



**A S S O C I A T I O N V I A F R A N C I G E N A - C H**  
pour la valorisation culturelle et touristique des routes de pèlerinage pour Rome

Partenaire de l'INSTITUT EUROPEEN des ITINERAIRES CULTURELS du Conseil de l'Europe.  
Lauréate du Prix SANCTI BENEDICTI 2001 du Rotary International.  
Son PROJET VIA FRANCIGENA a reçu le Patronage du Saint-Siège, du Ministero Beni e Attività Culturali - I,  
du Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication –F, du Département Fédéral de l'Intérieur-CH

**LETTER to the AMIS de la VIA FRANCIGENA**

June 2001

***As time goes by the Via FRANCIGENA comes closer to a REBIRTH***

Thanks to numerous articles in the media and to the web site the “*Vademecum*” is becoming increasingly popular throughout Europe as a useful tool for the pioneers of the *Via Francigena*. The map of the entire route is now being prepared for the website.

The *Via Francigena* project requires the cooperation of specialists:

***please come forward!***

The associations -*AMIS de la Via Francigena* are actively engaged at European level.

1. The Association Helvétique des Amis du Chemin de St-Jacques has. In the person of Marie Françoise di Spirito, is helping with the the realisation of the *Vademecum* – CH. The “*Vademecum of the Via Francigena from the Grt. St. Bernard Pass to Rome*” is also available at Librairie [daniel.deshusses@bluewin.ch](mailto:daniel.deshusses@bluewin.ch)
2. The *Association Via Francigena* proposes that English Communes should publish details of their “*Medieval - Via Francigena Activities* ” on [www.francigena.ch](http://www.francigena.ch) (now being redesigned) and for information to the *AMIS de la Via Francigena*.
3. The *Vicariato della Città del Vaticano* is currently the principal and most authoritative partner on the project.

-the ***Testimonium Peregrinationis ad Limina Petri*** (the certificate of completion of the pilgrimage, on parchment, in limited edition) is on offer from the *Association Via Francigena*; it will be given to each pilgrim who has walked (130km) from the church of S.Sepolcro-Acquapendente to Rome, by a priest at St Peter’s Basilica. Ideal reference to the pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

- **Pilgrim’s mass** at 5PM in St-Peter’s basilica (go to sacristy)

4. In association with the *Centro Studi Romei* l’Association will organise European Study Days on the theme: “*Borghi di ponti sulle grandi vie di pellegrinaggio*”.

The *AMIS de la Via Francigena* will receive the following on request:

- The Membership card – **AMIS**
- The “***Litterae patentes peregrinatoris iter per viam francigenam facientis***”. On exhibiting this “pilgrim passport”, all AMIS will be able to see the painting of *Christ Pantocrator* (a fresco of the 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> c) in the small church of St. Pellegrino, near Porta S. Anna, on “*Via del Pellegrino*”(Pilgrim Way), the last halt of Carolingian pilgrims. The church is normally not on view to the public.
- At the Information Office of St.Peter’s square: **Information** concerning Rome, St Peter’s basilica and visits to places dear to the pilgrims in the Middle Ages.

The exhibition of pannels “*LA VIA FRANCIGENA EN SUISSE DE VALLORBE AU GD ST- BERNARD*” is moving from the beautiful 12<sup>th</sup>C Aigle Castle, to Bourg St-Pierre–CH, against the backdrop of the Alps. It is hoped that similar exhibition will be organised along the *Via Francigena* – England.

L'ASSOCIATION VIA FRANCIGENA-CH relies on the activities of GRUPPI NAZIONALI DI LAVORO: (national working groups)

- For **France**: Virginie Brouillard 20 ave. du Gén. De Gaulle, 95100 Argenteuil Telefax 0033130766598, Robert Petrini computer expert [robert.petrini@bigfoot.com](mailto:robert.petrini@bigfoot.com), l'Association "MORMANT REVIVRA" e FFRP (Randonnée pédestre de l'Aube et de la Marne).
- For **Switzerland**: Marie Françoise di Spirito, Giovanni Polito, Hubert Moulin, Alain Zuber and Leonard Closuit.
- For **Italy**: Irène Beutler, Adelaide Trezzini (who will publish "*Guida medievale della Via Francigena Vallese*" –CH), ANGT Luciano Pasquini (who is preparing "*Guida ai percorsi medievali a Roma*") and Rosa Delfini (who is in charge of the catalogue of the *Centro di Documentazione V.F.Europa*). **Please send us**: tourist brochures, scientific information, posters, etc. concerning the *Via Francigena*.
- For **England**: Angela Starey

L'ASSOCIATION VIA FRANCIGENA-CH ANNOUNCES:

that it has instituted the **Amici italiani della Via Francigena Antica - Pedestre - Ciclabile** made up of cultural associations who will survey the conditions of the route in Italy following guidelines set out by IVS (association for the inventory of Historical Routes in Italy).

The aim is to institutionalise a protected pedestrian route.

The working group will present its findings on October 6<sup>th</sup> at CASTELFIORENTINO, where the director of the INSTITUT EUROPEEN DES ITINERAIRES CULTURELS of the Council of Europe is expected to be present. Good luck with the work!

L'ASSOCIATION VIA FRANCIGENA-CH HELPS:

all AMIS walking to Rome. It is now helping Canadians who are walking from London, others from Brussels for whom we have prepared an information sheet:

**“Accoglienza del pellegrino Via Francigena dall’Inghilterra a Roma”**  
(RECEPTION OF THE VIA FRANCIGENA PILGRIM FROM ENGLAND TO ROME)

with addresses of people and institutions who will do all they can to offer information, accommodation, a meal, a coffee, or simply a friendly word of welcome.

The aim is to establish a chain of friendship for the pioneers of the *Via Francigena*

***Please come forward!***

The ASSOCIATION VIA FRANCIGENA –CH has submitted the following to the Council of Europe for approval:

1. The EUROPEAN SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE made up of high ranking medieval historians.
2. The EUROPEAN LOGO for a uniform signposting of the Via Francigena

After the success of the **VADEMECUM from Aosta to Rome**, we will publish the **VADEMECUM from Canterbury to the Grt St Bernard Pass**. Our French and Swiss AMIS have been working on the latter for a long time, so that you will be able to follow in the footsteps of Sigeric from Rome to Canterbury and vice-versa.

**THANKS to you all for your interest and support.**

Irène Beutler - Fauguel, secretary

Adelaide Trezzini, presidente

Please give your **address and E – mail address** to the secretary of the Association  
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