Ecovillage Torri Superiore is a picturesque medieval village entirely restored at the foothills of the Maritime Alps, 10 km from Ventimiglia and the French border. The welcoming guesthouse is ideal for those desiring a holiday in a setting that is at the same time relaxing and inspiring. The atmosphere of the Ecovillage is simple and familial, appropriate for groups and individuals seeking a restorative retreat apart from the rhythm of mainstream modern life. For families with children we offer a safe place in which it is easy to make friends and play together in this enchanting castle. Located near the Mediterranean Sea, the riches of the nature in the valley, the enchanting river with natural bathing ponds, and the many attractions of the Ligurian Riviera, Torri Superiore is the ideal place for holiday visits as well as periods of relaxation and study.

The tourism and educational activities are managed by the Ture Nirvane Cooperative Company, founded in 1999. The reception center is open all year, with a winter break. It can accommodate single guests, families, as well as large groups. It offers single, double, and family rooms, with either private or shared baths, three large dining halls, many terraces, an ample meeting hall for conferences or cultural events, a library, a playroom for children and an open internet access point. The car park is nearby.

The menu of the restaurant is different every day, and favors local and organic ingredients. Many of the vegetables are produced in the community gardens. The food is served buffet style in the communal dining halls at set times, and meals are taken at communal tables, with the halls shared among guests and residents. It is also possible to partake in the life of the community as a volunteer by making arrangements directly with the office of the cultural association on tasks and timing.

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How to come here?
- Google Maps -
**The History of the Village**

Torri Superiore was constructed entirely out of local stone and lime, with vaulted ceilings and flat roofs with walkable terraces. It is a hamlet overlooking the larger village of Torri, mentioned for the first time as “castrum” in 1072. The first houses in Torri Superiore date back to the 13th or 14th century. As all the medieval stone villages in this area, it was born of defensive reasons due to coastal invasions by the Saracens and the Ottomans.

During the 18th and 19th centuries, the population of the area increased notably, and the 1838 census showed 426 inhabitants. During the 20th century, the population gradually declined until only a single inhabitant remained. The Torri Superiore Cultural Association began the long and demanding work of restoring the settlement in 1989.

**The Ecovillage**

Torri Superiore has many diverse ecological aspects. The village was restored using the traditional materials of stone and lime, with walls insulated with cork and wood fiber, and doors and windows made by a local carpenter. The solar panels, complemented by a wood-burning fireplace and a gas boiler, provide hot water and heating. The photovoltaic panels produce a part of the electric energy consumed by the community. The gardens and olive groves are cultivated only with the use of organic fertilizer, including the manure of our donkeys and avoiding the use of any chemical pesticides or fertilizers. All of the organic waste is composted for use in the gardens, while plastic, glass, wood, and metal are collected separately.

**The Torri Superiore Cultural Association**

Founded in 1989, the association has the purpose of restoring the village for the rebirth of culture and community life and to create a social model marked by environmental sustainability and respect between people. To this end, the association has promoted a series of economic and ecological activities that has allowed a community to reside there permanently. After a long period dedicated to the collective plans to redesign the village, the complex process of consolidating and restoring began in 1994 and concluded in 2015. In all, 22 private residences were designed and completed, as well as the guesthouse. The tourist centre is owned by the Association and operated by the Ture Nirvane Cooperative Company, formed entirely of Association’s members.

**The Resident Community**

Today, Torri Superiore is a full-time home to 12 adults and 8 children, 4 of which are adolescents. The community keeps busy with the daily life of the village. Many residents take part in or collaborate with the Ture Nirvane Cooperative. The community is made up of Italians and Germans, who meet once per week, utilizing consensus-based decision-making and facilitation.

**Local Attractions**

The climate is mild all year round, with temperate winters and relatively cool summers. The vegetation is mostly evergreen, with a mix of cultivated and native Mediterranean plants: hundred-year old olive trees, holly oaks, mastics, lemons, oranges, acacias, and brooms. Just meters away is Torrente Bevera, with several swimming areas and easy access. It is possible to go on hiking and trekking excursions both in the Bevera Valley as well as in the surrounding valleys. Mt. Grammondo (1300 m), with the Gerry Refuge, is located behind our village, and the trail “Sentiero Balcone” connects Torri with the villages of Collabassa, Airole, Rocchetta Nervina, and Villatella. Nature guides are available on request. Taking the car or public transport, it is easy to reach the public beaches of Ventimiglia and surrounding areas. Also within a short distance are the beautiful Hanbury Gardens, the medieval villages of Dolceacqua, Apricale, Bajardo, and Triora in the Nervia Valley, as well as the towns of the Ligurian Riviera. We are located near the Cote d’Azur, Menton, Monaco, Nice, and Cannes, with their famous museums and characteristic promenade. Also in France, the Vallée des Merveilles is about an hour away in the direction of Tende. On the Piedmont side of the Alps, the ski slopes of Limone are only an hour and a quarter away by train.