

ITINERARY

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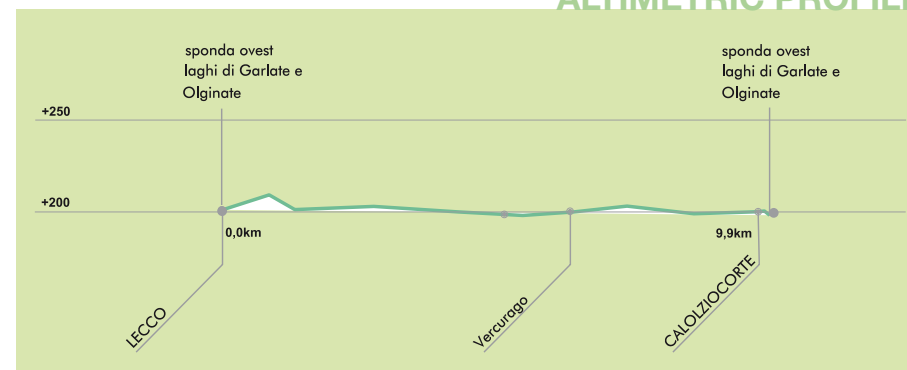


THE RING OF LAKES OF GARLATE AND OLGINATE



LENGTH OF THE ROUTE:	9.9 Km
DEPARTURE - ARRIVAL:	Lecco
ARRIVAL - DEPARTURE:	Calolziocorte
THE CONDITIONS OF THE TRACK:	The track is currently practicable on the cycle lane and on the roads, with a low level of security and some difficult moments. The course can be undertaken using any kind of bicycle, mountain bike, city bike or racing bike
ROUTE TIME:	1,30 hours
COURSE DIFFICULTY:	Easy
LINKS WITH OTHER ITINERARIES:	By bicycle/train : the course links up with Itinerary 7 "Art and Literature among the lakes of Brianza" (Brescia-Bergamo-Lecco line) and with Itinerary 8 "Discovering the eastern banks of the Lario" (Lecco-Sondrio-Milano line). By boat : cross using the Lake Navigational Service and you can link up with Itinerary 6 "Il Ghisallo" (Lecco-Bellagio line) or with itinerary 8 "Discovering the Eastern Banks of the Lario" (Lecco-Varenna line – only during summer months)

ALTIMETRIC PROFILE



INFORMATION REGARDING ACCESSIBILITY

DEPARTURE/ARRIVAL: LECCO

By car: Brianrea, SS639 for Lake Pusiano and for Garlate, SS538 Lariana, SP72 and SS36 Lake Como and Spluga.

By train: FFS Como-Molteno-Lecco, Milano-Lecco-Sondrio and Brescia-Bergamo-Lecco lines.

By bus: links with the main cities of Milan, Como.

By boat: : Navigational service on Lake Como (from May to the end of September).

Starting point: Kennedy bridge in the city of Lecco.

ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE: CALOLZIOCORTE

By car: SS 342 Briantea.

By train: FFS Brescia-Bergamo-Lecco line.

By boat: links with Lecco and Bergamo.

Starting point: the centre of the town of Calolziocorte.



The course starts from the Kennedy bridge in the city of Lecco and continues, following the course of the river Adda. Take the cycle lane that coasts alongside the river until you arrive at the campsite at Rivabella. Following the main road in the direction of Bergamo, you reach the town of Vercurago where it is possible to visit the **Santuario of San Gerolamo** in the hamlet of Somasca, which can be reached only after a steep climb.

Near the rock of Somasca San Gerolamo opened in 1533, a small path which is today known as "the saintly stairway", opened. Then the area was enhanced by the followers of the saint, with houses and chapels, so much that today we must distinguish two separate complexes. One can be found in the heart of the inhabited area, famous as the sanctuary, built in 1500, that houses the tomb of the saint as well as valuable paintings. The other is in the area of Valetta where there is a little church, a place of pilgrimage, as well as the place that Saint Gerolamo chose as his night time residence.

Returning to the course, very soon you reach Calolziocorte.

Here, there is a very interesting **botanical garden**, **Giardino Botanico Gaspare De Ponti**, but an obligatory stop is at **Monastero di Santa Maria del Lavello**, a Romanesque building, which name (from Latin *labellum*, basin for the collection of water) is probably due to the installation of a Milanese family in the area, of the name of de Lavello.

This family were the owners of a fort that was destroyed halfway through the 14th century by Bernabò Visconti, to which there had been annexed a little church with only one apse, that was dedicated to the Virgin.

The monastery today is the fulcrum of the cultural

course of the cloister route, a cultural circuit that links and gives value to the local, historical-architectural heritage with those of two other Northern-European geographic areas, Leisnig (Germany) and Gussing (Austria).

Before leaving Calolziocorte, it is worth visiting the **village of Rossino**, uphill of the town and can be reached by climbing a road full of hairpin bends. In evidence is the ancient **Church of San Lorenzo**, which is probably of early medieval origin, cited for the first time only at the end of the 13th century. Inside it is possible to admire some frescoes from the first ten years of the 15th century, which show scenes of the lives of Saint Lorenzo and Saint Sebastiano; on the walls at the back there is a 15th century crucifixion; on the vault the previous figures of Christ, the Evangelists and finally, on the triumphal arch 'the Annunciation', by Dottori. On a promontory, guarding the **centre of Rossino** and the ancient road to Bergamo, is the **castle**, a fortified building, that was maybe built before the 12th century and that could have belonged to the family Benalio, a feudal Lord of the area and the village, therefore to Rota, until in the 18th century, the castle went through a period of abandon. In the late 19th century the original complex was restored, which was when it was changed into a castle. Before taking up the course again in the direction of Lecco, you must carry out a deviation for a couple of kilometres, to reach the town of Garlate. Here we suggest that you visit the **Church of Santo Stefano**, a building from the early Middle Ages, which is a clear example of the evolution of a type of ecclesiastical architecture from Roman times and the time of counter-reformation. Here recent excavations in the flooring of the church of Santo Stefano, have brought to light a complex historical stratification of the ground: traces of a

Roman Villa built over a 5th century chapel and they found two Romanesque apses with fragments of 13th century frescoes. Numerous, were the precious objects discovered, an early Christian silver shrine and a fibula of Longobardian time. Remarkable is the **Museo della Seta Abegg**,

which opened in 1953. This was the initiative of a Swiss businessman, owner of the silk mill Abegg and the building had housed a silk mill since the beginning of the 19th century and was enlarged around 1885. In 1976 it became the property of the town of Garlate.





THEMATIC ROUTES

THE ROUTE OF THE MINOR LAKES

The itinerary which leaves from the city of Lecco, crosses a stretch of territory included in the green area surrounded Mount Resegone on the east, the valley of S. Martino on the southeast, the Mount Brianza, Mount Crocione and Mount Barro, and the lakes of Garlate and Olginate, which are positioned to the south of the Lario. The track across

some of the residential villages is characterised by the presence of historical-architectural evidence, linked to religious buildings and buildings that are of industrial archaeological interest. In particular we suggest you to visit:

MONASTERO DI LAVELLO IN CALOLZIOCORTE

The abbey and the **Church of Lavello** have represented, since the end of the Middle Ages, a reference point for the region. With the assets that were once annexed to the monastery and the organisational role that the monks in service in the Renaissance and Baroque centuries took on, so the process of territorial organisation was determined. The church even in its simplicity and for the typology value of its contents, has figured work of great worth, that was created in the 18th century Renaissance period. The place on which the monastery was built carried out an important role in ancient times, for its strategic position between the Lake Como, the valley of San Martino and the river Adda, a location on the border of different dominions. The church, despite its simplicity, has a collection of several remarkable paintings made from the Renaissance time to the 18th century.

It was in 1480, that a miracle happened. A hermit, who was seeking refuge in the crumbling church, discovered a tomb, from which clear water poured. Following other miracles, the church became a place of pilgrimage. Around 1486, because of



The cloister inside the Monastery

the copious amounts of pilgrims, the 'Order of the service of Maria' was given to the monks, allowing them to establish themselves in the church and to use the surrounding land. In 1510 the monks re-built the monastery. In 1566 work began on the biggest cloister and this continued until 1597. Between 1582 and 1585 the church was further enlarged and some of the very interesting frescoes in the chapel on the left, the one dedicated to San Filippo, could date back to this phase. The richness of the monastery is visible also in the artistic conformation of the building that was built in the 16th and 17th centuries. The two cloisters, the large one and the small one, are splendid.

Accessibility from the cycling route:

the building can be found on the banks of the lake of Olginate, where the lake narrows to flow into the river Adda, south of the residential part of Calolziocorte. It can be seen from the cycle lane, from which it can be easily reached.

Information:

Fondazione Monastero del Lavello

tel. 0341643733 - 0341295485 and fax 0341295441

Ass.ne Unaltrastoria:

tel. 0341284154 - 3386225427

www.unaltrastoria.it - e-mail: info@unaltrastoria.it



Particulars of the Monastery



MUSEO DELLA SILK ABEGG AT GARLATE

The museum is housed in a 19th century mill, which was enlarged around 1885. The museum contains one of the most complete collections in the history of silk production. By means of machinery, looms, paintings, prints and furnishings from the 18th to the 20th century, the customs of silk worm breeding are presented from the breeding of the silk worms to the drawing and the twisting of the silk, which are the two most important operations. It opened in 1953 under the initiative of Swiss businessmen, owners of the silk mill Abegg in Italy. It was however given over to the Town Council of Garlate in 1976. Full of interest, among many other things, is the large round layout and the wooden shape and the 18th

century twisted mill. In a room that was already used as a silk mill, some examples of silk worms have been conserved and with a didactic aim, the reproductive cycle is on display right up to the formation of the cocoon.

Accessibility from the cycle route:

about 2 km. And it cannot be seen from the cycle lane.

Information:

for further information

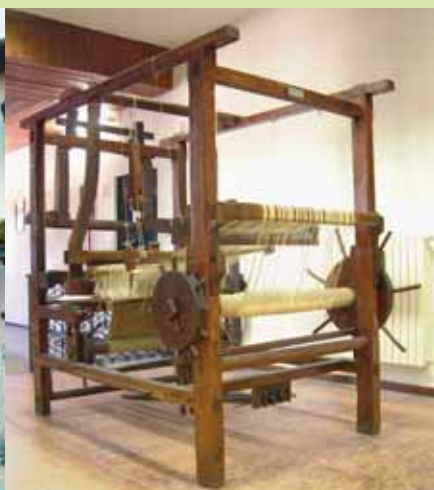
tel. and fax [0341650488](tel:0341650488)

e-mail: museoabegg@virgilio.it

For guided tours, contact the museum or the association *l'Associazione "Tracce"* tel. [0341202069](tel:0341202069)



The entrance of the Museum



Particular of the Museo della Seta

BIKE SALES AND REPAIR

Gilardi Ferdinando Bicycle Repair

via Turbada, 15 - Lecco - tel. [0341272523](tel:0341272523)

Mondo Bici S.A.S

Bicycle Sales and Repair

via Roma, 47 - Pescate - tel. [0341368182](tel:0341368182)

Fratelli Greppi Srl

via Statale, 1755 - Garlate - tel. [0341655511](tel:0341655511) - fax [0341655567](tel:0341655567) - www.fratelligreppi.com

Camping Riviera

via Foppaola, 113 - Garlate - tel. [0341680346](tel:0341680346) - e-mail: camping.riviera@libero.it
(rented bicycle from April to September)

OTHER SPORTING ACTIVITIES

For who wants to spend a day in the countryside, doing sport, the districts offer:

The district of Lecco

CANOEING:

Società Canottieri Lecco

via F. Nullo 2, - Lecco

tel. [0341364273](tel:0341364273)

www.canottieri.lc.it

e-mail: canottieri.lecco@canottieri.lc.it

SPORTS CENTRE:

Centro Sportivo Comunale al Bione:

via B. Buozzi, 34 - Lecco

tel. [0341283563](tel:0341283563)

www.centroginnico.com

e-mail: leccosport@hotmail.com

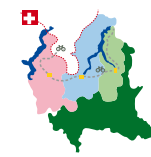
SOME PROPOSALS FOR TOURIST TREKKING

The district of Lecco: among the paths signposted we recommend, the Sentiero Botanico "Giovanni Fornaciari" in the park of Monte Barro, the Sentiero Natura in the valley of the Piani d'Erna (which can be reached by cable car from Lecco). For more difficult excursions take the Sentiero for I piani d'Erna 2 hours, for the Pizzo follow the signpost to Barco 3 hours, for Mount Resegone

from Germanedo pass through Rovinata, Campo dè Bui, Passo del Fò 5 hours, for Mount Albano 1,30 hour, for the Corno Medale go through Rancio 2,30 hours, for Mount Moregallo leaving from Valmadrera 2,30 hours..

For information regarding the difficulty of the tracks, please check the website:

www.turismo.provincia.lecco.it



TYPICAL REFRESHMENT

For information about the complete list of restaurants along the itinerary, consult the web site:
www.turismo.provincia.lecco.it

ACCOMMODATION

LOCALITY	TYPOLOGY	STRUCTURE	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Lecco	hotels	Jolly Hotel Pontevecchio ★★★★★	via Azzone Visconti, 84	0341238000
	hotels	Alberi ★★★	lungo Lario Isonzo, 4	0341350992
	hotels	Don Abbondio ★★★	piazza Era, 10	0341366315
	hotels	Giordano ★★★	lungo Lario Cadoma, 20	0341367160
	hotels	Moderno ★★★	piazza Diaz, 5	0341286519
	hotels	Caviate ★	lungo Lario Piave, 17	0341363213
	B&B	Località Manzoni	via Malnago, 40	0341283196
	rented rooms	Bartolomeo	corso Martiri della Libertà, 131	0341282451
	rented rooms	Bartolomeo	via Tubi, 39	0341282451
	rented rooms	Cooperativa Sociale "il Talento"	largo Caleotto, 20	0341363567
	rented rooms	Cooperativa Sociale "il Talento"	via Belfiore, 74	0341363567
	CAV	CAV C&C Maison	piazza Mazzini, 3-Galleria Roma	3388111540
	camping	Campeggio Rivabella ★	via alla Spiaggia, 35-loc. Chiuso	0341421143
holiday farms	Agriturismo Ponte Tenaglia	loc. Fontana Marietta	0341495968	
Calolziocorte	hotels	Locanda Del Mel ★★★	piazza Vittorio Veneto, 2	0341630265
Garlate	hotels	Nuovo ★★★	via Statale, 1122	0341680243

	rented rooms	Barbera & Champagne	via alla Chiesa, 37	0341651660
	camping	Riviera ★★	via Foppaola, 113	0341682592
Pescate	hotels	Le Torrette ★★★	via Roma, 151-loc. Torrette	0341272885
	hotels	Parco Belvedere ★★★	via Belvedere, 50	0341283562
Vercurago	hotels	San Gerolamo ★★★	via San Gerolamo, 76 loc. Somasca	0341420429

TOURIST INFORMATION

For further information consult the site www.turismo.provincia.lecco.it or ask for the hotel guide *Guida all'ospitalità del lago di Como*, which can be found at:

Tourist Information Office of Lecco

via Nazario Sauro, 6

tel. [0341295720](tel:0341295720) and [0341295721](tel:0341295721), fax [0341295730](tel:0341295730)

www.turismo.provincia.lecco.it - e-mail: info.turismo@provincia.lecco.it