

4 - Anello delle grotte delle Tane - 13 km – 220 m difference of height

Leave the cars in the parking lot of the TREMILA shopping center, and we will walk to along the provincial road of Paratino heading north, to turn right after a short while into via delle Tane, an unpaved local road. When we reach a small clearing on the edge of the wood, we will take the path that on our left goes through the vegetation of the scrub. Following the main path, immediately after a picnic area, the clearing in front of the Yellow Caves appears. We know almost nothing of these yellow caves, because they have been exposed for centuries to predation, reuse and neglect.

It is therefore possible that they were Etruscan tombs, then used over time as a shelter of tools and animals; they were certainly a refuge for the displaced and perhaps also for the partisans during WWII.

On the right of the most significant group of communicating tunnels, we can find another similar cave, but more isolated.

After visiting the caves, we return to the beginning of the path on via delle Tane and we continue in the same direction to the east, again entering another stretch of wood, where after a while, on our left, we find another cave, in front of which there is a small space still used as a landfill.

Keeping the ditch of the Tane always on our right, we continue in the woods, until we come out in an abandoned olive grove; we skirt it always following the path, until we cross a road (via del Poggio) which we will take to the right.

After passing some farms on both sides of the road, we come to a spectacular one overlooking the sea on our right, while immediately after, on our left, we will have a beautiful view of the village of Casale M.mo.

The bank of the olive grove will be able to host our snack. We resume the journey, which now points downhill towards the provincial road of the Camminata in the stretch that connects Bibbona with Casale Marittimo, but, shortly before arriving at the asphalted road, we will take a small road to our right (via di Valicandoli) which, at first flat and then slightly uphill, it takes us to cross fields and small wooded stretches.

We thus arrive in Le Bugne; here, private properties has diverted the original path, preventing you from reaching the farmyard from where, until a few years ago, a 360-degree view could be seen; however, you can still enjoy the view of the sea, with the Isola d' Elba in the foreground.

Continuing, we will therefore find ourselves on the via di Valicandoli, which we will take through fields and farmhouses, until we cross via della Camminata, where we will turn right and, continuing along the asphalted road, in about one kilometer, we will return to the parking lot where we left the cars.