

The charcoal kiln route

In this excursion you'll see open spaces where charcoal was produced until just a few decades ago. On the slopes of Monte Generoso, there are around a hundred of these kilns, but their location often deviates from the path and they may be difficult or dangerous to reach. In fact, the carbonization took place mainly where it was difficult to transport the wood. However, the route we have selected does not have any particular difficulties. To see the charcoal kilns, we only have to leave the path for short distances and perform a basic visual search in the immediate vicinity.

Starting point: Bellavista Station, 1200 m a.s.l.

Arrival point: La Piana Station, 700 m a.s.l.

Difference in altitude: approx. 600 m in descent

Time needed (approx.): 3 hours

NB: Shoes with grooved outsoles are recommended

Hiking map (XXL photo map from www.gps-tracks.com)

To find out more, see the notebook edited by Angelo Valsecchi: "Coal and the charcoal kilns of Monte Generoso".