







ONCE UPON A TIME THE ROCKS

More than 30 million years ago Sardinia began his formation. The second largest island in the Mediterranean sea has a territory dominated for more than 80% by hills and mountains. The volcanic and effusive rocks characterize the area and represent an important resource.

In VIR we deal with quarrying and processing of granite, basalt and trachyte. The primary goal of VIR is to ideally connect the vast architectural heritage and time tested materials, that in over four thousand years have given birth to the Nuraghi, the holy wells and the Romanesque and Gothic cathedrals, to the requirements of contemporary architecture.





Tomba dei Giganti di Coddu Vecchju

Each epoch and each culture is characterized, among other things, for the ability to process peculiar artistic expressions. Even the Nuragic civilization was able to express their identity through the art form applied to architecture:

basaltic rocks and granite have been materials with which the art of this civilization has been perpetuated over time.

In the late Middle Ages the countryside and towns in Sardinia have seen a flowering of Romanesque churches built by maximizing the use of local basalt and trachyte.

Santa Maria di Bonarcado



During the late '20s to the early '40s in Sardinia rationalist buildings of considerable importance were made where the volcanic rocks in various types and in various types of processing have been instrumental in enhancing their shapes and preserve the quality of construction.





The granites, basalts and trachytes have allowed and still enable the creation of architectures that meet the diverse needs of designers who thanks to very simple surface treatments, can take advantage of these materials to communicate strength, endurance, hardness or courtliness, tactility and sensoriality.



QUARRIES AND CULTIVATION



For more than 40 years VIR has been cultivating several proprietary quarries in Sardinia. The current production of over 40,000 cubic meters of raw blocks (about 1,500,000 square meters of 20 mm thick slabs) allows us to deal with large-scale contracts guaranteeing stability and consistency of quality and aesthetics, along with economic competitiveness. All quarrying activities are carried out with absolute respect for the environment and workplace safety, using 3D quarrying plans, highly skilled teams, state of the art extraction techniques such as diamond wire sawing, automated drilling machines and dimensionally appropriate quarrying equipments.

These methods of cultivation ensure high productivity, respect for the raw materials, impressive cost savings and an optimized, fully traceable supply chain.







For further processing phases we use new generation systems and technologies built to the highest standards of efficiency and safety, allowing us to be prepared to meet the most advanced design requirements.

In VIR we love the environment and we produce materials that are inherently earth-friendly. Volcanic rocks cultivated by us provide many ecological attributes: high volume availability, low energy use in all stages of extraction, processing and transport, a very long expected life cycle, care and maintenance ease and affordability, recyclability and a large efficiency based on total vertical integration.

In VIR we care to conserve natural resources, prevent pollution, reduce waste to a minimum and our cultivation techniques are in complete respect for nature and the landscape in which the quarry is located.





ROCKS



Granite is a material with exceptional technical qualities that allow it to be used in any climate, for outdoor as for indoor, floor or wall application, in a structural use as thin skins. It has no limitations to the range of applications thanks to its high level of resistance, to the many surface finishes, to its aesthetic and its great workability.

Our quarries give us the colors ranging from light gray to beige with more or less accentuated pink or dove gray tones. The characteristics of our quarries and extraction techniques allow us to produce large blocks with color and physical consistency and with absolute control of the supply chain even for orders of many thousands of cubic meters all with reduced economic costs and very competitive with other stone materials.

Basalt is a material with excellent technical qualities and, depending on the types, it can be used for both exterior and interior applications in both vertical and horizontal surfaces; it is suitable for both structural use than thin veneers and is worked both in splitted or in different mechanical finishes. Our quarries produce various colors ranging from dark gray to medium gray with shades of brown/red. The material is characterized by the presence of veins, blowholes and porosity. Basalt is a very suitable material for paving and urban design in the historic centers, including areas of high pedestrian traffic and driveways and, in its various formats, containment works and flooring in green areas and public parks.





The trachyte is a material with interesting physical and aesthetic characteristics. In Sardinia, the Romans began to exploit it for the construction of thermal baths, thanks to the proximity of the quarries to the spa areas, also for its characteristic of slip resistance when used on the floor (for the same reasons it is also widely used in Japan in the onsen). Due to its ease of extraction and processing and for its aesthetic trachyte has often been the material of choice for both the construction of the Romanesque churches and for some of the most interesting rationalists projects. Almost exclusively used in cladding it is suitable for split or structured products.

VIR quarries, located in various areas of Sardinia, produce light green, medium gray, red and yellow ocher trachytes.





ESSENCE OF APPEARANCE

The Sardinian granite is one of the most used materials in the history of architecture.

Traditionally chosen by architects and builders for its aesthetic coloring, color consistency and mechanical strength, it now offers architects, designers and builders new ideas thanks to modern technologies of extraction and processing that enhance the usability by reducing both costs and environmental impact. Today it is even easier to transmit values and evocations performance through the high performance use of our natural and ecological materials easily and synergistically combined with all other materials and architectural finishes.







CUBIC STOCK

In VIR we want to leverage our ability to work the volcanic rocks not only as thin skins but recover with the use for structural purposes or for any three-dimensional application. Thanks to our extraction technologies that take advantage of diamond wires and automated drilling machines in addition to processing facilities designed to work substantial thicknesses, we can offer our raw materials for projects of completely solid structure.





On large thicknesses we are equipped for both mechanical and manual processing. We believe that there is room again for design and architecture that use stone for structural purposes by leveraging its full mechanical, thermal and aesthetic features.



RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

VIR wants to be a challenging and innovative proposition in the field of natural stone, helping stake holders to rediscover important technical, aesthetic and economic values.

The R & D department, together with a dedicated sales and marketing structure, has the objective of supporting specifiers and end-users with competence whether they be designers, contractors or real estate agents. We accompany our clients through the process of project development, from the choice of the most suitable materials and related testing, to support the development of specifications, by assisting the structuralists and facade builders, up to logistics, installation and project-management.

Working closely with the designers we are able to develop innovative solutions that efficiently meet the design requirements.

VIR, with a constant search for new methods of cultivation and processing, in addition to the recovery of historical techniques, is an effective support for its partners.







VIR

VIR Volcanic Rocks offers a mix of exclusive elements such as a considerable production capacity, a wide range of products, competitive prices and qualified technical support that make it a reliable and knowledgeable resource for the world of design. With over 40 years of activity and experience in the field of extraction, processing and marketing of stone materials, VIR has built a solid path, characterized by constant evolution.



VIR is part of an industrial group which includes a logistics company that operates internationally and thus guarantees efficiency and competitiveness in the transport of materials.

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