Corno alle Scale: a hidden paradise between Bologna and Florence
A 7 day self-guided walking vacation

Code tour: ITEMI03W

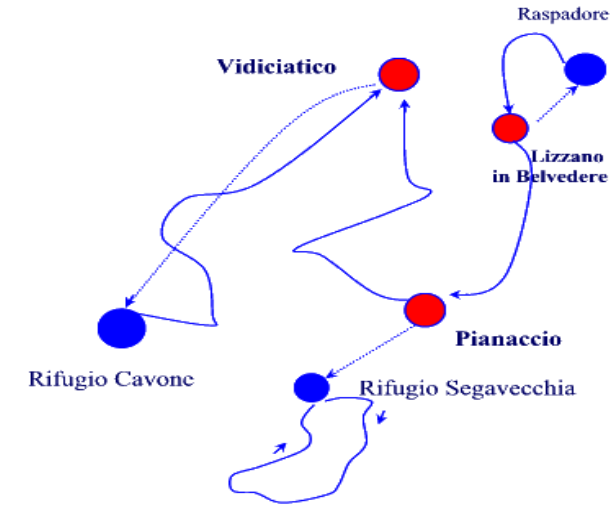


Your trekking adventure begins in **Lizzano in Belvedere**, a charming village nestled in the **Corno alle Scale Regional Park**, on the border between **Emilia-Romagna and Tuscany**. This hidden corner of the Apennines is a true natural oasis where **silence, unspoiled landscapes, and local traditions** offer an authentic experience. You will walk along **well-marked CAI trails**, passing through peaceful valleys filled with **chestnuts, oaks, beeches, and maples**. The atmosphere is typical of the high Apennines, with **cool forests, clear streams, and ever-changing panoramas**. The hike will take you to the area's peaks, including the **majestic Corno alle Scale**, which, at **1,944 meters**, is the highest summit in the Bologna Apennines. Its unique **layered sandstone formations**, resembling a giant natural staircase, make the landscape truly iconic. Along the route, you will encounter **small mountain villages, forested sanctuaries, and stunning waterfalls** cascading down rocky cliffs. The trails, rarely crowded and immersed in silence, are perfect for observing **local wildlife**, such as marmots, deer, foxes, wild boars, and squirrels. This territory allows you to **slow down, reconnect with nature, and enjoy the forest's scents** throughout the year—from the colorful autumn foliage and blooming spring meadows to the cool summer shade and snowy winter landscapes. The journey is also a **culinary experience**. Here you can taste **traditional Apennine dishes, organic drinks, and locally sourced products**. You are in the heart of the **Parmigiano Reggiano production area**, which you can enjoy fresh or aged, paired with excellent local wines. Just a few kilometers away, in the province of Modena, you will find Italian culinary treasures such as **Traditional Balsamic Vinegar of Modena** and the renowned **Prosciutto di Modena DOP**, perfect to complete your gastronomic journey.

The **Corno alle Scale Park** enjoys a **strategic location**, only **80 km from Florence** and **80 km from Bologna**, easily accessible by car or public transport. Covering **5,000 hectares of protected nature**, the park offers activities and landscapes for every season: **trekking, snowshoeing, mountain biking, relaxing in mountain huts**, and participating in local folklore events.

The central area of the park extends to **Monte Nuda (1,828 m)** and **Monte Gennaio (1,812 m)**, overlooking the **Silla Valley**, while near **Lizzano in Belvedere** and **Vidiciatico**, you will find the forested slopes of **Monte Pizzo** and **Monte Grande**.





Program in Short:

Day 1: Arrival in Lizzano in Belvedere
Day 2: Ring Walk on Mount Belveder
Day 3: From Lizzano to Pianaccio
Day 4: Ring walk Pianaccio
Day 5: From Pianaccio to Vidiciatico
Day 6: Ring walk Vidiciatico
Day 7: End of the tour

Level 3: For walkers with walking experience and good physical condition. Routes middle/high mountainous landscapes with some steep climbs. Day distances between 11 km / 7 mi and 16 km/10 mi with an average of 3 km / 1,9 mi an hour (between 4 and 7 hrs walking). Walking along footpaths, mountain tracks, forest trails and little road walking. Maximum ascent 950 m until maximum descent 1050 m.

Participants: minimum 2 persons

Period: 15 May till 15 July and from 20 August till 15 October 2026 (15/07 - 20/08 on request and with supplement)

Daily programme:

Day 1 Individual arrival at Lizzano in Belvedere.
The Gasparini family will warmly welcome you into their *** mountain hotel. If customers arrive at the railway station of Porretta Terme (from Bologna direct train via Bologna-Pistoia) it is possible to organize a transfer with taxi or private mini-bus.
The rooms of the hotel are comfortable and all have private bathrooms. In the garden, you can relax in the sun with a good book or just enjoy the fresh air of the countryside. This evening begins your exploration of the most delicious regional dishes.
Dinner and overnight stay in Lizzano di Belvedere.

Day 2 a ring walk on Mount Belvedere
This walking trip begins in **Lizzano in Belvedere**, in the heart of the **Corno alle Scale Regional Park**, between **Emilia-Romagna and Tuscany**. You will hike along **well-marked CAI trails**, immersed in forests of **chestnuts, oaks, and beeches**, passing by **small villages, sanctuaries, and waterfalls**. The area is rich in **wildlife**, and it's not uncommon to spot **deer, foxes, or marmots**. The **Corno alle Scale** (1,944 m), with its distinctive **layered sandstone formations**, dominates the landscape and offers **breathtaking views**. Here you can enjoy a **unique experience**, tasting local products such as **Parmigiano Reggiano, local wines, balsamic vinegar, and prosciutto crudo**. After breakfast, a short transfer will take you to **Raspadore**, the starting point of the trek to **Monte Belvedere** (1,138 m). An **ancient trail** leads to the summit, where the **remains of a medieval castle** can be seen and from which you can enjoy a **stunning view of the Apennines**. The itinerary continues along the **Sentiero della Libertà**, a path commemorating the **Gothic Line** of World War II. Return on foot to **Lizzano in Belvedere**.

Starting point of your walk: 598m - highest point 1138m
Distance: 13,5 Km (8,3 miles)
Walking time: 5 hrs
Ascent/Descent: + 660m – 640m

Day 3 From Lizzano to Pianaccio
Today's walk starts in **Lizzano in Belvedere** and takes you through **forests of oaks and beeches**, past **ancient water mills** and the **Sanctuary of Madonna del Faggio**, dating back to the **17th century**. You will continue to the **medieval village of Monteacuto**, offering **stunning views of the eastern side of Corno alle Scale**. The day ends in **Pianaccio**, where you will stay at the **Locanda Alpina**, surrounded by **chestnut trees** and **run by the Gentilini family for over a century**. You will be welcomed with **warm hospitality** and enjoy a **delicious traditional dinner**.

Starting point of your walk: Lizzano Belvedere 650m -highest point 913m – arrival Pianaccio 750m
Distance: 11,5 km (7,5 miles)
Walking time: 4 hrs 30 min
Ascent/Descent: + 700m – 625m

Day 4 Ring walk Pianaccio – Il Passo del Cancellino
After breakfast, a short transfer will take you to **Sega Vecchia**, the starting point of today's trek. The trail leads to the **Passo del Lupo**, offering **stunning views of the Causso River valley** and the surrounding mountains. You will continue through **beech forests and meadows** to the **Porta Franca Alpine Refuge**, located in **Tuscany**. The walk ascends gently to the **Poggio delle Ignude**

(1,651 m), then descends to the **Passo del Cancellino**, with **breathtaking panoramas of the Silla Valley, Corno alle Scale, and Monte La Nuda**. The itinerary ends with a return to **Sega Vecchia** and a short **1.9 km walk back to Pianaccio**.

Starting point of your walk: Segavecchia 930m - highest point 1651m – arrival Pianaccio 750m
Distance: 16,5 km (10,3 miles)
Walking time: 6 hrs
Ascent/Descent: + 830m – 970m

Day 5 From Pianaccio to Vidiciatico
Today you can choose to follow **Trail 115**, starting either from the **village of Pianaccio** or the **Sega Vecchia Refuge**. After the refuge, you will reach the **Sboccata dei Bagnadori crossroads**, where you can decide between two routes: the **shorter path to the Croce dei Colli** (1,234 m), continuing through **Cà Lenzi** to **Vidiciatico**, or a **longer route to the summit of Monte Grande** (1,531 m), offering **stunning views of the park**. Both routes end in **Vidiciatico**, where you will stay in the **city center at the hotel *** run by the friendly Bartolomei family**.

Dinner and overnight stay in Vidiciatico
Starting point of your walk Pianaccio 750m -highest point 1531m – end of walk Vidiciatico (810m)
Distance: 10 (6,2 miles) -12 km (7,5 miles)
Walking time: 4hrs 15 min -5 hrs
Ascent/Descent: + 840m – 815m

Day 6 Ring walk Vidiciatico - La Nuda- Dardagna Falls
Today, a short transfer will take you to the **Laghetto di Cavone** (1,435 m), the starting point of a **scenic route through the Valle del Rio**. You will continue near the **sources of the Rio Piano** up to the **Passo del Vallone**, then ascend to the **summit of Monte La Nuda** (1,828 m). The descent along the **Via dei Signori** will first lead you to the **Pian d'Ivo plain** and then to the **Sboccata dei Bagnadori**, where you can choose between two options: follow **yesterday's route to Croce dei Colli, Cà Lenzi, and Vidiciatico**, or take **Trail 127 to Budiara**, completing the return with **1.9 km along a quiet paved road back to Vidiciatico**.

Starting point: Madonna dell'Acero (1230m.) - highest point 1828m end of walk Vidiciatico (810m)
Distance: 12 (7,5 miles)-14 km (8,7 miles)
Walking time: 4hrs 50 min -5 hrs 25 min
Ascent/Descent: + 970m – 740m

Day 7 Departure after breakfast

Hotel: ** and *** Hotels

Prices per person 2026:
In double/twin room € 565,00
Single room € 680,00
3rd person in triple room € 465,00
High season supplement (July-August) in double room € 75,00
High season supplement (July-August) in single room € 120,00
Car in garage (to be paid on the spot and to book in advance) 40,00 €
Transfer from/to the station of Poreta Terme (1-4 pax; to be paid on the spot/on request): 35,00€

Mountain guide: on request

Included in the price:

- 6 overnight stays with breakfast
- 6 evening meals
- 5 packed lunches
- luggage transportation
- transfers mentioned in the programme (1 from every hotel to the starting point of the walk)
- Route instructions in English and maps

Not included in the price

- Tourist tax
- Anything not mentioned under 'included in the price'

Cancellation Policy:

- Up to 30 days before the starting date: € 50,00 administration costs
- 29-21 days before starting date: 30% of the total tour costs
- 20-14 days before starting date: 50% of the total tour costs
- 13-6 days before starting date: 75% of the total tour costs
- 5 days-start of tour: 100% of the total tour costs

Start / End of tour: Lizzano Belvedere / Vidiciatico

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