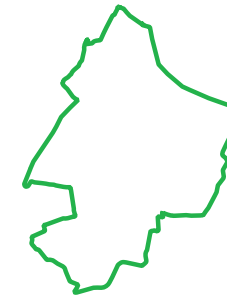


A5 Discovering the springs



23.1 km
of which 10.2 unpaved

2 hours + stops

Municipalities visited:

Osoppo , Majano , Buja

Departure: Piazza Dante A.

(Osoppo) **P**

Length: 23.1 km

(of which 10.2 unpaved)

Difficulty: Easy, completely flat

Average travel time:

2 hours + stops

Sites of interest:

- 1 Church of Santa Maria ad Nives
(Osoppo)
- 2 Colle di San Rocco
(San Rocco, Osoppo)
- 3 Springs of Bars (Osoppo)
- 4 Ledra River (San Floreano, Buja)
- 5 Ledra River
(Località Campo Garzolino, Buja)

We start from the car park located in Piazza Dante at the town's central traffic light. We cross the traffic light intersection with a STOP sign and go straight on Via Fabris and, after passing the access to the Osoppo hill on the right and the municipal building on the left, we arrive at the end of the straight section, where the parish church of **Santa Maria ad Nives** is located, which preserves valuable frescoes by Pellegrino da San Daniele. From here we take Via S. Martino on the left and continue straight at the first crossroads after 100 meters, then turning right at the following two. The second crossroads takes us onto Via Peonis. After about 400 meters, we arrive in the area of the **Springs of Bars** and leave the asphalted road system. From here we can walk to **Colle di San Rocco** on the right, along path 720 (5 minutes) where a small church still testifies to the ancient presence of a hospital. Returning to the plain (which due to its morphological conformation and geographical position was partially transformed into an airfield during the Second World War and whose remains can still be seen), at the intersection we take the second left, turning left after 1.2 km crossing on narrow streets part of the environment of the springs (some signs illustrate the local flora). At the crossroads after another 500 meters we turn right and remain on the main road, a wide and well-beaten cart track, which crosses the vast steppe characterised by a heterogeneous tree mantle formed by tall poplars, willows and alders. We go straight for 1.3 km also crossing an intersection, until we reach a bridge near a rest area set up by the Osoppo fishermen, where we can admire the clear spring waters. We proceed and soon hit the asphalted road again; here we turn left bypassing the fish ponds and arrive at a crossroads after 1.0 km, from which a dirt road starts on the right, which we take, ignoring the indication of the FVG itinerary and continue for 1.5 km, partly along the railway, until reach-



ing a crossroads, where we turn left. We continue for 0.5 km and, at the crossroads near the level crossing, we turn left and leave the dirt road; we continue on Via delle Sorgive for about 1.8 km until reaching an intersection with S.S.463, which we take by turning right.

After passing a small bridge, we turn left onto the dirt road that runs alongside the **Ledra canal**, continuing straight to the first intersection after 240 meters and turning right at the second after another 1.2 km, always going alongside the canal; another 1.4 km and we arrive at a crossroads near a bridge, where we turn right onto Via Battiferro di Tomba. Now the dirt section ends and after a few tens of meters we turn left; another 0.5 km and we arrive at a crossroads, where we turn right following the itinerary of the FVG.1, which allows us to cross the provincial road and the motorway with underpasses and to reach San Floreano. Arrived at the bridge over the Ledra, we turn left onto Via Ledra in the direction of Osoppo. After 1.5 km we arrive at a cross-



roads with a STOP sign and continue on the left, again towards Osoppo: we are in the **Campo Garzolino** area, a particularly valuable naturalistic zone near the Ledra River, one of the most important river habitats. Continuing straight ahead in the main direction we arrive at a crossroads, where we turn left onto Via Rio Rai towards Osoppo. This is now the direction to keep, and so we continue straight on to the next intersection after about 400 meters, with the road being unpaved for over 1 km. After reaching an intersection near a bridge, we find the asphalted road surface again and go straight for over 1 km, until reaching a level crossing. We cross it, continuing straight on Via Buja until reaching the STOP sign at the crossroads with Via Brigata Rosselli where we turn left, thus ending our excursion of 23.1 km in total.



SPRINGS OF BARS IN OSOPPO

IN DETAIL

The Springs of Bars (Sorgive dei Bars) occupy the western area of the Campo di Osoppo-Gemona. This plain, delimited by the pre-alpine reliefs and the heights of the Morainic Amphitheatre, is characterised by a set of natural environments of considerable ecological value and of fundamental importance for the presence of animal and plant species of great interest. The Springs of Bars are given by the waters of the Tagliamento river infiltrated further upstream. Indeed, the peculiarity lies in the contiguity of areas that are very dry and others that are very rich in waters; a situation that determines vegetal and faunal presences with very different characteristics, quite interesting in an altogether limited territory.

The streams, on average between 50 and 150 cm deep, are surrounded by shady groves of willows and alders. There are riparian woods and stretches of thin meadow where different species of orchids flourish. Given the proximity of the mountains it is also interesting to observe the avifauna with the presence of many species of birds of prey. The most important watercourse is the "Mulino del Cucco" stream, whose waters are used by a fish farm. Sport fishing is also practised in the waters of the Sorgive dei Bars; in the area previously used as a military airfield, numerous resting areas have been created.

