



1:80000 scale. Map created on Inkatlas.com. Copyright OpenStreetMap contributors (openstreetmap.org), OpenTopoMap (CC-BY-SA), 2021.

The numbering of the church refers to the **General Map of the Romanesque Hills Route**.

### How to get to and visit the church of Sant'Andrea di Casaglio:

Borgata Casaglio, Cerreto d'Asti (AT).

GPS Coordinates: Lat. 45.0547487 | Long. 8.0277479

Open the first Sunday of each month in the period  
from April to October, supervised by the volunteers.

Saturdays and Sundays from 10.00 to 18.00;

on request on other days.

Informations: +39 3333922339 +39 3386938202

[www.comune.cerreto.asti.it](http://www.comune.cerreto.asti.it)

### Local attractions in and around Cerreto:

- Church of Santa Maria di Raseto, Mondonio;
- Church of San Lorenzo, Primeglio;
- Church of Santi Pietro Giorgio, Piovà Massaia;
- Castle of Passerano Marmorito;
- Caste of Pica.

### Local events and shows:

- Ceramics and Roses, May, Cerreto (AT)
- Festival of the Patron San Bartolomeo, August, Cerreto (AT);
- Festival of agnolotti pasta, May, Primeglio (AT);
- Festival of tripe, October, Passerano Marmorito (AT);
- Profumatamenta (Festival of Mint), June, Piovà Massaia (AT).



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# Church of Sant'Andrea di Casaglio

Cerreto d'Asti

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### Information points and contacts:

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[www.turismoincollina.it](http://www.turismoincollina.it)

[www.vezzolano.it](http://www.vezzolano.it)

Facebook: turismo InCollina

Instagram: reteromanicadicollina



### The Romanesque Hills Route

promotes knowledge and use  
of the romanese heritage of the local  
areas between the river Po  
and Monferrato.

With the collaboration of:



With the support of:

Municipalities and Parishes of Albugnano, Andezeno, Aramengo, Berzano di San Pietro, Brusasco, Buttigliera d'Asti, Casalborgone, Castagneto Po, Castell'Alfero, Castelnovo don Bosco, Cavagnolo, Cerreto d'Asti, Cocconato, Cortazzone, Lauriano, Marentino, Mombello di Torino, Montafia, Montechiaro d'Asti, Montiglio Monferrato, Portacomaro, San Sebastiano da Po, Tigliole, Tonengo.

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Abbeys and churches between  
the river Po and Monferrato

### Description of the local area

Sant'Andrea is situated in the local district of Casaglio (from the latin name Casalis), on the ridge of a hill, parallel to the village of Cerreto, 321 m.a.s.l. From an environmental and naturalist point of view, the rooftops of the buildings in the area are of interest, probably being of monastic origins, and they almost reach down to rest on the small grassy square. The position of the church affords a view of a picturesque landscape: to the east the town of Cerreto can just be seen and to the south the horizon is marked out by the curve of the Maritime Alps and the Ligurian Apennine mountains. A few metres from the church of Sant'Andrea there is the track leading to the hillfort of Passerano-Marmorito, the site of the splendid Castle of the Counts Radicati di Passerano.

Also worth noting is the historico-geographical importance that Cerreto enjoyed for a long period, especially during the XVth century, as a position on the boundaries of no less than four jurisdictions: the Marquisate, later Duchy, of Montferrat, the lands of the Church, the County of Cocconato and the Duchy of Savoy.



### Historical details

The oldest document to give testimony to the existence of the village, its church and the monastery dates back to 1008. In that document the Bishop of Asti, Alrico, endowed the Benedictine nuns of the monastery of Sant'Anastasio of Asti with lands and four small monasteries, including Sancti Andree de Casallo. The abbesses retained possession of these places until 1803, when the suppression of religious orders was carried out by Napoleon Bonaparte. Between the XIIIth and XVth centuries, the inhabitants of Casaglio abandoned their village in favour of the fortified centre of Cerreto.

The original building underwent substantial changes between 1645 and 1658, by which time it was derelict and was demolished,

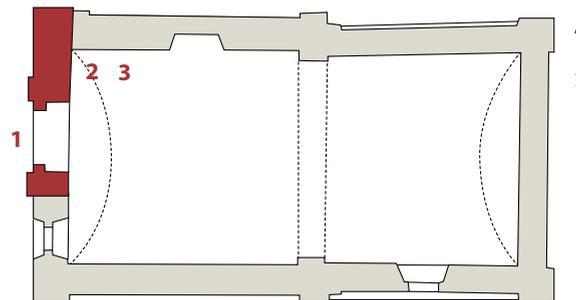


preserving only the central nave. Restoration work in 1993 led to aesthetic and functional recovery of the building, which now appears with a plain façade in exposed bricks, featuring its doorway, with alternating sandstone and terracotta.

### Description

The present church has a single rectangular hall. The two perimeter walls were demolished and rebuilt, using the materials from the demolished church. It can be seen, in fact, that there are pieces of stone mixed with bricks included in the masonry of the walls. In the reconstruction of the 1600s, the south side was moved by about seventy centimetres, in order to widen the nave. This operation can be seen from the asymmetry of the main façade. As with all the Romanesque churches, this church is aligned in accordance with the traditional symbolism of directing the façade towards the west and the apse, which houses the altar, towards the east, in the direction of the rising sun.

1. An external element that is definitely Romanesque is the doorway, which is surmounted by a semi-circular arch in sandstone and bricks, finishing with a decorative band of bricks



laid in a classical "sawtooth" motif. The final cornice juts out from the rest of the wall by a few centimetres. Inside, the little church is roofed by a barrel vault on a plaster cornice.

2. The only original decoration is the pilaster and Romanesque capital sculpted with acanthus leaves in the north-west corner. Probably the two plain stone steps are also a reminder of the Romanesque origins of the church.

3. It is worth looking at the "archaeological essay" on display in the north-west corner. This shows a base and fragment of a column belonging to the earliest Romanesque church.

### Interesting fact

Cerreto and its local area were a frontier area for years and therefore, inevitably, a theatre for battles. These historical events have left a number of reminders in the local naming of places, such as the local district of "Sentinella" (Sentinel) and "Nonplusultra" (Be all and end all).

