



## THE GARDEN VALLEY

You can find this point of interest in Path1 - Stage 2

### INFORMATION

**Position** Il giardino della Valle is placed in the ending part of the torrent valley Garrovo, where a linear stretch of about 250 meters is developing

**Paving material** The route of the Giardino della Valle is partially cobbled and partially is an unsurfaced way; for the most part is made by steps

**Architectural Barriers** There are several steps along the route which goes up to a garden; also present is a wooden bridge used to cross the torrent Garrovo. The entire internal route precedes two other bridges which are not considered in our itinerary.

**The entrance** It is possible to enter the Giardino della Valle (as our route suggests) from Adda street, through a wrought iron gate with two steps going down which overlook a little landing followed by two steps on the left side, or from Plinio street/Monte Santo street (the exit mentioned in our route), through a wooden gate followed by nine steps going downhill

### Services

### Entertainment and Catering

### DESCRIPTION

*(Silvia Fasana)*

At the beginning of the Eighties of the previous century, on the borderline with the big park of Villa d'Este, towards the village, the ending part of the valley of the torrent Garrovo was a valley of briars, left to negligence and degradation. To make the situation worse a big amount of rubbish piled up on the right side of the torrent shore, making it a kind of garbage dump open pit. A sensible and gentle lady, Ida (Pupa) Lonati Frati (better known as "Nonna Pupa") who lives in the surroundings, looked at that destruction with sadness every time she went home, walking down Street Plinio. She decided to do something. She asked the City the permission to clear up the area, by taking away the briars and the rubbish, helped initially by the grandchildren Michele and Giulia and after by other relatives and friends. Then she began to dig up the ground, which was barren, dusty, rocky, by enriching it with the soil picked in the nearby woods and with the compound she got from the vegetable remains, coming from the public park upkeep, given to her by the waste collectors. Step by step she transplanted shrubs, flowers and some fruit trees, partially bought and partially given by friends and acquaintance. Taking advantage from the conformity of the ground, Pupa has shaped a real route, has trodden several paths, has built alleys, steps, flower beds, little bridges and also a rock garden. In the central area she has created a little pond with goldfishes and water plants. Nonna Pupa was able to save and to use again different plants which the municipal administration used to replace in the flower beds because they were withered. The old benches thrown away by the municipal administration adequately painted again and repaired offer an enjoyable break to the persons who walk in the green. The example of Pupa has involved some of her friends who helped her in the clearing up of other area in the surroundings; in this way the Giardino della Valle was created. Today it is embellished with nice wooden sculptures made by the local sculptor Giosue' Aramini, also known as "Gio". The homonymous Association, started in the year 2001 in order to grant the preservation, the upkeep and the improvement of this little green area, organizes every year several events, educational activities, cultural and artistic occasions with the participation of painters, poets, literary men, musicians, photographers inside the garden.