

Fig.057 Screenshot showing me taking my partner in the more secretive and non-touristic paths of an Italian city. In my life I was able to discover many unbeaten paths just by roaming around. I prefer such organic and historical and landscape walks to any straight and modern and trafficked walks. Given my explorative inclination I make it a good guide.

WALKS 09

In addition to being a transcendentalist practice and a means to survive in times of economic difficulties, walking is something I have somewhat inherited from some of my ancestors. In remote times they migrated across the alps, moving in the 13th century from the northern side of the alps to the southern side in order to work for the Venice Republic. In the first centuries of their colonization they had to fall trees and toss the timber down a river that conveniently brought them to Venice where they were deployed as the underwater foundation of the city. As the new trades to the Americas were opened, Venice lost its power and the highlanders focused on shepherding. Some of my ancestors then kept on moving with their flocks, going down to the Italian plateau during the winter and then back in the highland during the spring and then up to the higher mountains during the summer to then begin to descend again with the autumn. There was in this sense very little of the sedentary life from when they were woodmen, they just had to keep on moving and sell their wool for a trifle. Other of my ancestors were more from the valleys and for them the going up and down the mountains to hunt and gather food also implied a lot of walking. In this respect in my genes there is not much people having to be confined in a place like a city.