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# HELVETIA



MAGAZINE OF THE SWISS SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

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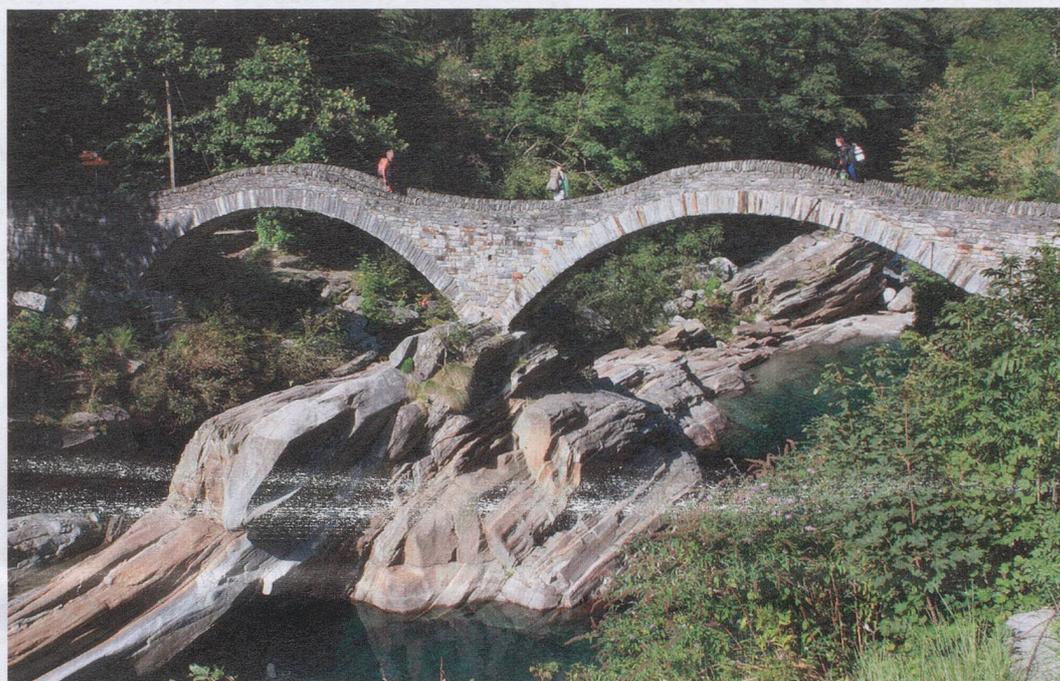
## Verzasca Valley – a Treasure of the Ticino

### Highlights

- The Verzasca Valley
- Chalandamarz
- Journey to New Zealand in 1969
- Spazzacamini
- A footpath for Art

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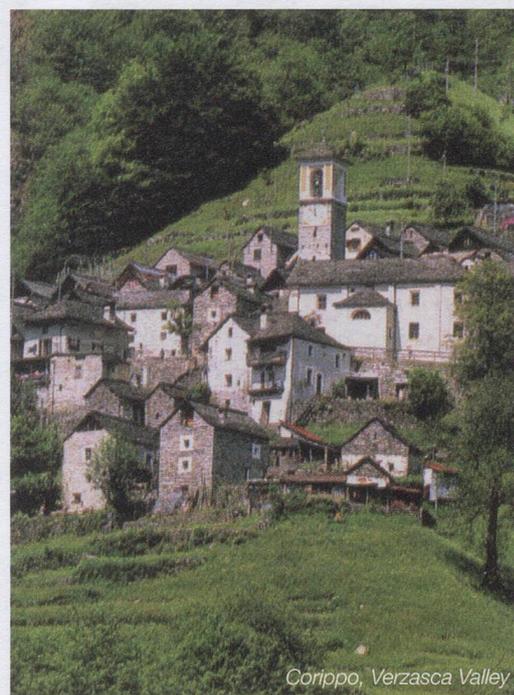


Lavertezzo Bridge in the Verzasca Valley

*Lavertezzo with its characteristic stone buildings is a typical picturesque village in Canton Ticino, where visitors can enjoy risotto and other local specialities in a typical grotto*

Lavertezzo was known as "Laverteze" in the Middle Ages. For centuries the people lived, in the summer months in the Verzasca valley and in the winter migrated with their cattle to the lower valleys where it was warmer. In the 17th century the economy consisted mainly of farming and grazing. There was added income from emigrants who went to Italy, especially Palermo. In the 1870's they began to systematically produce granite from quarries in Lavertezzo. By the turn of this century the agricultural sector still provided approximately one-tenth of the jobs in Lavertezzo.

Lavertezzo lies on a marvellous stretch of the River Verzasca, with clean, intensively green waters gushing between bizarrely eroded rocks. The bridge in the village of Lavertezzo, is a popular destination for bathers and divers. It is often falsely called "The Roman Bridge" since its architecture with two arches only goes back as far as the Romanesque period in the 17th century. This stunning bridge is the starting point of various stunning mountain walks. UN



Corippo, Verzasca Valley

source: pixabay.com

source: www.ascona-locarno.com