Home
Grande Traversata delle Langhe in mountain bike - Leg 5: Gottasecca - Saliceto
Utilization
Cycle touring
Official itinerary
No

Lenght
11.50 km

Tempo
50 minutes

Stage
5

Max altitude
760 m

Ascent elevation gain
328 m

Descent elevation loss
630 m

Difficulty
Very challenging (experts only)

Informazioni

Region
Piemonte

Country
Italy

Address

Gottasecca
Via Ravina
12070 Gottasecca CN
Italy

Coordinates

POINT (8.167997 44.459353)
Altitude
695 m
Arrival address

Saliceto
Via dei Fossi
12079 Saliceto CN
Italy

Arrival coordinates
POINT (8.170269 44.415614)
Arrival altitude
390 m
Access

By car, motorways:
A6 – Torino Savona, Marene or Carmagnola exit
A21 – Torino Piacenza, Asti Est exit
A33 – Asti Cuneo, Alba exit

By plane:
Milano Malpensa and Linate – www.sea-aeroportimilano.it
Torino Caselle – www.aeroportoditorino.it
Cuneo Levaldigi – www.aeroporto.cuneo.it

By train:
Ferrovie dello Stato: www.trenitalia.com

Descrizione

Somewhat challenging route along hilltops and up and down steeper sections as you venture near the border with Liguria, the culture of which can be sensed in the villages here.

The starting point is **Gottasecca**, where there are the remains of an ancient castle, including what's left of its tower and part of its outer wall. Certainly worth a look is the bust of Ravina, a poet and patriot of the fight for Italian unification who was born here two centuries ago, as is the main street of town that winds from the main church down through the houses and on to the main highway.

From the square, head past the main church down along the paved road that crosses the entire historical centre of town. Cross the main road and follow the signs for the sanctuary (santuario) up to the last house in town. The marked route passes behind the house to the right. After a brief climb, turn left and head down gradually to remain below the crest of the hill. Pass a lovely fountain and a few houses, then turn left. The road will be paved again when you reach a curve. Turn right onto a steep, downward sloping road to the ample clearing that surrounds the Santuario della Madonna Assunta, which was erected in place of the ancient Parish of Santa Maria di Gudega and is a stunning example of 17th century architecture with its nave and two aisles and its eight-strips façade looking out over the valley. The adjacent Casa del Pellegrino offers shelter for all travellers.

You will now need to retrace your steps for a few metres and, rather than climbing, head along the flat to the right on a dirt road into the woods. An initial curve to the left and another to the right will take you across a small stream. Head up to the left at the next fork in the road near a field and continue on to the crest of the hill. This will include a steeper section of dirt road. Pass a few fields and head back into the woods, which

will be dense with downy oak. After a final steep climb, you will reach the crest, where the trail continues along a false flat. The ups and downs of this trail continue until a marked descent to the left, which is often muddy. Turn right at a crossroads and continue along the flat to a characteristic selletta (saddle).

Continue down to the left along a gravel road until you reach, after a brief uphill, a paved road at an intersection known as “Le Quattro Vie” (The Four Roads), where you will see a shrine. Cross the paved road and, just a few metres to the left, take the trail that heads up into the woods. A few stone “steps” cut by water erosion make this section more difficult. You will soon reach the crest of the hill, where you will need to follow a wide dirt trail that runs slightly uphill as it cuts across the summit of Bric Baraccone until you reach a clearing. Here, you are at the extreme edge of the Piedmont region at the border with Liguria (and it is here that the Uzzone river begins).

Head to the right and continue until another wayside shrine uphill from the Baraccone farmhouse in the middle of vast pasturelands. Continue along the crest until the paved road, then follow this road for a few dozen metres until you find a curve into the woods. Continuing along the crest and the dirt road to the left, you will reach a panoramic intersection in the middle of vast cultivated fields. Keep to the centre along the watershed as the dirt road gradually reenters the woods and, after a stony uphill section, becomes more gravelly.

Continue to the right and then, after the “La Madonnina” shrine at a characteristic rock outcropping, along a flat section until the end of the gravel road near a number of farmhouses. Once on the paved road, you will head down quickly, past a number of wide curves, to the first homes of the village of Saliceto. Turn right at the end of the descent and continue along the flat alongside the town park. You will soon come to the main highway of the Bormida Valley. Turn left here and head to the square. **Saliceto** is a lovely valley village with evident Ligurian influences, including a picturesque Renaissance castle built on the banks of the Bormida as well as a number of remarkable churches, featuring the Church of San Lorenzo, a masterpiece of Donato Bramante, like its cousin the Church of Roccaverano, which has a number of esoteric symbols in its façade, including a rare Baphomet (which connects the church to the legends of the Templars). Then there is the Sant’Agostino Oratory with its rare portrayal of St. Francis in the Bormida Valley and other traditional subjects of religious art. Finally, there is the hidden masterpiece of the Church of San Martino in Lignera, which is certain to take your breath away just as it has done to travellers of these valleys for centuries, as they witnessed the extraordinary 15th century frescoes of the nearby Mondovì school.

Public transport access
Yes

Http://Www.grandabus.it/

Recommended period

Spring
Summer
Fall
March - November

Accessible to people with disabilities

No

Interest points

Gottasecca : Pieve of Santa Maria , Sanctuary of Maria Vergine Assunta , Sanctuary of Madonna della Neve . Saliceto : Church of San Martino di Lignera , Church of San Lorenzo , Castle of Marchesi del Carretto . Camerana : Medieval Tower.

Devotional relevance
Sì

Historical relevance
Yes

Dettagli

Local Tourist Agency (LTA) reference
ATL Langhe Monferrato Roero

Code
GTN

Classification
Provincial

Province
Cuneo

GTL_Tappa5.pdf

Ultima data di aggiornamento

15/12/2023

Altre info

Accommodation facilities

Ca' veja

Casa martini

La mesa verde

Sorgenti del belbo

Itinerary index

No

Province names

Cuneo