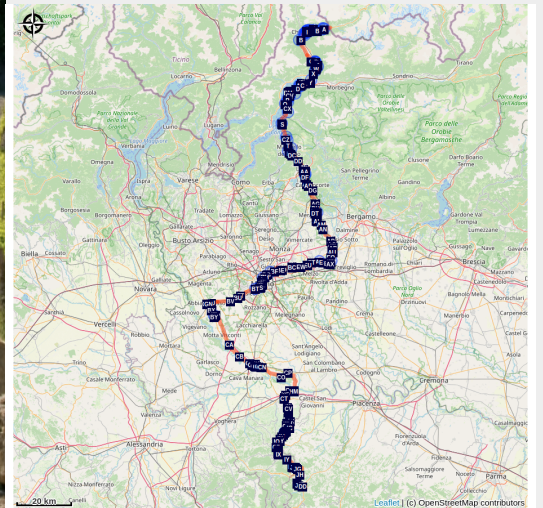


32. 610 Italy

Italy



Appennins



Mainly in Lombardy but also in Emilia Romagna, Via Columbani offers the opportunity to discover Italy through its welcoming population, particularly varied authentic landscapes and, in every corner, a vast and breathtaking heritage.

From Milan, Via Columbani is different from Cammino di San Colombano, which passes through San Colombano al Lambro and not Pavia.

From the Alps to the Appennines, the route crosses all of northern Italy, from the great lakes to the Po plain, passing through Milan, the

Useful information

Practice : Bicycle

Length : 326.6 km

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Multi-day trek

Themes : 610, St Colomban

metropolis of Lombardy and Pavia, the historic city of this region.

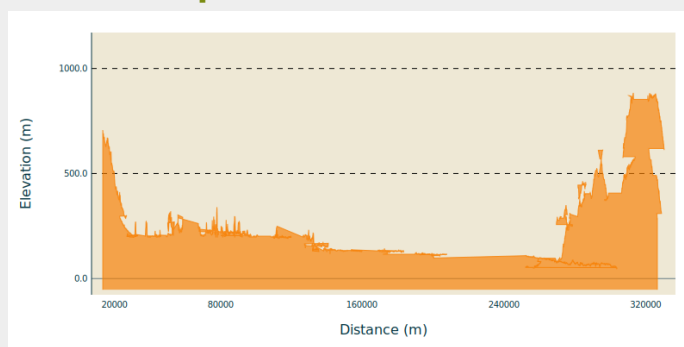
Trek

Departure : 7608 Castasegna (Switzerland)

Arrival : 29022 Bobbio (Italy)

Cities : 1. Emilia-Romagna
2. Graubünden
3. Lombardia

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 0 m Max elevation 0 m

The Via Columbani is inspired by the journey made by St. Columban in Italy during his exile around 612. Leaving Northern Ireland in memory of this Irish saint, this path stops at Bobbio, the site of his tomb, after having founded a last abbey there.

This 320km course is proposed in 7 stages with an average of 45km:

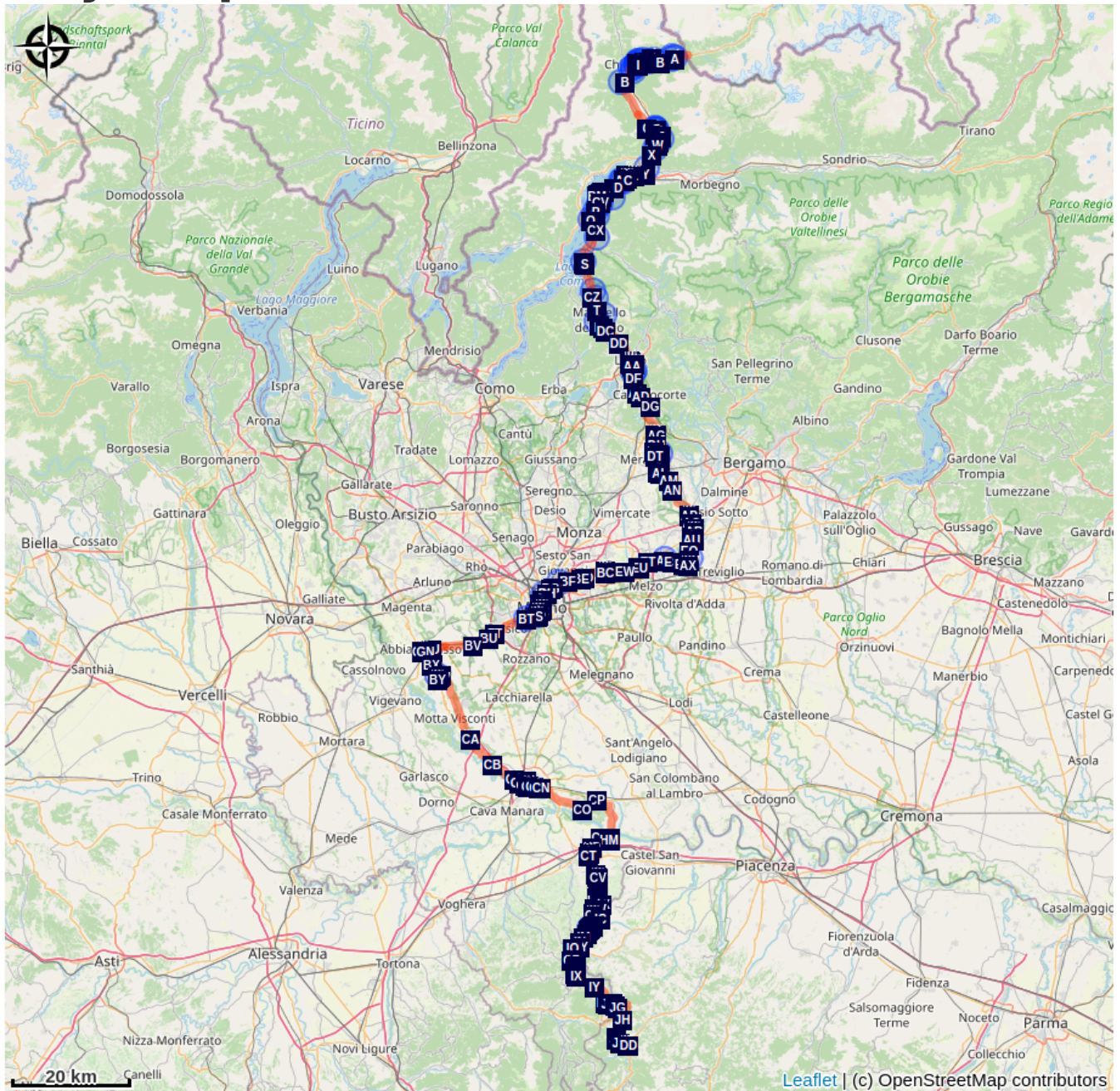
1. Castagna (Suisse)-Colico: 43km
2. Colico-Abaddia-Lecco : 37km
3. Lecco-Cassano d'Adda : 47km
4. Cassano d'Adda-Milano : 31km
5. Milano-Pavia: 57km
6. Pavia-Pometo: 61km
7. Pometo-Bobbio: 34km

Between Milan and Bobbio, it is possible to take another route by San Colombano al Lambro described in the itinerary: 610 Cammino di San Colombano by bike.

Stages :

- 1.** Castasegna to Colico
43.8 km / 637 m D+ / 4 h
- 2.** Colico to Lecco
48.7 km / 1959 m D+ / 4 h
- 3.** Lecco to Cassano d'Adda
48.9 km / 688 m D+ / 4 h
- 4.** Cassano d'Adda to Milano
31.0 km / 193 m D+ / 3 h
- 5.** Milano to Pavia
59.2 km / 310 m D+ / 5 h
- 6.** Pavia to Pometo
62.0 km / 1309 m D+ / 7 h
- 7.** Pometo to Bobbio
37.9 km / 1129 m D+ / 6 h

On your path...



- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Lake Mera (A) | Church of San Martino in Aurogo (B) |
| Waterfall (C) | Church of the Blessed Virgin of the Assumption (D) |
| Museum Mill of Bottonera (E) | Palace Balbiani (F) |
| Collegiate Church of San Lorenzo (G) | Crotti, regional originality (H) |
| Routes in Chiavenna (I) | Lake of Mezzola (J) |
| Saint-Colomban Church (K) | Fort of Fuentes (L) |
| Monteggio (M) | Fort of Montecchio (N) |

All useful information

How to come ?

Access

The bike itinerary arrives from Switzerland via the Gùglia road pass (2284m) and starts at the Swiss/Italy border located in the Mera Valley 12km from Chiavenna, a town in the province of Sondrio in the Lombardy region of Italy. This city of 7500 inhabitants is accessible by train and bus. The departure is accessible by bus.

The end of the itinerary is in Bobbio, a city of 3800 inhabitants in Emilia Romagna, accessible by bus useful to reach Piacenza or Genoa and domestic or international rail lines or an airport.

On your path...



Lake Mera (A)

Water retention lake for electricity production in its setting of snow-covered mountains.



Church of San Martino in Aurogo (B)

A small mountain church with a bell tower that is characteristic of the churches in the valley.

Waterfall (C)

A waterfall among others falling from the mountains in the Fiume Mera valley.

Church of the Blessed Virgin of the Assumption (D)

Beautiful mountain church with a cave of Lourdes accessible by stairs on the left.



Museum Mill of Bottonera (E)

Museum installed in an old mill that allows to understand all the phases of the transformation of cereals obtained by the driving force of water.

Palace Balbiani (F)

Beautiful 15th century building bought by the Generali group which made it its offices. Nestled in the heart of a medieval village full of small alleys where it is pleasant to stroll around to admire the windows of small shops and other porches that overlook courtyards or indoor gardens.

Collegiate Church of San Lorenzo (G)

Collegiate church of San Lorenzo of Romanesque origin, rebuilt after the fire of 1538, with the magnificent cloister of the cemetery and the isolated bell tower, the recently built Treasure Room is remarkable, where the famous and precious treasure is also displayed.

Pace (upper cover of an evangelist, 12th century Lombard-Renian art). To the left of the church is the baptistery where the Romanesque baptismal font, consisting of a monolith in soapstone with reliefs, is preserved (1156).

Crotti, regional originality (H)

Interesting and particular to Chiavenna are the "crotti", the natural cavities due to the old landslides in which air currents (sisters) from the internal voids circulate: the temperature is never higher than 10 ° C, therefore ideal for the storage of wine, cheese and meat. At the mouth of these cavities, the Chiavennaschi have built small buildings for friends' meetings or used as typical places where you can taste the local specialities. Near the station, in a square with century-old plane trees, Pratomagno, there are the most characteristic eruptions. The famous Sagra dei Crotti takes place on the second Sunday in September.

Routes in Chiavenna (I)

Paradise Park: an interesting botanical-archaeological itinerary. Potholes path of the giants, an area with glacial formations dug in the rock. It is also pleasant to walk around the city from the SS36 bridge over the Mera river, to observe the houses built overlooking the river, some of them are pastries or bars that also overlook via Dolzino, have small terraces that allow you to enjoy an aperitif while admiring the environment. Going through Dolzino, the main street, you are in front of the Palazzo Salis, now transformed into a B & B, ask the nice owner to be able to admire the beautiful ballroom in the rococo style. Via Dolzino offers elegant gates, remarkable palaces, beautiful windows and the stone of the pillory.



Lake of Mezzola (J)

Panoramic view of Lake Mezzola at the point where the mountain river Mera flows into this lake, the first of a long series.

Attribution : Amis St Colomban



Saint-Colomban Church (K)

On the small lake of Mezzola is the village of Campo with the old parish church dedicated to San Colombano. The temple, now deconsecrated, suffered serious damage as a result of the war. The idea is to restore the old building and to highlight the Colombian memory of the place.



Fort of Fuentes (L)

Built in the 17th century by the Spanish on the hill to the east of Montecchio, the Fuentes fort is a remnant of Spanish rule to protect the outlets of the Alpine passes. It was destroyed in 1796 by Napoleonic troops.

Monteggio (M)

Panoramic view of Lake Mezzola from Monteggio. Spacious and clean place to rest and enjoy the lake before going up into the mountains or continuing on the shore by bike.



Fort of Montecchio (N)

Une des forteresses de la première guerre mondiale la mieux conservée en Europe, elle offre une vue imprenable sur le lac de Côme.

[Horaires de visite](#)