



### 9. VILLA DEI LEONI - PARK OF REMEMBRANCE Mira

After the retreat of the Italian troops on the river Piave line, from Mount Grappa to the sea, due to the defeat of Caporetto/Kobarid, the Villa, dating back to the XVI Century, originally commissioned by the Contarini Venetian patrician family, became part of a group of historical buildings used as military hospitals, for the assistance of the injured soldiers from the war front; the Villa, renamed as Field Ospital n. 184, provided 50 beds. Directly connected to the mansion is the small but suggestive Park of Remembrance, realized in 1925, featuring a monumental forepart overlooking the Riviera, designed by the architects Gastone Isera and Giovanni Possamai; through the green area go several trails, flanked by dozens of bronze memorial spears, each of which bears the name of a fallen soldier.



### 10. CAPOSILE Musile di Piave

The place is particularly important, both at a historical and a symbolic level, in the context of the Battle of Solstice. Between the localities of Candelù and Caposile, along the lower course of the Piave, after heavy fighting, in mid-June 1918 the Austrian Army managed to get across the river, with three bridgeheads, widening on a front of about 30 kilometers, to a depth of 7. However, despite several attempts, made with the use of large reserves, the troops failed to penetrate deeper behind the lines. The night of 23 June, due to the difficulty of strengthening the efforts, because of the flood of the Piave, being the bridges and the ferries covered by the Italian Artillery and Air Force, given the impossibility of breaking through the sector, the Austrian High Command ordered the suspension of the offensive on the whole front and the withdrawal to the left side of the river.



### 11. VICTORY MEMORIAL BRIDGE Musile di Piave San Donà di Piave

The bridge over the river Piave that connects the Municipalities of San Donà and Musile was originally built in 1224. During the World War I, in November 1917, after the Italian defeat of Caporetto/Kobarid, the old construction was blown up in order to slow the advance of the Austrian troops. Following the Battle of Vittorio Veneto, in 1918, the sides of the "river sacred to Homeland" were connected again, at first with a pontoon bridge, therefore, in 1919, with a wooden structure. Between 1921 and 1922 the bridge was rebuilt of metal, in its current form, still in use. The present bridge, named after the Victory, was unveiled on November 12, 1922: it is dedicated to the Duke of Aosta, commander of the Italian III Corps, lined on the Piave at the time of the Great War.



### 12. GIANNINO ANCILLOTTO MEMORIAL San Donà di Piave

San Donà di Piave, hometown of Giannino Ancillotto (1296-1924), hosts, at the center of Piazza Indipendenza, in front of the Town Hall, the monument dedicated to the ace of the Italian Air Force in World War I, designed by the architect Pietro Lombardi, completed in 1931, rare, if not unique, example of its kind, being shaped as an airplane. It is meant to represent the plane aboard which Ancillotto accomplished the downing of the drachen at Rustigné, near Oderzo, on December 5, 1917, an enterprise for which he was awarded the Gold Medal. The episode is commemorated also in one of the two bronzes that decorate the monument, work of the artist Valerio Brocchi.



### 13. MUB MUSEO DELLA BONIFICA San Donà di Piave

The MUB collections outline many important elements for the history of the city and its surroundings, with a focus on the topic of the land reclamation, which represents one of the most determining factors for the evolution of the territory. The section dedicated to the World War I addresses the issue of the military conflict in a drainage area, including a display of weapons, residues found in the trenches along the river Piave, as well as some officer uniforms and other materials belonging to the Austro-Hungarian and the Italian Armies. A specific part of the exhibition refers to the flying ace of the Italian Air Force Giannino Ancillotto, born in San Donà, decorated with the Gold Medal, remembered for his daring and heroic deeds. The Museum also provides a library, a documental and photographic archive, a conference room, an audiovisual room, classrooms and bookshop. The Visitor Centre for the Walk of Peace Veneto segment is hosted by the MUB.



### 14. PARISH CHURCH OF SAN MAURO Noventa di Piave

In Fall of 2017, after the defeat of the Italian troops at Caporetto/Kobarid, the advancing Austro-Hungarian Army towards Noventa was preceded by the displacement of the civilians, the transfer to Rome of the municipal offices and the demolition of the bell tower of St. Maurus Church, destroyed in order to prevent it from being used as a watch-tower by the adversary. The battle along the Piave lasted for a year, leading to a complete devastation of the town, as well as to the loss of the vast majority of the artistic and cultural heritage on its territory. The damages were so significant that immediately after the war the government authority even discouraged the reconstruction, but the will of the citizens prevailed, and Noventa began to be rebuilt in 1919. The old St. Maurus parish church dated back to the XI Century; an archaeological excavation campaign in this area has brought to light a number of remains that follow one another, from the roman period, I Century B.C., until the Middle Age and the Renaissance.



### 15. MILITARY SHRINE Portogruaro

Inside the Municipal monumental Cemetery is located an imposing ossuary, which hosts the remains of more than 700 Italian, austro-hungarian and Polish soldiers, fallen in the fights that tragically affected the land of Portogruaro during the World War I. The shrine has recently been restored, at the initiative of the Municipality, on the occasion of the Great War Centenary commemorations.



### 16. MILITARY SHRINE Quarto d'Altino

During the last year of the war the Cemetery of San Michele del Quarto was one of the many burial places designed to hold the remains of the men fallen in combat on the Piave front. A few years after the end of the conflict it was decided to build a shrine dedicated to the dead soldiers native of Altino within the graveyard perimeter. It was erected as a simple chapel, adjacent to the boundary wall, surmounted by a dome, on top of which stands a votive lamp. Inside is located a bronze plaque, given by the Committee to Honour the Fallen in defense of Venice, as well as two white marble inscriptions that bear the names of the dead soldiers.



### 17. AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN CEMETERY San Michele al Tagliamento

The ossuary is located within the Municipal Cemetery, and consists of ten rows of concrete tombstones, now half-buried and partially covered with moss, carrying on the top a cross shaped frieze. Just below, are engraved on a metal plate (made in 1984, replacing the original inscription, then already unreadable) the names and surnames of each one; some of them are typically Germanic, others Slavo-Balkan, still others of Italian or Hungarian origin, as well as the Romanian, of evident latin derivation; there is also the date of death, in a few cases even the date of birth: the oldest soldier was born in 1863, the youngest in 1900. At the centre rises a marble monument, modeled in the shape of a cross pattée, flanked by two small cypresses; it was unveiled in 1984, on the occasion of a restoration work, carried out in collaboration with the Austrian government. On one side, outside the perimeter, there is a cippus in the form of a truncated cone, bearing Italian and German inscriptions.



### 18. MARGHERA FORT Venezia Mestre

The fort is located in a scenic area of about 30 acres, between the lagoon and the mainland. Built on two concentric small islands, it was started by the Austrians in 1805 and completed under the French domination from 1809 to 1814. This is the first and the most extensive of the 11 fortifications that form the so-called "campo trincerato", literally "entrenched field", of Mestre. On the north-east side of the perimeter, facing outward, against the boundary wall, a battery equipped with a sequence of small firing positions was newly created on the occasion of the World War I. Within the perimeter, one of the four barracks inside the fort has been used as the exhibition space of a Historical Military Museum; it displays a number of relics and manufactures related to the fort history, objects found in the trenches, as well as a collection of weapons, tools and materials in use by the Italian Military Health during the Great War and many photographic evidences of the soldiers at the front.



### 19. VOTIVE TEMPLE OF PEACE, MILITARY SHRINE Lido di Venezia

The building of the monumental shrine began in 1925, as the fulfillment of a solemn vow pronounced in 1917 by cardinal La Fontaine patriarch of Venice. The beginning of the construction dates back to 1930, under the direction of the designer, the Venetian architect Giuseppe Torres (1872-1935), the works lasted until 1942, when the statue of the Virgin Mary was installed on the central dome, but the interior fittings of the temple still remained unfinished. The shrine, conceived as a religious building, has a circular plan, with the ceiling supported by a central ring of shiny black marble columns. The remains of the fallen are collected in two large common graves, carved in the wall behind the altar, under which has been buried, on June 10, 1928, the body of the first soldier dead for the defense of Venice, with an epitaph dictated by the cardinal. The crypta, recently renovated and completed according to its original architectural design, has two entrances, on the sides of the stairway; the burial niches of the fallen soldiers are distributed on the walls and through the ring-shaped corridor. The complex underwent radical restoration, curated by the Municipality of Venice in collaboration with the Patriarchal Curia, thanks to the support of the Regione del Veneto.



### 20. ROCCHETTA BATTERY-ALBERONI FORT Lido di Venezia

Built by the Austrians from 1849 and 1850 at the Lido of Venice, in the locality of Alberoni, the Rocchetta Battery has an open-shaped plan, right faced, with short sides and a water moat. Both the fronts have a simple traverse bastion, set for artillery. The battery kept under control the so-called "harbour mouth" of Malamocco, as well as the estuary of the canal of San Pietro. Nearby is situated the Fort Alberoni, whose polygonal plan has a quadrangular base, with sides that form almost 90-degree angles, in order to suit the terrain; also here, a moat surrounds the perimeter, protecting it from potential sieges. The design features two fortified fronts, built on as many vertices of the polygon, facing respectively the seashore and the lagoon; a third front was added later, towards the port. The fort was equipped with two masonry towers, used interchangeably as powder kegs, shelters for the garrison, and sighting of enemy ships positions.

# Province of Venezia WW1 Heritage in the WALK OF PEACE



## WALKofPEACE

A Century after World War I, its historical heritage has been connected into a trail, named the Walk of Peace from the Alps to the Adriatic. All from the Julian Alps, across the Brda and Collio Hills, the Kras and Carso, to the Adriatic Sea, this route suggests to slow down the pace of time, offering to visitors a reflection on peace.

The Walk of Peace from the Alps to the Adriatic trail spreads the message of friendship among nations. Places that were affected by war a Century ago are now messengers of peace, left with the legacy of the preserved monuments, memorials and remains of the war.

## THE VENETIAN SEGMENT

The route of memory that winds through some historical testimonies of the First World War in the province of Venice is an important outcome of the Strategic Project WALKofPEACE, undertaken as part of the Cross-border Cooperation Programme Interreg V A Italy-Slovenia 2014-2020, financed by the EU through the European Regional Development Fund - ERDF, an initiative of which the Regione del Veneto is partner.

The main targets of the WALKofPEACE project are the conservation and the valorization of the historical heritage of the Great War, also through the promotion of an ideal path, called precisely "Walk of Peace", which aims at asserting today, by means of remembrance, the values of peace, brotherhood and friendship among peoples.

The Venetian segment, outlined thanks to the precious collaboration of all the concerned local Authorities, stands in virtual continuity with the already existing route, between Slovenia and Friuli Venezia Giulia, touching several points that are considered as highly representative, mostly for their symbolic significance, in harmony with the general concept of the European project and with the message which it wishes to convey, for this and future generations.



### 1. AMALFI BATTERY Cavallino Treporti

The military facility, belonging to the coastal defence system of Venice and its littoral areas, wanted by Admiral Paolo Thaon di Revel at the beginning of the World War I, was dedicated to the memory of the fallen Navy sailors of the cruiser Amalfi, sunk in the northern Adriatic Sea on 7 July 1915 by a German submarine. Before then, the idea of hosting in a battery a huge armoured Marine-type tower had been applied in the world only by the Americans, in Fort Drum, Manila. After the Italian defeat of Caporetto/Kobarid, the Amalfi Battery kept under control the bridges over the river Piave, and succeeded in blowing up the San Donà bridge, before the Austrian Army crossed it. Later the battery was ready to intervene in the Battle of the Solstice, in June 1918. With the support of the Regione del Veneto, the building has recently been secured and made accessible, only with respect to the outdoor spaces, providing equipped green areas nearby; its natural context has taken shape as a kind of historical and cultural park.



### 2. PISANI BATTERY Cavallino Treporti

The battery, named after the Venetian commander who defeated the Genoese fleet back in 1380, during the War of Chioggia, represents a particular military facility in the Italian context of the fortification systems. The building is divided into a central body, made of concrete, on a single floor, and two side towers and terraced wings, where the telemetry and observational devices were located. Recently restored by the Municipality, with the support of the Regione del Veneto, the facility is today open to visitors, equipped with a specific didactic apparatus.



### 3. SAN FELICE FORT Chioggia

The fort, built from the year 1538, in the framework of the strengthening of the fortification system on the so-called "harbour mouths" of the Venetian lagoon, was still under improvement and upgrading works in 1806, within the French defence plan. From 1831 to 1848 further maintenance labours were undertaken, mainly in order to settle the embankments. In 1856 the forges to heat the artillery shells were created. During the World War I, the fort was used to house anti-aircraft and anti-torpedo artillery positions. In modern times the facility was occupied by the Italian Military Navy, then it was abandoned; the site is now concerned by initiatives aimed at increasing its public fruition.



### 4. BAPTISTRY OF PEACE Fossalta di Piave

The baptistry was built and dedicated to the Peace, in memory of the "Ragazzi del '99" (literally "Boys of '99"): all the Italian young men who were born in 1899 and were called to arms in 1917, when they turned 18 years old. The monument, inaugurated on June 19, 1983, is meant to represent an auspice of fraternity for all people of future generations. Every year the anniversary of the unveiling is commemorated in a public ceremony called "Peace Day", during which Italian and foreign babies receive Holy Baptism. The building has recently gone through a restoration work, curated by the Municipality, with the support of the Regione del Veneto.



### 5. OSSUARY OF THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN FALLEN Fossalta di Piave

At the entrance of the Municipal Cemetery, on the left side, is located the Ossuary of the Austro-Hungarian fallen, holding the remains of 571 soldiers, only 117 of which identified; their names are listed in the epigraph inscribed on the commemorative plaque placed on the front. The shrine has recently been restored on the occasion of the burial - on June 30, 2016 - of the body of an Austrian soldier unearthed during works on the highway, whose nationality was recognized from some details of his uniform.



### 6. MEMORIAL BRIDGE TO THE FALLEN SAILORS OF THE ITALIAN NAVY Jesolo

The work is typical of a particular monumental category "of public utility", rather widespread during the interwar period; wanted by the Municipality, the bridge was inaugurated on October 9, 1927, by the Duke of Aosta Emanuele Filiberto, commander of the Italian III Corps, which just in those places stopped the austro-hungarian advance. The four obelisks on the bridge heads, decorated by relief sculptures, give the lists of names of the fallen Italian Navy soldiers of the San Marco Regiment, as well as of 181 citizens of Jesolo. Restructured in recent times, the memorial bridge was once again inaugurated in 2011.



### 7. VILLA FOLCO Meolo

Dating from the XVI Century, the Villa, now belonging to the Municipality, after the Italian defeat of Caporetto/Kobarid was the seat of the Command of the 23rd Italian Army Corps, led by General Armando Diaz, who on November 9, 1918 was appointed new Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, to replace General Luigi Cadorna. A marble plaque on the facade of the building commemorates this event.



### 8. POERIO FORT Mira

The fort, now visible only from the surrounding park, was built between 1909 and 1912, and is part of the series of fortifications that at the time were defined "of the last generation", built using reinforced concrete. It consists of a single defensive block, arranged on two floors, able to accommodate 90 artillery and 50 infantry soldiers. Before the World War I, it was armed with cannons on rotating domes and some machine guns, two of which retractable, for close defence. Given its long distance from the war front, as well as its obsolescence regarding modern combat technologies, the fort was de-functionalised by the year 1916; the armaments were transferred to the battle line, and the park was used as a war vegetable garden, in order to supply the Army food requirements.

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WALK OF PEACE

# Province of Venice

## The Main Points of Interest

- 1. AMALFI BATTERY** Cavallino Treporti  
Location: Punta Sabbioni, Via Amalfi/Via Retrone.  
Accessibility: only open to the outside.  
In the surrounding area: Jesolo-Cavallino bike lane, lagoon cycle paths.
- 2. PISANI BATTERY** Cavallino Treporti  
Location: Ca' Savio, Via Vettor Pisani.  
Accessibility: open to the public.  
In the surrounding area: Jesolo-Cavallino bike lane, lagoon cycle paths.
- 3. SAN FELICE FORT** Chioggia  
Location: Sottomarina, Via San Felice.  
Accessibility: only open to the outside.  
In the surrounding area: Sottomarina cycle paths; Chioggia-Bovolente bike lane. Lagoon boat trips.
- 4. BAPTISTRY OF PEACE** Fossalta di Piave  
Location: Via Ragazzi del '99.  
Accessibility: public place.  
In the surrounding area: Basso Piave bike lane. Piave river tourism.
- 5. OSSUARY OF THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN FALLEN** Fossalta di Piave  
Location: Via Saloni Soccorso.  
Accessibility: during the opening hours (municipal cemetery).
- 6. MEMORIAL BRIDGE TO THE FALLEN SAILORS OF THE ITALIAN NAVY** Jesolo  
Location: Via Parco Rimembranza.  
Accessibility: public place.  
In the surrounding area: Gira Sile bike lane, Jesolo-Cavallino bike lane. Sile river tourism.
- 7. VILLA FOLCO** Meolo  
Location: Piazzetta Cesare Battisti, 14.  
Accessibility: open on request.
- 8. POERIO FORT** Mira  
Location: Oriago, Via Risorgimento/Via Forte Poerio.  
Accessibility: only open to the outside.  
In the surrounding area: public park; Riviera del Brenta bike lanes and river tourism.
- 9. VILLA DEI LEONI-PARK OF REMEMBRANCE** Mira  
Location: Riviera S. Trentin, 5/6.  
Accessibility: open to the public.  
In the surrounding area: Riviera del Brenta bike lanes and river tourism.
- 10. CAPOSILE** Musile di Piave  
Location: Località Caposile.  
Accessibility: public place.  
In the surrounding area: Piave Vecchia-Sile bike lanes. Sile river tourism.
- 11. VICTORY MEMORIAL BRIDGE** Musile di Piave-San Donà di Piave  
Location: Corso Silvio Trentin.  
Accessibility: public place.  
In the surrounding area: Piave river park; Basso Piave bike lane; Monaco-Venezia bike lane; **Via Romea Route**. Piave river tourism.
- 12. GIANNINO ANCILLOTTO MEMORIAL** San Donà di Piave  
Location: Piazza Indipendenza.  
Accessibility: public place.
- 13. MUB MUSEO DELLA BONIFICA** San Donà di Piave  
Location: Viale Primavera, 45.  
Accessibility: open to the public.
- 14. PIEVE DI SAN MAURO** Noventa di Piave  
Location: Via Lampol, 46A.  
Accessibility: open to the public only on particular occasions.  
In the surrounding area: San Donà-Zenson bike lane. Piave river tourism.
- 15. MILITARY SHRINE** Portogruaro  
Location: Via G. Mercalli.  
Accessibility: during the opening hours (municipal cemetery).
- 16. MILITARY SHRINE** Quarto d'Altino  
Location: Via Claudia Augusta.  
Accessibility: during the opening hours (municipal cemetery).
- 17. AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN CEMETERY** San Michele al Tagliamento  
Location: Via Agnolina.  
Accessibility: during the opening hours (municipal cemetery).
- 18. MARGHERA FORT** Venezia Mestre  
Location: Mestre, Via Forte Marghera, 30.  
Accessibility: open to the public.  
In the surrounding area: Bazzera. San Giuliano-Bazzera bike lane.
- 19. VOTIVE TEMPLE OF PEACE, MILITARY SHRINE** Lido di Venezia  
Location: Lido, Riviera Santa Maria Elisabetta.  
Accessibility: open to the public.
- 20. ROCCHETTA BATTERY-ALBERONI FORT** Lido di Venezia  
Location: Alberoni, Strada Zaffi da Barca.  
Accessibility: only open to the outside.

## LEGEND

- Main Points of interests
- Secondary points

## SECONDARY POINTS

- 21) Forte Vecchio Cavallino Treporti.
- 22) Val Pasquali Firehouse and Telemetry Towers Cavallino Treporti.
- 23) Monument to the Fallen Eraclea.
- 24) Penzo Battery Chioggia.
- 25) Monument to the Fallen Chioggia.
- 26) Hemingway Memorial Stele Fossalta di Piave.
- 27) Bunker Jesolo.
- 28) Former WWI Cemetery (now city park) Jesolo.
- 29) Andrea Bafie Memorial Jesolo.
- 30) Casa del Bersagliere Museum Jesolo.
- 31) Cavazuccherina Bridgehead and Artillery Observatory Jesolo.
- 32) Ca' Malipiero-Case Croce Stronghold Musile di Piave.
- 33) Bersagliere Memorial Musile di Piave.
- 34) "Intestadura" Hydraulic Door Musile di Piave.
- 35) Memorial Temple to the Fallen in the Basso Piave Area Musile di Piave.
- 36) Town Hall of San Donà di Piave San Donà di Piave.
- 37) Dome of San Donà di Piave San Donà di Piave.
- 38) Retirement Home dedicated to the Memory of the Fallen San Donà di Piave.
- 39) Kindergarten dedicated to the Memory of the Fallen San Donà di Piave.
- 40) Monument to the Fallen San Donà di Piave.
- 41) Czechoslovak Legionnaires Memorial Plaque San Donà di Piave.
- 42) Czechoslovak Legionnaire Bedrich Havlena Memorial Plaque San Donà di Piave.
- 43) Icon of the Blessed Virgin Struck by an Artillery Shell Noventa di Piave.
- 44) Monument to the Fallen Noventa di Piave.
- 45) St. Ignatius Oratory Devoted to the Memory of the Citizens dead from war Portogruaro.
- 46) Monument to the Fallen Portogruaro.
- 47) Monument to the Fallen Quarto d'Altino.
- 48) Former Field Hospital at Trepalade Quarto d'Altino.
- 49) Monument to the Fallen Saizano.
- 50) Villa Mocenigo-Ivanovich "Barchesse" San Michele alTagliamento.
- 51) Monument to the Fallen San Michele alTagliamento.
- 52) Monument to the Fallen San Stino di Livenza.
- 53) Monument to the Fallen Soldiers of Corbolone San Stino di Livenza.
- 54) Park of Remembrance and Monument to the Fallen Tegliè Veneto.
- 55) Airfield Marcon.
- 56) Gazzera Fort Venezia Mestre.
- 57) Tron Fort Venezia Mestre.
- 58) San Leonardo Battery (formerly Morosini) Venezia Lido.
- 59) Morandi Telemetry Tower and San Nicolò Airfield Venezia Lido.
- 60) Ca' Corner Mocenigo-Permanent Memorial to the Fallen of the Guardia di Finanza Venezia.
- 61) Flagpole of Campo Santa Margherita Venezia.
- 62) Plaque of San Luca Evangelista Venezia.
- 63) Plaque of Santi Apostoli Venezia.
- 64) Plaque of San Geremia Venezia.
- 65) Santa Maria di Nazareth Church called "dogli Scalzi", hit by the bombardment on October 24, 1915 Venezia.
- 66) Memorial to the Fallen Railwaymen Venezia.
- 67) Ca' Giustinian dei Vescovi, Niobe fountain Venezia.
- 68) Naval History Museum Venezia.
- 69) Memorial Rostral Column to the Fallen Venezia.
- 70) Sant'Andrea Island Fortifications Venezia.

