SIX NATURE TRAILS

LOGISTICAL NOTES

■ TAG :

■ DIFFICULTY: T2 - * some sections of trail are proving difficult by the presence of canyons created by water erosion. It is therefore strongly advised to wear the proper hiking gear (shoes with soles and appropriate hiking poles) and have the necessary physical preparation.

■ RECOMMENDED PERIOD:
Winter - Spring - Fall



5 - FROM SASSO TO THE PASSO DEL RONCO AND SEBORGA



6 - FROM BORDIGHERA

> The path in the Mediterranean forest

GLOBAL HEIGHT DIFFERENCE: 601 yd ↑
TIME: 4 hours (each way) return is possible by bus
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: T2

* some sections of trail challenging and demanding by the presence of canyons created by erosion

Turn behind Sasso's Church and follow the mule track downhill to the left. A little further the mule track crosses the main road and continues on the left among some houses and greenhouses and reaches Via Silvio Pellico at the bottom of the valley. Cross the bridge above the torrent and before the barrier take to the left the concrete ramp and after some yards turn immediatly to the left on the trail surrounded by terraced cultivations. After a series of turns on this trail, you will get back to the concrete ramp, turn left onto a steep descent and ascent. After 110yd, turn right and follow the old mule track climbing left taking care to avoid the right dirt road. The path continues uphill through the Mediterranean vegetation, among myrtle bushes, pistacia lentiscus, broom and arbutus. Passed the ruins of a stone building, continue uphill on the trail to reach the runway firewall, then turn right. You will get to the slopes of Monte Nero at the height of fire water tank, cross of many trails.

Continue north climbing to meet a large junction, turn left towards the Passo del Ronco and Seborga (milestone). The wide dirt road continues uphill bypassing to the west the summit of Monte Nero.

Further cross a Mediterranean forest of arbutus, green oaks, pines to meet uphill a few difficult sections of trail eroded by water. Continue to the Passo del Ronco, leave the dirt road and turn left onto the trail downhill towards Seborga: after some points of the

trail very eroded by water, continue through a thick wood.

After crossing a stream continue on the opposite side to briefly reach Seborga. The return can be made by the main road from which the mule tracks and trails for Sasso (see trail 2) starts or, by the bus line for Sasso / Bordighera (www.rivieratrasporti.it).

> Trail balcony

GLOBAL HEIGHT DIFFERENCE: 524 yd ↑↓
TIME: 4 hours
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: T3

*some sections of trail challenging and demanding by the presence of canyons created by erosion

From Bordighera to the slopes of Monte Nero near the tank fire follow the directions trail 4.

From there head for north and avoid deviations, on the left to Sasso and onto the right to Bordighera – Via Cornice dei Due Golfi. Continue climbing to the fork for Ospedaletti (milestone). Turn right along a scenic trail: here begins the journey along the electric pylons. So continue on the main route to the wood avoiding deviations in the direction of the valley.

Further the trail has eroded points and may be very steep but, by its position, it can be defined as a real balcony overlooking the sea with a splendid view from Sanremo to the French coast.

Beyond the last pestle (milestone) you will reach the trail that climbs from the Ospedaletti to Monte Nero and Seborga: continue downhill, being careful not to slip in the points eroded by water. So follow the main trail through the thick wood of oaks avoiding the deviation towards the valley to the right.

The trail crosses the route for Coldirodi, turn right downhill and reach the first houses and the paved road passing under the motorway and turn left. Continue on the road to reach the Sanctuary of the Madonna delle Porrine, on the heights of Ospedaletti. Reach the center of Ospedalletti by mule tracks and trails along Via Santuario delle Porrine and Via delle Mimose.

To return to Bordighera it is recommended to take the bus on Aurelia Street, which runs every 20 minutes (line Ventimiglia-Sanremo www.rivieratrasporti.it).

1 - FROM BORDIGHERA TO MONTE NERO SANCTUARY

> Hiking on trails and mule tracks

TIME: 2 hours 30 minutes (back and forth)

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: T1

becomes a staircase

tone rock tank walls.

the starting point.

GLOBAL DIFFERENCE OF HEIGHT: 165 yd ↑↓

From St Ampelio Church, follow the Aurelia Street to the East,

reach and cross completely the port to continue on the path

among the rocks. The trail follows the railroad tracks above the

sea and rocks. Just before the football field take Via dei Pescatori

underpass to the left of leading to Via Aurelia, continue to the ri-

ght, eastbound on 165 yards. Go through and get on Via Winter,

which shall be followed until its end. Continue along a narrow

path along a small first house and a greenhouse. This path then

A little further (avoiding the flat path), turn right uphill on a wide

110 yards mule track. Near a rock covered with many plants of

figs head left into a large bedrock steep trail in the direction of

a small pink house. The route continues right on a tarred steep

road (Via Nandria), along various private properties and cultiva-

ted terraces and reaches further the main road, "Via Cornice dei

Due Golfi". Turn then right, and follow the slightly descending

main road on two turns to reach the Sancturary of "Nostra Si-

gnora del Monte Nero" (Salve Regina Street No. 18 - tel. 0184

For the return journey on "Via de la Cava" just before the Sanc-

tuary: it rubs down a few houses, various succulents nurseries.

A little further down the street gives way to the old mule track

(which some parts were dug by erosion and may result slipping).

This path skirts from above the old quarry and its large sands-

The mule track ends with a steep concrete ramp: head right clim-

bing and after 55 yards cross on the left a massive stone bridge.

It joins a beautiful mule track uphill which will lead back to the

starting path. By taking the left descending path one returns to

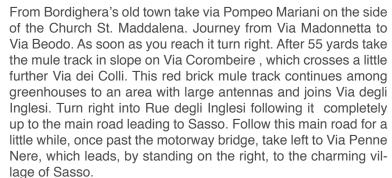
266 230), founded by Father Giacomo Viale in 1904.

2 - FROM BORDIGHERA TO SASSO AND SEBORGA



> Hiking on trails and mule tracks

GLOBAL DIFFERENCE OF HEIGHT: 565 yd ↑
TIME: 3 hours (each way), return is possible by bus
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: T2



From the church square, head for via Cairoli, keep on the left at the first fork, up the main road. Cross it and continue on the mule track among the olive groves, terraced crops of broom which offer a wide view over the valley. Avoid on the left Via Gavaudan and continue on the main road to the church Madonna della Neve. Beyond the church turn left uphill on the street carrying the same name. At its end, the road converges to the right to a narrow and short path connecting with the main road. Follow the road for 75 yards and take Via Rocca, a steep concrete climb surrounded by bushes of rosemary and Mediterranean flora.

Avoid the deviations to the right, reach the main road, follow it briefly until reaching on the right Rue Antico Principato. A little further on we cross the main road again, to keep on Rue Antico Principato along a steep staircase along the cultivated terraces and houses, which leads again on the road. Follow the trail in front of you, taking care not to slip onto the plastic pipe.

Once reached the main road, take a little further Via Matteotti which leads to the narrow streets of Seborga. The return is on the same route or by bus line to Bordighera (www.rivieratrasporti.it).

GLOBAL DIFFERENCE OF HEIGHT: 285 yd ↑ TIME: 2 hours 30 (each way) return possible by bus DIFFICULTY LEVEL: T2

> Hiking on little streets and mule tracks

From Bordighera to Sasso follow Trail 2 directions.

From the church square of Sasso, follow Via Cairoli, keep yourself on the left at the first fork and reach the main road. Cross the main road and continue on the mule track in front of you, among the olive groves, terraced fields of broom with a splendid view over the valley. Avoid on the left Via Gavaudan and continue on the main road until you reach Madonna della Neve Church. Head for the bottom of the valley, turn left on a steep descent on Via Riva, which becomes a little further a dirt road.

3 - FROM BORDIGHERA TO MADONNA

DELLA NEVE AND VALLEBONA

Downhill reach and follow another dirt road. Avoid the fork on the left and while descending round a house surrounded by greenhouses and terraced fields of mimosa, broom and Pittosporum (it is possible to take a quick shortcut shown on the left, on a steep descent, which connects later with the same dirt road).

Follow the wide dirt road avoid the left fork further. This wide road continues downhill with loose turns and crosses a wood. Reach the bridge over the Rio Borghetto in Via Ciaudada. Beyond this bridge continue left onto via Scudier to reach the ancient village of Vallebona.

The return is possible by bus or on foot following the main road until Borghetto San Nicolò. Bellow the road, on the left descend to the Alpini square and take Via Pastrengo and follow this path until the bottom of the valley. At this point, turn right and take Via Torrente which follows the stream of Rio Borghetto. Follow this street until reaching the main road and continue southbound for Bordighera. At the roundabout turn left onto Via Romana to go back to Bordighera's old town.

4 - FROM BORDIGHERA TO MONTE NERO



> The road surrounded by myrtle and arbutus

GLOBAL HEIGHT DIFFERENCE: 662 yd ↑↓ TIME: 4 hours 30 (back and forth) DIFFICULTY LEVEL: T2

* some sections of trail challenging and demanding by the presence of canyons created by erosion

From Bordighera's old town take via Pompeo Mariani aside the Santa Maddalena Church, follow Via Madonnetta uphill and reach via Beodo, an old little channel which caught the brook Sasso. As soon as you reach Via Beodo turn right and proceed tilll a short tunnel. Beyond lies Bordighera's famous grove. Pass the olive tree of St Giuseppe, who stands on the elevated terrace and further descend along the stone steps, towards the bottom of the valley, to the cemetery. Once reached the track near the torrent take uphill onto Via Bernora which further becomes a mule track. Once reached the main road cross on the left and continue onto a concrete lane on the opposite. This concrete lane soon becomes a short trail next to the culture of broom along the dry-stone wall. Continue until meeting a small steep staircase that leads back onto the road, turn right and follow the main Road Via Cornice dei Due Golfi on 500m till reaching a parking. Turn left onto a steep street (milestone) and keep on ascending until reaching a widening. Turn immediately left (milestone) along a beautiful trail surrounded by pines. Once the fork reached, leave the mule track and turn left among heather and arbutus. Further the presence of many points dug into the sandy bottom by water erosion make the route difficult, please be carefull. Continuing on the same dirt road you come to a junction of several trails, near a large fire water tank.

Go up north towards Monte Nero (milestone) and further avoid the two forks, the first for Passo del Ronco and Seborga and the second for Ospedaletti. Continue climbing in the woods among oaks, pines and arbutus. The broad summit of Monte Nero is a wide panoramic view. The return is made on the same path

THREE URBAN >>>

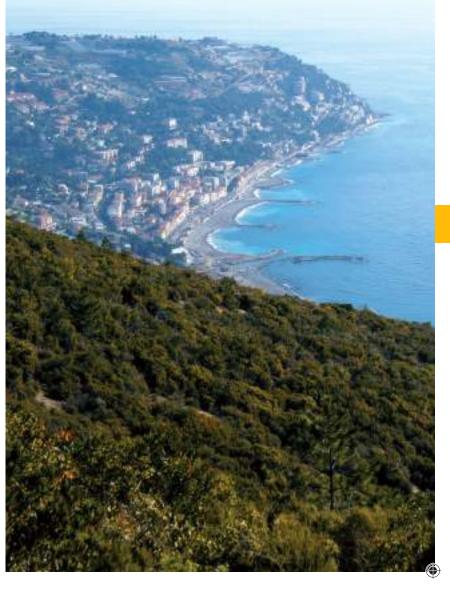
LOGISTICAL NOTES





■ DIFFICULTY: T1 light trekking equipment is also recommended for urban trail: shoes with good soles and trekking poles, since the mule tracks are steep and irregular.

■ RECOMMENDED PERIOD: Winter - Spring - Fall (excepted for trail 3, windy and fresh even during the summer)



1 - FROM VIA ROMANA TO VIA DEI COLLI

> Villas and hotels of the 19th Century

GLOBAL HEIGHT DIFFERENCE: 87 yd ↑↓

TIME: 1 hour (back and forth)

■ From Via Romana, at the West of Villa Etelinda, follow Via Vallone. After a turn, the street continues upon a staircase running alongside an elegant residence, once the prestigious Royal Hotel. Quickly the route continues on a large, still preserved, stone mule track that reaches Via dei Colli at the height of Villa Loggia. The return is possible on the same path, at the fork behind the residence, you may also follow the downhill path on the right

2 - FROM VIA ROMANA TO VIA DEI COLLI

> Carillon's path

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: T1

GLOBAL HEIGHT DIFFERENCE: 87 yd ↑↓
TIME: 1 hour 30 minutes (back and forth)
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: T1

■ From Via Romana, at the East of Villa Regina Margherita, follow uphill Via Casette, cross Via Virgilio and continue on the staircase. The staircase becomes a well preserved mule track, deploying itself among wonderful terraced cultivations of broom. Within twenty minutes you will reach Via dei Colli, not far from the scenic viewpoint of the "Belvedere Carillon". Continue to the right onto Via dei Colli, further turn right downhill onto Via Fontana Vecchia. This Street crosses Via Beodo and joins Bordighera's old town through Via della Madonetta.

3 - LE SENTIER DU BEODO

> The magnificent palm groove painted by Monet

GLOBAL HEIGHT DIFFERENCE: 32 yd ↑↓
DURÉE: 1 hour (back and forth)
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: T1

■ From Bordighera's Old Town take Via Pompeo Mariani aside the Santa Maria Maddalena church, follow Via Madonetta and reach Via Beodo. Turn right and follow this path among houses, then avoid the fork for Via Corombeire and go straight until reaching a short tunnel. After this tunnel you will find yourself immersed into the palm grove, go straight and avoid the little staircases on the side. Be watchful over some partially crumbled portions of the mule track – due to heavy rain. After twenty minutes the walk ends at the height of a narrow bridge over the river Sasso. The return goes the opposite way (it is possible to continue on the steep slope leading to the main road to Sasso and Seborga).

BEODO AND ITS PALM GROVE: TREASURES TO DISCOVER



Some says it is a path, others it is a mule track. Actually the Beodeo is ancient Bordighera's first aqueduct supplied by the torrent Sasso. The name's root "Béa" clearly identifies it as "water bringer". With this water our ancestors watered gardens and moved the wheels of small mills and home oil mills. Drinking water, that people called "health water" arrived in the city channeled through earthenware tubes, to power, among others, the famous fountain of Magiargé.

But the real treasure jealously guarded this place is the exclusive palm grove. In fact, Bordighera is the world's only place where, at a such northern latitude (43 ° 47 '), Dactylifera Phoenix palms are born spontaneously, the very same palms of oases of Africa and the Middle East. The people have always believed that it was the patron saint of the city, St Ampelio, who brought them from Tébaïde when he arrived on our rocks.

More likely they were unknowingly sowed by Phoenician and Arab pirates from North Africa during their invasions, and thanks to a unique micro-climate the stunning palm grove slowly took shape. "A Cumpagnia d'à Parmura" (the Company of the Palm) is an association representing the heirs of the former «parmurà», the legendary farmers who climbed on the highest palm trees to tie the foliage in order to get the "Semeli», brighter leaves which were skillfully woven to obtain the «Parmureli».

Save the palm grove, and the Bèodo that houses it, is the goal of the Company. To this end she created a small nursery to restock the palm grove of new plants every year. In the first months of 1884 Claude Monet went there many times to paint various landscapes along the river Sasso: the palm grove, olive trees and citrus with their bright colors, immersed in an intense light, delight to such a degree that the viewer can almost grasp it with his five senses. Discovering the treasures of Bèodo, this place which profoundly marks the landscape of Bordighera since 550 years, will prove an adventure for visitors.

A Cumpagnia d'à Parmura

MEDITERRANEAN FLORA AND MONTE NERO



Mediterranean flora is a complex silence that seems motionless but the truth is otherwise: in April suddenly appears white, yellow, pink and blue, like unexpected wisps.

It is the time of the wrinkled cysts and the rose of St Giovanni, climbing on shrubs and perennial lute with sarsaparilla, while the acrid smell of helichrysum is diffused among juniper's leaves that have learned to grow on the dry sand.

Rosemary' flowers have already passed and those of thyme are still alive. A rock of sandstone, a space of light, a truce among plants: and yet there are lavender, serapidi, fabulous ofridi and tiny orchids we never would have dreamed.

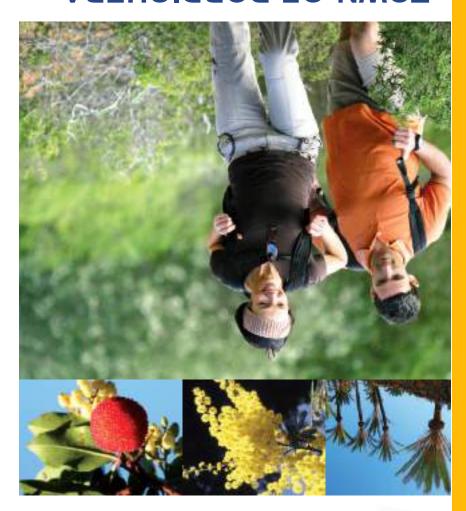
We keep on following the narrow path and thin linen folds in your step, it finds its way among the phillyreas and alaternis and suddenly we see a thorny area covered with gold: make a halt and admire. Summer is approaching: the aromas are intense, heat wave overwhelms the wild fennel, the sun shines bright thorugh the leaves of myrtle; the brief circle of colors comes to an end. The summer progresses and matures fruit.

On Monte Nero arbutus tree takes on the colors of the Italian flag: green leaves, small white flowers and red round berries.

Doc. Marco Alberti

AND ENGLISH PEOPLE ON TRAILS OF CLARENCE BICKNELL

TOWN OF BORDIGHERA





> INFORMATIONS

ALPINE ITALIAN CLUB SECTION OF BORDIGHERA Email: caibordighera@caibordighera.it - http://www.caibordighera.it/

/ittorio Emanuele Street, 172 - 18012 Bordighera - Tel +39 0184 262 322

COOPERATIVE «STRADE» - LIGURIA DA SCOPRIRE Q. Mansuino Street, 12 - 18038 Sanremo (IM) - Tel +39 0183 290213 Email: info@liguriadascoprire.it - http://www.stradedascoprire.it/

> ALSO WORTH VISITING IN BORDIGHERA

VILLA REGINA MARGHERITA

Fondation Terruzzi - Romana Street, 34/36 - 18012 Bordighera (IM) Tel +39 0184 276111 - Email: info@ftvm.it http://www.fondazioneterruzzivillamargherita.it/

POMPEO MARIANI FOUNDATION

Fontana Vecchia Street, 7 - 18012 Bordighera (IM) Tel +39 0184 265556 - Email: fond.pmariani@tiscali.it http://www.fondazionepompeomariani.com/

MUSEUM LIBRARY CLARENCE BICKNELL

Romana street, 39 - 18012 Bordighera (IM) - Tel +39 0184 263694 Email: bicknell@istitutostudiliguri.191.it - http://www.iisl.it/

PALLANCA EXOTIC GARDEN

Madonna della Ruota Street, 1 - 18012 Bordighera (IM) Tel +39 0184 266347 - Email: giardino@pallanca.it - www.pallanca.it

VILLA GARNIER

Garnier Sreet, 12 - 18012 Bordighera (IM) Tel. +39 0184 261833 - Email: villagarnier@alice.it

PROVINCIA DI IMPERIA STL Riviera dei Fiori 147, Viale Matteotti 18100 Imperia tel +39 0184 59059 fax +39 0184 507649 info@visitrivieradeifiori.it

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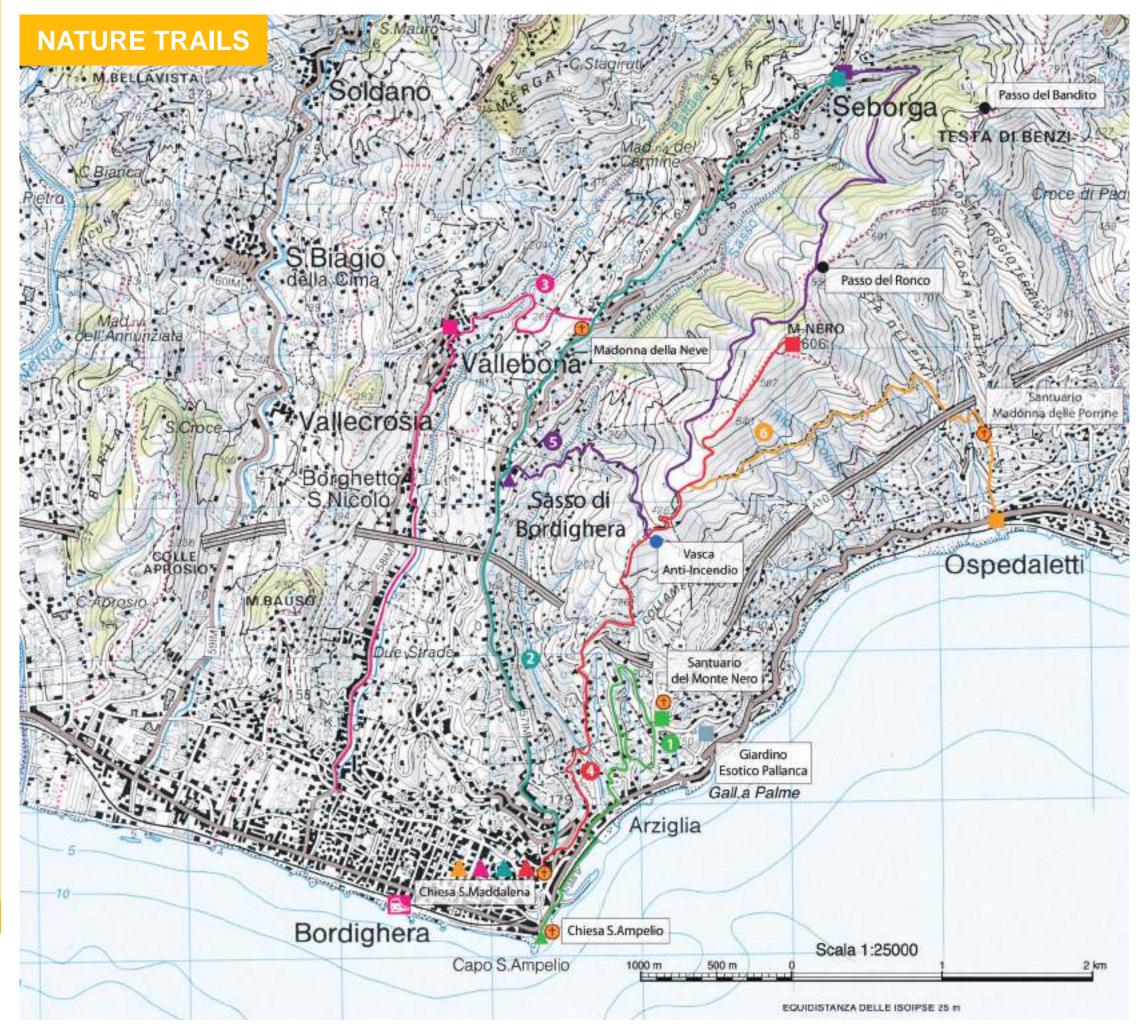
LIGURIA



The City Council of Bordighera and Imperia Province are not responsible for damages or accidents on the trails generated by inappropriate behavior on the part of hikers and / or caused by an inappropriate choice of equipment. Photo credits: Fotalia, Aldo Avagnina, Claudio Covini, Angela Rossignoli e Marco Macchi - Graphic design and creation by Mattia Riello.

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ON TRAILS OF CLARENCE BICKNELL AND ENGLISH PEOPLE



During the second half of the nineteenth century a large community of foreigners, mostly English, used to stay in Bordighera to enjoy its natural beauty, lush vegetation and scenery offered by the landscape where the sea almost crept into the wilderness. Among these foreigners, stands the figure of Clarence Bicknell, an Anglican minister, sensitive painter, naturalist and botanist. It is precisely in search of charming places that foreigners traveled these trails and mule tracks surrounded by an exotic atmosphere created by the large number of palm cultivated among the olive trees, citrus and Mediterranean vegetation perched on the steeper slopes.

The walks and hikes present in this project can run through the same routes and enjoy the scenery of great beauty, even if altered by the construction or degradation that followed the burning of Montenero.

Equipped with hiking boots, sticks (very useful for roads carved by water) and a good training, we invite you to walk into these places with the same spirit of pursuit of beauty and harmony with the nature.

> NATURE TRAILS



The first three routes, consisting of loose mule tracks and lanes, can reach in a few hours from the sea the hinterland of Bordighera and its fractions: Sasso Borghetto San Nicolò, and the two villages of Seborga e Vallebona. The hiking routes 4, 5 and 6, more laborious, unfold on the paths around the slopes of Montenero, among oaks, pinewoods with ample views of coastal landscapes, such a beautiful balcony overlooking the

> URBAN TRAILS



Three urban trails, from the Via Romana and Bordighera's old town, will lead you through green cultivated terraces, beautiful gardens, olive groves, palm trees, broom and mimosa. Within minutes you will leave the noise of the city to immerse yourself in tranquility and soothing countryside, accompanied by birdsong, where the eye lands on exotic views.





Pompeo Mariani VIA BEODO VIA TROGLIO MADONNETTA CIRCONVALLAZIONE Porta della Maddalena MADDALENA del Capo

MAPS LEGEND > NATURE TRAILS 1 - From Bordighera to Monte Nero Sanctuary From Bordighera to Sasso and Seborga 3 - From Bordighera to Madonna della Neve and Vallebona 4 - From Bordighera to Monte Nero 5 - From Sasso to Passo del Ronco and Seborga 6 - From Bordighera to Ospedaletti TRAIL N°1 TRAIL N°2 TRAIL N°3 TRAIL N°4 TRAIL N°5 TRAIL N°6 ▲ TRAIL START TRAIL END PASSO DEL RONCO FIRE WATER TANK CHURCH / SANCTUARY TRAIN STATION > URBAN TRAILS 1 - From via Romana to via dei Colli Villas and hotels of the 19th Century 2 - From via Romana to via dei Colli Carillon's path 3 - The Beodo trail SCENIC POINT OF VIEW PLACES OF INTEREST URBAN TRAILS