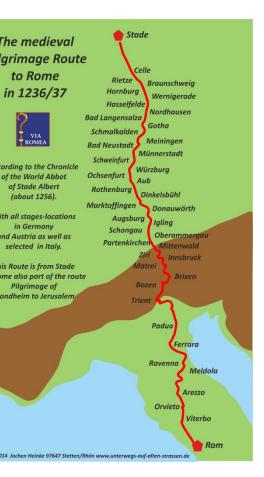


# VIA ROMEA GERMANICA 2200 KM ACROSS EUROPE

From Stade to Rome On the footprints of Albert of Stade (1236)

#### HISTORY OF VIA ROMEA



- Based on the description of Albert of Stade: from his abbey to Rome to meet the Pope, came back and wrote a manuscript about the "melior via" (the best way) to Rome;
- Manuscript was found in the 80's in Hamburg Library, and translated;
- Pilgrims from Romweg (of Deutschland) started walking the way, setting the first path;
- In 2012 pilgrims from Romweg meet pilgrims from Italian Via Romea; first summit in Garmisch;

#### VIA ROMEA GERMANICA



- 2013-2015 German Association Romweg and Italian Association work together to promote the Via Romea. Italian historian Giovanni Caselli sets the official path.
- 2015 first European pilgrimage "Pilgrims Crossing Borders" from Norway to Rome, in cooperation with St. Olaf Way (Norway) and Jerusalem Way (Osterreich).
- 2018 foundation of EAVRG, European Association of Via Romea Germanica, in Bolzano/Bozen (Italy)

## EAVRG - EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF VIA ROMEA GERMANICA

- President: Flavio Foietta (Italy)
- Vice Presidents: Thomas Dahms (Deutschland), Johannes Aschauer (Osterreich)
- The Board: Friedrich Jens, Ulrike Steger,
   Mauro Randi, Ivana Bricca
- Headquarter in
- Bolzano/Bozen (I)



#### VIA ROMEA GERMANICA TODAY



- All the 2200 km. are fixed and manteined; pilgrims find GPS traces (both GPX and KMZ files) in our websites; signs and arrows show the way.
- Some parts of the way are ready for hospitality: Ostfalia anche the region of Donauworth and the region of Ochsenfurth in Germany, several regions of Italy signed cooperation protocols with us for tourism development and promotion.

#### FINANCING THE EAVRG

- EAVRG is a newborn association and mostly relies on national associations funds; local partners sometimes cooperate in expenses (i.e. Bolzano Bozen Municipality, which pays for our headquarter); born october 2018, EAVRG is now starting strategies for self financing:
- LOCAL financing on specific regional funds
- LOCAL financing on European Funds (Interreg
   PSR and GAL) for rural development
- LOCAL financing thru Tourism Boards or Regional/Landes tourism development funds

#### VIA ROMEA PILGRIMS

We started with approx. 40 pilgrims in 2014 We registered more than 800 pilgrims in 2018 (mostly from Deutschland)
We expect to have more than 1500 this year:

- Pilgrims from Australia and Canada are increasing; this month we had our first group from USA (walking the Italy section)
- Pilgrims from Scandinavia, mostly Norway, are increasing;
- We believe in it, and work hard for it!

### SEE YOU ON THE PATH

