



GENOA'S FORTS AND WALLS: AN URBAN PARK  
a walk through nature and history

  
lovingenova  
OUTDOOR

en



from left:  
Fratello Minore,  
Forte Sperone,  
Forte Diamante

## THE PARCO DELLE MURA AND RING OF FORTS

### Just a few minutes from the town centre



Genoa's charm, "superb for its men and for its walls" as Petrarch defined it 700 years ago, resides in a dramatically contrasting landscape and in the city's many faces: Genoa of sea and rocks,

Genoa of old lanes and historical buildings, Genoa of hills and woods, Genoa of forts and city walls... Genoa the theatre: for at least 26 centuries the bay in the Old Port has acted as a natural stage, with hills rising up to close it in a sweet embrace forming the perfect set design. Up in the hills you are immediately immersed in a natural environment that is deeply Mediterranean but has sweet alpine scents: it is a landscape of trees, city walls, beautiful views, where the only sounds are those of the wind blowing over the grassy fields and birds flitting among the pine trees.

This is the landscape at **Parco delle Mura**, the Protected Nature Area of local interest: the walls that give the park its name are in fact the so-called *New Walls* (Mura Nuove), built in the 1600s to fortify city and port defences. The walls are preserved in very good conditions and encircle Genoa in a giant embrace, almost invisible to those who live and work down below in the city streets. They are an urban and historical monument, both unique and invaluable, and represent a magnificent rendezvous between town and nature - untamed and wild in places - which surrounds the city. Since 2008 the park safeguards 617 hectares of hillside straddling the Val Bisagno and the Val Polcevera, which are the main city valleys. As well as the walls dating to the 1600s, the Parco delle Mura also boasts several military forts built between the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries and safeguards the natural habitat of the area, home to several species of protected flora and fauna, either rare or endemic.

### INCREDIBLE...BUT TRUE!

One of the features that make Genoa a simply unique city: you can reach the Parco delle Mura by car in just a few minutes from the town centre. The sensation is that of being enveloped by untouched nature and breathtaking views. In every season, and certainly on a clear day, don't forget to glance southwards, where you will see the Island of Corsica.

### ! How to get there

#### THE ZECCA-RIGHI FUNICULAR

Every 30 minutes (approximately) from Piazza della Zecca stopping at San Nicola, Santuario della Madonnetta, San Simone. Regular AMT bus ticket.

#### BY BUS

From Piazza Manin take bus n. 64  
From Brignole train station bus n. 39 and 40. From Principe train station bus n. 38 followed by the Granarolo bus n. 355. Regular AMT bus ticket. For information Ph. 848 000 030 [www.amt.genova.it](http://www.amt.genova.it)





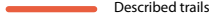







#### THE GENOA-CASELLA MOUNTAIN RAILWAY

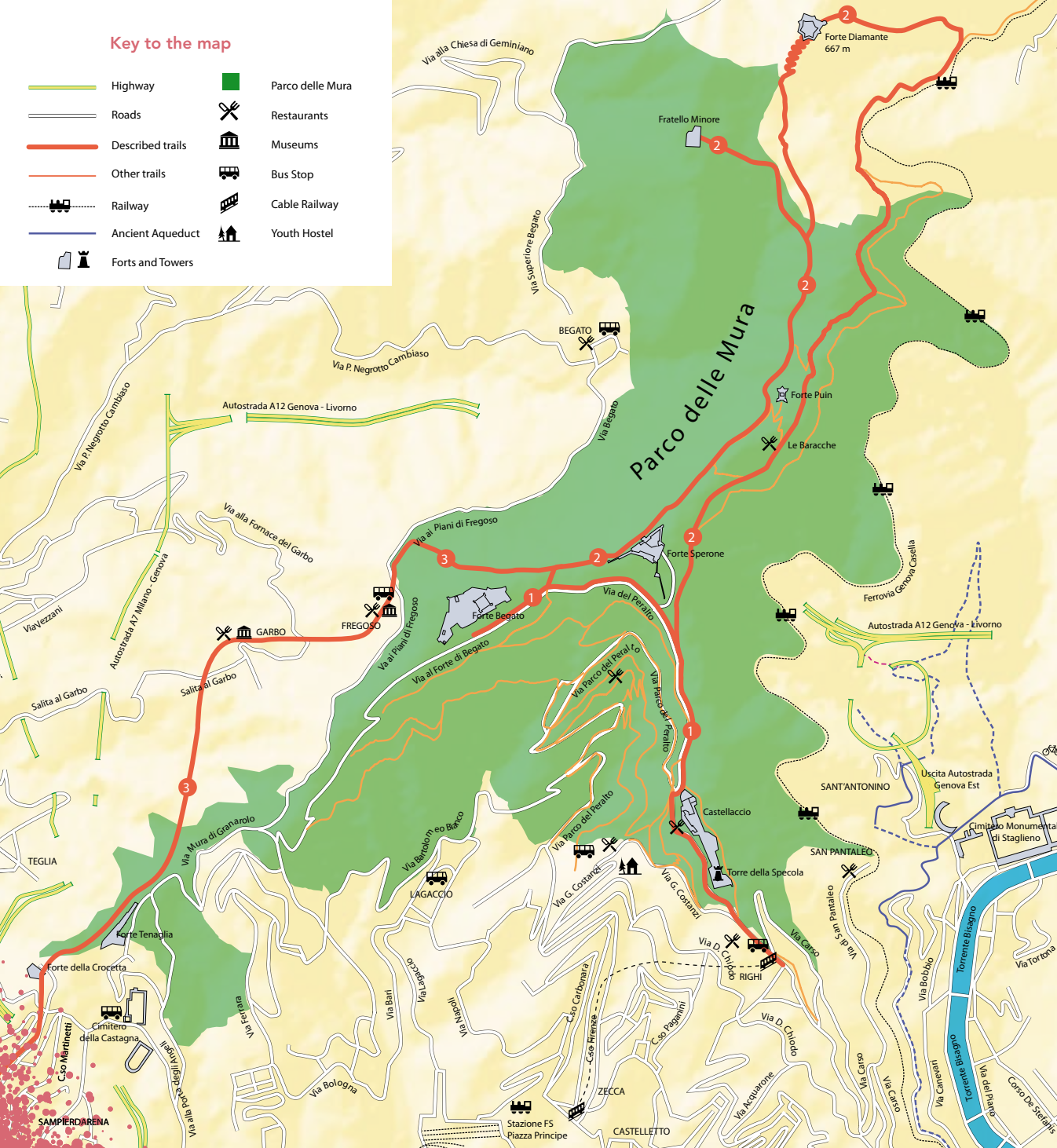
The Genoa-Casella narrow gauge train departs from Piazza Manin. Stops at San Pantaleo, Sant'Antonino and Trenasco. For information Ph. 848 000 030 [www.ferroviagenovacasella.it](http://www.ferroviagenovacasella.it)

#### ON FOOT OR BY BICYCLE

*From the Aquarium (Old Port):*  
Piazza Banchi - Castelletto - Salita San Gerolamo - Salita E. Cavallo - Righi  
*From Zecca:*  
Salita Carbonara - Salita San Nicolò Salita Superiore San Simone - Righi.  
*From Principe train station:*  
Salita San Rocco - Salita Granarolo - Righi.

## Key to the map

	Highway		Parco delle Mura
	Roads		Restaurants
	Described trails		Museums
	Other trails		Bus Stop
	Railway		Cable Railway
	Ancient Aqueduct		Youth Hostel
	Forts and Towers		



## EATING AND DRINKING NEAR THE FORTS

### Agriturismo dū Sui

via L.T. Belgrano 13/15 Cremeno,  
Bolzaneto - Ph. 010 717 0068

### Agriturismo la Pergola

cima S. Pantaleo 50, Righi  
Ph. 010 839 9344

### Ostaia de Baracche

via delle Baracche, Righi  
Ph. 010 272 5313

### Ostaia du Richetto

via del Peralto 3/r, Righi  
Ph. 010 272 5411

### Ostello della Gioventù

via G. Costanzi 10  
Ph. 010 242 2457

### Osteria al Garbo

salita al Garbo 39, Garbo Rivarolo,  
Ph. 010 740 2686

### Ristorante La Polveriera

via Parco del Peralto 30 Righi,  
Ph. 010 242 5389

### Ristorante La Rosa del Parco

via G. Costanzi, Oregina  
Ph. 010 242 5375

### Ristorante Montallegro

Mura delle Chiappe 28/r Righi,  
Ph. 010 219 673 - [www.montallegro.com](http://www.montallegro.com)

### Trattoria Arvigo

via Cremeno 31 - Cremeno, Bolzaneto  
Ph. 010 717 0001

### Trattoria della Costa

via Costa di Begato 6 - Begato, Rivarolo  
Ph. 010 740 3627

### Trattoria La Baita del Diamante

via Forte Diamante 11 - Trensasco  
Ph. 010 836 9393

### Trattoria Luigina

via ai Piani di Fregoso 14e Fregoso,  
Rivarolo - Ph. 010 242 9594



from left:  
port of the Mura,  
Torre Specola,  
Forte Diamante

## 1. FROM RIGHI TO FORTE BEGATO

From Righi (funicular terminus) to Forte Castellaccio, up to Forte Sperone and then down to Forte Begato.

### Righi

The route starts at 300 metres above sea level in Largo Giorgio Caproni, outside the Zecca-Righi funicular terminus, moving up along Mura delle Chiappe past the Astronomical Observatory (Osservatorio Astronomico del Righi), to reach the



### INFORMATION

**Length:** 3.5 km

**Duration:** 1-2 hours,  
according to pace

**Departure points:** Largo  
Giorgio Caproni Righi  
(funicular terminus)

**Arrival point:** Forte Begato,  
entrance gate in Via Mura  
di Begato

junction with Via Giovanni Costanzi. The itinerary continues along Via del Peralto, where the built-up area of the city ends. A bridge takes you across the moat and the first defence wall of Forte Castellaccio, leading you into a wooded area, which skirts this almost hidden, yet very near, elongated building overlooking the hill.

### Forte Castellaccio

Built in the 14<sup>th</sup> century as a fortified tower "with walls and moats", the fort was subsequently modified in the 1700s and again in the 1800s under Savoia family rule.

Low and elongated, this fort is hardly visible from afar and remains hidden by the surrounding woods. Clearly visible is the Specola Tower, built between 1817 and 1820, where capital punishment sentences were carried out. Nearby is the famous tavern *Ostaia du Richetto*, located beside the *Casetta Rossa* (Little Red House) temporary seat of the Park Information Point. The road widens out here onto the wall ramparts, giving a clear view of the angular mass that is Forte Sperone. To the right the view sweeps from the sea in the direction of Portofino and over to the Bisagno valley; further eastwards Mount Fasce rises up, and in the background the Genoese

### ! BELOW THE ANCIENT WALLS - AN ADVENTURE PARK!

Close to Villa Quartara, in a well-kept and suitably equipped wood, there is a new **Adventure Park**. Fun and excitement for young people aged 6 to 100. A high-ropes garden, with several different courses, is a special way to get in contact with nature. Qualified staff provide instructions and safety equipment, then you move from tree to tree and feel like a true mountain climber. Open from April to November, 10 a.m. to sunset.  
Info: parcoavventura.it  
Phone: 331 760 7496

### ! THE SWEET FRAGRANCE OF NATURE AND...BISCUITS

The air is fresh and clean in Righi mainly because of the northerly wind that sweeps through the woods. In May, when the broom flowers are blooming, the air is filled with a fantastic scent. But there is also another fragrance that lingers in the park, a very traditional Genoese aroma which should definitely be "savoured". The mouth-watering fragrance comes from the Panarello biscuit factory, which makes traditional *Lagaccio* biscuits and *pandolce* (typical Christmas fruit loaf). Each morning the batches of delicious freshly baked products fill the air with irresistible smells. It is a very cheap and fat-free way to have breakfast!



from left:  
Forte Begato,  
particular of  
Forte Sperone,  
Righi  
Astronomical  
Observatory

### ! RIGHI ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY

Thanks to the Castellaccio Hunting Club the renovation of the Astronomical Observatory was made possible in 2001. Today it is open to all who wish to approach the fascinating world of astronomy. The observatory, which can be easily reached with the Zecca-Righi funicular, organises guided tours both during the day and in the evening, astronomy courses, lectures and telescope star-gazing for single visitors and schools.

#### Righi Astronomical Observatory

Mura delle Chiappe, 44  
Ph. 010 272 5544 - 010 809 159  
Mob. 347 585 9662 - Mob. 349 610 9467  
[www.osservatoriorighi.it](http://www.osservatoriorighi.it)

### ! JOGGING CIRCUITS AND OBSTACLE COURSES

The jogging circuits and obstacle courses located in the Parco delle Mura are very popular with local people. The most well known track leaves from the square near the Osteria del Ricetto tavern and leads up to Forte Begato along a 1.5 km route ending in a slight climb. The second track leaves from La Rosa del Parco restaurant (n. 40 terminus) and ends just after the La Polveriera restaurant along a 3 km track, which is a nice flat route through the woods.

Apennine peaks and Mount Antola can be seen.

Continuing up the hill along Via del Peralto and into the sparse grove, the view opens to the south, offering a wonderful sight of the city and the port. On a clear winter's day the Island of Corsica can be seen far out on the horizon. A fork in the road, close to the walls, leads onto a small pathway on the right, which leads up to the drawbridge and the main entrance into Forte Sperone.

#### Forte Sperone

This building is located on the highest point of the Mura Nuove (New Walls) at over 450 metres above sea level on a triangular piece of hillside that surrounds Genoa.

It is an imposing fort built on different levels and heights; erected in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, it was then extended in the 1600s and again during the war against the Austrians in 1747 and once more towards the end of the 1700s.



The Savoia family finally transformed Sperone into a complete and

complex fortress. As we descend the same pathway from which we arrived, the route rejoins Via del Peralto and proceeds westward. We pass by a breach in the walls to the right, which is closed off by a gate, known as Cancellò dell'Avvocato (the Lawyer's Gateway) the starting point of the pathway to Forte Puin. The paved, tree-lined road continues for a few hundred metres and leads to Forte Begato.

#### Forte Begato

This building, dating back to the 1800s, has a square base and four corner bastions. It accommodated Austrian prisoners during the 1915-1918 war, and during the Second World War it was used as an ammunition depot and housed anti-aircraft artillery.

The fort has recently been renovated in view of a possible re-opening. Overlooking the Polcevera valley to the west and Genoa to the east, it offers a magnificent view of the old town centre and also of the modern city, the port, the lighthouse and the Ligurian Sea.



### ! FOXES, SQUIRRELS, HAWKS...

The woods and fields that surround the forts are home to a variety of animal species which, however, are not easily seen during the day. Badgers, weasels, foxes and squirrels live in the woods and scrubland. Many nests can be found within the actual walls that are home to kestrels, barn owls and other smaller birds; reptiles such as the whip snake and all types of lizard live and hunt among the wall rocks and the terraced strips of land; squirrels and dormice feed on chestnuts and pine nuts. Some species of migrating birds, such as bee eaters and hoopoes, rest happily within the park after their long Mediterranean crossing. Short-toed eagles and honey-buzzards take advantage of the upward currents to swoop over the mountain crests.

### ! BARDS AT THE FORT

In the 1990s Forte Sperone was the temporary summer residence for theatre performances and cultural events, which enjoyed a growing popularity due to the undeniable appeal the location offers, with dominating views over the city and port.




from left:  
Forte Sperone,  
Forte Puin,  
Forte Begato

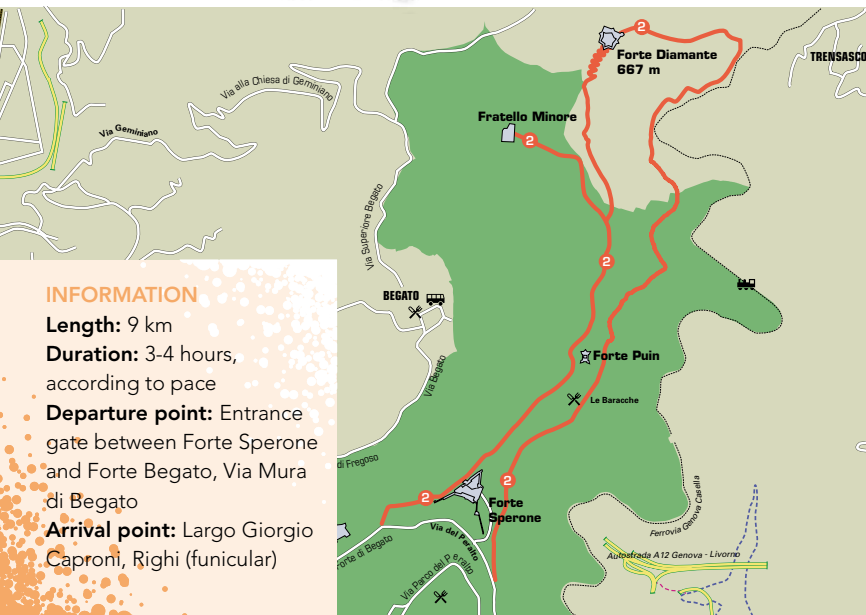
## 2. THE DIAMANTE RING

From Forte Sperone to Forte Diamante and back along Via delle Baracche path.



### Mura di Begato

Exit via the Mura Nuove (New Walls) across the Cancello dell'Avvocato (Lawyer's Gate) in the opening between Sperone and Begato Forts. Heading in a northerly direction towards the hills, the dirt track is marked with this symbol  and every now and then with historical signposts from the Sampierdarena – Diamante itinerary. Proceeding northwards, the path passes beneath



### INFORMATION

**Length:** 9 km  
**Duration:** 3-4 hours, according to pace  
**Departure point:** Entrance gate between Forte Sperone and Forte Begato, Via Mura di Begato  
**Arrival point:** Largo Giorgio Caproni, Righi (funicular)

Forte Sperone walls giving the route a very medieval feel! Walking towards the crest that divides the Polcevera valley from the Bisagno valley, until will reach Forte Puin.

### Forte Puin

The Puin was built between 1815 and 1831 on the remains of a former fort dating back to 1742 and is located on an extremely panoramic viewpoint. It has been private property since 1963 and restored more than once, even if the style is somewhat bizarre! The name Puin may come from the nearby shack called *du Puin*, del Padrino in Italian, which means "of the Godfather".

The landscape is poor in trees, the grass is low the silence is broken only by the north wind and by the chirp of some birds. In the brush it is possible to catch herd grazing on the rocky fields. Walking ahead the path forks and it is possible to proceed towards the hills of the Fortesses of Due Fratelli (Two Brothers).

### Due Fratelli

From the spot where the ruined Fratello Maggiore or Big Brother fort once rose up and where the Fratello Minore or Little Brother still exists, the Polcevera valley



can be seen in its entirety, along with the Sanctuary of Madonna della Guardia, the mountain crests around the Bocchetta Pass, the background of the Western Riviera right up to the Maritime Alps. Returning to the main track after a visit to Fratello Minore, the road leads onto the Bisagno valley slope and continues straight and flat towards Forte Diamante.



### Great Idea! ALTERNATIVE ROUTES

**From Fratello Minore** down towards the Geminiano hamlet and Bolzaneto taking path ; or towards Begato, San Giovanni Battista and Teglia via the  path followed by 

**From Via delle Baracche**, barely marked pathways head off and lead down to the Val Bisagno neighbourhoods.

At the end of Via delle Baracche is the Trenasco pass. Cross the paved road and walk in a northerly direction on a dirt track along the crest marked with a  and then with a  which leads into the village of Pino Soprano and proceeds along the right hand slope of the Bisagno valley towards Creto.



from left:  
Forte Diamante,  
via delle Baracche,  
Forte Puin

## ! SECRET PASSAGES AND TUNNELS

One of the biggest mysteries surrounding Genoa's forts is a much talked-about secret passage which, legend says, connects Forte Sperone to Forte Diamante. However, fort "experts" deny it exists: since the beginning of the 1800s the only road which linked the city to Forte Diamante passed through Forte Sperone, by means of a "secret door" that opened in the bulwark on the Polcevera side of the building.

## ! THE BUTTERFLY TRAIL

With the coming of spring rains the Parco delle Mura fields are covered with splendid multicoloured flowers and the grass abandons its burnished brown colour to take on a splendid bright green hue. It is the ideal environment for the short yet frenetic life of butterflies. The most striking are illustrated in the 14 panels which are to be found along the Butterfly Trail that leads from Osteria delle Baracche tavern towards Forte Puin. Among them we find the Vanessa species, the Swallowtail, and the surprising Hummingbird Hawk-Moth, which flies like a humming-bird beating its wings rapidly and resting perfectly still on the flowers of its choice to suck in the nectar with its long "beak".



## Forte Diamante

Diamante, or Diamond, is the perfect name for this impressive and solitary building; at 660 metres above sea level it is the highest and innermost of Genoa's Forts. The best finishing point for any excursion within the Parco delle Mura, the building rises up as the King of Genoa's Forts. In 1800 it housed Napoleon's French troops who were kept under siege by the Austrian-Piedmontese army. Between 1814 and 1820 intense activity was carried out by the army corps of engineers. Abandoned in 1914 and partially restored in 2005, it is still closed to

the public. The road leading up to Diamante is very striking especially on a clear night with a full moon: the surrounding landscape, open and bright, adds charm to the severe yet elegant bulk of this solitary building that rises up to meet the sky.

## Via delle Baracche

The return path is an easy walk, leading straight down in an easterly direction along a clearly visible yet barely marked path, up to the large and almost flat dirt track - called Via delle Baracche - leading

to the Trensasco pass, to the restaurant Trattoria Baita del Diamante and to a paved road. Taking Via delle Baracche in a southerly direction you go back up to Forte Sperone; follow the various signs, first a ✘ then a — and once more a ✘ together with a diamond shape ◆. The route passes through newly planted pine woods and also a lovely chestnut grove, a great place for a picnic, outdoor parties and open air events. To the bottom



left you can catch sight of the Casella mountain railway, which snakes through the pastures and fields, a fond reminder of those electric train sets that have kept children and parents occupied for generations. From here, parts of the medieval aqueduct can be seen and at as well as the lower Val Bisagno neighbourhood at the bottom of the valley. The road leads below the Osteria delle Baracche tavern to reach the Mura Nuove (New Walls); to return to Righi and the funicular terminus without walking along the paved road, take the outer slope along the walls onto the path marked with a red ✘ which passes next to Forte Castellaccio on the Bisagno valley side.

## ! ICE BEFORE THE ADVENT OF FREEZERS

Before freezers were invented, cold storage was made possible by storing snow and turning it into ice inside specially created "snow holes". These were literally holes

dug in the ground in very cold and shaded areas and filled with pressed fresh snow, protected by layers of straw and dry leaves.

The ice blocks that formed were then cut into "strips" and taken into town in canvas sacks on mule back. Around the Fratello Minore and Diamante Forts the remains of some very old snow holes can still be seen.





from left:  
Porta  
della Crocetta,  
Church of N.S.  
di Belvedere,  
mura di  
Forte Begato

### 3. FROM SAMPIERDARENA TO FORTE BEGATO

From Sampierdarena  
to Forte Begato  
and then  
to Forte  
Diamante

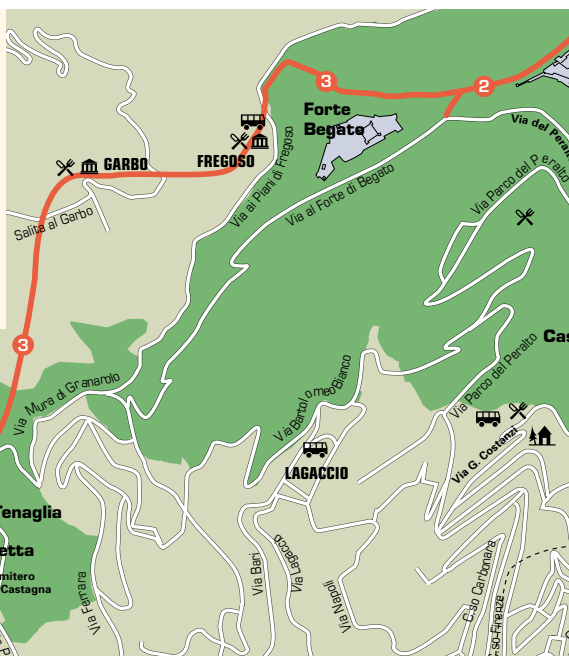


#### Salita Belvedere and forte Belvedere

From Corso Martinetti, halfway along  
Via Cantore, we run into Salita  
Belvedere, a tiny uphill lane  
or *creusa* which leads  
us to the church  
of N.S. di Belvedere  
dating to the 1600s.  
Once here, Forte


#### INFORMATION

**Length:** 6 km  
**Duration:** Around 3 hours  
**Departure point:** At the  
start of Salita Belvedere  
from Corso Martinetti,  
Sampierdarena  
**Arrival point:** Forte Begato  
entrance gate



Belvedere can be seen just a little further  
below towards the west.

The area was heavily armed as a  
defensive outpost for the upper Mura  
Nuove (New Walls) as early as 1747 and  
between 1815 and 1830 the Fort was  
built. Today the area houses a sports  
field, built in the '70s, but most of the  
original structure is still standing and can  
be clearly distinguished.  
Starting from the church, the road  
named Corso Belvedere follows the  
crest along the lower Polcevera valley  
up to a modern crossroads, after which  
an ancient pathway leads up to Forte  
Crocetta.

Pathway n. 3 leads to the Canello  
dell'Avvocato (Lawyer's Gateway), starting  
point for Pathway n. 2. These two paths  
together form one single itinerary leading  
from the sea right up to the highest of  
the Forts, the Diamante, signposted  
along the way by the Sampierdarena –  
Diamante signs and also with symbol .

#### Forte della Crocetta

Built on the site of an Augustinian  
monastery dating back to the 17<sup>th</sup>  
century, this is also the site of the  
Santissimo Crocifisso church. The fort,  
which today is partly inhabited by private  
owners, was built by the Savoia family

#### ! Great Idea! ALTERNATIVE ROUTES

- From Via Milano near the Ferry  
Terminal up the hill proceeding  
through Salita degli Angeli, Via  
alla Porta degli Angeli - Castagna  
Cemetery, Piazza E. Gandolfi,  
Salita V. Bersezio, Salita al forte  
della Crocetta.
- From Rivarolo up the hill walking  
through Salita del Garbo or by Via  
al Garbo

#### ! CHESTNUT GATHERING

The chestnut groves located on  
the northern slopes, which were  
once "cultivated" with care, appear  
today as vast strips of abandoned  
woodland where oak trees, young  
European Hornbeams and South  
European Flowering Ash trees are  
slowly returning the land to its natural  
state. Once when the countryside  
was more populated than today,  
terraced allotments surrounding small  
hillside rural hamlets were a common  
sight, mostly on the Polcevera valley  
slope. Today some of these cultivated  
terraces can still be seen, although  
they are now mostly vegetable  
patches for the Sunday gardener,  
simple gardens or pasture.





from left:  
Forte Tenaglia,  
Forte Begato,  
village of the  
Garbo

### ! NAPOLEON AT FORTE TENAGLIA

Once in a while someone brings up the story of “Napoleon’s Treasure”, which is apparently hidden within Forte Tenaglia. The treasure may really have existed. The problem is finding it, considering that during Napoleon’s time the fort was very different from today. Who knows, maybe someone discovered it during extension works carried out between 1815 and 1836...

### ! LE POLVERIERE

Along the Peralto road, where the route follows the hill closely at mid-crest, the gunpowder magazines can be seen: these stone buildings, which are surrounded and hidden by tall thick walls, attract glances and the curiosity of many passers-by as they are still in a very good state of preservation. They served as ammunition depots and were used up until the Second World War. In one of these buildings, which has been very well renovated and is flanked by other more modern and functional buildings as well as a large garden, a restaurant has taken up residence (which has the obvious name of La Polveriera - The Gunpowder Magazine) - it also organises meetings and congresses. Certainly a very good example of intelligent renovation and use of a historical building.

between 1818 and 1830. The “crocetta” or small cross that gives the fort its name is in fact an ancient crossroads. From the Crocetta Fort the small lane continues briefly as a dirt track then becomes a pathway through the woods. We proceed along the walls of the third fort in Sampierdarena, the Tenaglia.

### Forte Tenaglia

The name Tenaglia comes from the shape of the fort, described as an “Opera a Corno” a claw or pincers-shaped building. Permanently abandoned by the Army in 1979, the eastern side is adjacent to the Castagna cemetery and can hardly be seen from the pathway. As we continue into the woodland, among sheeps at pasture and small bridges crossing little streams that are often dry, the views through the trees span from the Val Polcevera hills and the Western Riviera right up to the Maritime Alps. A fork in the road leads up to the Granarolo Tower and proceeds into the hamlet of Garbo.

### Garbo

From the area where the church and the Museum of Rural History and Culture (Museo di Storia e Cultura Contadina) both stand, walk up along the second

half of Salita del Garbo. This is the pathway which connects the lower part of Rivarolo to the hidden Porta di Granarolo, a doorway within the Mura Nuove (New Walls), which is now closed up. Continue almost entirely on a dirt track that leads up to the plain named “Piani di Fregoso”, among the colourful rural houses of Fregoso.

### Fregoso

The mid-crest pathway presumably follows the route of the original, two-thousand year old Via Postumia, the ancient Roman highroad. We move along this narrow rural road for quite a distance until eventually the tarmac fades into a dirt track. A sharp hill leads us into a partially fenced chestnut grove, which proudly displays traces of its former glory, when the chestnut was the tree *par excellence* in this Apennine farming community. At the end of the wooded hill we then reach the tall external wall of Forte Begato.

### Forte Begato

Near the opening in the walls between the Begato and Sperone Forts we meet the second pathway, which reaches the distant and lofty Forte Diamante, while in the background the Puin and Fratello Minore Forts can be seen in all their splendour.

### ! MUSEUM OF RURAL HISTORY AND CULTURE IN GARBO

Small and totally submerged in a very rural and country setting despite the vicinity to a large city, the museum tells the tale of our ancestors and the often hard life they led for centuries working the land. From Thursday to Friday, 9,00 a.m. - 1,00 p.m., Saturday 10,00 a.m. - 7,00 p.m. Closed on Sunday and Monday. Salita al Garbo 43 Garbo, Rivarolo Ph. 010 740 1243 [www.museidigenova.it](http://www.museidigenova.it)





from left:  
Forte Geremia,  
Begato hamlet,  
Ancient Aqueduct

## 4. OTHER ITINERARIES

### The Ancient Aqueduct

The first section of the aqueduct was built in Roman times, on the valley floor at Giro del Fullo, between the areas of Molassana and Prato; some of the ruins are still visible in the stretch that runs above Via delle Ginestre. During the Middle Ages the aqueduct was built at a higher level (approx. 50 metres): with a first starting point at the Veilino stream in the 12<sup>th</sup> century, and a second one at the Trensasco stream in 1295. The higher gradient enabled the city's western neighbourhoods to be served, almost up to the Lighthouse. Further upstream, extensions were carried out between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries,

almost reaching Bargagli. Magnificent canal bridges were erected, such as the bridge on the Geirato stream in Molassana, built in 1777, with 14 arches stretching 640 metres - a true masterpiece of hydraulic engineering for the times. The aqueduct was maintained in working order until the mid-1800s even if it continued conveying water to the communal washing troughs in aptly named Vico Lavatoi al Molo right up until 1951. Part of the 40 kilometres aqueduct has disappeared with the growth of the city, but long flat stretches can still be found. They are great for walks or bicycle

rides among the houses and vegetable gardens of the Bisagno valley.

### Other Forts and Towers

The forts included in the Parco delle Mura are not the only legacy of the 19<sup>th</sup> century defence system built by the Savoia family around Genoa. To the east we find the Tower of San Bernardino; the Tower and Fort of Quezzi above the neighbourhood of Marassi; the elongated Forte Monteratti; Forte Richelieu located behind the neighbourhood of San Fruttuoso; the recently renovated Forte Santa Tecla above San Martino hospital; Forte San Martino, almost invisible between the hospital grounds and the university complex of Albaro; and finally Forte San Giuliano overlooking the sea, which has been housing the Provincial Command Centre of the Carabinieri police force since 1995.



Distant, solitary, scenic and wild are Forte Geremia and Forte Aresci built on the crest of the Val Cerusa, which rises 1000 metres from the sea at Voltri right up to the Faiallo Pass.

### The Via Postumia

In 148 B.C., the Romans completed the ancient highroad *Via Postumia* connecting the town of *Aquileia* on the Adriatic coast and the towns of *Placentia* (Piacenza) and *Derthona* (Tortona) in the Po plain with Genoa and the western Mediterranean coast. The *Via Postumia* entered Liguria through the Bocchetta Pass: this consular road led to Genoa along the left bank of the Polcevera valley along the track of an old road used by Ligurians until the 5<sup>th</sup> century B.C. The road still exists today (Salita degli Angeli, Via ai Piani di Fregoso, Via Begato), immersed in thick chestnut groves and tiny hamlets (Garbo, Fregoso, Begato, Casanova...), which may be the sites of ancient pre-Roman settlements. A great part of it marks the western boundary of the Parco delle Mura.

### The Western Forts

A further three forts were located to the west of the Polcevera stream, built on the hills of Cornigliano: Monte Guano, Monte Croce and Casale Erzelli.





Tourist  
Information  
Centres (I.A.T.)

#### IAT Via Garibaldi

Via Garibaldi 12r  
Ph. +39 010 55 729 03 / 55 727 51  
Fax +39 010 55 724 14  
(7/7 - h. 9.00 - 18.30)

#### IAT Caricamento

Piazza Caricamento  
Ph. +39 010 55 742 00 / 55 742 02  
Fax +39 010 55 780 12  
(summer time 7/7 - h. 9.30 - 19.00  
winter time 7/7 - h. 9.00 - 18.30)

#### Guided tours of the old centre and of the Palazzi dei Rolli, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site

Every weekend you can visit the old town of  
Genoa and discover the charm of some of  
the Palazzi dei Rolli.

Guided tours in Italian, English, Spanish,  
French and German.

For more information on prices and  
languages, contact the offices above.

#### Useful info:

##### C. Colombo Airport

Tel. +39 010 60 151 - [www.airport.genova.it](http://www.airport.genova.it)

##### AMT (public transportation)

Ph. +39 848 000 030 - [www.amt.genova.it](http://www.amt.genova.it)

##### S. Anna Funicular

(7/7 - h. 7.00 - 00.30)

##### Zecca-Righi Funicular

(7/7 - h. 6.40 - 24.00, every 15 min.)

##### Granarolo Rack Railway

(7/7 - h. 6.07 - 23.40, every 25 min.)

##### Genova-Casella Railway

Information and hours:  
Ph. +39 848 000 030  
[www.ferroviagenovacasella.it](http://www.ferroviagenovacasella.it)

##### Radio Taxi

Ph. +39 010 59 66 - [www.cooptaxige.it](http://www.cooptaxige.it)

##### Trains

Ph. +39 89 20 21 - [www.trenitalia.it](http://www.trenitalia.it)

##### Accessible tourism - Terre di Mare

Genoa Province information office  
Ph. +39 010 54 20 98  
Mobile +39 339 13 092 49  
[www.terredimare.it](http://www.terredimare.it)

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