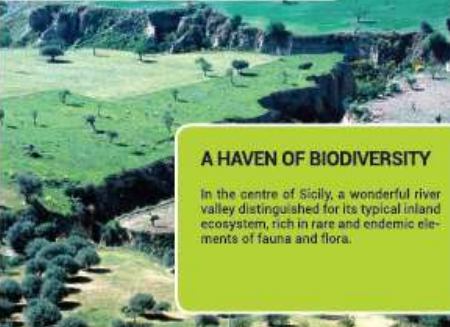


# LE AREE PROTETTE GESTITE DAL CUTGANA


Habitat Management Reserve  
**"VALLONE DI PIANO DELLA CORTE"**  
 Agrigò (EN)



**A HAVEN OF BIODIVERSITY**

In the centre of Sicily, a wonderful river valley distinguished for its typical inland ecosystem, rich in rare and endemic elements of fauna and flora.

Strict Nature Reserve  
**"GROTTA MONELLO"**  
 Siracusa



**THE WONDER OF THE IBLEI MOUNTAINS**

In the Ibleo plateau, there is a wonderful hypogean environment with an extraordinary formation of stalactites and stalagmites, where a rich cavernicolous fauna lives together with important endemic creatures, such as a small crustacean, the *Armadillidium lagrecai*, which stands out from the others.

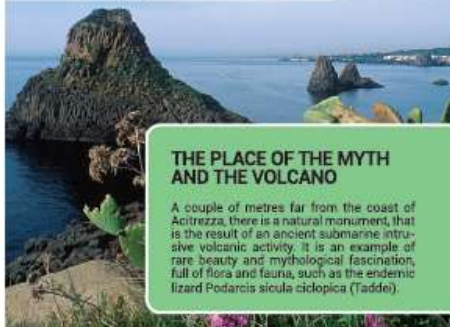
Strict Nature Reserve  
**"COMPLESSO SPELEOLOGICO VILLASMUNDO - S. ALFIO"**  
 Melilli (SR)



**A PARADISE AT THE FOOT OF THE CLIMITI MOUNTAINS**

Between the Belluzza and the Cugno di Rio streams, at the foot of the Climiti mountains, there is one of the most important active karst systems of the Eastern side of Sicily.

Strict Nature Reserve  
**"ISOLA LACHEA E FARAGLIONI DEI CICLOPI"**  
 Aci Castello (CT)



**THE PLACE OF THE MYTH AND THE VOLCANO**

A couple of metres far from the coast of Aci Trezza, there is a natural monument, that is the result of an ancient submarine intrusive volcanic activity. It is an example of rare beauty and mythological fascination, full of flora and fauna, such as the endemic lizard *Pedercis sicula ciclopica* (Taddei).


Strict Nature Reserve  
**"COMPLESSO IMMACOLATELLE E MICIO CONTI"**  
 San Gregorio di Catania and Aci Castello (CT)



**IN THE HEART OF LAVA**

In a typical agrarian landscape near Mount Etna, there are ten volcanic cavities inside a lava field of Hawaiian morphology where many bat species live.

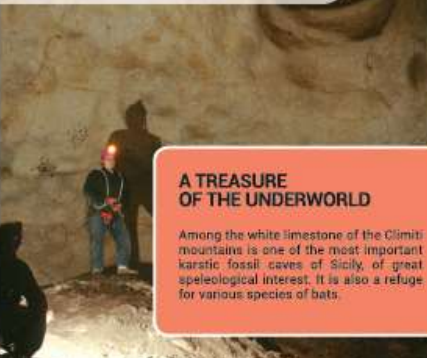
Habitat Management Reserve  
**"ISOLA BELLA"**  
 Taormina (ME)



**WHERE NATURE AND BEAUTY JOIN TOGETHER**

The Ionian coast pearl of outstanding landscape beauty but also of remarkable environmental value and considerable historical and cultural interest.


Strict Nature Reserve  
**"GROTTA PALOMBARA"**  
 Melilli (SR)



**A TREASURE OF THE UNDERWORLD**

Among the white limestone of the Climiti mountains is one of the most important karstic fossil caves of Sicily, of great speleological interest. It is also a refuge for various species of bats.

Marine Protected Area  
**"ISOLE CICLOPI"**  
 Aci Castello (CT)



**EASY TO REACH, DIFFICULT TO LEAVE**

Not far from the Etna chief town, a valuable Mediterranean marine ecosystem rich in animal and vegetal species - some rare and others even unique - and rich as well in extraordinary seabed which can be observed with excursions and diving trips.



**Cutgana**

CENTRO UNIVERSITARIO PER LA TUTELA E LA GESTIONE DEGLI AMBIENTI NATURALI E DEGLI AGRO-ECOSISTEMI