

Bulletin regarding the state of trails * updated Sunday, September 20th, 2015

NEW: The numerous fires during the month of September haven't affected the viability of the trails. Just the latest fire, extinguished yesterday at Monte Vico Alvano, may have blocked that stretch of the Alta Via dei Monti Lattari should any trees have fallen. In the next few days I will be going to check out the path from the Colli San Pietro as far as the Sella di Arola as well as the deviation to the iron cross.

Trails Sorrento Peninsula, Progetto Tolomeo (Massa Lubrense, Sorrento, Sant'Agnello)

Termini - Punta Campanella

Via Campanella is closed to transit due to renovation work. Reopening is scheduled for 2016.

Monte San Costanzo and Giro di Santa Croce

Much of the summit area has been devastated by a fire (13 August), but the trails are all viable. Since the **Athena Loop (Circuito di Athena)** (Termini-Campanella-San Costanzo) is for the time being off limits, and taking advantage of the restoration of two ancient footpaths (Le Selve e Vuallariello), hikers are invited to follow the new loop, the **Giro di Santa Croce**. A map has been published of this hike and is available (free) from the Pro Loco (Tourist) offices and several shops/bars in Termini. Opened in summer 2015 this new route between Cercito and Campo Vetavole, where it joins the Alta Via dei Monti Lattari (Cai300), is easy to follow and has been marked in red.

The Sirenuse Trail

The area surrounding the Pizzetiello was victim of a fire in early August. The burnt undergrowth of the upper slopes of the chestnut woods coming from Colli Fontanelle is evident, but the trail is clear since the wooden steps were not involved. The burnt vegetation extends right up to Pizzetiello but the path is fine. On the other hand, the descent from Pizzetiello has been affected since the wooden railings at the top (and at the steepest part) have been damaged and a lot of the steps completely charred. These have been removed since no longer able to bear the weight of a person, they had become a hazard. The descent is still feasible (with caution), but anyone who has the choice is advised to follow the Sirenuse Trail counterclockwise in order to cover this part uphill rather than down. Although numerous red and white marks (CAI300) were added and/or refreshed on 19 August, we recommend keeping an eye open for them and following the wooden steps where present. The former passage between the bushes which previously guided hikers is no longer evident due to the effects of the fire.

CAI 300 (Alta Via Monti Lattari)

The steep stretch between the pinewood of Monte di Monticchio and Recommone is, as always, invaded by vegetation that apart from complicating progress also hides many of the trail signs. Anyone wishing to take this route should be prepared for scratches and to lose time finding the correct way. On the more recent maps of the Progetto Tolomeo (both those of Massa and Sorrento) this part is marked with a series of little red "x"s, clarified in the index as "trail in very poor condition".

"A trail that you need to look for, since difficult to recognise, no signs, so problematical to find the correct way. In some points, maximum attention is required and I would discourage anyone from doing it alone or without a guide."

Red trail between St. Agata and Monticchio (CLEARED) 31/8

The trunks which obstructed the passage have been cut.

Sant'Agata – Sorrento (via Li Schisani)

Path officially closed due to a landslide. Desperados pass with difficulty and at their own risk.

Other routes:

no news, good news

Other hiking trails of interest (Lattari, Amalfi Coast, Capri)

Path of the Gods * Valley delle Ferriere * Tre Calli * Faito * Monte Comune * ...

No news, good news

Sentiero Giustino Fortunato (CLEARED) 29/8

Valley delle Ferriere Reserve

The Reserve (waterfalls inside the enclosure) is open every Saturday and Sunday from 9 until 14.

Erbatenera (between S. Maria del Castello and Conocchia)

Some parts of the path are blocked by tree trunks following a fire time ago. Due to the infrequent passage of walkers, the many thorn bushes make transit problematical. Another more than reliable expert foresees that "without an intervention of a certain entity (shears are not sufficient), transit in this area, aggravated by the fire of summer 2012, will be a long term problem. "

Paipo

The fountain near the shrine has not had any water for at least a month.

Passetiello (Capri)

The trail has considerably deteriorated over recent months with vegetation invading most of the route. Moreover, due to lack of maintenance, many steps or stones that facilitated the climb (and descent) are now unstable.