



Parks and Trails

General information

Name of the Park/Trail	Orecchiella Park and Fontanone Path
Address	Locality Orecchiella
City	San Romano in Garfagnana LU
Contacts	+39 320 267 2533 info@orecchiella.com
Site	https://orecchiella.com/sentieri-liberi/

TESTED BY: [Handy Superabile Social Promotion Association](#) in 2024

Please note The following information refers to the date of verification shown at the bottom of each sheet. **The Association** is not responsible for any significant changes made by the property after the visit.

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Description

The Orecchiella Park is an area of 5218 hectares located in the upper Garfagnana, in the province of Lucca, on the north-western tip of Tuscany.

One of the paths in the Park, facilitated for people with disabilities, is **Il Fontanone**, built years ago, but which has recently undergone renovation. The path is about 450 meters long with an average gradient of no more than 8% and develops in a coniferous forest; it is particularly recommended for the blind for the richness of sounds (birds, foliage, water) and scents. A wooden handrail makes the path on the valley side safe.

General information

Opening and closing period	All year round
Times	<p>The Visitor Centre and all the facilities connected to it (wildlife enclosures, exhibitions, stands, etc.) are open at the following times:</p> <p>April: Sundays and holidays from 10 am to 4 pm</p> <p>May: Sundays and holidays from 10 am to 5 pm</p> <p>From June to August inclusive: every day from 10 am to 6 pm</p> <p>September: every day from 10 am to 5 pm</p> <p>October and November: only Sundays and holidays from 10.30 am to 3.30 pm until 01 November.</p>
Ticket cost	Free admission

How to reach the Park

By car	From Lucca SS 12 del Brennero to Chifenti; SS 445 to Castelnuovo Garfagnana; SS 324 to Castiglione G.na; SP towards Corfino from where the Park is
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	signposted (67 km from Lucca). From San Romano in Garfagnana SP n. 16
By plane	Pisa airport 98 km away
Assistance service for people with disabilities	YES
Embarkation/disembarkation of passengers with reduced mobility	with courtesy chair and ambulift /Finger
Tactile paths for the blind and visually impaired	YES
There is a toilet room accessible with grab handles	YES
By train	
Nearest station	Castelnuovo Garfagnana at 20 km
Assistance service for people with disabilities	NO
By public transport	
Nearest bus stop	Missing
Eventual notes	

Car park

Public parking nearby	YES at the Visitor Center
Type of public parking floor	asphalt
Presence of parking space reserved for people with disabilities	YES number 1 Parking space adjacent to the entrance to the visitor center
Electric charging stations	NO
Eventual notes	





Route from the car park to the entrance

Route from the car park to the starting point	flat
Distance from parking to entrance	At the parking lot there is the Visitor Center with the ticket office, the shop of typical local products, the accessible toilets, the pond and the naturalistic museum
Type of trail surface	asphalt





There are indicators and tactile maps	NO
Eventual notes	
	Entrance to the Visitor Center

Description of the Park and the internal routes

Length	650 meters
In the internal paths and paths there are maps and tactile signs for the blind	YES the Fontanone path with wooden handrails on the sides

	
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From the parking lot with a space reserved for the disabled, you enter the Visitor Center on a flat level with concrete slab flooring and reach, 15 meters away, the ticket office and a shop selling typical local products. From here, a few tens of meters away we find the accessible toilets and shortly after the pretty lake and the building that houses the **naturalistic museum**, a conference and projection room, multimedia stations, library and laboratory, all accessible on the flat. Here we also find an area with benches





Near the lake there is also the **Mountain Garden** where you can admire splendid blooms that can be visited through a path on a grassy ground.

In addition, always in the immediate vicinity of the Visitor Center, there are several wildlife enclosures where you can admire, and photograph, in large spaces, albeit fenced, various animals: mouflons, roe deer and bears.









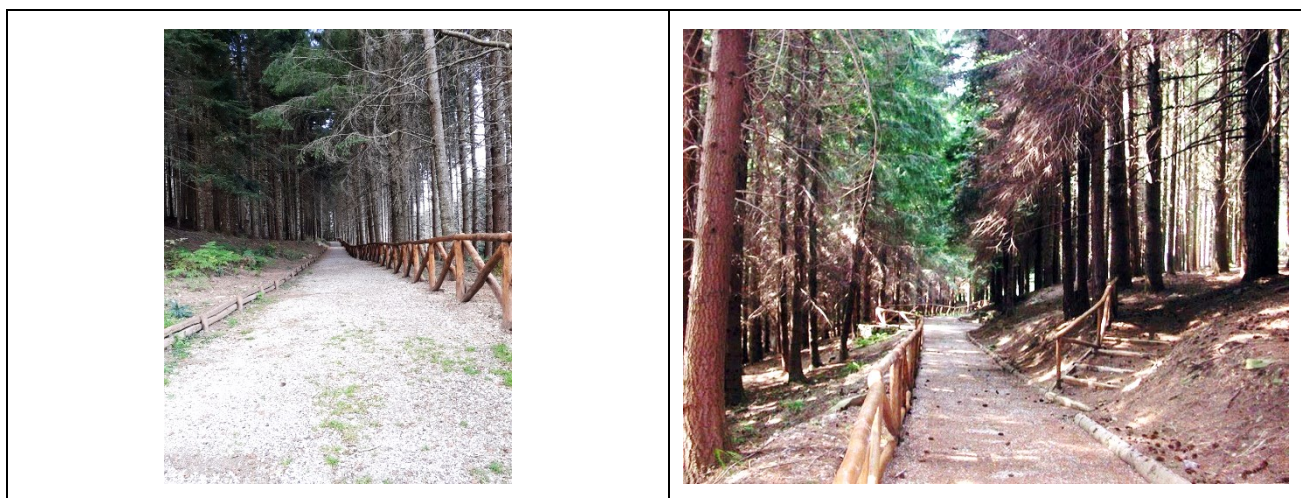
After passing the pond with the naturalistic museum, you reach, just above, the **mouflon enclosure** and the **House of Birds of Prey**, with a small lake, reachable via a ramp with a wooden handrail on the left and accessible by a small step.





	<p>FONTANONE PATH 450 m</p> <p>From the Casa dei Rapaci, to reach the Fontanone path, you have to overcome a path on a grassy ground, about 150 meters long, until you reach a gate, from which, during the opening period, you can access the Fontanone path by buzzing.</p> <p>Alternatively, you can take the car again and reach the opposite side of the path, after about 600/700 m of paved road.tag.</p>
	
	<p>Here begins a path, about 450 meters long, on a dirt road, with an average gradient of 6%, equipped with handrails on the sides and with a table inaccessible to the wheelchair. The path crosses a coniferous forest and is part of the major environmental recovery interventions that the State Forestry Corps has carried out in the Orecchiella area. In fact, in this part of the Monte Orecchiella Nature Reserve there is one of the oldest nuclei of these reforestations, dating back to the 30s.</p>





Toilets

Location of the toilet room	At the visitor center
How to access the premises	flat
Usable width of the entrance door	Above 80 cm
Type of door	with inwardly opening door
Type of handle	lever
Toilet height	50 cm
Toilet seat with open front tooth	YES
Support handles	to the left of the toilet
Flexible shower on the side of the toilet	NO
Free space on the sides of the toilet	left Above 90 cm frontal Above 90 cm
Electric doorbell/telephone on the side of the toilet	NO
Washbasin with space underneath for wheelchair approach	Above 70 cm
Height from the ground lower edge mirror	Missing mirror
Baby changing table	NO

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Eventual notes	
	
	

Medical practices/healthcare facilities

Hospitals near the property	Santa Croce Hospital Via dell'ospedale n. 3 Castelnuovo di Garfagnana Tel. 0583/6691
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