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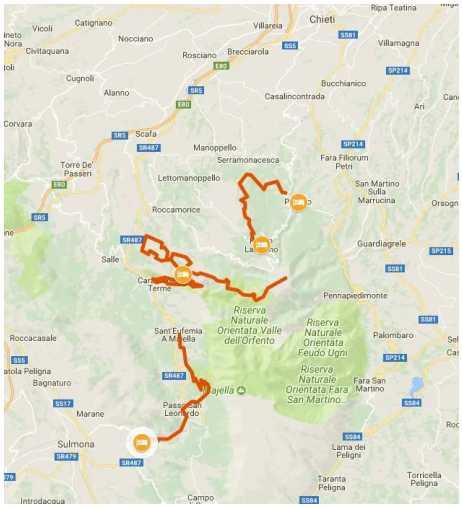


SPRING & AUTUMN SUMMER

type :	Self-Guided Hiking Tours
level :	
duration :	7 days
period:	Jul Aug Sep Oct
code:	ITSW175

MAJELLA NATIONAL PARK: IN THE LAND OF WOLVES AND BEARS - Italy

7 days, PRICE FROM *€ 880*



Not far from **Rome** and the **Adriatic coast**, this **untamedly beautiful place** offers limpid streams and Alpine meadows filled with **flocks of sheep**, endless **beech forests, ancient hamlets**, Roman monasteries and **solitary hermitages**. It's the Majella National Park, in the **Abruzzo** region — one of the most fascinating destinations for **Majella National Park Hiking**, perfect for nature lovers and their families.

Here **animals** — even the wild ones, among the rarest in Europe — **still feel safe**: in few other places you'd be able to spot otters playing in the water, **Apennine chamois, red and roe deers** running through the trees, **golden eagles** flying above your head. Some are even more rare, more cautious — **black bears, wolves, lynxes** — but their presence is perceptible everywhere, part of the soul of this place, wild and free.

Nature here is queen: it is rigorously and passionately protected, she imposes her rhythm and rules. **The park hosts 22% of the whole European flora**, more than 2100 plant species of which 140 are endemic — coloring this place with all the **shades of green** you may imagine and turning into endless tones of gold and red in fall. It's exactly this richness that makes **Majella National Park Hiking** such a unique experience.

Route

Day 1 Arrive in Pretoro

Arrive in Pescara or Roma airports and take a train to Chieti. If you arrive early, take a stroll in the tiny streets of this nice medieval village, located at 600m altitude on the slopes of the **Majella Massif.** Enjoy having a **glass of wine** sitting on the bench of the panoramic terrace in front of the accommodation.

Day 2 From Pretoro to Passo Lanciano, 14 km

A morning transfer to the start of the walk near **Pretoro** (near Colle Faggio). The route is well marked but the trail is sometimes hard to see. Along the walk you will encounter several dry stone "**tholos**" hut. You come out on an open level with great views of the Maielletta Mountains. In the higher section of the itinerary you walk through **beeches** and **coniferous forests.** If you are lucky you can spot deer, foxes and wolves You stay in a good hotel in **Passo Lanciano**, a small ski hamlet in the beech woods.

Distance: 14 km

Elevation gain: +1081/-349 m

Day 3 From Majelletta to Decontra, 11 km

Today's destination is the hamlet of **Decontra** a charming and magical place that seems unaffected by time. You will walk along the ridge enjoying spectacular views over the Majella mountains and the surrounding valleys.

Distance: 11 km

Elevation gain: +590/-1028 m

Day 4 Orfento Valley loop, 10 km

Soon after leaving Decontra you walk along an old panoramic mule track that plunge into the deep and narrow **Orfento Valley** formed by the erosive action of the river through the millennia, that has contributed to the creation of one of the most singular and spectacular areas in the **Apennines**, both from an aesthetic and naturalistic point of view. Because of its natural characteristics, the valley is a protected and restricted area.

Distance: 10 km

Elevation gain: +403/-403 m

Day 5 Giumentina valley loop, 14 km

The day's route runs along the **Giumentina Valley**'s on dirt roads through wide pastures and fields with breath-taking views. It is possible to make a detour to visit the charming **S.Bartolomeo Hermitage**; it is also possible to visit the ancient graves named "**Tholos"** which have been recently recovered.

Distance: 14 km

Elevation gain: +427/-427 m

Day 6 From Sant'Eufemia to Pacentro, 17,5 km

A short transfer takes you to **Sant'Eufemia** where the day's walk to Pacentro starts. The walk is a gradual climb predominated by the **spectacular views** of and from the Morrone Mountain that sits majestically behind **Caramanico Terme**. All along the walk, on beautiful mature beech forests and high altitude pastures, you have great views of the soaring peaks of the Majella massif, the **Gran Sasso** (2800m), the highest mountain outside the Italian Alps and the **Monti della Laga**. Once over the San Leonardo Pass, a steep descent down to the tower of the magnificent medieval village of Pacentro that offers great views on the mountains of the **Abruzzo National Park** and the town of **Sulmona**.

Distance: 17,5 km

Elevation gain: +727/-879 m

Day 7 Arrivederci Pacentro!

The trip and our services end after breakfast. Make your own way to the airport by public transports unless you have pre-booked a private transfer with us.

Accommodation

6 nights in double rooms in 3* hotels, B&B and agriturismi with breakfast and 3 dinner



B&B Casa Milà - Pretoro
B&B Casa Milà is located in Majella National Park at 602 meters above sea level. Rooms are clean, well-furnished and welcoming with private bathroom, free Wifi and TV. Breakfast is very good both savoury and sweet. Owners are kind and courteous.



Hotel La Maielletta - Pretoro
Hotel La Maielletta is centrally located in Majella National Park in Passolanciano area and 100 meters from the Panoramic ski slopes. Rooms have a mountain style with a simple furniture. These aren't spacious. Breakfast is good. The Hotel has a SPA too. Staff is courteous.



Agriturismo Pietrantica - Decontra di Caramanico
Agriturismo Pietrantica is an organic farmhouse since 2000 promotes a local development project with sustainability in the Majella National Park. Rooms are spacious, bright and relaxing. The cuisine proposes dishes from Abruzzo and breakfast offers natural products. Staff is welcoming and kind.



B&B In Centro a Pacentro - Pacentro
This B&B is centrally located in Pacentro. It offers clean, quiet and comfortable rooms with TV, free Wifi. Owners are very welcoming and helpful. Breakfast is served on panoramic terrace on warmer months and it's rich and various.

Practical info

Rome Fiumicino (FCO) and Rome Ciampino (CIA) airports are 240km from Pretoro. If you fly to Rome (Fiumicino FCO or Ciampino CIA), take a train to Rome Termini train station and then a train to Chieti Scalo. In Chieti get on the bus to Pretoro.

Pescara airport (PSR) is 40km from Pretoro and 70km from Sulmona. If you fly to Pescara Airport (PSR), take a bus to Pescara train station and then a train to Chieti Scalo. In Chieti get the bus to Pretoro.

From Pacentro take a taxi or a public bus to Sulmona and from Sulmona you can travel by train or public bus to Pescara or Rome airports. For more information please visit www.trenitalia.com.

Thanks to our special APP, you will be able to follow the track of the whole trip on your mobile phone, with no need for internet. GPS tracks are available on request.

Included

What is included

- 6 Nights in double room in *** hotels , B&B and agriturismi with breakfast
- 4 dinners
- 1 packed lunch
- luggage transportation from hotel to hotel
- Map of the Majella National Park
- Transfers as described in the program
- maps and detailed description of the itinerary in digital form, app
- Medical and luggage travel insurance
- 24h phone assistance

What is not included

- Transfers to the starting location and from the arriving location of the tour
- lunches and dinners, if not otherwise stated
- visits and entrance fees - tips
- personal expense
- possible sojourn taxes
- everything that is not mentioned in the "What is included" section.

Optional Services

These services can be added to the ones included in the base price of the tour:

- Single room supplement
- cancellation insurance
- Transfers to reach the starting location or to leave the arriving location of the tour, which will be quoted on request.
- travel documentation in printed form (maps and detailed description of the itinerary), shipped to the first hotel