

Ecomuseum of Resistance in Alta Val Sangone

Coazze

The Ecomuseum of Resistance of Coazze is main office to of Centre of Network of Val Sangone under the international project "Memory of the Alps." One room, shared with the Ecomuseum of the Val Sangone, is reserved to accommodate conferences, events, shows and temporary exhibitions. The Centre of Network is also a centre of study and documentation where there is a collection of publications, including also the rare ones, available to scholars and researchers. Many iconographic documents and testimonies of partisans are going to build multimedia material such as video and CD Rom available for viewing and consultation.

The objectives of the Centre Network of Coazze are the cataloguing scientific data, the collection of new material, the disseminating of the collected data, coded and raw data relative to all the paths of resistance, and the creation of films and multimedia products for educational and informative use, which ranks as a reference point for those who seek information about the territory and its history (students, researchers and local scholars).

The Ecomuseum of Resistance has seen the active collaboration of partisan associations for the collection of materials, testimonies and memories that build the heritage of tangible and intangible memories on which is based the eco-museum project. A series of panels framed historic moment while clothing, uniforms and original objects allow a more immediate comprehension of the social context in which the Resistance was born and developed.

A Coazze, the paths of resistance, thanks to the adoption of satellite navigation system Maplive are available through GIS, handheld, GPS, web technologies. Through the portal www.maplive.com, the user can access all the available information on the routes (maps, itineraries and historical information) and they can download them on their handheld device with GPS positioning. Within the network centre and tourist office of the country, it's possible hiring can hire handhelds.

The Ecomuseum of Resistance also includes five tracks:

"The big valley of Sangone - Oven of Coazze", starting from the oven of Coazze, runs along the valley of Sangone, moving from mine of Garida to climb up to Forte San Maurizio, near the mountain pastures of Sellery. In return, we follow the path that touches the small Palace of Sertorio and the Colletto del Forno. At dawn on 10 May 1944, Nazi-Fascist departments surprise partisans in the grange of lower Sellery, and in the small palace of Sertorio. The partisans were able to contain losses, but the small palace Sertorio was destroyed by mortar hits.

"The big valley of Sangonetto - Village Tonda", starting from the village Tonda it reaches Pale' through the villages Mamela Canalera, Tiras, and Sordini Dandalera, to return to Tonda, passing by the villages Sisi and Dogheria. In this area there are settled the first partisan nucleuses in September 1943. During the mopping up of March 1944, the partisans withdrew the Peaks of Pagliaio before dispersing in Valle di Susa.

"The area of Ciargiour - Village Ferri", starting from village Ferria (Oven of Coazze), it reaches the Ciargiour to return to the oven of Coazze passing by the talc mine of Garida. The route will pass by two key places for the Resistance in the high Vai Sangone. At Ciargiour there were gathered the first partisans, since autumn of 1943, under the command of the prestigious major of Alpines Luigi Milano. The oven of Coazze was a kind of capital of the Resistance of the valley; from the spring of 1944 it housed the controls of various partisan bands. The village was badly hit by the Nazi-fascist mopping of May 1944; many houses were burnt, 23 prisoners were killed in a mass grave on the right bank of Sangone. At the very Oven, immediately after the war, there was built the Ossuary of the Fallens, now recognized by the state as a war cemetery.

"Ring of Coazze" is foreseen as the first step to visit the exhibition centre of Ecomuseum of the Resistance. The building that now houses the museum was used as the Nazi-Fascist prison during the mopping up of 1944. At Coazze there are many villages located on the southern side of the watershed that divides the Val Sangone from Valle di Susa. These places were the natural fulcrum of partisan bands operating on the surrounding mountains. Many partisans and civilians were killed in the area and the huts were destroyed during various moppings, such as during the bombardment of the village Selvaggio in May 1944, thirty houses were burnt and destroyed.

To the Paths of Resistance will be added a fifth route, made in collaboration with the Ecomuseum of the Valley of Sangone that is developed entirely within the concentric of Coazze and that, besides the historical information, it also contains the ethnographic information, particularly relative to the popular religion.

