

THE TREASURES OF MARCHE: WALKING BETWEEN NATURE AND CULTURE

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MARCH 2014 HIKES CALENDAR

THE CARNIVAL AND THE EARLY VERNAL COLORS

Saturday 1: IN SEARCH OF WILD HERBS. Walking in the woods between Collefalciano and Tallacano, districts of Acquasanta Terme (AP) in the heart of the mountainous range of Monte Ceresa, in company of Anna, the only resident inhabitant in Collefalciano, owner of B&B Cuore, who will make us rediscover the pleasure of collecting weeds, their qualities and their use. **Estimated time: 3,30-4,00 h (stops excluded).** Gap: 350 m. **Difficulty: E.**

Saturday 1: NIGHT SNOWSHOE WALK AT PANTANI DI ACCUMOLI. From Forca Canepine to Monte dei Signori, under the starry vault of the new moon night. **Estimated time: 3,30 h-4,00 h (stops excluded).** Gap: 200 m. **Difficulty: EAI.**

Sunday 2: SNOWSHOE WALK IN VAL CANATRA. From Castelluccio of Norcia (PG) to Poggio di Croce, going up the side valley of Pian Perduto to admire the winter scenery of its Piani. **Estimated time: 5,00-5,30 h (stops excluded).** Gap: 500 m. **Difficulty: EAI.**

Sunday 2: SNOWSHOE WALK AT PANTANI DI ACCUMOLI WITH THE RED NOSE. From Forca Canepine to Monte dei Signori, on animal tracks, celebrating the Carnival. **Estimated time: 3,30-4,00 h (stops excluded).** Gap: 200 m. **Difficulty: EAI.**

Tuesday 4: THE ASCOLI HILL. From Porta Cartare of Ascoli Piceno to Blessed Conrad Cave through S. Marc Hermitage and the Devil's Finger. **Rise time: 2,00-2,15 h, down: 1,30-1,45 h (stops excluded).** Gap: 530 m. **Difficulty: E.**
On the way back CARNEVALE AD OFFIDA (Carnival in Offida): Carnival Fest in Piazza and "Vlurd" firing.

Saturday 8: MONTEMONACO NATURE PATH. Walk under the majestic bulk of Monte Sibilla, on trail of the myth that have attracted witches, necromancers and knight errants for centuries. **Estimated time: 2,00-3,00 h (stops excluded).** Gap: 130 m. **Difficulty: T**

Sunday 9: ALONG THE PATHS OF "LE CACCE" (HUNTING PLACES) AND OF "I MIETITORI" (THE HARVESTERS). From Altino di Montemonaco Refuge (AP) to S. Maria in Pantano Church through Vallegrascia, along the Sentiero delle Cacce (Path of Hunting Places) and the historical Sentiero dei Mietitori (Path of the Harvesters), among the woods at the foot of the impressive eastern slope of Monte Vettore. **Estimated time: 4,00 h-4,30 h (stops excluded).** Gap: 500 m. **Difficulty: E.**

Saturday 15: MONTE CONERO SOUTH RING. From Fonte dell'Olio of Sirolo (AN) to Passo del Lupo, privileged balcony over Due Sorelle Beach and the southern Marche coast. **Estimated time 3,30-4,00 h (stops excluded).** Gap: 400 m. **Difficulty: E.** BOTH DAY AND NIGHT HIKE, TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE NEW MOON NIGHT!!!

Sunday 16: VALLE DELLA SCUROSA UP TO MONTELAGO. From shady valley at the foot of Monte Pennino with its magnificent beech forest with aerial views of the Piani di Montelago and its ephemeral lake. **Estimated time: 4,30-5,00 h (stops excluded).** Gap: 555 m. **Difficulty: E.**

Sunday 16: SNOWSHOE WALK IN VAL CANATRA. From Castelluccio of Norcia (PG) to Poggio di Croce, going up the side valley of Pian Perduto to admire the winter scenery of its Piani. **Estimated time: 5,00-5,30 h (stops excluded).** Gap: 500 m. **Difficulty: E.**

Saturday 22: MONTE CANFAITO from Braccano. From the singular artistic hamlet of Matelica (MC) with its distinctive murals to Jana Gorge and to Monte Canfaieto pastures trough S. Maria in Rotis Abbey and its ancient estates. **Estimated time: 4,30-5,00 h.** Gap: 620 m. **Difficulty: E**

Sunday 23: MONTAGNA DEI FIORI. From the old ski resort of San Giacomo to the summit of Monte Girella, among lakes, beech and caciare (cheese factories) that make up the most beautiful balcony over the Apennines. **Rise time: 3,00-3,30 h, down: 2,00-2,30 h (stops excluded).** Gap: 850 m. **Difficulty: E.** In case of snow, snowshoe walk on the **same** path!

Sunday 23: VOLPARA and PRATA WATERFALLS. From Umito of Acquasanta Terme (AP) searching for the amazing water games given by Laga Mountains creeks. **Rise time: 2,30-3,00 h (stops excluded); down: 1,45-2,00 h (stops excluded).** Gap: 660 m. **Difficulty: EE.**
In case of snow, snowshoe walk on **part** of the path!

Saturday 29: HERMITAGE OF ACQUARELLA from Albacina. Discovering the ancient Franciscan hermitage through the dense woods above the old Roman village "Tuficum", up to the slopes of Monte Maltempo to enjoy the lovely view on Fabriano basin (AN) and its surroundings. **Estimated time: 4,00-4,30 h (stops excluded).** Gap: 690 m. **Difficulty: E.**

Sunday 30: AMONG THE VILLAGES OF FLUVIONE. In the cool of the woods at the feet of Monte Ve#ore, discovering the countless villages of Montegallo (AP) castled to its slopes and their hidden treasures. **Estimated time: 3.00-3.30 h (stops excluded).** Gap: 460 m. **Difficulty: E.**

Sunday 30: SNOWSHOE WALK AT PANTANI DI ACCUMOLI. From Forca Canepine to Monte dei Signori, on animal tracks. **Estimated time: 3,30-4,00 h (stops excluded).** Gap: 200 m. **Difficulty: EAI.**

Furthermore:

every Friday sunset hikes on **Sibillini Mountains**, possibly with snowshoes.

every Saturday, in addition to what listed above, **night hikes "hunting" for stars**, possibly with snowshoes

**For bookings, rates and info on equipment and clothing needed, time and place of departure:
Environmental Hiking Guide Dino Gazzani tel (+39) 380 3020147 --- info@marcheinspalla.com
Professional Guide empowered by national and regional regulations and covered by R.C. insurance.**

**Note: this calendar may be changed because of adverse weather conditions.
Any possible changes and new itineraries will be promptly communicated.**