



1.3 Vicenza-Padua. Along the Bacchiglione River.



Once you get back to pedaling along the bike path on the Riviera Berica “Casarotto,” it will only be a few kilometers before you reach the **Villa Capra Valmarana**, also known as “**La Rotonda**,” one of **Andrea Palladio**’s masterpieces. From atop a hill, it bids visitors a fine farewell from **Vicenza** (1) and directs them on towards **Longare**, at the foot of the **Berici Hills**. The main guide on this third leg is the **Bacchiglione River**, a waterway that was once the principal line of

transport connecting **Padua** and **Vicenza**. During the Middle Ages, this area was the source of much dispute among the populations of **Padua** and **Vicenza**, as can still be gathered today by the various military structures that you’ll see along the way. The first castle, located in **Montegalda**, is strategically



positioned atop a hill. After it was conquered by the **Venetians** and no longer served any military purpose, the castle was converted into a charming villa (in the 1500-

1600s). Not far from the **Grimani Sorlini Castle** (3), another villa, the **Fogazzaro Colbachini**, is worth paying a visit since it was the residence of the writer **Antonio Fogazzaro** and houses an original collection of bells. As you enter the territory of **Padua**, there are three rural villages that will brighten up your ride. The first

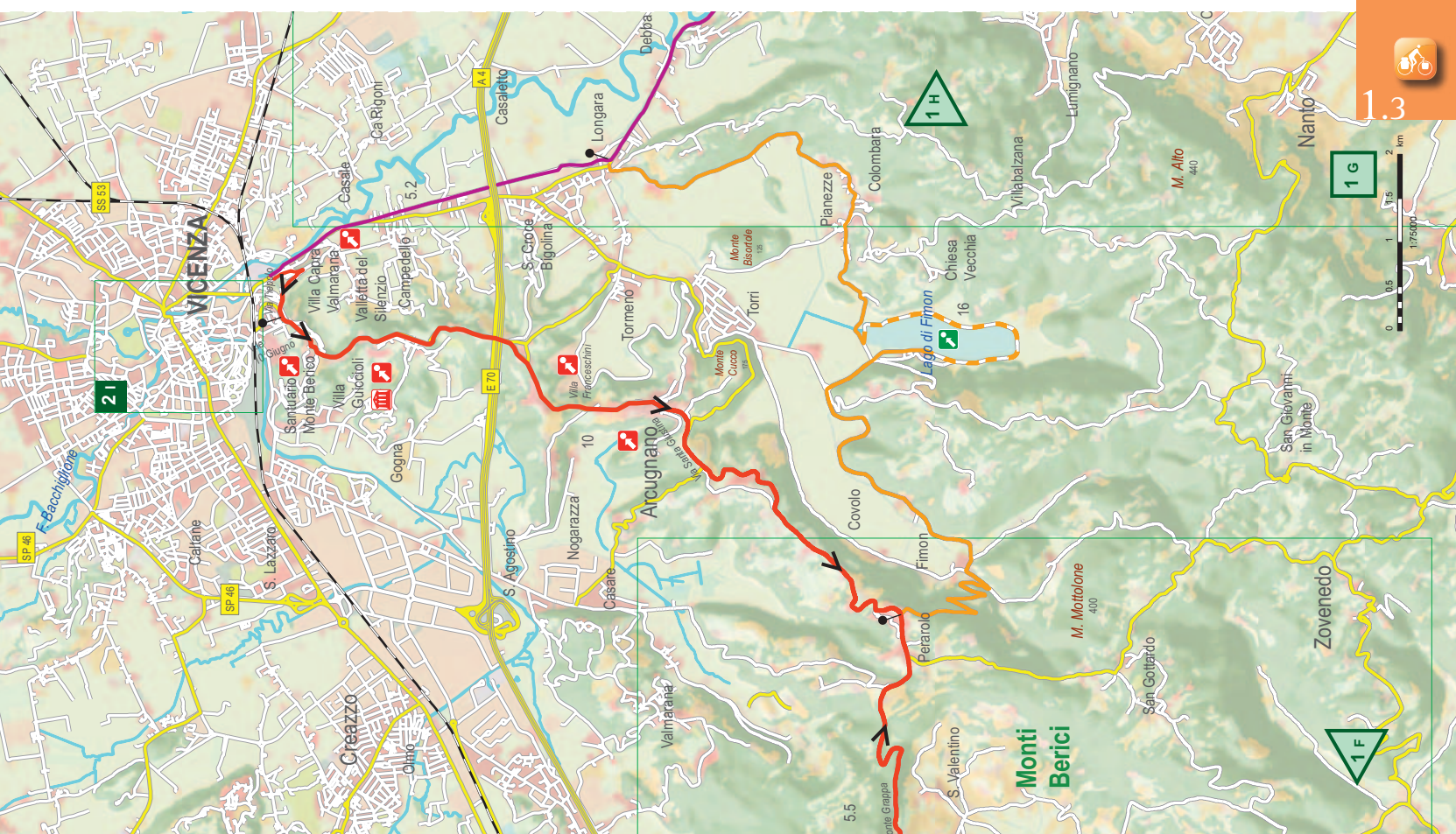
is called **Santa Maria di Veggiano** and has a number of noteworthy rustic structures set in a poetic agrarian landscape; next is **Cervarese Santa Croce**, where there is an old mill and nearby a footbridge allowing you to cross the river and head toward the **Castle of San Martino della Vanezza** (2), which houses the **Bacchiglione**

River Museum. Once you’ve hit the trail again, you’ll pass through **Creola**, another village with surprising historical monuments such as the **Arch of Sansovino**, **Barchessa Pisani**,

Third leg
Distance: 45 km
Difficulty level: ⚙️

and **Church of Santa Maria del Carmine**. The route continues on, venturing through the lush natural environment bordering the river, until reaching the gates of **Padua**. Access into the city is first provided by way of the **Canale Scaricatore**, a waterway that is very popular among locals for practicing sports. Then, by following the cycle routes, you can enter the city’s big “outdoor living room”: **Prato della Valle**, one of the most well-known, monumental piazzas in Italy.





1.3

1 G

1 F

2 I

1 H



1.3

