

Pordenone, Parco Martiri delle foibe

The Parco dei Laghetti di Rorai, named in October 2018 at the Martyrs of the *foibe*, is a large green area, about twenty-seven thousand square meters, with four ponds inside that are the result of excavations carried out for the construction of the railway route.

Compared to the railway line, three lakes are located to the west and are fed by the waters of the Remengole canal and its tributary, the Cavallin canal, while the fourth is located to the east, in the direction of the Rorai Grande settlement.

Before becoming public property, this space belonged to the complex of mechanical cotton weaving, built in 1846.

To begin an enchanting walk inside the park, it is recommended the entrance from Via Abba. From here, before entering the railway underpass, you will come across the first of the ponds: a regularly shaped basin surrounded by a green belt and white willows that are reflected romantically on its waters.

After passing the underpass, the road splits into two comfortable boulevards that lead the visitor to the other water mirrors. One leads to a large lawn and then to the triangular-shaped eastern lake, the other leads to the central pond and then continues, on the opposite side, towards the last of the lakes, characterized by a thunderous waterfall.

The structure of the green that dominates the area is typically semi-natural, with predominantly characteristic species of the Friuli plain (such as the black alder, the English oak, the ash and the hawthorn) and some elements introduced by man as the imposing *spinacristi*, the Japanese medlar tree and some cherry and starch specimens.

The faunal observations at the Parco dei Laghetti in Rorai are very interesting especially as regards the species related to the aquatic environment.

The ponds are usually frequented by the minor *marangone*, while the coot, moorhen, little grebe and mallard are particularly common and nesting, so it is possible to observe all the phases of the delicate reproductive period of these species: from courting, to the defence of the territory and to the construction of the nests, up to the hatching and to the parental care of the offspring.

The park has a play area for children aged 3 to 12 and various fitness stations for outdoor training. Inside there is also a bike path, which connects Rorai Grande with the districts that are opposite to the railway line.

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