



Cultura, arte, paesaggi, tradizioni fanno parte del patrimonio turistico, spesso sottovalutato, della provincia di Milano. Eppure il nostro territorio è al sesto posto nella graduatoria italiana per le presenze turistiche e, anche se gran parte di queste vengono generate dal flusso di visite per affari, vi è un sempre crescente numero di cittadini interessati a scoprire inaspettati luoghi di interesse a poca distanza da casa. Per questo motivo presentiamo con soddisfazione, insieme alla Camera di Commercio e con il patrocinio di Urban Center, questo programma di itinerari attraverso la storia e l'arte nei dintorni della città senza tralasciare le aree dedicate all'agricoltura, all'industria e quelle degli ambienti naturali. Brevi visite per scoprire che, per "fare turismo", non sempre è necessario affrontare lunghi viaggi in terre lontane.

Filippo Penati
Presidente
Provincia di Milano



Milano, la grande capitale della laboriosità italiana, ha una lunga storia da raccontare e da leggere nei segni che dal passato ad oggi e nelle prospettive del futuro segnalano gli interventi dell'uomo sul territorio, con le diversificate forme di agricoltura e di produzione e nelle infrastrutture. E poi la rete dei centri urbani divenuti centri dell'industria lungo le linee del trasporto viario, d'acqua e ferroviario, e accanto alle fonti di energia. E ancora gli snodi del commercio, dell'incontro e della residenza dalle più lontane forme di insediamento ai nuovi quartieri. Negli itinerari per "conoscere Milano e la Provincia" si leggono stratificati tutti questi interventi e si vede anche quanto lavoro ancora si possa e si debba promuovere per migliorare la qualità della vita e dell'ambiente e per dare nuovi impulsi economici e sociali allo sviluppo.

Carlo Sangalli
Presidente
Camera di Commercio di Milano



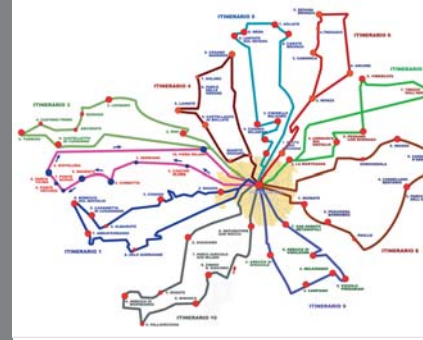
Dopo aver avviato, ormai nel lontano 2002, i primi itinerari alla scoperta di una Milano in profonda trasformazione, e in particolare dei nuovi quartieri li dismesse, Urban Center promuove questo nuovo Conoscere Milano esteso a tutto il territorio della provincia. Gli itinerari, disegnati a corolla attorno a Milano, con tappe molto diverse tra loro, toccheranno il ricco patrimonio storico e artistico insieme a trasformazioni e recuperi contemporanei, partendo spesso da luoghi storici, nuovi quartieri o progetti di recupero realizzati a Milano, a sottolineare il ruolo baricentrico che il capoluogo detiene. Urban Center si dimostra ancora una volta il luogo dedicato alla comunicazione e all'informazione sul territorio, in questo caso con l'obiettivo rivolto alle tante mete ricche di storia e di tesori disseminati nella provincia milanese



Conoscere Milano e la sua provincia. Un invito che AIM rivolge a tutti i cittadini della città centrale a diventare "viandanti nella loro terra", ad uscire dalle mura urbane e a ritrovare nei segni del passato e nelle realtà della vita odierna il percorso che l'uomo ha condotto occupando e facendo fruttare un territorio fra i più fertili e ricchi dell'Europa. Il percorso di conoscenza del moderno viandante incontrerà poi, pur nella ricorrente congestione di un territorio fitto di presenze abitative, produttive e infrastrutturali, i segni evidenti di nuove politiche di recupero e riassetto dei centri storici, di restauro di beni monumentali pubblici, privati ed ecclesiastici, nuove tipologie di parchi tutelati e aperti ad utilizzi vari per il tempo libero e lo sport. Segnali concreti di un diffuso rinascimento e rinnovamento ambientale promosso e gestito dagli enti locali che sono anch'essi una ricchezza del nostro territorio.

Knowing Milan's province: History, art, nature and new architecture

Today, Milan's province includes 189 cities. This area is so rich and diverse that it deserves several itineraries: hence, the publication "Knowing Milan and its province". This project aims at promoting and enhancing the Milan area; it was conceived by the Department for Tourism of the Provincial Administration, together with the Urban Center of the City of Milan and the Chamber of Commerce of Milan. AIM designed and co-ordinated the itineraries. Ten guided tours, diverse and interesting, to unveil an area that has a rich heritage and a strong drive towards the future.



CONOSCERE MILANO E LA PROVINCIA

ARTE E NATURA, INDUSTRIA E ARCHITETTURA

ITINERARY 10

THE SOUTH, BETWEEN NAVIGLIO GRANDE AND NAVIGLIO PAVESE

Savona Tortona
The new creativity district, spontaneously born in abandoned factories and workshops

Gaggiano
On the Naviglio Grande canal, a renovated, colourful historic centre

Abbazia di Morimondo
The fascinating keystone in the farming policy of Carthusian monks

Binasco
A Visconti castle that played a key role in the town's history and urban planning

Zibido San Giacomo
New neighbourhoods and production sites, fortified farmsteads and a beautiful 15th-century church

THE SOUTH, BETWEEN NAVIGLIO GRANDE AND NAVIGLIO PAVESE

The tenth itinerary in Milan's province unfurls in-between the Naviglio Grande and Naviglio Pavese canals. Naviglio Grande was first built in the 12th century, whereas the Naviglio Pavese has a more complicated history. The first idea dates back to the times of the Viscontis, however it took until the late 16th-early 17th century to try, unsuccessfully, to create a navigable canal connecting Milan to Pavia. The project was completed under Napoleon. As we leave Milan going south-west, we travel through the Via Savona and Via Tortona area, a former industrial neighbourhood that has become a creativity district in the last twenty years. Down along the Naviglio Grande, we reach Parco Agricolo Sud Milano: the park aims to match environmental protection with the safeguard of farming, its landscape and economy. It stretches over 61 towns and about one-third of the province's territory, and sits as a green belt South of Milan. We travel through green countryside to Abbazia di Morimondo and its borough, where the Carthusian monks have left a deep mark on the rural landscape. Then, we go on in a countryside rich in water, through Rosate, Fallavecchia, Binasco, to Zibido San Giacomo, from where we make our way back to Milan. Water being the main feature in the area, the itinerary finishes in Milan at a water cleaning plant, the San Rocco facility.



Direttore centrale
Cultura e Turismo
Pia Benci

Responsabile Servizio
Turismo
Monica Giudici

Hanno collaborato
Roberto Barelli
Alessandra Costarpa
Silvia Iantorno
Loretta Sangalli
Luisa Zanardi
Anna Zetti



Area Programmazione
Comunicazione
e Relazioni Istituzionali

Renato Mattioni
Federica Villa
Laura Colombo



Research and copy
Monica Torri
Mara Martello
Massimo Tiano

General co-ordination
Luisa Toeschi
Carlo Berizzi
Claudia Galassi
Milly Di Bello

Graphic and photos
Roberto Redaelli

Itinerary guides
Società CIVITA

INFORMATION

www.provincia.milano.it
www.conosceremilano.it

Tourist Office Province of Milan
Piazza Castello 1 ang. Via Luca Beltrami
Tel 02 805.80.614/15/16
Monday to friday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Mail: itinerari@provincia.milano.it
Copyright: Province of Milan-AIM 2006



1. SAVONA TORTONA

In the last twenty years, this area has become a real creativity district. Armani Teatro, Superstudiopiù, the Pomodoro Foundation and the Scala Ansaldo Workshop are all located in former industrial buildings; all around, there are plenty of fashion, graphic design, photography studios. New housing and offices are also being built, including Bergognone 53, which used to be the old Post Building.



5. FALLAVECCHIA

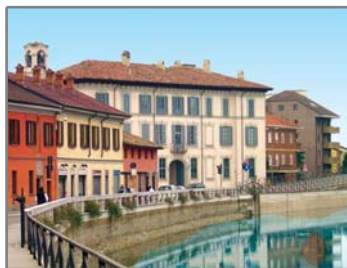
We go South along a nice country road to Fallavecchia, an important active farmstead, that was the farmhouse of the Abbazia di Morimondo; it still has two small churches, one inside the farmhouse, the other on the street.

6. BINASCO

We reach Besate, the starting point for excursions in the Parco del Ticino, then the centre of Binasco. The main square hosts a 14th-century Visconti castle that is now the Town Hall. This majestic building was originally built to protect Milan and has the typical period arrangement with a moat, square plan and corner towers. However, the castle of Binasco also has a terrible story: it was the location of a famous tragic event, involving Filippo Maria Visconti and beautiful and rich Beatrice Tenda. Her husband having accused her of betraying him, she and her assumed lover were beheaded here in 1418. Vincenzo Bellini immortalised the event in his opera. Near the fortress, there is the Baroque 1783 parish church of Saints Stefano and Giovanni, with a panel by Perugia painter Luigi Scaramuccia portraying Beata Veronica.

2. GAGGIANO

The itinerary follows the Navigli canals. Along the Naviglio Grande, we get to Gaggiano, where lovely colourful old houses face the water, and the imposing 18th-century Sant'Invenzio church stands on the town square. On the opposite side of the Naviglio - wisely preserved from urbanisation - we see the 16th-century Town Hall, which still has some of the porches and graffiti decorations, and 18th-century Palazzo Venini Uboldi. Finally, at the exit of town, we reach late 16th-century Villa Stampa Aloardi, better known as Villa Marino; popular tradition has it that it was the summer residence of Genoa financier Tommaso Marino. The large gate along the Naviglio shows the front of the villa with its porch; the back opens onto the countryside and its farmhouses.



3. ROSATE

We travel through an area that has many factories, abandoned farmhouses and clusters of small villas to get to Rosate. After the 17th-century church of San Giuseppe, we reach a small Castle that survived the fights between the Comuni city-states and the Empire during the Middle Ages.



1. SAVONA TORTONA

9. DEPURATORE SAN ROCCO

2. GAGGIANO

7. PARCO AGRICOLO SUD MILANO

8. ZIBIDO S. GIACOMO

4. ABBAZIA DI MORIMONDO

3. ROSATE

6. BINASCO

5. FALLAVECCHIA

7. PARCO AGRICOLO SUD MILANO

Parco Agricolo Sud Milano is characterised by lines of trees, ancient farmhouses, precious rural boroughs, waterways and corn fields; it envelops the city in a half-ring shape and connects to Parco dell'Adda in the East and to Parco del Ticino in the West. The park involves as many as 61 cities in Lombardy: it aims at safeguarding this rich environment and at enhancing its historic architectural heritage.



4. ABBAZIA DI MORIMONDO

More green countryside to reach a site that is as famous as it is enchanted, the Abbazia di Morimondo. Farmhouses, small courtyards, the streets and the entrance door of the borough: everything is ancient and well preserved, and leads to a very popular destination, especially in good weather, thanks to the pleasantness of the site and the beauty of this 13th-century Carthusian complex. It is a keystone in the farming policy that the Carthusian monks of San Bernardo implemented in Lombardy in the Middle Ages. There is an imposing abbey church dedicated to Saints Maria and Ambrogio: the outside is Romanic, while the three-naves inside has more of a Gothic sensibility. Over the centuries, the church has been enriched with important works of art, including a Madonna with Child by Bernardino Luini. The precious cloister keeps its original 13th-century shape.



8. ZIBIDO SAN GIACOMO

Today, Zibido is nearly overwhelmed by recent thick development in housing and business districts; however, the towns boasts the highest concentration of 15th-century fortified buildings, that survived the power struggles and wars that only marginally affected this area. North of town, we find the Castelletto and Ca' Grande compounds. The former was seized from the Posterla family by Gian Galeazzo Visconti who donated it to the Carthusian abbey of Pavia as their farmhouse. It is a fortified house with a tower. The latter is a cluster of three-floor buildings, with courtyard and garden. Inside the courtyard, the masters' quarters, known as Casa Pusterla, are one of the most accomplished examples of a late 15th-century house. As we go on, we get to a special site, a small piazza with the Town Hall and the beautiful Renaissance church of San Giacomo, built in 1100 and renovated in the 15th century. The inside deserves a stop, too, with its Luini school frescoes.



9. SAN ROCCO STATION

On the way back to Milan along the Naviglio Pavese, near the Fiordaliso shopping mall and just before the Gratosoglio and Missaglia residential neighbourhoods, we can see the elegant blue shape of the new water cleaning station.

