

# La Valle delle Ferriere

Just between Pontone and Amalfi, traversed by numerous little streams, there is a unique woodland in which the ruins of medieval foundries are buried.

The Valle delle Ferriere (iron valley) route commences in the Monti Lattari. From here it descends towards **Amalfi** through a wood of tall chestnut trees and rare, long leaved ferns. The ruins of the medieval foundries can still be seen. The final stage of the walk, takes visitors past a number of water powered mills, which once produced **Amalfi's famous paper**.



Departure point: **Pontone**

Arrival point: **Amalfi**

Duration: **3-4 hours**

Kilometers: **6**

Difficulty: **easy**

## The Valle delle Ferriere route

From the **main piazza in Pontone**, take the mule path which passes in front of the Trattoria Antico Borgo. Once past an archway, to the left you will come to a junction where, at **Christmas time**, locals stage an impressive **nativity scene**.

Immediately after this, to the left, a long flight of steps lead down, towards Amalfi. **Do not take these**, but keep going towards the valley, descend a few steps and then take the short uphill path amidst the **lemon trees and vineyards**.

At the top of the hill, a path leads to an aqueduct, beyond which, after a few meters, **take the downwards path** to the left. You will soon come to the first foundry and the **Canneto stream**. The path leads all the way down to Amalfi following the stream and passing by the ruins of the foundries and mills. Before commencing the descent, you can make a detour to reach the **Riserva Integrale**,

a habitat for rare fauna and flora. The only remaining examples of **Woodwardia Radicon**, a fern which dates back to before the ice age, survive here thanks to the **unique microclimate**. You can turn back and take the route, which traces the left bank of the river, to reach **the center of Amalfi**.



## Our tips

Once in Amalfi, **check out the Paper Museum** where you can visit an old **13th century paper factory**. The museum library houses more than 3.000 volumes highlighting the history of paper making, an ancient art for which Amalfi is renowned.

To purchase a supply of the original famous **Amalfi Paper**, head to the Cartiera Amatruda which still produces sheets of paper, envelopes and watermarked cards using **traditional techniques**.

Please contact us for further information – [dpalumbo@dint-a-torre.com](mailto:dpalumbo@dint-a-torre.com)