



Cycle tourism: the trend of cycling holidays is growing in Emilia-Romagna, the first region in Italy with miles of cycle paths

Cycling tourism continues to grow with cycling becoming increasingly popular thanks to the latest innovations and offerings across the region. New breathtaking routes, linking to food and wine offerings as well as culture, arts and leisure, have been identified across the region, giving travelers a new option to explore Emilia Romagna through a more sustainable way of traveling.

Here are some of the routes you can take to explore and indulge in the best Emilia Romagna has to offer.

Via Romagna - art, nature and historic villages: The first permanent regional route in Italy dedicated to cycling on secondary asphalt roads with low traffic. "Via Romagna" is accredited among the most interesting cycle routes in Europe with its 290 miles traced and protected between sea and hills that cross Romagna. A circuit to be covered in stages, connecting the provinces of Ferrara, Ravenna, Forlì-Cesena and Rimini. Crossing 30 municipalities, 20 fortresses, historic villages and over 100 bike friendly structures, B & B and farmhouses mapped on the route. www.viaromagna.com.

The Ciclovía del Sole – 30 miles of plain, 30 miles of pure "distillate" of Emilia. An easy and light cycle path on a protected route from Mirandola to Sala Bolognese. A 30 mile stretch of the cycle route of the sun built on the 'embankment' of the former Bologna-Verona railway, between small old abandoned stations. Crossing the mighty metal bridges of the former railway on a bicycle is an experience rarely encountered. The Ciclovía del Sole has quickly become a very popular route for cyclists from all over Europe. Thanks to these 30 miles built by the Metropolitan City of Bologna, the great Eurovelo7 cycle route will in fact be passable from Bolzano to Bologna while some parts of the Bologna-Florence route are already financed and partly built. www.cicloviadelsole.it

Food Valley Bike: a cycle path between flavors and culture - Inaugurated in 2021, the Food Valley Bike cycle route in just two years and thanks to its launch events (see the cycle tour "La Ingorda" held last June) has become very popular in the world of cyclists who ride in slow & leisure mode. Food Valley Bike has been traced on a route in the heart of Emilia to discover the places of taste and culture: 44 miles through the lands of Giuseppe Verdi and the places of origin of cured meats symbol of Italian tradition such as Culatello di Zibello. A journey through flavors, culture and landscapes of the plain starting from Parma and arriving in Busseto, divided into eight stages that can be traveled with every type of bike. <https://www.foodvalleybike.com/>

San Vicinio Cycle Route: same path, new emotion - The traditional Way of San Vicinio about 185 mile long, unique in Italy for its peculiar circular shape, is enriched by the homonymous cycle path that allows you to cross the same places reached on foot, pedaling on

a bicycle. The cycle path is about 200 miles long with 5 miles in altitude, completely tabulated and usable in total safety, can be traveled with MTB and GRAVEL bicycles (the most popular are E-bikes) and develops on forest tracks, dirt roads and paved low-traffic roads. <https://www.cicloviadisavvicinio.it/>

Dante's Cycle Route - From Ravenna to Florence by bike on the path of the Supreme Poet, passing through the historic villages of Bertinoro, Castrocaro, Brisighella and Marradi before crossing into Tuscany. Dante's Cycle Route is a fascinating 140 mile bike itinerary created in partnership between the regions of Emilia-Romagna and Tuscany, which tells the "ideal bike tour" of Dante Alighieri 700 years after his death, crossing the most representative places of his exile, between history, art, culture and food and wine. The project was born with the seven hundredth anniversary of Dante and the declared objective of developing a tourist product to be promoted and marketed in Italy and on international markets.

The route has the main characteristic of having numerous protected dirt tracks and secondary roads and low traffic, preferably to be accomplished by E-Bike, Gravel and MTB in 3-4 days in the "slow" formula. <https://www.viedidante.it/categoria-itinerari/in-bici/>

Ciclovia della Romagna Toscana and Ciclovia delle Terme- A great result for the European project INHERIT "Sustainable tourism strategies to conserve and enhance the coastal and maritime natural heritage of the Mediterranean" is the recognition of the area between Castrocaro, Bagno di Romagna, Riolo Terme and Brisighella which has allowed the birth of two new cycle paths: the Romagna-Tuscany Cycle Route of 80 miles and the Ciclovia delle Terme of 37 miles that crosses the hills of Faenza in a fascinating ups and downs in a ring that starts and ends in Riolo Terme. www.romagnatoscanaturismo.it/news/ciclovia-della-romagna-toscana/

The "Antiche Paludi Bolognesi" Cycle Route - A cycle path that connects the city of Bologna to the area of the Po Delta Regional Park. The cycle path "Antiche Paludi Bolognesi" crosses an area rich in places of interest, both historical-artistic and naturalistic. The "Metropolitan 13" cycling itinerary starts from Extrabo Bologna, a meeting point reserved for tourists, where you can find all the info to discover the metropolitan area to reach Campotto near Ferrara (Municipality of Argenta) and the Holy Valley. The map collects the characteristics of the APB cycle route, such as stretches of dirt bike paths and roads with low traffic impact. It also signals dangerous intersections and bike+train intermodality. <https://www.cicloviaantichepaludibolognesi.it/>

Ten new cycling routes to discover the territory of Ravenna: ten new cycling routes were presented at the beginning of October, all available on the Tourism website of the Municipality of Ravenna: interesting and suggestive proposals, aimed at visitors, but also at Ravenna, to appreciate the monumental and naturalistic beauties of the city and the entire municipal territory, but also provincial. They range from the itinerary of Classe, which with 9 miles guarantees everyone an encounter with history and nature, to the most challenging, lasting 85 miles, which leads inside the Po Delta Park. The routes can all be consulted on the Tourism website at the following link: <https://bit.ly/raciotur> The starting point, degree of difficulty, length, seasonality and a textual description are indicated for each itinerary. It is also possible to download the routes in GpX and Kml and there are maps, videos and photos.

The Bike parks to live in Mountain Bike - Even the Emilia-Romagna Apennines drops its axes for bicycle lovers. There are many tour operators who present sporting events and

accommodation proposals for mountain bike enthusiasts. The routes of the Cimone Bike Park, in the province of Modena, are very popular, using the ski lifts of the ski slopes, equipped with a bike trolley. The Cimone area, dedicated to mountain biking, has several downhill routes built for lovers of this sport with wooden walkways, bridges and jumps <https://www.cimonemt看b.it/>. In Maiolo, on the Rimini Apennines, there is the Valmarecchia Bike Park, a unique facility, the first in Italy completely "smart". It covers about 15,000 square meters and offers fans of the discipline a breathtaking route for "downhill" (1500 meters) and an enduro track. <https://bikelikethis.com/voglia-di-divertimento-scopri-il-cimone-e-il-valmarecchia-bike-park/>

Terrabici (Regional Consortium of Bike Hotels) is a school in the Region with its operators and stakeholders specialized in the cycling product - On the Riviera Romagnola there are about twenty product clubs (some connected to the Terrabici Consortium) with operators specialized in cycling tourism, to which a hundred Bike Hotels are connected and to which are added, throughout the Region, another 200 hotels equipped and increasingly specialized in this tourist segment. The positive trend of the bike segment is confirmed: Emilia-Romagna is second in Italy, after Trentino Alto Adige, for cycling tourism attendance (in the three-year period 2017-2019 about 500,000 annual presences for 1,500,000 arrivals).

Since 2014 Terrabici has been operating in the Region, www.terrabici.com, a regional consortium dedicated to the bike tourist offer which, counting on over 40 hotels specialized in cycling products located throughout the territory, has the task of promoting, above all at international level, towns and territories of Emilia Romagna as a bike destination, presenting a unique offer for an increasingly growing cycling tourism demand on foreign markets. The first bike hotels were born in 1998 between Riccione and Cesenatico, today they are among the best in Italy. The largest countries of origin are Germany-Austria-Switzerland (42%), Scandinavian countries-Holland-Belgium (14%), Great Britain (11%), France (11%), USA/Canada (10%), other countries (Australia/Israel, Brazil, etc) 10%, Italy (3%). The age range of cyclists is wide: from 40 to 60 years for road cyclists (over 85% of customers), from 25 to 35 years for mountain bike enthusiasts, in both cases mostly men.

How to get there:

Emilia Romagna Region is in the North of Italy, just over the Apennine Mountains from Tuscany. Visitors from North America can reach the region's international airports in Bologna and Rimini by connecting through other major European airports.

Press information and images

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