

The Gesso and the Stura Rivers Parkland currently covers an area of some 4,000 hectares and it includes 10 different municipalities; it represents a link between the mountain area and the plain. The measures of the Parkland environmental improvements include different actions varying according to the characteristics of all disparate areas: from the **nature reserves** which primarily focus on the environmental conservation, to the **recreational facilities** which are mainly oriented to sports, didactics and leisure. These actions take into account the social function of the Park that becomes an instrument of **improvement of the citizens' quality of life**. The Parkland also intends to become the driving force behind **an economic and tourist development**, that must be sustainable and unique to this territory. The Gesso and the Stura Rivers Parkland characterizes for its proximity to the urban areas; the map shows the most significant and peculiar spots of interest of this "common Parkland".

THE PARKLAND



The Parkland combines natural vegetation with both rural areas, build-up areas and production facilities. The vegetation is characterized by broad **forest areas** (more than one-fourth of the total land surface), timber arboriculture, **cultivation** and **meadows**. In the forest areas one can find oak trees and black alders growing in moist soils typified by the presence of **resurgence areas**, such as Sant'Anselmo Woodland, the area on Cuneo's plateau at the confluence of the rivers Gesso and Stura and "La Madonna" Nature Reserve. All different environments in the Park are inhabited by hundreds of **species**, some of which are particularly interesting from a conservative point of view: 144 bird species, 25 mammals, 9 amphibians, 8 reptiles, 54 butterflies, among which the rare "Maculinea Arion" butterfly, as well as a sizeable number of insects and invertebrates.

ENVIRONMENTS



SOME EVENTS NOT TO BE FORGOTTEN

- › March or April: Easter Monday hike
- › May: "Hortus horti": Educational walk in the gardens
- › June: Park's Day
- › July: A hike in the Park
- › December: Christmas in the Park

For further information about the events schedule in all seasons, go to our website www.parcofluvialegessostura.it or register to our newsletter by sending an e-mail at parcofluviale@comune.cuneo.it

bbox

PICTURES: MARTINA SILBA, PARKLAND ARCHIVES

INFORMATION

NOTIFICATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS
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The Gesso and the Stura Rivers Parkland
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A COMMON PARKLAND

A 60-KILOMETRE PARKLAND BETWEEN THE GESSO AND THE STURA RIVERS



GREEN NETWORK: THE PARK CYCLING AND HIKING TRAILS

ITINERARY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	KM	DIFFICULTY LEVEL	MAIN FEATURES
1 Torrente Gesso	Cuneo Parco della Gioventù	Borgo San Dalmazzo*	9	Easy	Educational gardens, butterflies' path, relaxing area
2 Via Antica di Vignolo	Cuneo Ponte Vassallo	Vignolo-Borgo S.D.* Ponte del Sale	8,4	Medium	Canals and old spinning mills, hydroelectric power stations, recreational facilities
3 Confluenza (Confluence of the two rivers)	Cuneo Parco della Gioventù	Cuneo Ponte Vassallo	5	Easy	Riverbanks, canals, monumental cemetery
4 Fiume Stura	Cuneo-Via Cascina Colombaro	Borgo San Dalmazzo*	4,3	Medium	Nature trail
5 Sant'Anselmo	Cuneo-Madonna delle Grazie	Sant'Albano Stura** "La Madonnina" Nature Reserve	22	Medium	Nature trail with country woods, resurgence area
6 Ronchi (under construction)	Cuneo-Madonna della Riva	Cuneo-Hamlet Ronchi	11,1	Medium	Sanctuary with recreational area
Gesso and Stura loop trail	Cuneo Parco della Gioventù	Cuneo Parco della Gioventù	27,5	Medium	Trails nr. 3, 2 and 1 cross Borgo San Dalmazzo

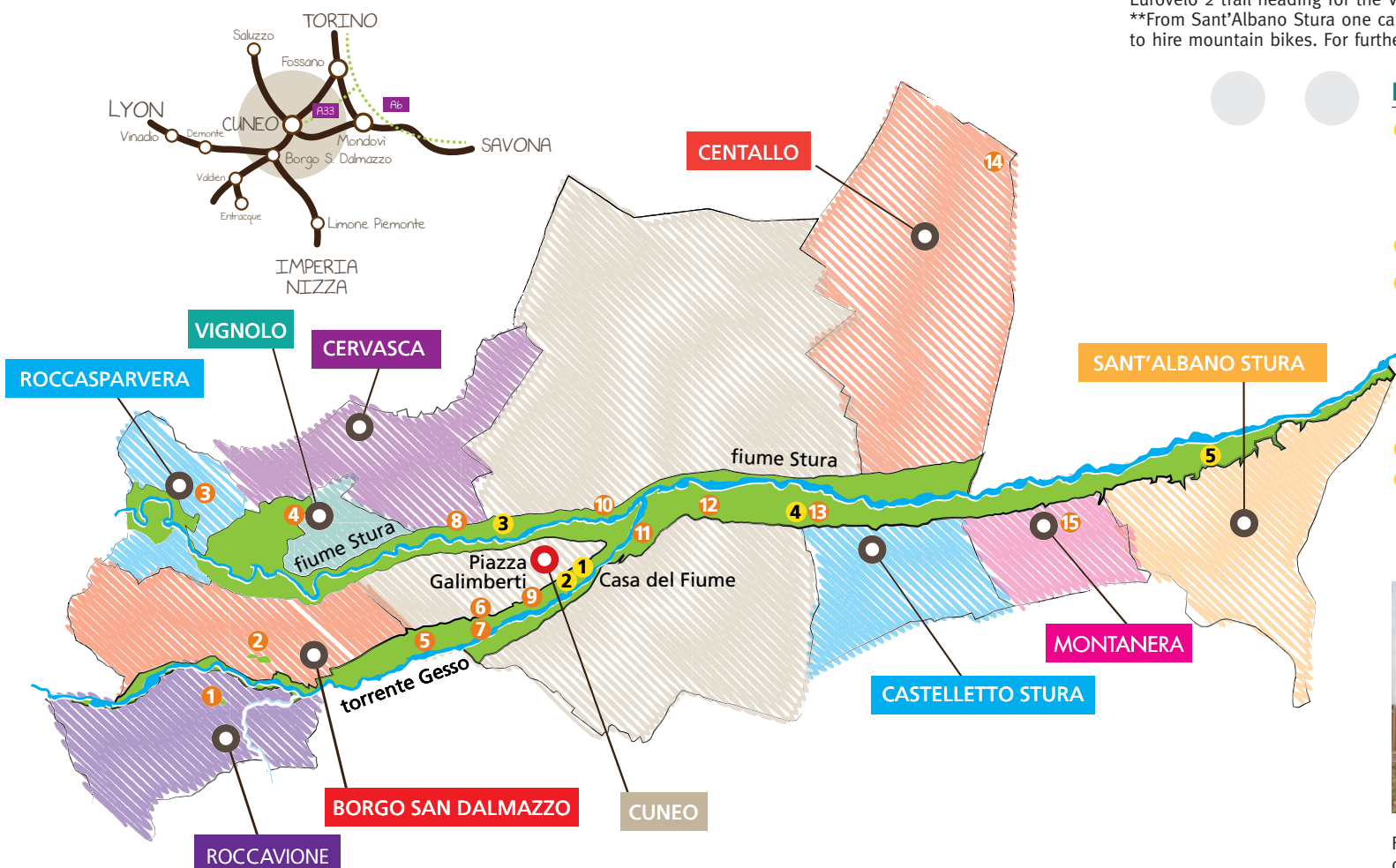
THE TERRITORY

Set up in 2007 by Piedmont Regional Council, the Gesso and the Stura Rivers Parkland links the mountain district to the plain. At the foot of the mountains in **Roccapione** in the "Bugialà" area (Via Giardini d'Ara), bikers and hikers can start the nature trail that offers information boards on the woodland habitat, whereas in **Borgo San Dalmazzo**, on the picturesque hill of Monserrato, they can explore the themed trail displaying old sundials or the Grandis Park which features an adventure trail. Along the Stura River, in **Roccasparvera** they can experience an adventurous rafting trip; once in **Vignolo** they come across some age-old canals and the luxuriant "Bosco dell'Impero" (the Empire Woods). In **Cervasca**, in the hamlet of Santa Croce, there is a 2-kilometre loop nature trail, named "Parole di legno" (Wooden words) which is an educational trail dedicated to trees. Going downhill, and once past **Cuneo**, the Parkland stretches to the north as far as the municipality of **Centallo** where there is a resurgence area called "Sagnassi". By following the cycling nature trail heading towards Sant'Anselmo Woodland in the municipality of **Castelletto Stura**, hikers and bikers cross the area of **Montanera** to reach **Sant'Albano Stura** where they can explore "La Madonnina" Nature Reserve.

CYCLING TRAILS IN CUNEO'S OUTSKIRTS

ITINERARY	DEPARTURE /ARRIVAL	HAMLETS	KM	DIFFICULTY LEVEL	MAIN FEATURES
CN 01 Across the Gesso	Cuneo Piazza Galimberti	Borgo San Giuseppe Spinetta, Roata Canale, Tetti Pesio, Bombonina Madonna delle Grazie	35	Easy	These trails go along secondary roads, they skirt old farmhouses, canals and countryside landscape.
CN 02 Across the Stura towards the mountains	Cuneo Piazza Galimberti	Cerialdo, Passatore San Pietro del Gallo San Bernardo di Cervasca Confreria, Basse Stura	31	Easy	These trails pass through Cuneo's hamlets and some of the neighbouring municipalities and are fully signalled.
CN 03 Across the Stura towards the plain	Cuneo Piazza Galimberti	Madonna dell'Olmo Roata Rossi, San Benigno, Centallo, San Biagio, Roata Chiusani, Ronchi	39	Easy	

*From Borgo San Dalmazzo one can continue on the cycling trail heading for the Stura Valley or, alternatively, one can choose the Eurovelo 2 trail heading for the Vermenagna Valley.
**From Sant'Albano Stura one can continue on the cycling trails of the Union of Fossano Municipalities. In the Parkland it is possible to hire mountain bikes. For further information go to www.parcodfluvialegessostura.it.



INFRASTRUCTURES

- 1 "Casa del Fiume" P (The River's House Via Porta Mondovì 11/a tel. 0171.444.501)
- 2 Educational gardens ♣
- 3 Polo canoistico "Le Basse" (canoeing centre ♣ (Via Basse Stura, 54 bar, climbing practice wall, canoeing, recreational area, bowling greens and beach volleyball))
- 4 Sant'Anselmo Mill (next opening)
- 5 "La Madonnina" Nature Reserve ♣ (www.oasimadonnina.eu tel. 338.7683132)



For further details look at the Park's map on the Web site www.parcodfluvialegessostura.it or look at the tour plan on sale at the "Casa del Fiume" (River's House) (1.00 €), at the Tourist Bureau or at the URP (Public Relation Office)

SPOTS OF INTEREST

- 1 "Bugialà" area nature trail (Via Giardini d'Ara)
- 2 Monserrato hill ♣
- 3 Old fountains' trail
- 4 "Bosco dell'Impero" (the Empire Wood) picnic area ♣
- 5 Crocetta Wood - green classroom
- 6 Trail featuring Gino Giordanengo's passages
- 7 Santuario degli Angeli relaxing area ♣
- 8 "Parole di legno" (Wooden words) educational trail dedicated to trees
- 9 "In un battito d'ali" (In a fluttering of wings) educational trail dedicated to butterflies
- 10 Madonna della Riva picnic area ♣
- 11 "Le querce" picnic area ♣
- 12 "La Cà di Banda" relaxing area ♣
- 13 Sant'Anselmo Woodland
- 14 "Sagnassi" area
- 15 Outdoor museum dedicated to G. Filippi and the cinema