

La via dei fontanili

*From Lograto to
Mella and return*



*You are not stuck in
traffic, get a bike and
explore!*

The fountains (or “*fontanili*” in Italian) are typical phenomenon of *Padana*’s plain which contribute to make it breed and particularly appropriate for agriculture. They basically are underground groundwater which rise on the surface, giving rise to natural headwaters. To explain this phenomenon, we need to know that the high part of the plain is composed by very crass pebbles and gravel which allow the absorption of big quantity of water by the subsoil, both weathering and fluvial. The slope towards South of the plain makes that this enormous flow of underground waters arrives to the thinnest and impermeable materials of the plain’s low part, which make the constant accumulation of waters and consequently, their rise on the surface. The fountains’ water keep a constant temperature during all the year and consequently they don’t freeze during the winter mouths. This incessant headwater has allowed the develop of a very profitable agriculture meanwhile the constant temperature and the always regular flow have allowed, around the fountains, the develop of a particular aquatic vegetation and a extremely rich and various fauna. The path runs through different fountains, of which put out a ditch system that allows to irrigate many agricultural areas, used even in the Medieval times by the Benedectins monks.

HISTORICAL-ARTISTIC GUIDE



In the Lograto's municipality we can see *Villa Calini-Morando*, erected in the XV Century by the Calini's family even if by the end of XVIII Century, radical works were began that gave at the *Villa* the actual spectacular appearance. The palace was decorated with a huge gate, an avenue composed by statues and accompanied by Carpinus and decorated with a really beautiful facade. The castle, wanted by the ancient Emili's family around the XV Century, doesn't contain almost anything of the original manor. The interiors, modified for the needs of the new destinations, maintain a few rests of the past times. The Brandico's municipality maintain an amazing seventeenth-Century church, flanked by a tall bell tower. The church, dedicated to *S. Maria Maddalena*, was erected in the middle of XVIII Century based on the project of the famous architect *Marchetti*. It keeps some (opera) of *Gandino* such as "*La Madonna e Santi*", "*l'Ultima Cena*" and two organ's doors with "*Angelo e l'Annunciata*". In the territory there is even a church called "*morti della muracca*" edificated a second time in the 1765.



In the village of Mairano is situated the *Civiltà Contadina* Museum which, with others museums in the “*Bassa Bresciana*”, constitutes a evidence of the life in the field of the plain. Walking by Pievedizio, small community of Mairano, we can see the ancient building of Soncini’s Palace. Undoubtedly, remembers the ancient forgotten castles, especially if we watch the two towers that are erected by the two extremity, already inside the palace. Arriving in the Azzano Mella’s village is interesting to remember the presence of the *Nicolini Stabiumi*’s palace that incorporate part of a XV Century’s castle, still half decorated. In Pontegatello’s village, otherwise, is situated the “*Madonna della formica*”’s church. Always in the community of Pontegatello we can see the seventeenth-century church of SS. *Pietro* and *Paolo*, that rises on a small high ground in the middle of the village, on a previously ancient parish, elaborated once again in XVI Century.



Keeping walking on the path we arrive in the centre of Castel Mella where, in *Piazza San Siro*, there are the seventeenth-century's church dedicated to the Saints *Siro Vescovo* and *Lucia Martire*. This church is an art museum containing, among the many masterpieces, a fifteenth-century's painting conferred to *Paolo da Caylina il Giovane*, the ancient office, already location of the municipality and, near there, the fortified tower of the old fenced area of the village. The *Madonnina del Boschetto*'s sancta sanctorum, despite its old origins, seems to have a seventeenth-century's look. The Torbole Casaglia's castle, rose as monastery in VIII Century, was fortified during the centuries, becoming the only example of fortified monastery in the province of Brescia. Inside his perimetral walls we can see what was the monks' residence. On the other side of the ditch is located the rustic court of the monastery.



The small church of *Santa Maria dei Campi* in Travagliato, edified in XIV Century and recently restored, keeps frescos of the artist *Vincenzo Civerchio da Crema* such as “*l’Assunzione di Maria al Cielo*”. The oldest church of the village has even a porch that was used to help the devotees following the ceremonies in the most and solemn occasions. *Metellii’s* Palace in Berlingo, situated in *Via Roma*, was built by the Calini’s family in the middle of 1600 as a typically summery manor.

The most recent building is besides “*Palazzo Gorno Tempini*”, in seventeenth-century style with porches and lodges. The small dead’s church, of medieval time, is situated in *Via Tempini*, first nucleus of the residences.

The Trenzano's village is rich of buildings with architectonic and artistic value, like the communal palace erected in the middle of XIX Century. The last stop is the Maclodio's village, remembered for the famous 12 October 1427's battle fought between the army of the republic of Venice, conducted by *Francesco Bussone* called "*Conte di Carmagnola*", and the one of the Visconti. This village maintains in its architectonic patrimony the beautiful church and the ancient castle later transformed in manor.



The path starts from the municipality of Lograto. We can take the street that goes straight where we can find the tower's church, then we turn left to *Via Frat-ti* and after that we turn right to *Via Tito Speri*. Here we have to turn left where there's the *Provinciale*, then again we turn right and we walk ahead leaving the traffic congested road. Arrived to the bars we have to go right then left beside the barns bypassing them to return into the fields.

Reached the first houses in Brandico, take the right and then the left until the *Provinciale* that we take on the right until the successively circle taking the exit to Castelgonelle. From the centre of the village we go left in *Via Marconi* continuing to *Via X Gior-nate* until the stop in the centre of Brandico. We turn right and then left and we arrive to Mairano. Before arriving to the centre, we take at the left the cycling lane which ventures into the fields reaching the dirt road.



At the stop we turn right and keep proceeding the road that brings to the centre of the village where we keep walking towards *Via Roma* until the end where we turn left in *Via Aldo Moro* continuing until we arrive in the centre of Pievedizio. At the stop we go right proceeding on the cycling lane until we reach a marvellous villa. We turn left and then right in *Via del Dosso* that ventures into the fields. Here we turn left and then twice right until we pass the *Madonna della Formica's* church and the Pontegatello's village. After that, we turn left on the cycling lane continuing after the underpass beside a park. At the following cicle we turn left in *Via Paolo VI* and at the stop we turn right until we are at the centre of Azzano Mella.



We go left until we arrive at the Mella's bridge where we take the left following the river bank. Keep walking on the dirt road until the underpass that we travel for bypassing again Pontegatello and take the first at the right that ventures into the fields. Underpassing the highway, reaching the farmhouse, we turn left and then right arriving near the *Fontanone*.



The road proceeds until Castel Mella where we turn right and then left following the one-way until the stop where we turn left to Torbole. Reached *Via Palmiro Togliatti* we turn right going on the cycling lane that ventures into a park passing some sport's complex.

At the end of the cycling lane we turn left continuing until the cicle to turn right and reaching again the cycling lane situated between fields and houses. We proceed the walk passing the Madonna del Boschetto's church until a cicle where we continue left beside Via Don Bergomi. Beyond two big cicle the itinerary keeps going between the *Provinciale* and the artisan's zone until we find the centre of Torbole Casaglia. Reached the kindergarten "*Deretti*", turn right in *Via Marconi* proceeding until its end coming across *Via Cantagallo*. Underpassed the *Provinciale* the path reaches the firsts houses of Travagliato. Turn right in *Via Giolitti* until the stop and then turn right and after that left in *Via del Platano*.





We proceed beside a quarry until the stop. We cross the road, turning right until we arrive to the cycling lane. At the successively cicle we stay left until we pass the cemetery and reaching again the first houses of Travagliato. We turn right and then left rounding the schools' buildings until the cicle after where we proceed straight in *Via Rose* and then we turn left in *Via Vittorio Veneto*.

After that, we turn right in *Via Santa Maria dei Campi* until we pass the namesake church and we go first left in *Via Verdura* and then right in *Via dei Brusati*. When we pass some quarries, we turn left at the stop reaching Berlinghetto that we cross going through *Via Trento* and *Martinenga*. At its end we turn right on the cycling lane reaching and passing Berlingo's centre. The cycling lane proceed in the fields near the street until the intersection where we turn right on the dirt and then again right turning on the path for Berlingo's centre. At the stop we turn left and then, passed the village, again left in the fields proceed for the *Finiletto's* farmstead. We proceed this walk going in the direction of Trenzano, going right and then, reached the village, left proceeding for Cossirano.

Reached *Via Roma* turn left twice in *Via Sauro*. We proceed at the right in the direction of Brescia until we arrive on the *Provinciale* and we stay on the right returning in Maclodio's village direction. We turn right in *Via Castello* until we reach the castle's ruins. Returned on the main road we stay at the left proceeding on the cycling lane that will guide us at the start of the itinerary nearby Lograto.



INFORMAZIONI:



Ufficio iat di Brescia

Piazza del Foro, 6 - Tel. 030.3749916
iat.brescia@provincia.brescia.it



COMUNI SUL PERCORSO:

Lograto - Brandico - Mairano - Azzano
Mella -
Castel Mella - Torbole Casaglia - Travaglia-
to -
Berlingo - Trenzano - Maclodio.



MUSEI, MONUMENTI E PARCHI SUL PERCORSO:

Castel Mella: Museo del Falegname “Cav.
Pietro

Ferrari” Via Giuseppe di Vittorio 9 - Tel.
030.2583100;

Travagliato: Museo Musicale “Quattro
Torri” Palazzo Vantiniano, Piazzale Ospe-
dale - Tel. 333.4789887;

Mairano: Museo della Civiltà Contadina
“Dino Gregorio”

Vicolo del Museo, 1 - Tel. 030.975122.

Start: Lograto
Arrive: Lograto
Difficulty: Easy
Type of bicycle: MTB and City bike
Length: 55 km

