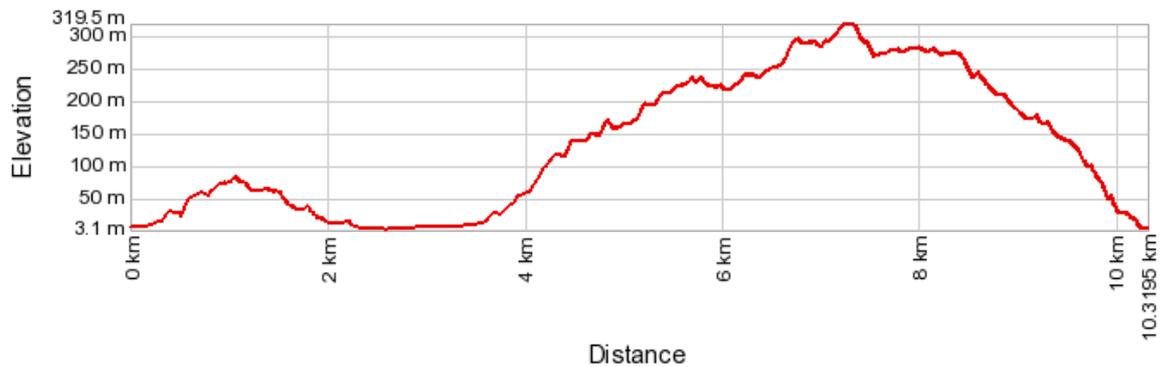




Leg 18 from Noli to Savona

Total length	10,300 km
Hiking time	3h 15'
Cumulative elevation gain	410 m
Uphill percentage	38%
Downhill percentage	37%
Percentage of hike on natural earth	59,9%
Percentage of hike on asphalt	38,1%
Percentage of hike on paved surface	2%
Percentage of hike on other surface	



created by GPSVisualizer.com

**General description:**

From the old centre of Noli, following the coastline along the old Via Aurelia, the itinerary reaches Spotorno. After crossing its centre, the trail will climb halfway the slope, with gorgeous views over the coast and the Island of Bergeggi. After passing Monte S. Elena with its famous fort and the scenic overlook, the trail enters a beautiful cork oak grove. Once above the hamlet of Bergeggi, the trail descends towards the port of Vado, following the Napoleonic fortifications. From the port, the route continues along the coast until Savona and Albisola Superiore. This last section, which passes through a highly built-up area, can be done by line bus.

Description of the itinerary

From the centre of Noli, walk up to the Bishop's Palace and take the old trail used for centuries by the locals to reach Spotorno. The trail is easy and is marked with a "yellow dot and line" mark and a circled number four. As an alternative it is possible to reach Spotorno following the promenade along the Via Aurelia.

Once at the roundabout near the highway, cross Spotorno until Via Antica Romana, which you will have to walk up until the panoramic viewpoint.

Passed the overlook, continue up on the trail that runs halfway the slope towards Bergeggi and the mountain pass Gola di S. Elena. The route is highly panoramic, and offers gorgeous views along the coast and the municipalities of Spotorno and Bergeggi.

In the Gola di S. Elena pass (249 m a.s.l.) the trail intersects the trail that leads to Mount Mao (Site of Community Importance); the Sentiero Liguria continues uphill, marked with "three red dots", until an old quarry, now abandoned.

Continue flat on the pleasant trail until a war memory stone. From here you take the trail that climb up on the right (marked with a "red triangle") until the top of Mount S. Elena, also called Mount Castellaro (349 m).

After a short descent on a narrow trail across the Mediterranean scrubland, you will reach a crossroads. Turn left on a dirt road and follow the botanic trail until the panoramic overlook originally hosting fort S. Elena. Nowadays this viewpoint is an ideal take-off for paragliding. Fort S. Elena is remembered for the explosion of the armoury that occurred on October 25th 1921, due to fires set on the mountain, which caused the death of 25 people, among militaries and citizens of Bergeggi.

Continuing downhill along the ridge you will enter a beautiful cork oak grove, with imposing trees.

At the end of the ridge you reach a crossroads: the Sentiero Liguria continues straight until the ruins of Fort S. Sebastiano, the first of the old Napoleonic forts you encounter along the route descending towards the Port of Savona Vado .

The trail ends in Via Rossini, in front of the cruise ships terminal of the Port of Vado. The Sentiero Liguria continues towards Albisola superiore. You can follow the urban route along the coast, which crosses Savona and Albissola Marina. This area is heavily industrialized, therefore it's advisable to catch a line bus to reach the centre of Savona or Albissola Marina. From the centre of Savona it is also possible to reach Albisola Superiore by train.