

44 km of stunning scenery

The Santerno Cycle Route (Ciclovía del Santerno) is 44 km long. It passes through the towns of Mordano, Imola, Casalfiumanese, Borgo Tossignano, Fontanelice and Castel del Rio.

The itinerary is mostly easy, especially in the initial tract from Mordano to Fontanelice: it follows a gentle uphill gradient, with stepping-stone river crossings adding to the fun, making it a real adventure for kids.

The last section, from Fontanelice to Castel del Rio, features some steeper ups and downs, so from this point on you'll need to be fit... or let an e-bike do the work!

You can pick up the path at any point on the Ciclovía: for example, the railway station at Imola offers quick access to the route.

NATURE

Immerse yourself in nature along the River Santerno

The Cycle Route follows the River Santerno and crosses it at several fording points. As the river descends from the Apennines, its fast-flowing rapids give way to a wider river bed and calmer waters as the terrain flattens.

From the plains, the route takes in the Bubano Nature Reserve (Oasi Naturalistica di Bubano) and the apricot orchards of Mordano before passing through Imola's green belt (with the nearby historic Parco delle Acque Minerali and Bosco della Frattona Nature Reserve) and heading into the hills with their vineyards and olive groves.

The gentle ride up the Santerno Valley then passes through the Vena del Gesso Romagna Regional Park (a unique, craggy gypsum ridge that is now a UNESCO World Heritage candidate) and into the typical Apennine landscape of wooded hills.

Here the river swirls over rocks to form eye-catching waterfalls, the geology offering up flat slabs of stone that provide perfect places for a well-deserved break.

Stunning views and breath-taking countryside

SPORT

Get active, get outdoors and explore!

Leave the hustle and bustle of city life behind: jump on your bike or put on your walking boots! Whether alone or with friends and family, whether hiking or mountain-biking, there's a unique landscape just waiting to be discovered.

In addition to the 44 km of the Santerno Cycle Route, you can also venture along the trails of the Vena del Gesso Regional Park or pedal round the route of the World Road Cycling Championship, hosted here in 2020. At Casalfiumanese you'll find the CAI (Italian Alpine Club) Luca Ghini trail, which starts from the village and winds up lunar-like claystone ridges; just a few km away in Fontanelice, you can hike along the WW2 Gothic line ridge and reach Monte Battaglia and the church of Valmaggione. In Castel del Rio, expert bikers can enjoy awesome climbs and descents in the midst of centuries-old chestnut groves.

Down in the valley, motorsport enthusiasts can visit the Enzo e Dino Ferrari racetrack and the adjoining museum.

When you're surrounded by nature, physical effort feels effortless.

ENGLISH

CULTURE

FLAVOURS

SPORT

NATURE

Ciclovía del Santerno

44 km of stunning scenery

The Santerno Cycle Route is part of the

#BICIPOLITANA

BOLOGNA METROPOLITAN CYCLE NETWORK

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| #11 Inner Bologna ring road | #9 Bologna-Molinella |
| #12 Outer Bologna ring road | #10 Bologna-Pianoro |
| #1 Anzola-Imola | #11 Sasso Morelli-Casalfiumanese |
| #2 Crevalcore-Porretta Terme | #12 Mordano-Castel del Rio |
| #3 Bologna-Bazzano | #13 Sant'Agata Bolognese-Castenaso |
| #4 Bologna-Parco Città Campagna | #14 Castel Maggiore-Medicina |
| #5 Bologna-Trebbo | #15 Castello d'Argile-Minerbio |
| #6 Bologna-Galliera | #16 Crevalcore-Molinella |
| #7 Bologna-Malalbergo | — Your free time Bicipolitana |
| #8 Bologna-Baricella | Metropolitan rail service |

FLAVOURS

Where the excellent food and wine traditions of Emilia and Romagna merge

If you really want to get to know the area along the Santerno Cycle Path, enjoying its rich food and wine culture is a must.

Every osteria, agriturismo and restaurant menu draws on close ties with the land, often reflecting the seasons.

For example, the autumn woods offer up chestnuts, truffles and mushrooms, most notably the delicious porcini of Castel del Rio.

Then there's the Romagna scalogno (shallot), local apricots, the rigorously cold-pressed extra virgin olive oil and the inviting red and white wines, grown with passion in the hillside vineyards near Imola.

Stop off at the wineries along the Santerno Valley to taste them for yourself and see how they're produced.

Sit down, relax and enjoy the renowned local hospitality.

CULTURE

A historical landscape of fortresses, churches, hamlets, mills and canals

Local culture and tradition intersect with a stunning national history. Even the small Santerno Valley offers an array of personalities who have distinguished themselves in numerous fields. Visit the Torrione and Rocca Sforzesca to learn more about the past of Mordano and Imola, where you can also visit Palazzo Tozzoni and the Daziaria tower. Enter the study of renowned geologist Giuseppe Scarabelli at the San Domenico Museum in Imola and see the birthplace of Luca Ghini, a pioneering botanist from Casalfiumanese. In Fontanelice, instead, you can visit an archive containing the drawings and writings of famed architect Giuseppe Mengoni.

The scars left by the Second World War will take you on a journey through time from Borgo Tossignano to Castel del Rio; here, the imposing Palazzo Alidosi houses the Museo della Guerra e della Linea Gotica (War and Gothic Line Museum). Nearby, the single-arch humpback Ponte Alidosi takes you across the River Santerno, just as it has done for over 500 years.

Soak up the local culture and history as you pedal along the Santerno Cycle Route.

To learn more go to cicloviadelsanterno.net



EMMA BOSCHI

Ciclovia del Santerno

Key

- Santerno Cycle Route
- - - Santerno Cycle Route (alternative route)
- - - Ciclovía del Santerno (path under construction)
- Railway station
- Drinking fountains within 500 m of the route
- Museums, monuments, historical buildings
- Place of interest
- Stepping stones



Tourist information offices

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Distances



Times calculated on following average speeds:
 12 km/h • 5 km/h

Elevation profile

