

Stations

1 Linden, Lime tree: (*Tilia cordata*). The first station is situated about 350 meters after the area called "Cà del Latte". In this little artificial clearing you can see great lime trees, recognizable by sweet-smelling inflorescence in spring and their big toothed leaves. Clearings are a precious natural environment for the ecological diversification of the wood, and they contribute to create characteristic habitat, too. Here you can find on the ground the entrances of harvest mice's holes and, in autumn, the remains of lvy berries eaten by birds, such as ravens, robins and starlings.

2 Bramble-bushes wood: This bramble-bush of respectable size is essential as a refuge for animals like wrens, the smallest European birds, and beech martens, that hide themselves among the thorns to escape from foxes and other predators.

3 Impluvium Water catchment basin: 10 meters farther, on the right, there are two puddles at the end of two channels. In spite of the modest flow and the temporary dryness, this kind of puddles attracts a lot of animals, mainly during the day, that go there and drink.



4 Panoramic point: Here you can observe Bergamo's hills. These rolling hills are made of marine sedimentary rocks, confirmed by many discovered fossils found in the rocks themselves. From this point you can admire the forests covering the hills below, kingdom of some species of forester raptors such as Sparrowhawk, Common Buzzard and Honey Buzzard, which find a proper place for nest-building in the deepest hood.

5 Burnt chestnut wood: Is possible to observe the consequences of a bushfire that involved chestnut wood, causing the death of many trunks. The vegetation grown again is composed mainly by species of quick development such as brambles and brackens; which exploit the abundant lightness created, while the shrubs are blooming from the root sucker survived.

6 Underwood's flora: During the spring in the broad-leaved wood you can observe many species blooming, such as Anemone, Hepatic, Dandelion and Lily.



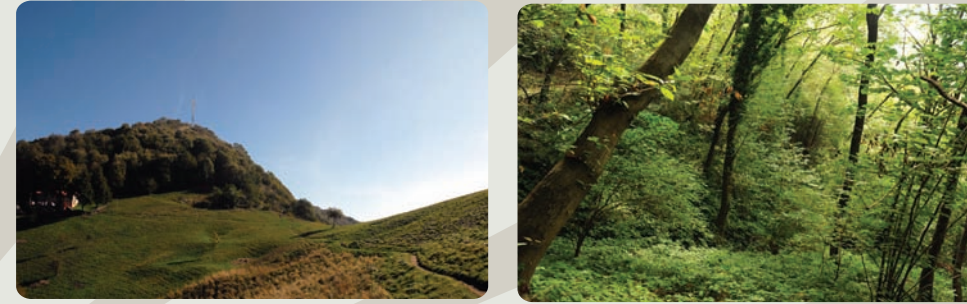
7 Mesophyl Woods: This kind of forest needs fresh and damp climatic conditions. The characteristic trees of this area are the Mountain maple and the Ash, while the shrubs are the Paris quadrifolia, the Daphne mezereum and the Daphne laurel. The great presence of old trees rich in hollows benefits the nest-building of the Tawny owl, nocturnal raptor, able to hunt micro mammals and medium-sized birds. Among the mammals of this habitat it is possible to find the Squirrel, arboreal species, easily recognizable by the bushy tail that it keeps straight onto its body.

8 Roccolo: Proceeding along the path 533 CAI you can reach the Sorisole Fork's (on the maps "Forcella del Soriso") - a particular structure made for catch the birds for eating them. Even if today it is unused, you can notice the original arboreal horseshoe-shaped frame. It is composed mainly by *Carpinus betulus*.



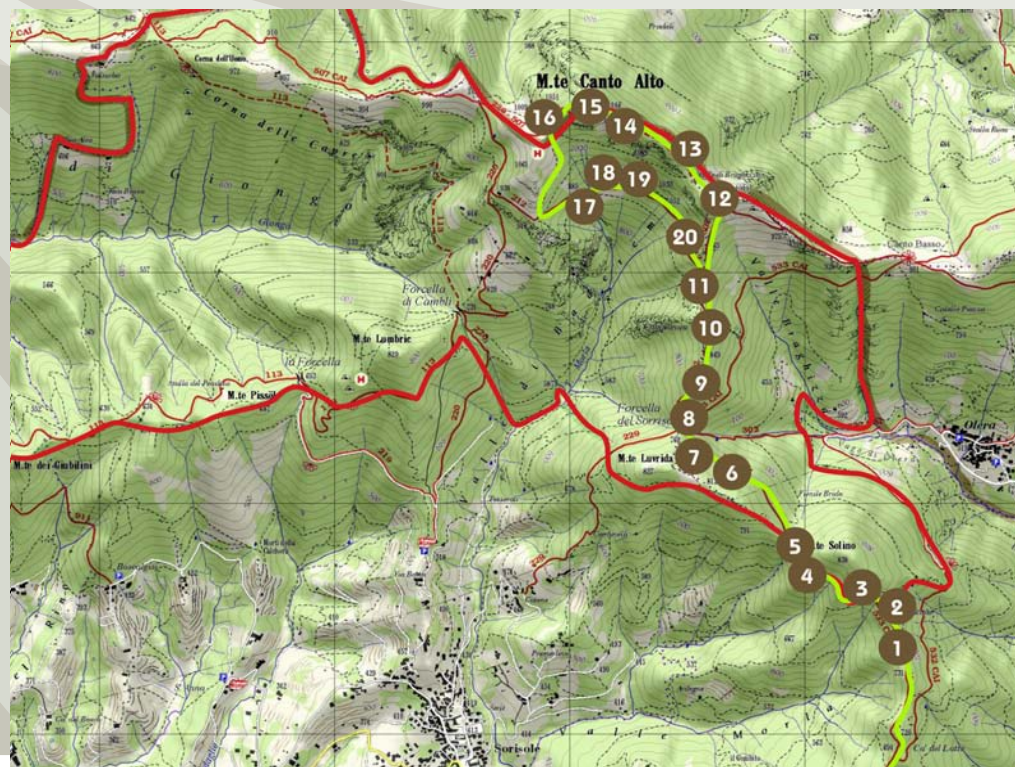
9 Orno-ostrieto: These southern slopes have thin soils due to stable and not easily erodible rocks. Here woods are generally sparse, with short trees. The most common arboreal species are *Ostrya carpinifolia*, *Fraxinus ornus* and *Quercus pubescens*.

10 Ammonite-red: Along the route you can find rocks of a typical brick red. Their name comes from the particular fossils inside them: the ammonites, ancient marine invertebrates, characterized by a calcareous spiraliform shell, extinct nowadays.



11 Badèrem: where stream Morla rises as far as it arrives into the urban centre of Bergamo. The view extends till the calcareous faces near "Canto Basso", where Kestrels, build their nests. Kestrels are brown-baked falconnets that hunt crickets, lizards and little rodents.

12 Hillock over "Stalle Braghizza": From the numbered station, leaving the path and hiking on a hillock, you can reach another great observation point, excellent to observe raptors during the migration: from here every autumn and spring it is possible to sight hundreds of diurnal raptors of passage. Among the most easily observable species there are Buzzard, Sparrowhawk, Kite, Marsh hawk. Less frequently you can see Harrier, Osprey and Eagle.



13 Stratified sedimentary rocks: The presence of layers with variable compositions is peculiar of sedimentary rocks; these layers originated as horizontal levels during the formation of the rock itself. Here you can notice the almost vertical slope of the layers of Sedrina limestone. This inclination was due by the geological movements of the Earth's crust.

14 Rupestral vegetation: Some plants can grow in situations of small or absent soils since they take up the fissures of the rocks. Among these species we can find succulents or crassulacee, such as *Sedum* sp. and *Sempervivum* sp. In some stations you can also find the *Stipa pennata*.

15 Geology of Alps: Prealps ("Arera" and "Presolana"), "Orobic" Alps ("Pizzo Coca" and "Redorta") and the most important of the "Retiche" Alps ("Badile", "Disgrazia" and "Bernina") can be seen from the top of "Canto Alto".

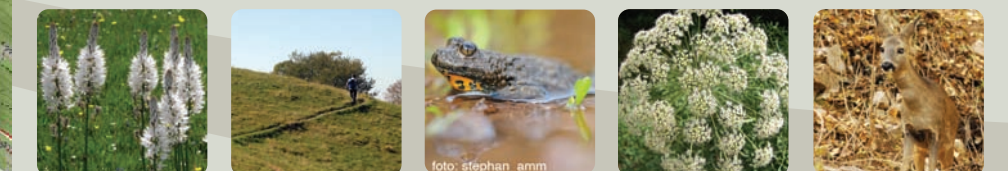
16 Fertile pasturages: The meadows for mowing were made through deforestation of slopes of little inclination and with deep soils. These meadows are used for hay-making and are rich in forage graminaceous grass, such as *Dactylis glomerata*, *Arrhenatherum elatius* and *Cynosurus echinatus*. At sunset and sunrise some roes come to these pasturages and graze.



17 Pond: The "Parco dei Colli" promoted the re-establishment of some puddles in order to create places for the reproduction of skewbald salamanders and temporaria frogs and the rare yellow-bellied toad. There are also grass snake (*Natrix natrix*), water snake harmless to humans.

18 Asphodels meadow: Asphodels (*Asphodelus albus*), which are liliaceous plant of a maximum height of 120 cm, bloom very showily thanks to their spicate inflorescence with white star-shaped flowers. In summer these pasturages are characterized by the bloom of carnations, with scented white or pink flowers.

19 Laserpizi meadow: The arid pasturages of the park are characterized by the rich bloom of Apiaceae plants. Mountain "Laserpizio" (*Laserpitium siler*) is one of the most common species.



20 Undergrowth of hazels: After the decrease of the traditional sheep-breeding activities, wood vegetation is progressively reoccupying the space taken away in the past. So, now there is a drastic reduction in open areas with herbaceous grass. A typical example of new woods are the shrubs woods of hazels and laburnum. When evening arrives, these areas liven up thanks to noises: loirs and dormice move through the leafy branches and let out different kinds of vocalizations and peeps while they are looking for fruit, seeds and germs.