

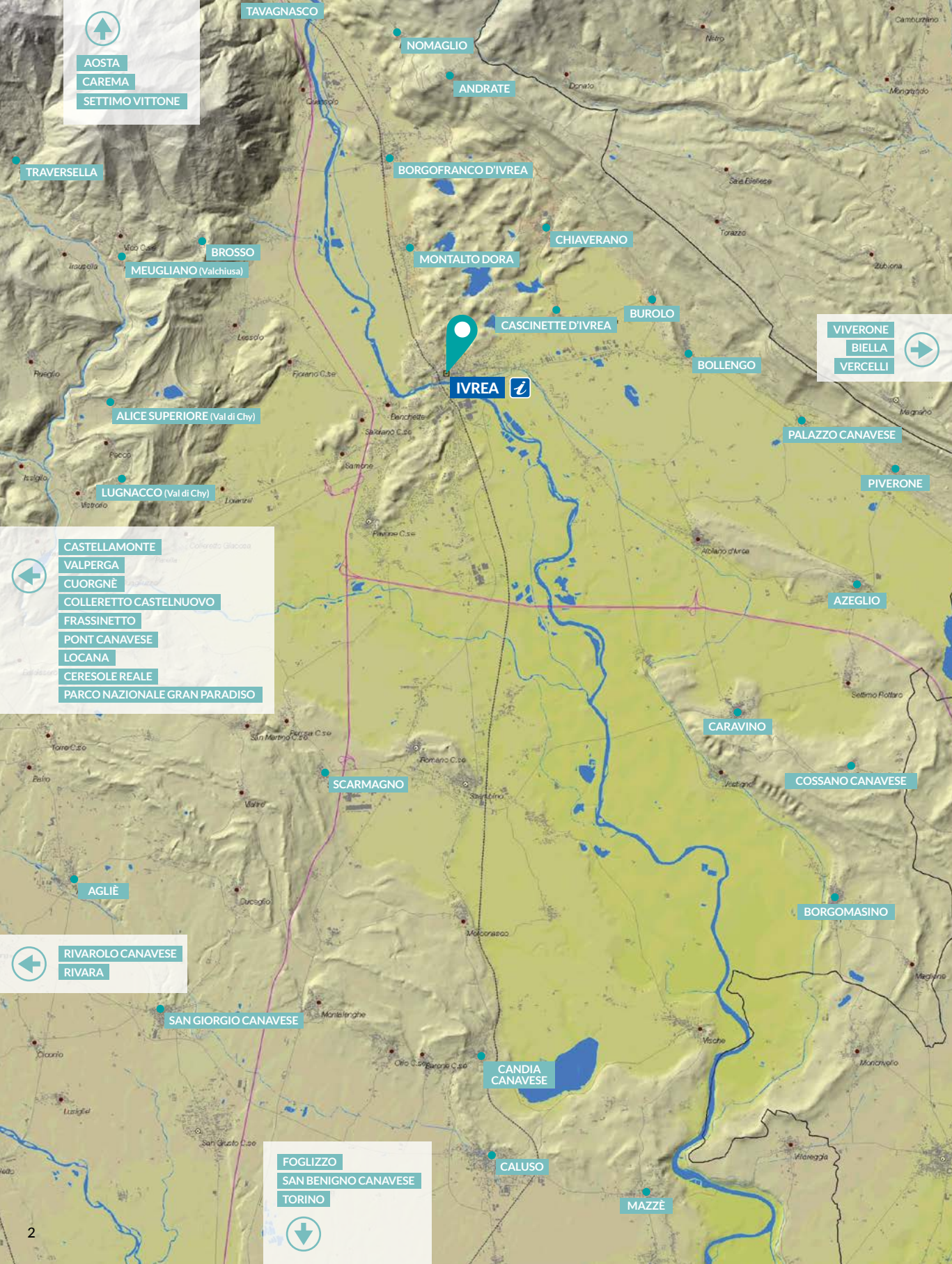
# VISITAMI

IVREA AND THE MORAINIC AMPHITHEATRE





Ivrea Morainic Amphitheatre / 2  
Ivrea / 4  
Must-sees in the AMI / 10  
Must-sees - Not only AMI / 16  
Via Francigena Morenico-Canavesana / 20  
Nature in the AMI / 24  
Nature - Not only AMI / 32  
Scents and tastes / 34  
Welcome Tour® Ivrea / 38



# AMI

## IVREA MORAINIC AMPHITRE

The **Ivrea Morainic Amphitheatre (AMI)** - one of the most important geological conformations of glacial origin in the world in terms of extension, morphological characterisation and level of conservation - lies in the central-northern area of **Canavese**, close to the Alpine massifs of the Valle d'Aosta: it is spread over an area of about **530 sq. km** with altitudes between 200 and 850 m, and was generated during the Quaternary period (about 900,000 years ago) by the erosion and accumulation of the Balteo Glacier, an imposing frozen 'river' more than 100km long and approximately 800m high that descended from the Valle d'Aosta.

The AMI offers many attractions: museums, castles, archaeological and religious sites, parks, wetlands, lakes and many places for sports and outdoor activities.

## 'ALTA VIA' OF THE IVREA MORAINIC AMPHITRE

It is a system of **nature-sports itineraries for hikers, mountain bikers and horse riders** that follows the entire arc of the main hills of the AMI - the Serra d'Ivrea, the frontal moraines and those of the Chiusella Valley - offering absolutely unique views.

The 'Alta Via' is composed of the Main Trail, from Andrate to Brossio, and the Connecting Routes, which lead from the square of each village above and at the foot of the morainic hills to the Main Trail.

**Length: 110km**  
**Difference in altitude: + 2,280m**

! [www.anfiteatromorenicoivrea.it](http://www.anfiteatromorenicoivrea.it)



# IVREA

## MORE THAN 2000 YEARS OF HISTORY

Ivrea was founded in 100 BC by the Romans on an earlier settlement.

The original toponym *Eporedia* derived from *epo* (horse) and *reda* (equestrian cart), emphasised the city's strong bond with horses, which is still celebrated today in the Patronal Feast of St Savino. The Ancient Town - to be discovered on foot while walking through the alleys and streets of the centre - traces its Roman and medieval history through its monuments: the **Castle** (p. 11), the **Cathedral of St Maria Assunta** (p. 12), the remains of the **Cloister of the Canons** with its Romanesque columns, the Romanesque **Tower of St Stefano** (p. 13); the **Bishop Palace**,

former residence of Bishop Warmondo Arborio (10th century), stands out against the medieval Bishop Tower with remarkable friezes and swallow-tailed merlons; the **'Credenza' Palace** was the ancient seat of the Municipality; the **Giusiana Palce** is a fine example of Renaissance architecture; the **Old Bridge**, for centuries the only crossing over the Dora Baltea river, is of Roman origin and was once made entirely of stone; the **'Borghetto'** is a small urban area on the other side of the Old Bridge; also worth visiting is the valuable and little-known 18th-century **Church of St Gaudenzio** (p. 13), which not far away. Leaving the town in an easterly direction, we find the remains of the large **Roman Amphitheatre** dating from the 1st century AD, designed to seat ten to fifteen thousand spectators.



*Sarcophagus of Caius Athecius Valerius.*

The ancient town is also illustrated through the routes and collections of the valuable **Pier Alessandro Garda Civic Museum** (p. 11) and the panels of the **'Parete Quinta'** at the Giusiana Gardens.

| [www.comune.ivrea.to.it](http://www.comune.ivrea.to.it)

## IVREA INDUSTRIAL CITY OF THE 20th CENTURY - UNESCO HERITAGE SITE

However Ivrea also has an **industrial City**.

Indeed, during the 20th century, the development of **Olivetti** marked its history so indelibly that it was included in the UNESCO World Heritage List as an **'Industrial City of the 20th Century'**.

The **MaAM (Open-air Museum of Modern Architecture)**, which can be visited independently following a route of about 2km along Via Jervis - with the **Visitor's Centre** located at the start - and in the adjoining areas, is part of this context. The buildings most representative of Olivetti's culture can be found here: buildings dedicated to production, research and social services, and civil dwellings that constitute the most recognisable nucleus of this architectural heritage.

**Seven information stands** also illustrate Olivetti's involvement in architecture, town planning, industrial design and advertising graphics and the cultural contexts in which these events took place.



ICO Offices.

Camillo Fountain. / Piazza Ottinetti.



The **residential neighbourhoods** - Crist, Canton Vesco, Canton Vigna, Bellavista and Sacca - are off the Via Jervis route, as is the **La Serra East Residential Unit**, built in the centre in the late 1970s with a shape reminiscent of Olivetti's iconic product: the typewriter.

The ex-Olivetti Kindergarten in Canton Vesco now houses the **National Archive of Enterprise Cinema**, which preserves 70,000 reels of films produced by Italian companies from the early 20th century

onwards: a heritage of images that can largely be consulted on



The history and evolution of the industrial and modern City is also explained in the **Tecnologic@mente Laboratory-Museum** (p. 11).

[unescovisitorcentre@ivreacittaindustriale.it](mailto:unescovisitorcentre@ivreacittaindustriale.it)  
[www.ivreacittaindustriale.it](http://www.ivreacittaindustriale.it)

In addition to the Tecnologic@mente Laboratory-Museum, anyone wanting to learn more about the history of this great brand can also book to visit the permanent exhibition **'Olivetti #StoriaDiInnovazione'** at the Olivetti Historical Archive Association.

**Olivetti Historical Archive**  
Via delle Miniere, 31  
☎ (+39) 0125.641238  
[www.archivistoricolivetti.it](http://www.archivistoricolivetti.it)

## BIG EVENTS IN THE CITY



### HISTORICAL CARNIVAL > February / March

A unique event, recognised as an Italian event of international importance, which every year brings history, myth, tradition, spectacle, emotion and great ideals to the streets and squares of the city.

The spirit of the Historic Carnival of Ivrea lives in the memory of a legendary medieval event of liberation from tyranny: the 'baron' who starved the city was killed by a miller's daughter, who did not want to submit to the *jus primae noctis* and ignited the popular uprising. The heroine of the festivity is therefore the 'Mugnaia' alongside the figure of the **General**, who has been tasked with ensuring the smooth development of the event together with his **Napoleonic General Staff**, composed of officers on horseback and female sutlers since the early 19th century.

The spectacular **Battle of Oranges** fills the city with colour and fragrance. It is a moment of great involvement and high emotions: the 'aranceri', the orange pickers on foot without any protection, fight the feudal lord's armies, shooters on horse-drawn carts with protectors and masks reminiscent of ancient armour, by throwing the citrus fruits.

As a symbol of participation in the feast, starting on Shrove Thursday, citizens and tourists take to the streets wearing a **Phrygian cap**, a red hat in the shape of a sock that represents the ideal adherence to the revolt and thus the aspiration to freedom.

### 'LA GRANDE INVASIONE' > June

This is the **festival for readers** of all ages: founded in 2013, it transforms Ivrea into an open-air reading workshop with international guests, renowned authors, and itineraries that are held and intertwine in the streets, squares, clubs, and theatres of the city with concerts, shows, exhibitions, dialogues and presentations. A special section, '**La Piccola Invasione**', is dedicated to the youngest readers: it offers children and young people the precious opportunity to meet authors, listen to stories, have fun and invent themselves through drawing and images.

*It pleases the Eporediesians and various travellers the merely curious and true connoisseurs, [...]*

*Between the right bank and the left bank it makes no distinction: it is held in Ivrea, it is 'La Grande Invasione'.*



### PATRONAL FEAST AND FAIR OF ST SAVINO > July

It is celebrated every year on **7 July** in honour of the patron **St Savino**, who actually never visited the city and only entered it six hundred years after his death.

St Savino was bishop of Spoleto between the end of the 3rd and the beginning of the 4th century, subjected to martyrdom with the amputation of his hands during the last persecution of Christians, led by Diocletian. His remains were preserved in Spoleto for a few centuries, kept in the basilica dedicated to him, until 956, when the Governor Corrado, son of Berengario II Marquis of Ivrea, moved them to his father's town to free it from the plague epidemic that had struck it: with success, according to chroniclers of the time.

In 1667, Pope Innocent X ordered a new transfer to Agliano Terme (province of Asti), where they are still kept today: some relics remained in Ivrea, preserved in a reliquary that is carried in procession on a horse-drawn carriage during the solemn patronal celebrations.

On the Sunday closest to 7 July, there is also the great **Equine Fair**, one of the most important in Italia, underlining the fundamental role that horses have had and continue to have in Ivrea's history.



# La grande invasione

## Festival della lettura

The 'Ciucarùn' - Bollengo.



# MUST-SEES IN THE AMI

## IVREA CASTLE

The famous and imposing castle 'with the red towers' - as defined by Giosuè Carducci - was built in 1358 by **Amedeo VI of Savoy**, known as the **Green Count**, in the upper part of the town. Originally the site of political events and sumptuous festivities, it still retains the character of a defensive fortress with its patrol walkways, large courtyard and dominant position.

In 1676, lightning struck the donjon, used as a powder magazine, and caused an explosion with irreparable damage to the castle and in particular to the tower itself, which has been severed ever since. From 1750 to 1970, the building was used as a prison and the structure underwent considerable alterations.

Piazza Castello - Ivrea  
turismo@comune.ivrea.to.it  
[www.comune.ivrea.to.it](http://www.comune.ivrea.to.it)



## PIER ALESSANDRO GARDA CIVIC MUSEUM

Located in the old town, it is divided into three sections: the **Archaeological Collection**, which contains findings of the city and its area from the Neolithic to the late Middle Ages; the **Oriental Art Collection**, with a rich variety of objects in metal, porcelain, lacquer, paper, silk, wood, ivory and other materials from the collections of Count Francesco Baldassarre Perrone and Pier Alessandro Garda; and the **Croff Collection**, consisting of around fifty paintings and drawings, including masterpieces by Annibale Carracci, Giorgio De Chirico and Pietro Annigoni. Throughout the year, it hosts numerous prestigious temporary exhibitions.

Piazza Ottinetti - Ivrea  
☎ (+39) 0125.634155  
musei@comune.ivrea.to.it  
[www.museogardaivrea.it](http://www.museogardaivrea.it)

## TECNOLOGIC@MENTE LABORATORY-MUSEUM

It is a valuable witness to **Olivetti's history** and a workshop aimed at schools and the new generations, to stimulate creativity and the desire to experiment, to imagine the future starting from the knowledge of one's own history and roots.

Via Di Vittorio, 29 - Ivrea  
☎ (+39) 327.3699382  
info@museotecnologicamente.it  
[www.museotecnologicamente.it](http://www.museotecnologicamente.it)

CONSULT THE WEBSITES  
TO CHECK TIMETABLES,  
PRICES AND ACCESSIBILITY.



## CATHEDRAL OF ST MARIA ASSUNTA

The **Cathedral of St Maria Assunta (10th century)**, commissioned by Bishop Warmondo as an assertion of supremacy over Marquis Arduino, stands next to the Castle: until the castle was built, its bell towers were the highest in the city. It was probably conceived on the site of a Roman temple dedicated to Apollo, which was transformed into a Christian church in the 4th century. All that remains of the mediaeval building are the ambulatory, the square bell towers and the **crypt**, which houses the sarcophagus of the Roman quaestor Caius Athecius Valerius (1st century AD). The rest of the structure has undergone continuous extensions over the centuries: the interior is baroque and the façade is neoclassical.

Outside the apse, one can admire what remains of the coeval **Cloister of the Canons**: a series of eight small columns topped by Byzantine capitals supporting rounded terracotta arches.

Piazza Castello - Ivrea  
 (+39) 0125.40109  
[www.ivrea.chiesacattolica.it](http://www.ivrea.chiesacattolica.it)



## CHURCH AND MONASTERY OF ST BERNARDINO

The complex, built between **1455 and 1465**, celebrates the passage through the city (1418) of the saint from Siena. Time, abandonment and repeated military occupations led to a situation of considerable degradation until the entire area was purchased by Camillo Olivetti in 1907, who adapted the building as his own residence and developed his company on the adjacent land.

The church houses the valuable fresco cycle '**Life and Passion of Christ**' painted by **Gian Martino Spanzotti** between 1480 and 1490, one of the most important Renaissance testimonies in Piemonte.

Both buildings, donated by the Olivetti family and TIM to the **FAI Italian Environment Fund**, are currently undergoing a major restoration project. Guided tours of the church are available by booking.

Via Montenavale, 1 - Ivrea  
[chiesadisanbernardino@gmail.com](mailto:chiesadisanbernardino@gmail.com)  
[www.fondoambiente.it](http://www.fondoambiente.it)



## CHURCH OF ST GAUDENZIO

A splendid example of Baroque architecture, it was built at the **beginning of the 18th century** on the site where, according to tradition, in 348 **St Gaudenzio** from *Eporedia*, the future Bishop of Novara, spent a night, leaving the imprint of his body on the rock used as a bed, which can be seen today under the altar.

The interior was completely frescoed by the painter **Luca Rossetti** from Orta with paintings depicting the life and miracles of the Saint.

Via San Gaudenzio - Ivrea  
[info@croass.it](mailto:info@croass.it)  
[www.croass.it](http://www.croass.it)

## TOWER OF ST STEFANO

Dating back to the **11th century** and square in shape, it is the only surviving element of the **Benedictine Abbey of St Stefano**, which remained open until the end of the 15th century, when its inexorable decline began. In 1558, the French governor Marshal Brissac ordered the destruction of part of the complex. Two centuries later, Count Perrone completed the demolition work in order to expand his private garden, sparing only the bell tower.

Corso Re Umberto - Ivrea



## SHRINE OF MOUNT STELLA

A **17th-century** place of worship that has been renovated several times. It is consecrated to the Blessed Virgin Maria of the Mount. The shrine can be reached via the sacred path of the **14 pillars of the Via Crucis**, which winds along the slope of Mount Stella: the chapels were frescoed in 1839 by the painter **Domenico Cattaneo** with scenes from the Passion of Jesus.

The oldest **Chapel of Tre Re** (1220), dedicated to the Three Kings, stands on the summit of Mount Stella. Tradition would have it that it was built on the advice of St Francesco from Assisi.

Viale Monte Stella - Ivrea  
[www.montestellaivrea.it](http://www.montestellaivrea.it)







## DUCAL CASTLE OF AGLIÈ

A seven-century-long history that has seen the passage of dukes, princes and kings. Formerly owned by the Counts San Martino and now a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** as **Royal Residence of Piemonte**, it boasts a noble past as evident from the apartments, the large park and the English and Italian-style gardens, embellished with artistic fountains. The frescoed Ballroom and the perfectly preserved rooms make the castle a triumph of both elegance and splendour, enriched by a multitude of **furnishings and collections**: from paintings to archaeological finds and surprising ornithological and oriental collections.

Piazza Castello, 1 - Agliè  
 (+39) 0124.330102  
 sbap-to.aglie@beniculturali.it  
 www.piemonte.beniculturali.it



## MASINO CASTLE

Of early medieval origin and for ten centuries the residence of the Counts Valperga di Masino, it has been the property of the **FAI Italian Environment Fund** since 1987. Overlooking the Canavese area from a panoramic position, it has been destroyed and rebuilt several times, over time transforming the ancient fortress into a noble residence. The interior houses **furnishings and ornate decorations**: the Ancestors' Gallery, the Poets' Gallery and the Ballroom are of particular interest; the Chapel preserves the ashes of Arduino of Ivrea, the first king of Italia, while the 18th-century stables house **12 carriages** belonging to the Valperga family. A 19th-century park of 20 hectares surrounds the castle.

Via al Castello, 1 - Caravino, hamlet Masino  
 (+39) 0125.778100  
 faimasino@fondoambiente.it  
 www.fondoambiente.it

'La Botega del Frer' Museum - Chiaverano.



## ◀ MUSEUM NETWORK AND ROMANESQUE CHURCHES OF THE IVREA MORAINIC AMPHITHEATRE

The **AMI Museum Network**, organised by the **Ecomuseum of the Ivrea Morainic Amphitheatre**, narrates and safeguards the history, economy, traditions and culture of the area through various types of small local museums: from ethnographic to historical, geological and artistic. The circuit of **AMI Romanesque Churches** was developed alongside the museums, many of them on the route of the Via Francigena: some of them are perfectly preserved, others have been rebuilt over the centuries and some are still represented by elements that have survived the passage of time.

The AMI sites are open to the public from mid-June to the end of September/mid-October: museums on Saturdays 3pm-6pm, Sundays 10am-12pm and 3pm-6pm; the churches follow a Sunday schedule.

Corso Centrale, 53 - Chiaverano  
 (+39) 0125.54533  
 info@ecomuseoami.it  
 www.ecomuseoami.it



MUST-SEES

NOT  
ONLY AMI

## RIVARA CASTLE

A complex consisting of two buildings, dating back to the 12th-14th centuries and transformed in the 19th century by the Portuguese architect **Alfredo D'Andrade**: the **Old Castle** retains many traces of its medieval origins, while the **New Castle** is in a Baroque style. Surrounded by a vast centuries-old park, the building is home to an important **Contemporary Art Centre** and hosts international exhibitions and cultural events.

Piazza Sillano, 2 - Rivara  
☎ (+39) 0124.31122  
info@castellodirivara.it  
www.castellodirivara.it

## MALGRÀ CASTLE

Built in the 14th century by the San Martino dynasty against the wishes of their rivals, the Valperga family, it was therefore called 'Malgrà' (in spite of). The original construction consisted of two buildings joined by a boundary wall and a high **circular tower** that still exists today. Renovated in the 19th century by **D'Andrade**, it has preserved the elegant **little portico frescoed** in 1440, the crenellated walls and the **drawbridge**.

Via Maurizio Farina, 57 - Rivarolo Canavese  
☎ (+39) 333.1301516  
castellomalgra@tiscali.it  
www.amicicastellomalgra.it



## ◀ SACRED MOUNT OF BELMONTE

It is the **most important religious site in the area**, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** since 2003. The Belmonte hill is crossed by this surprising sacred route, where each stage is marked by a chapel: a spiritual path made even more beautiful by the wooded natural environment in which it is set. The route ends at the **Shrine**, with its predominantly 19th-century appearance, from where there is an incomparable view over the Canavese area.

Locality Trucchi - Valperga  
info.belmonte@sacri-monti.com  
www.sacromonte-belmonte.com

CONSULT THE WEBSITES  
TO CHECK TIMETABLES,  
PRICES AND ACCESSIBILITY.

## CHURCH OF ST GIORGIO

The oldest document dates back to 1150, but the church had already been used for some time as the chapel of the **Castle of the Counts Valperga** and as the village's parish church: the high bell tower with its Romanesque marble mullioned windows dates back to that period. The church belonged to nobles, therefore, who called talented painters to work on it: the complex of **frescoes inside**, in fact, constitutes one of the **most important** medieval pictorial cycles in the **Canavese** area.

Via Alessandro Volta - Valperga

☎ (+39) 0124.617174

amicisgiorgio@tiscali.it

[www.amicisangiorgiovalperga.it](http://www.amicisangiorgiovalperga.it)

## SHRINE OF ST ELISABETTA

It is located in a **panoramic position** halfway up the slopes of Mount Quinzeina: from its panoramic viewpoint, the view sweeps over a vast portion of the Canavese area and the Torino plain. The church, built in 1796, houses a painting by Peracino, a 17th-century artist. Numerous **votive chapels** stand out in the lush surrounding vegetation.

Col Crosiglietto- Colletterto Castelnuovo

☎ (+39) 0124.699816



## FRUTTUARIA ABBEY

Founded in 1003 by **Guglielmo da Volpiano**, it was restored to its ancient splendour thanks to restoration work that allowed the discovery of a **magnificent mosaic** depicting two griffins. In the Middle Ages it was one of the most powerful in the region and it was here that **Arduino**, the first king of Italia, died, whose remains are preserved in Masino Castle. In 1776, another Baroque-style abbey was built alongside the original one, the work of architects **Vittone** and **Quarini**.

Piazza Cardinale delle Lanze, 1

San Benigno Canavese

☎ (+39) 011.9880487

no.ma@libero.it

[polomusealepiemonte.beniculturali.it](http://polomusealepiemonte.beniculturali.it)

## AND ALSO...



## CASTELLAMONTE, WHERE EVERYTHING SPEAKS OF CERAMICS

A tradition that dates back to the mists of time and that permeates the town in every corner: from its symbol, the **tofèja** (a typical terracotta pot), to the famous ceramic stoves, the **Pomodoro Arch** and the **Nespolo Stove**; from the **decorations** on the houses to the curious **pitòciu** on the roofs, the **handicraft shops** of local ceramists and the **Parish Church of Sts Pietro e Paolo**... and of course the **Ceramics Exhibition** that has characterised the summer of Castellamonte for over sixty years.

| [www.comune.castellamonte.to.it](http://www.comune.castellamonte.to.it)

## CUORGNÈ, FROM ARDUINO TO THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

The important medieval village **Curtis Canava**, which gave its name to the Canavese, stood close by. The early centre of Cuorgnè also dates back to that period: in today's **Via Arduino**, with its characteristic low arcades, the **Clock Tower**, the **Carlevato Tower** and the so-called **House of King Arduino** can still be seen. The old town and the Old Bridge over the river Orco are the protagonists of the annual re-enactment '**May Tournament at the Court of King Arduino**'. The industrial era of the 18th-19th centuries is instead documented by the large '**Manifattura**' building, today home to the **Canavese Archaeological Museum**.

| [www.comune.cuorgne.to.it](http://www.comune.cuorgne.to.it)

## PONT CANAVESE, THE GATEWAY TO THE GRAN PARADISO NATIONAL PARK

It was a Roman settlement dating back to the 1st century BC at the entrance to the Orco and Soana valleys, and in the Middle Ages it enjoyed an intense commercial life and was a land of castles: of the **Castrum Tellarii** the **Tellaria Tower** (10th-11th century) and of the **Castrum Ferrandæ** the **Ferranda Tower** (10th-11th century, with the **Museum of the Territory** inside) remain; the **Church of St Costanzo** was built on the remains of a chapel annexed to the **Castrum Pontis**, and was then demolished and rebuilt in the 17th century. The ancient **Church of St Maria** (13th century), the matrix parish church of all the churches in the valleys, was built on Mount Oliveto in the Doblazio hamlet. The creation of the original and curious **Cannon Sandretto Plastic Museum** dates back to the 20th century.

| [www.comune.pontcanavese.to.it](http://www.comune.pontcanavese.to.it)



# VIA FRANCIGENA MORENICO- CANAVESANA

Discovering the area through the **paths of the spirit** is a unique and engaging experience.

Since the early Middle Ages, the Via Francigena has been the itinerary followed by pilgrims from all over northern central Europe to reach Roma, seat of the Papacy and heart of Christianity: 1600km long, in 990 it was travelled, recorded and described in 79 days by **Archbishop Sigeric** returning to Canterbury after being invested with the archiepiscopal pallium by Pope John XV. His diary is therefore the most authentic testimony of the route, which has been declared a '**Cultural Route of the Council of Europe**', similar to the Camino de Santiago de Compostela in Spain.

The route of the **Via Francigena Morenico-Canavesana**, between the Valle d'Aosta and Biella-Vercelli stretches, is about 50km long and crosses the territories of **10 Municipalities**. Along the way, it passes through a beautiful stretch of the Ivrea Morainic Amphitheatre, dotted with lakes and characterised by the long profile of the 'Serra'; there were also numerous stops to refresh the body and spirit, and it is still possible to find a number of Romanesque testimonies that encapsulate the charm of the time.

The association **La Via Francigena di Sigerico** welcomes pilgrims at its information point in Ivrea, providing useful information on routes, suggestions and references.

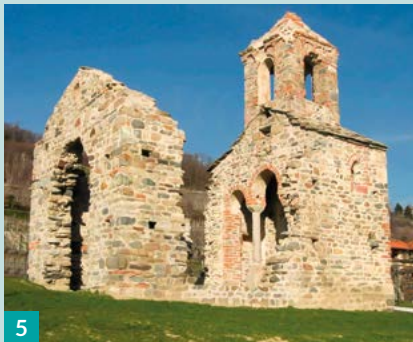
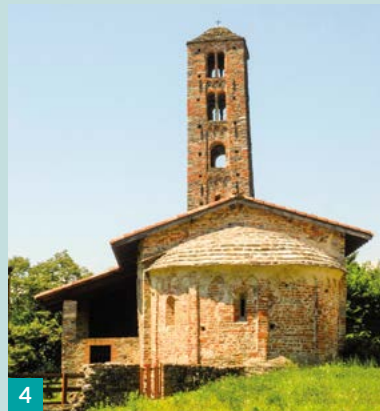
The 'Burnèl' - Nomaglio.



La Via Francigena di Sigerico  
Association  
Corso Botta - Ivrea  
(+39) 328.0045913  
info@francigenasigerico.it  
www.francigenasigerico.it

## NOT TO BE MISSED ON THE ROUTE

1. Parish Church of St Lorenzo and the Baptistery of St Giovanni - Settimo Vittone
2. Church of St Giacomo - Settimo Vittone, hamlet Montestrutto
3. 'Ciucarùn' - Bollengo
4. Church of Sts Pietro e Paolo in Pessano - Bollengo
5. 'Gesìun' - Piverone
6. Bell tower of St Pietro in Subloco - Piverone



## VIA FRANCIGENA FOR ALL

Walking tourism, which combines the trekking and the spirituality of pilgrimage, is constantly expanding. **Via Francigena For All** is a European pilot project with the aim of making this route an example of accessible and inclusive tourism on an international level.

The route is open to everyone and a part of the Piemonte section - 4 parks and 47 Municipalities - will be equipped with benches, sensory panels with sound illustrations for the blind and

subtitled videos for the deaf, as well as accessible rest areas on the 36km of the 'morenico-canavesano' (between Ivrea and Viverone) and 'valsusino' (between Villar Focchiardo and Avigliana) sections.

In addition, using smartphones, it is possible to book visits to 20 ecclesiastical cultural assets that have joined the 'Chiese a Porte Aperte' system, for an accessibility for all 365 days a year.

www.visitpiemonte.com/via-francigena-for-all



REGIONE  
PIEMONTE



Via Francigena for All.

The Via Romea Canavesana-Vercellese is a variant of Sigeric's itinerary that winds through the hills of the AMI touching no less than 23 different municipalities and, after crossing the Dora Baltea river in Mazzè, reaches the plain, heading towards Livorno Ferraris and Vercelli.

www.viaromeacanesana.it



# NATURE IN THE AMI

## THE FIVE LAKES PARK

The **Five Lakes of the Serra d'Ivrea** - one of the most beautiful areas in Canavese - offers the possibility of immersing oneself in the colours of all seasons **on foot, by bicycle or on horseback** along the connecting paths.

The closest to the city is **Lake St Michele**, overlooked to the south by the ridge on which the Shrine of Mount Stella stands (p. 13).

The **Lake Campagna** (Cascinette d'Ivrea) is an oasis of greenery and tranquility: from the little rocks of the 'Castellazzo' and along the path that runs alongside it, there is a splendid view of St Giuseppe Castle, the Mombarone, the Serra and Chiaverano.

The best known is **Lake Sirio** (Ivrea/Chiaverano), fit for bathing and with facilities, and for this reason a tourist destination in the summer season. The route has two variants that lead to the Roman Aqueduct and to the 'Terre Ballerine', a former peat bog whose elastic terrain undulates under the steps of those who walk there.

The ring of **Lake Pistono** (Montalto Dora) winds its way through vineyards and chestnut woods under the watchful eye of Montalto Castle: the 'Terre Ballerine' can also be reached from here, while the 'Variante del Maggio' leads to one of the most interesting panoramic points of the AMI.

The gloomy and wild charm of **Lake Nero** (Montalto Dora/Borgofranco d'Ivrea) has given rise to numerous legends; it can be visited along a circular path where you will come across a tombstone, an erratic boulder and the 'Guardian's House'.

The **Maresco di Bienca** ring (Chiaverano) also runs alongside a lake basin used in Roman times to conduct water from the hill to Ivrea: the remains of the Roman aqueduct are still partly visible.

| [omnia@comune.montalto-dora.to.it](mailto:omnia@comune.montalto-dora.to.it)  
[www.comune.montalto-dora.to.it](http://www.comune.montalto-dora.to.it)



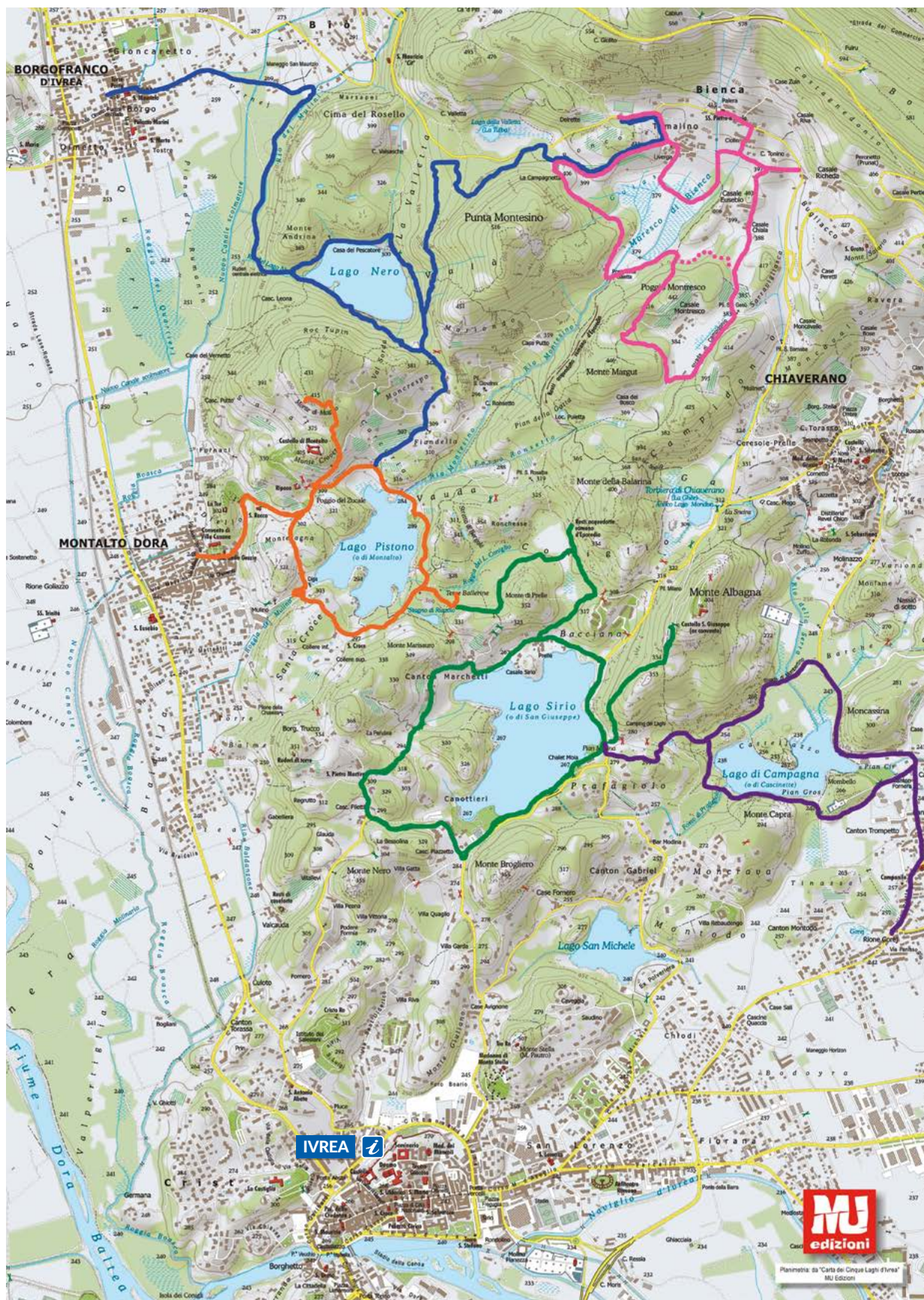
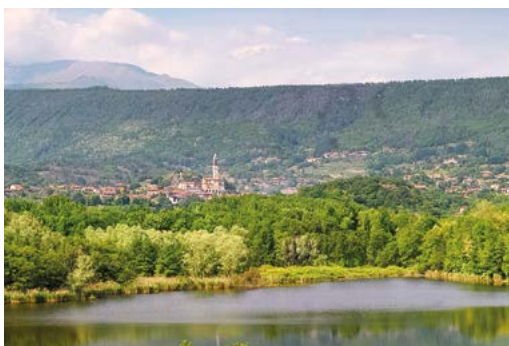
Five Lakes Park.

WALKS

# 5 LAKES

- Lake Campagna
- Lake Sirio
- Lake Pistono
- Lake Nero
- Maresco di Bienca

Lake Sirio / Lake Campagna..





## THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK AT LAKE PISTONO

In 2003, an archaeological excavation at **Lake Pistono**, in the Municipality of Montalto Dora, revealed traces of a Neolithic pile-dwelling settlement. The **exhibition space** is arranged in thematic sections with display cases and explanatory panels, to demonstrate how people lived 7,000 years ago. The **open-air route** runs along a section of the Five Lakes orange ring, accessible to people with disabilities and marked by panels illustrating the site's chronological, cultural and naturalistic data: at the end is a scientifically faithful reconstruction of a Neolithic hut and some ancillary structures. The Archaeological Park organises **educational workshops** for schools and **guided tours** for adults.

Piazza IV Novembre, 3 - Montalto Dora

☎ (+39) 0125.650014

info@archeolagopistono.it

www.archeolagopistono.it

## THE CAREMA VINEYARDS PATH

A **4km** long circular route with a **100m difference** in altitude, which allows you to visit the vineyards and the most important sights in the village at any time of the year: the attentive hiker will walk through the ancient, perched **terraces** and then notice the aedicules built into the walls of the village houses and the sculpted portals, understand the meaning of the inscriptions decorating the **fountains** and be amazed by the presence of the mighty medieval **fortified houses**.

As you walk along this 'path', you can understand the value of the topiary architecture with its characteristic stone *pilun* that is such a noticeable feature of the Carema landscape, perceiving the scent of the land from which the precious 'Carema' wine (p. 37) is born.

📌 [www.comune.carema.to.it](http://www.comune.carema.to.it)

## THE CHIUSELLA VALLEY

It extends a few kilometres from Ivrea and takes its name from the stream that runs through it, the **Chiusella**, once a source of energy for the numerous factories linked to the valley's important iron mines. Here, nature and man interact perfectly: livestock breeding, agriculture, rural and sports tourism still tell of the richness of biodiversity and the traditional knowledge implemented on a daily basis.

There are numerous **trekking and biking itineraries** through history, work, landscapes, flora and fauna - noteworthy are the **lakes of Alice and Meugliano** and the **'Path of the Souls'**, marked by important rock engravings from the Neolithic period - as are naturalistic and gastronomic events such as **'El Sabat d le Erbe'**, guided walks to learn about wild mountain herbs.

📌 [valchiusella360.it](http://valchiusella360.it) / [www.erbedivalchiusella.it](http://www.erbedivalchiusella.it)



## THE LAKE CANDIA NATURAL PARK

It is **one of the most interesting wetlands in Piemonte**, with a significant presence of fauna and botanical species. Formed by a depression of the Dora Baltea river at the end of the Ice Age, it has maintained intact the many naturalistic features that make it a destination for educational visits and environmental tourism; it is also included in the EU list of **SPAs-Special Protection Areas**, as many types of migratory birds winter or stop over here

📌 [www.parks.it/parco.lago.candia](http://www.parks.it/parco.lago.candia)

## THE LAKE VIVERONE PILE-DWELLING SITE

Included in the **UNESCO** system of **'Prehistoric Pile-Dwelling Sites of the Alpine Arc'**, it is located **between Viverone and Azeglio**, i.e. on the border between the provinces of Biella and Torino: it consists of the lower parts of more than 5,000 piles that supported the structures of a large Bronze Age circular village.

No original traces can be found on the lake, but at **Boscarina di Azeglio** a pile-dwelling landing site has been reconstructed in an oasis of tranquillity and unspoilt nature.

📌 [www.atl.biella.it](http://www.atl.biella.it)

Fondo, Traversella.





## OUTDOOR SPORTS

The **Dora Baltea** river flows through the city of Ivrea and the entire Morainic Amphitheatre. Those strolling along the city's romantic *Lungo Dora* often see canoeists training in what is one of the sites of excellence for **international slalom canoeing**. The race course - a **natural 'stadium', the only one in the world** in the centre of a city - is in fact the FICK National Federal Centre and hosts prestigious events such as the World Championships.

| [www.ivreacanoaclub.info](http://www.ivreacanoaclub.info)

However, the entire area offers a lush and largely unspoilt environment, a natural home for **countless outdoor sports**: rock climbing, paragliding, horse riding, rafting, mountain biking, Nordic walking, running, trekking...



Canoe Stadium - Ivrea.

## TAVAGNASCO PUMP TRACK

Parabolic bends, whoops and jumps to be tackled by **bike** (BMX, dirt, MTB with working rear brake), **roller skates**, **skateboard** or appropriate **scooter** on **two tracks**: one of around 90m for children and beginners and one of around 220m for adults and experts.

All areas are accessible to people with disabilities: the gradients have standardised ramps and slopes that can be tackled by aids and wheelchairs.

| [www.tpumpt.com](http://www.tpumpt.com)



## LA TURNA SPORTS AREA AND ADVENTURE PARK

The walls of the **Montestrutto cliff** (a hamlet of **Settimo Vittone**) have always attracted the attention of climbers: in 2009 the routes were therefore equipped to create a modern climbing gym, a site suitable for everyone, with routes classed from easy to medium-difficult. In 2014, the **Adventure Park** in an oak forest was added.

There are two routes: **Green** for adults and children (300m with 10 aerial games) and **Blue** for adults and children from 6 years of age (900m with 17 aerial games).

| [www.laturna.it](http://www.laturna.it)

## ANTHARES WORLD ADVENTURE PARK

Inaugurated in 2003, it was the **first acrobatic park in Piemonte** and the third in Italia, directly overlooking **Lake Candia** in a wood of linden and plane trees. Equipped with 63 pieces of equipment divided into 9 courses of increasing difficulty and height, it is accessible from 5 years of age (children's course) and has no upper age limits... the important thing is not to suffer from vertigo (or at least not to know you do!) and not to be afraid of heights.

| [www.antharesworld.com/parco-avventura](http://www.antharesworld.com/parco-avventura)



NATURE

NOT  
ONLY AMI

## ◀ GRAN PARADISO NATIONAL PARK

Encompassing the **Orco and Soana valleys**, it is **Italia's first national park** by institution: it was established in 1922 as a Savoy royal reserve to ensure the survival of the ibex.

From the 800m of the valley bottoms to the 4061m of the Gran Paradiso peak, larch and fir forests, alpine meadows, rocks and glaciers provide the ideal habitat for a **rich and varied fauna** and a marvellous setting for a visit to discover the world of the high mountains. Ibexes, chamois, marmots, stoats, squirrels and rare birds such as the golden eagle, bearded vulture and ptarmigan live freely in this area, which can also be travelled along kilometres of **Royal Hunting Trails**.

Hikers and mountaineers can find accommodation in refuges and bivouacs, while **Lake Ceresole Reale** and various marked trails are available for windsurfing, sailing and mountain-biking in summer, and cross-country skiing in winter.

Famous among cyclists is the legendary climb to the 2612m **Col of Nivolet**.

| [www.pngp.it](http://www.pngp.it)



## GRAN PARADISO ADVENTURE PARK - THE WAYS OF THE WOLF

A place of peace and tranquillity in **Locana**, surrounded by a forest of centuries-old chestnut trees. **7 acrobatic routes** of varying difficulty and length, **7 routes**, **7 attraction points** with suspended platforms, Tibetan bridges, moving walkways and cable cars, jumps and many breathtaking passages. And there is also the **Up2tree**, the real tree climbing!

A park suitable for everyone: from sports, nature and game lovers to school groups and tourists looking for fun.

| [www.aventuragranparadiso.it](http://www.aventuragranparadiso.it)

## ARCANSEL - THE RAINBOW'S FLIGHT

**Frassinetto**, a small mountain village at 1050m, is known as 'the balcony over Canavese' for its panoramic position.

**Arcansel** is a spectacular single span facility (1298m at the start, 1040m at the finish) where you can experience the thrill of flying while suspended from a metal cable with a pulley and harness: **1800m of free flight**, admiring the plain below and the mountains of the Gran Paradiso National Park, in the longest angel flight in the Alps.

| [www.arcansel.it](http://www.arcansel.it)



# SCENTS AND TASTES



**Strada Reale**  
DEI VINI TORINESI

The **Canavese** is a **land rich in vineyards**, proof of a passion for wine that has ancient roots.

Since Roman times, the variety of its natural environments and microclimates has allowed the cultivation of vines and the diversification of grape varieties and forms of viticulture: from the plains to the first Alpine foothills, vineyards are an integral part of these landscapes.

| [www.enostrada.com](http://www.enostrada.com)



*'Balmetti' of Borgofranco. / Erbaluce Harvest.*

Regional Enoteca  
of Wines of the Province of Torino  
Valperga di Masino Palace  
Piazza Valperga, 2 - Caluso  
☎ (+39) 011.9831041  
[www.enotecaregionaletorino.wine](http://www.enotecaregionaletorino.wine)



## ERBALUCE DI CALUSO

The legend tells of the **nymph Albaluce**, daughter of the Sun and the Dawn, who lived on the shores of the immense lake that occupied AMI and was loved by all the people; however, Queen Ypa decided to empty the lake to have more arable land, causing the death of many people: the nymph's tears, falling on the brambles, generated the golden clusters of Erbaluce.

Three types of wine are obtained from the white grape variety: **Erbaluce di Caluso**, **Caluso Passito** and **Caluso Spumante**. For the production of the Passito, the grapes rest in lofts for a few months before pressing, concentrating

those aromas that will then be released intensely in glasses.

Erbaluce di Caluso was awarded **DOC-Denomination of Controlled Origin** in 1967 and **DOCG-Denomination of Controlled and Guaranteed Origin** in 2010.

In the lands of Caluso area and the hills of Piverone - as in the entire Canavese area - many other delicacies such as *Salam 'd Patata*, a poor sausage made from the union of pork and potato, and typical biscuits such as *Torcetti* and *Paste di Meliga* can be enjoyed.



## 'BALMETTI' OF BORGOFRANCO

The 'Balmetti' of Borgofranco d'Ivrea, located 1km from the town centre, are **about 250 ancient natural cellars** that exploit the conformation of the morainic rocks left by the Balteo Glacier, through which the 'ore', air currents that keep them at a **constant temperature of 7/8° C** all year round, blow.

Farmers and winegrowers took advantage of this natural phenomenon by building their cellars up against the mountain to store cheese, cold cuts and above all 'Vin del Balmèt', to be enjoyed with *Canestrelli*, Borgofranco's typical biscuits.

| [www.balmetti.com](http://www.balmetti.com)

## CAREMA

Two local types of the **Nebbiolo grape**, *Picutener* and *Pugnet*, and the morainic rocks: these are the secrets of one of Piemonte's noblest wines, **Carema**, a classy red that has held the **DOC-Denomination of Controlled Origin** since 1967.

The production of these grapes has developed tenaciously at 350-700 m above sea level, thanks to patient and laborious **dry terracing work** that has transformed the landscape: the vineyards of Carema are characterised by pergolas supported by stone pillars in the shape of truncated cones (*pilun*) that accumulate heat during the day and

release it at night, offering the vines the best growing conditions.

All stages of vinification, storage and ageing are carried out in the production area comprising the entire municipality of Carema and the hamlet Ivery in the municipality of Pont-Saint-Martin (province of Aosta).

Cheeses in this area offer peaks of typicality in cow's or goat's milk *tomini* and alpine *tome*, sometimes flavoured or processed in typical processes such as *brüss* and *salignùn*.



# WELCOME TOUR® IVREA

## WELCOME TOUR® IVREA

Ivrea as you've never seen it!

**Every first Saturday of the month**, two guided walking tours, each two hours long, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, so you really don't miss anything of the city!



### 10.30AM > WELCOME TOUR® HISTORIC CENTRE

To retrace the history of the city and its monuments: the Medieval Castle, the Cathedral with its Romanesque bell towers and restored crypt, the Bishop's Palace, the alleyways of the upper city with their evocative views and the squares where the Battle of Oranges takes place during the Historic Carnival. Start from the Tourist Office in Piazza Ottinetti.

### 2.30PM > WELCOME TOUR® UNESCO INDUSTRIAL CITY

Discovering the architectural and socio-cultural heritage of Adriano Olivetti: the buildings for production, residence and social services designed by the most famous architects and town planners of the 20th century. The tour includes entrance to the Visitor's Centre, the Social Services Centre with access to the library spaces and terraces, an apartment in the famous 'Talponia', and the 4th extension 'New ICO'. Start from the Red Brick Factory in Via Jervis 9/11.

Visits are in Italian/English  
and booking is required.





Discover Ivrea and the Canavese.  
Download the VisitAMI app.



Great care and attention has been taken in drafting this guide to ensure the reliability and accuracy of the information.

Nevertheless, Turismo Torino e Provincia suggests you always check timetables, addresses, accessibility and availability of the sites, products and services indicated.

**Design, creativity, text and graphic realisation:**

Turismo Torino e Provincia - Communication Area,  
Noodles®

**Photos:** Turismo Torino e Provincia Photographic archive, Gran Paradiso National Park Photographic archive, Via Francigene European Association, Via Francigena Canavesana di Sigerico Association, Canavese Village, Ivrea Morainic Amphitheatre Ecomuseum, Getty Images, Ij Croass del Borghet, Ivrea Canoe Club, P.A. Garda Civic Museum, La Turna Adventure Park, VisitPiemonte, Adobe Stock. Claudio Aimone, Alessio Avetta, Bruno Bassano, Giorgia Caserio, Fulvio Lavarino, Paolo Meitre Libertini, Pierandrea Monni, Anna Rinaldi, Emilia Sabolo, Francesca Tapparo.

**Editorially closed:**

May 2024





## TOURIST INFORMATION AND WELCOME

### Ivrea Tourist Office

Piazza Ottinetti

☎ (+39) 0125.618131

✉ info.ivrea@turismotorino.org

📘 @ufficioturisticoivrea



Visit Torino's Official Tourist website

[www.turismotorino.org/en](http://www.turismotorino.org/en)



LOGO  
FSC



*Città di Ivrea*



TQ Braille®  
patrocinato dall'Unione Italiana  
dei Ciechi e degli Ipovedenti (UICI)