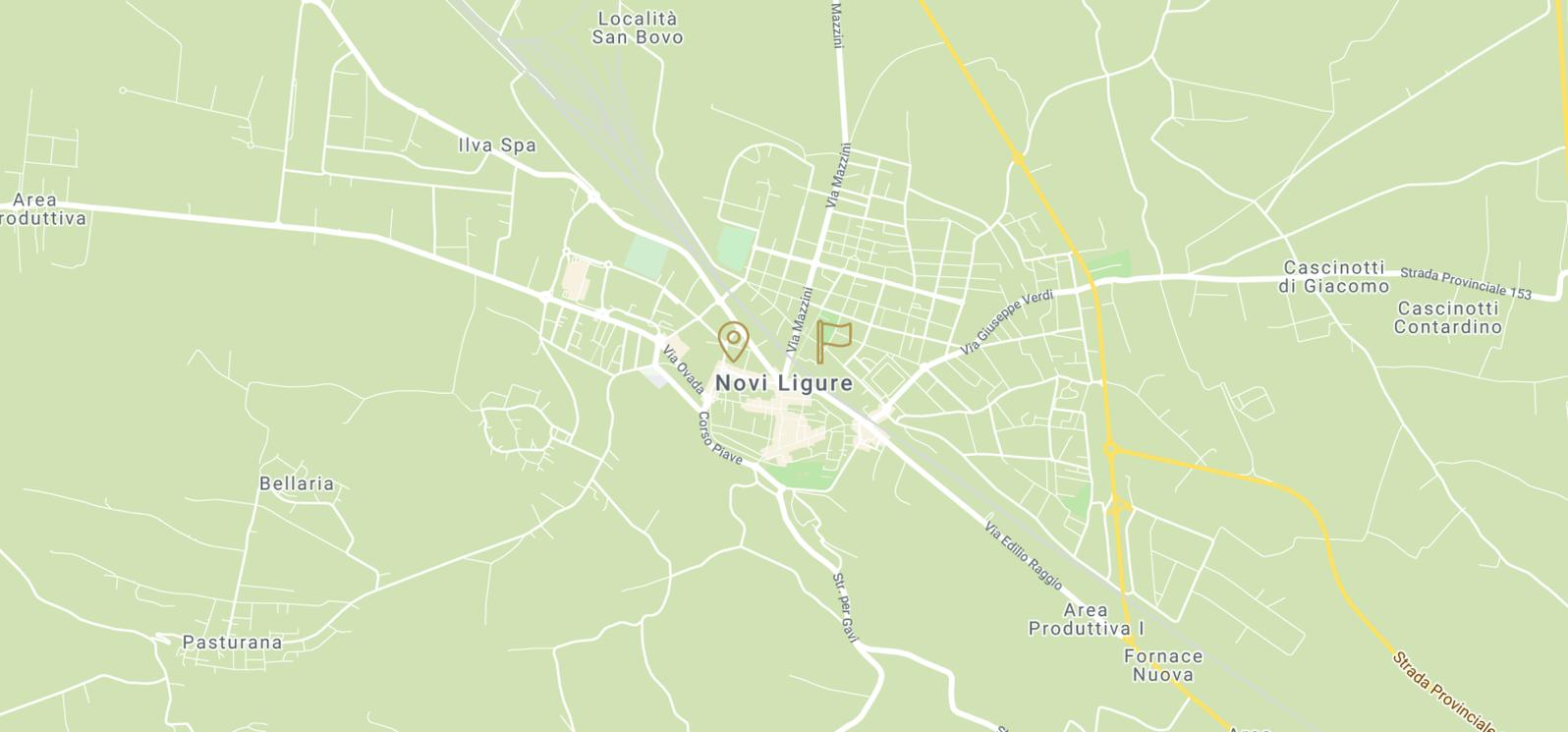


Cycling among *colline dei Campionissimi*

ALL BIKE TOURS DESIGNED FOR EVERY ATHLETIC PREPARATION,
TO DISCOVER THE LAND OF COPPI AND GIRARDENGO



 **Departure:** Novi Ligure

 **Arrival:** Novi Ligure

 **Distance:** 39 km

 **Total Ascent:** 639 m

Sweet hills between Gavi and Dolcetto

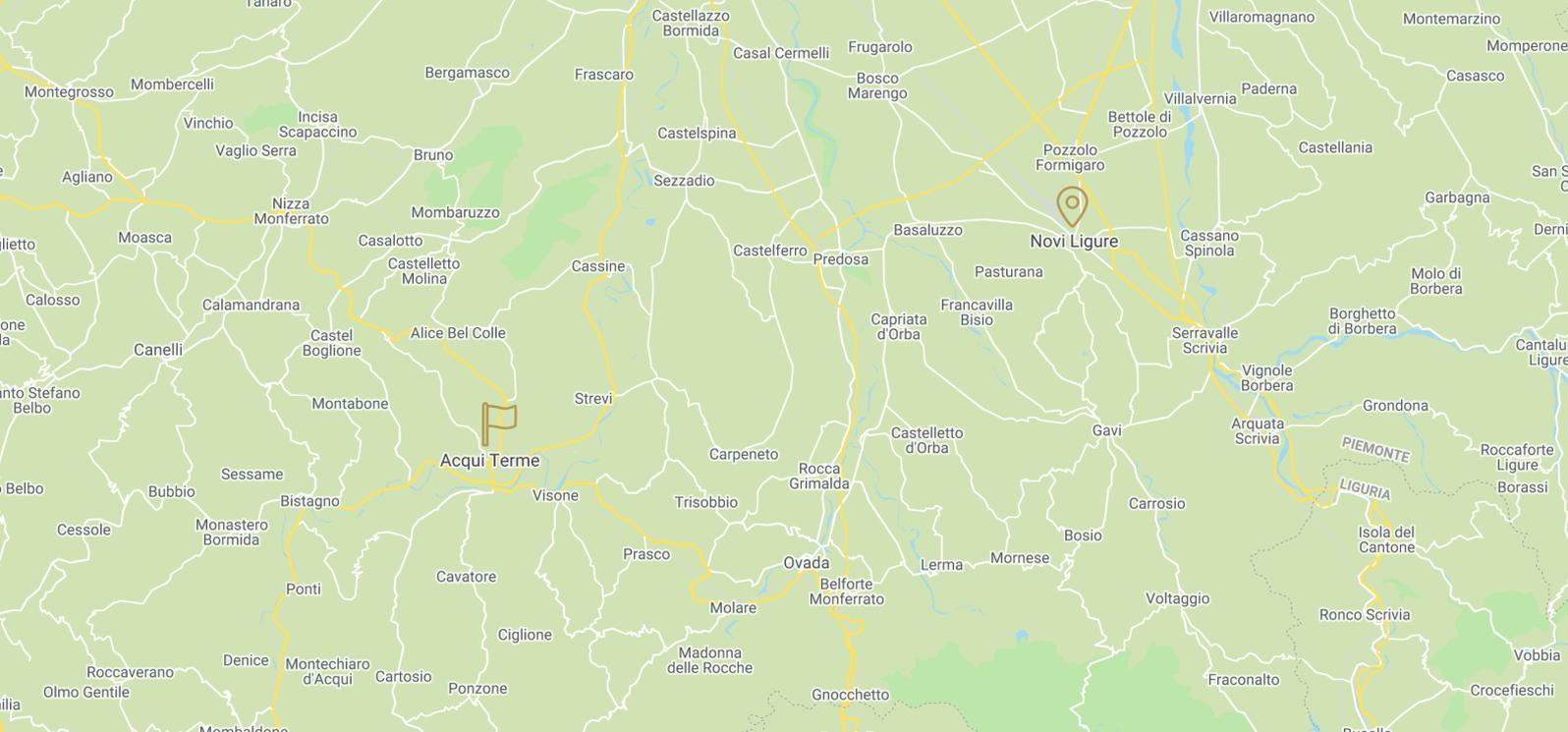
A short ring of 40 kilometers on the hills surrounding Novi Ligure, crossing Gavi and Dolcetto vineyards. Going through a scenic route among farms and wineries we proceed towards Serravalle Scrivia, and we reach **Monterotondo**, famous wineries' home.

The first destination is Gavi where you can admire on the right, the imposing **ancient Fort**, the romanesque **church of San Giacomo** and the **medieval gate**. We go out of Gavi - in the direction of San Cristoforo - and we pass Lemme's bridge, where we can catch a sight at the sanctuary of **Madonna della Guardia**.

After a gentle downhill, a steep uphill bring us to **San Cristoforo**. Before the end of the village, we take directions to Novi Ligure and then the lovely **Rondanino road** running across vineyards for 5 kilometers to reach Francavilla. At **Francavilla Bisio** we take the road which goes up to the **Castle**.

We reach **Tassarolo** and go back to the church of San Defendente. We go towards **Pasturana**, where some evidences of Napoleonic age are preserved and leaving the village, we have a stop at the ancient **parish of San Martino** (VII century) where you can drink at a source.

We proceed on the provincial road and within three kilometers we are back in Novi Ligure.



Departure: Novi Ligure



Arrival: Acqui Terme



Distance: 59 km



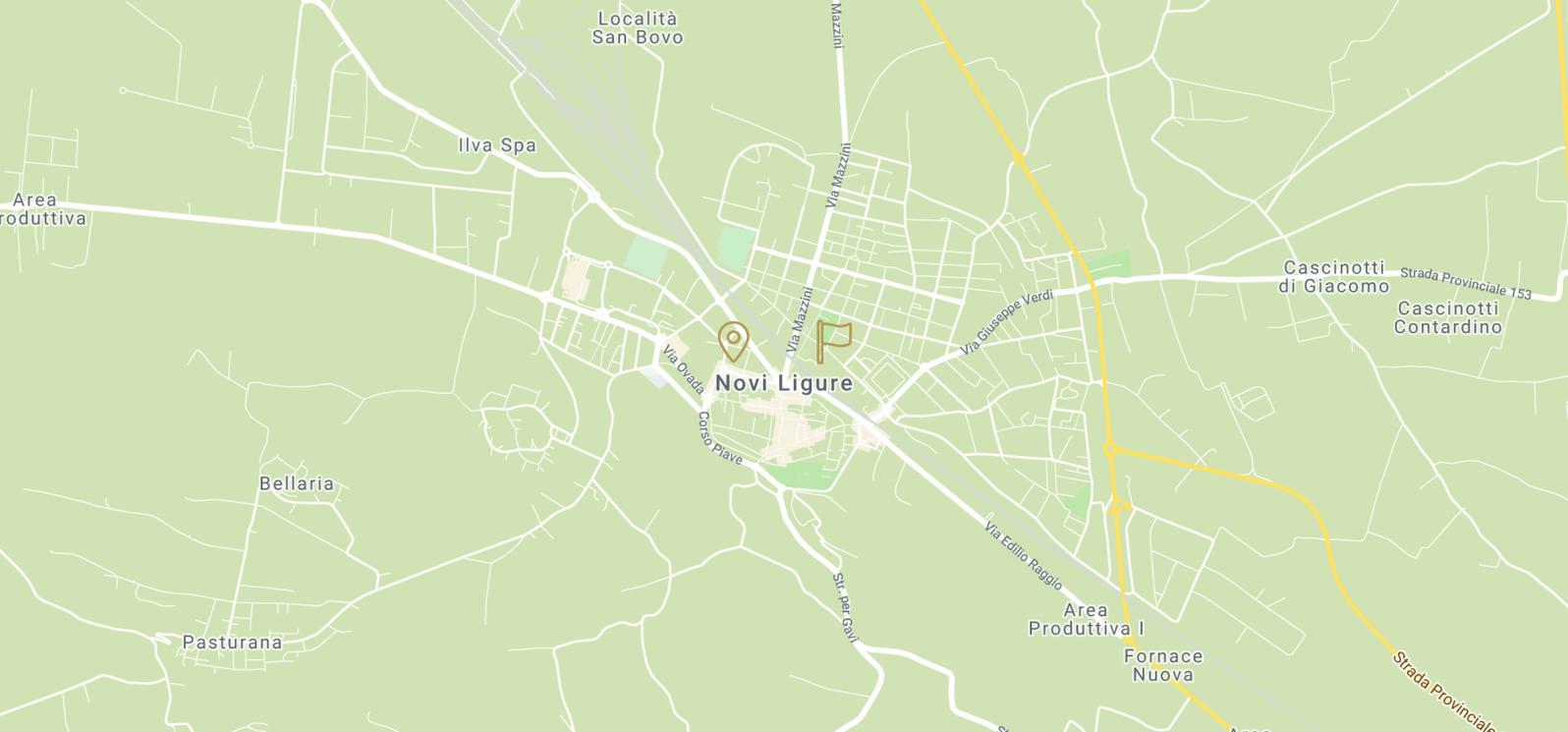
Total Ascent: 971 m

From Dolci Terre to Langhe

This route starts from **Museo dei Campionissimi in Novi Ligure** and comes out of the village in a slight climb towards **Gavi** to run across a winding road through a charming landscape of woods and cultivated fields.

After the city center of Gavi take the road to San Cristoforo and then to **Capriata d'Orba** crossing the highway overpass. After Capriata, we reach **Carpeneto**, a small village on a spur of rock.

We continue down to the valley towards **Trisobbio** and Morsasco. Here the uphill part of the route is over and beyond Morsasco the winding road descends towards Prasco and Visone to reach - after few kilometers **Acqui Terme**, famous thermal spa town.



Departure: Novi Ligure



Arrival: Novi Ligure



Distance: 56 km



Total Ascent: 900 m

Following the legend: from Novi Ligure to Castellania

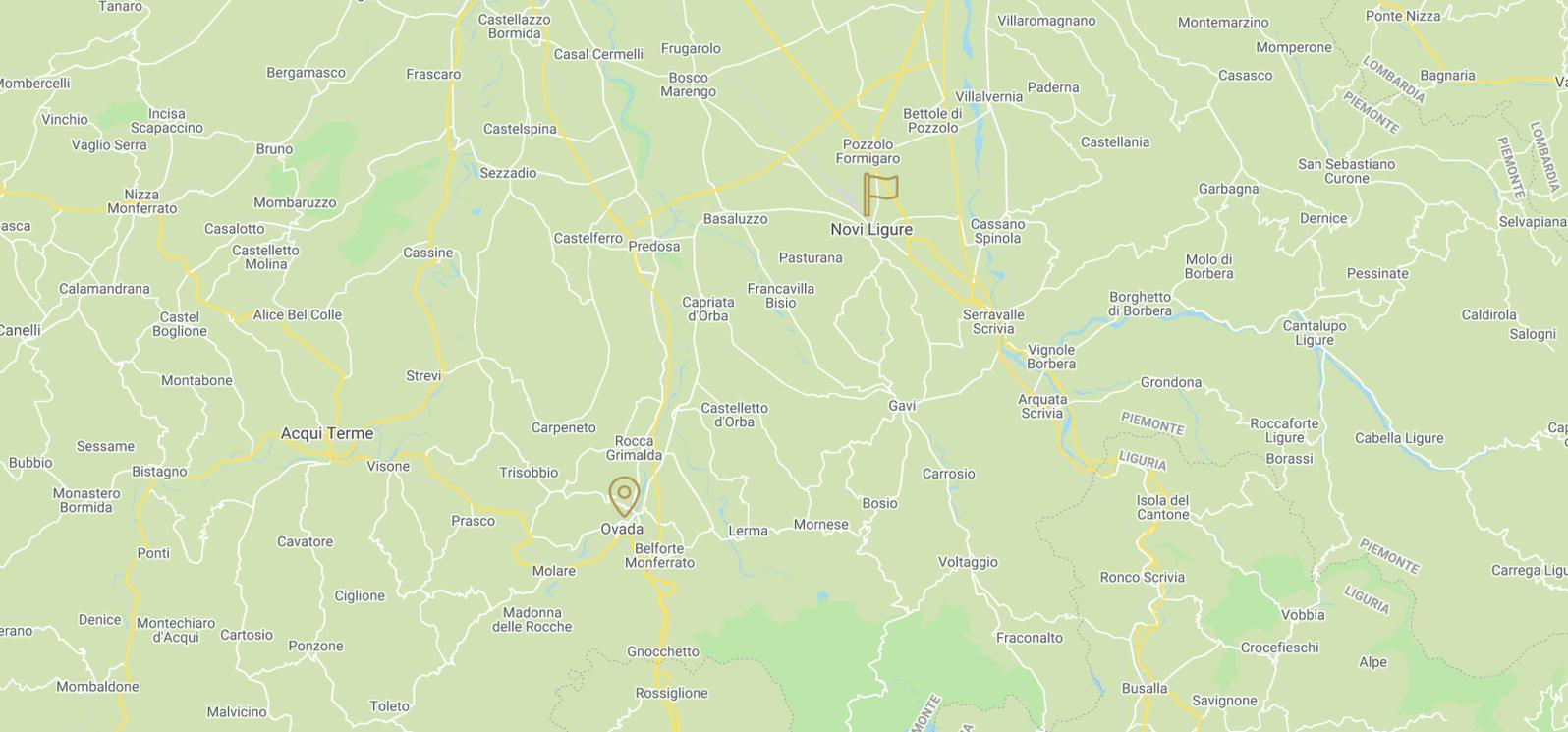
This route goes through the history of cycling and celebrates some of the most legendary athletes. These are the roads where Fausto Coppi, his brother Serse and Costante Girardengo used to train on. The route is quite challenging, climbing **Tortona hills** and it is particularly significant since passes through the birthplace of Fausto Coppi, **Castellania**.

The route starts from **Museo dei Campionissimi in Novi Ligure**, unmissable stage for all those who are cycling fans. Out off Novi we proceed on part of Merella circuit, very popular with cyclists, towards **Merella** and **Villalvernia**. In Villalvernia, we take directions to **Castellania**, where the road climbs and passes through **Paderna** and **Spineto**. In Spineto, after two dangerous curves, we go to Carbonara, and then Villaromagnano. After some curves a bicycle lane begins with a rest area.

You can proceed on the cycling lane or take a detour leading to the climb **La Rampina** and reach the same place, Montale Celli. We proceed towards Costa Vescovato on a **white road** included in the **ciclostorica La Mitica** that every year starts and arrives in Castellania.

After **Costa Vescovato**, a demanding climb brings us finally at **Castellania**. Here a stop is due to visit the house of Coppi, the small museum, the Mausoleo and Marina Coppi Vineyards and Cave.

Leaving Castellania take directions to **Carezzano Superiore** and then to **Sant'Agata Fossili** where you can stop at a source, a pool and a beautiful lavender field. Next stop in Gavazzana to admire the view on the valley and then 5 kilometers more to come back to **Novi Ligure** and to **Museo dei Campionissimi**.



Departure: Ovada



Arrival: Novi Ligure



Distance: 38 km

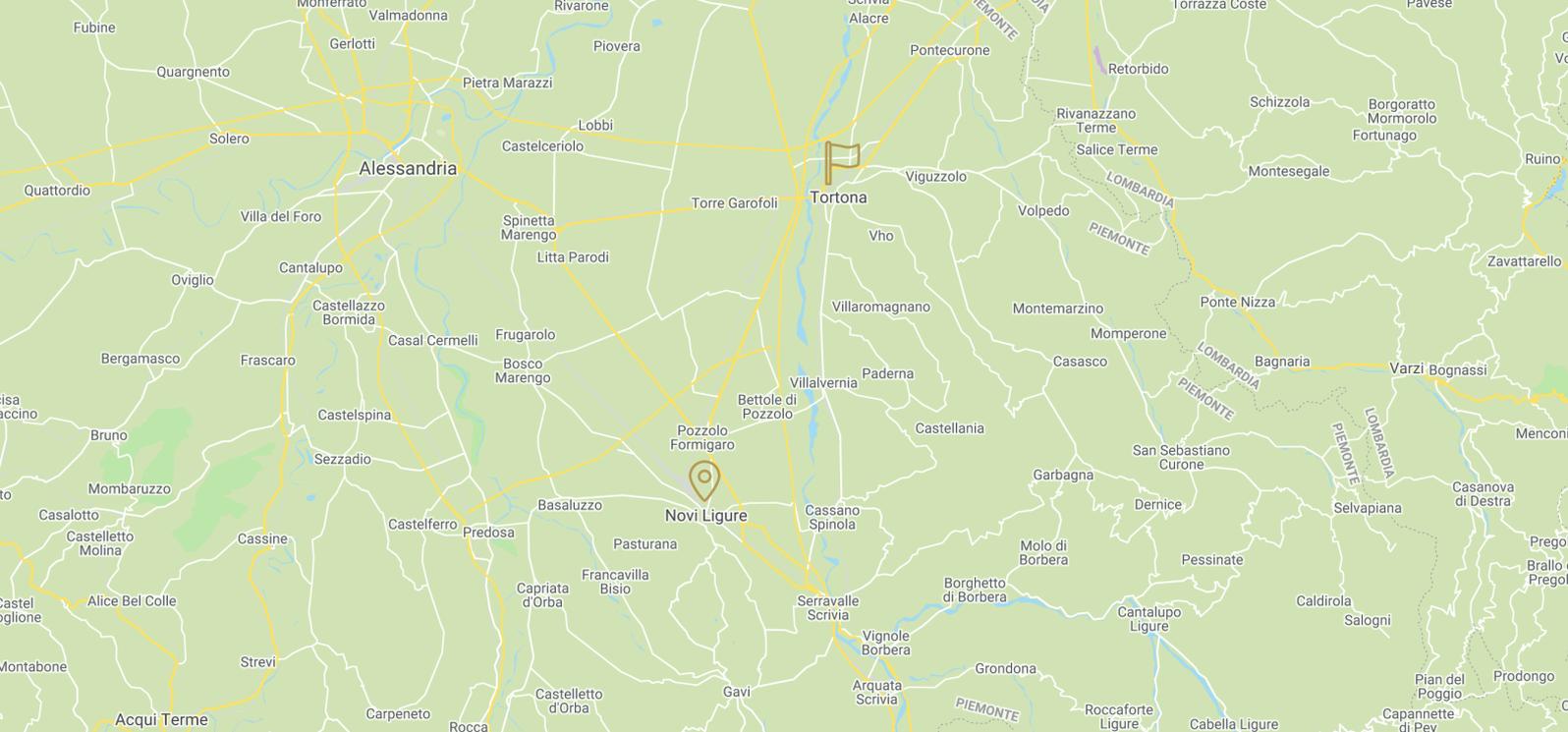
From Ovada to Novi Ligure

This itinerary is very simple and lovely at the same time, interspersed with numerous castles. From **Ovada**, we cross the **river Orba**, and we climb up to the **Castello di Tagliolo Monferrato**, surrounded by its medieval village.

Following the Orba, downhill route we arrive in a short time at the feet of Rocca Grimalda, a short but steep climb leads us to the Castle. Then, a flat path brings us till **Capriata d'Orba**, where some remains of X-XII centuries fortifications are still visible.

From here the route continues with alternation of uphill and downhill and passes through **vineyards** and **castles**, in order: Francavilla Bisio, Tassarolo and Pasturana.

In Novi Ligure, we cannot miss the **Museo dei Campionissimi**, the greatest tribute to the history old bicycle and cycling as well as to the champions Fausto Coppi e Costante Girardengo, who were born in this land.



Departure: Novi Ligure



Arrival: Tortona



Distance: 38 km

From Novi Ligure to Tortona

The first kilometers of this tour are all flat and along the way we can admire the **Castello of Pozzolo Formigaro**.

The first uphill begins after crossing the river **Scrivia**, from **Carezzano** the slopes begin to be more decisive till **Castellana**, the hometown of Fausto and Serse Coppi. The village hosts the birthplace of the *Campionissimo* which is now a museum. From Castellana, we climb up to San Alosio, where we can see the stubs of two towers, the only remains of an ancient castle.

A **cycle path from Costa Vescovato** goes through a charming landscape and leads us at **Villaromagnano**. A long descent arrives at **Tortona**.



 **Departure:** Serravalle Scrivia

 **Arrival:** Serravalle Scrivia

 **Distance:** 48 km

 **Total Ascent:** 917 m

Libarna and Alto Monferrato

Biking in this area means also to meet **Libarna**, a prestigious archeological site dating back to the roman period. From the parking lot of Libarna we turn left towards Serravalle and Alessandria.

Pass through the village of **Serravalle Scrivia** and proceed towards **Monterotondo**, a tiny and small village we can reach in few kilometers.

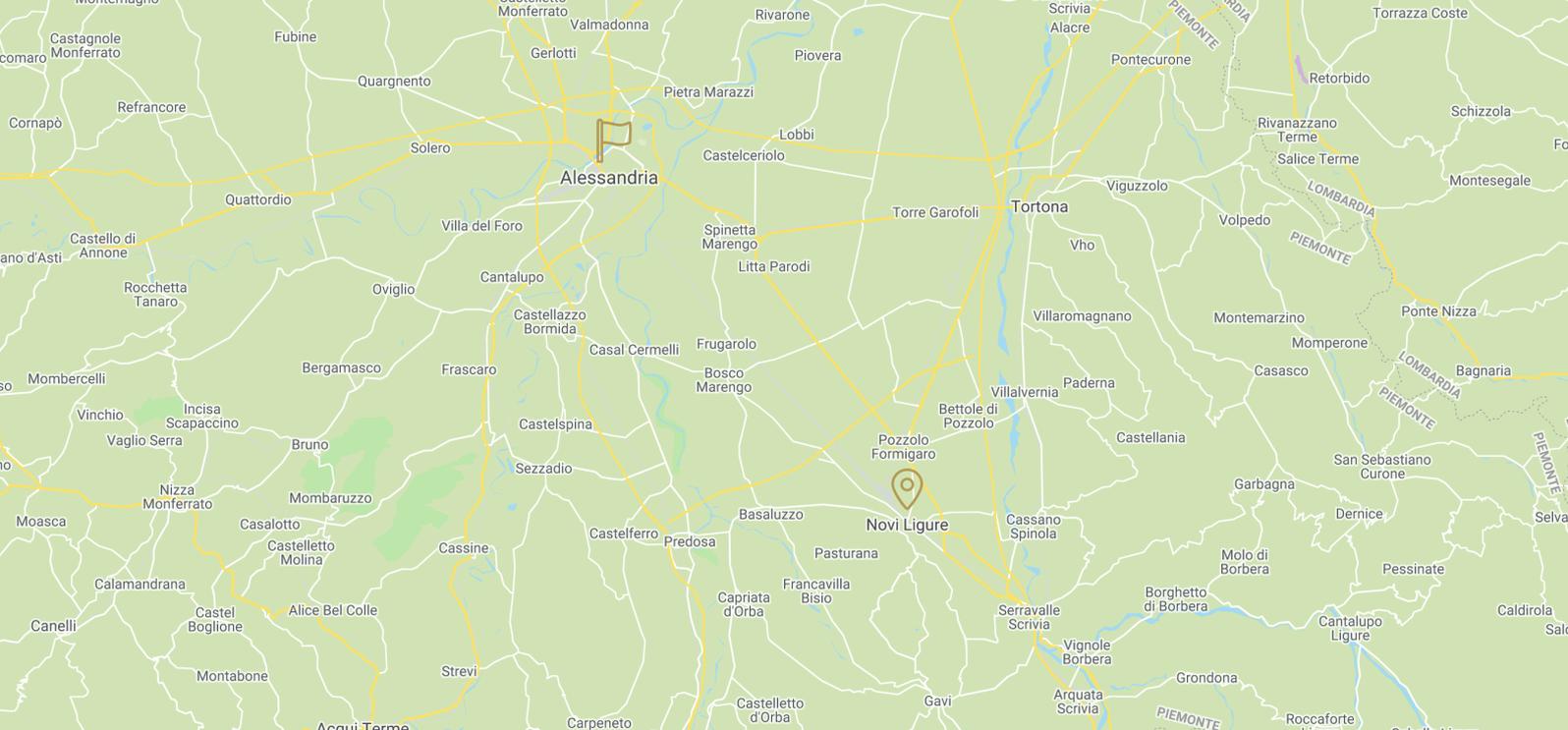
From Monterotondo we proceed towards **Gavi** facing a challenging route . Gavi is famous for its wine but also for the ancient **Forte** (10th century) which overlooks the surrounding hills, a stop is worth to enjoy the view.

We cross the nice city center of Gavi and we go towards Bosio, Mornese, Carosio to reach a small village with ligurian typical features, **Voltaggio**.

Voltaggio is rich of churches, mansions, oratories and can boast the beautiful **Pinacoteca dei Cappuccini**.

Resuming the road to Carosio and, closed to Sottovalle, begins the most demanding ascent of the tour. The effort will be repaid by the stunning naturalistic landscape with the gullies typical of this area. Out of Sottovalle, a flat stretch will lead us on the road to Arquata Scrivia where we suggest to visit the **medieval Casa**.

From Arquata Scrivia just a few kilometres and we will be back to the tour starting point Serravalle Scrivia.



Departure: Novi Ligure



Arrival: Alessandria



Distance: 71 km



Total Ascent: 629 m

An open-air museum

For bike lovers, this region is like the promised land: here everything honors the history of bicycle through legendary roads and museums dedicated to great champions.

We start from **Museo dei Campionissimi** in **Novi Ligure** dedicated to Fausto and Serse Coppi and to Costante Girardengo.

Castellania, on the Tortona hills, is the second stage of this museums tour, and it is the hometown of **Fausto Coppi** and his brother **Serse**. Their birth place is now a museum, rich of photos and memorabilia that remind the great deeds of the Airone, the nickname of Fausto Coppi.

Third stage is **Alessandria** where we can visit **Palazzo del Monferrato** the **AcdB Museum** (Alessandria città della Bicicletta / Alessandria city of Bicycle). The Museum pays tribute to the great champions who signed the history of cycling, but also the journalists who told their deeds and features and the history of the first bicycle arrived in Italy, here in Alessandria in 1867.



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