



SUSPENDED BETWEEN LAND AND WATER From Ravenna to Ferrara



Ravenna, Mausoleo di Teodorico

Ravenna and **Ferrara** are brought together in one pleasing journey. These are two centres of art with UNESCO World Heritage recognition, rich in unmissable details: exhibitions, museums, monuments, churches; even those who prefer their views to be natural will find it fascinating to pedal through the pinewoods of Ravenna and the seaside, through the highlights of the Po Delta Park, along the embankments of the rivers Lamone and Reno, skirting alongside the watery zones like Pialassa della Baiona or the lagoons of Comacchio and Argenta. This is an invitation to a voyage through classic flavours like piadina romagnola, crescioni, passatelli in brodo, salama da sugo, and tastes from the waters - fish of the sea and eels of the lagoons - an invitation to discover a cuisine that is both healthy and tasty.

4 GPS + ROAD BOOK www.ferrarabike.com Technical notes

Depart: Ravenna, Parco Logg. Lombardesca

Arrive: Ferrara, Piazza Savonarola

Length: 126,610 km

Difficulty level: suitable for everyone. Level route mainly along minor roads with little traffic. Some long stretches on dirt track.

Railways

Ravenna/Ferrara

Bicycle transport available.

Please check timetables and availability.

Info: 892021 • www.trenitalia.com



Ravenna: Via Salara, 8
tel. 0544 35755
www.turismo.ravenna.it

Parco Delta del Po Emilia Romagna:
tel. 0533 314003 • www.parcodeltapo.it

Comacchio: Via Mazzini, 4 • tel. 0533 314154

Ferrara: Castello Estense • tel. 0532 299303
www.ferrarainfo.com

NB. The Po Delta Park is situated between the provinces of Ravenna and Ferrara, and has many visitor trails.



Ravenna has Unesco World Heritage status for its Early Christian monuments

FURTHER INFORMATION

Ravenna is a magical city of culture and of the sea, with monuments included on the UNESCO world heritage list. About 1500 years ago Ravenna was three times a capital city, richly adorned by Galla Placidia, Teodoric, Teodora and Justinian, with works of art and treasures that have withstood the millennia; the atmosphere of its historic buildings, the golden light in the basilicas and in the workshops of the mosaic artists, the reflection of its bell-towers along the waters of the canal port, all make Ravenna an unforgettable city in touch with all its souls: the Gothic, Byzantine, Mediaeval, Venetian, modern and contemporary.

Must-sees: Mausoleum of Teodoric, churches of Sant'Apollinare in Classe, Sant'Apollinare Nuovo and S. Vitale, Mausoleum of Galla Placidia, Tomb of Dante.

A STRONG LINK

Ravenna and Ferrara are linked by strong historic ties and common traits; but, divided by a struggle between two bishops, the cities had different destinies: Ferrara, capital of a feudal state, Ravenna, ancient imperial capital. But history finished up bringing them back together under the domination of Rome and both were enriched by innumerable churches and convents. Ravenna, like Ferrara, is also a city of the sea with well-equipped beaches, it also boasts a wide green area which matches with Ferrarese territory: the **Po Delta Park** is a joint project between the two provinces, and offers various excursions among protected wetlands, reserves, freshwater and sea-water lagoons, woodlands, and salt pans.



The Ravenna - Punta Marina Terme cycle path

After a visit to the centre of **Ravenna**, find yourself near the M.A.R. or the Loggetta Lombardesca (which houses temporary exhibitions), and leave the city to the east and towards the sea, over a good stretch of cycle path to **Punta Marina Terme**, a beach resort in among the pinewoods with a spa facility right on the beach. The route crosses the shady area of the pinewoods with a convenient track for cycles.

After Punta Marina Terme comes **Marina di Ravenna** with its little port to the south of the canal port, which we cross by the ferry boat at the Dalmatian Quay (Molo Dalmazia). The ferry reaches land in **Porto Corsini** on via Molo San Filippo. From there we proceed along the cycle track at the edge of the pine woods all the way to **Marina Romea**. Behind this beach resort, bordered by the San Vitale pinewoods to the west, is the Pialassa della Baiona, a extensive lagoon which gets fresh water from the canal and the river Lamone, and salt water from the sea.

We reach the mouth of the Lamone and cross it by the bridge, the cycle path goes on to the hamlet of **Casalborsetti**. Stay on the road as far as the embankment of the River Reno, crossed here on the SS 309 Romea main road (be careful on the bridge), and enter the province of Ferrara.

Proceed with care.



Comacchio and its lagoons

Many-faceted Comacchio is known not only for its architectural centre but also for the extensive lagoon system that has become a historical and natural reserve that can be viewed from trails on embankments and canals, on foot, by bike or by motorboat. A paradise for birdwatchers, its fishermen's buildings have been conserved and can be visited, where once the locals fished for eels.

Over the Romea bridge we continue along the opposite embankment of the Reno.

The journey continues to offer lots of interest especially from nature: continue along Via Argine Sinistro Reno, between the river, to the left, and there is a splendid view over the lagoon to the right. Valle Furlana is the southernmost part of the famous Comacchio lagoons, between Sant'Alberto and the Romea man road, a sanctuary for birdwatching with numerous species. After the Stazi-one Oasi di Volta Scirocco there is the **Oasi di Boscoforte**, a splendid sand bar which reaches out into the waters of the famous Comacchio lagoons.

Stay on the embankment as far as Prato Pozzo, after which leave the Reno for a short while, then back onto it as far as Madonna del Bosco.

Here we turn right for Anita, then follow the panoramic Argine Agosta, along Via Valle Umana.

This route leads to **Argenta** across the lands of the Bonifica del Mantello land reclamation, and from there to **Ferrara**: at first we use the Argenta - Comacchio route (n° 9), then the one from Ferrara to Argenta (n° 4), both of which are to be taken in reverse order.

The Comacchio Lagoons

