

Pilgrimage Publications Guide to the via Francigena



Instruction Update: 12/10/11

Notes:

The Waypoint references in this update relate to Edition 3
 The majority of references are designed to add clarity to the existing instructions or offer additional alternatives and do not modify the route
 Changes to the route are shown in *italics*

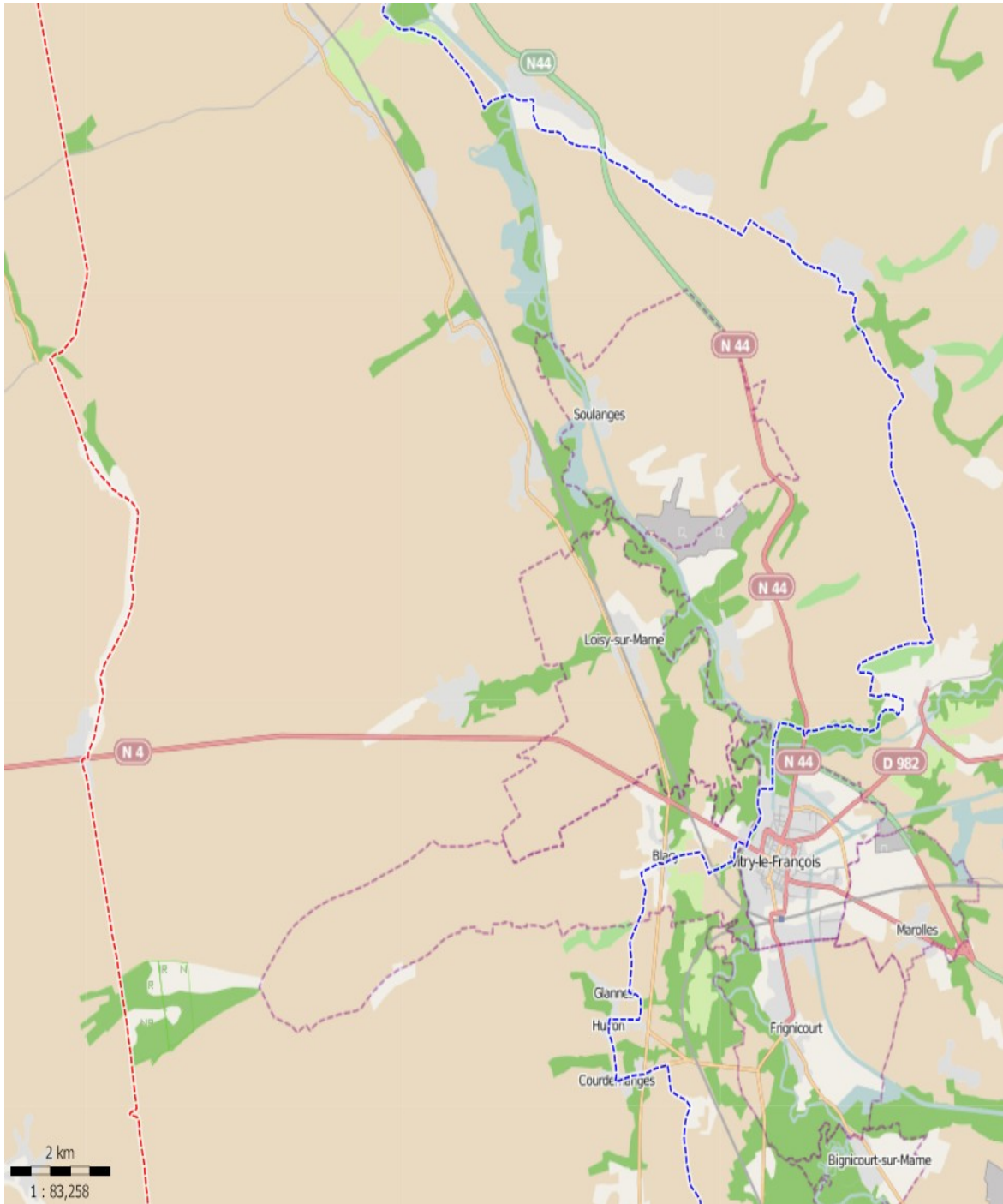
Way Point N°	Directions	Verification Point
Volume 1		
10.059	Turn right onto the road. Note: riders rejoin here from the left	D64, rue du 8 Mai 1945
17.012	Immediately after crossing the canal (second) bridge turn left onto the tow-path. Note:- an alternative route of similar length continues initially along the main road before turning right and rejoining our route in Cormicy	VF sign on the right. Note:- follow the two yellow stripes with VF not the yellow stripes on their own
18.021	Before bridge leave road to right onto canal tow-path. Note:- GR654 (chemin de St Jacques) joins from the left	Canal and bridge on left and rubbish collection point to the right
21.001	From the bridge over the canal on rue Jean Jaurés turn away from the centre of Châlons and cross the canal and then river bridges. Note:- the exposed but very atmospheric section ahead can be avoided and more accommodation found by continuing on the longer (by 48km) GR654 beside the canal to Vitry-la-François and then continuing on the GR654 to Rosny-l'Hôpital and Brienne-la-Château. The distance can be reduced if you take the road from Vitry to Brienne	La Poste behind
27.014	At T-junction, turn left direction Grenant, D7. Note:- at the cost of bypassing the Sigeric location, of Grenant (LXII), a quieter approach to Champlitte can be achieved by turning right and following the D7 to Coublanc and then the D122/D17 via Leffond to Champlitte. A footpath also connects Leffond (beside the Marie Annexe) with Champlitte	
Volume 2		
35.001	From place du Pont at the intersection with rue Centrale continue the descent on rue Neuve and Avenue des Alpes towards Yverdon. Note:- for an easier and shorter descent to Viuteboeuf turn right at the crossroads 100m ahead and follow the signs to the Sante-Croix railway station and continue beside the railway before following the footpath signs to Viuteboeuf. Rejoin the main route at the road junction in Viuteboeuf shortly before Waypoint 35.014	Tourist Office on right, Post Office on left
37.009	There are difficulties at Waypoint 37.011 for riders and at 37.012 for walkers. All groups are advised to not pass under the bridge, but to continue on the small road, chemin du Vigny, with the railway on your right. When the road passes under the elevated highway, bear left and keep left on chemin de Plan Perey. Rejoin the main route at 37.013	
37.021	The road will bend to the left, then right. On the bend to the right, turn right and leave the road. Chemin de Chavonchin	
37.022	Continue straight ahead	
38.013	On meeting main road, cross over to continue on the track beside the Grand Canal. Note:- the village of Chessel is to the right where water can be obtained	
39.000	A rock fall has taken place on the the lower part of the route to Orsières, between Waypoints 30.005 and 35.011. While the route is passable it is reported as very dangerous. The only viable alternative is to use the Alternate route on the main road, which in turn brings the danger of traffic. The railway is also believed to be blocked, but you can take bus 133 from Martigny to Bovenier, Sembrancher or through to Orsières. If you chose to walk the main road take great care and leave very early to minimise the level of traffic..	
44.000	Note:- In the spring of 2011, hand painted signs have been added to the route from Pont St Martin to Rome. The signs are red and white vertical stripes with a black painted pilgrim in the centre. The painted signs generally follow the established "official route" except where noted below.	
46.000	In the tracks between the rice fields between Santhia and Pavia many of the elaborate new signs have been damaged by agricultural work. We suggest you do not worry if the book mentions the existence of a sign and you are unable to find it	
46.042	<i>At the junction with the tarmac road turn right on the road. Note:- a new metal via Francigena sign has been erected mid-way to the next Waypoint, it is possible to follow this to the left then turn left and right to arrive at the T-junction beside Waypoint #44 in Montonero where you turn left. This will save approximately 500m over the route described in Edition 3.</i>	<i>Cascine Strà to the left at the junction</i>

46.049	At the T-junction turn right. Note- horse riders should continue straight ahead to the other side of the water-way and then turn right on the embankment to the next Waypoint	Cross bridge
46.053	<i>Continue straight ahead. Note:- on our last visit this path was heavily overgrown, as an alternative turn left and continue until you reach a collection of farm buildings on your left. The turn right and proceed directly towards the large commercial centre (Carrefour). The path is narrow but passable. At the junction with the main road, cross over the road and turn right in the carpark. Take the next road to the left – via Giulio Sambonet - and then turn right at the crossroads – via Marcello Bertinetti. At the next junction turn left to rejoin the main route at Waypoint #58</i>	On the embankment
46.061	Bear right at the end of the parking area. Note:-a via Francigena sign points to the right before the next Waypoint – you can ignore this	Via Giacomo Puccini, VF sign
Volume 3		
47.000	Note- In the spring of 2011, hand painted signs have been added to the route from Pont St Martin to Rome. The signs are red and white vertical stripes with a black painted pilgrim in the centre. The painted signs generally follow the established "official route".	
47.011	At fork, bear right towards the river, bear left in front of the farmhouse, cross the bridge and turn left to follow the dyke under the motorway	
47.012	Continue straight ahead. Note- unfortunately the cairn and sign have been removed	Keep parallel to the river on your right
	After a further 800m, at the crossroads in the track turn right	Towards the river edge
47.021	On the crown of the bend to the right, turn left onto partially visible grass track. Note- the path ahead has been progressively narrowed by agricultural work and is unsuitable for horses and cyclists and can be very slippery for walkers in wet weather. As an Alternate Route, continue on the road to the village of Rovoltella, turn left on the road, passing the village church on your left and rejoin the main route at Waypoint #33 on the approach to Robbio	Towards trees
48.010	At the T-junction beside irrigation channel turn left. Note- the signing ahead has been subject to some damage making navigation difficult. The former route with some more durable signs continues straight ahead and passes through the villages of Casoni di Sant'Albinio and Remondo and returns to the main route at Waypoint #33	Towards the gas plant
48.015	At the T-junction turn right	Broad track, line of trees to the left
48.016	At the junction continue straight ahead	Liberata (large farm) to the right
48.020	At the junction turn right	Water course to the left
48.022	At the junction, with a farm in the distance ahead, turn left	Cross an irrigation channel
48.024	After crossing another irrigation channel, turn right	Sign for the Zone Militaire to the left
48.025	Turn left and then bear left keeping water on your right	In front of the green gate
48.026	Take the right fork	Farm ahead on your right
48.029	At the T-junction turn left	Shortly before crossing an irrigation channel. The path ahead will turn sharp right
48.030	Continue straight ahead. Note:- if the barrier is closed, horse riders can turn left and skirt the field rejoining the main route at Waypoint #33 beside the farm	Cross the embankment and follow the irrigation channel
48.049	Take the right fork on the track	Gas valve on the left at the junction
48.050	At the crossroads with the white road continue straight ahead	Pass under power line
48.052	Turn right and follow the canal as it bends to the left	Keep canale Cavour on your left
48.053	At the crossroads, turn right. Note: the official route proceeds to Garlasco, it is possible to continue straight ahead here to take the alternate and well signed route to Santuario Madonna della Bozzola	
49.015	Continue straight ahead at the junction	After passing the cemetery
50.012	Bear right on the road in the direction of Broni	Follow via Francigena sign
50.020	On the crown of a further bend to the right continue straight ahead on the white road	Direction Cascina Campobello, pass Grain silos immediately on the right
50.022	At the T-junction turn left on the broad gravel road	Skirt the quarry keeping the fence on the right
51.000	<i>Route summary: this is a long (total distance includes 4km by ferry) but unforgettable part of the journey. We again use farm tracks and minor roads over generally level ground with the opportunity to break the journey in Orio Litta or after the Pò crossing. The final entry into Piacenza will be difficult for all groups on the via Emilia Pavese. Unfortunately horse riders will need to bypass the ferry and take the Alternate route. The ferry service has had some difficulties in 2011. We recommend: calling at least 24 hours in advance – ideally between 20.00 and 22.00, be flexible in your crossing time and strongly consider over-nighting in Orio Litta to minimise the risk of a very long day if the ferry fails to arrive.</i>	
51.039	Arrive at the Pò river ferry (Guado di Sigerico). Note:- if you have difficulties with ferry, then a newly marked route is available along the embankment and over a newly built pedestrian path on the highway bridge into Piacenza. The route is well marked with red and white signs and will be fully described in Edition 4.	Beside Corte Sant'Andrea
52.011	At the first crossroads in the hamlet of I Vaccari turn left on the tarmac then unmade road	One the right sign "Via L.Rocci"
52.012	At the T-junction turn right	Via Giovanni Seti

52.013	At the T-junction, turn left on the tarmac road	Strada I Vaccari
52.015	Continue straight ahead on the track	Pass metal gate
52.016	Quickly turn right onto a partially obscured path into the trees. Note- there are many intertwined paths ahead – remain close to the river, torrent Nure, until reaching the crossing point	River on your left
52.018	At the first intersection turn left	Farm building 100m to your right
52.022	At the crossroads turn left. Note- there has been much excavation work on the river bank and it may prove necessary to locate an alternate crossing	Cross the river ford
52.023	On the far side of the river continue straight ahead	
52.024	At the next crossroads turn right on the main road	Towards farm buildings
52.025	Take the next turning to the left	Towards the farm, sign "Strada Privata"
52.038	At the junction beside the small chapel turn sharp left. Note- beware of the traffic	Towards Cadeo
52.041	After passing the tower in Zappellazzo turn right on the tarmac road	
52.050	Turn right and in 250m turn right. Note- the path ahead has been ploughed in, ignore Waypoint #51	Farm ahead at the junction
52.052	Continue straight ahead	Beside the trees
53.013	At the T-junction at the end of the road turn left	
53.014	Take the next turn to the right	Strada Orsi , the road will turn to the right towards the farm
53.019	At the T-junction, turn left – direction Fidenza – then immediately right at the traffic lights on the main road	Castione Marchesi
53.024	Turn right and take bridge over the autostrada. Then keep straight ahead to the mini roundabout. Note- the river ford ahead has been badly damaged by flood waters. Turn left at the mini-roundabout , cross the Ponte Sigerico and then bear right on the main road towards Fidenza and rejoin the main-route at the entrance to the railway underpass – Waypoint #29	Large concrete building on the left
54.009	At the road junction, continue straight ahead keeping to the left side of the road. Note- by turning left, in 200m, and taking the path across the field to Waypoint #14 the route can be reduced by 500m. Cross the main road and continue on the main route	
54.021	At the T-junction at the top of the hill turn right on the tarmac road	Direction Caviana
54.026	Shortly after a left-hand bend in the road, at the entrance to Costamezzana, turn right towards the Castello	VF sign pointing the wrong way
54.029	Beside the Castello di Costamezzana bear left and then right on the track with trees on the right. At the subsequent farm continue straight ahead between the vines	Pass small wall on your left at the turning
54.030	At the T-junction with the tarmac road, turn left on the road	Towards the houses on the sky-line
54.031	At the T-junction turn right, leaving via Costa Canale	Top of the hill, with houses to the left at the junction
54.033	Continue straight ahead passing farm buildings on the left. Ignore Waypoints #34 and #35. The track bears right towards the farm below on the right. After passing through the farm buildings take the driveway down the hill to the intersection with the main road and turn left towards Cella	VF sign
54.038	Just before leaving the hamlet turn right on the downhill track	After slight bend to the right in the road
54.039	Take the ford across the river and continue straight ahead on the track	Between fields and up the steep hill
54.041	At a bend in the road to the left continue straight ahead on an unmade road	Immediately pass farm buildings on the left
54.042	At the T-junction turn left on the track	Pass the farm on your left and bear right
54.047	Before reaching the main road turn right. Note- horse riders continue to the main road then turn right to avoid steps. There is a cycle path on the left side of the main road	Towards the church, VF sign
54.051	Continue straight ahead on the track around the edge of the field on your right	The track will bend to the right towards the woods passing a fence on the left side
54.053	Continue straight ahead on the tree lined track	
54.055	After a short descent take the faint pathway across the ditch to the left and proceed with a hedge on your right	Farm on hill-top to the right
54.056	At a T-junction with a broader track turn left	Up the hill
54.057	At the intersection with a small tarmac road turn left	Uphill towards houses
54.058	Beside the farm bear right on the grassy track	Pass farm on your right
54.061	At the T-junction turn left	Shrine on the left at the junction
54.070	Ford the stream and bear right	
54.071	Take the right fork	
54.079	On reaching the football field continue straight ahead, then bear right keeping the football field close on your right. At the T-junction turn left towards the main road and Waypoint #81. Ignore Waypoint #80	
55.002	Cross Piazza Tarasconi and continue straight ahead	Kiosk on the right, pedestrian zone
55.003	Cross the main road – SS62 – and continue straight ahead	Via Guglielmo Marconi, pass bank on the right
55.006	Continue to follow the road to the left as it climbs the hill	Avoid road to the right
55.008	At the fork in Caselle bear right and downhill	Shrine on the left as you turn
55.010	Take the right fork downhill	Towards main road
55.011	At the T-junction, turn left and follow the main road to Sivizzano	SP39
55.012	Bear right to pass through the village of Sivizzano. 200m after returning to the main road turn left on the track and follow the track beside the river until the track rejoins the road 300m before Waypoint #13	VF signs

55.016	Fork left into the village of Terenzo	Strada della Posta
55.017	At the T-junction turn right	Continue on Strada della Posta
55.018	Fork left up a small paved passage	VF sign
55.022	Continue straight ahead on the track	Fence to your right
55.025	Just after passing the house, turn left on the grassy track	Towards church tower on the sky-line
55.026	Continue straight ahead on the track	Towards the village
55.028	Cross the track and continue straight ahead on the faint path	Between trees
55.029	Take the right fork	Towards the houses
55.032	Take the left fork	Strada Ca Tiogli
55.033	At the crossroads continue straight ahead	Strada della Fontana
55.039	At the crossroads in the track continue straight ahead on the footpath	
55.048	On a bend in the road to the left take the footpath to the right	Second turning on the right after strada Perdella
55.050	On the crown of the bend to the right take the tarmac road to the left	Sign "Cavazzola di Sopra 750m"
55.051	After a stretch on a level track turn right	Steep forest track uphill
55.052	Turn left	Between 2 low stone walls
55.054	Join a track and bear left	Under the power lines
55.060	On the crown of the next bend turn left on the track	Into the woods
55.061	At the fork in the tracks in the middle of the woods, take the left fork	
55.064	Bear right to leave main road on the track into the woods. Note:- the pathway through the woods is protected by a padlocked gate and also involves crossing a stile. To avoid this cyclists and riders should remain on the road to Way Point #72	Beside the turning for Pagazzano
55.074	Take the right fork	Downhill towards Berceto
56.014	Take the left fork uphill towards il Valoria	Sign for the hostel to the right. Caution:- the hostel sign can be mistaken for a normal "official route" sign
56.022	At an intersection of 3 tracks, take the left track. Note:- the route ahead is well marked with the red and white CAI VF signs	Downhill
56.025	Bear right across the stream and continue on the small track ahead	
56.036	At the T-junction of tracks, turn right	Downhill
56.037	Bear right on the larger track	
56.038	At a T-junction with another track, turn left and continue straight ahead ignoring the track to the right	Downhill
56.040	At an intersection of 3 tracks, initially continue straight ahead to a fork in the tracks and then take the right fork	Red and white sign
56.042	At a T-junction with a grassy track on the edge of Cavezzana D'Antena turn left	Church ahead; ignore the VF sign pointing uphill to the right
56.048	At the junction with the main road turn right and immediately left on the track. Note:- further strenuous off-road work can be avoided by remaining on the road to the right and following the Alternate Route to Pontremoli	Vines and wooden fence on the right
56.052	At the exit from the village take the left fork. Note:- the route can be reduced by 800m by taking the right fork on the road to Casalina and Waypoint #61	Grassy track uphill
57.010	Turn left off the main road	Shop on the right side of the main road, VF sign
57.011	Take the right fork onto the gravel track	Large drainage ditch on the right of the track, VF sign
57.020	Pass under an archway turn right. Then bear left and pass under a second arch	Volta a Crociera
57.023	Take the right fork onto the grassy track	VF sign
57.024	Take the left fork	Line of trees and fence on the left, VF sign
57.029	At the fork in the track bear left with vines on the left and then trees to the right	Yellow VF sign
57.033	Facing a house, turn left and then quickly turn right and left	Yellow VF sign
57.034	<i>Continue straight ahead to the T-junction and then turn left on the road. Ignore Waypoint #35</i>	<i>Farm on the left at the T-junction</i>
57.042	Take the first turning on the right shortly before entering the square	Via Francigena
57.043	At the end of the street, turn left then immediately bear and then left to pass through the archway	Red and white sign
57.044	At the T-junction turn left and then right over a bridge and up the hill on a stony track	Railway bridge on the right at the junction
57.046	Take the right fork and in a further 200m take the left fork	Yellow VF sign and red and white signs
57.052	At the junction with the road turn left and then immediately right	Power plant on the left of the track
57.054	Continue straight ahead	Between the trees
57.060	At the T-junction at the end of the road turn left	Via Chiusura
57.075	Fork left downhill onto a narrow grassy track	Garden on the right, red and white sign
57.076	Fork left across the stream onto the narrow track on the far side and quickly take the right fork	Red and white sign
57.083	Bear left	Red and white sign
57.099	<i>Cross the main road and continue straight ahead on via dei Pini and turn left at the end of the road on via Nazionale</i>	
57.100	<i>At the crossroads turn right on the main road</i>	SS62
65.015	Cross the main road (SR2) and continue straight ahead on the gravel road. Note:- it is possible to pass through Isola d'Arbia by turning left on the main road and then right shortly after passing the bar on your right. Then pass under the railway and rejoin the main route at Waypoint #23	VF sign, pass fir tree on the left
71.027	At the junction with the via Cassia cross the road bridge and continue straight ahead	Strada Sasso San Pellegrino

Vitry-la-François



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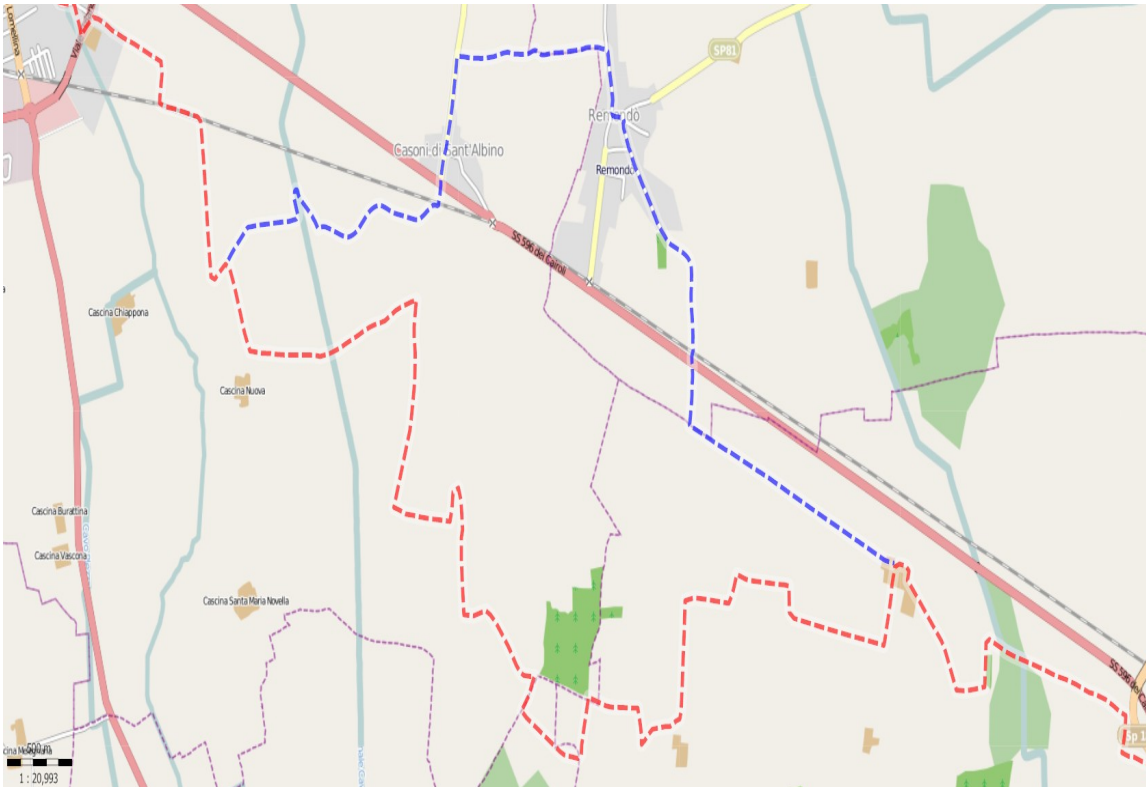
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