



Ticino Park . MILANO/PAVIA

## **TICINO PARK AND THE AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE**

**Morimondo and the “Irrigated Meadows”, the Geraci Park Visitors Center, the Bereguardo boat bridge, Vigevano and its treasures**

Built starting from 1136, the Morimondo Abbey, in addition to the religious and architectural aspects of particular value, is nestled on the summit of a rural territory of considerable beauty descending towards the river banks where some irrigated meadows, typical feature of the Lombardy agricultural landscape, have survived (meadows flooded also of winter, where we find the mixing of cultivation, artwork and historical-cultural witness to make it an element of great importance to preserve and admire, also for its faunal-environmental value). This is an evidence of the important human work that took place over time and the history of the landscape system of irrigation waters and of evergreen meadows. That constitute an historical testimony of a landscape widely diffused in the past in the Milan plain, and now limited to the Ticino Valley enough to be a candidate for the National Register of Historic Rural Landscapes. The visit will be carried out by a naturalist guide of the ticino park and by an expert in historical landscape who will describe the historical-environmental peculiarities of this territory.

The considerable interest in the architectural part o the Morimondo Abbey (Romanesque style of the round arches is combined with the Gothic elements of the pointed arches and with the cross vaults) is therefore combined with the skilful care of the territory and with the recovery of traditional practices and old crafts that helped to design the landscape of the Ticino Valley.

The visit will continue at the farmhouse “Cascina Caremma”, a fine example of Lombard dairy farm, where you can enjoy a light lunch on site with branded products. Then guided tour at the Visitor Center Geraci, area located in the Municipality of Motta Visconti, where you can view the redevelopment works carried out as part of a LIFE Project (LIFE “Ticino Biosource”) for the reconstitution of wet and forest environments (where previously there were extensive cultivations of poplars) within the source area of the Ticino Valley by naturalist professionals. We will then proceed with a visit to the boat bridge of Bereguardo (one of the last examples of barge bridge in Italy, wanted by the Visconti in 1374 for the connection between the two banks of the Ticino it was replaced by the Sforza with a stable bridge), a visit to the historic centre of Vigevano (Piazza Ducale and Castello Visconteo Sforzesco), an ancient art city and a Renaissance pearl that inspired Leonardo, and the closing aperitif.



**DESTINATIONS** Morimondo (MI), *Geraci Park Visitors Center* in Motta Visconti (MI), Bereguardo (PV) and Vigevano (PV)



Nature and society facing the Anthropocene  
challenges and perspectives  
for landscape ecology

**DATE** Wednesday July 3rd, 2019  
**DEPARTING TIME** 8.00AM  
**MEETING POINT** to be confirmed  
**DURATION** approx. 10 hours (trips included)  
**TRANSPORT** private bus  
MIN. 30 MAX. 50 participants

**COST** € 110.00 per person

**SERVICES INCLUDED** transfer from/to Milan; guided tours of Morimondo, Visitors Center Geraci, Bereguardo and Vigevano; lunch and final aperitif

**LUNCH** at *Cascina Caremma* with local typical products

### PROGRAMME

8.00 a.m. Transfer by bus from the meeting point (Milan, to be defined)  
9.30 a.m. Meeting at the parking at the beginning of Morimondo  
9.45 a.m. Transfer on foot to the Morimondo Abbey and visit  
11.30 a.m. Transfer to the farmhouse Cascina Caremma, guided visit and light lunch buffet with typical products  
2.30 p.m. Departure for the Visitor Centre Geraci  
4.00 p.m. Transfer and guided visit in Bereguardo at the boat bridge  
5.00 p.m. Arrival to Vigevano and guided visit in the centre with aperitif  
6.30 p.m. End of the activity and departure for the return

**EXCURSION TYPE** group activity accompanied by nature guides of the Park and by an expert in historical landscape

**WALKING TIME** group activity accompanied by a nature guide of Ticino Park and by an expert in historical landscape. No long walk but only short-term guided tours.

**TYPE OF PATH** no path but only guided tours on country roads and inside historical towns of the Ticino Park territory

**OTHER INFO** easy for everybody, children and seniors – NO persons with motor disabilities. We recommend dressing comfortable clothes and shoes. We suggest to bring a second t-shirt, sunscreen and mosquito repellent.

**EXCURSION COORDINATOR** Gioia Gibelli

### INFO and CONTACTS

For **specific information regarding the contents of the excursion** please contact

Gioia Gibelli [gioiagibelli@gmail.com](mailto:gioiagibelli@gmail.com)

For **information regarding the excursion registration** please contact

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