

International Birdwatching and Naturalistic Tourism Fair

2007 Edition Special Slow Tourism

April 28th – 30th Fairground & May 1st “Slow” Day

Po Delta Park

Emilia-Romagna, Comacchio (Ferrara)

www.podeltabirdfair.it info@podeltabirdfair.it



Go blindfolded and discover Nature: sound walking reaches Italy

First time in Italy for the suggestive hobby from Canada: discover it at the International Birdwatching and Naturalistic Tourism Fair among cyclotouristic and river routes, enogastronomic itineraries and relax

COMACCHIO (Fe). Imagine you are inside a wood, a glade, a valley. Blindfolded. In total quiet. Listen to the sounds of nature, enjoy the wonder of the territory with your ears only. This is the **Sound Walking**, a particular technique to “observe” nature, leaving sight alone and taking only hearing into consideration. This particular observation technique started in the Seventies in Canada, when Murray Shaffer started his studies on sound landscape. This suggestive way of enjoying natural itineraries comes to Italy for the first time: you can experience it on 29th and 30th April together with the other excursions organised during the **International Birdwatching and Naturalistic Tourism Fair** (Comacchio, Fe, 28th April-1st May). SheSound e Ebn-Italia are proposing a sound-walking inside nature, “bird listening” together with “bird watching”, a total experience in which you will meet the environment before meeting the animals living in it.

It's a chance to balance our hearing system, to experience with ears the sense of the space through the relationship sound/silence: feel the sound of nature, listen to the songs and the calls of birds, signals used by different species to fix the sound coordinates of a particular geography made of territories and rituals. How does it work? You walk blindfolded, with a guide helping you to enhance your hearing sensitivity and highlight the multitude of sounds you usually do not consider. The minimum age of participants is 10 years, the maximum number is 15 people. The itinerary starts from Punte Alberete (Ra) and lasts about two hours. Participants are blindfolded: clinging to a rope, they calmly walk on the track. During the walk no one can talk: only at intervals does the EBN guide reveal the name of birds singing. The participation is free; it's better to wear comfortable clothes.

During the Fair, many are the **excursions and the events** organised inside the Po Delta Park and in the surroundings to discover the territory, enjoying the slow tourism: cycle routes, river itineraries, horse trails and enogastronomic itineraries will accompany visitors to discovering the most suggestive naturalistic areas in the Po Delta Park. Moreover, on May 1st the day will be dedicated to “slow tourism”, with the first **Eco-running** competition and the **Park Open Day**.

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