

Stretching from Calenzana to Conca, the GR20 follows a sinuous route along the spine of Corsica's mountainous center.

- ↑ A suspension bridge spans the Figarella River on the Mare e Monti Nord (see Bonus Track).
- $\rightarrow$  Weathered signposts point the way beneath jagged, rocky peaks.
- ↗ Located 10 km south of Refuge Asco-Stagnu, the Bergerie de Ballone hut is known for its great food and hospitality.
- $\rightarrow \rightarrow$  A new day is ushered in with clear blue skies and a light snow cover.



last place you want to be hiking is on an exposed mountain crest. (Tip: if you don't have phone service, you can always obtain the latest weather updates at the mountain huts.)

The village of Vizzavona is the midpoint (more or less) of the GR20. It's also where hikers can do a full resupply and enjoy a rest day before tackling the second half of their journey. If you arrive in Vizzavona with energy to spare and curiosity to pique, consider visiting the nearby historical town of Corte (one hour away by train). Formerly the capital of Corsica, Corte's legendary citadel and charming old town center make for an excellent day trip. Additionally, it has many great cafés and restaurants, which ensure that your trail-fueled caloric needs will be met along with your touristic inquisitiveness.

The southern section of the GR20 is notably easier than its northern counterpart. Extending 80 km (49.7 mi) from Vizzavona to Conca, it's generally smoother underfoot and has considerably less elevation gain and loss. Nonetheless, it's a gorgeous stretch of trail whose standout features include the spectacular ridgeline of Monte Incudine (2,134 m/7,001 ft) and the incredible rock towers of the Aiguilles de Bavella. For experienced hikers with a solid fitness level and a good head for heights, daring some of the trail's high-level variants is a great way to up the scenery ante during the GR20's southern half. These segments are invariably tougher than the standard >



