

il Santuario Madonna di Frasassi



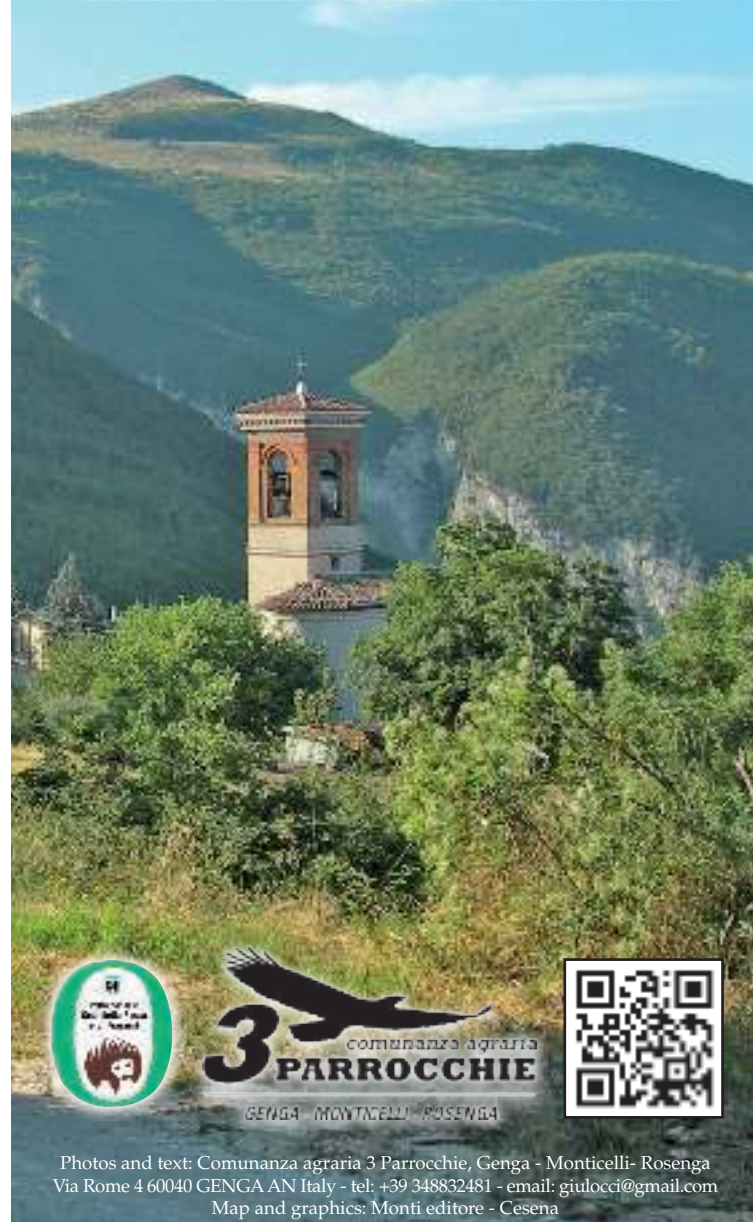
The nearby octagonal church called the Tempio del Valadier was commissioned in 1828 by Pope Leo XII. It was designed by Giuseppe Valadier.

A Carrara marble statue of the Virgin Mary holding Jesus made in the Canova style stands on the alabaster altar inside the octagonal church.



il Sentiero dell'Aquila

il Santuario Madonna di Frasassi



Photos and text: Comunità agraria 3 Parrocchie, Genga - Monticelli - Rosenga
Via Rome 4 60040 GENGA AN Italy - tel: +39 348832481 - email: giulocci@gmail.com
Map and graphics: Monti editore - Cesena

il Sentiero dell'Aquila

Vallemania - Rosenga - Piano di Serra - Vallemania

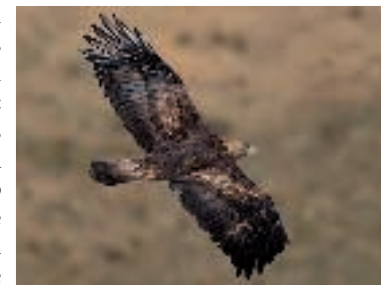
*A short loop trail around the top of the North face
of the Frasassi Gorge*



*Approx. time: 2 hours - Difficulty: E - Approx. length: 7.2 km Type:
loop - Markers: 121, 139, 121b, 121*

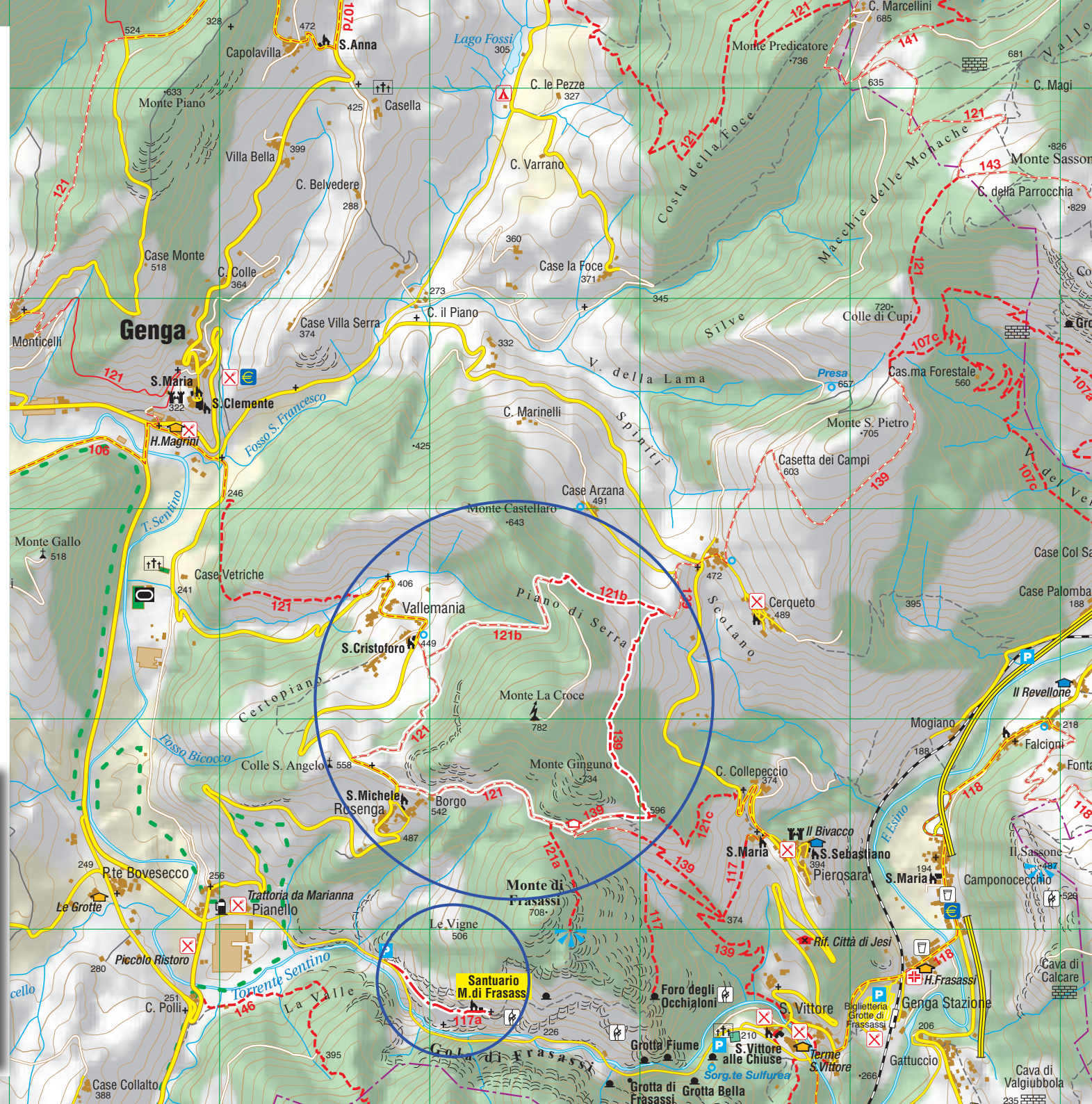
The Sentiero dell'Aquila ("the path of the Eagle") is one of the most treasured natural assets in the area; a special place that allows people to reconnect with nature; a blessed gift to enjoy and preserve. The trail is approximately 7 km long and loops around the peaks of the northern side of the Frasassi gorge. The 10 interpretive signs placed at the six rest areas explain the local flora, fauna, geology, history and architecture.

The shorter loop connects four tiny villages: Pierosara and Cerqueto on the northern slope, and Rosenga and Vallemania on the southern slope of Monte La Croce with an elevation of 782 meters (2566 feet) and Monte Ginguno with an elevation of 735 meters (2411 feet). The section of the trail passing through Rosenga and Vallemania was used from the 10th century by the locals of San Vittore delle Chiuse and the gastald (a royally appointed official for judicial and other administrative tasks) of Castel Petroso (now Pierosara) to get to the Castle of Genga. The road that cuts through the Frasassi Gorge was built in 1912.





Hiking this easy trail will allow you to explore and discover the beauty of the Natural Regional Park of Gola della Rossa and Frasassi. You will also be able to admire the Gola di Frasassi (Frasassi Gorge), carved by the Sentino river, the Gola della Rossa (Red Gorge), carved by the Esino river. On clear days, you can see as far as Monte Cucco and Monte Catria. Starting from the church in the village of Vallemanina, head left on the small street and then turn right onto the dirt road (trail 121) that goes up the west slope of Monte La Croce. This will take you to the *Valico di Colle S. Angelo* pass where you will find a rest area called *Belvedere S. Angelo* equipped with wooden benches, picnic tables and special bird watching spots. When you come out of the woods, go left on the paved road towards the first houses of Rosenga. A short way before the village where the road curves to the right going into the village keep walking straight onto the dirt road (trail 121) which leads to the pass between Monte Frasassi and Monte Ginguno. From the pass, keep left on the trail (now 139) that will bring you to the next rest area called *Belvedere dell'Aquila*. You will come to a junction with a sign posted for trail 121C which goes to the village Pierosara. Keep left on trail 139 AG at the junction to continue the loop; this takes you to the Italian Forestry Corps mountain hut. Continue walking in the pine forest, which cuts across the eastern side of Monte Ginguno and Monte La Croce.



Stay on this trail until you reach the junction with trail 121B. Turn left on trail 121B to continue the loop. Otherwise, continuing on trail 139 AG will bring you to the village Cerqueto.

Follow trail 121B that goes along the northern slope of Mount La Croce through the shrubby woods until you reach the pass between Monte La Croce and Monte Castellaro.

Continue on the dirt road and go down to the right on the opposite side and through the thick forest to reach the last rest area; follow the little road on the left to return to the loop's starting point at the church in Vallemanina. Just a few steps ahead, on the right of the paved road, you will see a recently restored beautiful fountain where you can cool off.

