Departure and arrival:

Corniolo

Public transport:

LINE 132 departing from Forlì (Start Romagna)

Support facilities:

Rifugio Pian di Rocchi and Campigna (Agriturismo Poderone, Albergo Lo Scoiattolo)

Difficulty: 3









First day:

5 hours, 12 km length, 600 m uphill height difference, 300 m downhill

Second day:

7 hours, 18 km length, 600 m uphill height difference, 600 m downhill

Third day:

6 hours, 14 km length, 980 m uphill height difference, 600 m downhill



Solitary plains in the valley of Bidente

The valleys of Santa Sofia and Premilcuore, where the woods alternate with meadows and rocky areas, and the view extends from the low Romagna hills to the highest ridges of Monte Falco and Poggio Scali. Three days in Romagna and Tuscany, two nights in shelters immersed in nature and tranquillity.



11 • Solitary plains in the valley of Bidente

FIRST LEG > From Corniolo we head uphill to the high part of town. The narrow carriageway covers wide hairpin bends and comes into path 267 on the right. The walk uphill now becomes more demanding and we soon find ourselves in the pine forest above Corniolo. A wide meadow announces the arrival to Valpisella, a beautiful house with a surprising view. The path continues behind the building and leads us to a forest road, facing the woods of Valdonasso. This road will continue to be our route for a long time, but motor vehicle transit is forbidden so we will only come across people on foot or bicycle. At the edges of the road, the vegetation is multi-coloured and changes according to its exposure. Ignoring the crossroads leading to Bivacco della Fratta, we continue towards Monte Merli, with an almost imperceptible height difference. The junction with path 311 is a deviation towards Premilcuore, but we go straight ahead until the view of the park's peaks opens up to us: Monte Falterona and Monte Falco are in front of us. The final descent has now begun: a few narrow hairpin bends, wide pastures, and we've reached Pian di Rocchi.

SECOND LEG > This second day begins downhill. We have to continue along the forest road that brought us here, and proceed until the paved road. We now head upwards for almost 2 kilometres until Ca'Tracollina. From here a straight path takes us to the ditch, from which we go upwards taking the beech forest head on until we come up to the ridge: from this moment on we will follow path 201 until the peak of Monte Ritoio, through pastures and panoramic viewpoints on Bidente delle Celle. After passing Poggio Bini, the trail continues upwards once again until Costa di Poggio Corsoio and then, once we reach the forest track, we keep to the left until Pian delle Fontanelle. In this stretch we come across a memorial stone remembering the partisan struggle and the Fontanelle shelter, and in less than half an hour we reach the Piancancelli road. If you want to take the detour to Monte Falco, go to the right and then to the left on the 00 path, while if you want to reach the day's final destination turn to the left. In just a few minutes we'll reach the Fangacci parking lot and, on the right, we re-enter the woods and path 251. This leads us down among the beech trees and then the monumental white fir trees, until the junction with path 289: here we'll turn to the left if our destination is Agriturismo il Poderone, or to the right until Campigna if it isn't.

THIRD LEG > If for our overnight stay we had chosen Poderone, we should now reach Campigna: on the province road we can take a shortcut at the first hairpin turn, and then continue on the paved road until reaching path 259 in just a few minutes: an unexpected forest leads us along the centuries-old maples and linden trees of Viale del Granduca, until Campigna. After the forest museum we turn onto path 243 towards Villaneta, in the company of ancient chestnut trees and horse chestnuts. We continue straight along path 249, and then go downhill past Cà Franchetto, Castagnoli, and Cà Fiume. After Sant'Agostino we finally reach the Fiumari junction: here we go right ensuring, a little later, to enter the path on the left that leads down towards the ditch. Of the two paths that take to San Paolo in Alpe, we take the one on the right, path 255. Pine and turkey oak forests take us to the meadows of Campodonato, and then a rocky slope announces the small graveyard and the famous plateau of San Paolo. The remains of the church and the large poplars are an excellent excuse for a well-deserved break. Now we need to head upwards until Poggio Squilla, and from the ridge we go left on path 257, which faces the steep descent of Cerrete and then continues along the ditch until the Bidente di Corniolo bridge, just below the village.

FIRST NIGHT

Rifugio Pian di Rocchi

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SECOND NIGHT

Albergo Lo Scoiattolo

Via centro, 7 - Campigna 47018 Santa Sofia (FC) - Emilia-Romagna Tel: 0543.980052 Cell phone: 347.4578239 Fax: 0543/980103 albscoiattolo@hotmail.com www.albergoloscoiattolo.it

Agriturismo Poderone

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