## **Route description**

The route starts from the cemetery in Albugnano, where there is a car park and delightful picnic area at the start of the road that goes down to Vezzolano.

The entrance to the cemetery offers an admirable view of the Romanesque church of **San Pietro (18)**. This church dates back to the year One Thousand; it was once a parish church and parts of the walls and the apse still remain from the original structure.

Exit from the cemetery and walk to the left along the main road SP74 towards Aramengo. After about 600 metres and after a hairpin bend, turn left on to a dirt track.

This track goes downhill, between woods, meadows and vineyards.

On the right, there is a splendid view of the bell tower of the 15th C. church of Sant'Emiliano.

When you get to the bottom of the valley turn right, then after about a hundred metres, near the **shrine of San Grato**, turn right again towards Vallana, until you come back to the main road SP74.

Turn left here towards the national road SS458 Asti-Chivasso and walk along it to the left for 300 metres.

At the junction for Masio (bus stop), turn right and go up the hill.

Follow the tarmac road to a crossroads on the ridge, then turn right, to get to the Romanesque church of **S. Giorgio** (17) in Aramengo, dating back to the year 1298.

From here there is an enchanting view over the village of Aramengo (Baroque church of Sant'Antonio Abate in the foreground) and the narrow valley rising up to Albugnano. Go back to the crossroads, retracing your steps for 150 metres, then turn right, on the vineyard 'capezzagna' (refer to Oddity), to get back to the bottom of the valley.

Back on the national road SS458, turn left and after a couple of dozen metres turn right, to the **village of Pratorotondo**. Now going uphill on the opposite side of the valley, pass through the little village to get to the ridge; turn left there on the track going downhill until you reach a gravel road leading to the farmhouse named **cascina Bertacca**.

Back at the shrine of San Grato, turn right and shortly after left, to climb up to Albugnano.

After about 400 metres there is the option to avoid retracing the outward journey.

Turn right and walk uphill between the vineyards to the ridge, where you turn left and walk along between the woods and the vines.

At the end of a short uphill stretch, you get to a gravel track where a left turn leads back to the starting point.

**Oddity**: in the world of agriculture **'capezzagna'** means a small manoeuvring area at the head of each row of vines or each planted field, for the agricultural vehicles to turn around during routine cultivation operations.



Association of social promotion

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The Romanesque Hills Route promotes knowledge and use of the romanesque heritage of the local areas between the river Po and Monferrato.

## With the collaboration of:





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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, Tigliole, Tonengo.

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## Romanesque walk

Albugnano, Aramengo, Vezzolano



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Church of San Pietro, Albugnano



Municipality of

Aramengo

Church of San Giorgio, Aramengo





Abbey of Vezzolano, Albugnano







