



MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY OF THE MATESE ZONE · PNRR M2C1 Green Communities · CUP: E14H25000590006 · Intervention No. 4 "Experiential Geo-Tourism of the Matese" · 2026

TITLE

TRAIL P09 · MULTI-DAY TREKKING · MULTI-MUNICIPALITY · EE - EXPERIENCED HIKERS ONLY

Great Traverse of the Caserta Matese

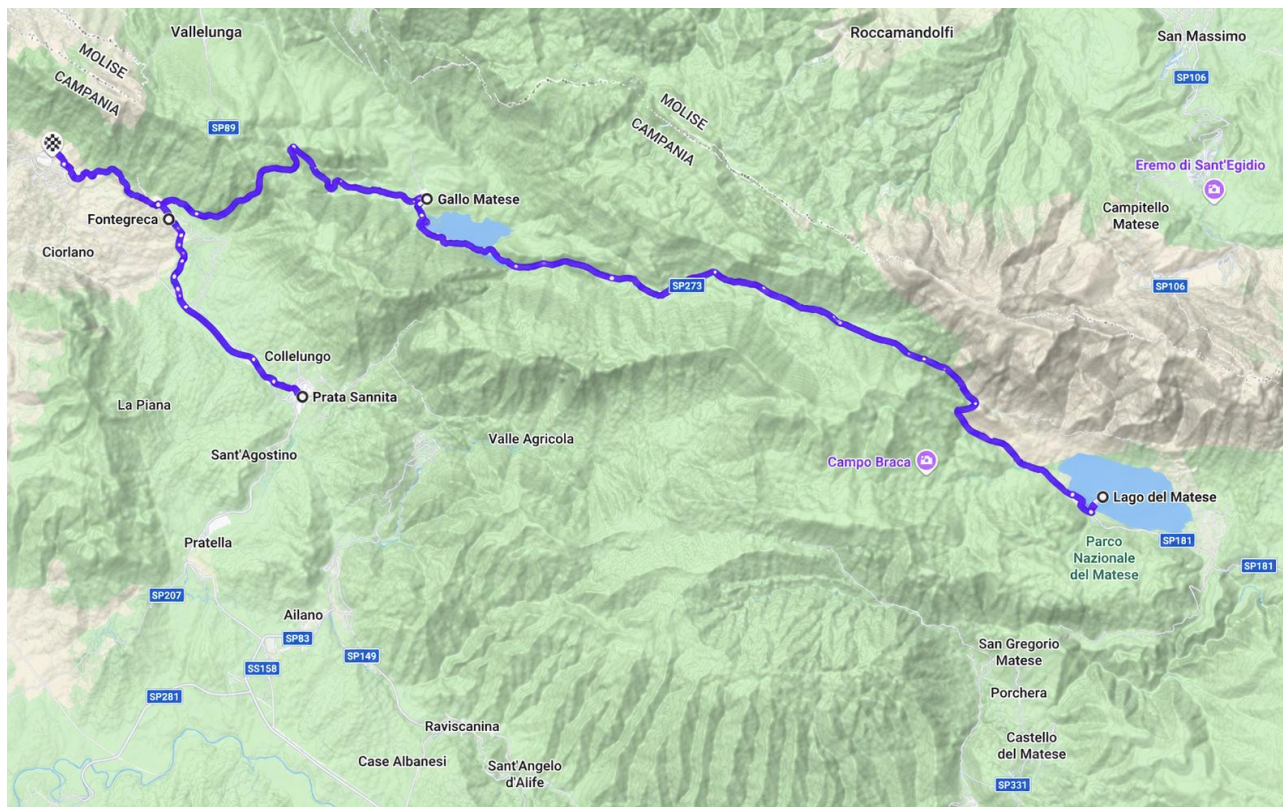
3 days · 52 km · D+ 1,100 m · Max ~1,550 m · Prata Sannita → Gallo → Lake → Capriati

TECHNICAL DATA

Length	Elevation Gain	Max Elevation	Duration	Difficulty	Season
52 km (3 days)	+1,100 / -1,100 m	~1,550 m a.s.l.	3 Days	EE (CAI)	May – October

ROUTE MAP - SCHEMATIC LAYOUT

SCALE ~1:15.000 · WGS84 · Mappa illustrativa



GOOGLE MAP

Allegato <https://maps.app.goo.gl/KNKckUg3atmKebzm8>

STAGE - TRIPARTITE GEO / FAUNA / HISTORY ANALYSIS

DAY 1	Prata Sannita → Gallo Matese (17 km, +500 m, 6–7 h)
GEO	The first day crosses the hydrogeological system of the Lete: karst gorges, waterfalls, Blue Lagoon. Then climbs towards Gallo Matese through the carbonate monocline of Monte Gallo.
FAUNA	Otter, freshwater crayfish in the Lete. Wild horses and Apennine Wolf near Campo Figliolo.
HISTORY	Start: Ponte Romano car park, Prata Sannita (285 m a.s.l.). Finish: Gallo Matese (850 m a.s.l.). Overnight: B&B or agriturismo in Gallo Matese (booking required).

DAY 2	Gallo Matese → Lago del Matese (18 km, +400 m, 6–7 h)
GEO	The second day covers the geo-karst heart of the Matese: Sava swallow hole, Trail of the Fairies (CAI 113), Campo Figliolo (endorheic basin), Monte Campitello (1,550 m - maximum elevation of the traverse), descent to Lake Matese.
FAUNA	Golden Eagle, Roe Deer, Apennine Chamois (occasional on the walls of Monte Miletto).
HISTORY	Start: Gallo Matese (850 m a.s.l.). Finish: Rifugio dell'Esule (1,050 m a.s.l.). BOOKING MANDATORY. Refuge operational May–October.

DAY 3	Lago Matese → Capriati a Volturno (17 km, +200 m, 5–6 h)
GEO	The third day crosses the Cipresseta di Fontegreca (Triassic dolomites, relict cypress grove) and descends towards Capriati through the geological stations of Monte Scoltrone.
FAUNA	Waterbird fauna of Lake Matese (SPA). Peregrine Falcon at the top of the Capriati Tower.
HISTORY	Start: Rifugio dell'Esule (1,050 m a.s.l.). Finish: Piazza Roma, Capriati a Volturno (360 m a.s.l.). Return to Prata Sannita: ~30 min by car (shuttle or support vehicle).

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

DESC	La Great Traverse of the Caserta Matese è l'unico itinerario esistente che attraversa in sequenza tutti i geositi principali del massiccio: il sistema carsico del Lete (Giorno 1), gli inghiottitoi e i pianori endoreici di Gallo Matese (Giorno 2), le stazioni geologiche Airelle–Scoltrone con 100 milioni di anni di storia (Giorno 3). Il profilo altimetrico attraversa tutte le formazioni carbonatiche del Matese occidentale, da quota 285 m a quota 1.550 m. Un'avventura riservata a escursionisti esperti.
-------------	--

GEOHISTORY OF THE PLACE

Narrative	La Great Traverse of the Caserta Matese è il racconto completo di una montagna. In tre giorni si attraversano tre sistemi ecologici - vallata fluviale, altopiano carsico, dorsale calcarea - e tre epoche storiche - Sanniti, Romani, Medioevo - e tre tipi di acqua - il fiume che scorre, il lago che regola, la fonte che sgorga. È un viaggio nel tempo geologico e nella memoria culturale del Matese.
------------------	--

EXPERIENTIAL PACKAGE

PACKAGE PKG-09	"La Traversata" - Trekking Multi-Giorno del Matese Casertano (3 Days)
Target: Experienced hikers (EE). Not for beginners. Min. 2 years multi-day experience.	The only existing itinerary crossing in sequence all the main geosites of the Caserta Matese. Lete Gorges, swallow holes, Trail of the Fairies, Lake Matese, Cypress Grove, Monte Scoltrone.
Duration: 3 days (Day 1: 6–7h / Day 2: 6–7h / Day 3: 5–6h)	Difficulty: EE - Experienced Hikers CAI
Periodo: May – October	Mobility: Linear + return shuttle. Autonomous pack for 3 days.
Features:	3-day self-guided or expert-guided excursion · Rifugio Esule booking mandatory · Bilingual brochure · Paper map 1:25,000

SAFETY WARNINGS

	EE: experienced hikers only. Autonomous pack 3 days. Refuge: book in advance. Emergencies: 112 / CNSAS +39 0823 1923501. Power bank mandatory.
---	--

ACCESS

Start	Ponte Romano car park, Prata Sannita (41.4246°N, 14.2033°E).
Finish	Piazza Roma, Capriati a Volturno. Return by shuttle/car (~30 min).
Rifugio Esule	Operational May–Oct. Booking mandatory: +39 0823 1923501.

ISSUES

Issues	Description	Priority
Classification	EE (Experienced Hikers CAI): requires experience, navigation skills, excellent physical condition, autonomous pack 3 days.	HIGH
Mountain hut	Rifugio dell'Esule: operational May–October. BOOK before setting off.	HIGH
Shuttle	Coordinate shuttle or support vehicle for return from Capriati to Prata Sannita.	MEDIUM

WEB REFERENCES

- geo-matese.it - Geo-Matese Platform (Item B, Specification M4)
- www.parcoregionaledelmatese.it - Matese Regional Park Authority
- www.wikiloc.com - GPS hiking tracks of the Matese
- www.sentieroitalia.cai.it - Sentiero Italia CAI
- geoportale.mite.gov.it - ISPRA/MITE Geoportal
- www.regione.campania.it/turismo - Campania Tourism

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Mountain Community of the Matese Zone (2026) - Special Contract Specification, Intervention No. 4. CUP E14H25000590006.
- CAI (2020) - Trail classification and waymarking standards.
- ISPRA (2019) - Italian geosites. Rome: ISPRA Reports 307/2019.
- Amato V. et al. (2014) - Geomorphology and late Quaternary evolution of the Matese Massif. Geomorphology, 214.
- Grimaldi S. et al. (2018) - Hydrogeological characterization of the Matese karst aquifer. J. Hydrology, 556.

GPS TRACKS AND MAPS ON OUTDOOR PLATFORMS

GOOGLE

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/KNKckUg3atmKebzm8>

⚠ Tracks on Wikiloc/Komoot/Google Maps are user-uploaded and may differ from the official route described in this data sheet.