



1 Ariano nel Polesine, old Saint Basilio Church



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2 Po Delta, water pump
3 Po Delta



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4 Po Delta, flamingos in flight

TRAVELLERS' DIARY

From Adria you follow the right bank of the Canabianco, which you then leave at Piantamelon to turn right towards Bottrighe. Go over the bridge which crosses the Po di Venezia going right into the Po Delta, precisely into the so-called Arian island, that vast territory which originated from floods contained within some branches of the Po di Goro to the south, the Po di Venezia to the north and the Po della Donzella to the south-east. You are in an area called Polesine and this area is subdivided among the towns of Ariano nel Polesine, Corbola and Taglio di Po. When you have crossed the bridge, turn left following the flow of the Po di

Venezia and you go along the cycling path on top of the river bank, accompanied by Venetian villas and rural farmsteads which developed here. Then you go through the village of Taglio di Po, which gets its name from the hydraulic work carried out by the Venetian Republic, the work of "cutting" the Porto Viro began on May 15 1600 and was finished on September 16 1604. The route now expects you to cross Ariano island, passing by Grillara, interesting for its Museo dell'Ocarina and the fossil dunes. You reach San Basilio where – on top of a fossil dune, remains of a proto-historic era – there is a Romanesque church, founded

in the X century by the Benedictine monks of Pomposa. From the embankment you reach Ca' Vendramin, where there is the Museo Regionale della Bonifica, you continue until you get to the bridge made out of boats between Goro Veneto and Gorino Ferrarese, where there is the sixteenth century castle, one of the so-called Estensi Delights. A little further south there is the Bosco Mesola Nature Reserve. Now you ride along the cycling path on the right of the Po which leads to Goro and you continue to Lanterna Vecchia and the Gorino Ferrarese lighthouse, where the Po plunges into the Adriatic.