



Leg 13b from Acquasanta to Passo della Bocchetta

Total length	24 km
Hiking time	9 h 30'
Cumulative elevation gain	1348 m
Uphill percentage	64 %
Downhill percentage	36 %
Percentage of hike on natural earth	98 %
Percentage of hike on asphalt	2 %
Percentage of hike on paved surface	
Percentage of hike on other surface	

Profilo altimetrico



General description:

The high variant of leg 13 of the Sentiero Liguria, from Genova to Acquasanta, can be divided into two single legs (V13-A e V13-B). The variant V13 – B starts at the spa resort of Acquasanta and climbs up to Colla, from where it continues to Mount Pennello. From here the itinerary follows the Alta Via dei Monti Liguri eastwards, until Piani di Praglia first and the Bocchetta Pass finally.



Description of the itinerary

This leg of the Sentiero Liguria starts from the eastern side of the square in front of the Sanctuary, near a fountain, where you will see a paved track marked with a red and white flag and a black letter F. The track shortcuts the road and leads in 15 minutes to the small railway station of Acquasanta on the line Genova - Acqui Terme. Bare right and, crossed the bridge, turn left. The route follows a steep road that in about 20 minutes climbs up to Colla di Acquasanta (326 m a.s.l.), from where the “High Variant” (13V) and the leg n° 13 Genova - Acquasanta of the Sentiero Liguria and different trails leading to Punta Martin and Mount Pennello start.

The variant 13B proceeds on the left side, following the “white and red stripes” mark with the letter F. Take the flat road passing through pine trees and heather trees, You will soon reach a service building of the water furniture. The trail climbs up the barren slope on the right.

Follow the “empty red square” mark for a while, until the centre of the valley of the Condotti creek, originated from a spring under Colla Baiarda; here you will abandon the trail marked with the “empty red square” to take the trail on the left to the Chapel of Baiarda. You are now on top of Punta Pietra Lunga (705 m a.s.l.), a natural scenic balcony from where you can admire the western suburbs of Genova, the alpine tops on the back, and the blue Ligurian Sea in front of you.

Continuing on the grass fields halfway the slope of Mount Pietra Lunga, by following the “three red dots” mark, you will reach Colle Baiarda (701 m), before continuing North-east on the Pass.

Climb up the sunny rocky slope of Monte Cuccio (809 m), admiring the steep Vally South of Punta Martin, where the Baiardetta Creek eroded deep canyons. Continue uphill on the trail that follows the rocky ridge with beautiful views over Genova, the eastern Riviera and the imposing shape of Punta Martin to the West.

On the left side of the grassy ridge you see Mount Fontana Buona, on the right side a grassy hollow and a small picnic area.

The trail crosses a wide grassland, until an old stone construction: a so called *casella*.

Where you encounter the methane pipeline (952 m), abandon the trail marked with “tree red dots”, turn left and take the dirt road northwards. Take the trail leading to one of the two shelters neat the top. On the grassy and rocky top of Mount Pennello (996 m) you will see an interesting wind rose that allows you to identify the main mountains all around you.

Descend northwards and reach the dirt road again until the Pass. Follow the dirt road marked “E1” and “two red stripes”, leading to Colle Gandolfi (936 m). From here on the Sentiero Liguria tracks the Alta Via dei Monti Liguri (AVML) route, that proceeds eastwards with its characteristic “red-white” mark with the letters AV in between. In this section you will even see the E1 mark, as this two important long-distance itineraries coincide in this section.

The road runs flat, passing by Mount Foscallo.

Here the mountains, like the typical Bric dell’Orologio, alternate with grass clearings and small hollows horsing wetlands; this natural sites host interesting small amphibians and plants. You are now at km 202 of the AVML (a wooden stake indicates the kilometres of the Alta Via from its beginning in Ventimiglia). In spring the pink colour of the Bertoloni’s pansy stands astonishing out on the green serpentine rocks.

Continue northwards and, near Mount Proratado, take the dirt road bending to the left, ignoring the wide trail that leads to Mount Figogna, on the right.

You reach a wide grass clearing (km 204 AVML), still nowadays used as summer meadow, from where the road descends the western slope of Mount Sejeu.

Near a bar, at km 205 AVML, ignore the trail marked with an “empty red square”.



Go on northwards on the road, following the AVML mark, until Colla del Canile (860 m), from where you can enjoy a beautiful view over the villages of Paravanico and Campomorone, the Polcevera Valley and the Santuario della Guardia.

Near the information panel of the Alta Via, and the km 206 stake, you will intersect the Provincial Road of Praglia (SP 4 of Genova), that leads you to Colla di Praglia (880 m). Follow the Provincial Road for a while in North direction until a widening, where two information panels illustrate the Naturalistic Path of the Gorzente Lake, by the Alpine Club of Bolzaneto and of the “Accessible trail of Vallecaldà” in the municipality of Ceranesi.

On the right side, a dirt road flanks a horse fencing (km 207 AVML), before turning into a trail that enters a chestnut grove and reaches loc. Prato del Gatto (841 m). Here passing by one of the boundary stones of the “Polcevera Plate”, a monolith that was already documented in the year 117 BC. The Polcevera Plate is a 2100 year old bronze plate with a sentence of the Roman Senate on the allocation and the destination of Genoese land plots, by 21 monoliths called “termini”.

Continue downhill passing by some well-preserved old snow holes.

You will reach Giogo di Paravanico (780 m near the km 208 of the AVML), where you take the white road in North direction, that leads up and down. After one kilometre, at the stake of km 209 AVML, you will reach Passo di Prato Leone (779 m), where you abandon the dirt road to the Gorzente Lakes on the left. From the scenic lookout on the Pass, take the steep trail with steps that leads up to the water spring “Fontana dei segaggin”.

A short detour allows you to reach the “Nature Observatory of the Alpine Club” in 5 minutes. Here you can enjoy the view, find shelter in case of bad weather and find many interesting items, among which an orientation plate to identify the many different mountain tops that you can spot to the East, a Naturalistic path with panels to identify trees and bushes, a model of a cableway built in 1920s for maintenance of the lakes and conducts of the De Ferrari - Galliera aqueduct.

At the Km 211 of the AVML, near Bric di Guana (963 m), you will see the imposing top of Mount Figogna, with the Sanctuary Santuario della Guardia and , further away, the unique shape of Fort Diamante.

From the Pass, walk up a beautiful trail among grasslands and rare black pines, still following the AVML. The view stretches over the villages of Cravasco and Isoverde to the West, and on the Gorzente lakes (Lago Bruno) near the ridge.

Walk up to the Mezzano or Reopasso Pass (1091 m), through pine trees and beautiful views on the lake Lago Lungo. You will cross a highly suggestive rocky ridge, passing Mount Taccone on the north side.

Continue towards Colla del Leco (935 m), by walking slightly up and down in North direction, with beautiful views on the villages of Pietralavezzara, Isoverde and Campomorone and their deep valleys. The slopes on the left hand, in the territory of the Region Piemonte, are less steep and where traditionally used as meadows.

Pass Monte Leco on the South slope, by following a trail passing alternately through forests, clearings and rocks. In this area you can see some light coloured rocks, the so called metagabbros of Mount Leco. The route passes alternately through sunny clearings and shady forests until an evident tower used for communications. In this section the Alta Via dei Monti Liguri (AVML) coincides or runs very close to the border with the Region Piemonte and the Regional Nature Park of Capanne di Marcarolo.

By following the Alta Via dei Monti Liguri eastwards, descend the road that, after about one kilometre, leads you to the Bocchetta Pass.