

## Route description

The route starts from Piazza Giordano in Cocconato. Passing beyond the gardens walk down Via Vittorio Alfieri, downhill between the houses, along the main road SP84 for about 700 metres before you come to the little church of **San Sebastiano**, dated 1886. Turn left on to the dirt track going downhill. At the bottom of the valley continue to the right between fields and meadows, then take the left fork at the next junction to climb up the opposite side of the valley. When you come to the road SP18, Strada Gesso, turn left and walk 50 metres before turning right, down the hill on a dirt track between the fields. Cross the valley and walk up to the ridge, junction with the road SP20, where there is a short bend to the right to reach a hillock where the little Romanesque church **Madonna della Neve (16)** stands. Go back to the SP20 and cross it, to follow a track, downhill between the woods; walking along the bottom of the valley, you come to the **ex-railway station of Cocconato**. Two left turns on Strada Rossino and the road starts to climb up to the ridge, with vineyards on the left, and meets case Roletto, a tarmac road. Take the left and after a short distance, to the right, Strada Alberone, which becomes a gravel road. This brings you to the entrance to the **nature park Parco Forestale dell'Alberone**, which is open to the public, following a circular tour. At the bottom of the valley, near the pond (third stop), there is a narrow path providing an alternative to the main itinerary, connecting to the Superga - Crea footpath. Back at the main entrance to the park, walk along Strada Mondo. Back at the junction with the SP18 walk straight up Via Eugenio Liprandi, which becomes Via Piave further on. Continue towards Cocconato and back to the starting point.

### The Parco Forestale dell'Alberone

An idea that was pursued for years has resulted in the enhancement of the spontaneous local flora; medium and tall trees, shrubs and undergrowth, in other words all the flora that sprouts, lives and dies in the locality, the fruit of extensive careful research.

A circuit is laid out along paths that are easy to follow, with explanatory panels describing the botanical examples, from a scientific and historical point of view, with the addition of peculiarities that each example exhibits.

The circuit covers a distance of 2500 metres and along the route three architectural structures, defined as stations, have been built using beams taken from local plants.

These stations house illustrations, composed of photographic material and anecdotes, of plants seen along the route; within the context of the landscape they represent a place to relax and find the information required to make the most of the tour.

The one at the bottom of the valley includes a water attraction with a romantic wooden bridge and a covered area for eating packed lunches. Toilet facilities are also available.



Association  
of social promotion

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**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, Castelnuovo don Bosco, Cavagnolo, Cerreto d'Asti, Cocconato, Cortazzone, Lauriano, Marentino, Mombello di Torino, Montafia, Montechiaro d'Asti, Montiglio Monferrato, Portacomaro, San Sebastiano da Po, Tiglio, Tonengo.

Texts and photos by Associazione InCollina © 2020  
Translation: Wall Street English, Chieri (TO)



# Romanesque walk

Cocconato

8



Church of Madonna della Neve, Cocconato



Nature park  
Parco Forestale dell'Alberone



Abbeys and churches between  
the river Po and Monferrato







The numbering of the churches refers to the **General map of the RRC**.

#### Legend

- Asphalted route
- Paths or unpaved roads
- Superga-Crea walk
- Scenic viewing points
- Starting point
- Asti-chivasso tourist train

Length: 8 km  
Time required: 3 h  
Difficulty: tourist level

0 500 m

Scala: 1:20000

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Upload the **GPX track**  
of this route

