



2.2 Chioggia–Abano and Montegrotto Terme. The trail of salt and sugar.

The Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta, the ancient Church of Sant'Andrea, and the medieval tower are the main sights in the



picturesque historical town of Chioggia framed in by typical Venetian alleys and canals. Other must-see spots are the colorful fish market, located between piazza and the Canale della Vena (1). Aside from seafood, salt is still one of Chioggia's flourishing businesses and it has been since the expansion of the salt pans made it the Adriatic's salt capital many years ago. On this leg, you will make

your way down the “salt route” which goes from the lagoon to the Venetian cities. With the lagoon at your back, you'll pass through stretches of farmland sectioned off by a number of artificial canals. In Correzzola, you'll reach a sixteenth-century structure of architectural value - the corte benedettina. In this area, the monks undertook great development projects building several farmsteads, which are still inhabited today, to support local



agriculture and animal husbandry. The next stop is Pontelongo, a town that was built up after the establishment of a large sugar refinery in the 19th century. The factory is still in operation and the town has taken on the nickname of “paese dello zucchero” (sugar town). You'll continue down the left bank of the canal, passing by the once-fortified city of Bovolenta, which marks the confluence of waters flowing from Padua to the right, and

the Euganean Hills to the left. The route veers off in the direction of the hills which appear on the horizon with their recognizable, pointy silhouettes. The many Venetian villas, the riverside village of Pontemanco (3), bridges with impressive masonry, and the former abbey of Santo Stefano are all sights to be admired

Second leg
Distance: 63 km
Difficulty level: ⚙️⚙️



along the way and attest to the ancient roots of this waterway, now used as a bike path. The route ends in Battaglia Terme, a charming town in the Euganean Hills where an original museum preserves the memory of navigation along the river. The thermal spas of Abano (2) and Montegrotto Terme are less than 10 km away from here.





2.2



