

FRANCESCO MAGISTRALI



Francesco Magistrali

After graduating from high school in 1996 (he studied humanities at the Liceo Classico Melchiorre Gioia, Piacenza) and before getting a Degree in Human Movement at the Catholic University of Milan in 2004, he traveled and worked across Europe for 8 months. He moved hitchhiking, on foot, boats, public transportation.

During and right after University he worked in fields related to his studies (sports, human movement, education). He is specialized in rehabilitation, and worked in a physiotherapy center between 2000 and 2005.

In August 2002 crossed Iceland, alone and on foot, from the North Coast to the South Coast, in two weeks

In 2008, after spending 8 months working in a Sports Store in Calgary, Canada, he was hired by famous BackRoads International - the american active travel company prized World's #1 Active Travel Company by National Geographic - as a trip leader. He's currently in stand-by position at BackRoads.

In 2009, in between trips at BackRoads, he learned a little bit of sailing taking part of the Spanish crew of a trimaran that sailed the Atlantic Ocean, exploring on foot the most part of the Canary Islands

Francesco had dozens of jobs, in part related to his studies and in part just and simply 'survival' jobs. His life and travel experiences left a big mark that goes beyond pure business. Family, education, books, movies, people, many jobs and trips themselves built in him, since he was a kid, the will to explore the world in a personal way. Among many other types of environments, since he loves the unknown and mysteries, the perfect place for him is the world of the forest. For this reason, since 2005 he traveled many times to the Brazilian Amazon Rainforest, becoming an expert in this environment. The learning process was an adventure itself: his guides were always real natives who accepted him and taught him the secrets of jungle survival. The contact with the locals increased in him the will to keep traveling to the Amazon not only to know more about the forest: he fell in love with the fact itself of meeting people all the time.

So today, Francesco's travels are often based on a good balance of action and discovery of the local communities.

Among other various journeys, a highlight in Francesco's exploration career is the project he called 'Esmeralda Expedition': he crossed the South American Continent from Patagonia to the Brazilian Amazon without motorized vehicles leaving Ushuaia (Tierra del Fuego – Argentina) in March 2014. By mountain bike, on foot, canoeing and kayaking. Sixteen months in which action is the means to explore amazing places and meet hundreds of people, from the most populous urban areas to the depths of the Amazon Rainforest. Dozens of sponsors, partners, local and national media made

this project possible, which continues today with presentations and public speaking. An odyssey through a myriad of climates, environments and human realities.

Today, after years (a good part of them spent on the road) of unconventional learning process Francesco is founding the brand 'Beyond Exploration': its mission - Francesco's mission - is to keep exploring the world to then inspire, motivate, educate, coach people (especially the young generations) aiming to help them take action to make our planet a better place.

Francesco speaks Italian, English, Spanish, Portuguese.

Francesco obtained various diplomas from Rock Climbing Schools, Whitewater Rescue Schools, Search and Rescue Teams. He volunteers in Italy in the 'Protezione Civile'.

Worked at sports store SportSpecialist in the trekking/climbing sector, being also sponsored by this brand in some of his expeditions to even test materials and outdoor gear.

Worked in several kids/teenagers summer camps, in Italy (in several occasions) and in Kosovo in 2006, for a special educational program that aimed to use sports and outdoor activities to gather students from the different ethnic groups present on the territory.

Bushcraft, survival instructor and trekking guide. Collaborated as trip leader/guide/survival expert with Italian travel company 'TheGIRA' in 2017.

Environmental/outdoor/sports educator and instructor in various organizations and schools of the Province of Piacenza throughout the years from 2003 to current time.

Instructor and safety expert at Parco Avventura Val Trebbia, a zip-line park in the deep hills of the Province of Piacenza.

As freelance photographer, documentarist and researcher, joined by professional film maker Marco Giometti, in November 2017 he travels once again to the Brazilian Amazon to film a documentary in collaboration with SlowFood. A work that aims to capture interviews with local elders and leaders of a indigenous community. The project is called 'Keepers of Knowledge': the mission is to create a database of memories and knowledge that is risking extinction.

After finishing the shooting, filmmaker Marco Giometti returned home and Francesco started a 15 days descent of the mighty Rio Negro, alone on a kayak, in the middle of the amazonian rain forest. Two weeks of pure survival, to test the adventure that will be replicated with the guests of the first YellowBearSociety project, with Francesco as guide and trip leader.

Francesco, with a team of friends and entrepreneurs, is working at a start up called YellowBearSociety, a travel company that will take ordinary people to extraordinary places, aiming not only to guide, but to coach and educate people through adventure and exploration.

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