



Leg 16 from Albisola to Varazze

Total length	16,300 km
Hiking time	4h 30'
Cumulative elevation gain	520 m
Uphill percentage	35%
Downhill percentage	39%
Percentage of hike on natural earth	42,3%
Percentage of hike on asphalt	56,4%
Percentage of hike on paved surface	1,3%
Percentage of hike on other surface	



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**General description:**

This leg of the Sentiero Liguria starts with a pleasant raise along the ridge between Albisola Superiore and Celle Ligure, before continuing eastwards along the interesting botanical path of Sanda, equipped with information panels on the local flora. Once in Gameragna, the itinerary follows the slopes of mount Bric delle Forche, immersed in the Mediterranean scrubland, to reach the suburb of Cantalupo. From here the route descends to Varazze by secondary roads, ending up on the promenade.

Description of the itinerary

This leg of the Sentiero Liguria starts from the promenade of Albisola Superiore, near the staircase that leads in Corso Vittorio Poggi. Climbing up through little country houses, this road soon reaches Via degli Ulivi that bends to the left before ascending to the road that leads to the hamlet of Pecorile and the Churches of Sant'Isidoro and Nostra Signora della Guardia. This characteristic small religious building is the place that gave birth to Pope Sisto IV.

From here you continue to Case Lassea, from where you follow the route marked with "two red dots". The road soon turns into a trail that climbs steep to Torre Bregalla through the Mediterranean scrubland.

In this place an ancient round based watchtower testifies the centuries long struggle with the Turkish and Saracene pirates. The tower originally consisted of two floors but was demolished by the German army in 1944. Nevertheless from the scenic lookout you can enjoy gorgeous views over Albissola Marina and Savona.

From Torre Bregalla you descend along a pleasant botanic path that leads to Sanda and to the seventeenth-century Church of San Giorgio.

Continue up leaving the Church behind you and, after crossing the main road, reach the trail that climbs the seventeenth-century Via Vespa, passing along small country houses. At the intersection with the provincial road, continue uphill until Via Bric delle Forche.

Follow this road until the intersection with the trail that climbs up to Bric delle Forche (452 m a.s.l.). Ignore the ascent and continue straight on, following the "red triangle" mark, descending to the hamlet of Cantalupo, on the hills above Varazze. Once on the square of the hamlet, take the staircase and the road all down to the promenade and the centre of Varazze, where this leg ends.