Green
is Bologna

Discover

the Apennines by mountain bike

Alto Reno Terme
Porretta Terme and Granaglione

Step up a gear and start your discovery of the Apennines. Jump on your mountain bike and start exploring the hidden corners, the trails less-travelled and the charming areas of Alto Reno Terme (Porretta Terme and Granaglione), in the heart of the Tuscan-Emilian Apennines. Six cycle routes combining trails, history and flavours. Some of them are also suitable for people with disabilities. Ready to go?

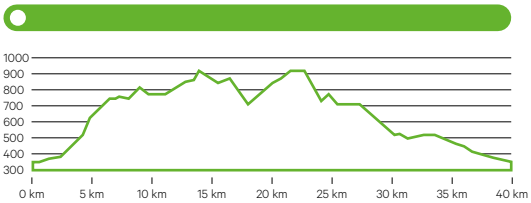
How to get there
Bologna and Porretta Terme are easily reachable by the main modes of transport.

Bologna
- Bologna G. Marconi Airport
- Bologna Centrale station
- Motorways (A1-A13-A14)

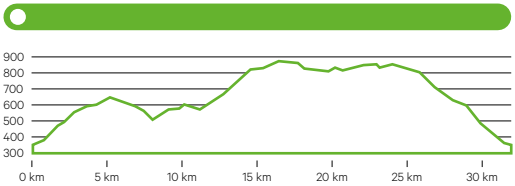
Porretta Terme
- Porretta Terme station
- SS64

The Apennines by mountain bike

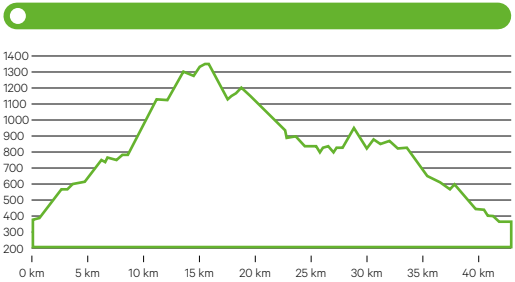
Porretta Terme



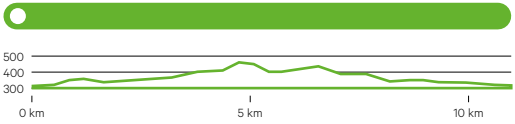
Route 1
40 km



Route 2
32 km

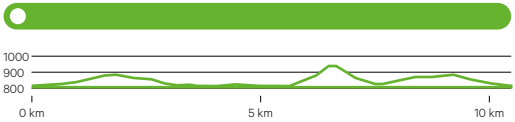


Route 3
43 km

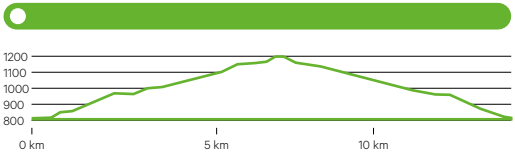


Route 4
11 km

Castelluccio



Route 5
10.5 km



Route 6
13 km

L'impedalabile del nonno

Route 1

The itinerary follows the route of the "impedalabile del nonno" (Grandad's boneshaker) vintage cycle fun ride, devised by the Casio Group. Echoing the better-known Eroica and Storica rides, the trail skirts the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Calvigi, the Granaglione Castle and passes through authentic hamlets and villages immersed in the chestnut groves of the Apennines.

Distance: 40 km
Elevation: 1300 m
Terrain: asphalt, forest trail
Bicycle: road, mountain, gravel bike
Difficulty: IMBA 1 (very easy)
Time: 4 hrs

Points of interest:
Granaglione and its hidden villages, Sanctuary of Calvigi, Granaglione Castle, Nazareno mill
Drinking fountains:
in all the villages along the route
Viewpoints:
provincial road SP55

La Madonna del Faggio

Route 2

A 33 km route in a thick forest of oaks, chestnut trees and beech trees giving splendid views of the region's highest mountains such as Corno alle Scale. Interesting stop-offs can be made at the Experimental Chestnut Educational Park and Manservisi Castle. An enjoyable dirt trail leads to the beguiling Sanctuary of Madonna del Faggio, in a forest made even more evocative by the local legend of the image of Our Lady appearing on a beech tree (faggio) trunk.

Distance: 32 km
Elevation: 1100 m
Terrain: asphalt, forest trail
Bicycle: road, mountain, gravel bike
Difficulty: IMBA 1 (very easy)
Time: 3 hrs

Points of interest:
The ancient villages of Madognana, Castelluccio and Tresana, Sanctuary of Madonna del Faggio, Manservisi Castle
Drinking fountains:
in all the villages along the route
Leisure activities:
Visit to Manservisi Castle and Laborantes Museum (booking required)

La Madonna del Faggio
© Edoardo Melchiori

Madonna del Cavallo loop-trail
© Made in Art

Monte del Cavallo loop-trail

Route 3

This great local classic is a must for anyone who loves MTB forest trails! It's the most physically and technically demanding route, but the option of alternatives makes it easier. The ascent is steep but rideable in places and the descent has several single tracks, some of them challenging.

Distance: 43 km
Elevation: 1500 m
Terrain: asphalt, forest trails, historic trails
Bicycle: bike, gravel bike
Difficulty: IMBA 2 (easy)
Time: 4.5 hrs

Points of interest: The ancient villages of Lustrola and Granaglione, the Santuario della Madonna del Faggio, Castello Manservisi
Drinking fountains: in all the villages along the route
Viewpoints: Le Tre Croci (The three crosses), Monte Piella
Refuges: Monte Cavallo, Casette del Doccione

Madonna del Ponte – Molino Chicon
© Fondazione Silvia Rinaldi

Madonna del Ponte Molino Chicon

Route 4

A simple and pleasant route with gentle inclines and an even surface. It follows the same road on the outbound and return tract along the Reno River and the Limentra River to the Chicon Mill. The route is accessible and is also recommended for families.

Distance: 11 km
Elevation: 200 m
Terrain: asphalt, forest trail
Bicycle: mountain bike, gravel bike and bike with aids (handbike, tandem)
Difficulty: IMBA 1 (very easy)
Time: 1.5 hrs

Points of interest: Sanctuary of Madonna del Ponte, Chicon Mill (visits require booking), Reno and Limentra rivers
Drinking fountains: Porretta Terme at the departure point; along the route only near Venturina Bridge and the village of Pavana
Route: Easy; suitable also for bicycles with aids and families with children

Castelluccio – Monte Piella

Route 5

Outward and return itinerary with an initial moderately demanding climb on asphalt road and then along a forest road shaded by beautiful beech woods. Arrival at Monte Piella Cross (1198 m) with a spectacular view of the entire Reno Valley. The return follows the same road. Also suitable for people who can tackle hills easily. Accessible route.

Distance: 10.5 km
Elevation: 394 m
Terrain: asphalt, forest trail
Bicycle: mountain bike, gravel bike and bike with aids (handbike-tandem)
Difficulty: IMBA 2 (easy)
Time: 1.5 hrs

Castelluccio – Madonna del Faggio

Route 6

Outward and return route with light, gentle slopes starting from the village of Castelluccio where a stop at Manservisi Castle is a must. The easy, non-technical road gives spectacular views of the Corno alle Scale and village of Monteacuto and leads to the very impressive Sanctuary of Madonna del Faggio. The route is also suitable for children. Accessible route.

Distance: 13 km
Elevation: 345 m
Terrain: asphalt, forest trail
Bicycle: road, mountain, gravel bike
Difficulty: IMBA 2 (easy)
Time: 1.5 hrs

I can do the routes independently at any time of the year?
Yes. We recommend exploring the area in spring, summer and autumn. In summer you have to be careful of heat spikes; in spring and autumn you will have heavy rains.

IS it useful to carry a first aid kit?
It is advisable to carry a first aid kit with you on any cycling excursion.

How can I organise my excursion or trip?
If you want assistance in organising your excursion or trip, you can contact eXtraBO, the outdoor infopoint in Bologna where specialised staff can help you on each step of the way. If you're not in Bologna yet, you can send an email to: extrabo@bolognawelcome.it

Where can I find GPX tracks?
You can find all the tracks and information you need to complete your journey safely at discoveraltorenoterme.it or extrabo.com.

Scan the QR code to view routes and download GPX tracks

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Accessible routes are designed by the charity Fondazione Silvia Rinaldi Onlus

Basic safety rules
- Cycling alone can be dangerous
- People with disabilities should always be accompanied, especially if the route is not well-known
- Tell others where you are going before you leave
- Make sure you and all other cyclists are physically and technically prepared for the route you want to take
- Uses GPS tracking (top up your battery charge and possibly carry spare batteries) and reliable maps. You must be able to communicate your position to others at any time
- Equip yourself with suitable clothing (windproof, rain-proof, thermal)
- Wear a helmet, gloves and glasses
- Knee and elbow pads are recommended (especially for handbikers)
- Use machines that are technically adequate (for the "style" of the route) and in good working condition
- Use GPX tracks that have been proven reliable

It is advisable to bring
- Water and energy foods (bars and gels). Electrolytes are also highly recommended
- A charged mobile phone (a dual SIM phone is recommended)
- A charged power bank if you plan a full-day trip
- A mechanical service/repair kit
- A first aid kit
- Finally, we advise you to bring emergency lights, whatever the season

discoveraltorenoterme.it

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Programma di Sviluppo Rurale dell'Emilia-Romagna 2014-2020
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