

WEEK 3 FROM GARLASCO TO FIDENZA

WHAT TO SEE

DAY 1 - GARLASCO

PILGRIM STAMP At Albergo "Il Pino"

DRUGSTORE Farmacia Arnerio - Piazza G. Garibaldi, 18 - Ph +39 (0)382822353

LAUDROMAT Lavanderia Bluwash Self Service - Via Don Gennaro 17

GARLASCO

Garlasco is renowned for the Sanctuary of the Madonna della Bozzola, visited every year by many pilgrims and believers.

The Sanctuary of Garlasco was built after the apperance of the Virgin to a 13 years old girl in 1465.

The sanctuary, though, is 4 km from the town centre.



DAY 2 - PAVIA

PILGRIM STAMP Tourist office - Piazza della Vittorio 20/d - Ph +39 (0)382 399790

DRUGSTORE Farmacia San Patrizio - Corso Manzoni 1 - Ph +39 (0) 382 21189

LAUDROMAT Self Service 24h - Via Guidi



PAVIA

The first part of the day you will walk across the plain and the second part along the banks of the river Ticino, that connects the Lake Maggiore with the Po River, in the area of the Ticino natural park. The first regional park in Italy, created in 1974. The stage ends in Pavia, one of the pearls of the Francigena Way. Do not forget the Visconteo castle and the "San Pietro in Ciel d'oro" church.

Very famous is also the Certosa di Pavia – which is 6 Km north of Pavia and can be reached by taxi, bus and train tel. 0382-925613 Guided visits by the monks.

DAY 3 - SANTA CRISTINA / TERME DI MIRALDOLO

PILGRIM STAMP Ask the hotel

DRUGSTORE Farmacia Capitelli - Sede di Chignolo Po - Ph +39 (0)382 76028

LAUDROMAT None

TERME DI MIRALDOLO



Leave Pavia following the river Ticino, then on across the wide flats of the Padana Valley; to avoid traffic, you will walk across the nice countryside in the surroundings of Pavia among fields and woods. Stop in Belgioioso to visit the Castle, ancient neoclassical residence raised in XIV century by Gian Galeazzo Visconti as a place to hunt and amusement.

St Cristina has no hotel; you should therefore call the driver to come and pick you up; he will take you to your accomodation.

DAY 4 - PIACENZA

PILGRIM STAMP Tourist office - Piazza Cavalli 2 - (from 9 am to 6 pm)

DRUGSTORE Farmacia Resta - Via Benedettine 54 - Ph +39 (0)523 338555

LAUDROMAT Lavanderia Tradizionale - Corso G. Garibaldi 70 - Ph +39 334 857 3502



PIACENZA

The day before you have to make arrangements with Mr Parisi (Bifulus), who operate the ferry across the Po river.

Start walking towards the Castle of Chignolo Po, place of rest for pilgrims on the Francigena since the medieval time. In few kilometres and you reach Lambrina, little village that takes its name from the near river Lambro. Once you reach the Po river, you will follow the road built on the river banks to Corte Sant'Andrea, from where leaves the ferry on the river Po. The docks are still in the same place where Sigerico crossed the river 1000 years ago. Continue to Piacenza, meandering on both sides of the traffic ridden Via Emilia. The itinerary reaches the bridge of Piacenza. Do not miss the visit to the Romanesque Church of San Savino consecrate in 1107 and with, at the interior, two wonderful mosaics representing all the months of the year and the zodiac. Impressive is also the equestrian statue on Piacenza main square. Spend the night in a nice b&b just on the square.

DAY 5 - CARPANETO

PILGRIM STAMP Take hotel stamp

DRUGSTORE Farmacia Bollani - Via Roma 1 - Ph +39 (0)523 850939

LAUDROMAT Lava Più - Self service - At the mall "Mazzavecchia" in Piazza Oliveti 18



CARPANETO

The official road runs along the busy Via Emilia. We will therefore walk parallel to it to avoid the traffic and will takes you across the relaxing landscape of the plain. This is a country of rivers and we will cross and even wade a few of them along the way. Towards the end of the day we will head towards the hills that are the forerunners of the Appennino mountains to come. Spend the night in a charming country inn at the foot of the hills.

DAY 6 - CASTELL'ARQUATO

PILGRIM STAMP Tourism office (IAT) - Piazza del Municipio 1 - Ph +39 (0)523 803215

DRUGSTORE Antica Farmacia dell'Ospedale S. Spirito - Via Gadolini 19

Ph +39 (0)523 805132



CASTELL'ARQUATO

Start the day with a first stop at the Romanesque church of Vigolo Marchese then climb to Castell'Arquato a beautiful Medieval town with a superb square lined with the cathedral and the communal palace buildings.

After days and days of flat land it is nice, though a bit more tiring to climb vineyards covered hills.

DAY 7 - FIDENZA

PILGRIM STAMP IAT R Casa Cremonini - Piazza Duomo 16 - Ph +39 (0)524 83377

DRUGSTORE Farmacia S. Donnino - Via Giacomo Leopardi 2 - Ph +39 (0)524 524297

LAUDROMAT Lavanderia Delia - Via Giuseppe Conforti - Ph +39 (0)524 522318

FIDENZA



A day full of ups and downs which, for the first parts meanders through vineyard covered hills then follow the Stirone river Park to Fidenza.

Seat of the European Association of the Vie Francigene, the town has been a major stop on the pilgrimage road.

The sculpture of its Duomo façade are very famous and have taken on a symbolic significance for the Francigena travelers.