

Third week | 5th day

Between the park and the sea

Goro - Comacchio

From the Goro inlet and the thousand year old Pomposa abbey to the Comacchio coast with its famous beaches



From Gorino and Goro, just where the Po flows into the Adriatic, you head south towards your destination, Ravenna, with a short stage to the beautiful Comacchio.

You can admire a beautiful and very particular natural environment, the **Sacca di Goro**, a vast shallow lagoon, with mullet, sea bream, eel, sea bass and shellfish nurseries. Watching the cockles and mussels being collected in the early hours of the morning is a really unique experience. Then you pedal inside the **Bosco della Mesola**, along a cycling path on the border between the sea and the forest and then you reach another natural oasis, the **Canneviè-Porticino valley**.

From here we suggest an excursion to visit the **Pomposa Benedictine Abbey**, a real jewel of Romanesque architecture, which stands alone in a land which in ancient times was surrounded by marshes. After this detour you go back to the coast and go through the **Lidi di Comacchio**, later passing through the picturesque centre of Porto Garibaldi, to then pedal to the splendid **Comacchio**. In summer in the beach towns you can sense the holiday atmosphere, while in autumn, when a light fog embraces the numerous churches and old palaces, the historical centre fascinates the tourists.

ROUTE INFORMATION

Starting point: Goro

Arrival: Comacchio

Length: 32 km

Conditions: easy route, on secondary roads and embankments mostly asphalted, some stretches with heavier traffic

USEFUL ADDRESSES

IAT Tourist Office Goro, via Cavicchini 13, tel. +39 0533 995030 turismo@comune.goro.fe.it

IAT Tourist Office Codigoro, via Pomposa Centro 1, Pomposa
tel. +39 0533 719110, iatpomposa@libero.it

IAT Tourist Office Comacchio, via Agatopisto 3
tel. +39 0533 314154

comacchio.iat@comune.comacchio.fe.it
www.turismocomacchio.it

Bike hire:

see the website www.ferrataterraacqua.it



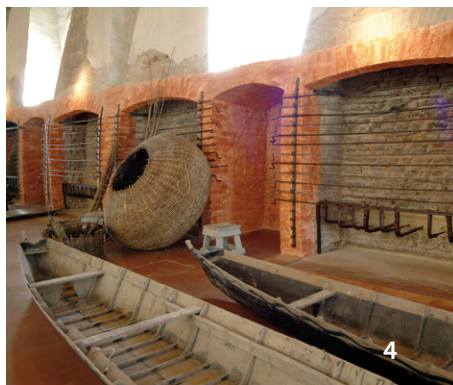
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1 Comacchio, sunset in the lagoon

2 Lido di Comacchio, beach

3 Pomposa Abbey

4 Comacchio, the Marinating Production

5 Historical nature route of the Comacchio Valleys

TRAVELLERS' DIARY

The cycling tourist indications are good and lead you from Goro to Comacchio. From the old fishing village, today a modern port, with a large fleet of fishing boats, and which overlooks the wide half-moon shaped inlet between the sea and the lagoon, you ride on a path which is higher than the sea. An original cycling path gets you through the Bosco della Mesola Nature Reserve, where a precious colony of deer from the Pianura Padana lives undisturbed. Amidst the thick Mediterranean vegetation you can glimpse deer, badgers, a varied avifauna and the rare marsh tortoise.

During this stage the route has been obtained from ancient dunes so for this reason it has been left as a dirt track. In some short stretches it might be more comfortable to get off your bike. At the Taglio della Falce, you reach the Canneviè-Porticino valley oasis, where a nature route leads you to the *casoni* and the typical working area, a fishing system similar to a maze made of reeds and trellis. Now, in the distance, to the right you can see the long narrow shape of the beautiful Romanesque bell-tower of the Pomposa Benedictine Abbey, spiritual and cultural centre placed along the

ancient road of Popilia, which led from Rimini to Aquileia passing through Ravenna and Adria. We really advise you to make a detour (about 9 km each way) to visit the extraordinary basilica which contains a precious series of frescoes and a mosaic floor with precious marble inlay from between the VI and XII centuries. Returning to the coast road, which alternates between the woods, the sea and urban cycling paths, you go through Lido di Volano, Lido delle Nazioni, Lido di Pomposa, Lido degli Scacchi, Porto Garibaldi to then reach the beautiful Comacchio.