



FROM MILAN TO LECCO ALONG LEONARDO DA VINCI'S WATERWAYS

First stretch: from Milan city centre to Cassano d'Adda

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ITINERARY DESCRIPTION

This tour has been planned to discover Milan's North-Eastern channels which were used by Leonardo to design and test his experiments and projects.

We divided the tour in three parts that can be travelled also separately. If you have more days available, we suggest to take your time in order to enjoy the landscapes and the most fascinating locations. The itinerary starts from Piazza Marconi in Brera district, where there once was "Tombon de San Marc", then continues on a cycle path beside the Naviglio in via Melchiorre Gioia that has been unfortunately covered. After you cross the Isola and Greco districts you get to the memorable "Cassina de Pomm" where Naviglio della Martesana re-emerges. We move forward now using the old roads next to the Naviglio that had been used by horses to pull back commercial boats to the Adda river and we pass through North-East Milan's suburbs and towns up to Cassano d'Adda.

You can return by train from Cassano d'Adda. There's the possibility to shorten the trip catching the subway to Milan at several stops: Turro, Vimodrone, Cascina Burrona, Cernusco sul Naviglio, Cassina de Pecchi, Gorgonzola and Gessate. If you want to proceed on the cycle path alongside the Adda river instead, we suggest you stay in Cassano d'Adda for the night, maybe at Visconteo Castle. We also strongly recommend to use the train for your transfers, to go to agreed upon structures to rent a bicycle if you need one - you can find them at www.eguidexperience.com. You can get detailed information about the tour contacting the agencies "Turbolento Thinkbike SSD" and "Bici&Vacanze" or downloading the [eGuideXperience](http://www.eguidexperience.com) app to get more multimedia and geo-referenced information.

Path developed in collaboration with **Life In Travel Adventures by Bike**

INFO ROUTE

DIFFICULTY: easy
TRAVEL TIME: one day
LENGTH: 33,5 km
ELEVATION: 107 mt
CYCLABILITY: 100%

Recommended Time: between March and October
Suggested bike type: City bikes or Mountain bikes.
For the less trained, we suggest an e-bike.

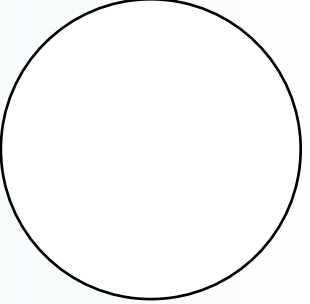
For more multimedia and geo-referenced information: APP www.eguidexperience.com

Info - Assistance - Guides:

Turbolento Thinkbike SSD - c/o Rossignoli - Corso Garibaldi 71 MI - Phone: (+39) 02 804960 turbolento@thinkbike.it

Bici & Vacanze - Via Benedetto Marcello 34, Milano MI - Phone: (+39) 02 8414 3812 - info@bicievacanze.it

First aid: emergency number 112
Ospedale Fatebenefratelli - Piazz Principessa Clotilde 3, Milano MI



MAIN PLACES OF INTEREST

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TOMBONE DI SAN MARCO
With Tumbun or Tombon, the Milanese indicated the point where the canal, fed by different channels and irrigation ditches, formed dangerous currents caused by the different depths of the water. The area, in particular the bridge at the intersection of via San Marco and via Montebello, was notoriously known as a favorite spot for suicides. The Tombone of San Marco was a confluence-point connecting the "Naviglio Martesana" to Milan and linked the latter to the channel system of the inner Naviglio. In this area, now famous for the nearby district of the artists and the famous "Pinacoteca di Brera", opposite the church of San Marco the canal opened in a sort of oblong pond designed...



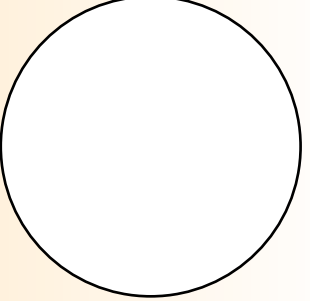
PIAZZA GAE AULENTI
This "modern" square Piazza Gae Aulenti will hold your attention not only for its size, which is about 100 meters in diameter but also for its unique position, rising 6 meters in height above ground level. It was designed by Argentine Architect Cesar Pelli and inaugurated on 8 December 2012. Around the square are three large tower offices made of iron and glass - built by Pelli studios, designed and structured according to eco-sustainable and energy saving measures, whilst at the center of the large semi-circular auditorium...



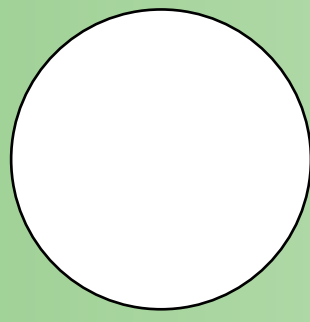
CASSINA DE POMM AND GRECO MILANESE DISTRICT
Thanks to the trading on the Naviglio della Martesana - used to take goods to Milan - the district was very rich and industrious. Cassina de Pomm was once the main guest house and nowadays just a little garden is left over, in its memory. Among the celebrities that passed by we know about Carlo Porta, P.B. Stendhal, Cesare Beccaria, Napoleone and Giuseppe Garibaldi. Also the old hamlet called Greco was rich in mills and industries thanks to the "Darsenetta", the most northern harbour of Milan. For more info: www.ecomuseomartesana.it



NAVIGLIO DELLA MARTESANA
Also known as Naviglio Piccolo, it's one of the canals that connect Milan to Adda river. It leads on to Via San Marco, right near Brera district, but the last part, up to Cassina de Pomm is totally covered. It was built in the fifteenth century by Francesco Sforza and used to irrigate the surrounding countryside. It represents the beginning of the ambitious project to connect on a waterway the city of Milan to Como lake and then the Alps and Ticino river. For more info: www.ecomuseomartesana.it



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CRESCENZAGO
In Roman times it was an important village on the way of several foreign armies that were waiting for the license to enter the town. It reached its biggest celebrity during the nineteenth century, when the wealthy lords of Milan started to build their rural residences nearby the Naviglio. They also used to walk and relax in the Naviglio. For more info: www.ecomuseomartesana.it



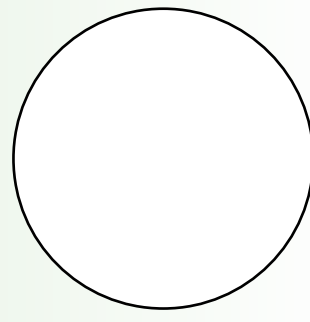
COLOGNO MONZESE
Its origin dates back to 333 A.C. and is connected to Roman colonisations, in fact it was called "colonia super Lambrum" because the hamlet was on the left side of Lambro river. During imperial times and High Middle Ages it was a rural village, but then, after the barbarian invasions its territorial division and organisation was influenced by Lombards. Throughout the Middle Ages, Sant'Ambrogio monastery controlled the area for a few centuries... For more info: www.ecomuseomartesana.it



CERNUSCO SUL NAVIGLIO
The first settlements were Celtics' and later on Cernusco became a Roman colony. In the fifteenth century it was a feud, governed by Galeazzo Maria Sforza who gave it with the towns of Gorgonzola and Melzo to Lucia Marliano. After the excavation of Naviglio Della Martesana, many villas were built in the area making Cernusco, in the XVIII and XIX centuries, a popular holiday resort for the aristocracy and the rich middle class from Milan. The noble residences can still be appreciated, together with Santa Maria sanctuary and some interesting medieval farmsteads...

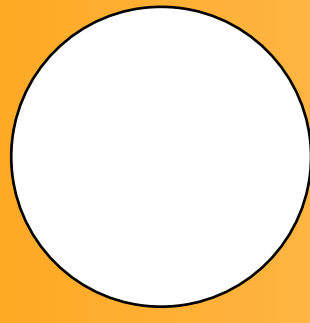


GORGONZOLA
The town has Celtic origins and is now popular all around the world because of the typical cheese of the same name. After the Huns' raid of the near Roman city called Argentia in 453, the small settlement became the most populated village of the surroundings. In the thirteenth century it was under Della Torres' control, until Visconti expelled them. In 1288 Gorgonzola was one of the most important parish church of Milan's archdiocese. You might want to visit Villa Busca Serbelloni which overlooks Naviglio della Martesana. It was built during the sixteenth century and is now a school...



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CASSANO D'ADDA
Some remains found near Porra and Porretta farmsteads prove the presence of the Romans in this area already from the IVth century. The oldest part of the town is built on a hill and its territory is characterized by rich water streams and fertile fields. South-east of Cassano runs the Muzza anal, built to protect the castle (the most ancient monument) and bring water to the near town of Lodi. A legend has it that Cassano is the place where S. Agostino went through his conversion and the town is rich in religious evidences and churches as the Prepositurale, S. Dionigi, S. Ambrogio, S. Antonio, S. Aquilino, S. Pietro, Cristo Risorto and Annunziati... For more info: www.prolococassanodadda.com



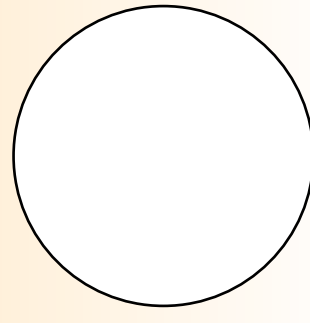
VISCONTI'S CASTLE IN CASSANO D'ADDA
The Visconti's fortress stands out in a position from where the river crossing could have been controlled. The actual structure dates back to the thirteenth century, but the castle went through many renovations since then. The most relevant one is certainly the one made between 1451 and 1474 by the architect Bartolomeo Gadio, when the wall was built...



MUZZA CANAL
This old canal, built near to Cassano d'Adda's castle, catches water from the Adda river and distributes it for 39km in Lodi's plain until it gets back into Adda river near Castiglione. Muzza canal is one of the most important hydraulic works in the territory since it is the oldest and the biggest irrigation ditch not only in Lombardy but in Europe. Parallel to the canal runs a cycling and pedestrian path that enables visitors to admire the typical lombard landscape. For more info: www.prolococassanodadda.com

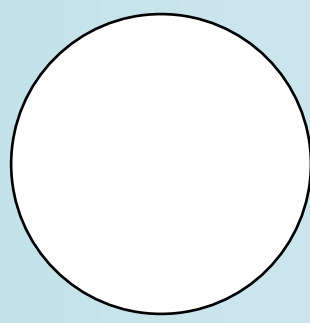


"EL RUDUN" GROPPELLO'S WATER WHEEL
The construction of the big water wheel that is found on the shores of Naviglio Martesana in Groppello was commissioned by Carlo Borromeo with the purpose of bringing water to the gardens of the Archbishops' Villa. It is commonly called "El Rudun" (the big wheel) and a faithful copy of the original wheel was built in 1989 with a mere educational purpose.



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For more multimedia and geo-referenced information visit or download APP www.eguidexperience.com - for cycling packages tailor-made packages please refer to the section in collaboration with Idea-Z and FunActiveTours Travel Agency - Tour Operator.

Bike rental and assistance APP www.eguidexperience.com

Biciclette Rossignoli Milano - Corso Garibaldi 71, Milano MI
Phone: (+39) 02 804960

Eastriver smart garden - Via Jean Jaures 22, Milano - Phone: (+39) 338 4586545

Bicistazione Gasolio Cicli - Via Papa Giovanni XXIII 29, Cologno Monze MI - Phone: (+39) 334 707 9451

LIKEBIKE - Esperienze a ruota libera in Lombardia
Bike delivery service, transfer to and from the cycling routes and complete assistance for cycle tourist (either single, couples or groups)
Via Madre Laura 26, Sulbiate MB - Phone: (+39) 335 6980853
www.likebike.it - info@likebike.it



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A selection of the best enogastronomic places to visit:

Ratanà - Via Gaetano de Castillia 28, Milano MI - Phone: (+39) 02 8712 8855

Seven Casa Dei Ciliegi - Via Luigi Bertelli 4, Milano MI - Phone: (+39) 02 261 5190

Ristorante Il Sorriso - Via Piave 15, Vimodrone MI - Phone: (+39) 02 250 3653

Due Spade - Via delle Filerine 2, Cernusco sul Naviglio MI
Phone: (+39) 02 924 9200

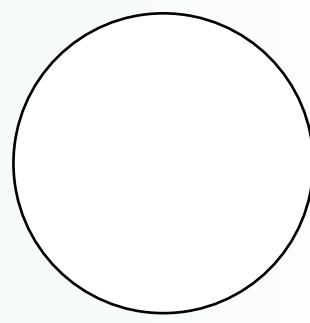
Pizzeria Loro di Napoli - Via Italia 53, Gorgonzola MI - Phone: (+39) 02 9530 1788

La Masseria - Cucina e Pizza Mediterranea - Piazza Maggiore 8, Inzago MI
Phone: (+39) 335 745 8965

Isola Borromeo - Via Colognesi, Cassano d'Adda MI - Phone: (+39) 335 739 1840

Vecchio Fiume - Piazza del Popolo 6, Cassano d'Adda MI
Phone: (+39) 0363 62812

Osteria Barabitt - Via Cimbaridi 18, Cassano d'Adda MI
Phone: (+39) 349 561 0746



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