

An ongoing discovery

BORDIGHERA

CITTÀ DI
BORDIGHERA

LIGURIA



CITTÀ DI BORDIGHERA

www.visitbordighera.it

Set like a gem on the Riviera dei Fiori between Sanremo and the Côte d'Azur, Bordighera is a treasure chest cherishing the best of a land that boasts varied natural landscapes and abounds in tradition and history, poised to reveal its charming combination of flavours, light and colours.



BORDIGHERA, ENDLESS DISCOVERY

Culture, history, food, wine, nature and sport all make Bordighera the ideal venue for those seeking to experience beauty to behold, thrilling adventures and well-earned relaxation. A wonderful ambience that lasts 365 days because the mild climate of Liguria's famous Riviera di Ponente allows you to enjoy the splendid landscapes, the fascinating medieval towns, the deep blue of the sea and sky and the intense green of the hills all year round.

light my fire



THE TOWN

Strolling
through history

SQUARES AND "CARUGGI"

What makes Bordighera unique is the armonious blending of the ancient beauty of the medieval towncenter with the elegance of its villas.

The Città Alta still shows its pentagonal shaped fortification walls enclosing a closely knit mesh of alleys (the 'carugi') and squares that invite visitors in to admire the colourful houses joined by the characteristic supporting arches. In summer, the town hosts many shows and events and transforms into a large open air museum in which paintings, statues and photographs animate the streets, making a stroll through the "caruggi" a unique experience.

SANT'AMPELIO, LIGURIA'S SOUTHERNMOST CAPE

The church of Sant'Ampepio today still expresses those features of peace and wonder that made Saint Ampepio the hermit choose this place for his life of prayers. The rocks next to this sacred building, not far from the town center, are for everyone, children included, the ideal lookout point for observing marine animals and vegetation that otherwise could be found only in difficult to reach locations.



The Western Coast of Liguria - Ponente Ligure - abounds in picturesque towns. Bordighera, however, has a unique flavour to it.

light my story



Ligurian style rabbit



Our fried anchovies

Bordighera is where the sea and the dry land also harmonise in the local dishes, that are simple and yet refined, celebrated via acclaimed gastronomical events.

LIGURIAN FLAVOURS

The taste of a holiday

A FEAST FOR THE PALATE

The aromas of Bordighera's cuisine come from the sea and from aromatic herbs, from tradition and innovation, from delicate flavours that harmoniously blend with the more assertive ones from the hinterland in consistently innovative combinations. The Ponente Ligure, like all other border lands, offers a large variety of recipes and top quality ingredients. Among Bordighera's many specialties, especially enticing are the 'brandacujun', a tasty dish made with dried cod creamed with potatoes, and the 'panissa', a unique delicacy consisting of chickpea flour, water and salt.



Borage-stuffed ravioli



THE VILLAS AND MUSEUMS

Timeless beauty

light my culture

VILLA REGINA MARGHERITA



VILLA GARNIER



STATELY AND UNIQUE ELEGANCE

CLARENCE BICKNELL MUSEUM

Strolling through Bordighera, in addition to Villa Regina Margherita one can admire the beauty of a large number of elegant residences that today are being used as museums and public buildings. Many of these stately mansions were designed by Charles Garnier, famous for designing the Paris Opéra, the Monte Carlo Casino and the Nice Observatory. In Bordighera the famous French architect designed Villa Garnier as his private residence, Villa Etelinda, the Terrasanta church, Villa Studio and Palazzo Garnier that now houses the city hall.

Founded by Clarence Bicknell in 1888, since its inception this venue has been a peaceful oasis for contemplation and study as well as for cultural gatherings. This is where for over 30 years the illuminated English scientist conducted his studies, ranging from philanthropy to scientific research, from love of Nature to collecting. Now the museum hosts many of Bicknell's collections and a vast library. Especially interesting are the two giant Ficus trees standing in the luxuriant garden that embraces this corner of peaceful retreat.



VILLA POMPEO MARIANI



VILLA ETELINDA

VILLA REGINA MARGHERITA

Margherita of Savoy arrived in Bordighera for the first time in 1879. For many years she spent her winter months in Villa Etelinda, but in 1914 she chose to have a new, larger mansion built in a higher position of the majestic park, to which she would later invite a number of artists and writers, including Mariani, Fogazzaro and Carducci.



THE GARDENS

The surprising shapes and fragrances of nature

PALLANCA EXOTIC GARDEN



THE PINWOOD OF QUEEN MARGHERITA



THE BÉODO PATH



CLAUDE MONET: LUCI E COLORI

In 1884, the father of Impressionism, Claude Monet, spent a long period of time on the Riviera di Ponente in order to capture on canvas the southern sunlight that lit up and bounced off of every natural element. The result was some of his most interesting paintings. He was almost hypnotically fascinated by these landscapes, by the lavish variety of hues of green present in the lush vegetation, by the brilliant colours of the citrus fruits, by the tones of blue that the sky and sea offered him.

“It’s wonderful, and every day the countryside is more beautiful and I’m more enchanted with this land.”
(C. Monet)

THE QUEEN OF PALMS

The story goes that Saint Ampelio, in the 5th century A.D., brought with him from Egypt to Bordighera some date seeds from which grew the palms that today give this town its oriental fairytale appearance. No wonder that the landscapes and the magical sunlight of this piece of coastline fascinated Claude Monet who produced 38 paintings during his stay here.

Garnier described it as: “One of the most exciting walks in Bordighera, that an artist will never forget: an unbroken succession of nooks in which shape and elegance harmonise”.

FLORAL ENCHANTMENT

From April to June, pittosporum and jasmine flowers open up to the warm rays of spring sunlight: the flowers and fragrances change with each step taken.

In the villas and along the streets many paths lead visitors on long and fragrant walks through the luxuriant and lush vegetation and the bright colours of the citrus fruit trees. Here the German landscapist Ludwig Winter designed a Palm Garden that remains one of the richest collections in Europe

today. Bordighera, however, also boasts the splendid Garden of Villa Garnier and, at the foot of the ancient Monte Nero volcano, the Pallanca Exotic Garden with Italy’s largest collection of succulents. Most charming is the Béodo path that skirts the ancient canal of the aqueduct. The French architect Charles

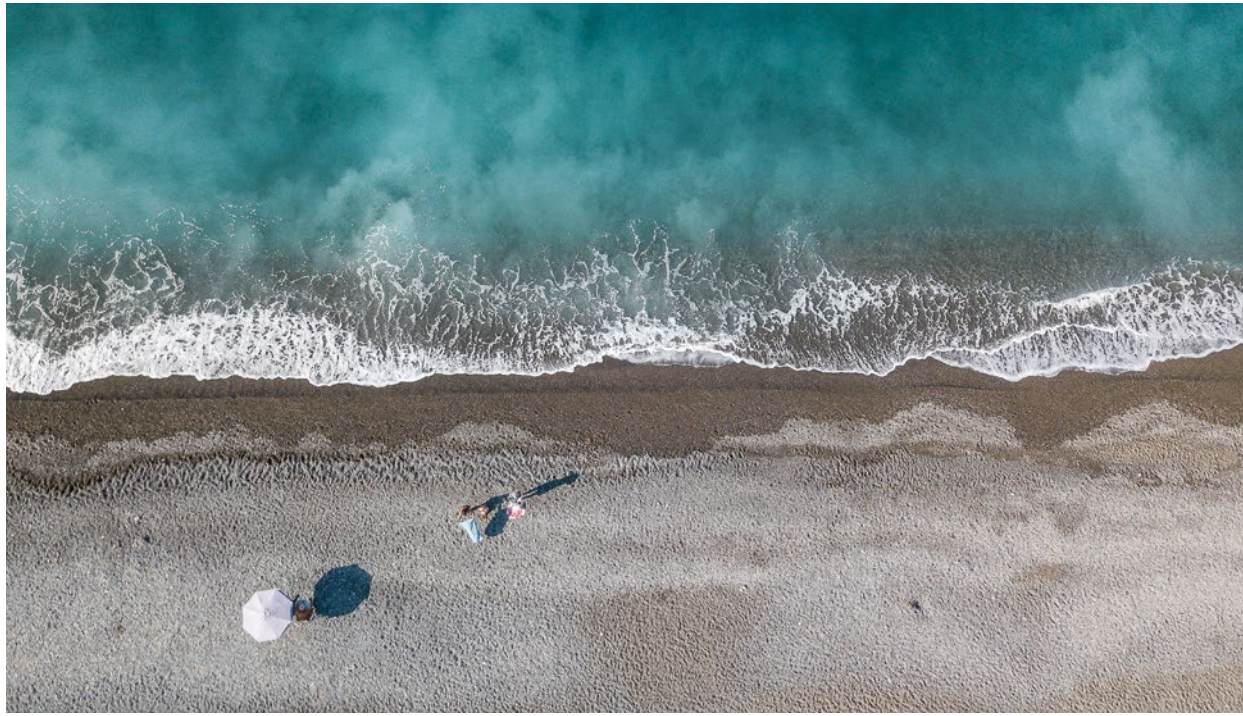
THE SEA

The blue wonder

The Italian Côte d'Azur, the natural extension of one of the world's most famous coastlines.

CHARMING BEACHES, RELAXATION & FUN

Families with children, couples in love, groups of friends ... everyone will find the right place in this corner of Liguria for spending a day at the beach. A walk along the magnificent Lungomare Argentina, named thus for being inaugurated by Evita Peròn, is breathtaking. It is the longest promenade of the Riviera and is flanked by splendid rows of *Araucaria excelsa* and by colourful gardens of succulents and flowers.



THE MARINE PROTECTED AREA

Since the late 1800s Bordighera has been famous for its clear and deep blue...

The triangular stretch of sea between the coasts of Liguria and of France, known as the Pelagos Sanctuary, is one of the most popular areas of the Mediterranean for whalewatching. This is where it is easy to spot sperm whales, fin whales, dolphins and pilot whales

in their natural habitat even on short boat rides just a few miles off shore. The sea beds of the marine protected area abound in animal and plant species, including some at risk of extinction. All that is required is a mask and snorkel to admire the variety of underwater life in this part of the Mediterranean Sea.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES FOR SPORTSPEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES

The sea and the hinterland at Bordighera offer a wide range of outdoor sports activities.

Water, land, air: from whatever angle one looks at it, Bordighera offers emotions and beauty. Clubs and associations offer sea enthusiasts courses in sailing, canoe-kayaking, surfing, windsurfing, diving and catamaran. Trails with varying degrees of difficulty, to be travelled on foot, by bicycle or on a horse, lead up to the hills and mountains of the hinterland. The sky is the best place to embrace both land and sea and to admire the city and its environs from above: the surrounding hills are the ideal launching point for paragliders.



ADVENTURES

For those who love
active holidays

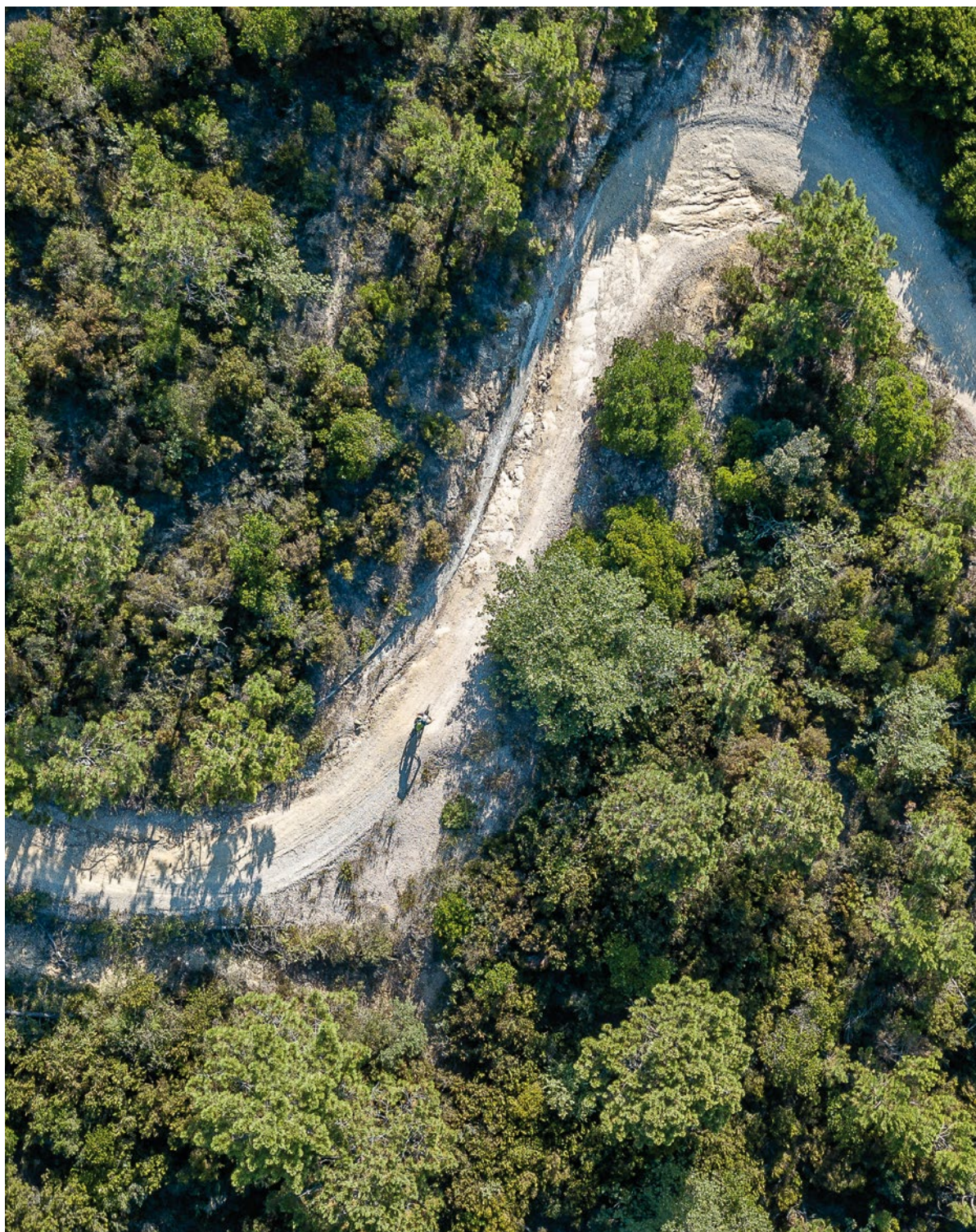


light my nature

Routes that lead from the sea to the mountains by crossing through the town provide cyclists with beautiful panoramic views.

MONTE NERO, VIEWING THE SEA FROM HIGH UP

Along the old routes that once connected the sea to the mountain are trails of varying degrees of difficulty for cyclists and hikers. The effort of tackling the climb that from the green Arziglia district leads up to the summit of Monte Nero, the ancient crater of a now dormant volcano, is well worth it. From the Cian d'Innamurai the view over the sea and the towns of the Riviera is magnificent as it spans all the way to Menton, Monaco and Nice.



TENNIS, FROM THE PAST TO THE FUTURE VIA THE PRESENT

The Bordighera Lawn Tennis Club, founded in 1878 and therefore Italy's oldest, initially offered ladies and gentlemen little more than an entertaining way of spending some time hitting a ball with a racquet and sipping the de rigueur 5 o'clock tea.

By 1928, however, as it celebrated its 50th anniversary, the Club was famous for organizing top level international professional tennis tournaments. The courts, where the princesses of Savoy once played, have also hosted champions such as Tilden, Lacoste, Cochet, Hopman, De Morpurgo, De Stefani and Vido. Starting from this deep-rooted tradition, Bordighera has decided to invest in the future with the Piatti Tennis Center, a modern tennis hub of excellence where the champions of today and of tomorrow come to train.

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