



Sinibaldi



Sinibaldi



Sinibaldi



Gherardi



Gherardi

The experience of these places entails their protection

Lakes, hills, history, myths and traditions. This is the Castelli Romani Park: a land of legends, distillation of culture and beauty.

From the lakes outflowing channels built by the Romans to the palaces of the Renaissance, history here is marked by centuries and millennia. In an evocative landscape shaped by man where you can still detect the geological energy of the "Vulcano Laziale" or the morpho-tectonic forces that gave birth to the hills and carved the valleys.

The presence of man coexists with solid and layered cultural contaminations in this area, where ancient traditions are still lively and build a strong community identity.

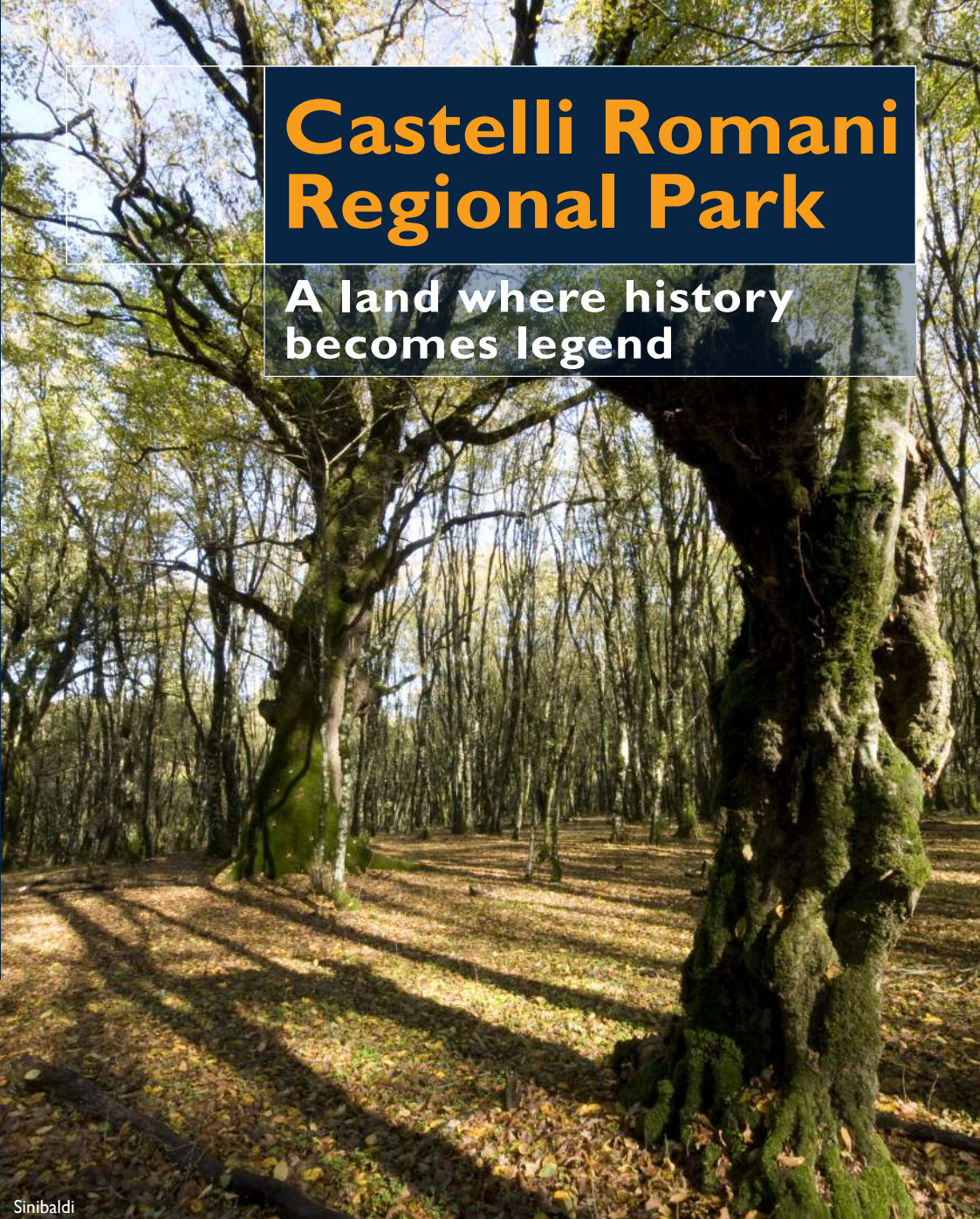
The Park talks to us about land values, ecological relationships, as well as the sense of belonging of who lives or attends these places. Nature as a primary source to recover our lost equilibrium and the memories of the ancestral link between man and its environment.

This is the deep sense and the main objective of a Protected Area. The reconciliation between man and nature through one of the most effective actions: the experience of knowledge.

Realized in October 2019 by the **Natural Heritage, Parks and Protected Areas Department** of the **Lazio region**.

Texts by Roberto Sinibaldi
Translation by Filippo Belisario

direzioneambiente@regione.lazio.it
www.parchilazio.it



Sinibaldi

Castelli Romani Regional Park

A land where history becomes legend



REGIONE LAZIO

www.regione.lazio.it

A 15,000 hectares protected area, half of which covered by woods, at the very gates of Rome, together with 16 municipalities and 350,000 inhabitants. Here comes a sketch of the Castelli Romani Park's landscape: a fertile volcanic land, rich in water, history and traditions.

Castelli Romani Regional Park was established in 1984, under the **popular pressure of a draft law**. Such a particular origin comes from the indisputable **beauty of the places**. A beauty that characterized the area since the most ancient times. Wooded hills, fertile valleys, springs, lakes, mild climate, fresh air, a strategic position very close to Rome.

The “Roman Castles”, so defined since the XVI century, arrived almost environmentally intact up to the last century. This integrity characterized also **the shape of the ancient volcano from which they were geologically born**. During the last decades, inexorable transformations produced deep social, morphological and landscape changes. Nevertheless, the main infrastructures that cross the park area (via Tuscolana, via



dei Laghi and via Appia) still display **stunning and unexpected views**. From the city of Rome you can recognize the steep profile of **Monte Cavo**, the ancient Mons Albanus, rich in history and archaeological remains. From the top of this mount the view encompasses the whole urban area of Rome, but also the coast towards South where **in clear days you can recognize Mount Circeo and the Pontine Islands**, more than one hundred kilometres away.

All around stand the woods. Through many different shades of green you can investigate the diversity of the various species of trees. Dark green spots are made by holm oaks, while hazelnut or chestnut trees, as well as hornbeams, have light green leaves.

Chestnut trees were introduced during the XVII century for economic purposes linked to the timber. As time went by these trees were able to colonize almost exclusively the wooded landscape. Here and there some remains of the original mixed woods can anyhow still be found.

Park's extension ranges to 15,000 hectares, 27,000 including the buffer zone, and thus represents the second widest park in the Lazio region.

The area includes innumerable **historical witnesses, archaeological areas, urban layers**, that give identity to the places and enrich their history.

Everywhere you can see beautiful panoramas or villages, and the seaside is really close.



Sinibaldi

The strong link between **natural, human and cultural resources, together with the food and wine tradition**, gave birth, throughout time, to a collective experience of generous harmony in front of which no one can be indifferent.



Gherardi