



CERNOBBIO – PATH 1 – FISHERS, QUEENS, AND SILK WEAVERS

STAGE 3- FROM THE GIARDINO DELLA VALLE (GARDEN VALLEY) TO THE ANCIENT BORDERLINE OF THE THREE MUNICIPALITIES

INFORMATION

Departure place Cernobbio, Giardino della Valle

Arrival place the Ancient Borderline of the Three Municipalities

Route type Urban and tourist-excursion mixed route

Total length 1200 metres

Time on foot 25 minutes

Difficulty Tourist-excursion hill route and after downhill and presence of mule tracks and cobbled steps

Point of interest Chiesa di S. Nicola a Casnedo (Church of St. Nicholas in Casnedo) , Villa d'Este , Villa Pizzo, Casa "Santa Maria della Pace" (The House of St. Mary of Peace), Antico Confine dei tre Comuni (The Ancient Borderline of The Three Municipalities)

Rise About 50 metres

Maximum altitude 300 metres above sea level

Paving material Asphalt, cobbled steps, tiles,

Public means of transport used to reach the departure point No means of transport

Public means of transport from the arrival point Yes, see the bus websites

Parking at the departure point No parking

Description

At the exit of the Giardino della Valle from the gate on Monte Santo Street, we take on the right this cobbled street and we go up among the enclosures of some villas and buildings of ancient rural origins. After 50 metres the rise becomes steep; the last stretch is characterized by 37 low steps up to the crossover with the paved Libertà Street. Here there is the bus station of the C28 Como- Rovenna route. We turn on the left downhill along Libertà Street; we cross the bridge on the torrent Garrovo and we go on up to Angelo Nosedà Street, after having crossed the street (pay attention because there are no zebra crossings). We go on, keeping to the left for about 75 metres; till the drop in Casnedo Street, for the first part with cobbles and 24 steps, after turning on the right, it becomes flat and paved, up to the flight of 10 steps which, on the right, takes to the churchyard of **the Parrocchiale di S. Nicola a Casnedo** . The holy building stands on a noble oratory under the protection of the family Perti (who owned the adjoining villa) named after the Saint of Milan; the devotion to St. Nicholas dates back to the use of the little community to attend to the church services, located in the ancient monastery of the Assumption in Cernobbio, closed in 1784. From the churchyard we go down along Monte Grappa Street; after about 50 metres two halfgates ,of one meter staggered, block the access to motor vehicles. The first curve of the street is a very viewpoint on the first lake basin from which, looking on the right, we can admire one of the most well-known and glamorous high class buildings of the Como lake: **Villa d'Este**, international and well-known exclusive hotel . In the upper part of the park it is possible to see fortifications clinging to the rock built by the countess Vittoria Peluso in the first years of the 19th century in order to remember the victories of the husband Domenico Pino, Napoleonic lieutenant, during the military campaign in Spain. Beside Villa D'Este, reclining in the bay, it is possible to see the cape where **Villa Pizzo** with its lush garden in Italian Style can be glimpsed. We turn on the right, going down on a paved road full of holes among enclosures of wonderful villas realized at the turn of the 20th Century, till we arrive in Valle Armeè Street. We cross the street (pay attention because there are no zebra crossings) and we go down for about 30 metres; on the right of a drinking fountain, we lead to Parini Street, to steep cobbled steps downhill (94 steps) till we arrive to the little widening in front of the entrance of the **House "Santa Maria della Pace"** in the hamlet Stimianico and in front of the entrance of Villa Cicogna . In 1899 the rich merchant Giuseppe Gabba of Milan, at the time owner of the Villa Cicogna in Stimniaco, gave a portion of his property to Father Luigi Guanella who together with the sisters inaugurated his Casa Femminile (Home for Women's). Today the Home has been sold to a private company, which goes

on with this project. We go along Libertà Street downhill keeping to the right side (pay attention to the parked cars on the pavement in the first stretch) and going along the Greggio torrent which after a first stretch has been covered in order to realize a parking, flanked from a pavement made of porphyry. At the end of the parking, we cross the street and we walk through a pavement made of tiles and porphyry, before crossing Plinio Street, where in a building, today seat of the bank Credito Cooperativo di Cantu', just beside the cash dispenser on the right, a little niche accommodates a picture of the Madonna del Bisbino protected by a grid. In this area there was the old bridge on the torrent Greggio where in 1929 the borderlines of Cernobbio, S. Stefano Square and Rovenna met, then united under a single municipality. This area was known as the hamlet Crotti, because 3 taverns existed there at the turn of the 20th Century.