entrepreneurs. The original Trieste was built at the Monfalcone shipyards, based on a design by Swiss inventor Auguste Piccard, with funding raised by Triestine Diego de Henríquez. Once completed, the replica will be exhibited at the Museum of War and Peace "Diego de Henríquez" in Trieste.

- **Conference "Birth and Development of Technical Diving" and CCR Symbios:** This year's focus will be on technical diving, which allows for deeper and more complex dives than recreational diving, requiring advanced training and special equipment. Fabio Ruberti introduced Italy to IANTD in 1993, a pioneer in Nitrox and advanced techniques. Technical diving is more than activity; it's a philosophy demanding dedication and safety, enabling exploration of caves, submerged mines, and shipwrecks. During the event, the CCR Symbios, an innovative rebreather system designed by Arne Sieber, will be showcased, offering safety, comfort, and high efficiency thanks to air recycling, ideal for extended dives in various scenarios.

- **Marevivo Subaquatic Section Conference – Operation Ghost Nets:** Marevivo's underwater section chief, Massimiliano Falleri, will present "Operation Ghost Nets," aimed at recovering abandoned fishing gear (ALDFG) that threaten marine ecosystems. These nets trap animals and generate microplastics, harming biodiversity and causing the deaths of approximately 100,000 marine mammals and one million seabirds annually.

- **Conference "Shipwrecks of Trieste in the Strait of Messina":** Explorer Andrea Murdock Alpini, awarded the Trident d'Oro in 2024, will present his discovery of an ancient, well-preserved port in the Strait of Messina near Cannitello. During targeted dives, he found

anchors from different historical periods, indicating the port's importance over centuries. Alpini, known for his work in maritime history, archaeology, and underwater ecosystems, will share a historical reconstruction of ships built in Trieste, including the wreck he discovered. This find enriches Trieste's cultural heritage, highlighting its maritime legacy.

- **"A Sea of Centers: Together for the Future of the Sea" – Trieste:** The "A Sea of Centers: Together for the Future of the Sea" scientific outreach tour, organized by the European Commission – Representation in Italy, the EUROPE DIRECT Centers, and Worldrise, will make a stop in Trieste. Worldrise is a non-profit organization dedicated for over 10 years to the effective conservation of Italian seas. The tour is part of a broader project involving the EUROPE DIRECT Italy Network, information centers of the European Commission that host events focused on protecting the marine environment, exploring topics such as the European Union's Biodiversity Strategy 2030 and the national 30x30 goal. EUROPE DIRECT Trieste, managed by the Municipality of Trieste, will support scientific communicator Mariasole Bianco, who will hold an open event sharing captivating images that highlight the wonders and vulnerabilities of the sea. The aim is to suggest how citizens, institutions, and the third sector can work together to effectively protect at least 30% of Italian waters by 2030. This event is registered under EMD 2025 – European Maritime Day in My Country, a campaign by DG Mare of the European Commission that promotes ocean conservation and sustainable blue economy practices. Participants will receive EMD gadgets while supplies last.

- **Sanda Delija – World Record Freediver under Siberian Ice:** At the 2025 edition of Mare Nordest, we will host a very special guest: world-renowned freediver Sanda Delija. She achieved a record in a lake in Siberia, the deepest in the world at 1,642 meters, holding her breath for two and a half minutes and setting a new world record—surpassing herself! Born in Trieste to Croatian parents, Sanda gained international fame for her extreme freediving feats, including diving under ice in Siberia's Lake Baikal. On March 17, at age 34, she set a new world record in Free Immersion (FIM) beneath thick ice, reaching 55 meters in a stunning and harsh environment. She previously set a record of 98 meters in June 2023. With a background in psychology and a passion for adventure, she pushes her limits in challenging environments, demonstrating mental and physical strength. Her recent success in Lake Baikal exemplifies her daring spirit and desire to push boundaries. Her story promotes awareness of marine ecosystems and the importance of living harmoniously with nature. Having her as our guest is an honor and a chance to celebrate sporting excellence while fostering respect and protection for the sea and its wonders.

- **Giovanna Micol - Puig Women's America's Cup 2024, shares her story:** At the 2025 Mare Nordest edition, we will have the honor of hosting a truly special guest: a sailor from the prestigious Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli women's team, the crew that won the first edition of the PUIG WOMEN'S AMERICA'S CUP FINAL 2024. This team of top-level female sailors not only represents sporting excellence but also serves as an example of determination, talent, and female passion in the sailing world. In particular, Trieste-born sailor Giovanna Micol, the protagonist of this extraordinary adventure, will be with us to share her experience, emotions, and the challenges faced during this incredible competition. She will tell us how the team prepares for the most demanding races, the emotions of being part of such a prestigious team, and stories of friendship and determination that have helped her achieve significant milestones. It will be a unique opportunity to get an up-close look at this extraordinary

athlete, discover behind-the-scenes insights of an international competition, and be inspired by her passion and team spirit.

- **"History of Bagno Ausonia"** – Architect and Diver Enrico Torlo will guide a journey through the history of Bagno Ausonia, inaugurated June 1, 1934. Resembling a village on stilts, it dates back to the Austrian period, passing through the Italian 1930s, and into the 1950s era of freedom, highlighting Trieste's vibrant, cosmopolitan, and Central European character.
- **Special Screening "The Night of Conte Rosso"**: A documentary recounting the sinking of the steamer Conte Rosso in 1941, which claimed the lives of 1,297 young Italian soldiers. Directors Mario Bonetti and Giovanni Zanotti will present, offering a reflective look at this tragic chapter of history.
- **"Climate: A Journey Through Past, Present, and Future"**: Dr. Arturo Pucillo from ARPA FVG will discuss climate change, from historical evolution to modern prediction technologies, emphasizing how climate monitoring and environmental education are vital for biodiversity conservation.
- **"Sustainable Nautical Tourism" – Assonautica Trieste**: Vice President Roberto de Gioia will present the "Adriatic Rendezvous," a project promoting navigability and sustainable nautical tourism along the Adriatic coast, emphasizing eco-friendly practices.
- **Astronomical Observation**: In collaboration with the Antares Astronomical Study Center, an evening of stargazing will link astronomy and maritime history.
- **Nord Adriatico Magazine**: The local maritime magazine will feature journalists highlighting the sea's role in the local economy and port life in Trieste and Monfalcone.
- **Presentation of the "ImmagiMare" Book-Non-Book**: Emanuele Vitale and Romano Barluzzi will introduce this project combining images and words to evoke the underwater world. It aims to educate and inspire, especially for high school audiences.
- **Environmental Educational Activities**: Building on MARE NORDEST's long-standing tradition, workshops and seminars on marine issues will involve primary school children and institutional actors, in partnership with Trieste University, ARPA FVG, OGS, the National Antarctic Museum, Antares Astronomical Center, and social innovation initiatives by the Pietro Pittini Foundation.
- **Special Ocean Film Festival World Tour Italy for Schools**: Additional educational activities will include screenings of films related to the sea for high school students, featuring "Ice Maiden," the story of Australian sailor Lisa Blair, the first woman to complete a solo circumnavigation of Antarctica. The film highlights her physical and mental challenges, resilience, and determination, inspiring awareness and appreciation for ocean conservation.
- **Trieste Sea Sunset Dance** – Contemporary Dance Show: To celebrate the 20th anniversary of GEA Danza, led by talented choreographer Ambra Cadelli, a special contemporary dance

performance will be staged, symbolizing the connection between movement and the sea, nature, and environmental respect.

- **Salvation Dogs Trieste:** Heroes on Four Legs - Welcoming enthusiastically the athletes of the second edition of the Crossing of the Three Nations, the dogs from the Salvation Dogs Trieste association will also be present. During the event, a rescue demonstration is scheduled, utilizing specialized water rescue canine units ready to intervene in emergency situations. The Salvation Dogs Trieste organization is dedicated to aquatic rescue, employing trained dogs to perform sea rescue operations. This initiative not only highlights the capabilities of rescue dogs but also raises public awareness about water safety and the importance of teamwork between humans and animals.

- **Exhibition - Underwater Photography "Gazes from the Sea"**

An exhibition pathway showcasing the beauty of marine habitats and promoting environmental conservation. The photographs will be selected from the 1st International Underwater Photography Competition of Trieste, organized in April 2025 by Mare Nordest and sponsored by FIPSAS, ASI, and Marevivo. There will also be meetings with experts to share photographic techniques, making the event an important cultural and educational opportunity for the community.

- **Exhibition - Astronomical Photography "Antares"**

An exhibition pathway highlighting the magnificence of the Cosmos. The event will include meetings with specialists to exchange knowledge on photographic techniques, transforming it into a meaningful cultural and educational opportunity for both the astrophile community and curious individuals alike.

- **THE SEA IS SERVED - Show Cooking - Radio Punto Zero and Eataly Trieste**

In collaboration with Radio Punto Zero—Trieste-based radio station and our longstanding media partner—and Eataly Trieste—the renowned Italian culinary emporium located in the historic wine warehouse facing the sea on Riva Tommaso Gulli in Trieste—this year we dare with an exclusive event: qualified chefs will cook live, guiding the Mare Nordest audience on a gastronomic journey, revealing culinary techniques and secrets to prepare delicious fish dishes. Known for its focus on high-quality ingredients and Italian culinary tradition, Eataly organizes these show cooking events to promote culinary culture and the importance of using fresh, local products.

SPECIAL GUEST 2025 - Sergio Davì

Sergio Davì, an expert in ocean navigation and RIB (rigid inflatable boat) sailor, will be the special guest of this 14th edition of Mare Nordest.

His adventures have left an indelible mark on the boating world, cementing his name in history! Davì is a professional skipper with a passion for extreme adventures: creator and commander of five major global nautical expeditions, including the "Ocean to Ocean RIB Adventure," a transoceanic voyage from Palermo to Los Angeles in a RIB, completed between December 2021 and May 2022 after about six months of travel across two oceans and three continents, covering over 10,000 nautical miles mainly solo.

Having been our guest in past editions, this year Captain Davì will present his new project, the "Japan Sea Expedition," which will take him from Palermo to Tokyo aboard an 11-meter RIB between 2025 and 2026. The journey will span approximately 11,000 nautical miles over six months, with 25 stops in 13 countries, crossing the Indian Ocean and the South China Sea. This expedition will also have a significant scientific component focused on environmental health research and monitoring, in collaboration with CCM and the University of Palermo. The project is supported by various partners and institutions, including the Municipality of Palermo.

GUEST STAR 2025 - Lisa Blair

The patroness of the 2025 edition of Mare Nordest will be Lisa Blair, the Australian sailor and adventurer who, with her incredible determination and adventurous spirit, has made history! In January 2017, Lisa Blair set out from Albany, Western Australia, aiming to circumnavigate Antarctica solo and non-stop by sail, attempting to beat the record of 102 days held by Russian Fedor Konyukhov, facing extreme conditions. After an incident requiring repairs, she became the first woman to complete this journey, albeit with a stopover.

In 2022, the adventurer tried again—and succeeded! Lisa established a new world record for solo, non-stop circumnavigation of Antarctica in 92 days, beating Konyukhov's previous record. Her adventures are documented in the film "Ice Maiden."

Lisa also set sailing records around Australia and between Sydney and Auckland, using her experience to raise awareness about climate change through the "Climate Action Now" project, encouraging people to act for a better future.

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