

Suggested itineraries to enjoy on your bicycle Cycling in Romagna



# **Cycling safely**

When cycling in Romagna, you should always comply with all the rules and regulations of the Italian Highway Code. There are also certain precautions we recommend following, regardless of whether or not they are legally binding. Therefore, in order to cycle safely in Romagna you should:

wear a helmet

keep to the right

ride on cycle paths whenever and wherever possible

use headlights at night

use hand signals to indicate you are turning

never cycle on motorways or ring roads

never cycle against the direction of traffic

wear high-visibility clothing (especially in autumn/winter and at night)

carry a spare inner tube and repair kit

# **Getting around**

You can discover Romagna thanks to the Start Romagna public transport system www.startromagna.it or else use Trasporto Passeggeri Emilia-Romagna www.tper.it

Romagna cares for and respects the environment and therefore, increasingly favours and focuses on sustainable transport. Getting around Romagna using local public transport means significantly reducing environmental impact: visitors can choose to hire a car or a bicycle to ride around our hills or cities freely. We have also recently introduced electric scooters, for visitors to admire our wonderful sea front areas.

You can also now get around the Riviera in an even safer, more comfortable and smarter way thanks to the **new Metromare line**: it's fast, quiet and eco-friendly and currently links Rimini train station and Riccione train station. Find out more at: www.startromagna.it

Don't miss the opportunity to discover Romagna moving around in total freedom: choose Rail Smart Pass, a special pass that bus network and regional trains in the Romagna basin. Find out more at: www.startromagna.it

A land just waiting to be discovered that is easy to get around so that everyone can enjoy its beauty without neglecting their own needs and always in an environmentally-friendly way.

### Discover more at www.romagnabike.com





# of the Conca Valley

BDC 93.6 km 1870 m Difficult

Some of the most fascinating climbs in the Province of Rimini, all in the area around the Republic of San Marino. The route starts in Villa Verrucchio and winds its way between two of the region's main waterways - the Marecchia River and the Conca River. It is a route designed for well-trained cyclists. A series of four short, but at times very demanding climbs will really put your legs and lungs to the test, especially in the stretch from Mercatino Conca to Mount Grillo: about 7 km, with some walls with a gradient of more than 10%. However, your efforts will be rewarded with panoramic views over the hills and stretches between some of the most beautiful and characteristic villages inland of Rimini, including Montescudo and Sassofeltrio.



Ferrara's walls

On dirt tracks

**Bike & Family** 

A delightful cycle ride to discover one of the historical icons of A route to discover eels, one of the most famous and popular Ferrara, unmissable for anyone who decides to visit the "City of Bicycles". Built in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance to protect the city, the walls of the city of Ferrara embrace the old town centre and today are one of the main cycling itineraries, away from city traffic. During this tour, cyclists can enjoy a tranquil cycle ride and starting from the old town centre, can visit Ferrara's entrance gates and main historical buildings, including the Gate of Angels and Este Castle with its four towers: the majestic fortress was commissioned by Niccolò II of Este in 1385 to defend his family from a citizen's

MTB, GRAVEL 67.3 km 59 m Easy

Discovering the dirt tracks along the River Savio, Starting

forest of Milano Marittima, before turning onto the cycle

path along the River Savio, in the eponymous nature park

Keep your eyes open: the park is home to a rich variety of

animals and birds and buzzards, hares and roe deer can

be spotted here. After a few kilometres of narrow roads.

alternated with delightful dirt tracks, the route reaches

Cesena. Just time for a short break before continuing, along

more dirt tracks, single tracks and secondary roads on the

right bank of the River Savio. Returning towards Cervia,

cyclists cross the famous salt flats, which during summer

Romagna is the ideal destination for a family holiday.

secondary roads, the coast of Romagna offers a series of

delightful itineraries that are even great for children who have just discovered the joy of cycling. Choose one of the

recommended itineraries, create a distraction to beach life

and take budding cyclists on thrilling adventures in close

Largely flat, dotted with cycle paths and crossed by

contact with nature and far from urban traffic.

in Cervia, the route takes cyclists towards the famous pine

12.4 km



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18.9 km 5 m Easy

Off-road towards Verucchio

MTB 44.1 km 1096 m Difficult

Discovering the most beautiful villages in Italy on an

MTB. This itinerary begins in the village of Verucchio,

winding its way through the Marecchia Valley on a variety

of off-road terrains: gravel, dirt tracks and single tracks.

After about 21 kilometres, the last 5 kilometres of which

continuously uphill, you reach the village of San Leo, one of

the "Most Beautiful Villages in Italy". Here, we recommend

Cathedral and Fortress. The descent towards Verucchio is

a thrilling succession of bends and hairpin turns, but you'll

need to save some energy to tackle the climb up towards

you take a break to visit its key attractions, including the

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and San Leo

Montebello and then Torriana.

Discovering

Comacchio eels



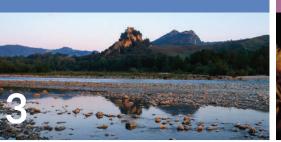
### along the River Savio the village of Brisighella

BDC 43.2 km 443 m Medium

An itinerary exploring one of the "Most Beautiful Villages in Italy". The route begins in the old town centre of Faenza and gently leads cyclists into the countryside near Faenza to Brisighella, a picturesque mediaeval village. As well as visiting Manfredi Fortress and the Clock Tower, we recommend taking a quick peek around the parish church of Tho, one of the most evocative and best-preserved Romanesque churches in Romagna. If you have time on your hands and are curious enough, take a look around Tanaccia Grotto too, one of the most beautiful caves in Vena del Gesso Regional Park. After leaving Brisighella, cyclists face the only climb of the day, before returning to Faenza on

#### **Spungone Itineraries**

Predappio. Ride from Bertinoro to Ćervia on the cycle with great panoramic views, or the Castrocaro Terme - Forli



#### Along the River Marecchia



116 m Easy

An entirely gravel route for those who love hearing the crunch of stones under their tyre studs. Starting in Largo Boscovich on the sea front in Rimini, cyclists take the bike path along the canal harbour before heading into lush XXV Aprile Park, thus flanking the River Marecchia along its right bank. From here, the itinerary takes cyclists towards Ponte Verucchio on gravel and pebbles. Although you'll be concentrating on keeping a firm grip on the handlebars and enjoying a fantastic gravel route, we recommend looking up from time to time to admire the evocative views of the villages of Torriana on the right and Verucchio on the left. Participants return to Rimini along the left bank of the river on a very fast beaten dirt track.



#### Alferello Waterfall

BDC, GRAVEL

36 km 1178 m Difficult A route designed for all those who love racing bikes and climbs. After a short downhill stretch from Alfero, the itinerary takes cyclists on a steady climb to Mount Fumaiolo, a lush green area that is over 1300 metres above could cause problems, especially in summer. But, don't worry! Returning towards Alfero you can enjoy a refreshing

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#### The parks between Ravenna and Cervia



Exciting dirt tracks, unspoilt nature and adventure. Just climb on your bike in the centre of Ravenna and cycle a few kilometres to the heart of Classe pine forest, a nature reserve in the Po Delta Regional Park and home to several species of birds including great tits, magpies and long-eared owls. Leaving the pine forest behind, cyclists continue and head into Cervia Nature Park.

The vegetation here becomes sparser, giving way to the pools and canals of the salt flats, interspersed with narrow paths dotted with typical fishermen's huts called "casoni". If you are here at sunset, enjoy the charming play of light and shadow on the endless pools of water.



Savouring Mondaino's

BDC 43.3 km 632 m Medium

A tour for racing bikes discovering Mondaino's famous Fossa cheese. After departing from the centre of Cattolica

on the coast, the route becomes more demanding in the

stretch that climbs towards the village of Mondaino. Here,

with gradients of over 10%. Don't worry, waiting for you is

the typical cheese with its famed organoleptic properties and - perhaps - even a good glass of Sangiovese di Romagna

wine, with guided tastings to savour a truly unmissable

through the village of San Giovanni in Marignano, the

piece of local history. Returning to Cattolica, cyclists pass

"breadbasket of the Malatesta family" in the Middle Ages

you'll have to tackle about 10 kilometres of climbs, some

**Fossa Cheese** 

and gateway to the beaches.

**Exploring the villages** 

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BDC 87 km 879 m Difficult

An itinerary exploring ancient villages in the Province of

Forlì. After starting on the flat in Forlì, the itinerary starts to

become more demanding near Tredozio, an ancient village

in the Apennines of Romagna and a historical transit point

between Emilia-Romagna and Tuscany. Here, cyclists face

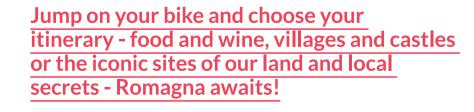
the first (and only) climb of the day, an ascent of around

6 kilometres with an average gradient of 6.2%, to Mount

near Forlì

#### Lugo: pasta and wine

MTB, GRAVEL 38.7 km 28 m Easy



Download the GPX and KMZ routes from here: they include lots of useful information for cyclists and enthusiasts. A made-to-measure holiday.

The best accommodation facilities with special services, such as bike hire, bike rooms and guided tours.



### Tour of the amateur cyclists of Ferrara



 $\overline{\bullet}$ BDC 66.4 km 38 m Easy

A tour of the heart of the countryside of Ferrara, on secondary roads loved by local cyclists. It begins in the old town centre of Ferrara, winding its way through endless expanses of fields and orchards, interspersed with irrigation canals. The first obligatory stop is Copparo, where we recommend visiting Villa Bighi, an interesting work of modern architecture now a museum and cultural space. The itinerary continues towards the river, where you can spot the small 14thcentury Romanesque church of St Venanzio before reaching the famous mill on the Po River, in the floodplain of the nunicipality of Riva del Po, to admire one of the sites dear to the famous 20th-century writer, Riccardo Bacchelli. The tour ends by returning to Ferrara along the right bank of the River Po, on the well-known cycle path.



#### By MTB in the Casentino Forests **National Park**

MTB, GRAVEL 80 km

2256 m Difficult

An adventure for off-road enthusiasts. The real attraction of this itinerary is the Casentino Forests National Park, an enchanting protected area stretching across parts of Emilia-Romagna and Tuscany. The perfect terrain for the studded tyres of MTB and gravel bikes, the route passes through the park's spruce and beech woods and some characteristic lages near Forlì-Cesena, like Premilcuore and Portico di Romagna. Tackling a positive difference in altitude of over 2200 metres will certainly be repaid by the stunning panoramic views and the joy of discovering real natural treasures, like the small waterfalls of Acquacheta and the waterfall of Urlante. In the summer months, it'll be hard to resist the temptation of diving in!



#### From Ferrara to Stellata Fortress

BDC, GRAVEL 57.2 km 30 m Easy

An itinerary exploring the countryside of Ferrara and its ancient villages, which bear witness to the rich history of the Este family. After leaving the centre of Ferrara, we head onto Burana cycle path and cross Cavo Napoleonico, the Reno River water-distribution canal built by Napoleon in the early 19th century. Continuing along the bike path will lead cyclists to Stellata di Bondeno, a small mediaeval village famed for its imposing fortress, which was built in the 11th century and extended in 1362 by Niccolò II of Este. If you happen to come on the second Sunday of the month, don't forget to visit the traditional antiques fair that is held here Returning towards Ferrara you can make a last stop at the Estense Delight of Diamantina, not far from the city.

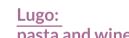


# Fossa Cheese and **Montetiffi Piadina Stage**

BDC 35 km 776 m Difficult

An itinerary combining the delights of great food and steep climbs. It begins in Sogliano al Rubicone, a village that produces the famous "Fossa" cheese. After about 8 kilometres of gentle climbs and descents, cyclists will have to tackle Montetiffi climb - known as "Cruel Tiffi" by local cyclists - 3 kilometres with an average gradient of 5.8% and peaks of 16%. As well as being a climb in the 9 Colli Granfondo, the village of Montefitti is famous for its "baking trays", hand-made terracotta plates for cooking piadina. It goes without saying that it's worth stopping here to enioy some genuine Romagna piadina, before tackling the dreaded Barbotto Climb - 5.5 kilometres with an







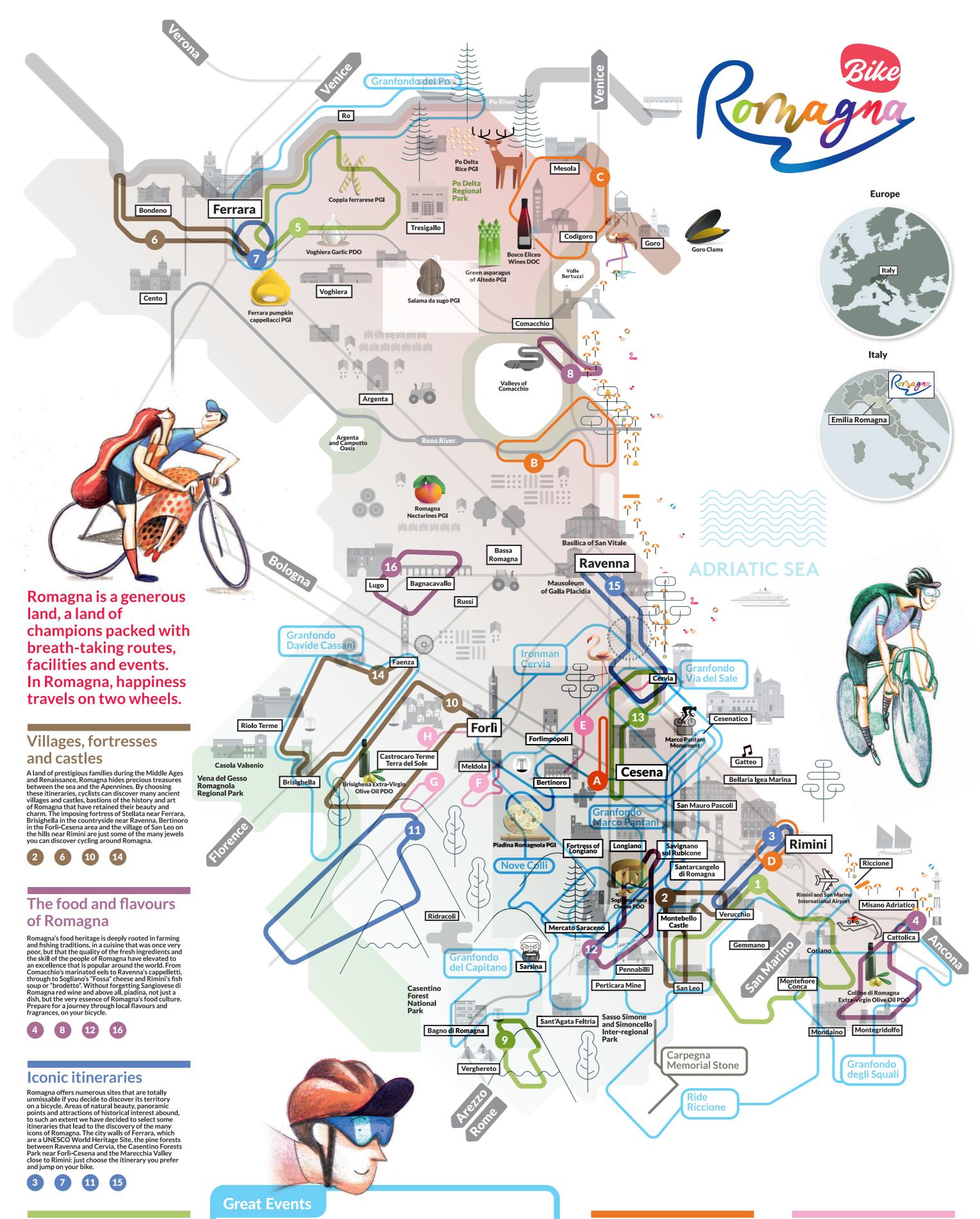
This route winds its way entirely along country roads between Lugo, Bagnacavallo and the River Lamone. Along the way, participants can visit local wine cellars and enjoy some traditional local wines, in particular, Rubicone IGT Ravenna IGT and Romagna DOC Trebbiano. Romagna is a land famed for its excellent pasta factories and Lugo is a prime example, where you can see experienced local artisans make all types of fresh pasta, including tortellini, lasagne and tagliatelle





Captivating and evocative experiences in "Spungone" Romagna, discovering the territory and food and wine of the rocky ridge that forms the hills of Romagna between Bertinoro and Castrocaro Terme, by way of Meldola and paths along the banks of the River Savio (E); from Meldola square (F) to midway between the valley and the crest in the Bidente River valley: the Predappio tour (G), an itinerary Tour (H), to explore local art and history.





**Granfondo del Capitano** 

**Granfondo Marco Pantani** 

June - Bagno di Romagna

September - Cesenatico

**Ironman Cervia** 

September - Cervia

**Ride Riccione** 

June - Riccione

# **Local secrets**

Whether it's the perfect climb for training for a long-distance race, the bar serving the best espresso around or the most adrenalin-filled single track, nobody knows itineraries better than local cyclists. To give you the chance to cycle like a true local we've selected some itineraries that are not the conventional routes usually chosen. So, you can discover local sites and treasures cycling on the "Walls" of the Conca or tackling the tour of the amateur cyclists of Ferrara or abandoning yourself to the views of Alferello waterfall. Finally, awaiting cyclists are the dirt tracks along the











# **Granfondo Davide Cassani**

March - Faenza

# **Granfondo del Po**

March - Ferrara

# **Granfondo Via del Sale**

April - Cervia

# **Granfondo degli Squali**

May - Cattolica

# **Nove Colli**

May - Cesenatico

# **Bike & Family**

- A Along the Savio River
- B Discovering pink flamingos
- C Towards Mesola Castle and Abate Tower
- Cycling around Rimini

# **Spungone Itineraries**

- Bertinoro Cervia
- Meldola Tour
- Predappio Tour
- Castrocaro Forlì

Other itineraries

Carpegna Memorial Stone