Rovigo-Adria. From the city of roses to the Delta.

Rovigo, the capital city of the Polesine area is the best starting point for this itinerary suspended between land and water, passing through some of Italy's newest



lands, as well as its rivers, lagoon and sea. Your tour of the refined historical centre of this city will allow you to admire the towers of the medieval castle (1), the art gallery in Palazzo Roverella, the innovative Museo dei Grandi Fiumi (Museum of Great Rivers), and the Church of the Beata Vergine del Soccorso, better known as "La Rotonda," with its octagonal layout. From there you can ride along the bike path on the Adigetto Canal. After passing by Canalbianco, you'll go through Pontecchio Polesine and then get on the long trail that leads to Guarda Veneta, on the left-hand levee of the Po River (3). After taking a break to admire the organ inside of the Church of San Stefano, work no.199 of Gaetano Callido, you can make your way up to the top of the enormous levee to get a far-reaching view of the rural landscape decorated with countless churches. Proceed on to Crespino, with its large piazza dedicated to the myth of Phaeton. Other sights worth seeing are the impressive sixteenthcentury altar painting by Benvenuto Tisi da Garofolo inside the lovely church, and the Museo delle Acque (Museum of Waters). The habitat full of lush vegetation is home to



a number of bird species and will accompany you from Villanova Marchesana to Papozze. Here, the Po di Goro branches off from the Po di Venezia to the south, forming the Po Delta, the environment is striking and makes an ideal nesting place for the Grey Heron and Western Marshherriers. At this point, you can

First leg
Distance: 51 km
Difficulty level:

make your way down from the levee and head along the country road to the historical city of Adria (2). After you've crossed back over the Canalbianco, you can explore this city with an age-old history of trade, thanks to the port on the Po di Adria and, therefore, access to the Adriatic Sea. Significant artifacts from the necropolis preserved in the newly refurbished National Museum of Archeology document the role played by civilizations that settled here even before the Roman Empire.







