

## Porto Ceresio (274 m) – Monte S.Giorgio (1097 m)

As occasionally happens to everyone, I think, this time I had a little time available and I decided to take a short route rather than nothing; I had thought to this trail for some time. Last year I had already climbed this mountain, geologically very important in our area because it is rich in marine fossils being the bottom of an ancient sea about 300 million years ago.

Some links provide a very comprehensive news:

[http://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monte\\_San\\_Giorgio](http://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monte_San_Giorgio)

<http://www.montesangiorgio.ch/>

<http://www.mendrisiotourism.ch/contenuto.asp?nid=12&lid=5&cid=2>

The previous climb had taken place to Riva San Vitale for an interesting path but this time I had promised myself to reach again Monte S.Giorgio starting from Italy and specifically from Porto Ceresio; from the sporting point of view the rise has no great pretensions or requires special efforts: they are mid-mountain trails well maintained, marked and suitable for everyone. A large free parking on weekdays is just over the town towards the Customhouse.

So I started from Porto Ceresio following the signs for Ca 'del Monte posted in an alley on the left of the Trattoria del Cervo (located in Via Bossi). In fact 200 m to the right, in the same square you read the most clear indications for the same location but you should not rely on them because they follow a paved road (Ca 'del Monte and Porto Ceresio are connected by a circular route).

The path takes place in the woods and is suitable for Sunday walks, has a good floor, frequently are benches and bins. That is, until Ca 'del Monte, a small village 30' from Porto Ceresio. Afterwards, the marked path leads to Serpiano, reached also by a cableway from Brusino, where there is also a renowned wellness center. From there you reach the summit of Monte San Giorgio, which boasts superb views over lakes and mountains to all points of the compass.

I returned for the same route of going up but an alternative is to descend in the direction of Cassina / Crocifisso from which you can then go back to Ca 'del Monte for a different route.

### **Key data:**

Altitude difference 823m

Total length 13.3 km

Average gradient 12%

Net total time 4h08' ; including stops 4h29'

Ascent time **2h21'**

Descent time **1h47'**

SLE = 6.6+8.2 = 14.8 km - Ascent@5km/h = 2h57' - Descent @7km/h = 2h06'