

10 - Dalla Val Canina al Romitorio – 8 km – 340 m difference in height (hunting area)

We reach Sassetta by car which, despite being outside the territory of the Lower Val di Cecina, allows us to access a path almost entirely belonging to the municipality of Castagneto C.cci. From the town we continue in the direction of Suvereto and, immediately to our right, we turn towards the signs for Val Canina. Arriving at the end of the asphalt road, we leave the cars in Salvestrina.

From here there are two paths, we will take the one on the right, in the direction of Pian dei Brizzi and Castagneto Carducci., And then turn left after less than 1 km towards the sea, at the height of a hunter's hut.

Once you reach a chain, the bottom of the road will change significantly, becoming bumpy due to the crushed stone resulting from the recent construction of a road, works that have wreaked havoc on sedimentary rocks and centuries-old trees.

This intervention, which in the intentions of the landowner risked extending also to the other side of Monte Coronato, was blocked by the judicial authority after the complaints and protests of Legambiente and other associations in the area for the devastation carried out in one place of great historical and environmental interest.

Over the years, nature has slowly re-appropriated its spaces, progressively reducing the width of the new road, but centuries will not be enough to restore what was destroyed.

After passing Monte Coronato, the new road finally stops and we can resume the ancient route that, with an agile path, leads us under the ruins of the Hermitage, a medieval building, probably a watchtower that referred to the Biserno Castle below, of which even the ruins no longer exist because it was located inside the current San Carlo quarry, where the Solvay Company, after having abandoned the Acquabona quarries (see route 24), have been extracting limestone since 1928, necessary for the production of soda and baking soda.

We then go up to our left just before the path begins to descend towards San Vincenzo and thus we find ourselves among the ruins, on a small platform overlooking the sea, overlooking the quarry. Needless to say, while we look at the view, we will also have a snack. This time it is not a ring and the return will take place on the same path.