



Sacri Monti

del Piemonte e della Lombardia

Discovering the Sacri Monti
Art, History, Nature and Spirituality



VARALLO 

ORTA 

CREA 

VARESE 

OROPA 

OSSUCCIO 

GHIFFA 

DOMODOSSOLA 

BELMONTE 



Sacro Monte of Varallo, Chapel of *The Crucifixion* (no. 38)

Alpine valleys, hills, vineyards, lake views are the natural settings embracing the Sacred Mounts of the Alps, seven in Piedmont and two in Lombardy, that with their enchanting landscapes, history and architectures hosting precious works of art have been included in the UNESCO world heritage list since July 2003.

The Sacred Mounts consist of prestigious architectural complexes standing on hill tops and structured in a series of chapels with paintings and sculptures representing Christ's story, Holy Mary and the Saints' life or the mysteries of the Rosary. The works by famous artists from the XV-XIX century include life-size statues reproducing gestures, features and expressions of impressive realism.










This communicative pattern became quite popular after the Catholic Reformation to tell in an enthralling and evocative way the sacred story, always under the watchful eye of the Church.

Their story started at the end of the XV century with the Sacred Mount of Varallo, where a Franciscan Friar, Bernardino Caimi, wanted to reproduce a few locations of the Holy Land connected to Jesus Christ's life.

First-rate artists of the Piedmontese and Lombard cultural panorama contributed to the success of the project. These locations have become destinations for art-centered tourism where nature and culture celebrate the values of spirituality.

Sacro Monte of Oropa, Wiew of the Chapels



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SACRO MONTE OF VARALLO



At the turn of the XV century, Franciscan friar Bernardino Caimi, on his way back from Jerusalem, dreamed of building a little Holy Land which would reproduce the Holy Sepulcher, the Calvary, the Gethsemane, Bethlehem and Nazareth on the rock spur overlooking the town of Varallo. The project was brought to life in 1486 with the first buildings where paintings and sculptures would stage the episodes of Jesus Christ's life.

From the early XV century, Gaudenzio Ferrari had populated the scenes with his real-life, three-dimensional sculptures sporting colorful clothes, beards and hair, gestures, natural features and expressions, to narrate the Sacred History together with the paintings decorating the chapels. During the Catholic Reformation, under the direction of Carlo Bascapè (1593-1615), it was reorganized as a magnificently illustrated catechism with the work of renowned artists such as Jean de Wespim, Morazzone, Tanzio da Varallo, Giovanni d'Enrico, Dionigi Bussola etc. Just like a real city, yet inhabited by sculpted and painted people, the Sacred Mount features cobblestone pathways, piazzas, palaces, parks and Italian-style gardens. Connected by the steepest cableway in Europe, the site overlooks the historical center of Varallo with its sumptuous monuments: the Picture-Gallery, the Museum of Natural Science and the Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie painted by Gaudenzio Ferrari (1513). An ideal destination combining culture and spirituality.

TOURIST SERVICES

More details and information at www.sacrimonti.org/sacro-monte-di-varallo



CONTACTS

Località Sacro Monte - 13019 Varallo (VC)

Ente di gestione dei Sacri Monti - Riserva Speciale del Sacro Monte di Varallo
Tel. +39 0163 53938 - E-mail: info.varallo@sacri-monti.com
www.sacrimonti.org/sacro-monte-di-varallo

Sanctuary of Maria Assunta - Oblate Fathers
Tel. +39 0163 51131 - E-mail: rettore@sacromontedivarallo.it
www.sacromontedivarallo.org

Varallo City Council
Tel. +39 0163 562711 - Pec: comune.varallo.vc@legalmail.it
www.comune.varallo.vc.it

VALSESIA AND MONTE ROSA

THE WONDER OF THE ALPS AMONG NATURE, ART AND TRADITION

Uncontaminated nature, amazing landscapes and magical valleys with crystal-clear watercourses: Valsesia, "the greenest valley of Italy" winds along the foot of Mount Rosa and is crossed by the Sesia river, renowned and loved by sport fans for its many fluvial activities



ties and its clear waters abounding with fish. The valley offers enchanting scenarios both for winter sports, thanks to the vast Monte Rosa Ski resort with quick connections to Valle d'Aosta, and the variety of summer activities. Unique local products, ancient recipes from the mountain cuisine tradition and the prestigious Nebbiolo wines (Gattinara DOCG) make each visit a one-of-a-kind experience with unforgettable and authentic flavors. Yet Valsesia is also a land of art and culture, with museums and eco-museums, churches, the masterpieces of the Walser architecture, traditional craftsmanship, period car meetings inspired by the origins of the Lancia family and the Fondazione FS steam engines along with important testimonies of its past.

TOURIST INFORMATION

ATL Valsesia Vercelli (Tourist Office)
corso Roma, 38 - 13019 Varallo (VC)
Tel. +39 0163 564404
E-mail: info@atlvalesiavercelli.it
www.atlvalesiavercelli.it

RESTAURANT & ACCOMODATION

info: www.atlvalesiavercelli.it
At Sacred Mount
Vecchio Albergo Sacro Monte
Tel. +39 0163 54254
E-mail: info@albergosacromonte.it
www.albergosacromonte.it
In Varallo and Valsesia
www.atlvalesiavercelli.it

ATTRACTIONS & ACTIVITIES

info: www.atlvalesiavercelli.it
monuments, museums, eco-museums, typical villages, oenogastromy touring, hiking, climbing trails, bicycle touring, parks, geoparks, water sports, air sports, winter sports, speleology, horse riding touring, religious touring, historical trains

EVENTS

info: www.atlvalesiavercelli.it
musical festivals, holy representations, exhibitions, festivals, carnival, trade fairs, livestock and agricultural trade fairs, historical trains

LINKS

www.regione.piemonte.com/web/piemonte-da-vivere
www.areeprotettevallesesia.it
www.sesiavalgrandegeopark.it
www.visitmonterosa.com
www.camminidevozionali.it

DIRECTIONS FOR VARALLO AND THE SACRED MOUNT

By plane: Milano Malpensa
By car: A4 + A26 (E62), exit Romagnano-Ghemme, direction SP 299 to Varallo/Alagna Valsesia
By train: Torino-Milano line stations of Novara and Vercelli + bus - www.trenitalia.com
By bus: direct connections from/to Milan, Turin, Vercelli, Novara
www.baranzelli.it - www.atapsa.it - www.canovaspa.it
SACRED MOUNT - to reach the Sacred Mount by car and bus, follow the indications without the cableway symbol
With GPS: destination località Sacro Monte di Varallo - 13019 Varallo (VC)
Buses: to the Sacred Mount are subject to toll payment - Tel. +39 0163 562727
Cableway: direct connection Varallo-Sacro Monte - Tel. +39 0163 564391
On foot: pedestrian path to Varallo-Sacro Monte (20' distance), cobbled and sloped road
Public transport info: PRONTO TPL <http://prontotpl.5t.torino.it/>



SACRO MONTE OF ORTA

On the promontory overlooking Lake Orta, where vegetation alternates with breathtaking views, the Sacred Mount path, surrounded by gardens and woods, winds through the twenty chapels housing sculptures and paintings that narrate the life of Saint Francis as an analogy with Jesus Christ's. The community's original idea to create a religious itinerary similar to the Sacred Mount of Varallo dates back to 1583, but it is only in 1590 that the Novarese abbot Amico Canobio brings it to life under the direction of the Capuchin architect Cleto da Castelletto Ticino who distributes the architectures throughout the natural landscape and stunning openings over the lake. The scenes, starring statues and paintings of impressive realism, combine intimate and natural atmospheres of early 1600 to the sassy baroque theatricality of late XVII century, masterly interpreted by renowned artists such as the Fiammenghini, Morazzone, Cristoforo Prestinari, the d'Enrico brothers, Dionigi Bussola and many others. The processional route ends with the early-Romanesque church of San Nicolao housing the ancient ligneous group of the Madonna della Pietà (XIV century?), which was completely remodeled in the XVII century as a reproduction of the Basilica Inferiore of Assisi. The delightful landscape and the peaceful location blend in with the Franciscan spirituality making the walk an evocative inner experience.



TOURIST SERVICES

More details and information at www.sacrimonti.org/sacro-monte-di-orta



CONTACTS

Località Sacro Monte - 28016 Orta San Giulio (NO)

Ente di gestione dei Sacri Monti - Riserva speciale del Sacro Monte di Orta

Tel. +39 0322 911960 - E-mail: info.orta@sacri-monti.com - www.sacrimonti.org/sacro-monte-di-orta

Sanctuary and monastery of Franciscan Friary

Tel. +39 0322 90149 - E-mail: info@conventomontmesma.it - www.conventomontmesma.it

Orta City Council

Tel. +39 0322 911972 - E-mail: municipio@comune.ortasangiulio.no.it

www.comune.ortasangiulio.no.it

LAKE ORTA

SMALL, INTIMATE AND ROMANTIC

Lake Orta is one of the most evocative destinations of Piedmont. Framed by thick chestnut, beech and Scotch fir woods, it is characterized by picturesque villages and breathtaking views. Feud of the Bishop of Novara from the XIII century, the territory of Cusio, its second name taking origins from the Celts inhab-



iting the area before the Romans' arrival, was transferred to the Savoy Family in 1767. A place of cult, nature, art, and history, Lake Orta embraces the homonym romantic village, the island of San Giulio with its late medieval basilica and the suggestive town unaltered in time, the Sacred Mount and the sanctuary of the Madonna del Sasso. A favored destination in the past centuries for precocious tourists world round attracted by the beauty of the lake and the unique Alpine views, it experienced a relevant entrepreneurial growth in the housewares and taps and fittings sectors, with renowned brands such as Alessi, Lagostina and Bialetti. The new industrial growth has not altered the variety of its landscape attractions, masterly described by famous writers like Balzac, Montale, Soldati and Rodari. Today the Orta Riviera offers many delightful opportunities for art, nature and water sports lovers.

TOURIST INFORMATION

Distretto Turistico dei Laghi, Monti e Valli d'Ossola (Tourist Office)

Corso Italia, 26

28838 Stresa (VB)

Tel. +39 0323 30416

E-mail: infoturismo@distretto.laghi.it

www.distrettolaghi.it

RESTAURANT & ACCOMODATION

In Orta and the territory of Cusio

info: www.distrettolaghi.it

ATTRACTIONS & ACTIVITIES

info: www.distrettolaghi.it

monuments, museums, eco-museums, typical villages, oenogastronomy touring, hiking, climbing trails, bicycle touring, parks, geoparks, amusement-literary-parks, water sports, air sports, winter sports, horse riding touring, religious touring, tourist train

EVENTS

info: www.distrettolaghi.it

music festival, literature festivals, movie festivals, floral events

LINKS

www.regione.piemonte.it/web/piemonte-da-vivere

www.neveazzurra.it

www.parcoticinologomaggiore.it

www.sesiavalgrandegeopark.it

www.camminidevozionali.it

DIRECTIONS FOR ORTA SAN GIULIO AND THE SACRED MOUNT

By plane: Milano Malpensa

By car: A26, (E62), direction Gravellona Toce, exit Borgomanero, Gravellona Toce, direction Omegna/Orta SP229

By train: station Orta-Miasino, line Novara-Domodossola (20' distance walk to the Sacred Mount) - www.trenitalia.com

By bus: lines for Novara and Domossola - www.comazzibus.com

SACRED MOUNT - With GPS: località Sacro Monte di Orta - 28016 Orta (NO)

Buses: Buses must stop at the parking lot at the foot of the hill

On foot: from Orta San Giulio, 20' distance walk, sloped, paved, cobbled road with steps

Public transport info: PRONTO TPL <http://prontotpl.5t.torino.it/>



SACRO MONTE OF CREA

The Sacred Mount of Crea stands on top of a hill in the heart of Monferrato, where visitors can enjoy all the splendor of the Alps and one of the most enchanting wine settlements, which prestige has also been acknowledged by UNESCO. Its origins date back to 1589 when the prior of the church of Madonna Assunta di Crea, Costantino Massino, wanted to create a devotional pictured itinerary to encourage prayer and meditation while renovating the sacredness of the previous Marian Church. The strong bond between the sanctuary and the dynasty reigning in Monferrato has been reinforced by various protagonists such as the duke, the local nobles, the high clergy and the neighboring communities. Many famous artists gave their contribution: Moncalvo, the Prestinaris and the de Wespins who crafted the magnificent sculpture complex of the Cappella del Paradiso (Chapel of the Paradise, no. 23) in early XVII century. The complex war events experienced by Monferrato in the XVII century devastated the territory and required subsequent interventions that changed its original layout. Particularly evocative is the late XIX century symbolist interpretation of Christ Carrying the Cross (c.16) by Leonardo Bistolfi, an impressive original reinterpretation of the Chapel of the Crucifixion by Gaudenzio Ferrari at the Sacred Mount of Varallo.



pretation of Christ Carrying the Cross (c.16) by Leonardo Bistolfi, an impressive original reinterpretation of the Chapel of the Crucifixion by Gaudenzio Ferrari at the Sacred Mount of Varallo.



TOURIST SERVICES

More details and information at www.sacrimonti.org/sacro-monte-di-crea



CONTACTS

Località Sacro Monte di Crea - 15020 Serralunga di Crea (AL)

Ente di gestione dei Sacri Monti - Riserva speciale del Sacro Monte di Crea

Tel. +39 0141 927120 - E-mail: info.crea@sacri-monti.com
www.sacrimonti.org/sacro-monte-di-crea

Diocesan Sanctuary of the Madonna di Crea

Tel. +39 0142 940109 - E-mail: creasant@libero.it
www.santuari.it

MONFERRATO

A TERRITORY SURROUNDED BY NATURE FOR A TASTE OF ART WITH THE ART OF TASTE

Just an hour drive from Milan, Turin and Genoa and a little farther from the French and Swiss borders, Monferrato represents one of the most enchanting territories of Piedmont, extending between the Alps and the Ligurian Sea. A landscape of soft hills, mostly untouched in its original features, that combines historical testimonies, fascinating cities and small villages dominated by castles, rich of excellent wines and boasting one of the best popular cuisine traditions.



Among routes and paths winding through the green valleys to be crossed slowly and with a careful eye, many are the opportunities to enjoy this territory, such as hiking, bike excursions and visits to the famous "infernot", the typical cellars dug in turf to extract the Cantone stone used to build the ancient houses. Spring and summer are the best seasons for those who wish to discover the harmonious landscapes and practice open-air sports. Fall and winter, instead, are the favored months for spa lovers or gourmets who combine refined wines to better appreciate the renowned "fruits" of this land: truffles, mushrooms, chestnuts, hazelnuts.

TOURIST INFORMATION

Alexala - Reception Agency and Promotion of Local Tourism in the province of Alessandria

Piazza Santa Maria di Castello, 14
15121 Alessandria (AL) - Tel. +39 0131 227454
E-mail: info@alexala.it
www.alexala.it

RESTAURANT & ACCOMODATION

info: www.alexala.it

At Sacred Mount

Ristorante di Crea
www.ristorantedicrea.it
Caffè Santuario di Crea - Tel. +39 0142 940106

In Monferrato

info: www.alexala.it

ATTRACTIONS & ACTIVITIES

info: www.alexala.it
monuments, museums, eco-museums, typical villages, oenogastronomy touring, hiking, bicycle touring, parks, water sports, air sports, horse riding touring

EVENTS

info: www.alexala.it
music festivals, cultural festivals, fairs, local events, oenogastronomy events, traditional markets

LINKS

www.regione.piemonte.it/web/piemonte-da-vivere
www.parcodelpoalessandriavercelli.it
www.monferratontour.it
www.paesaggivitivinicoli.it
www.comune.casale-monferrato.al.it/MoMu-Monferrato-Musei
www.comune.ponzanomonferrato.al.it
www.comune.serralungadicrea.al.it

DIRECTIONS FOR THE SACRED MOUNT OF CREA

By plane: Milano Malpensa, Torino Caselle, Genova Cristoforo Colombo

By car: A26 (E62), exit Casale Sud, SP 457 direction Asti, Moncalvo, at the hamlet of La Madonnina di Serralunga di Crea follow directions for Sacro Monte

By train: station of Casale Monferrato+bus: line Torino-Chivasso-Casale Monferrato; station of Asti: line Torino - Asti + bus; line Alessandria-Casale Monferrato; station of Casale Monferrato + bus - www.trenitalia.com

By Bus: lines for Asti and Casale, stop of La Madonnina - www.gruppostat.com

The Sacred Mount is a 5 km walk away

With GPS: Sacro Monte di Crea (AL), access from Ponzano Monferrato or Madonnina di Serralunga di Crea

Private buses: must take the road from Ponzano Monferrato

Public transport info: PRONTO TPL <http://prontotpl.St.torino.it>

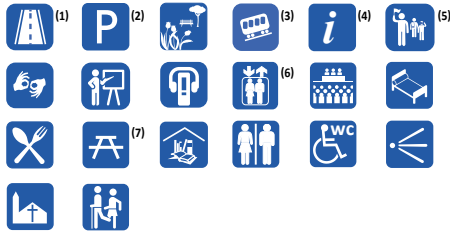


SACRO MONTE OF VARESE

The devotional path winds along the slopes of Monte Velate in a striking panoramic position over pre-alpine lakes and the plain. The Via Sacra was built between 1604 and 1698 to renovate and foster the sacredness of the Marian sanctuary on the initiative of

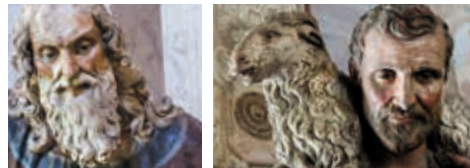
TOURIST SERVICES

More details and information at www.sacrimonti.org/sacro-monte-di-varese



- (1) Accessible by car and bus.
- (2) Piazzale Pogliaghi: free parking from Monday to Friday; fee-paying on Saturday, Sunday and Holidays.
- (3) Station of Vellone.
- (4) At Centro espositivo Mons. Macchi near First Chapel; open on Saturday, Sunday and Holidays 9 am - 4 pm. At Info Point Parco Campo dei Fiori, Piazzale Pogliaghi: Thursday 9 am - 3 pm and Sunday all day.
- (5) Fee-paying guide assisted tours.
Information at Centro espositivo Mons. Macchi near the First Chapel, by Archeologists or tour guides listed for the Province of Varese.
- (6) Direct access to the Sanctuary from Via del Ceppo - Viale del Santuario.
- (7) Along Via Monte Tre Croci, between Piazzale Pogliaghi and path 10 (Pizzelle).

Capuchin friar Giovanni Battista Aguggiari who commissioned construction of the chapels dedicated to the Mysteries of the Rosary. Architect Giuseppe Bernascone aka "Il Mancino" supervised the entire planning (chapels, arches, fountains and paths) conferring the complex its typical monumental uniformity. Many were the renowned Lombard artists who took part to the Sacred Mount of Varese project, such as Morazzone, Francesco Silva, the Recchi brothers, Dionigi Bussola and Stefano Maria Legnani aka "il Legnanino". In 1983 Renato Guttuso painted the external wall of the Nativity chapel with a modern version of the Escape from Egypt. At the top of the cobblestoned slope is the small village of Santa Maria del Monte with its typical roofed alleys and the ancient monastery of the Romite Ambrosiane, where one can visit Museo Baroffio and Casa Museo Pogliaghi. The funicular is a charming alternative to reach the top.



CONTACTS

Località Santa Maria del Monte - 21100 Varese
Sanctuary of Santa Maria del Monte
Tel. +39 0332 229223 - E-mail: sacromonte@chiesadimilano.it
www.sacromontedivarese.it - www.sacrimonti.org/sacro-monte-di-varese

Centro espositivo Mons. Macchi, near first Chapel
cell. +39 328 8377206 - E-mail: info@sacromontedivarese.it
www.sacromontedivarese.it

Parco Naturale Regionale Campo dei Fiori
Tel. +39 0332 435386 - E-mail: info@parcocampodeifiori.it - www.parcocampodeifiori.it

VARESE "CITTÀ GIARDINO"

The word combination Varese "Città Giardino" [garden city] perfectly describes the blending of art and nature characterizing the city of northwest Lombardy, in the heart of a territory rich of rivers, lakes and green hills, at the foot of the Massiccio del Campo dei



Fiori, in the Varesine Prealps. The city became a holiday resort in the XVIII century and a favorite destination of international tourists in early XX century for the construction first of Liberty-style villas and later of rationalist residences. Varese welcomes its visitors as a lively city that merges historical-artistic opportunities to unforgettable views and an appealing life style. Many are the sites worth visiting, among which: Palazzo Estense, Villa Mirabello, Basilica of S. Vittore, Villa Panza, Villa Toeplitz, Castle of Masnago, Church of S. Stefano, Isolino Virginia, the Sacred Mount and Casa Museo Lodovico Pogliaghi.



DIRECTION FOR VARESE AND THE SACRED MOUNT

By plane: Milano Malpensa and Milano Linate
By train: Trenitalia Milano Porta Garibaldi - Varese; Trenord Milano Cadorna - Varese Nord; TILO Malpensa - Varese
By car: Motorway A8 "Milano-Laghi", direction Varese, exit Varese; **from Como:** SS342 direction Varese; **from Piedmont:** Motorway A26 - connection to Motorway A8 - direction Varese, exit Varese
From Lugano (CH): through Ponte Tresa, Tresa pass, follow SS233 direction Varese
SACRED MOUNT - from Varese
By bus: line C Bizzozero-Sacro Monte
With GPS: Varese, Piazzale Pogliaghi (top of Santa Maria del Monte), or Varese Via Prima Cappella-Piazzale Montanari (beginning of Viale delle Cappelle)
On foot: Via Sacra: 2 km along the 14 chapels of the Sacred Mount up to the Sanctuary

TOURIST INFORMATION

Infopoint Varese (Tourist Office)
Piazza Monte Grappa, 5
21100 Varese (VA)
Tel. +39 0332 281913
E-mail: infopoint@comune.varese.it

VARESE CITY COUNCIL

Via Sacco, 5 - 21100 Varese (VA)
Tel. +39 0332 255111
www.comune.varese.it

RESTAURANTS & ACCOMODATION

info: www.sacromontedivarese.it/visita

ATTRACTIONS & ACTIVITIES

info: www.sacromontedivarese.it
www.comune.varese.it
www.vareselandoftourism.com
www.in-lombardia.it
art and culture, active & green, typical villages, bicycle touring, food & wine, lakes, lifestyle, parks and gardens, religious touring

EVENTS

info: www.sacromontedivarese.it
www.comune.varese.it
holy representations, traditional patronal feast, carnival tradition

LINKS

www.sacromontedivarese.it
www.vareselandoftourism.com
www.in-lombardia.it
www.museobaroffio.it
www.casamuseopogliaghi.it

TRANSPORTATION LINKS

www.ctpi.it
www.avtvarese.it
www.trenitalia.com
www.trenord.it
www.tilo.ch



SACRO MONTE OF OROPA

At 1200 meters of altitude, surrounded by a unique alpine scenario and just a short distance from Biella, the Sacred Mount was created on the initiative of the town parish communities and districts starting from 1617-1620 and upon initiative of Capuchin Friar Fedele da San Germano to foster the Marian devotion connected to the existing sanctuary through a didactic path.

The project adds to the great interventions and transformations promoted by the Savoy family on the ancient monumental complex



where the Madonna Nera was worshiped. The religious itinerary includes twelve chapels dedicated to the Virgin's life and arranged along a zigzag path culminating in the majestic setting of Holy Mary's Crowning (c. 12), combined to five additional sacella dedicated to the saints and the sanctuary tradition. Built in multiple stages between the XVII and XVIII centuries, many were the artists who took part to the project, among which the d'Enrico brothers, Bartolomeo Termine, painter Giovanni Galliani, Agostino Silva, Carlo Francesco and Giuseppe Auregio.



TOURIST SERVICES

More details and information at www.sacrimonti.org/sacro-monte-di-oropa



CONTACTS

Località Santuario di Oropa - 13900 Biella (BI)

Amministrazione del Santuario

Via Santuario di Oropa, 480 - 13900 Biella - Oropa (BI)

Tel. +39.015 25551200 - E-mail: info@santuariodioropa.it

www.santuariodioropa.it

Ente di gestione dei Sacri Monti - Riserva Speciale del Sacro Monte di Oropa

Contact: Amministrazione del Santuario

www.sacrimonti.org/sacro-monte-di-oropa

(Legal Seat: Ente di gestione dei Sacri Monti - Tel. +39 0141 927120 - E-mail: info@sacri-monti.com)

THE CHARM OF THE ALPS BETWEEN LAND AND SKY

The Biellese is a territory in western Piedmont embraced by the Alps to be enjoyed first hand.

The town of Biella includes three main zones: the area of Biella Piano, rich of prestigious artistic testimonies such as the Romanesque Baptistery and the Renaissance complex of San Sebastiano, the XIX century industrial area along torrent Ceruo reaching the town center, both on level grounds, and the medieval village of Biella Piazza, in the



upper part of town, rich of striking corners and connected by the typical cableway. Outside the chief town are many small villages to discover among plains, vineyard hills and pastures, and the mountains at a short distance by car: the richness and variety of natural settings makes the Biellese area the ideal destination for those looking for an active vacation. The typical flavors of the Piedmontese oenogastronomy tradition complete the touristic offer with a charming touch, along with the unique textile products that have always characterized the local entrepreneurial activity.

TOURIST INFORMATION

Azienda Turistica Locale del Biellese (Tourist Office)

P.zza V. Veneto, 3 - 13900 Biella (BI)

Tel. + 39 015 351128 - n° verde 800 811 800

E-mail: info@atl.biella.it

www.atl.biella.it

RESTAURANT & ACCOMODATION

Near the Sactuary:

info: www.santuariodioropa.it

At Biella and its territory:

info: www.atl.biella.it

ATTRACTIONS & ACTIVITIES

info: www.atl.biella.it

monuments, museums, eco-museums

oenogastronomy touring

hiking

climbing trails

bicycle touring

parks and gardens

water sports

air sports

winter sports

horse riding touring

religious touring

EVENTS

info: www.atl.biella.it

holy representations

music festivals

floral events

religious traditions

typical district marks

LINKS

www.regione.piemonte.it/web/piemonte-da-vivere

Parco Burcina e Bessa:

www.parcotycinolagomaggiore.it

www.camminidevozionali.it

www.comune.biella.it

www.oasizegna.com

www.comune.biella.it

DIRECTIONS FOR BIELLA AND THE SACRED MOUNT

By plane: Milano Malpensa and Torino Caselle

By car: from Torino: A4 exit Santhià direction for Biella SP143 and direction for Oropa SP144;

from Milan: A4 exit Carisio direction for Biella SP230 and for Oropa SP144; **from Aosta:** A5 exit Quincinetto direction for Biella SS26+SP73+SP419 and direction for Oropa SP144

By train: station of Biella, lines Santhià-Torino and Novara-Milano - www.trenitalia.com

OROPA AND THE SACRED MOUNT

With GPS: Località Santuario di Oropa - 13900 Biella (BI)

Bus: local line n. 2 Biella-Oropa - ATAP Tel. 800912716 - www.atapsa.it

Public transport info: PRONTO TPL <http://prontotpl.5t.torino.it/>



SACRO MONTE OF OSSUCCIO

By the western bank of Lake Como, along a slope behind Ossuccio (Commune of Tremezzina), the Sacred Mount offers a breathtaking view over the lake, the mountains and the Comacina island.

Dedicated to the Mysteries of the Rosary, it was presumably built on the initiative of the Franciscan Friars and the local noble families starting from mid XVII century and up to 1710.

It consists of fourteen chapels arranged along the ascensional path leading to the sanctuary, where the last holy aedicule stands. The group of chapels, surrounded by vegetation and olive trees, features articulated shapes and structures with well-balanced harmony between architecture and landscape. Most of the two hundred and thirty stucco statues are by Agostino Silva, while the frescoes are by artists such as Carlo Gaffuri, Francesco Innocenzo Torriani and Giovan Paolo Recchi.



TOURIST SERVICES

More details and information at www.sacrimonti.org/sacro-monte-di-ossuccio



(u) Car parking at chapels 1st and 4th

CONTACTS

Località Ossuccio di Tremezzina - 22019 Tremezzina (CO)

Sanctuary of the Madonna del Soccorso di Ossuccio

Tel. +39 0344 55211 - E-mail: santuariobvsoccorso@libero.it

www.santuariosoccorso.blogspot.it - www.sacrimonti.org/sacro-monte-di-ossuccio

Tremezzina City Council

Via Santo Stefano, 7 - Loc. Lenno - 22019 Tremezzina (CO)

Tel. 0344 5583900 - E-mail: info@comune.tremezzina.co.it

www.comune.tremezzina.co.it

A LANDSCAPE BETWEEN WATER AND SKY

The territory of the Commune of Tremezzina is characterized by a strong cultural identity and an ancient touristic vocation. In the past, the exclusive position fostered the cultivation of citrus and olive trees. The rich historical and architectonic patrimony includes Roman, early Christian and medieval archaeological testimonies, Romanesque churches, numerous villas and interesting rationalist architectures. In addition to the Sacred Mount, worth admiring is the archaeological complex of Isola Comacina, a few historical



villas, Villa Balbianello (FAI) and Villa Carlotta, renowned for its collection of rhododendrons and azaleas together with its internal furniture that includes works by Canova, Thorvaldsen and Hayez. The creation of the Greenway, the Soft Mobility itinerary winding along the lake through the coastal villages of Lake Como, and the Artway, the video-guide system that sets off the main monuments, offer tourists a valid alternative and an effective tool to get to know the territory at best, together with a variety of nautical sports and excursions.

TOURIST INFORMATION

Ufficio turistico di Tremezzo (Tourist Office)

Via Regina, 1 - 22016 Tremezzina (CO)

Tel. + 39 0344 40493

E-mail: turismo@comune.tremezzina.co.it

<https://mylakecomo.co/it/>

Antiquarium - Isola Comacina

Via Somalvico - località Ossuccio

22016 Tremezzina (CO) - Tel. +39 0344 56369

E-mail: info@isola-comacina.it

www.isola-comacina.it

RESTAURANT & ACCOMODATION

Sacred Mount

Trattoria del Santuario (near the Sanctuary)

Tel. + 39 0344 56311

<https://mylakecomo.co/it/>

Surroundings:

<https://mylakecomo.co/it/>

ATTRACTIONS & ACTIVITIES

info: <https://mylakecomo.co/it/>

monuments, museums, eco-museums, oenogastronomy touring, hiking, bicycle touring, water sports, parks, gardens, tourist train (along state road Regina), religious touring

EVENTS

info: <https://mylakecomo.co/it/>

music and art festivals, traditional festivals

LINKS

www.isola-comacina.it

www.in-lombardia.it

DIRECTION FOR OSSUCCIO (TREMEZZINA) AND THE SACRED MOUNT

By plane: Milano Malpensa and Milano Linate

By car: A9 exit Lago di Como direction SS340 for Ossuccio

Connections to Switzerland

By train: station Varenna Esino, line Milano Centrale - Tirano, station Como San Giovanni, line Milano Porta Garibaldi - Chiasso - www.trenitalia.com

Milano Cadorna - Como Nord - www.trenord.it

By bus: Asf Autolinee - Line C10 Como-Menaggio-Colico - www.asfautolinee.it

By ferry: Navigazione Lago di Como - www.navigazionealaghi.it

SACRED MOUNT - Beginning of path of the chapels (via Pasquale Castelli, 6) - località Ossuccio - 22019 Tremezzina (CO). Cars must park at the chapel 1st and 4th; it is not possible to go at the Sanctuary by car. Disabled people can contact the church (Tel. +39 0344 55211).



SACRO MONTE OF GHIFFA

The smallest of the Piedmontese Sacred Mounts offers one of the most striking views of Lake Maggiore, in a panoramic position over the Lombard Prealps; it consists of three main chapels dedicated to the Crowned Virgin, Saint John the Baptist and Abraham, the sanctuary and the XVIII century Way of the Cross colonnade. The Santuario della Trinità is the heart of the complex, built between late XVI century and 1617 to extend an ancient site of medieval cult, a place considered sacred and miraculous even before the Sacred Mount project. The three chapels were built at a later time, approximately between 1647 and early XVIII century. The delightful surrounding environment with its chestnut woods and the ancient archaeological path, combined to the lakeside and climate charm, make it one of the most evocative Sacred Mounts from a landscape standpoint.



TOURIST SERVICES

More details and information at www.sacrimonti.org/sacro-monte-di-ghiffa



CONTACTS

Località Sacro Monte di Ghiffa - 28823 Ghiffa (VB)

Ente di gestione dei Sacri Monti - Riserva speciale del Sacro Monte di Ghiffa

Tel. +39 0323 59870 - E-mail: info.ghiffa@sacri-monti.com - www.sacrimonti.org/sacro-monte-di-ghiffa

Parish of di San Maurizio - Tel. +39 348 315 96 07 - E-mail: info@parrocchiaghiffa.org
www.parrocchiaghiffa.org

Ghiffa City Council - Tel. +39 0323 59110 - E-mail: protocollo@comune.ghiffa.vb.it
www.comune.ghiffa.vb.it

VILLAS, GARDENS AND ISLANDS

DISCOVERING LAKE MAGGIORE

Extending between Italy and Switzerland, overlapping Piedmont and Lombardy, Lake Maggiore enjoys undisputed fame for the refined beauty of the Borromeo Islands, which palaces and gardens with their unique botanical collections have made it a favorite destination for national and international tourism since the past centuries. Here majestic hotels (Arona, Stresa, Verbania-Pallanza) and luxurious villas were built, such as Villa Pallavicino and Villa Taranto, renowned for their striking flowering of camellias, azaleas and rhododendrons.

Nautical activities, the exquisite gastronomy, delightful views and a variety of itineraries that offer visitors the opportunity to enjoy relaxing walks along the lake or the surrounding alpine slopes, are but few of the reasons to take a vacation in the name of peace and charm.



TOURIST INFORMATION

Distretto Turistico dei Laghi, Monti e Valli d'Ossola

(Tourist Office)

Corso Italia, 26 - 28838 Stresa (VB)

Tel. +39 0323 30416

E-mail infoturismo@distrettolaghi.it

www.distrettolaghi.it

RESTAURANT & ACCOMODATION

At Sacred Mount

Ristorante SS. Trinità

Tel. +39 0323 086330 - <http://ristorantelatrinita.it>

Surroundings:

info: www.distrettolaghi.it

ATTRACTIONS & ACTIVITIES

info: www.distrettolaghi.it

monuments, museums, eco-museums, hiking, bicycle touring, water sports, air sports, winter sports, parks, gardens, horse riding touring, oenogastronomy touring, religious touring

EVENTS

info: www.distrettolaghi.it

music festivals, events and flower exhibitions

LINKS

www.regione.piemonte.it/web/piemonte-da-vivere

www.neveazzurra.it

www.camminidevozionali.it

www.areeprotetteossola.it

www.parcovallgrande.it

www.sesiavalgrandegeopark.it



DIRECTIONS FOR GHIFFA AND THE SACRED MOUNT

By plane: Milano Malpensa

By car: A26 (E62) exit Verbania direction SS33-raccordo for Verbania-Pallanza and for Ghiffa

Connections to Switzerland

By train: station of Verbania, lines from/to Milano, Novara, Domodossola - www.trenitalia.com

By bus: line Verbania - Brissago - www.vcotrasporti.it

By ferry: Navigazione Lago Maggiore - www.navigazione.laghi.it

Public transport info: PRONTO TPL <http://prontotpl.5t.torino.it>

SACRED MOUNT

With GPS: località Sacro Monte di Ghiffa - 28823 Ghiffa (VB)

On foot: ancient path to Ronco-Sacro Monte (40' distance)

SACRO MONTE OF DOMODOSSOLA

At short distance from Switzerland, surrounded by the Ossola Alps and typical villages with slopes still growing ancient vineyards, the Sacred Mount winds through the town of Domodossola up to the Mattarella hill, where the ruins of the Longobard castle stand (VI sec.). The works started in 1656 on the initiative of Capuchin Friars Gioacchino da Cassano and Andrea da Rho to reproduce Christ's passion and death with life-size images in a sort of *Biblia pauperum*. The first chapels were built upon the bishop's authorization in 1657, under the supervision of Giovanni Matteo Capis, a local citizen and jurisconsult which the community will later appoint the task of vestryman. They were decorated internally in 1661 by the Lombard sculptor Dionigi Bussola who modeled, among others, the outstanding sculptures of the sanctuary internal chapels. The works continued in the following century. The Capuchin Friars were dismissed in 1810 with the Napoleonic



suppressions of the monastic orders and the friary was turned into barracks. In 1828 new vitality was conferred to the complex with the new religious order established by the Trentine priest and philosopher Antonio Rosmini. The works restarted with construction of other chapels up to early XX century. The internal decorations of these and a few other XVIII century chapels date back to the XX century.



TOURIST SERVICES

More details and information at www.sacrimonti.org/sacro-monte-di-domodossola



CONTACTS

Località Borgata Sacro Monte Calvario, 5 - 28845 - Domodossola (VB)

Ente di gestione dei Sacri Monti - Riserva speciale del Sacro Monte Calvario di Domodossola

Tel. +39 0324 241976 - E-mail: info.domodossola@sacri-monti.com

www.sacrimonti.org/sacro-monte-di-domodossola

Rosminian Fathers - Center of Rosminian Spirituality

Tel. +39.0324 242010 - E-mail: rettorecalvario@hotmail.com

www.sacromontecalvario.it

THE OSSOLA MOUNTS AND VALLEY AMONG NATURE, ART, TRADITION AND SPORT

In the Ossola territory, the mountains welcome visitors with all their magnificence and the beauties of nature, the traditions and the local products offer unforgettable experiences. Land of lakes and parks, established to protect and foster their uniqueness, the Ossola is a territory to discover inside out. The National Park of Val Grande embraces an area among the widest and most uncontaminated of Europe. Many are the amazing sights offered by nature, such as the 145 mt. Toce waterfall or Mount Rosa with its 4634 meters of altitude, the second highest mountain of the Alps. Last but not least are the hiking paths through valleys Antigorio-Formazza, Divedro, Anzasca, Bognanco, Antrona and Vigizzo, charming landscapes with marvelous alpine itineraries connected to Switzerland, not to mention water sports and spas for a mountain to be enjoyed year round.



TOURIST INFORMATION

Distretto Turistico dei Laghi, Monti e Valli d'Ossola (Tourist Office)

Corso Italia, 26 - 28838 Stresa (VB)

Tel. +39 0323 30416

E-mail: infoturismo@distrettolaghi.it

www.distrettolaghi.it

RESTAURANT & ACCOMODATION

info: www.distrettolaghi.it

At Sacred Mount

Center of Rosminian Spirituality

Tel. 39 0324 242010

E-mail: rettorecalvario@hotmail.com

www.sacromontecalvario.it

Circolo Acli Santa Croce (ristorante)

Tel. +39 0324 47049

Domodossola and Ossola

info: www.distrettolaghi.it

ATTRACTIONS & ACTIVITIES

info: www.distrettolaghi.it

monuments, museums, eco-museums, typical villages, oenogastronomy touring, hiking, bicycle touring, water sports, air sports, winter sports, parks, gardens, tourist train, horse riding touring, religious touring

EVENTS

info: www.distrettolaghi.it

music festivals, holy traditions, festivals, oenogastronomy events

LINKS

www.regione.piemonte.it/web/piemonte-da-vivere

www.areeprotetteossola.it

www.parcovalgrande.it

www.sesiavalgrandegeopark.it

www.neveazzurra.it

www.camminidevozionali.it

www.borgodellacultura.it

www.comune.domodossola.vb.it

DIRECTIONS FOR DOMODOSSOLA AND THE SACRED MOUNT

By plane: Milano Malpensa

By car: A26 (E62) + SS33 del Sempione, exit Domodossola and directions for Sacro Monte

By train: station of Domodossola, lines for Milano, Losanna and Ginevra (CH), Novara - www.trenitalia.com; line for Locarno (CH) - www.vigezzina.com

By bus: connections from/to Novara - Tel. +39 0324 240333 - www.comazzibus.com

Public transport info: PRONTO TPL <http://prontotpl.5t.torino.it>

SACRED MOUNT

With GPS: borgata Sacro Monte Calvario, 5 - 28845 Domodossola (VB)

From the station, take a taxi or walk (50' distance) up to the Sacred Mount

Access for small buses (25 seats) and quite difficult, notice must be given to the Rosminian Fathers

On foot: directions beginning of Via Crucis from Domodossola (about 30' distance)



SACRO MONTE OF BELMONTE

Overlooking the wide panorama of the Turinese plain and the Canavese alpine view, the Sacred Mount of Belmonte project started in 1712 on the initiative of Franciscan Friar Michelangelo da Montiglio who, after spending some time in Palestine, called upon the local communities and a few noble families to create a religious path dedicated to Christ's passion and death, with works by local artists most of which are still unknown.

The friars were turned away as a consequence of the religious order suppressions between 1802 and 1866 and returned in 1869 when they started restoring the chapels, redecorated by adding architectonic backgrounds and starring «colored statues of terra castellamontana». The thirteen



chapels wind along a circular path embraced by luxuriant vegetation, rich of centenarian oaks and chestnuts interrupted by granitic rocks. The protected area houses an important Longobard archaeological site.

TOURIST SERVICES

More details and information at www.sacrimonti.org/sacromonte-belmonte



CONTACTS

Località Sacro Monte di Belmonte - Borgata Trucchi - 10087 Valperga (TO)

Ente di gestione dei Sacri Monti - Riserva speciale Sacro Monte di Belmonte

Tel. +39 0124 510605 - E-mail: info.belmonte@sacri-monti.com
www.sacrimonti.org/sacromonte-belmonte

Franciscan Sanctuary of Belmonte

Tel. +39 0124 617204

THE TERRITORY BETWEEN TURIN AND IVREA

ROYALTY, NATURE AND INDUSTRIAL ARCHEOLOGY

In a territory characterized by one of the most renowned morainic amphitheaters of Europe dating back to the ice age, nature is mostly uncontaminated with lakes and soft hills, the valleys of the Gran Paradiso National Park and other nature sites such as the Five Lakes of Ivrea and the nature park of Lake Candia. Deserving special mention are also the top-quality oenogastronomy, the castles and ancient religious buildings, the local festivals, the traditional and historical events, the rock festivals and cultural activities, the UNESCO path dedicated to the Olivetti firm and its modern architecture buildings, but especially to its one-of-a-kind entrepreneurial, cultural and innovation spirit. In addition, Ivrea and the Canavese territory stand as the ideal destination for nature and outdoor sport lovers as they will enjoy the opportunity to practice a variety of competitive and amateur discipline.



TOURIST INFORMATION

Turismo Torino e Provincia s.c.r.l. (Tourist Office)
Torino Call Centre +39 011 535181
Ivrea Tel. +39.0125.618131
E-mail: info.ivrea@turismotorino.org
contact@turismotorino.org
www.turismotorino.org

RESTAURANT & ACCOMODATION

info: www.turismotorino.org
At Sacred Mount
Ristorante Belmonte
Tel. +39 0124 617205 - E-mail: rist.belmonte@live.it
www.ristorantebelmonte.it

In the Canavese and its Territory

info: www.turismotorino.org

ATTRACTIONS & ACTIVITIES

info: www.turismotorino.org
monuments, museums, eco-museums, oenogastronomy touring, hiking, bicycle touring, parks, garden, water sports, air sports, winter sports, horse riding touring, religious touring

EVENTS

info: www.turismotorino.org
arts & crafts exhibitions, traditional events, Carnival

LINKS

www.regione.piemonte.it/web/piemonte-da-vivere
www.parchireali.gov.it
Parco Nazionale del Gran Paradiso - www.pngp.it
www.anfiteatromorenicoivrea.it
www.museotecnologicamente.it
www.comune.valperga.to.it
www.comune.prascorsano.to.it
www.comune.pertusio.to.it
www.comune.cuorgne.to.it
www.canaveseturismo.org

DIRECTIONS FOR VALPERGA AND THE SACRED MOUNT

By plane: Torino Caselle

By car: Motorway A5 Torino - Aosta, exit San Giorgio, direction Valperga

By train - bus: connections to Torino - www.gtt.to.it

Public transport info: PRONTO TPL <http://prontotpl.5t.torino.it>

SACRED MOUNT

With GPS: località Sacro Monte di Belmonte, via Piemonte from San Giorgio follow directions for Rivarolo, Cuorné, Prascorsano SP53+SP222+SP460+SP42+SP42

On foot: ancient pedestrian connection from Valperga (1 hour distance)



Sacri Monti
del Piemonte e della Lombardia

Servizi Turistici
Services Touristique
Tourist Services
Besucherdienste



Organizzazione delle Nazioni Unite per l'Educazione, la Scienza e la Cultura

Sacri Monti di Piemonte e Lombardia
inscrits nella Lista del patrimonio mondiale nel 2003



ENTE DI GESTIONE DEI SACRI MONTI

Progetto finanziato a valere sui fondi



MINISTERO PER I BENI E LE ATTIVITÀ CULTURALI

Legge 20 febbraio 2006, n.77

Misure speciali di tutela e fruizione dei siti italiani di interesse culturale, paesaggistico e ambientale inseriti nella lista del patrimonio mondiale posti sotto la tutela dell'UNESCO
This work was carried out with funds made available under Law 77 of 20 February 2006



DESCRIZIONE SIMBOLI TURISTICI
DESCRIPTION DES SYMBOLES TOURISTIQUES

DESCRIPTION OF TOURIST SYMBOLS
BESCHREIBUNG DER TOURISTISCHEN ZEICHEN

	Strada Route Road Straße	Sala conferenze Salle de conference Congress room Tagungsraum	
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	Parking Parkplatz	Ristorante Restaurant	
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	Accesso bus limitato Bus (accès limité) Bus (limited access) Bus (begrenzte Zufahrt)	Area pic-nic Aire de pique-nique Picnic area Picknickplatz	
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	Bus	WC - disabili WC pour handicapés Disabled Toilets Behinderten-WC	
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	Funivia Téléphérique Cableway Seilbahn	WC Toilets	
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	Funicolare Funiculaire Funicular Standseilbahn	Area gioco Aire de jeux Play area Spielplatz	
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	Trenino turistico City Train Train touristique Touristenzug	Ospitalità - camere Hébergement - chambres Hospitality - rooms Bewirtung - Zimmer	
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	Accessibile ai disabili Accès aux personnes à mobilité réduite Access for the disabled Zugang für Körper- oder Gehbehinderte	Bookshop-Souvenir Librairie Buchladen	
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	Accesso disabili difficoltoso Accès handicapé difficile Disabled access difficult Erschwerter Zugang für Körper- oder Gehbehinderte	Organizzazione gruppi Organisation de groupes Organization of groups Organisation von Reisegruppen	
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	Punto info Point info Info point Informationspunkt	Celebrazioni religiose Célébrations religieuses Religious ceremonies Religiöse Feierlichkeiten	
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	Ascensore Ascenseur Elevator Fahrstuhl	Area camper Emplacement pour camping-car Motor home parking Stellplatz für Wohnmobile	
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	Audio-guide / App Audio guides / Apps	Area camper non attrezzata Parking pour camping-car sans services Motor home parking without services Wohnmobilstellplatz ohne Ausstattung	
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	Wi-Fi	Panorama View	
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	Visita guidata Visite guidée Guide-assisted tour Geführte Besichtigungen	Panorama View	
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	Visita guidata LIS Visites guidées en langue des signes Sign Language guided tour Geführte Besichtigung in Gebärdensprache	Parco-giardino Parc et jardin Park and garden Parks und Gärten	
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	Didattica Parcours didactique Didactics Lehrangebot	Percorsi escursionistici Itinéraires de randonnée Hiking itineraries Wanderwege	
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	Didattica Parcours didactique Didactics Lehrangebot	Percorsi escursionistici Itinéraires de randonnée Hiking itineraries Wanderwege	
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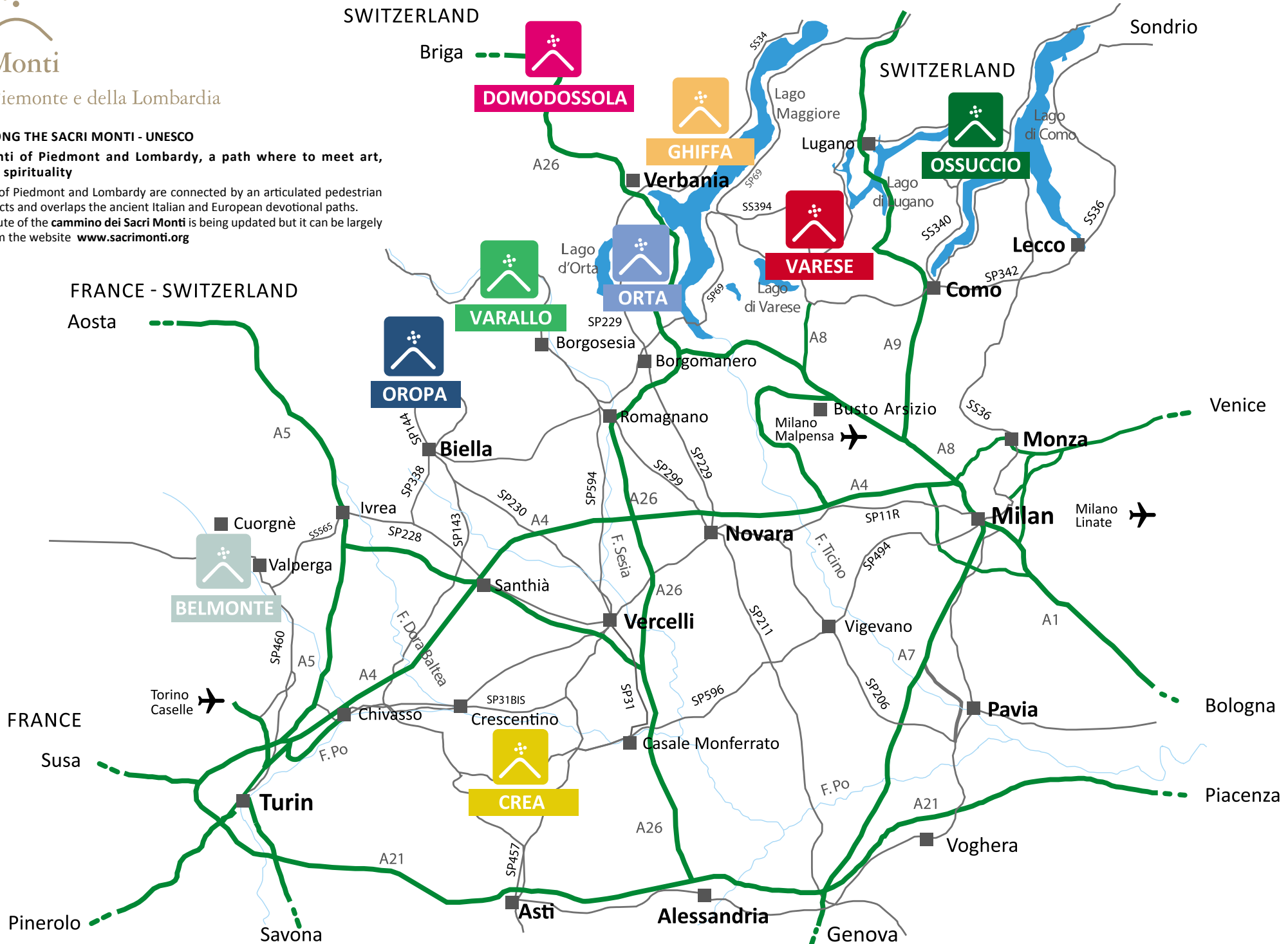
	Didattica Parcours didactique Didactics Lehrangebot	Percorsi escursionistici Itinéraires de randonnée Hiking itineraries Wanderwege	
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	Didattica Parcours didactique Didactics Lehrangebot	Percorsi escursionistici Itinéraires de randonnée Hiking itineraries Wanderwege	
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ON FOOT AMONG THE SACRI MONTI - UNESCO

The Sacri Monti of Piedmont and Lombardy, a path where to meet art, landscape and spirituality

The Sacri Monti of Piedmont and Lombardy are connected by an articulated pedestrian path that intersects and overlaps the ancient Italian and European devotional paths. The complete route of the **cammino dei Sacri Monti** is being updated but it can be largely downloaded from the website www.sacrimonti.org





United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



**Sacri Monti of
Piedmont and Lombardy**
inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2003



**REGIONE
PIEMONTE**



**Regione
Lombardia**



**ENTE DI GESTIONE
DEI SACRI MONTI**

Project funded according to



Legge 20 febbraio 2006, n. 77

Misure speciali di tutela e fruizione dei siti italiani di interesse culturale, paesaggistico e ambientale inseriti nella lista del patrimonio mondiale posti sotto la tutela dell'UNESCO

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Alexala Agenzia di Accoglienza e Promozione Turistica Locale della provincia di Alessandria
ATL Biella (p.13) - Distretto Turistico dei Laghi, Monti e Valli d'Ossola: G.Cavallini (p.7)
M.B. Cerini (p.17) - L.Framarini (p.19); Turismo Torino e Provincia s.c.r.l.(p. 21)
Comune di Varese (p.11) - Comune di Tremezzina (p.15) - DMO Piemonte s.c.r.l.
Ente di gestione dei Sacri Monti: M. Beck Peccoz (pp.2,3,4b,6,8,12a/b,14,16,18,20)
- G. Bergamo - M. Dallago (p. 4a) - A. Rege (pp.5,9) - C.Valazza (p.12c)
Regione Piemonte - Regione Lombardia