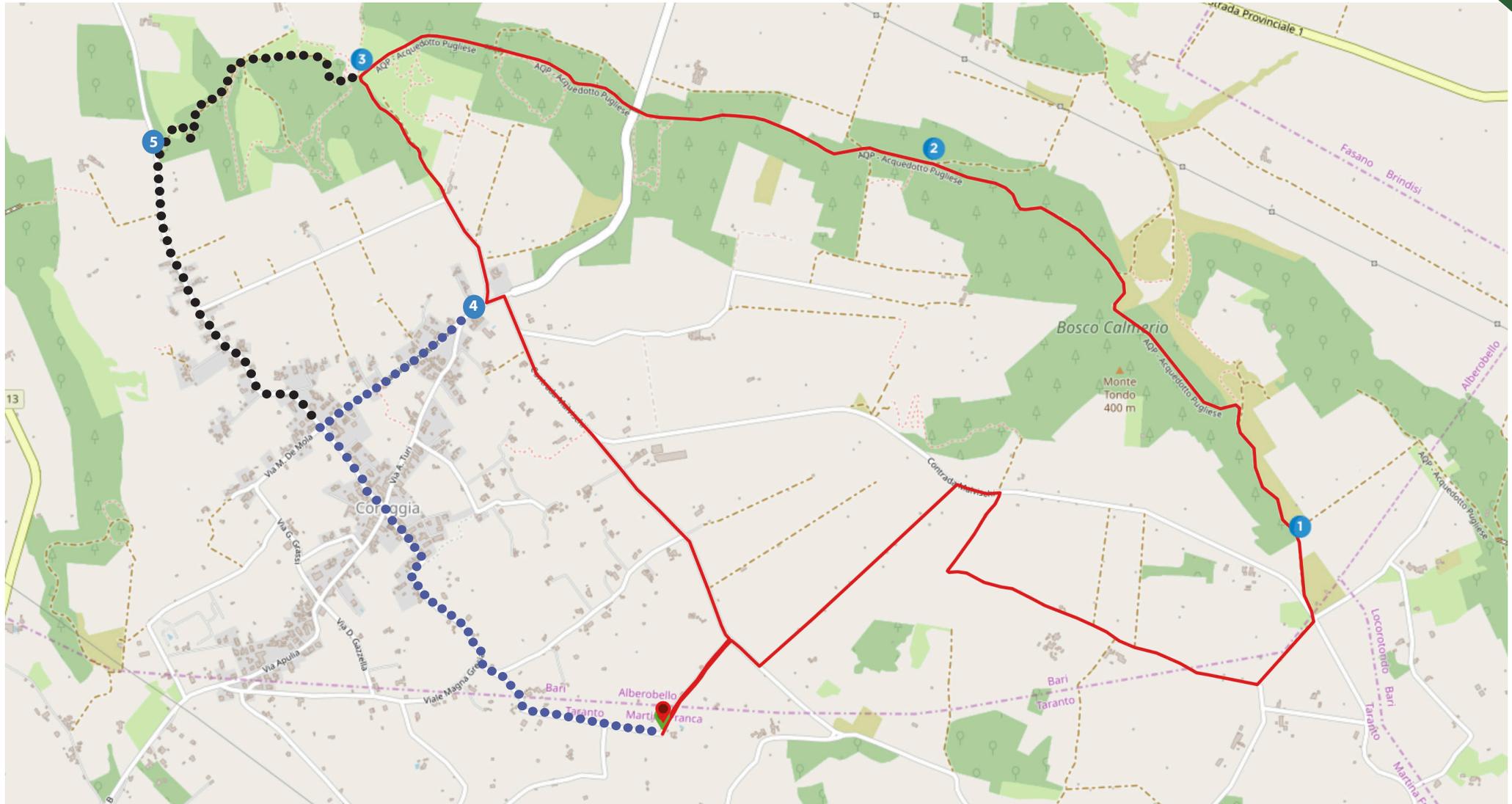


# Toni's Treat - The Acquedotto Pugliese and the Canale Di Pirro

Walk 1

Distance - 10-11km (6.2-6.8 miles)



— - Walk    ···· - Alternative routes

Disclaimer: This route was correct at time of writing. However, alterations can happen if development or boundary changes occur, and there is no guarantee of permanent access. These walks have been published for use by site visitors on the understanding that neither HPB Management Limited nor any other person connected with Holiday Property Bond is responsible for the safety or wellbeing of those following the routes as described. It is walkers' own responsibility to be adequately prepared and equipped for the level of walk and the weather conditions and to assess the safety and accessibility of the walk.

# Toni's Treat - The Acquedotto Pugliese and the Canale Di Pirro

Walk 7

Distance - 10-11km (6.2-6.8 miles)

Toni was thrilled to discover a beautiful and peaceful country walk right on HPB's doorstep! It reveals contrasting landscapes: carefully cultivated olive groves and orchards that surround the HPB site, and a wilder wooded landscape along the aqueduct and on the hillsides opposite; while between the hill-slopes lie the fields and vineyards of the valley known as the Canale di Pirro.

There are several options for enjoying this walk. We describe a basic circuit of 10 KM which can be walked from the HPB site. Optional extensions can make this into 10.5 or 11 KM circuits or, for a short stroll along the aqueduct path, you can drive to either end (marked as points 1 and 5 on the map) and do a 'there and back' walk of whatever distance you want, to get a flavour of the countryside.

The second part of the path is punctuated by a series of yellow and black gates with 'no entry' signs and signs prohibiting fly-tipping. Toni tells us that the gates have been erected by the owners of the aqueduct primarily to stop people driving in to dump rubbish (indeed on the first part of the path which is not protected by gates there are a few old fridges etc!) There is space for a walker to pass around the gateposts (though at Point 5, the final gate back on to the road, it's a bit of a squeeze!) So don't be put off by the signs, but enjoy the way they protect the environment.

**Note:** It would be a great help to future walkers if you could record any inaccuracies you come across during this walk and report them to reception so that appropriate amendments can be made.

*Thank you for your help and happy walking.*

## Toni's circuit

From the main HPB car park we turn right up the track past the HPB Trulli, heading north east, WP75. In 400m, at the tarmac road, we turn right (east south east), passing a square stone building on our left. After 110m turn left (north east) onto a track, heading north east gently uphill (WP76) and down again. After 880m we reach the main road SP77 and turn right (east) for 130m, before turning back into the countryside on the first track right up hill, south south west. When the track reaches a dip after 300m (WP78) we turn left, heading east. The track veers right (east south east) and we follow it for 1km, ignoring 2 tracks to the left and a farm entrance to the right.

Reaching a T junction (WP81) we turn left (north north east) downhill on a track, heading towards a mast on the far hilltop. In 300m we return to the main road by a large sign describing the Strada del Olio Viedulive (WP82) [Point 1].

We cross the main road to a small road sloping down to the left below the crash barrier, just left of the road to Santa Croce. After a few metres the tarmac gives way to gravel and the countryside changes; we are surrounded by bushes, small trees and sloping fields. After 300m the track forks (WP83). We take the left fork (north north west). The countryside becomes more wooded (though the trees don't provide much shade from the midsummer sun). In another 300m the track forks again (WP84) and again we go left, towards a stone structure - the end pier of the first bridge of the aqueduct.

We cross the bridge, looking down on the treetops below, and follow the track right (north west, WP85). We will get extensive views right, over the valley called Canale di Pirro, and the forest beyond, Selva di Fasano. The track is level, bordered by wildflowers, bushes and trees (including the local oak, quercus trojana). It runs in a straight line for 500m to the next bridge, after which it bends right to contour around the hillside. Rounding the bend, there is a good view back to the bridge we have just crossed.

Then the track bends left, giving further views. In 1km a track runs right up to join us [Point 1]. 200m later we spot one of the aqueduct's kilometre stones to the left, followed by the first pair of black and yellow gates across the path (WP87). We walk round the gates, which border a track crossing yours, to continue to the 3rd bridge. After another 500m we stop to admire a small tower (WP88).

Beyond this the track narrows and there is more shade. 200m brings us to the 4th bridge (WP89) and in another 200m we reach the bridge which we noticed when driving along the road that leads north from Coreggia.

The next 500m leads over 2 more bridges, then the track leads uphill, and down again to another pair of gates in 500m (WP91). [Point 3].

**For the most direct return to the site** (2km from Point 3), turn left and take the stony path uphill (south east) (red dots) until we reach a farm in 500m. Here the track joins a road at a right angle bend, as we continue straight ahead (south east) until we reach the main road SP77 north of Coreggia [Point 4]. For the shortest return to the site, turn left along SP77, and in 100m we turn right along the larger SP162. In 500m it bends to the left, but we fork right onto the smaller road marked as C. da Concolino (WP106). In 800m, we take the third turning on the right (WP107), just after a green metal barrier leading into a vineyard. This is the track we started out on, and leads back to the HPB trulli.

**Alternatively, to visit the centre of Coreggia on the way back**, perhaps for a drink or some shopping, turn left at Point C and follow the directions above to Point D. At the SP77 turn right (blue dots) along the road into Coreggia. Where it bends left after 100m, we can avoid the main road by taking the quieter street on the right, which we follow for 500m until it reaches a STOP

sign (WP98) where we turn left into Viale Serenissima in P, passing a seat and water pump on the corner. In 300m, we reach the Coreggia traffic lights. From here follow the HPB signs back to the site (3.2km from Point C to HPB site).

**To explore the full extent of this stretch of the aqueduct, and return via the centre of Coreggia**, continue straight ahead at Point C, over the 8th bridge (black dots). Here the view opens out again to our right, and we may hear cowbells - coming from the horses reared down below! In 400m we reach another set of gates, making the end of a track which joins us from the right. Going straight on, we soon reach the 9th bridge, followed by another tower, then a gate. Our track now winds uphill for about 300m to the road. We squeeze past the gate, and turn left [Point E]. The road continues uphill, bends left, and winds its way to Coreggia. In 1km we reach a seat and water pump (WP98) at a crossroads, and continue straight down Via Serenissima in P to the Coreggia traffic lights in 300m. From here we follow the HPB signs back to base (3.7m from Point C to HPB site)

Table of GPS Way Points referenced in the walk

75	N40 47.911 E17 16.557	85	N40 48.491 E17 17.907
76	N40 48.248 E17 17.096	87	N40 48.947 E17 17.023
77	N40 48.347 E17 17.247	88	N40 49.006 E17 16.722
78	N40 48.196 E17 17.218	89	N40 49.000 E17 16.596
81	N40 47.996 E17 17.959	91	N40 49.078 E17 15.838
82	N40 48.106 E17 18.086	98	N40 48.455 E17 15.750
83	N40 48.271 E17 18.041	106	N40 48.428 E17 16.393
84	N40 48.460 E17 17.907	107	N40 48.076 E17 16.704

Alan and Linda Montgomery 2009