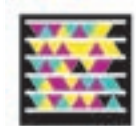




## ACQUERINO BIOGENETIC NATURE RESERVE

Starting from **Ponte dei Rigoli** where the "Acquerino Biogenetic Nature Reserve" begins. Go past the barrier bar situated at the edge of the parking lot at the end of the palisade that marks the large grassy lawn. Proceed on the dirt cart road, running along the **Limentrella Orientale River** (itinerary no. 1 - an educational trail walk supervised by the State Forestry Department). After 400 m., make a u-turn into the first lane to the right going uphill. Then continue following the wide, main trail that goes past a mostly level area in a fir-wood and near a waterfall with a small bridge, continue straight uphill. Then pass a ditch and go up some steps near a fence to arrive at a paved road. Proceed to left going downhill as far as the station of the State Forestry Department. From here to the left, going slightly uphill along a row of arborvitae as far as the **Acquerino Refuge** restaurant (2.5 km.). Going around the barrier bar, continue towards the Faggione Refuge and at the first fork, follow the "Itinerario del Cervo" (Deer Itinerary), whose name derives from the fact that it is possible to see many of these animals in the wood. Some educational signs set along the route provide information on the flora and fauna in the reserve. It then passes through an imposing fir-wood and after another rather level area it runs downhill, it reaches a fork whose left leads shortly to the **Faggione Refuge** (995 m.) ( 5 km.), a refreshment spot with a picnic area, open only during the summer months. Continue past the refuge on the **CAI 17-11 route** that unwinds in beech and fir woods with broad cart road curves to an altitude of 1120 m. a.s.l. where the broad cart road ends. Continue to the right on a steep, narrow trail going uphill. The itinerary next comes to a trail that originates in Torri and continues to the left on mainly level ground. Arriving at 1200 m. a.s.l., near a plateau with crossroads, avoid the trails to the left and the right and continue to descend turning slightly to the right, as indicated by the red-and-white CAI sign. The route continues, despite the slope's considerable incline, with alternating stretches of mainly level and slightly uphill ground. Go pass the ditch until coming to the Trogoli Aqueduct intake (1120 m) (8.5 km.). From here, after about 1 km., we come to a paved road near **Badia a Taona** and continue to the left, going downhill. At the next fork, at the sign indicating the Sambuca town limit, continue to the left for a brief stretch on asphalt that we then left behind with a detour to the left on the **CAI 9A trail**, which is delimited by a barrier bar and where there is a sign that indicates an ancient medieval road. This stretch runs downhill, passes a ditch, and travels near an ancient settlement that is part of the Living Museum. In the final part, it again runs along the **Limentrella Orientale River**, returning to the starting point at **Ponte dei Rigoli**.



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WALKING ITINERARY

# ACQUERINO BIOGENETIC NATURE RESERVE

## SAMBUCA P.SE

[www.pistoia.turismo.toscana.it](http://www.pistoia.turismo.toscana.it)



AGENZIA  
PER IL TURISMO  
ABETONE PISTOIA  
MONTAGNA P.SE



Intervento realizzato all'interno delle azioni previste dal progetto interregionale (L. 135/2001 art. 5) "Valorizzazione comprensorio sciistico toscano emiliano" cofinanziato da Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri - Dipartimento per lo sviluppo e la competitività del turismo - e dalla Regione Toscana

# ACQUERINO BIOGENETIC NATURE RESERVE

**Starting point:** Acquerino - Ponte dei Rigoli (840 m.)

**Access:** from Pistoia along Via Antonelli until reaching Candeglia and from here, continue to the right towards Valdibure - Acquerino; take SP24 Riola and go 20 km. to Ponte dei Rigoli, quite near the sign that indicates the town limit of Sambuca Pistoiese. Immediately after the bridge, park on the left near a large meadow

**Total length:** 13 km loop route

**Terrain:** almost completely on dirt trails

**Difficulty:** easy and suitable for everyone as far as the Faggione Refuge (5 km.). The successive stretch is rather demanding

**Notes:** Passable all year on foot, although it is not recommended in the case of bad weather (in winter, probability of snow on the ground). Only the Ponte dei Rigoli - Faggione stretch is recommended for mountain bikes

## ACQUERINO BIOGENETIC NATURE RESERVE

This route is found in the Acquerino state forest, an area that extends for 3146 hectares in the municipalities of Sambuca Pistoiese, Pistoia, and Montale. It is woodland, located mainly within the state forests of Pistoia and, despite the construction of various forest trails, the area is still rather inaccessible, making it extremely beautiful and evocative. The undisputed king of this area is the beech tree that covers almost all the slopes. In many areas, besides the facilities made with white fir, black pine, Douglas fir and other conifers, many changes were made using the long beech tree trunks

-  Start
-  End
-  Direction
-  Point of Interest
-  Caution
-  Information Point
-  Fountain
-  Refreshment
-  Panoramic Point
-  Picnic Area
-  CAI Trail

