

# Responsible trekking at AIG Italy



**Our Friends**  
Engaging guests

## Summary

By staying in Biccari, where you can find a lot of the activities of the Ostello Diffuso of the Dauni Mountains, you will be able to visit one of the five natural truffle areas in the Puglia area by hiking trails.

The habitat in which the truffles grow is characterized by the presence of oaks. The collection of truffles is carried out with the help of the dog or the pig because this limits the excavation to the point where the truffles are located and avoids revealing the roots where there may be new carpofori.

In the same area, you can experience the exciting fun routes of the Adventure Park that's surrounded by the forest.

## HI Association

**AIG - Italy**

## Hostels involved

**Ostello diffuso Monti Dauni**

## SDG Contribution

<b>11</b> SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 	<b>3</b> GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING 	<b>8</b> DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH 
<b>10</b> REDUCED INEQUALITIES 	<b>12</b> RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 	

## Objectives

1. Discovering the Natural Area of Monti Dauni by responsible trekking.
2. Learning how to harvest truffles without damaging territory.

### Economic

Increase the responsible harvesting of local truffles

### Social

People development

### Environmental

Exploring Natural Area by Responsible Trekking



## Methodology

Exploring the Dauni Mountains on foot while respecting the flora and fauna in collaboration with the local community of Biccari that knows better than anyone the beauties and difficulties of these places. It is the best way to visit these wonderful areas without negatively interfering with the environmental ecosystem.

## TREKKING ACTIVITIES

Before starting every trekking or hiking activity, we do a short briefing to inform the guests about the aspects of the area that is going to be explored, such as the different naturalistic routes, paths features (type of terrain, length/duration, etc.), but also the great variety of flora and fauna which is possible to meet along the walking experience.

We highly recommend the equipment required: trekking boots, clothing according to the season and to the altitude, a bottle of fresh water (especially during the summer) and other useful things. If the guests miss the required equipment, we can find a solution (even if it will be better knowing that at the time of the booking).

We try to organize a tour suitable to everyone, so according to the degree of difficulty and physical abilities, we offer different choices of paths.

Each tour is guided by certified naturalistic and geological guides who are passionate about the mountain and, above all, are community members.

The tours are set up to guarantee safety standards and the guides are endowed of at least a First Aid kit in order to immediately attend the guests in case of hurt or wound.

## TRUFFLE HUNTING TOUR

Regarding the truffle hunting tours, we have to specify that they are organized just in a defined area and in indicated period of the year. The harvest is done in ways that do not damage the truffle grounds:

At the beginning of every tour, we inform our guests about the various types of truffles, techniques and behaviour to harvest. For example, for the harvest is allowed solely blades not more than 15 cm long and tips not wider than 8 cm (the holes or perforations opened for extraction must afterwards immediately refilled with the soil excavated).

The walk is suitable for all, although trekking shoes are advised for the experience.

The truffle hunter usually shows HI guests how to find truffles walking through the woods, watching as the dog snuffles around to detect treats hidden beneath the forest floor and digs for the edible treasure. The hunter also shows how to use truffles in the best way, giving all the secrets, and how to cook and enjoy them.



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**Would you like to know more about this initiative?**

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**Italian Association of Youth Hostels/ Associazione Italiana Alberghi per la Gioventù**



**#AIGSocial**

**Read more about AIG [here](#)**

