Best practices



Rosapineta Sud has embarked on a path of sustainability by adopting the Global Sustainable Tourism Council's standard for sustainable tourism, <u>discover here</u> our sustainability policy.

To achieve our improvement goals we need your support: knowing the area and its history and discovering what makes it special is the first step to living it with respect and awareness. Here are some tips on how to do this during your holiday!

Discover the destination's sites of cultural and historical interest

If you include places of religious worship such as churches or others in your visit, remember to wear appropriate clothing, so that shoulders should be covered and shorts not too short. You can take a towel or scarf with you to cover yourself when you enter a church. Also, always check the regulations of the places you will visit and respect the rules indicated to help safeguard the site of interest.

Support local craftsmanship

To take home with you a souvenir of your trip to the Po Delta area, choose to purchase local handicrafts characterised by the use of local products. Among the typical creations that recall tradition you can find wicker baskets, sorghum brooms and painted tiles. Another element that has always been part of the daily life of the families that lived in this area is 'tivaro', i.e. clay, which was used by adults and children to create all kinds of objects, from bricks to musical instruments. The most representative of the local craftsmanship are undoubtedly the ocarinas, small wind instruments with a crystal-clear sound and modelled on the likeness of animals, once created to liven up village festivals and for the amusement of young and old alike. For more than a hundred years, the Fecchio family on the island of Ariano has carried on this tradition to this day, welcoming visitors to their workshop to watch and participate in the various stages of clay working that give life to these artistic creations. Have a look at their website for more information on visits.

The local flora is also the protagonist of artistic creations: you can find bookmarks, postcards, and original pictures, made with dried flowers and wild herbs, or even essential oils and cosmetics formulated with wild or locally grown plants. If you are in this area between June and July, don't miss a visit to the lavender fields of the Ca' Mello oasis in Porto Tolle, where you can not only buy products created with this fragrant plant, but also admire the magnificent purple fields in bloom (more information here).

Get to know the flavours of the land and the sea

The Po Delta is a land rich in biodiversity also from a gastronomic point of view. Its strong point is undoubtedly represented by the *products of fishing* and *mussel farming*, a tradition handed down from father to son that makes it possible to cultivate precious seafood with an authentic flavour in our lagoons and sacs.

Another excellence of the area is the *cultivation of rice*, which has allowed the recovery of lands reclaimed from the waters, and today offers a product with unique properties.

There are, however, other excellences that stand out for their unique flavours on Delta tables: honey, present with different varieties (from the classic millefiori honey, to acacia honey, beach honey, sandbarna honey... to the recent lavender honey); Chioggia IGP radicchio, a product of excellence from the Rosolina area; Gin Caleri, a unique product already appreciated by leading experts; the sweet Delta melon and many others.

Taste traditional dishes

Through gastronomy one can relive the history of an area, its culture and its people... In fact, the cuisine of the Po Delta is characterised by its most traditional products such as rice, fish and vegetables, but it is also influenced by the Venetian culture along with other more modern ones.

Spaghetti alle vongole (spaghetti with clams) and zuppetta di cozze (mussel soup) are among the best ways to enjoy the delicious seafood cultivated in the lagoon, while polenta (a cream made with corn flour), tagliatelle or risotto are excellent accompaniments to enhance the flavour of typical Delta inlands products such as mushrooms, truffles and pumpkins. Lovers of sweets can't miss the traditional dry desserts, such as pumpkin pinza, Esse from Adria or Perseghi Rossi.

Buy the best seasonal products from local producers

Farmers, fishermen, beekeepers,... the *local producers* of the Po Delta are the first to know that respecting the environment around us and its seasonality is essential for quality products. If you want to take home a piece of local cuisine, choose to buy from those who care about our territory (you can find a <u>list of producers here</u>) and prefer seasonal products (fruit and vegetables, but also fish!).

Fish markets are the right place to find fish freshly caught in our sea every day by fishermen who care about the environmental protection of the marine ecosystem. The good news is that you don't have to go far: once a week the fish market comes directly to our camp!

Take part in popular festivals

Village festivals are able to combine the culture, traditions, and gastronomy of an area with fun for young and old, so if you are lucky enough to be here at the right time of year, you can't miss them!

Rosolina celebrates its patron saint on 16 August with the *Antica Sagra di San Rocco*, a festival of music that will fill the streets of the centre for the entire weekend.

If you are here in July, on the other hand, you cannot miss the not-too-distant Sagra del Pesce di Chioggia (Fish Festival of Chioggia), a festival dedicated to the flavours of the sea and the lagoon, rediscovering the traditions of fishermen where the town is transformed into a large open-air restaurant.

If you would like to know about events or cultural and environmental initiatives that will take place in the Po Delta area during your holiday, you can consult the complete list here.

Visit the destination's natural sites

The Po Delta is a unique territory, created by water and the work of man, where the best way to enjoy the beauty of nature is through slow tourism experiences.

For those who want to relax, the *sandy beaches of Rosolina* are the ideal place: natural beaches with all comforts, flanked by a large pine forest, healthy and safe environments for adults and children.

Those who prefer movement will be able to choose whether to explore the area *on foot* or *by bicycle*, thanks to countless <u>bicycle touring itineraries</u> equipped with all services, or also *by sailing* on one of the river cruises that cross the many waterways of the Po and its Delta or by canoe.

Animals and plants lovers will be able to admire them here by taking part in a *birdwatching* session, a *photo hunt* among the hidden oases, or by visiting the *Porto Caleri Botanical Garden*.

Whichever way you choose to visit the Po Delta Park, please remember that it is an environment that must be respected and protected to keep it intact for future generations. That is why care must be taken in the behaviour to be adopted, remembering that the action of one individual, if repeated by thousands, can become a serious problem. Here are some rules of behaviour to follow:

- Do not abandon waste but throw it in the waste bins or take it home with you
- Do not abandon cigarette butts which, besides being waste, could cause dangerous fires
- Admire flowers, insects, plants and fruits but leave them where they are and do not pick them up
- Use bicycles only on designated roads
- Choose to camp only in designated areas
- Lower your voice so as not to disturb the wildlife

Book visits with licensed guides and tour leaders

To learn more about this area and the delicate balance between the environment and its inhabitants, choose to be led by expert tourist and nature guides in our visitor centres to discover its history: they will make you look at nature with different eyes and help you learn new and interesting things.



For further information: https://www.parcodeltapo.org/Ehome.php https://www.visitdeltapo.it/en/

Best practices to respect the environment

Do you know protected species?

All species of mosses and lichens, grasses and shrubs that have a natural and spontaneous distribution in all territories subject to the hydrogeological constraint of the region, such as the Po Delta Regional Park, are considered protected.

It is forbidden to collect protected species or parts of them, <u>discover them here</u>.

For specimens of spontaneous flora other than those listed above, the total daily collection per person of a maximum of 1 kg of wild asparagus, mosses and lichens in their fresh state and six flowering stems is permitted.

Damage to, uprooting or removal of the plant or part of it is prohibited at all times.

Would you like to pick some mushrooms or truffles?

Mushroom picking in the Veneto Po Delta Regional Park territory is governed by a regional regulation with the aim of protecting the balance of the delicate local ecosystems.

To pick mushrooms in the Park territory, you must follow these instructions:

- You must be in possession of the appropriate authorisation for mushroom picking, which can be purchased from the Park Authority at the following <u>online portal</u>
- It is possible to collect a total of up to 2 kg of mushrooms per person per day (of which no more than 1 kg of particular species, including Porcini, Pioppini, Finferli, and other species <u>listed here</u>)
- For non-residents, mushroom picking is permitted on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays and on all public holidays during the period from 15 September to 15 December
- It is prohibited to pick mushrooms at night, from one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise
- Mushrooms must be cleaned briefly at the picking site and transported in rigid, ventilated containers
- It is forbidden to damage or destroy mushrooms left on the ground or the ground itself
- It is forbidden to pick mushrooms at the Coastal Botanical Garden in Porto Caleri (Rosolina)
- It is strongly recommended NOT to pick mushrooms you do not know poisonous mushrooms create health problems and can sometimes be fatal.



Truffle hunting and gathering in Veneto is free in woods and non-cultivated land, provided that these are not reserved for the exclusive use of the owner (indicated by a special sign). In order to collect truffles, gatherers must be in possession of an appropriate suitability card. Harvesting authorisations are valid throughout the entire national territory. The card is issued following a special examination.

The search must be carried out with the help of one or a maximum of two dogs, and digging is permitted with the possible use of the "vanghetto" or "vanghella" and must be limited to the point where the dog started it. Holes opened for truffle extraction must be immediately afterwards filled in with the previously removed earth and the ground must be levelled.

Truffle picking is prohibited during the night, from one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise. Truffle picking is permitted at different times depending on the species, as indicated here.

Would you like to practice sports fishing?

To engage in amateur sports fishing in the free inland waters of the Veneto region (which also include lagoons), you must purchase a sports fishing licence (<u>more details here</u>). To engage in amateur sport fishing at sea, simply register free of charge on the website of the Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry <u>by clicking here</u>.

Amateur and professional fishing is permitted without time restrictions.

It is forbidden to fish with any gear from above bridges open to public vehicular transit and at a distance of less than 10 metres, both upstream and downstream, from dams proper, ladders, trestles, sluices and water pumps. The distance to be respected concerns both the position of the angler and the position of the bait or gear being fished. The angler should take care that there are no bathers in the chosen fishing area and in the area of hooks/bait/gear.

Fishing in frozen waters and during complete or incomplete artificial dryness of reservoirs or watercourses is prohibited.

An angler arriving at a later time must keep a distance of at least 15 metres from another angler already on the spot, so as not to hinder the angler's exercise.

Furthermore, the angler must respect and take care of the chosen fishing spot, cleaning the area at the end of the operation, remembering that it is forbidden to leave bait, fish or rubbish along the banks and in the water.

The amateur-sport fisherman is allowed to catch no more than a total of 5 kg of fish, molluscs and crustaceans per day, even if they are of different species. However, the angler may not catch more than 5 salmonids per day. The sale of the catch is prohibited.

For reasons of protection and preservation of fish fauna, the catching of certain species during certain periods is completely forbidden (see Art. 29 of the following Regulations for details). Fish caught during prohibited periods or smaller than the minimum size must be immediately returned to the water with the utmost care.

It is permitted to use natural and artificial bait for fishing, with the exception of fish eggs, blood and its derivatives as well as animal entrails. It is forbidden to use explosive, toxic or polluting material, or the use of electricity as a means of killing or stunning fish.

Spearfishing is only permitted at sea and in inland maritime waters (Zone C), i.e. in inland salt and brackish water basins (such as lagoons), exclusively by free diving. Spearfishing is prohibited from one hour before sunset to one hour after sunrise. During the dive, the spearfisherman is obliged to signal his presence by means of a float.

How to deal with wildlife?

The rule to remember is that wild animals should be left alone. The Po Delta Park is rich in fauna that fascinates tourists and photographers. This fauna is part of the Park's heritage and if disturbed may decide to 'move in' and abandon its home.

Different species have different breeding seasons and locations. Do not try to get close but observe the animals from a distance so they can eat peacefully.

Remember that the use of a drone must be authorised and under no circumstances can it disturb the animals to obtain special images.

Dogs are allowed in the Po Delta Park, but always on a leash and in accordance with current regulations. Dogs are not allowed to roam freely around the Park, because they may encounter wildlife that, even if not directly attacked by the animal, may suffer great stress.

Every moment of your holiday you can do something to make it a little more sustainable. Don't worry, it is not difficult! First of all, respect the campsite rules. Then, here are some simple things to keep in mind, both while on and off the campsite, that can contribute to the health of our planet:

- Limit energy consumption: turn off the light when you are not in the bungalow, remember to close the window when you turn on the air conditioning, do not leave electrical appliances on when you are not using them.
- Don't waste water: don't leave the tap running when you don't need it, wash your clothes and towels only when necessary and not necessarily on a daily basis
- Choose means of transport with the least impact: if you can, reach your destination by
 public transport and leave your car at home! Please remember that in high season, the
 Rosolina area is very crowded and it becomes very difficult to travel by car, both because
 of the traffic and because of the limited availability of parking spaces near tourist
 attractions. Once at your destination, prefer to travel by public transport or by bicycle to
 explore the surroundings. If you want to rent a vehicle locally, look for an electric
 alternative.
- Don't contribute to noise pollution: respect wildlife and your bungalow neighbours, turn down your voice and music and enjoy the magical sounds of nature.
- Limit emissions when you eat: even the choice of what we eat can make a big contribution to limiting polluting emissions. Try to limit excessive consumption of meat and fish, as these are the foods that cause the most emissions during their production. When you do decide to eat them, remember to prefer local products, and this applies to everything you eat, even better if it is organic and in season.

Accessible tourism experiences in and around Rosolina

Rosolina Mare has two bathing establishments that are also accessible to those with motor disabilities, as they are equipped with means and services that make it as easy as possible for wheelchairs or those with physical disabilities to move around, so they can enjoy a relaxing and peaceful seaside holiday. These are Bagno Azzurro, in Via delle Campanule, and Bagno Primavera Beach, in Piazzale Europa.

To immerse yourself in the Po Delta and get to know its natural environment at close, various types of boat trips are offered with boats that are also accessible to people with impaired mobility (you can find the accessible boat trips available from the operator that has an agreement with the Po Delta Park here).



