

Second week | 5° giorno

# The Veneto coast

Portogruaro - Caorle - Eraclea - Jesolo -  
Cavallino - Punta Sabbioni

*Pedalling along the coastal cycling path*



More water and reclaimed land, drawbridges, water pumps, drop nets, *casoni*, canals, river banks. Also infinite horizons and red sunsets on twinkling water.

From the historical centres of **Portogruaro** and **Concordia Sagittaria** we go towards **Caorle**, riding alongside the network of canals which make up the Veneto coastline, a waterway which connects the Gulf of Trieste to the Venetian lagoon. You pedal along the so-called "Cycle path of the beaches".

There are many opportunities for observation and places to visit, from the Caorle lagoon to places like Brian and its "vinciane locks" which stop the salt water from coming into the network of canals in the reclaimed area.

Don't forget a visit to the **Eraclea mare** pine woods – planted to protect the reclaimed land behind it from high tides – as well as the monumental water pump at **Torre di Fine**, showing the great drying operation carried out in the marshes. Then the Laguna del Mort – the old estuary of the river Piave, now a natural oasis - , and the bridge made out of boats on the present estuary of the Piave, at **Cortellazzo**. Then you arrive in the town centre of **Jesolo**, with the flow of the river Sile and the Venetian lagoon, which accompanies us to **Cavallino**, **Treporti** and **Punta Sabbioni**, which are also well-known tourist resorts.

## ROUTE INFORMATION

**Starting point:** Portogruaro

**Arrival:** Cavallino-Treporti-Punta Sabbioni

**Length:** 77 km

**Conditions:** almost all the route is on mixed traffic roads, although light traffic apart from a couple of stretches along B roads

**Indications:** present, cycle path I 3

## USEFUL ADDRESSES

**IAT Tourist Information Office Caorle**

Rio Terrà delle Botteghe  
30021 Caorle, tel. +39 041 5298711  
info@turismovenetia.it

**IAT Tourist Information Office Jesolo**

piazza Brescia 13, 30016 Jesolo  
tel +39 041 5298711, info@turismo venezia.it

**IAT Tourist Information Office Punta Sabbioni**

piazzale Punta Sabbioni, 30010 Cavallino Treporti  
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1 Caorle, casoni on the fishermen's island

2 River Sile, bridge made of boats

3 Jesolo beach and the lighthouse at the Sile estuary

## TRAVELLERS' DIARY

From Portogruaro you turn back passing through Concordia Sagittaria and Sindacale once again: from here you turn towards the south-east heading towards Caorle and its lagoon. Then you pass near Ca' Corniani, a rural village, which deserves a stop due to its particular urban structure, developed around a large agricultural industry which employed a great number of farm workers. See the cellars and the two squares enclosed in the rural buildings.

Then you cross the Livenza thanks to a characteristic bridge and we reach a very particular environment, which bewitched even Ernest Hemingway, the writer who set his novel *Across the River and into the Trees* in this place.

We suggest a short detour on a cycling path to reach Falconera, one of the most impressive natural areas in the Veneto region, silence, rustling leaves, birds calling, and the many *casoni* (fishing huts) with their characteristic thatched roofs. In Caorle you must visit the XI century cathedral, characterised by its cylindrical bell-tower in Romanesque style, visible from far away. Continue to Porto Santa Margherita – a tourist resort well-known for its well-equipped marina – to reach the Laguna del Mort, the dead branch of the estuaries of the Piave river which has become a precious nature oasis. Then we are at the sea in Eraclea – the umpteenth tourist resort – you go over a picturesque bridge made out of

boats which crosses the river Piave, the river with its estuary which flows out into the sea here in Cortellazzo. Keeping to the orographic right on the Cavetta canal – theatre of bloody battles during the Great War – you arrive in the town of Jesolo. Going up the Sile river (or old Piave), on the right bank you arrive at the Cavallino Navigation Lock, with its old harbour built by the Serenissima in 1632. From here you follow the Casson canal and then go along the evocative via Pordello, you ride alongside the lagoon until you reach Cavallino, Treporti and Punta Sabbioni, where you embark for Lido and Venice.