

21 - Anello della Val di Lopia - 8 km – 400 m difference in height (hunting area)

We will leave the cars near the junction that, from the state road 68, indicates for Fonte alla Lepre.

Paying close attention, we walk back for a few meters on the state road towards Cecina and, before the farmhouse Le Fornaci, we begin to climb a small farm road with an initially cemented base; every now and then it is worth turning back to admire the view of the Val di Cecina which, as you go up, widens to show the village of Casaglia and, on the other side, Querceto crouched at the foot of Mount Aneo; right in front of us is the town of Montescudaio. After passing the La Torretta farm, the path continues to climb into the woods; when the view opens, on our left we will see the buildings of the Le Tegole farmhouse below. A little further on there is the Urlarino farm, which certainly belonged to the Castle of Urlari, whose toponym of Lombard origin reminds us to consider all these sites (including La Torretta and subsequent farms) as remains of the medieval castle system of the Riparbella area.

Behind Urlarino we find a delightful restored chapel; through the grates of the door you can admire a painting depicting St. Lucia on the altar.

The path that passes behind the chapel will lead us in sight of the agriturismo complex built on the ruins of the Castle of Urlari.

Going around the complex on the left, we will continue turning then at a crossroads to the right, to reach, after a flat stretch in the woods, a picturesque plateau where the Terenzana farmhouse stands.

Before the farmhouse there are some buildings, whose construction has been incomplete and has been standing still for years because, probably, it is a building abuse.

After stopping for a snack, we take the small road to the right, which begins to descend towards the bottom of the valley crossed by the Lopia stream, which marks the border between the municipality of Riparbella and that of Montecatini Val di Cecina.

Once in the valley, on our right, we will be able to see the Fonte alla Lepre farmhouse complex. At the end of the road, which becomes asphalted in the last stretch, we will find the cars.