TANARO VALLEY

Its geographical position - between Langhe, Liguria and Mondovì - gives the Tanaro Valley a great variety of landscapes and cultural influences. Historical events have left evidence of the passage of wayfarers and merchants, such as the Roman bridge of Bagnasco. The castles and Saracen towers - partly ruined - tell of a border land that had to be controlled and defended.

CEVA A lively hub at the crossroads of several valleys, Ceva was once home to an imposing Savoy fort, which was then destroyed under Napoleonic rule and whose ruins now offer amazing views. The historical town centre - once enclosed by eight gates - includes beautiful arcaded streets, the GARESSIO The beautiful medieval village divided into several clusters 14th century Brolio tower and a big bell. There are also beautiful baroque churches, the Palazzo dello Zodiaco (Zodiac Palace), so called for the presence of sandstone friezes dating back to the early Middle Ages, which were mistakenly interpreted as astrological symbols.

SALICETO On the borders of the region, there is the charming village of Saliceto, with the splendid parish church of San Lorenzo, one of the Renaissance gems of Piedmont. Built at the beginning of the 16th century according to a design attributed to the school of Bramante, the church was commissioned by Marquis Carlo Domenico Del Carretto. The same family owned the large castle built between the 12th and 13th centuries: a square building with corner towers, it boasts a small chapel with beautiful 14th century frescoes.

SMALL VILLAGES AMIDST HISTORY AND NATURE The panoramic roads, ideal for cyclists, also offer the chance to jump back in time; you can stop in the small village of Priero, with its arcaded street and tower, or in Sale San Giovanni, with its ancient Romanesque church: the perfect time is in June, when the town comes alive for the fair devoted to medicinal and aromatic herbs and the amazing blossoming of the lavender

fields turns the whole place purple. In Montezemolo, at the convergence of the Cevetta, Belbo and Bormida valleys, the Belbo Springs Nature Reserve offers a break in the shade.

Ormea - ph. G. Mignon

with characteristic views is home to important works by Francesco Gallo, such as the parish church of Santa Caterina and the grand church dedicated to Maria Vergine Assunta, originally a Dominican convent. The sanctuary of Valsorda - built in the 20th century to house a miracle fresco from 1665 boasts the first reinforced concrete dome in Italy (1924).

CASOTTO The Certosa di Casotto, second in year of its foundation in Italy only to the Certosa di Serra San Bruno, was a Carthusian monastery from 1171 to 1802. Built in the 11th century, it was restored and extended in the 18th century by Francesco Gallo and Bernardo Vittone. In the 19th century it was rebuilt and used as a hunting lodge by Carlo Alberto and Vittorio Emanuele II: it was placed on the list of Savov Residences. UNESCO World Heritage since 1997.

ORMEA The characteristically heart-shaped village has an old centre of interwoven tiny streets. Dominated by the Saracen tower and the castle, Ormea boasts a 14th century parish church dedicated to San Martino with a beautiful and perhaps earlier bell tower. There are also interesting little museums that tell the story of ancient local traditions and military memories.

Entracque - ph. G. Mignone

GESSO VALLEY

Rich in water, the Gesso Valley is known for its high mountains, the most important of which is Argentera peak (3,297 m), the highest in the Maritime Alps. Many prehistoric findings have been unearthed in the valley: from the remains of the Ursus Spaeleus to the necropolis of Valdieri that provide evidence of human settlement. From the 16th century, the wealth of the population was made up of forests, pastures and especially farming that enabled some families to get rich and contribute to the embellishment of churches and palazzi. Let's not forget the riches underground too: the elegant grey marble of Valdieri was widely used in Savoy residences, but also in the construction of the parish churches in the valley.

VALDIERI With its characteristic pretty old town centre dotted with THE SAVOYS IN THE GESSO VALLEY fountains and the majestic parish church with columns in local grey marble, The members of the House of Savoy were exceptional "tourists" in the valley, Valdieri is the stage for festivals and events linked to ancient traditions. fascinated by the wealth of local wildlife and the Valdieri Thermal Springs: here, Not far from the centre, there is a fascinating necropolis dating back to the at an altitude of about 1400 m, there are hot sulphurous springs discovered Bronze and Iron Ages. Its location inside a suggestive wide and well exposed as early as the 16th century, whose water is used in various forms for the basin has led to the belief that the tombs belonged to important people of the treatment of a wide range of ailments. In the second half of the 19th century, community, perhaps chiefs or priests.

ENTRACQUE As the name suggests, Entracque (between waters) stands in a glacial basin between the water of three streams. The beautiful old town and the many outlying districts are home to numerous churches: don't miss the parish church of Sant'Antonino, the confraternity of Santa Croce - decorated with beautiful 17th century paintings by Lorenzo Gastaldi - and the sanctuary of the Madonna del Bealetto, with walls covered with votive paintings. Every five years, the old town is the setting for an unmissable traditional event: the ancient "Parlate" evoke the Passion of Christ, with processions, recitals and moments of celebration. Upstream of the village, between the 1960s and 1980s, two large reservoirs were built for the production of electricity: the plant often opens its doors for educational visits. The Uomini e lupi (Men and Wolves) centre is fascinating for both kids and adults, illustrating the history and life of this animal, as well as the relationship between man and wolf: from the myths of ancient Rome to the comic book figure Alberto the Wolf.

numerous buildings were erected to accommodate this royal family, most of which still exist: the summer residence in Sant'Anna di Valdieri, the hunting lodges in San Giacomo di Entracque and Piano del Valasco, the "Swiss-style" chalets and the Hotel Royal Centro Benessere at the Valdieri Springs.



VARAITA VALLEY

Frequented by tourists for its breathtaking mountains and forests, the Varaita valley offers a journey into the oldest traditions and each of its towns and villages will charm you with its castles, buildings decorated with stone and terracotta, superb medieval and baroque churches and sundial murals.

VERZUOLO At the foot of the hill, overlooked by the castle built by Marquis Frederick II of Saluzzo, stands the church of Saints Filippo and Giacomo, formerly a dependency of San Benigno di Fruttuaria. In the first half of the 15th century, it was decorated with frescoes by Antonio Pocapaglia and Pietro Pocapaglia da Saluzzo and their workshop

COSTIGLIOLE SALUZZO Overlooked by the castles built on the hill, Costigliole boasts the beautiful parish church of Santa Maria Maddalena, with frescoes by Hans Clemer and his school, and beautiful Baroque palazzi, such as Palazzo Giriodi di Monastero, by Bernardo Antonio Vittone and today the town hall, and Palazzo La Tour.

the beautiful square with the parish church of the Saints Pietro and Paolo, a Romanesque building with decorations and alterations from later periods. The main door is one of the most beautiful examples of Romanesque in to sound and music: the Fabbrica dei Suoni, a journey for children and adults the Saluzzo area; it houses one of the most interesting series of paintings to learn about the origin of sounds and noises, the parameters of speed, by Tommaso and Matteo Biazaci, dating back to 1460-1470. There is a height, intensity and timbre and observe musical instruments from around beautiful octagonal baptismal font in white marble by the Zabreri brothers, the world dated 1482. Every five years, Sampeyre hosts one of the most important traditional events in the Occitan world, the Baio, a costume re-enactment of the expulsion of the Saracens.

CASTELDELFINO Formerly owned by the Marquisate of Saluzzo, sanctuary of Valmala, the scene of miraculous events, the 18th century parish at the beginning of the 13th century it became part of the Dauphiné; with churches of Piasco and Venasca and the church of Sant'Antonio di Chianale, a castle built in the following century, it later became part of the Republic home to a considerable heritage of medieval decorations, including a Last of the Escartons. The original village was destroyed by a landslide in 1391 Judgement, a work dating from between the 14th and 15th centuries by a and only the church of Sant'Eusebio survived. The village was rebuilt further French painter. upstream, in the position it occupies today; it only took its current name in 1431, previously being called Villa Sant'Eusebio.



MUSIC AND MUSEUMS In Piasco, the Museo dell'Arpa Victor Salvi is the first and only museum in the world entirely dedicated to the harp: it houses - in rotation - the collection of over 100 ancient harps inspired by Victor Salvi illustrating the history of the harp over the last three centuries, its technical, organological and musical evolution. Salvi - harpist and luthier born in Chicago to a family of Italian origin - moved his company several times SAMPEYRE A tourist destination in all seasons, it welcomes you to in search of workers specialising in woodwork. In the 1970s, he opened the factory in Piasco, where he employed about seventy highly qualified employees. In Venasca, there is the first Italian theme park dedicated entirely

> CHURCHES AND SANCTUARIES Among the many churches in the valley, don't miss a visit to the parish church of Rossana, with its imposing 15th century facade and terracotta doorway, the 19th century

Mondovì and its valleys offer opportunities for all tastes: stretched between the Alps and the Langhe, the area is scattered with medieval churches and chapels, rich in precious 15th century frescoes, though even the smallest village reveals important baroque parish churches, many of which designed by the local architect, Francesco Gallo.

MONDOV Mondovi is a city of multiple souls: a stroll through th district of Breo, just a few steps away from the Ellero river, leads you through arcaded streets full of shops and small elegant squares, such as the scenic Piazza S. Pietro, decorated with sundials and the façade of the church of the same name surmounted by the Moro (Moor) automaton, who beats the time. A short distance from here, the cable railway takes you to the Piazza district in a few minutes. Around Piazza Maggiore, with its irregular shape and spread over two levels, you can find the most important buildings: the splendid Church of the Missione with 17th century frescoes by Andrea Pozzo, the ancient Palazzo di Città, the Palazzo del Governatore and the Museum of Ceramics. Not far from here, there is the Cathedral of San Donato and the relaxing Belvedere garden with its brick tower: from here you can enjoy an almost 360° view from the Alps to the Langhe.

VICOFORTE This is an absolute must-see. By order of Charles Emmanuel I of Savoy, a monument of spectacular proportions was created around a small votive pillar. Built in various phases from the 16th to the 19th century, the sanctuary boasts the world's largest elliptical brick dome - a work by Francesco Gallo - and the largest series of frescoes with a single theme: over 6000 m² of paintings produced in 1752 by Mattia Bortoloni and Felice Biella. Thanks to the "Magnificat" project, you can climb right up to the lantern, at a height of 60 metres.

MEDIEVAL FRESCOES Between the 15th and 16th centuries, cheeses that are celebrated in a festival in August. the Mondovi valleys were full of workshops of painters commissioned to DISCOVERING A SLOWER PACE OF LIFE paint small chapels or large churches. Today a great wealth of frescoes Leave your car for a day to rediscover the pleasure of walking or cycling, for remains from that period, which although sometimes fairly simple, are rich example in Pamparato, with its paths rich in history. Visit the towers, the 18th in devotion and faith. The best known place is without doubt the church of century castle and the little squares full of life, where you can sample the San Fiorenzo in Bastia, entirely covered with frescoes (including particularly delicious "paste di meliga" or, in the colder months, the traditional Saracen interesting representations of Paradise and Hell); similar themes, but in more polenta, seasoned with milk, leeks and mushrooms. Along the Landande path intimate chapels, can be found in San Michele Mondovì (Pian della Gatta), you encounter Briaglia, with its Belvedere over the Alps, offering breathtaking Lesegno and in the small chapel of Santa Croce in Mondovi Piazza. There panoramic views and home to megalithic finds discovered in the 1970s.

The Stura Valley, which has always been a valley of passage, has witnessed the movement of armies and pilgrims, monks and merchants for countless centuries. Around here, the charismatic figure of Saint Dalmazzo began the evangelisation of the area and probably also for this reason it was here that the great abbeys gained power with the administration of the priories. However, being a transit route brings wealth as well as destruction: thus many monuments have been destroyed or rebuilt over time. Today, visiting the valley leads to the discovery of these traces of history: hidden treasures and imposing walls tell the story of faith and war in centuries past.

BORGO SAN DALMAZZO At the entrance of three important VINADIO and SANT'ANNA The village is dominated by the valleys, the ancient Pedona stood in Roman times, the customs and collection enormous Albertino fort, one of the most significant examples of military architecture site of the "Quadragesima Galliarum", a tax on goods in transit on the border in the Alps. The construction work, commissioned by King Carlo Alberto, began in between Italy and Gaul. Here, according to sources, the martyr Dalmazzo 1834, and was only completed in 1847, but the fort was never used by the army. It was beheaded on 5 December 254. According to tradition, a church was is around 1,200 metres long, while the three-level walkway is about 10 kilometres built over his tomb, which was enlarged and renovated several times in the long. Inside, you can enjoy a cultural journey through the interactive multimedia 7th, 12th and 17th centuries. Today it is the home of the parish church, covered installations of "Montagna in movimento" (Mountain in Motion), a journey through with stucco and paintings largely focused on the devotion to the saint, whose the places and people, nature and history that made the Alps a cradle of civilisation, relics are kept in the 17th century chapel above the presbytery. Behind the and "Messaggeri alati" (Winged Messengers), the permanent exhibition dedicated church, the Abbey Museum narrates the history of this place, on an evocative to the military dovecote housed in the fort until 1944, a historical testimony to the journey that takes you to archaeological digs, the beautiful crypt and the transmissions of the army. Since 2016, the fort has hosted "Vinadio Virtual Reality", church. two interesting virtual reality stations that provide innovative visitor education on the Fort's history. Since 2019, the visitor's experience has been enriched by the **DEMONTE** This is the small regional capital of the valley as evidenced "Mammamia che Forte" project, with new family and kid friendly routes. Behind the fort walls stands the characteristic historical centre of the village, with stone houses by the beautiful arcaded street, which is still the commercial centre of the and the beautiful parish church of San Fiorenzo: built in the 14th century and modified town as it was in the 14th century. There are many churches to visit: the in the 15th century, it is home to valuable examples of 17th century wooden altars and parish church of San Donato, with the 17th century fresco of the Battle of a beautiful treasure in the sacristy. Beyond the village there is a crossroads to reach Lepanto attributed to Nuvolone, and the brotherhoods of Santa Croce and the sanctuary of Sant'Anna, a place much loved by the local people: at an altitude of San Giovanni Decollato, with monumental wooden altars and fine sculptures. 2,035 metres, it holds the record as being the highest sanctuary in Europe. Don't miss a visit to Palazzo Borelli, which once belonged to the Bolleris

family and was later renovated in the 19th century by Giacinto Borelli, who also worked on the park and the chapel of San Bernardo behind the building. Inside you will find halls decorated with frescoes, collections of porcelain and a space dedicated to an illustrious lady from Demonte: Lalla Romano.

The election of Saluzzo as the centre of the Marquisate from the 12th century resulted in the gradual transformation from a small village to a rich town with a castle and double walls, churches and sophisticated commissioning bodies. These features also influenced the local area, which benefited from the intellectual climate of this regional capital, often in contact with neighbouring France. This system achieved its greatest fortune in the 15th century under the governments of Ludovico I and Ludovico II, when a long period of peace enabled economic expansion and growing prosperity, fertile ground for the splendour of arts and letters. The local towns, though small, are aware of the wealth of art and nature that they guard: proof of this can be found in the Octavia association, which has a network of 11 municipalities (Cardè, Cavallerleone, Faule, Manta, Murello, Ruffia, Scarnafigi, Torre San Giorgio, Villafalletto, Villanova Solaro and Vottignasco), united by the desire to develop local tourism and culture.

SALUZZO One of the most rich and fascinating historical centres of the province, characterised by a medieval urban structure that is still clearly visible. In the lower town, the most representative building is the Cathedral, built between 1491 and 1501. It features a remarkable exposed brick façade and furnishings including works by Hans Clemer. Up the sloping alleys, you reach the upper town with the civic tower and the beautiful church of San Giovanni, with Pocapaglia frescoes, the great altar of the Rosary by Pascale Oddone and the splendid funerary chapel of the Marchesi (marquises), one of the most important sculptural heritages of the area, in flamboyant style attributed to the French sculptor Antoine Le Moiturier. The town's museums include the unmissable Chivalry Civilisation Museum, the Prison Memory Museum (in the impressive Castiglia) and the Museum of Casa Cavassa, one of the symbolic buildings of the Saluzzo Renaissance. The museum is housed in an ancient building that still preserves some of its 16th century decorations: the palazzo was donated by Marguis Ludovico II to Galeazzo Cavassa, then Vicar General of the marquis; the same charge was then passed on to his son Francesco, who guided the residence to its maximum splendour.

MANTA Just a few miles from Saluzzo stands Manta, home to one of the masterpieces of painting from the 15th century. The castle that dominates the town assumed its current appearance in the 15th century, when it was transformed from a medieval stronghold to a mansion. The centrepiece of the tour is the Baronial Hall, decorated with elegant figures of the Valiants and the Heroines and the fairytale scene of the Fountain of Youth. The frescoes were created by an excellent late Gothic painter around 1420. The style of this maestro strongly influenced local artists, as seen in the series of frescoes of Santa Maria del Monasterio and Santa Maria del Castello.

LAGNASCO In the town centre, there is the extraordinary complex of Castles of the Tapparelli d'Azeglio, an important Piedmontese monument of the 16th century. The first building dates back to 1100, but during the 16th century, the fortress was transformed into a residence. After its renovation, the complex Angelo Dolce, Giacomo Rossignolo and Cesare Arbasia.



MONDOVI and its VALLEYS

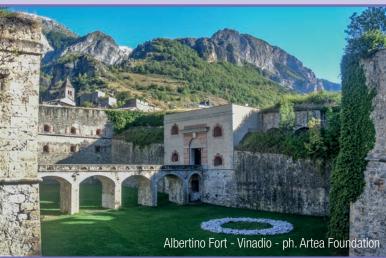


are also numerous interesting fragments preserved in Niella Tanaro (Parish church of the Assunta and chapel of Sant'Anna). There are two more ancient series of San Maurizio di Roccaforte dating back to the Romanesque period.

ILLANOVA MONDOVI The small square in the ancient centre of Villanova (known as Villavecchia or Old Town) transports you back in time: it is overlooked by important buildings such as the former parish church of Santa Caterina - decorated with precious 15th century frescoes - and the 18th century confraternity of Santa Croce, built to a design by Bernardo Vittone.

SOPRANA This was where the "verzino" marble came from, widely used in the decoration of the capital Turin (the Chapel of the Shroud, Valentino Castle, Palazzo Lascaris). The parish church of San Giovanni Battista, built to replace the 15th century building and designed by Francesco Gallo, is particularly interesting. The village is home to a particular confraternity, the one of the Cavalieri della Raschera e del Brüss, typical local

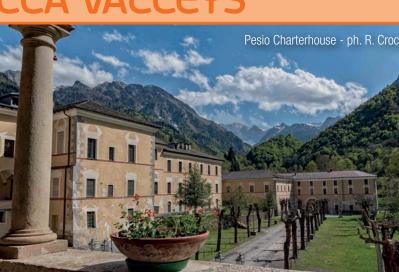
STURA VALLEY



PONTEBERNARDO A small and picturesque alpine village, with houses made of wood and stone, it is home to the original "Ecomuseo della Pastorizia" (Shepherd's Ecomuseum) where the star of the show is the Sambucan sheep, symbol of the valley and renowned both for its tasty meat and for its fine quality wool.

PESIO and COLLA VALLEYS

Just a few miles from Cuneo, an easy ride by e-bike, the Pesio and Colla valleys offer green meadows and shaded woodland, but also sites steeped in history and in the middle of the countryside. This area was inhabited as early as the protohistoric age and was organised in medieval times into small fortified towns with walls and castles: some ruins still overlook the settlements from the top of rocky spurs. The devotion of the people, combined with the influence of the wonderful Certosa di Pesio, yielded excellent artistic results, of which beautiful fresco series from the 16th and 17th centuries remain.



EVERAGNO The area of Peveragno, frequented as early as the Middle Ages, is known for its delicious strawberries, but also for being the birthplace of many famous people, including Major Pietro Toselli, heroically killed at Amba Alagi (1895) and the writer, journalist and playwright Vittorio Bersezio, author of the comedy in dialect "Le miserie 'd Monsù Travet". Two interesting monuments are dedicated to them: a bronze work by Ettore Ximenes to Major Toselli, in Piazza del Municipio; a marble sculpture by Leonardo Bistolfi to Vittorio Bersezio, in Piazza S. Maria.

CHIUSA DI PESIO The main town of the valley is Chiusa di Pesio, mentioned in a document as early as 1014. Numerous protohistoric. Bronze and Iron Age discoveries have been made in this area and are now housed in the beautiful Avena museum complex in the old town hall. Here you will also find an interesting section dedicated to local industry, famous for the production of glass, crystal and ceramics, and an entire floor devoted to the history of the Resistance. In the charming old town centre, the confraternities of San Rocco and of the Annunziata and the parish church of Sant'Antonino are worth a visit. A walk to Mirabello Castle offers a beautiful view of the

PESIO CHARTERHOUSE Today a place of recollection and prayer, this Carthusian monastery has been the soul of faith and culture in the valley for many years. Settled here since 1173, although with varying episodes due to the resentment of the inhabitants, the Carthusian monks built a great monastery at the far end of the valley, which has been renovated

several times. The upper church is particularly fascinating, decorated at the beginning of the 17th century by the artists from the Turin court Parentani and Rusca. After the French pillaging, it was converted into a hotel and hydrotherapy centre; today, restored by the Missionaries of the Consolata, it is a haven of peace and meditation.

BOVES AND FONTANELLE A site frequented as early as Roman times and already important before the year one thousand, Boves is left today with just fragments of its ancient history due to the devastation suffered during the Second World War: burned twice by the Nazi fury, Boves buried 185 Partisan and civilian victims. The town was awarded the gold medal for Military and Civil Valour. The two main sanctuaries are certainly worth a visit: the one of the Madonna dei Boschi, which preserves series of frescoes from the 15th and 16th centuries (one of which inspired by Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel), and the one of Regina Pacis in Fontanelle, built in the 20th century.

BEINETTE Overlooked by the mighty castle, of medieval origin but radically modified in the 18th century, Beinette deserves a visit for its beautiful parish church, the shadowy natural springs and the churches full of frescoes. Don't miss the Madonna della Pieve, with paintings from the 15th century and a beautiful series from around 1520 inspired by the engravings of Albrecht Dürer and works by Defendente and Gaudenzio Ferrari. On the way to Chiusa di Pesio you encounter the small chapel of the Annunziata, with frescoes dating back to 1611 dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

GRANA VALLEY

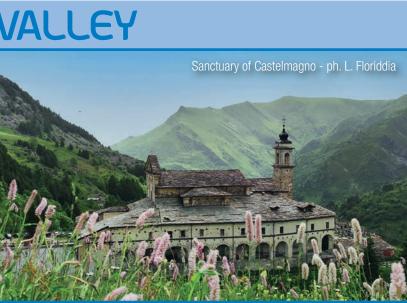
The smallest of the Cuneo valleys also offers great cultural opportunities. Nestled between the Stura and Maira Valleys, it is characterised by vast pastures and chestnut, beech and conifer woods, alternated with ancient and picturesque villages. Originally inhabited by the "Liguri Montani", it later became an important centre in Roman times, as evidenced by the remains found in the area around Caraglio. Starting from the 10th century, the valley passed under the dominion of the Marquises of Saluzzo and remained such until the beginning of the 14th century before becoming part of the Savoy state towards the end of the century.

CARACLIO The historical centre is crossed by the characteristic Via Brofferio, with its ancient medieval brick porticoes. Along this road, you reach the majestic parish church of Santa Maria Assunta. A beautiful staircase leads you to San Giovanni, a church with antique furnishings, wooden altars and 15th and joy is the Filatoio, the oldest "silk factory" in Europe: built in just two years (1676-1678) by the famous silk entrepreneur Galleani, today it is one of the oldest examples of industrial archaeology in Europe, among the few in Italy to have been restored and turned into a museum. It was a silk yarn factory until the mid-1930s and later converted into a barracks. Today it is the site of exhibitions and congresses; don't miss the opportunity to see the restored silk weaving machines in operation.

BERNEZZO The small centre is home to frescoes by Hans Clemer, the performance of folk music. found in the parish church: scrolls with prayers dedicated to Mary and a chapel with Evangelist symbols. There are also interesting paintings along the nave, which unfortunately are only partially visible.

CAPPELLE AFFRESCATE The valley is scattered with small painted chapels, mostly attributed to Pietro da Saluzzo and his workshop. Some of them have glass windows that allow you to take a look whenever you like. The chapels of Saints Bernardo and Mauro (on the road from Valgrana to Montemale) and the one of San Sebastiano (at the cemetery of Monterosso Grana) painted by Pietro da Saluzzo in 1468 with the tales of the saint are particularly interesting. REDISCOVER THE PAST IN A SMALL VALLEY

A short detour into a side valley takes you to San Pietro di Monterosso and to the Bra - Borgo San Dalmazzo leg of the 1999 Giro d'Italia, won by Paolo Santo Lucio de Coumboscuro. Here, since the 1950s, the "Coumboscuro Centre Prouvençal" has given rise to an important rediscovery of Provençal On the top of the hill there is a monument in memory of Marco Pantani who, in civilisation in Italy. This small school adopts multilingualism that integrates the same leg, pulled off a memorable uphill sprint that won him the pink jersey.



century frescoes, from which you can enjoy a beautiful view. Caraglio's pride the teaching of Italian, French and Provençal; the streets of the villages are home to ethnographic museums and open-air installations that tell the story of life in the past through the display of everyday tools, machinery and "babaciu" (life-size puppets made of straw and recycled material, dressed in traditional clothes). Every year, at the end of summer, the Roumiage takes place, an international Provençal event with congresses, workshops, shows, concerts and gastronomic events, all accompanied by the sound of the hurdy-gurdy, the traditional string instrument of ancient origins, still used for

SALUZZO and the PO VALLEY

REVELLO The village at the foot of Mount Bracco boasts buildings and works of art of great value, the result of commissions by the marguises and their courtiers. At the far end of the historic centre rises the Collegiate Church, erected toward the end of the 15th century: must-sees include the marble doorway sculpted in 1534 by Matteo Sanmicheli and the interior 15th century polyptychs by Hans Clemer and Pascale Oddone. On the first floor of the ancient Palazzo Comunale, there is the Cappella Marchionale, decorated by a series of paintings created at the behest of Margherita di Foix, wife of Ludovico II, in the first quarter of the 16th century with the stories of St Margherita and St Louis of France, the protectors of the marquises. The chapel is also home to a fresco of the Last Supper, inspired by the famous Last Supper by Leonardo da Vinci.

STAFFARDA The Abbey of Staffarda is situated in the Revello area, about 6 miles from Saluzzo. Founded in 1135 by Cistercian monks, it is composed of a Romanesque-Gothic complex that includes the abbey church, cloister, a guesthouse and a covered market. Inside, the church is dominated by a magnificent 16th century polyptych by Pascale Oddone (1531-1533). The adjacent areas are also of great elegance and solemnity: the square cloister, the capitular hall, the socalled "hot room" for winter work, the refectories and the dormitories. The cloister also provided access to the vegetable garden, cemetery, hospital and library.

THE TOWNS OF STONE The area of Barge, Bagnolo and Martiniana Po is famous all over the world for the extraction of stones and fine stone materials, activity that has led to the creation of a veritable stone civilisation in the area. In the parish church of Barge, designed by Francesco Gallo, you can admire the floor made of quartzite, a local stone also called, not coincidentally, "Bargiolina". The "grey gold of Bagnolo" was used as far back as the 16th century to build mountain huts, and was later also used to embellish the city, despite the enormous difficulties in transporting the materials. The little became a treasure trove with more than 1,000 m² of frescoes painted between Museum of Martiniana also tells the story of things below ground, including the Saint Chiaffredo, a soldier of the nearby martyred Theban Legion, according 1560 and 1570, attributable to local artists guided by Pietro and Giovanni geological history of the Po Valley and the "pyrope", a rare mineral unobtainable in crystals of such size and purity anywhere else on earth.



PAGNO Pagno was an important centre in the Lombard period due to the existence of the monastery of San Colombano founded in the 8th century by the monks from the monastery of San Colombano di Bobbio. Rebuilt in 1040 at the request of the Marchioness of Susa, Adelaide, the church preserves the remains of the Romanesque facade toward the cemetery, the crypt with decorative elements of Lombard origin, the bell tower (12th-14th century) and Romanesque and Gothic frescoes. Among these, there is the beautiful Arcangelo S. Michele, in the room adjacent to the belfry, attributed to one of Clemer's collaborators.

SMALL VILLAGES AMIOST NATURE AND FAIRYTALES In Sanfront, don't miss a visit to the parish church and the settlement of Balma Boves, today transformed into an Ecomuseum: the site, dug out of a ravine in the rock, includes a shelter for livestock, agricultural tool shed, a bread oven and a washing house. For those who love thrills, Rifreddo organises a "Witches Night" every year in October, an event linked to the popular legends that tell the story of masche (witches) and faje (fairies), but also to the persecution of witches documented in the town in 1495. There is the active and culturally lively town of Ostana, one of the Occitan valley towns in the provinces of Imperia, Cuneo and Turin. The Occitan region extends in the south of France as far as Catalonia. Here, people speak d'Oc, one of the most ancient Romance languages, spread by the troubadours in all the courts of Europe between the 12th and 13th century. At the far end of the valley, in Crissolo, stands the sanctuary dedicated to to popular tradition. Documented from 1375, the church underwent various improvements, including modifications to the façade in 1902.

CASTELMAGNO A place of worship since Roman times (an altar dedicated to Mars is enclosed in the portico), the far end of the vallev is now dominated by the sanctuary dedicated to the martyr Saint Magno. The building is composed of an ancient chapel decorated with frescoes by Pietro da Saluzzo (approx. 1475), a small church with paintings by Botoneri (1514) and a large 18th century church. The portico is from the 19th century. The name of the village is linked to the tasty semi-hard cheese, loved by gourmets all over the world: this delicacy is mentioned for the first time in a document dated 1277 ordering the municipality of Castelmagno to pay an annual tax to the Marquis of Saluzzo, not in cash but in rounds of cheese. For cycling enthusiasts, the valley is associated with the legendary Fauniera Pass, with a climb of over 20 km. Its fame is linked Savoldelli after an incredible technical downhill performance at over 100 km/h.

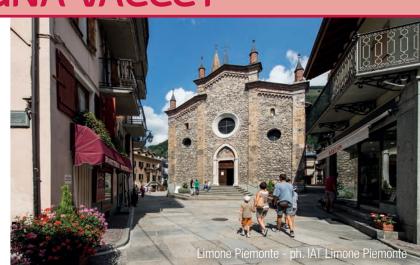
VERMENAGNA VALLEY

Surely the best known in terms of tourism, the Vermenagna Valley, especially in the upper part, offers beautifully mantained countryside and green forests providing a warm and welcoming atmosphere in all seasons. This area was frequented as far back as Roman times thanks to the Monte Cornio pass (or Colle di Tenda), an easy route for merchants and travellers. Until the beginning of the 16th century, this area was part of the small but powerful County of Tenda, an independent buffer state between the domains of the Savoys, the Republic of Genoa and the County of Nice. The existence of these routes meant that the valley became part of the Via del Sale (Salt Road).

ROBILANTE The beautiful historical centre provides the opportunity for a guiet walk and a visit to the parish church of San Donato. Robilante boasts an exceptional number of small and interesting museums: the Museum of Sound and Communication houses elegant gramophones and designer radios, which allow visitors to travel back through the history of sound and technology; the Railway Museum focused on the Cuneo-Nice railway system; the Accordion Museum tells the story of the accordion in Val Vermenagna, always known as the "valley of music", with its local dances: the "courenta" and the "balet".

VERNANTE Mentioned as early as 1041 under the name Alvergnandus, Vernante became part of the County of Tenda in 1279; it was in this period that the fortified tower overlooking the street and the village below was constructed: the Turusela. The parish church of San Nicolao and the Sanctuary of Madonna della Valle are very interesting, but the real attraction are the countless murals that tell the story of Pinocchio's adventures. They were painted by Meo and Carlet, two local painters, as a tribute to Attilio Mussino, the most important illustrator of Collodi's book, who spent his final years in Vernante. There is also a small but lovely museum dedicated to him.

LIMONE PIEMONTE The area, inhabited as early as the Copper Age as confirmed by the graffiti in the nearby Vallée des Merveilles (Valley of Marvels), became part of the Provincia Alpium Maritimarum in Roman times. In this period, several transit routes through the Alps were opened, as revealed



by the remains of the Roman road near Limonetto. The railway has made it a renowned holiday and sports resort; Limone was one of the first places in Italy where winter sports were practised at the beginning of the 20th century. Memorabilia and photographs from the dawn of Alpine skiing are exhibited in the small museum housed in the civic library. A large pedestrian area allows you to enjoy the beautiful old town centre, with picturesque streets and small sunny squares. The centre features the town hall and the parish church of San Pietro, documented since the 12th century, but rebuilt between the 14th and 15th centuries. It is said that the columns of the naves were donated by the Counts of Tenda, local nobility, and by the most important local families, with material from a quarry in the valley of San Giovanni. It is home to a beautiful 17th century pulpit made with carvings from Certosa di Pesio.

CUNEO-NICE RAILWAY LINE The idea of a railway across the Col di Tenda was conceived as early as the middle of the 19th century. when Camillo Benso, Count of Cavour, submitted to Parliament a request for the construction of a line between Turin and the Côte d'Azur. However, works began only at the end of the century and in 1928 the inauguration took place. The line is a marvel of engineering, all the more so if we consider the features of the land it crosses: it is one of the boldest stretches in Europe with 81 tunnels, 4 of which are helical, and 27 viaducts.

MAIRA VALLEY

This is certainly one of the most beautiful valleys in the province of Cuneo: extremely varied and with a wealth of cultural sites and landscapes. The centre of power for the Marquis of Saluzzo, the valley was strongly shaken by the war on heresy in the 16th century and then came under Savoy rule in the early 17th century. Impoverished by the depopulation of the post-war period, today the Maira valley still fascinates with its ageold traditions, the maze of historical paths and trades, the artistic gems hidden among the pastures or in little stone villages.

BUSCA AND IL ROCCOLO In the middle of the countryside and close to two streams, Busca has the appearance of a little regional apital; lose yourself in a stroll around the old town centre and don't forget to visit the beautiful baroque churches: the parish church of the Assunta or the confraternities Bianca (Annunziata) and Rossa (Trinità). Just outside the town, simple paths guide you to the discovery of small gems painted by the brothers Tommaso and Matteo Biazaci, such as San Martino, San Sebastiano and Santo Stefano. The Castello del Roccolo, built in 1831 by Marquis Roberto Tapparelli d'Azeglio, is a splendid example of neo-Gothic architecture; its romantic park is home to monumental greenhouses, built between 1846 and 1850, from which you can enjoy splendid views.

DRONERO AND VILLAR SAN COSTANZO

Built around the 12th century, Dronero boasts an elegant old town, with an arcaded street and beautiful palazzi, don't miss the parish church with its 15th century doorway made by the Zabreri brothers. There is the impressive Devil's Bridge, flanked by swallowtail battlements, built in 1428 at the narrowest point of the Maira river. The Son de Lenga Museum is located in the Espaci Occitan and uses multimedia tools to illustrate the features of the Occitan language. A little further on, a detour to Villar San Costanzo is a must to visit the parish church of San Pietro in Vincoli, with the chapel of San Giorgio displaying frescoes by Pietro da Saluzzo and the crypt, as well as the church of San Costanzo al Monte, an excellent example of Lombard Romanesque architecture built at the end of the 11th century. In Villar San mountain, which are very numerous and particularly large in this area.



ELVA Set in a breathtaking landscape, Elva reels you in and wins your heart. The pearl of the small village is the parish church, which houses an amazing series of frescoes from the very early 1500s by Hans Clemer, known until recently as the Maestro d'Elva. Strolling past the stone houses, do not miss a visit to the Museum of Pels, which tells the story of the hair collectors, a traditional profession of the local people from the late 18th century to the 20th century.

FRESCO-FILLED CHAPELS Almost every town and village in the valley deserves a stop to see the chapels filled with 16th century frescoes or polyptychs; these include San Pietro di Stroppo (with frescoes from the 14th and 15th centuries), San Salvatore a Macra (with important pieces from the Romanesque period), the chapel of San Pietro, located along the Cyclamen Path in Villar (with a beautiful Dance of Death), the chapel of San Sebastiano and the parish church of San Giovanni Battista in Celle Macra (with frescoes from 1484 by Giovanni Baleison and a beautiful polyptych by Hans Clemer from 1496, respectively).

ACCEGLIO The final town in the valley saves the surprise of two small Costanzo, nature lovers can visit the Ciciu del Villar Nature Reserve: famous and interesting museums: the Museum of Sacred Art of Alta Val Maira, in the "stone mushrooms", the result of the selective erosion of one side of the confraternity of the Annunziata, houses paintings, sculptures and vestments partly held there for security reasons, testimony to the artistic wealth even of farflung places. In the town hall, there is a small section dedicated to the paintings left by Matteo Olivero, who used to spend long periods of the year here.

The CITIES of the PLAIN

The orderly Savoyard and sedately elegant atmosphere of the towns of the plain offer a memorable experience. Historical town centres with arcaded streets and little closed squares, sumptuous Baroque churches and regal mansions, detailed museums that tell fascinating stories with simple tools: these are the ingredients for a local journey of food and culture, of beautiful things and slow pace.



CUNEO Reborn after important renovations in recent years, Cuneo welcomes you with the beautiful pedestrian Via Roma, the ancient arcaded Contrada Maestra and flourishing trading centre since the 14th century. Don't forget to stop in the elegant Piazza Galimberti, dedicated to Duccio, hero of the Resistance. You can admire the wealth of the "triangular city" by climbing up the Torre Civica and admiring the numerous churches from on high: the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Bosco (of medieval foundation but rebuilt many times), or the baroque gems, such as the confraternity of Santa Croce and the church of Sant'Ambrogio. To learn more about the history of the local area and the town, don't miss a trip to the monumental complex of San Francesco, with the Civic Museum and the Diocesan Museum, next to the church of San Sebastiano, in the picturesque Contrada Mondovi.

FOSSANO A town of strategic importance, Fossano features a lively historical centre distributed around an arcaded street. Don't miss the majestic Acaja Castle, built from the 14th century: you can admire the view from the balconies of the towers and explore its ancient walkways, experience the excitement of the new immersive rooms improved by multimedia equipment and monitors that allow you to enjoy the local area in augmented reality. There is the rich heritage of sumptuous Barogue buildings, such as the confraternity of the Holy Trinity and the church of San Filippo; there is also the fine cathedral of Santa Maria and San Giovenale, of medieval origin but altered in the 17th century according to a design by Giovenale Boetto. Right behind the cathedral, within a quiet cloister, there is the small but precious Diocesan Museum that houses the treasures of the town's chapels and confraternities. Just outside the village, there is the sanctuary of Cussanio, built on the site of a miraculous event that occurred in 1521 and decorated with beautiful Baroque paintings.

in memory of the passage of the Dukes of Savoy leads to the town square. The times known as Augusta Bagiennorum, it has preserved the remains of the town's churches have been decorated over time by frescoes and canvases, mostly from the prestigious local botteghe, such as those of Dolce or Molineri; do not miss the chance to visit the church of Sant'Andrea, in the former monastery of San Pietro, in the confraternities of the Assunta and Pietà. There traditional villages, make sure you stop at Rocca de Baldi: around the quiet are also the sumptuous and elegant palazzi of the nobility: the 17th century square rises the castle with its shaded park, home to the A. Doro Ethnographic Palazzo Taffini today home to Mùses - European Academy of Essences, Palazzo Muratori Cravetta, a splendid example of the Mannerist era with its painted of the most spectacular Baroque altars in Piedmont, created by the Carlone courtyard. The Civic Museum, in the former Franciscan monastery, is home to brothers around 1675. Along the way, you can also stop to admire the small the Gipsoteca Davide Calandra, with plaster casts of the most important works, historical centres embellished with castles and parish churches, and often including the great frieze created for the Italian Chamber of Deputies.

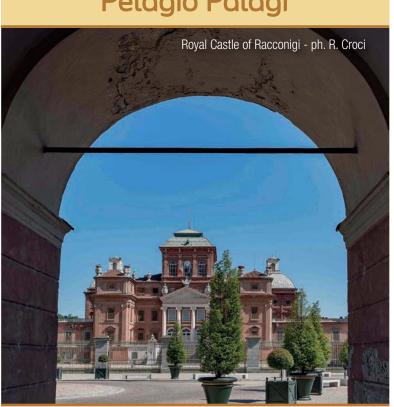
SAVIGLIANO The lively Piazza Santarosa, surrounded by medieval

RACCONIGI The nerve centre is the Royal castle, where structures and furnishings from different eras are harmoniously combined: from the 17th In this area, even the smallest villages have a story to tell. In Magliano Alpi, century façade by Guarino Guarini to the areas inspired by the myths of Hercules the Military Hat Museum houses more than 400 examples from all over the and Diana, oriental references and neoclassical furniture. Behind the residence, there is a wonderful park, re-modelled for Carlo Alberto by German gardener son. If you are looking for a really moving experience, be aware that every Xavier Kurten. Around the imposing castle, an elegant town has sprung up over five years, the Easter Mortorio is held in Villafalletto, an event that has been time that is just waiting to be discovered: take a wander through the streets and repeated since the 17th century, with 500 people in costume. If you want to you will discover small closed squares and porticoed palazzi. Do not miss a visit relax, head to the beautiful Langa countryside to see the giant benches, part to the immense parish church of San Giovanni Battista designed by Francesco of the Big Bench Project and located in places such as Clavesana, Piozzo and Gallo or to the church of Santa Maria Maggiore. In the Museum - Garden of the Farigliano... to name but a few: it's up to you to find them all! Silk Civilization, set up in the former Poor Clares Monastery, discover the history of an ancient and important process, which provided work for over 4000 people in 30 silk factories.

HAMLETS, CASTLES AND ARCHAEOLOGY arcaded houses, is dominated by the tall civic tower; the great Arch of Triumph Bene Vagienna is a must for archaeology lovers: an important hub in Roman theatre, of the paleochristian basilica and the aqueduct; it tells its story through the archaeological museum in the historical centre, also worth a visit to admire the beautiful medieval and Baroque houses. Among the most and Historical Museum, and the church of San Marco, which preserves one designed by great architects: Morozzo, Margarita, Carrù, Trinità.

> CURIOSITY, TRADITION AND GIANT BENCHES world, collected by an officer from Mondovi, Pietro Vittorio Corelli, and his





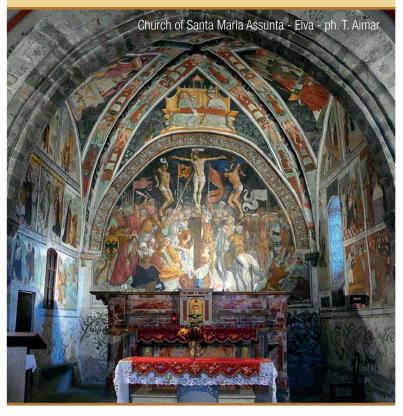
Born in Bologna in 1775, Pelagio Palagi was a prolific and versatile artist: he was a painter, architect, furnishings designer and collector. After training in Bologna, he studied and worked in Rome, Milan and finally - in 1832 - in Turin. King Carlo Alberto of Savoy appointed him superintendent for the decoration of Racconigi Castle, for which - among other things - he designed furniture and painted frescoes. In 1834, he was named painter in charge of decorating the Royal Palaces and director of the school of decorative art of the Accademia Albertina di Belle Arti (Albertina Academy of Fine Arts) in Turin. To him we owe the improvements and adjustments of the Palazzo Reale in Turin and of the Castle of Pollenzo. He died in Turin on 6 March 1860.

Duccio Galimberti

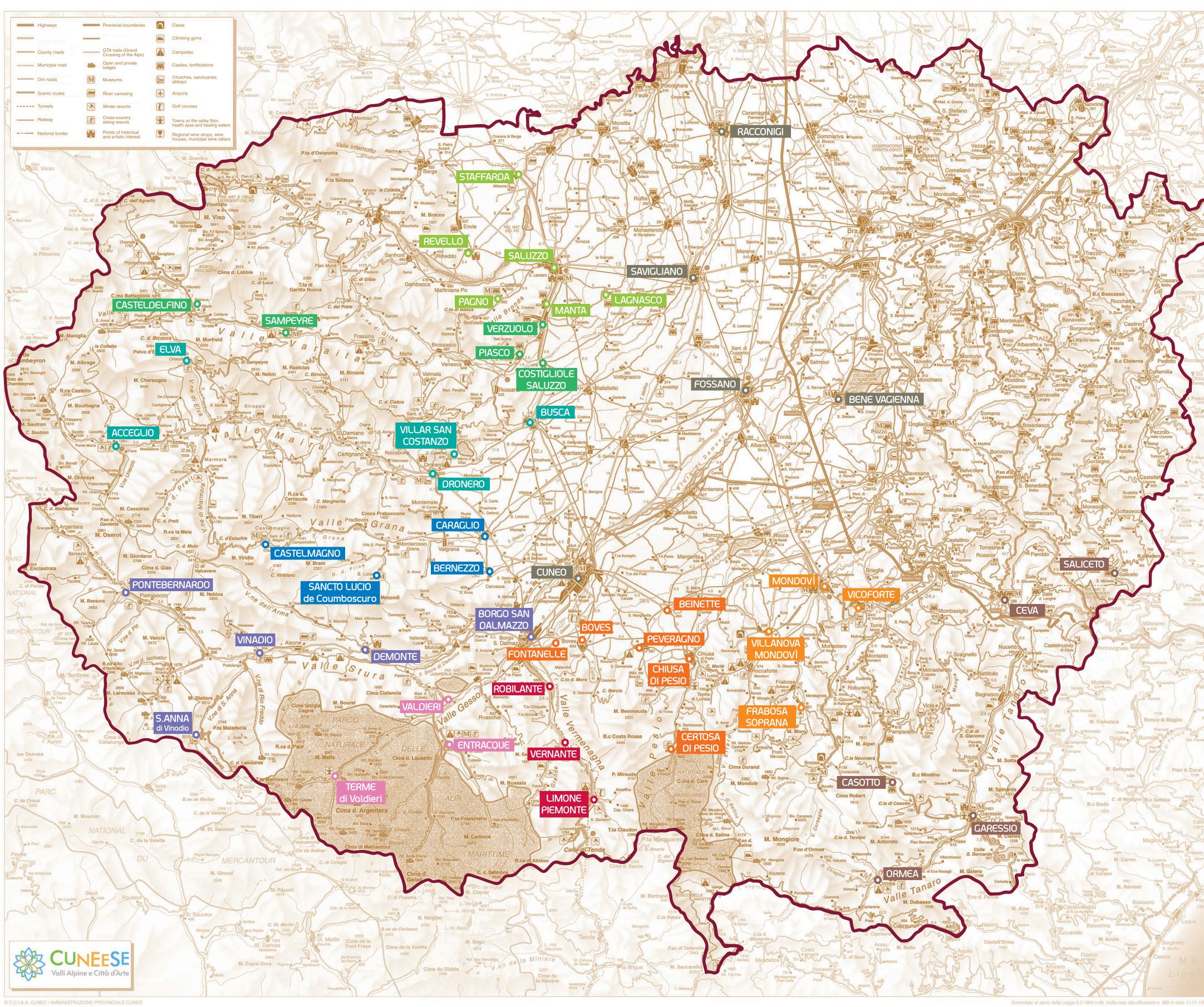


National Hero of the Resistance, Tancredi Galimberti - known as Duccio - is one of the best loved figures in Cuneo. Born in Cuneo on 30 April 1906, he was the son of Tancredi Senior, former Postal Minister under Giovanni Giolitti and later fascist senator, and Alice Schanzer, a lover of art and literature. A lawyer himself, despite his father's position, Duccio never compromised with fascism. He made a historical speech from the balcony of his home, overlooking the piazza that today bears his name, on 26 July 1943; the words that he spoke are engraved on a plaque displayed on the building: "the war continues until the expulsion of the last German, until disappearance of the last vestiges of the fascist regime...". After 8 September, Duccio coordinated the organisation of the armed popular struggle and, together with Dante Livio Bianco and other friends, forms the first unit of the "Italia Libera" (Free Italy) band, from which the Justice and Freedom brigades are later formed. Arrested in Turin on 28 November 1944, he was then transferred to Cuneo where he was interrogated and beaten; on the morning of 4 December he was transported to near Centallo and shot with a volley of fire to the back. His remains rest in the family tomb at the Santuario degl Angeli in Cuneo.

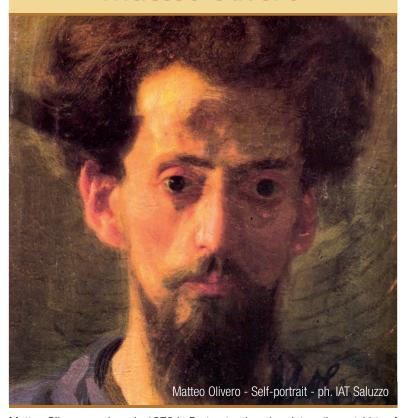
Hans Clemer



Known until a few years ago as the "Maestro d'Elva" from the name of his best known work (fresco series in the parish church of Santa Maria Assunta in Elva), the painter Hans Clemer was from Picardy and worked in Italy between the late 15th and early 16th century. We find him working in Aix en Provence, where he met the Marguis Ludovico II of Saluzzo, in Provence for political reasons. Ludovico appreciated his art and promoted his transfer to Piedmont; Clemer thus became the most famous painter in Saluzzo, a favourite among marquises and their courtiers.



Matteo Olivero

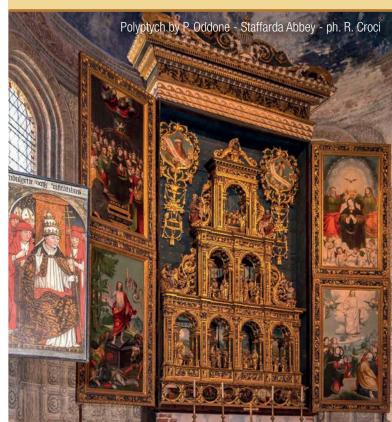


Matteo Olivero was born in 1879 in Pratorotondo, a hamlet on the outskirts of Acceglio, in the Upper Maira Valley. After the death of his father from cholera, Matteo moved with his mother first to Dronero, then to Cuneo. His talent for drawing and painting emerged as early as his school days, later to be developed at the Accademia Albertina in Turin. He became interested in the Divisionism of Segantini, which he developed independently, even achieving great success at the Società Promotrice delle Belle Arti (Society for the Promotion of Fine Arts). His works tell the story of his beautiful and beloved mountains, but also of his inner torment that drove him to depression and suicide.

Francesco Gallo



Born in Mondovi Piazza in 1672, Francesco Gallo is probably the architect who most influenced the Baroque transformation of the Cuneo area in the 18th century. He designed more than eighty buildings: churches, hospitals, squares, palazzi for the larger towns and cities, but also for smaller centres, using mainly brick as his trademark and simple volumes. His best known works include the cathedral of San Donato in Mondovi and the largest elliptical brick dome in the world, found in the Sanctuary of Vicoforte.



Giovanni Angelo Dolce

Son of the painter Pietro, Giovanni Angelo Dolce was born in Savigliano around the middle of the 16th century. He trained and worked his way up in his father's workshop in the prestigious worksite of the Castello di Lagnasco, decorated for the Tapparelli family. His works reflect Mannerist painting, featuring the shapes of monuments, coloured glazes and dazzling and beguiling artefacts. He was highly valued by both civil and religious customers, who commissioned the decoration of palazzi and numerous altarpieces.



Stefano, Costanzo and Maurizio Zabreri belong to a family of sculptors from the Maira Valley. Their workshop was operational throughout the 15th century, using models and decorations in a repetitive manner: they produced mainly baptismal fonts and stoups widespread throughout the local area, but also large works including the portals of the parish church in Dronero and of San Francesco in Cuneo.

Silvio Pellico was born in Saluzzo in 1789. He studied first in Turin and then in Lyon, where he absorbed the principles of French culture. When he returned to Milan, he worked as a tutor for various noble families and frequented some of the greatest exponents of Italian and European culture: Ugo Foscolo, Vincenzo Monti, Madame de Stael, Stendhal, George Gordon Byron. He took part in the first uprisings of the Risorgimento; he supported the Milanese Carbonari (Italian for charcoal makers, a secret revolutionary society) movement of Pietro Maroncelli and for this reason he was arrested and locked up first in the Piombi prison in Venice and later in the Spielberg Fortress, in Moravia. This harsh experience was behind his best known work "Le mie prigioni" (My Prisons), emblem of the Risorgimento ideals. Pardoned in 1830, he returned to Turin where he became a librarian at the house of the Marguises of Barolo and resumed his literary activity.



Giovenale Boetto was born in Fossano in 1604 and lived there for most of his life. He was a man of many talents: civil and military architect, painter, engraver, stage designer; he worked all over the Cuneo area and also in Turin, the capital of the Duchy of Savoy. His projects included, among others, the Cathedral of Cuneo, the Pesio Charterhouse and the Jesuit churches of Cuneo and Mondovi. To him we owe precious engravings with bird's eye views over the main cities of Piedmont included in the Theatrum Sabaudiae collection, veritable "photographs" and important sources of information on urban planning in the second half of the 17th century.



A painter of Flemish origin, Jean (Giovanni) Claret was particularly active in Piedmont during the 17th century. Resident in Savigliano, there he married Giulia Pistone, daughter of the painter Francesco Pistone. He worked together with Giovanni Antonio Molineri and Giovenale Boetto and he painted mainly in the Cuneo area: Savigliano, Fossano, Cherasco, Bra and at La Certosa di Pesio. He died in Savigliano at around the age of eighty.

Pascale Oddone

Pascale Oddone was a painter and sculptor born in Savigliano to whom we owe the creation of majestic carved and painted wooden altars distributed mainly in the Saluzzo area. He worked in partnership with the most important artists of the Piedmont region, such as Gandolfino da Roreto and Pietro Dolce, interpreters of the Cuneo Renaissance.

The Zabreri brothers

Silvio Pellico

Giovenale Boetto

Giovanni Claret

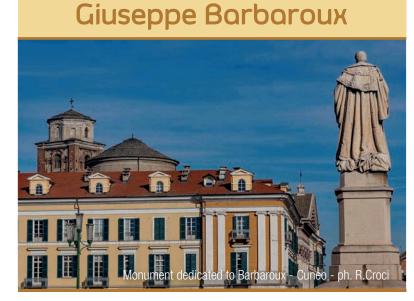
Fresco Painters of the 15th Century



During the 15th century, the Cuneo area featured numerous botteghe (workshops) of fresco painters who worked in churches, chapels and palazzi, decorating them with series of paintings of great value. Many of whom are still unknown, such as the mysterious and very sophisticated Maestro della Manta, whose paintings are found in the castle of the Saluzzo family. Some of these botteghe were family businesses, handing down techniques and models from generation to generation, such as the Bottega dei Pocapaglia (which included the painters Antonio and Pietro da Saluzzo) or that of brothers Tommaso and Matteo Biazaci di Busca. The most valued fresco painters include Giovanni Baleison di Demonte and Giovanni Canavesio.

Giacinto Borelli

Giacinto Borelli, born in Demonte in 1783, was an important Piedmontese politician. He held various roles in the Tuscan judiciary, and later in Piedmont, and in 1820 was appointed regent of the Chancery of Sardinia. He was a confidant of Carlo Alberto and promoted the approval of the Statute, the compilation of which he was greatly involved in. Appointed Count in 1820, he purchased a great palace in the centre of Demonte that he renovated in modern style.



Born in Cuneo in 1772, from a fabric trader family of French origin, Giuseppe Barbaroux was a lawyer and ambassador of the Kingdom of Sardinia at the Holy See. He was one of the main promoters of the foundation of the Diocese of Cuneo, proclaimed by Pope Pius VII on 17 July 1817. In 1831, King Carlo Alberto entrusted him with the Ministry of Justice and the task of the progressive reformation of the Savoy Code, a job that cost him strong antipathy and heavy criticism, which he had to face without the support of the sovereign. Having retired from political life, deeply embittered and isolated, he took his own life. However, in Cuneo, he is granted great recognition and honour and his statue - made by the sculptor Giuseppe Dini in 1879 - stands in the middle of the city's main square.

Lalla Romano

Born in Demonte in November 1906, Lalla Romano was a writer, poet, journalist and painter. At the University of Turin her companions and friends included great personalities such as Mario Soldati, Arnaldo Momigliano and Cesare Pavese. She moved to Cuneo during World War II and took part in the Resistance in the "Justice and Freedom" movement. In this period, Eugenio Montale pushed her to publish poems; shortly afterwards, Cesare Pavese commissioned her to translate "Three Tales" by Gustave Flaubert and in the post-war period - having moved to Milan - her literary career took off with her most famous novels: "Le parole tra noi leggere" (Light Words Between Us), won the Strega Prize in 1969.

Giovanni Antonio Molineri



Giovanni Antonio Molineri's mother was Lucrezia Dolce, daughter of Pietro and sister of Giovanni Angelo, two of the most important painters of early Mannerism in Piedmont. Born in Savigliano in 1577, Molineri trained in his uncle's workshop, Giovanni Angelo Dolce, and later moved to Rome around the beginning of the 17th century. There, he spent time with the Caravaggiopainters who strongly influenced his style, as witnessed by the powerful works left in Savigliano, Turin, Carignano and Cuneo.

Giovanni Giolitti

A political figure of fundamental importance in the period between the 19th and 20th centuries, Giovanni Giolitti was born in Mondovì in 1842. Elected to parliament as a member for Dronero, he was Minister of the Treasury under Crispi (1889) and Prime Minister (1892). Overwhelmed by the Banca Romana scandal, he resigned in November 1893. He returned to government six years later as Minister of the Interior. His progressive policy in favour of the working class earned him the support of the moderate socialists; his neutral position promoted the integration into the life of the nation as much for Catholics as for socialists. However, the key actions by his government that led to his decline included the conquest of Libya and the universal male suffrage. He resigned in March 1914 and a little more than a year after Italy entered into war.

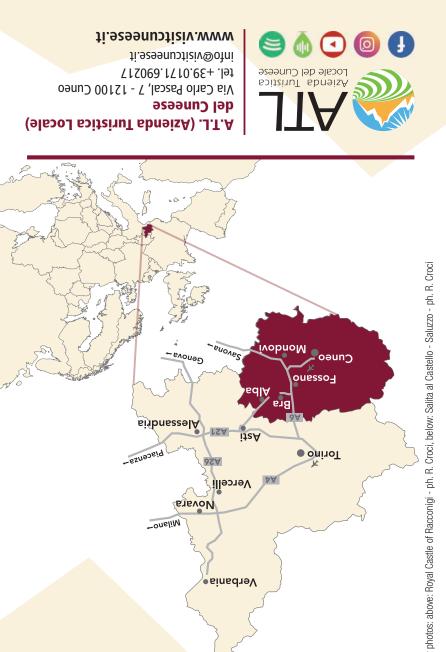
The Cuneo Museo Diffuso



The project, born in 2012, is an important milestone in local tourist promotion; it links up churches and monuments through the portal www.museodiffusocuneese.it, including multilingual video-guides created by historical experts. The website can be accessed from a PC or through the QR Codes displayed directly on the sites that form part of the circuit. The Cuneo Museo Diffuso (Open-Air Museum) enables a modern approach to planning your sightseeing via online consultation, where you can learn about other connected monuments, organise your own sightseeing tour, experience the visit as a leading player in situ and return to the site for a virtual second visit.

www.museodiffusocuneese.it





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