



## THE BEIGUA GEOPARK

In March 2005 the Beigua Park territory joined the Global Geoparks Network supported by UNESCO and the European Geoparks Network. Such a prestigious form of recognition has officially crowned admission of the Beigua territory among the International Geoparks, thanks to documentation illustrating the great geological and geomorphological heritage. It represents the various disciplines related to Earth Sciences and reveals the particular importance in the reconstruction of Italy's geological history and the understanding of the evolution of the Alpine chain and its relationship with that of the Apennines.

The area boasts a large quantity of serpentinite outcrops with an Alpine, metamorphic imprinting that represents a fragment of the original, Jurassic, ocean basin (therefore originating about 160

million years ago), rarely appearing so frequently in the Alps. In the Geopark area, you may visit the various sites of geological interest ("geosites") where you can look out for the fascinating evolutionary history of the Beigua territory, such as the spectacular canyons, in the shape of conglomerates as in the Gargassa Valley (Municipality of Rossiglione) or the rich variety of fossil flora, made up of overland plants in the form of tree trunks and abundant leaves, in the palaeontological area of Stella Santa Giustina. Another amazing attraction is the fossil barrier reef present in Ponte Prina - La Maddalena (in the Municipality of Sassello) with its characteristic brightly-coloured colonies of coral, directly impressed on the ophiolitic substrate or the curious lherzolite spheroids (an intrusive dark green rock) in Lago dei Gulli (Municipality of Sassello).

The ideal "geological adventure" would imply an excursion to the meanders of the Orba River in the Tiglieto flat lands, where the first Cistercian Abbey to be built outside France was constructed in 1120, or an excursion in search of ophiolite outcrops at Passo del Faiallo, austere guardians of the precious "garnets", wonderful deep red stones which are crystal clear.

Last but not least, a visit to the fantastic "blockstreams" and "blockfields" in the watershed regions of the Geopark - at Torbiera del Laione, Prariondo, Pian Fretto - illustrating the geomorphological processes which came about in the peri-glacial environment.

The Beigua Geopark covers an area of 39,230 hectares, taking in the Municipalities of Arenzano, Campo Ligure, Cogoleto, Genoa (as far as the Valle del Cerusa and districts of Crevari, Sambuco and Fiorino are concerned), Masone, Rossiglione, Sassello, Stella, Tiglieto and Varazze. The "Beigua Regional Nature Park" lies at the heart of this vast territory.

## MUSEUMS AND BOTANICAL GARDENS

**MUVITA Science Centre** Via Marconi 165, Arenzano (GE), tel. +39 010 910001, [www.muvita.it](http://www.muvita.it)

**Civico Museo della Filigrana Pietro Carlo Bosio**

Via della Giustizia 1, Campo Ligure (GE),

tel. +39 010 920099 / +39 010 921166, [www.museofiligrana.org](http://www.museofiligrana.org)

**Museo Civico "Andrea Tubino"** Piazza Castello 2, Masone (GE),

tel. +39 019 926003 / +39 010 926493

**Museo "Perrando"** Via Dei Perrando 33, Sassello (SV),

tel. +39 019 724100 / +39 019 724357, [www.sasselloweb.it](http://www.sasselloweb.it)

**Casa di Sandro Pertini** Via Muzio 42/1, Stella San Giovanni (SV),

tel. +39 019 706194, [www.assopertini.it](http://www.assopertini.it)

**Esposizione Archeologica Permanente** Piazza IV Novembre -

Frazione Alpicella, Varazze (SV), tel. +39 019 93901

**Orto Botanico Villa Beuca** Località Villa Beuca, Cogoleto (GE),

tel. +39 010 9170200

**Giardino Botanico di Pratorondanino** Località Pratorondanino, Campo Ligure (GE), tel. +39 010 6988624 (G.L.A.O.)

## VISITORS CENTRES AND INFORMATION POINTS

Centro Visite "Palazzo Gervino" Via G.B. Badano 45, Sassello (SV)

Centro Visite "Villa Bagnara" Via Montegrappa 2, Masone (GE)

Centro Ornitologico e di Educazione Ambientale "Vacca"

Loc. Vacca, Arenzano (GE)

Casa del Parco "Foresta della Deiva" ingresso Foresta Deiva, Sassello (SV)

Punto Informativo "Bruno Baccocoli" Loc. Prariondo, Cogoleto (GE)

Punto Informativo "Banilla" Viale Rimembranze - Loc. Banilla, Tiglieto (GE)



### KEY TO SYMBOLS

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| PARK HEAD-QUARTERS, EDUCATIONAL CENTRE | VISITOR CENTRE, INFORMATION POINT |
| SITE OF FAUNAL INTEREST                | MUSEUM                            |
| SITE OF ORNITHOLOGICAL INTEREST        | TOURISTIC BUREAU                  |
| SITE OF GEOLOGICAL INTEREST            | PICNIC AREA                       |
| PUBLIC FOREST                          | RAILWAY STATION                   |
| BOTANICAL GARDEN                       | MOTORWAY TOLLGATE                 |
| THEMATIC TRAIL                         | MOTORWAY                          |
| PANORAMIC VIEW                         | PROVINCIAL AND MUNICIPAL ROADS    |
| HISTORICAL BUILDING                    | PARK MUNICIPALITIES               |
| BUILDINGS OF HIGH RELIGIOUS INTEREST   | PARK TERRITORY                    |
| ALTA VIA DEI MONTI LIGURI              | BEIGUA GEOPARK                    |