VisitAMI

Ivrea and the Moraine Amphitheatre
Great care and attention have been put into preparing this guide to ensure its reliability and the accuracy of the information. However, Turismo Torino e Provincia would urge you to always check on timetables, prices, addresses and accessibility of the sites, products and services mentioned.

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This guide is the outcome of the work begun in 2013, commissioned by the City of Ivrea, in which institutes and associations worked jointly as part of the ongoing project for promoting the Moraine Amphitheatre of Ivrea (Anfiteatro Morenico di Ivrea).

The AMI is described page after page, making the guide a useful way for visitors to discover the many artistic resources and all the natural scenery made even more attractive when combined with the many outdoor activities available. And then there are details about the extensive offer of wine and food and the many events that, during the year, are able to offer a unique, delightful experience.

AMI is all this and much more, whose hidden nooks and marvels can be discovered by tourists in the many routes proposed.

This guide also aims to be a valuable help to all tourism operators in the territory for improving their reception facilities, and is just the beginning of a constructive path undertaken for promoting a territory that has great potential for tourism development and growth.

For this reason we will carry on ensuring that all those involved locally in the process of enhancing the AMI continue to work collectively to promote the territory’s excellent features.

Laura Salvetti
Councillor of Culture and Tourism of the City of Ivrea
In the central-northern part of Canavese, close to the Alpine massifs of the Aosta Valley, there is the Moraine Amphitheatre of Ivrea (AMI), one of the world’s most important geological formations of glacial origin in its extension, distinct morphological features and level of preservation. Spreading over an area of approximately 530 sq km at an altitude ranging from 200m to 850m, the AMI was generated during the Quaternary period (some 900,000 years ago!) by the erosion and accumulation actions of the Balteo Glacier, an impressive “river” of ice 100km in length and 800m tall which came down from the Valle d’Aosta.

The term “amphitheatre” derives from Greek and means “theatre with two elements”, “in elliptical shape”, in other words the characteristic horseshoe shape of hills known as “moraines”, which form the outer edge of the AMI and enclose the plain of Ivrea.

The AMI has many points of interest: museums, castles, archaeological sites, religious property, parks, wetlands, lakes and plenty of places for sport and outdoor activities.

UPPER ROUTE OF THE MORAINE AMPHITHEATRE OF IVREA

This is a system of nature and sport itineraries for hikers, mountain bikers and horse-riders which follows the entire main hill span of the AMI - the Serra d’Ivrea, the front moraines and those in Valchiusella - offering utterly unique views.

The Upper Route consists of the Main Track, a continuous section from Andrate to Brosso, and of the Connection Itineraries which are routes that start from the main square of each village above and below the moraine hills and lead to the Main Track.

Length: 110km
Cumulative elevation gain: 2,280m D+
A JOURNEY THROUGH HISTORY
DISCOVERING THE ANCIENT CITY AND THE INDUSTRIAL CITY

Ivrea was founded in BC 100 by the Romans on a settlement of a previous era: the name *Eporedia* deriving from *epo* (horse) and *reda* (cart) stressed the link of the ancient city with horses, still very much present and celebrated in the Festival of the Patron Saint San Savino.

There are two main areas of Ivrea: the Ancient City and the Industrial City (page 14). The itinerary for the **Ancient City** - to cross on foot, walking along the alleys and streets of the centre - traces its Roman and medieval history in its monuments: the **Castle** (page 18), built in 1358 by the Count Amedeo VI of Savoy, known as the **Conte Verde**, retains the appearance of a dominant fort from its high position; the **Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta** (page 20), built in the 10th century by Bishop Warmondo Arborio to establish his supremacy over his opponent, the Marquis Arduino, has steeples, a Romanesque ambulatory and crypt, baroque vaults and dome, and a neoclassical facade; outside the apse of the Cathedral there are the remains of the **Cloister of the Chapter of Canons** with columns in Romanesque style; on the **Bishop’s Palace**, former residence of Warmondo, stands the medieval Bishop’s Tower with significant friezes and dovetail battlements; the **Palazzo della Credenza** was the ancient seat of the Municipality; the Romanesque **Tower of Santo Stefano** (page 22) is what is left of an 11th century Benedictine abbey complex; **Ponte Vecchio**, for centuries the only bridge over the Dora Baltea River, is of Roman origin and, at one time, was entirely of stone; the **Borghetto** is a small urban area the other side of Ponte Vecchio; also worth visiting is the precious but little known 18th century **Church of San Gaudenzio** (page 21), not far away.

The ancient city is also displayed in the collections of the renovated **Pier Alessandro Garda Civic Museum** (page 18).

The history and evolution of the Industrial and modern city is explained in the **Tecnologicamente Museum & Workshop** (page 19), the **Carale Accattino Museum** (page 19) and along the open-air paths of the **MaAM** (page 14).

MAJOR EVENTS IN THE CITY
HISTORIC CARNIVAL

A unique event recognised as an Italian occasion of international importance, a “vision” that occurs every year, bringing history, legend, traditions, entertainment, excitement and great ideals to the streets and squares of the city. The spirit of the Historic Carnival comes from ancient rituals and lives on in the memory of a legendary medieval episode of liberation from tyranny: the “baron”, who already let the townspeople go hungry, was killed by the daughter of a miller because she refused to submit to *jus primæ noctis*, which led to a popular uprising.

The heroine of the festival is therefore the **Mugnaia** (miller’s daughter) alongside the figure of the **General** who, since the early years of the 19th century, has the task of ensuring the smooth running of the event together with this **Napoleonic General Staff** consisting of talented Officers on horseback and the graceful Sutlers.

Filling the city with colours and fragrance is the famous and spectacular **Battle**
of Oranges, a captivating and exciting moment that re-enacts the rebellion: the people i.e. the Aranceri (orange throwers) on foot and without any protection, fought with oranges against the armies of the feudal lord, who are represented by throwers on horse-drawn wagons, with shields and masks that recall the ancient armour.

As a sign of participating in the festival, from Thursday before Lent, citizens and tourist take to the streets wearing the berretto frigio, a red cap shaped like a sock which represents adherence to the revolt and thus the aspiration for freedom.

PATRONAL FEAST AND FAIR OF SAN SAVINO
This is celebrated every year on 7 July in honour of the patron saint San Savino who never knew the city and only entered it some six hundred years after his death.
San Savino was the bishop of Spoleto between the late 3rd and early 4th centuries, suffering martyrdom in the form of the amputation of his hand in the last and most terrible persecution of Christians instigated by Diocletian. His remains stayed in Spoleto for a few centuries, held in the basilica dedicated to him, until - according to chroniclers of the time - in 956 the governor Corrado, son of Berengario II, Marquis of Ivrea, transferred them to his own city in the hope of freeing it from the plague.

In 1667, Pope Innocent X ordered the remains to be transferred again, to Agliano Terme (Asti) where they are still kept. A few relics were left at Ivrea, held in a glass case which is taken on procession on a horse-drawn carriage on the occasion of the solemn patronal celebrations.
On the Sunday closest to 7 July there is also held the great Horse Fair, one of the most important in Italy, emphasising the fundamental role that horses still continue to have in the history of Ivrea.
1. Castle
2. Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta
3. Alessandro Garda Civic Museum
4. Tower of Santo Stefano
5. Palazzo della Credenza
6. Ponte Vecchio
7. Borghetto
8. Carale Accattino Museum
9. Church of San Gaudenzio
10. Tecnologic@mente Museum & Workshop
11. Shrine of Monte Stella
Ivrea also has an Industrial City. A highlight in Ivrea’s 20th century history was the industrial development of Olivetti, a story that is now leading “Ivrea, industrial city of the 20th century” to be nominated for inclusion in the UNESCO World Heritage List.

The MaAM (Open-air museum of modern Olivetti architecture) forms part of this story: always available for viewing, it can be toured independently along a 2km route that runs along Via Jervis and in the adjacent areas. Here there are Olivetti’s most representative buildings: buildings for production, research and social services and residential buildings that form the most recognisable core of this architectural heritage.

Seven information points have been installed along the pedestrian connecting paths to illustrate Olivetti’s commitment to the fields of architecture, urban planning, industrial design and commercial art, and the cultural contexts in which they occurred:

1. Olivetti and Ivrea
2. The Community and its social policies: the community project for integrating industrial production with social services
3. The organisation of production: locations, services and places of research
4. The industrial project through the Olivetti factories in Italy and the world
5. Territorial planning: the relationship of architecture, industry and territory in terms of urban planning and social development
6. The product and its image
7. The home in the construction of the Canavese landscape

Next to the theme stations have been identified and circumscribed some “views” or details that relate the architecture observed to some possible interpretations. Still in the MaAM area there is the 15th century complex of San Bernardino (page 20).

The residential districts resulting from Olivetti’s social policies - Crist, Canton Vesco, Canton Vigna, Bellavista and Sacca - are outside the route proposed in Via Jervis.

The former Olivetti Nursery School of Canton Vesco, now owned by Telecom Italia, houses the National Corporate Film Archive (tours by appointment and sponsored by the Experimental Centre of Cinematography - www.fondazionecsc.it, the Piemonte Region and the City of Ivrea) which contains 70,000 reels of films produced by Italian companies since the early 20th century: a wealth of images largely available for viewing (www.youtube.com/user/cinemaimpresatv) thanks to the work of digitisation made possible by the contribution of the Piemonte Region and the Compagnia di San Paolo.

In the town centre there is the La Serra East Residential Unit, constructed at the end of the 1970s in a shape that explicitly resembles a typewriter, Olivetti’s symbol product.

For those who want to delve further into the history of this great brand, apart from the Tecnologic@mente Museum&Workshop mentioned earlier, it is possible to book a tour of the permanent exhibition “A hundred years of Olivetti, the industrial project” at the Olivetti Historical Archives Association. Via delle Miniere 31 (+39) 0125.641238 www.arcoliv.org
IVREA CASTLE
The famous and imposing castle “of the red towers” was built in 1358 by Amedeo VI of Savoy, known as the Conte Verde, in the upper part of the city. Originally the site of political events and sumptuous medieval parties, still today it retains its character as a defensive fortress with parapet walks for patrols, the large courtyard and its dominant position.
In 1676, the tower - used as a powder magazine - was struck by lightning resulting in an explosion that caused irreparable damage to the castle, especially the tower itself which was cut short and not rebuilt. From 1750 to 1970 the building was used as a prison, considerably altering the structure.

PIER ALESSANDRO GARDA CIVIC MUSEUM
Located in the historic centre of town, this museum was reopened to the public after a gap of thirty years thanks to the donation from Lucia Guelpa and with contributions from Compagnia San Paolo and the Piemonte Region. It is divided into three sections: the Archaeological Collection which shows the story of the city and territory from the Neolithic to the Middle Ages; the Oriental Art Collection which has an extensive variety of objects in metal, porcelain, lacquer, paper, silk, wood, ivory and other materials coming from the collection of Count Francesco Baldassare Perrone and Pier Alessandro Garda; the Croff Collection consisting of around fifty paintings and drawings including masterpieces by Giovanni del Biondo, Annibale Carracci, Filadelfo Simi, Giorgio De Chirico, Pietro Annigoni, Xavier and Antonio Bueno.

TECNOLOGIC@MENTE MUSEUM&WORkSHOP
A valuable collection revealing the history of Olivetti and a workshop for schools and the younger generations to stimulate creativity and the wish to experiment, to imagine the future starting from knowledge about our history and our roots.

CARALE ACCATTINO MUSEUM
Opened in 2008, it echoes those conceptual artistic expressions related to the use of language and the word deriving from the verbal-visual research begun in the 1960s and 70s.

IVREA - Pier Alessandro Garda Civic Museum
CATHEDRAL OF SANTA MARIA ASSUNTA (DUOMO)

Next to the Castle stands the Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta (10th century): until the construction of the mighty castle, its bell-towers were the highest towers in the city. It was probably built on the same place where there had been a Roman temple dedicated to Apollo, then transformed into a Christian church in the 4th century. Of the medieval building remain the ambulatory, the two square towers and the crypt: the rest of the structure has been continually extended over the centuries. The interior is baroque and the facade is neoclassical.

Outside the apse can be seen what remains of the original Cloister of the Chapter of Canons: a series of eight columns surmounted by Byzantine capitals supporting round arches in brick.

CHURCH OF SAN GAUDENZIO

A splendid example of baroque architecture, it was constructed in the early 18th century on the spot where, according to tradition, in 348 San Gaudenzo of Ivrea, future Bishop of Novara, slept for the night leaving his body’s imprint on the rock where he lay, now visible beneath the altar. The interior was completely painted by the artist Luca Rossetti from Orta with scenes representing the life and miracles of the Saint.

CHURCH OF THE CONVENT OF SAN BERNARDINO

The convent, built between 1455 and 1465, celebrates the arrival in the city of the Saint from Siena (1418). The passing of time, its neglect and the repeated military occupations resulted in considerable deterioration of the complex until, in 1907, the whole area was purchased by Camillo Olivetti who adapted the structure to make it his own residence, using the adjacent land for developing his company.

The Church is still owned by the Olivetti family and contains the valuable cycle of frescoes “Life and Passion of Christ” painted by Gian Martino Spanzotti between 1480 and 1490, one of the most important examples of Renaissance art in Piemonte.

IVREA - Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta (Duomo)
SHRINE OF MONTE STELLA
17th century place of worship renovated several times, it is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Mount. It can be reached by means of the sacred path of the 14 shrines of the Way of the Cross which runs along the slope of Monte Stella: the chapels were painted in 1839 by the artist Domenico Cattaneo with the scenes of the Passion of Jesus.
At the top of Monte Stella is the oldest Chapel of the Three Kings, dedicated to the Three Wise men.

always open
Viale Monte Stella - Ivrea
santuariodimontestella.it

TOWER OF SANTO STEFANO
This is a tall square tower dating from the 11th century: it is the only part surviving of the Benedictine abbey complex of Santo Stefano, which remained in use until the end of the 1400s when it began its inexorable decline.
In 1558, the French governor Marshal Brissac ordered the destruction of part of the complex; two centuries later, Count Perrone completed the demolition work in order to extend his private garden, sparing only the bell tower.

Corso Re Umberto - Ivrea

DUCAL CASTLE OF AGLIÉ
Seven centuries of history through which have passed dukes, princes and kings. The castle, formerly owned by the Counts San Martino and now a UNESCO World Heritage Site as it is a Royal Residence of Piemonte, boasts an ancient and noble past, as evidenced by the variety of ways the apartments are furnished, by the great park and gardens in both English style (landscaped) and Italianate style, embellished with artistic fountains.
The frescoed Ballroom and the succession of perfectly preserved period rooms make the castle a triumph of elegance and splendour, enriched by a precious and diverse heritage of furnishings and collections, from painting to archaeological finds to surprising ornithological and oriental collections.

Thursday-Sunday 8.30am-7pm
Piazza Castello 1 - Agliè
pm-pie@beniculturali.it - polomusealepiemonte.beniculturali.it
VILLA IL MELETO
Il Meleto, the summer home of Guido Gozzano (1883-1916), is a nineteenth century villa at the foot of Colle di Macugnano, about one kilometre from Agliè: its current Art Nouveau touches are the result of a remodelling in 1904 by the poet who was fascinated by the French style. Also the small romantic garden is open to visitors, as is the driveway, flanked by the famous apple orchard (meleto) from which the property gets its name.

- Tuesday and Thursday-Sunday 10am-12pm and 3pm-6pm
- Via Meleto 23 - Agliè
- www.comune.aglie.to.it

MASINO CASTLE
Of early medieval origin and for ten centuries the residence of the Counts Valperga di Masino, since 1987 this castle has belonged to the FAI (the Italian National Trust). With a strategic and panoramic position above Canavese, over the centuries it has been variously destroyed and rebuilt, gradually turning the ancient fortress into an aristocratic residence. The interior of the castle is richly decorated and has retained its furnishings: of significant interest are the Ancestral Gallery, the Poets’ Gallery and the Ballroom. The Chapel holds the ashes of Arduino d’Ivrea, first king of Italy, while in the 18th century stables there are 12 carriages of the Valperga family. Surrounding the castle is a 20 hectare park laid out in the 19th century.

- Wednesday-Sunday 10am-5pm March and November; Tuesday-Sunday 10am-6pm April-May and October; Tuesday-Saturday 10am-6pm and Sunday 10am-7pm from June to September
- Via al Castello 1 - Caravino, village of Masino
- faimasino@fondoambiente.it - www.castellodimasino.it

MUSEUM NETWORK OF THE MORAINES AMPHITHEATRE OF IVREA
This is organised by the Living Museum of the Moraine Amphitheatre of Ivrea instituted in 2008 by municipalities, government bodies, associations and culture institutions in order to restore and promote the traditional culture of the territory’s communities, reinforcing their feelings of belonging and stimulating initiatives compatible with nature, culture and the local economy. All sites of the AMI Museum Network are open Saturday 3pm-6pm, Sunday 10am-12 noon and 3pm-6pm from mid-June to mid-October.

info@ecomuseoami.it - www.ecomuseoami.it

MUSEUM OF THE RURAL CIVILISATION
This museum contains hundreds of objects and tools that testify to the conditions and customs of life and work of a mountain community of the past, and aims to increase historical memory by preserving and re-appropriating the mountain culture. The exhibition is divided into themed sections and also includes a collection of photographs.

Salamia Region - Andrate
andrate@ruparpiemonte.it - www.comune.andrate.to.it

THE ‘GLACIER’S FOOTPRINT’ LIVING MUSEUM
Dedicated to the geological and natural features of the AMI, this museum consists of a scenic observation route along the Masino hill and a permanent themed exhibition inside the old Town Hall to help visitors discover the territory by means of video installations, information panels, photographs, maps and a model of the area.

Piazza Verdi - Caravino, village of Masino
info@ecomuseoami.it - www.ecomuseoami.it
“LA BOTECA DEL FRER” MUSEUM
The museum is located within the blacksmith's workshop, in operation from 1720 to 1970, which worked by water power: a display of equipment and machines for working on iron.

Via Ivrea 3 - Chiaverano
info@comune.chiaverano.to.it - www.comune.chiaverano.to.it

“GIULIA AVETTA” OPEN-AIR MUSEUM OF ART AND POETRY (MAAP)
This museum was created to raise awareness and appreciation of the poetry sources of this author, as deep and incisive as she is little known. The visitor centre presents archive documents, books and videos, while in the main streets of the town are displayed 30 panels which, combining poetry and images, evoke her world: the family, civil public commitment, religiousness and sentiments.

Via Torino 47 - Cossano Canavese
info@comune.cossano.to.it - www.comune.cossano.to.it

MAGLIONE OPEN-AIR MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART (MACAM)
The museum was founded in 1985 from an idea by Maurizio Corgnati to divulge and promote contemporary art. At the moment there are more than 160 works (paintings, sculptures, installations) which are placed on the walls and in the squares of the town and bear the signatures of artists from around the world.

Via Castello 2 - Maglione
info@macam.org - www.macam.org

LIVING MUSEUM OF THE CHESTNUT
The Living Museum consists of an ancient water-powered mill for grinding chestnuts to make the flour used for culinary purposes, and of a marked route which climbs to the woods where can be seen ancient chestnut trees, the old houses (benne), the ricciaie (where chestnuts are stored still in their husks) and the drying areas.

Via del Mulino 28 - Nomaglio
nomaglio@reteunitaria.piemonte.it - www.comune.nomaglio.to.it

TEACHING MUSEUM “MEMORIES OF TIME”
Housed in the Town Hall, it displays objects commonly used in the 1800s and the early 1900s divided into theme sections, as well as some archaeological finds from the Roman era, fossils and casts of rock engravings that have been found in many areas of the Moraine Amphitheatre of Ivrea.

Piazza del Municipio 1 - Perosa Canavese
protocollo@comune.perosa-canavese.to.it - www.comune.perosa-canavese.to.it
CIVIC MUSEUM “NOSSI RAIS”
Located in the birthplace of the historian Carlo Botta, the ethnographic museum illustrates the life of the past with its agriculture and craft work (hence the name which means “our roots”) with work tools and reconstructions of settings and clothing of the period.

Via Campeggio 8 - San Giorgio Canavese
municipio@comunesanghiorgio.it - www.comunesanghiorgio.it

MUSEUM VISCHORUM
Founded in 2004, this museum testifies to and reconstructs the life of the local rural community between the 19th and 20th centuries in the display of artefacts, everyday objects, tools, furniture and clothing donated by the population of Vische and organised into specific theme areas.

Via Mazzè 6 - Vische
info@comune.vische.to.it - www.comune.vische.to.it

... and then also

LIVING MUSEUM OF THE CHAIR MAKERS AND RUSH SEAT WEAVERS
The core of the living museum consists of the exhibition site “La cadrega fiurija”, four areas in which the typical Azeglio home is reconstructed, with the carpenter’s workshop and the corner for seat weaving.

Piazza Massimo d’Azeglio - Azeglio
artev@libero.it - www.ecomuseoami.it

EXHIBITION SPACE FOR ARCHAEOLOGY OF LAKE PISTONO
In 2003, an archaeological dig at Lake Pistono unearthed the traces of a Neolithic settlement of lake-dwellers: the culture and lifestyle of these first inhabitants of a land between the mountains and water are told by the finds of great scientific importance which include an intact pot with a square mouth. In 2016 began the creation of the open-air archaeo-educational site on the banks of the lake with full-scale reconstruction of a dwelling: the new route completes the experience, helped by educational workshops and guided tours for adults.

Piazza IV Novembre 3 - Montalto Dora
omnia@comune.montalto-dora.to.it - www.comune.montalto-dora.to.it

LA STEIVA MUSEUM
Collection of testimonies of rural civilisation including work tools, everyday objects and the reconstruction of domestic settings.

Via G. Flecchia 99 - Piverone
comune.piverone@comune.piverone.to.it - www.comune.piverone.to.it
ROMANESQUE CHURCHES
Within the AMI area there are also a significant number of Romanesque churches linked by a tour circuit: some are perfectly preserved, others have been modified over the centuries, while others again consist of parts that have survived over time.

CHURCH OF SANTA MARIA - ANDRATE
Located on an embankment overlooking the plain, this church is bounded by the remains of a medieval stone wall. The current church is the result of the radical transformation that took place in the first decades of the 1700s and completed in 1861. Of the original structure there only remains a portion of wall behind the main altar, on which is visible a fragment of 15th century fresco depicting the Virgin Mary and St Catherine. Perfectly intact in its Romanesque form is the splendid bell-tower made of local stone, about 20m tall, whose origins can be assumed to be between the end of the 11th century and the first half of the 12th century.

BELL-TOWER OF SAN MARTINO DI PAERNO - BOLLENGO
This lone bell-tower rises impressively and imposingly in the clearing, in the middle of the Serra which, at one time, housed the village of Paerno. In 1250, Ivrea constructed the borgo-franco (a type of protectorate) of Bollengo and ordered the people of Paerno to go and live there. For centuries all that was left was the parish church and the bell-tower: the first was demolished in the 13th century, leaving the tower as the only memory of the past. The inhabitants of the place call it “Ciucarun”.

CHURCH OF SANTI PIETRO E PAOLO OF PESSANO - BOLLENGO
Similarly to Paerno, also the villagers of Pessano contributed in 1250 to form the borgo-franco of Bollengo: here, however, the church has remained to the present day. In the centre of the facade is the bell-tower in the clocher porche style i.e. from which the only nave of the church is entered. Inside, along the nave and in the apse, there are remains of frescoes, partly destroyed and partly revealed under the plaster, dating from the 15th century and perhaps attributable to Domenico della Marca di Ancona.

CHURCH OF SANTA MARIA MADDALENA - BUROLO
This small church sits on a rock of the Serra d’Ivrea and is a single rectangular room, in the style of the plebeian churches, completed by a semicircular apse. In the sacristy there is a fresco, probably from the workshop of Domenico della Marca di Ancona (15th century) which depicts Christ on the Cross between two penitent females: one could be Magdalene, while the woman at the bottom left is the commissioner of the work.
PRIORY CHURCH OF SANTO STEFANO DEL MONTE - CANDIA CANAVESE

Very significant from an architectural standpoint, this church is built at the top of a hill in a dominant, panoramic position. The earliest records date back to 1177 but it was probably founded earlier, even in the 11th century, at least in the oldest parts i.e. the central area of the facade. The most striking part of the church is the crypt, supported on slender stone columns with salvaged capitals. The church has undergone several changes over the years: the most obvious is the construction of a new bell-tower in baroque style in the 17th century.

CHURCH OF SAN MICHELE ARCANGELO - CANDIA CANAVESE

This was probably built in the 6th century in honour of the Patron Saint of the Lombards: even though it has been variously transformed over the centuries, the structure can be called Romanesque. To be noted inside is an 18th century statue of St Michael triumphing over the demons and a circular artefact identified as the bottom of a 6th century Baptismal Font, now visible after its recent restoration.

CHURCH OF SANTO STEFANO DI SESSANO - CHIAVERANO

The church is last remaining part of the village of Sessano and is positioned on the scenic rocky headland to the east of the village that was perhaps abandoned following a landslide. Contemporary with other churches in the area - all with the clocher-porche style where the bell-tower is in the centre of the façade - it is a church with a single nave and three bays, to which was added the vestry in the Baroque period. Precious 16th century frescoes can be seen in the apse: the central Christ is surrounded by the symbol of the four evangelists above fourteen figures of Apostles and Saints. The building’s exterior consists of pilasters, mullioned windows, twelve niches with exposed brick arches and the roof of stone tiles.

CHAPEL AND HERMITAGE OF SAN GRATO - PAVONE CANAVESE

Built on the Paraj Auta hill, the small church dates from the 12th century and is dedicated to the saint invoked during pestilences. Originally the single nave was divided into two bays, to which a third was added in the 17th century and later the bell tower. Still standing next to the chapel is the Hermitage, used until the early 1900s by the hermit who was in charge of cleaning the church, cultivating the vines and taking care of the nearby woods. Inside there are some frescoes which include, to the sides of the altar, the 15th century work attributed to Giacomino da Ivrea depicting St Peter with the key to Paradise and St Andrew with the eponymous cross.

GESIUN - PIVERONE

Located in the countryside of Piverone towards the slopes of the Serra, its architectural features make it unique in the diocese of Ivrea: this is likely to be the church of San Pietro di Livione, one of the settlements that, in 1202 with Anzasco, Palazzo and Piverone, contributed to the reconstruction of the borgo-franco of Piverone. The presbytery was completely frescoed and a small fragment still exists: it is a hand holding a book and two keys held by the other hand, now disappeared.
BELL-TOWER OF SAN PIETRO DI SUBLOCO - PIVERONE

Of the ancient Church of San Pietro in Subloco, perhaps the very early parish church of Piverone, today there only remains a part of the bell-tower leaning against a house: it was probably placed on the front of the religious building, in the French clochers porches style, and formed the entrance to the church. When the new fortified borgo-franco was constructed in 1202, the church was left outside the walls losing its purpose and gradually fell into disuse until being completely abandoned.

CHURCH OF SANT’EUSEBIO - SCARMAGNO, VILLAGE OF MASERO

Set in a secluded wooded area it was built between the end of the 10th and the early 11th centuries: the imprint of the Romanesque style can particularly be seen in the semicircular apse.

Over the years the building has undergone significant renovations, but on the wall on the right is preserved a fresco of five panels, dated 1424 and attributed to Domenico della Marca di Ancona: in the centre is the Nursing Madonna with the Baby wrapped in swaddling clothes, on the left a figure of a saint dressed as a rider and St Sebastian, and on the right is Sant’Eusebio in his bishop’s robes and the abbot Sant’Antonio.

PARISH CHURCH OF SAN LORENZO AND BAPTISTERY OF SAN GIOVANNI
SETTIMO VITTONE

One of the most important complexes of Piemonte is the parish church of San Lorenzo with adjoining octagonal Baptistery, dating from the 8th to the 9th centuries and situated in the precincts of the castle of Settimo Vittone. The church has a Latin cross plan with a small rectangular room open in three niches, designed to accommodate three large sarcophagi: this is therefore a cemetery chapel. Very many frescoes, dating from the same time as the construction of the church through to the 15th century, are scattered in the church interior: one of particular beauty is the cycle of frescoes of the Avogadro Chapel on the right of the transept.

CHURCH OF SAN GIACOMO - SETTIMO VITTONE, VILLAGE OF MONTESTRUTTO

Towering on a spur of rock near the Castle, it is a single room and recalls the Maddalena at Burolo partly owing to the position of the bell-tower to one side of the facade. It was enlarged in the 15th century, lengthening the presbytery which is obliquely placed to the main building since the builders were forced to follow the shape of the underlying rock. Like the Church of San Lorenzo at Settimo Vittone, it was originally a chapel reserved to the feudal lords of the castle and only later became an independent parish church.
... NOT JUST AMI

RIVARA CASTLE
An architectural complex consisting of two buildings dating back to a period between the 12th and 14th centuries, both transformed in the 19th century by the Portuguese architect Alfredo D’Andrade: the Castello Vecchio (Old Castle) retains many traces of its medieval origins, while the Castello Nuovo (New Castle) has acquired a baroque appearance. Set in a large ancient Park, the building is now home to a major Centre of Contemporary Art where exhibitions and cultural events of international significance are hosted.

Saturday-Sunday 10am-1pm and 2pm-7pm
Piazza Sillano 2 - Rivara
info@castellodirivara.it - www.castellodirivara.it

MALGRÀ CASTLE
Since its construction by the San Martino dynasty in the 14th century went against the wishes of their rivals, the Valperga, it acquired the name “Malgrà” (dialect for ‘regardless’). The original construction consisted of two buildings joined by a boundary wall and by a tall circular tower which still stands. Restored in the 19th century by D’Andrade, it has retained the elegant and curious frescoed porch of 1440, the battlement walls and the quaint drawbridge making it a valuable example of medieval architecture.

Sunday 3pm-7pm from May to mid-October
Via Maurizio Farina 57 - Rivarolo Canavese
castellomalgra@tiscali.it - www.amicicastellomalgra.it

SHRINE OF SANTA ELISABETTA
Standing in a panoramic position halfway up the slopes of Monte Quinzeina, from its lookout point can be seen a huge portion of Canavese and the plain of Torino. The church, built in 1796, houses a painting by Peraciso, a 17th century artist. In the lush surrounding vegetation there are numerous votive chapels.

always open
Colle Crosiglietto - Colleretto Castelnuovo

FRUTTUARIA ABBEY
Like many other sacred places, this abbey was founded in 1003 by Guglielmo da Volpiano. In 2004 it was restored to its former splendour in works that led to the discovery of a magnificent mosaic depicting two griffins. In the Middle Ages it was one of the most powerful in the region, and here died the first king of Italy, Arduino, whose remains are held in Masino Castle. The original abbey was joined in 1776 by another in baroque style, the work of the architects Vittone and Quarini.

1st and 3rd Sunday of the month 3pm-5pm (closed August)
Piazza Cardinale delle Lanze 1 - San Benigno Canavese
sbap-to.fruttuaria@beniculturali.it - polomusealepiemonte.beniculturali.it
SACRED MOUNT OF BELMONTE
This is the most important religious centre in the territory, since 2003 listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The hill of Belmonte is crossed by this surprising sacred path where every point on the way is marked by a chapel: a spiritual path made even more beautiful by the natural wooded environment in which the centre is placed. The path ends at the Shrine, mostly 19th century in appearance, from which can be seen an incomparable view of Canavese.

always open
Trucchi Region - Valperga
info.belmonte@sacri-monti.com - www.sacromonte-belmonte.com

CHURCH OF SAN GIORGIO
The oldest document dates back to 1150, but the church had already been a chapel for the nearby Castle of the Counts Valperga and a parish church for the village below: the tall bell-tower with the elegant marble windows date from that period. It was thus a church of aristocrats who wanted to make it a precious reminder of their power and for which they called in painters of great artistic abilities: the interior frescoes form one of the most important medieval painting cycles in Canavese.

Sunday 3pm-7pm June, July and September
Via Alessandro Volta - Valperga
amicisgiorgio@tiscali.it - www.amicisangiorgiovalperga.it
Discovering the area through the paths of the spirit is a unique and enthralling experience. Since the early Middle Ages, the Via Francigena has been the route followed by pilgrims from all over Europe heading towards Roma, the papacy and the heart of Christianity: some 1,600km long, in the year 990, the Archbishop Sigeric covered this journey in 79 days, taking notes for providing a description, as he returned to Canterbury after the archiepiscopal investiture of the pallium by Pope John XV. His diary therefore forms the most authentic description of this itinerary which, in 2004, was named by the European Council as belonging to the “Europe’s Cultural Routes Programme” together with El Camino de Santiago de Compostela (Way of St. James) in Spain. The Morenico-Canavesana stretch of the Via Francigena, between the Valle d’Aosta and the Biella-Vercelli sections, amounts to 50km and crosses the territories of 10 Municipalities: it takes in a beautiful area of the Moraine Amphitheatre of Ivrea, dotted by lakes and characterised by the long outline of the Serra. There were many places for pilgrims to restore themselves physically and spiritually, and even now there are various Romanesque buildings bearing witness to the centuries. For several years, the La Via Francigena di Sigerico association has been providing a welcome to pilgrims, offering useful indications on the routes, suggestions and references.

問い合わせ (+39) 328.0045913
info@francigenasigerico.it - www.francigenasigerico.it

NOT TO BE MISSED ALONG THE WAY
Parish Church of San Lorenzo and Baptistery of San Giovanni - Settimo Vittone (page 34)
Church of San Giacomo - Settimo Vittone, village of Montestrutto (page 35)
Church of Santi Pietro e Paolo of Pessano - Bollengo (page 30)
Gesiun - Piverone (page 33)
Bell-Tower of San Pietro di Subloco - Piverone (page 34)

The Via Romea Canavesana-Vercellese is an alternative for the Sigerico itinerary which, passing through some 23 Municipalities, goes along the hills of the AMI and, after crossing the River Dora Baltea at Mazzè, reaches the plain heading for Livorno Ferraris and Vercelli.

www.viaromeacanavesana.it
“FIVE LAKES” WALKS

Very interesting as regards geology, nature and wildlife, the area of the Five Lakes of Serra d’Ivrea - one of the most beautiful of Canavese - offers the opportunity to be surrounded by greenery while going on foot, by bike or on horseback along the paths that connect these moraine basins: San Michele at Ivrea, Campagna at Cascinette d’Ivrea, Sirio between Ivrea and Chiaverano, Pistono at Montalto Dora and Nero between Montalto Dora and Borgofranco d’Ivrea, all surrounded by hills providing unforgettable colours in every season. Lake Campagna is an oasis of green and peace: from the rocks of Castellazzo and along the path around its shore (purple) there is a splendid view of San Giuseppe Castle, the Mombarone, the Serra and Chiaverano. The best known and largest is Lake Sirio, equipped for swimming and thus a popular destination of tourists in the summer. The loop route (green) runs in two variants that lead to the Roman Aqueduct and the “Terre Ballerine”, a former peat bog with a flexible terrain that bounces beneath your feet. The circuit around Lake Pistono (orange) winds through vineyards and chestnut woods under the watchful eye of Montalto Dora Castle: also from here can be reached the “Terre Ballerine”, while the “May Variant” leads to one of the most interesting viewing positions of the AMI. Also Lake Nero, whose mysterious and wild allure has given rise to many legends, offers a circular path (blue): along the way will be seen gravestones, an ‘erratic’ boulder and the “Fisherman’s House”. Lastly, the Maresco di Bienca circuit (pink) which runs alongside a lake basin used in Roman times to carry water from the hill to Ivrea: the remains of the Roman aqueduct are still visible.

www.comune.montalto-dora.to.it - www.comune.cascinette.to.it
TRAIL OF THE VINEYARDS OF CAREMA
A loop trail 4km long and climbing 100m for visiting the vineyards and the most important spots in the town throughout the year: while crossing the ancient perched terraces, attentive hikers will note the shrines inserted in the walls of the houses of the village and the carved portals, will learn the meaning of the inscriptions that decorate the fountains and will marvel at the presence of the mighty medieval strongholds.
Taking this “trail” it is possible to understand the value of topiary architecture with the characteristic stone *pilun* that so strongly mark the landscape, sensing the fragrance of the soil in which the precious “Carema” wine grows (page 50).
www.comune.carema.to.it

VALCHIUSELLA
Lying just a few kilometres from Ivrea, its name comes from the river it crosses, the River Chiusella, at one time a source of energy for the numerous factories linked to the important iron mines in the valley. Here nature and people interact perfectly: livestock, agriculture, rural and sports tourism still reveal the richness of the biodiversity and the traditional knowledge applied to everyday life.
There are numerous routes through history, work, landscapes, flora and fauna, especially the Alice and Meugliano Lakes and the “Path of Souls” marked by significant rock engravings from the Neolithic era, and the nature trails focused on wine and food such as “El Sabat ‘d le Erbe” for learning about the wild herbs of the mountains.
www.valchiussellaturismo.eu

LAKE CANDIA NATURE PARK
One of the most interesting wetlands in Piemonte with a significant presence of animals and botanical species. Formed by a depression in the Dora Baltea river at the end of the ice age, it has kept intact the many natural features that make it a destination for educational visits and environmental tourism. It is also included in the EU list of SPA-Special Protection Areas since many types of migratory birds overwinter or stay there.
www.parks.it/parco.lago.candia

TRAVESELLA - Fondo Valchiusella
SPORT OUTDOOR

The River Dora Baltea crosses the city of Ivrea and the whole Moraine Amphitheatre. People strolling along the romantic river embankment walk in town will often see canoeists training on what is one of the top places for international canoe slalom: the race course in Ivrea also hosted the World Championships of 2008. The uniqueness of this natural “stadium”, the only one of its kind in the world in the centre of a city, is confirmed by the fact that it will be hosting two trials of the World Cup and the World Junior and Under-23 Canoe Slalom in the three years from 2016 to 2018. But the entire territory offers a lush and largely unspoilt environment, the natural spot for many outdoor sports: rock climbing, paragliding, horse-riding, rafting, mountain biking, Nordic walking, running and trekking. Once a year (usually in mid-June), these sports appear together for professionals and families at the “Eporedia Active Days” with competitions, practice, fun and new trends.

www.ivreacanoaclub.info
www.viviandrate.it

... NOT JUST AMI

GRAN PARADISO NATIONAL PARK

Positioned in the Orco and Soana valleys, it was the first national park in Italy to be established: it started out in 1922 as a royal Savoy reserve to ensure the survival of the ibex. From the 800m of the valley floor to the 4061m at the peak of the Gran Paradiso, fir and larch forests, Alpine meadows, rocks and glaciers form the ideal habitat for the extensive and varied wildlife and a wonderful setting for a visit to discover the world of the high mountains. There are kilometres of Royal Hunting Trails along which can be seen ibex, chamois, marmots, ermines, squirrels and rare birds such as the golden eagle and the ptarmigan freely living in their natural habitat. Hikers and mountain climbers can find accommodation in shelters and camps, while Lake Ceresole Reale and various marked trails are available to fans of windsurfing and mountain biking.

www.pngp.it
ON THE ROYAL ROUTE OF TORINO WINES

Canavese is a land full of vineyards, demonstrating a passion for wine that has ancient roots. Since Roman times, the variety of its natural environments and microclimates has made it possible to cultivate vines and to diversify the grape varieties and methods of farming: from the plains to the lower Alpine foothills, the vineyards are an integral part of these landscapes.

www.stradarealevinitorinesi.it

ERBALUCE DI CALUSO

Nothing identifies a territory more than its wine. Legend tells of the nymph Albaluce, daughter of the Sun and Dawn, who lived on the shores of the immense lake that covered the AMI and was loved by all people; but the queen Ypa decided to empty the lake to provide more arable land, causing the death of many people: the tears of the nymph, falling on the thorns, spawned the golden bunches of Erbaluce grape. From the white grape vine Erbaluce, three types of wine are made: Erbaluce di Caluso, Caluso Passito and Caluso Spumante. To produce Passito, the grapes are left to rest in lofts for some months before being crushed, concentrating those aromas that are later released intensely in the wine poured in the glass.

Erbaluce di Caluso received the DOC-Denominazione di Origine Controllata (Controlled Designation of Origin) acknowledgement in 1967 and, since 2010, it has been at the top of the quality pyramid of Italian wines by being assigned the mark DOCG-Denominazione di Origine Controllata e Garantita (Controlled and Guaranteed Designation of Origin).

In the lands of Caluso it is possible to sample many other delicacies such as Salam ‘d Patata, a type of peasants' sausage made by combining pork and potatoes, and local sweet biscuits such as Canestrelli, Torcetti and Paste di Meliga.

CAREMA

Two local varieties of the Nebbiolo grape, the Picutener and the Pugnet, and the moraine rocks: these are the secrets of one of the finest wines of Piemonte, the Carema, a red wine of class that has borne the DOC-Controlled Designation of Origin label since 1967. Despite the adverse conditions, these grapes are grown at a height of 350m to 700m, a feat achieved by the patient and hard work of dry terracing which has brought about a transformation of the landscape. The Carema vines grow on pergolas held up by stone pillars in the shape of a truncated stone (pilun) which accumulate heat during the day and release it at night, providing the vines with the best growing conditions. All wine-making, storage and ageing stages are performed in the same production area which includes the entire municipality of Carema and the village of Ivery in the municipality of Pont Saint Martin (Aosta). Throughout the area there are very local cheeses such as the cow's-milk tomini, the caprini and the tome of the Alpine pastures, sometimes flavoured or processed using traditional local methods, such as the bross and salignon.

BALMETTI OF BORGOFRANCO

The Balmetti of Borgofranco d'Ivrea, located about 1km outside of town, are approximately 250 ancient natural cellars that exploit the shape of the moraine rocks left by the Balteo Glacier, through which blow the "ore", air currents that keep them at a constant temperature of 7-8°C throughout the year. Farmers and winemakers have used this natural phenomenon by building their cellars against the mountain to store cheeses, salami and, above all, the “Vin del Balmèt” wine that is served with the typical biscuits of Borgofranco, the Canestrelli.

For a unique experience consisting of the fragrant flavours of the local wines, the ideal place is the Regional Wine Store of the Province of Torino. Piazza Valperga 2 - Caluso 📞 (+39) 011.9831041 www.enotecaregionaledicaluso.it
CULTURE AND HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENTS

- Historic Carnival of Ivrea - February-March
  www.storicocarnevaleivrea.it
- Three days for the garden - Masino Castle May
  www.castellodimasino.it
- Medieval Holidays - Pavone Canavese May-June
  www.feriemedievali.com
- The Great Invasion - Ivrea May-June
  www.lagrandeinvasione.it
- Festival of the Patron Saint San Savino - Ivrea July
  www.comune.ivrea.to.it
- Two days for the autumn - Masino Castle October
  www.castellodimasino.it

NATURE AND SPORT

- Trailaghi foot race - AMI April
  www.trailaghi.com
- Ivrea running May
  www.terre-erbaluce.com
- Erbaluce Night Trail - AMI and Lake Candia Nature Park May
  www.terre-erbaluce.com
- Memorial Luciano Curnis - AMI May
  www.corsabienca.it
- Eporedia Active Days - Ivrea June
  www.eporediaactivedays.com
- Tri@lake - AMI June
  www.trialake.it
- Race of the Five Lakes - AMI September
  www.corsaSlaghi.it
- Ivrea-Mombarone foot race - AMI September
  www.amicidelmombarone.it
- MorenicTrail - AMI October
  www.morenictrail.com
- Triathlon Sprint of Baldassarre - AMI October
  www.quality.it
- 3 hours of Scooter - Ivrea October
  www.avis-ivrea.it
- Castlerun - Montalto Dora November
  www.castlerun.it

MUSIC

- Open Jazz Festival of Ivrea and Canavese March
  www.comune.ivrea.to.it
- Tavagnasco Rock Festival - Tavagnasco April-May
  www.tavagnascorock.com
- Ivrea in Music June
  www.ivreainmusica.it
- Miscela Rock Festival - Ivrea July
  www.miscelarockfestival.it
- A Night Like This Festival - Chiaverano July
  anightlikethisfestival.com
- ARFF - Apolide Rock Free Festival - Vialfrè July
  www.tolocals.com

WINE AND FOOD

- Festival of Salam ’d Patata - Settimo Rottaro January-February
  www.comune.settimorottaro.to.it
- Festival of the Torcetto and typical Piemonte sweet foods - Agliè April
  www.comune.aglie.to.it
- Festival of Fritura Dusa and Vino Morenico - Cuceglio May
  www.comune.cuceglio.to.it
- Festival of Stuffed Onion - San Bernardo d’Ivrea May
  www.comune.ivrea.to.it
- Festival of the Flowers of Gaggia - Scarmagno May
  www.comune.scarmagno.to.it
- Sabat ’d le Erbe - Valchiusella May
  www.erbivalchiusella.it
- Andoma ai Balmit - Borgofranco d’Ivrea June
  www.comune.borgofранco.to.it
- Festival of the Ajucche - Quincinetto June
  www.comune.quincinetto.to.it
- Peach Festival - Maglione July
  www.comune.maglione.to.it
- Festival of Tastes - Fiorano Canavese September
  www.comune.fioranocanavese.to.it
- Grape Festival - Caluso September
  www.festadelluvacaluso.it
- Grape and Wine Festival - Carema September
  www.comune.carema.to.it
- Festival of the Porcino mushroom - Quassolo September
  www.comune.quassolo.to.it
- Montalto Dora - Festival of Cabbage
Grape Harvest Festival - Cuceglio September
www.comune.cuceglio.to.it

Festival of Porcino Mushrooms - Quassolo September
www.comune.quassolo.to.it

Festival of the Spring Onion - Quincinetto September
www.comune.quincinetto.to.it

Festival of Miassa bread - Tavagnasco September
www.comune.tavagnasco.to.it

Festival of Luvian - Vische September
www.comune.vische.to.it

Polenta Festival - Andrate October
www.comune.andrate.to.it

Red Corn of Banchette October
www.pignolettorosso.it

Festival of Mushrooms - Cossano Canavese October
www.comune.cossano.to.it

Festival of Pumpkins - Meugliano October
www.comune.meugliano.to.it

Festival of Chestnuts - Nomaglio October
www.comune.nomaglio.to.it

Festa ‘d la Castigna - Piverone October
www.comune.piverone.to.it

Festival of Boiled Meats - Ivrea November
www.comune.ivrea.to.it

Festival of Cabbage - Montalto Dora November
www.comune.montalto-dora.to.it

Festival of Cabbage - Montalto Dora November
www.comune.montalto-dora.to.it

Festival of Cabbage - Montalto Dora November
www.comune.montalto-dora.to.it

... NOT JUST AMI

May Tournament at the court of King Arduino - Cuorgnè May
www.prolococuorgne.it

May Day and Ides of May - Ogliano May
www.prolocoogliano.it

It happened 1000 years ago...
Re-enactment at Fruttuaria San Benigno Canavese June
www.rievocandofruttuaria.org

Exhibition of Ceramics - Castellamonte summer months
www.comune.castellamonte.to.it

IVREA - Festival of the Patron Saint San Savino
DOWNLOAD THE APP...

... to discover the many opportunities offered by the Moraine Amphitheatre of Ivrea: museums, archaeological sites, religious property, parks and the many places for sports and outdoor activities.

And more: the georeferenced map and the news section with exhibitions, festivals, concerts and events.

Only in Italian.

www.anfiteatromorenicoivrea.it
And this year our dream of an ethically sustainable tourist centre has come to fruition with the birth of Vistaterra, an innovative centre of attraction in the heart of the Canavese countryside. The rediscovery of a centuries-old history has formed a key element in the redevelopment of the entire area and now Parella Castle, with its park, vineyards and the historic "Vivaò Canavesani" (Canavesian Nurseries), is opening its doors to the public after being renovated and restored using traditional techniques.

The Castle with its magnificent halls and new suites, the organic kitchen garden that supplies the restaurant with fresh produce every day, the wine cellar and the craft brewery, the natural spa and swimming bio-lake, the shops where the purest local traditions are preserved and passed down: all will be revealed on a unique journey through nature, history and cuisine, which represents a completely novel approach to tourism.

INFO AND OPENING DATES: WWW.VISTATERRA.IT