

THE TORBIERE NATURAL PARK

The Torbiere del Sebino natural reserve is one of the regional natural reserves established by the Lombardy region.

It is a natural area that was built south of the southern shore of Iseo Lake. It is the most important peatland for extension and ecological significance in Brescia and therefore it has been declared a "peatland of international importance".

The peatlands are said to be active as long as the deposit of a new organic substance. The evolution of a peatland is often thanks to a compact basic soil that is covered with common grass, while in the subsoil, at a little depth, there are deposits of torba.

The peatlands are environments with a great abundance of water in slow motion and at a low temperature. In such environments there are grass vegetables like mosses, grasses and others.

In a wet and cold environment the activity of bacteria, that naturally degrade the organic substance, is strongly forbidden. Moreover with little circulation of water and consequently of little oxygen, makes the environment negative for microorganisms. The vegetable material, that derives from the biological cycle of the plants that are in a peatland, little by little assembles in layers thus giving birth to the peat.

Most peatlands are in the northern areas in Europe, where it is rainy and mild, and in the alpine area.

The perch has got an oval body. When it is young it eats plancton but when it is an adult it becomes a predator and eats the other fish.

The tench has got red eyes. It eats especially at night. It loves staying in places that are poor in oxygen.

The pike has got a big mouth with long and sharp teeth, a big head and a long and flat body. It eats dead or ill prays.

In the park you can find many birds such as:

the robin. It is a small bird with a red spot on the breast. It eats worms and insects. It has got a sharpened beak. It likes staying in the wood and in the countryside.

The swan. It is a large water bird with big white wings. It has got short palmate legs. It has got a long neck. When it becomes an adult, the neck becomes longer and the wings size changes as the colour of the plumage and the beak.

The heron. It can be very tall. Its wings can be 1,70 metres wide!

Other animals that are in the Torbiere are:

the otter. It has got a dense fur with 1000 hairs that protects them from the water and from the cold weather. It eats fish. If it lives near the sea it eats crabs and lobsters.

There are mammals like the squirrel, the bat and the rabbit.

THE SQUIRREL is a very nice animal. It eats nuts, fruit and mushrooms. They also like eating little birds and insects.

The dormouse is a small animal with two big eyes. It is a nocturnal animal and it likes sleeping during the day. It looks like a mouse.

The bats are very important because they eat a lot of insects that live in the Torbiere like the flies that sometimes make it difficult to visit the park and have a nice walk there... thank you bats!

In the wood there are some trees like willows, alders and climbing species.

The main flowers in the park are the aquatic ones such as the white water lily.

There are cane-brakes with the soil covered with water. There are many of them in the Torbiere as there is water and humidity.

The park is open to everybody all year long. It is big and perfect for children and animals. So have a nice time there!