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Repubblica Italiana



Regione Veneto



Provincia di Belluno

# The Dolomites "Alta Via" n.1 from the "Lago di Bràies" to "Belluno"

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Cofinanziato nell'ambito dell'Iniziativa Comunitaria Interreg IIIA Italia/Austria 2000 - 2006  
Fondo FESR (Cod.Progetto VEN222014)

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# **The Dolomites “Alta Via” n.1**

**as created by Toni Sanmarchi**

*High Mountain Paths  
from the Lago di Bràies to Belluno*

**on the cover:**  
from Alleghe lake to the Civetta  
**inside cover:**  
Croda da Lago and Civetta  
**back cover:**  
Gusela del Vescovà

## General notes

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In 1969, taking inspiration from the programme of Dolomite itineraries presented by Mario Brovelli in the article which had appeared in "Lo Scarpone" on September 1st 1966, Piero Rossi proposed this superb traverse which from the beautiful Bràies valley in Pusteria crosses through imposing, world-famous Dolomite structures and leads to Belluno. His invaluable little volume, which appeared in the same year and was the first of its kind, was entitled "*Alta Via delle Dolomiti*" and bore the number 1. It was published by Tamari Editori of Bologna, with several further editions in subsequent years.

This Alta Via, just like its famous sister routes, has the peculiar characteristics of a long hike which can be divided up into various days. Refuges and fixed bivouacs can offer comfort at the stop-off points, but for those wishing to emulate the pioneers a tent or a sleeping bag can suffice.

The basic route follows paths that are not particularly difficult for an experienced hill-walker, at least those of the *Croda dei Tóni* and the *Antelao*; in addition, passages or stretches that are a little rough are always equipped.

Here and there where the mountain has remained as it was in pioneer times and where only the chamois live undisturbed, there are more difficulties. These are more or less of a psychological nature due to isolation, extreme gradients, severe surroundings, lack of water, complete silence and the fog that often forms quickly and envelops the surroundings! In any case, this Alta Via passes through places which are truly extraordinary and unique, in the wild heart of the Dolomites.

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TOURISM, AGRITOURISM AND PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES SECTOR  
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**Printed by** Linea Grafica

To suit the tastes of more expert hikers, some alternatives to the classic route are suggested. These variants are more technical and gratifying hikes, as they go along *vie ferrate* (equipped paths) or climb up to reach the famous peaks of the various mountain groups.

“This Alta Via crosses some well-known Dolomite groups that have stayed almost immune to the often disorderly ‘miscellaneous crowd’ of so-called occasional tourists. At the heart of this mountain group, cars cannot arrive; therefore, apart from the unfortunate exception, there are no huge “invasions”. Here you only have to go a bit further on from the bottom of the valley to be in peace and to find yourself in the real mountains, primitive and uncorrupted...”

This was in 1973. Thirty years on, the words of Toni Sanmarchi (another “Alta Via inventor”) are still true.

The Provincial Administration of Belluno’s Tourism Sector, which we have to thank for this publication, does its best to promote “local mountains” and to supply hikers with information that is as up to date as possible.

We feel obliged to point out that some authors have modified the original route, adapting it to their own personal taste, for general tourism needs and those of their guidebook users. In some places the original Italian route has been altered, and would take 18-20 days with some excessively short stretches. It’s true that this would be ideal for holidays, relaxing and enjoyable, but we have preferred to remain faithful to the traditions of “the old days”, even if this means that some stretches may seem a bit severe in length.

In comparison with Piero Rossi’s guide, published in several editions, at this point 35 years’ old and now unobtainable, we too have made some changes and minor updates to the original route. During the last few years, there have been some morphological changes, as well as changes as a result of interventions carried out by the organisations responsible for maintaining and equipping the various stages of the route. Having said this, nothing has been taken away from the originality of the work and the idea; if anything there has been a willingness to improve on and to further define it, respecting the memory of Piero, who lived for these mountains.

## ■ Recommended period

The *rifugi* (refuges) normally open towards 20th June, so if you want to book a place in them you should plan your trip on the Alta Via after this date. Normally the route is practicable until the end of September. Once this was the ideal month for enjoying stable weather, visibility and clarity, above all because the route was less crowded, but nowadays much has changed and autumn is not always sunny and dry. Keep in mind that as a general rule, the huts close on about the 20-25th September. Therefore, after this date, it is indispensable to bring a tent and a sleeping bag or rely on the fixed bivouacs scattered along the route and the spartan, winter season shelter offered by the CAI (Italian Alpine Club) mountain huts.

At the height of the summer season it is advisable to book places in the refuges well in advance.

Out of respect for others’ needs, you should cancel as early as possible if you are unable to honour your booking, even if you have already paid.

## Useful advice for hikers

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### ■ Precautions – Equipment

The network of paths used by the “Alta Via delle Dolomiti n.1” allows hikers to access various zones at the heart of the Dolomite groups where they can experience extraordinary walks at altitude. As the paths can be very tiring at times and are conducted above 2500 metres, experience, good equipment, sure footing, absence of vertigo and good physical condition are indispensable to ensure safety. Often dangers are undervalued in the mountains: a rapid change in weather, an unexpected storm, a premature snowfall, an icy patch of ground, fast-moving rivers...can all turn a pleasant, light-hearted trip into a ordeal, even on well-marked stretches of path. Good self-control can be indispensable. A fundamental condition for trekking along the “Alta Via” paths is good weather! Therefore you should find out weather conditions first from the available sources (Arraba Weather Station, TV, Radio etc.). Finally, hikers should be equipped

with a good mountain kit (nowadays thousands of products of various styles, colours and technical specialities are available on the market), with several vital changes, warm, waterproof clothing, good quality climbing boots and socks, as well as all those other little bits and pieces that a good hiker's experience advises.

It is a good idea to carry some medicine and first aid equipment with you, especially painkillers, Vitamin C, supplements, plasters, gauze, bandages.... and never forget to bring water.

If, despite the above precautions, an accident should happen (a slip, a twist, a fracture, an injury from falling rocks, a lightning strike, vertigo, etc), try not to panic and follow the indications in the following chapter where possible.

## Alpine rescue Service

(by Fabio Bristot, Director of the CNSAS, Veneto Region)

In this section, the C.N.S.A.S. (National Corporation of Alpine and Speleological Rescue) would like to explain what the aims of the organisation are: in other words, what Alpine Rescue is and what it does.



Below you will find some information and advice, as well as various kinds of tips.

Although not yet perfect, this piece of work is a first step towards promoting a new culture of the mountains, based on safety and prevention and also on a few procedures to adopt in case of necessity.

### ■ What is the C.N.S.A.S.?

The National Corporation of Alpine and Speleological Rescue is a special section of the Italian Alpine Club whose members, all Volunteers Technicians, have the specific task of rescuing people

who are injured or in danger both in an efficient and quick way. This can include the recovery of bodies when necessary and searching for people who are lost in difficult to get areas (not always at altitude), which requires staff specialised in both mountaineering techniques and mountain rescue.

The Italian Law n. 74/2001 officially recognises the work of the C.N.S.A.S. as having a function of public activity and service.

As a result of this official legislative definition, Alpine Rescue has strong links with the Italian National Health Service, and with Pieve di Cadore's S.U.E.M. 118 EMERGENCY SERVICE a close working synergy has been created in the last fifteen years, which has become more and more consolidated up to the point where it has been institutionalized with a specific convention and operative protocol within the various intervention sections.

The C.n.s.a.s. Technical Staff guarantee 24 Hr, year- round (particularly in the summer months) service, with on-going training and compulsory drills on the rock face (with or without helicopter), on snow, avalanches and ice falls, search and rescue, evacuation from cable cars, first aid techniques and general logistic problems (radio and communication, operation planning etc.)

Both Law 74/01 and in particular also Law 298/02 entrust the C.n.s.a.s. staff with the task of primary rescue in the mountains, in caves and in hostile or difficult to reach environments. The C.n.s.a.s. is also responsible for rescue coordination when there are other State or Civil Protection organisations involved, except in the case of large emergencies or calamities.

### ■ Where does the C.N.S.A.S. operate?

The C.N.S.A.S. normally operates in so-called hostile environments and in all inaccessible areas of the district. This does not only mean – as is generally believed - areas such as cliff faces or vie ferrate (equipped paths), but also and above all snowfields and glaciers, ice falls, avalanches, cable cars, ski slopes, caves, ravines, gorges and gullies, rivers and all other types of environment not necessarily at high altitude (hills, woods, etc.), that due to difficulties of access

or movement, or in special weather conditions, require the work of qualified personnel with expertise in all areas of mountaineering and speleological techniques and rescue.

## Prevention

Aside from the above factors, which require a strong presence in the area in order to guarantee primary rescue, the C.N.S.A.S.

also has a precise obligation to guarantee accident prevention.

For this reason the brief notes below, (although they seem obvious, our experience year in year out shows they are often ignored), aim to supply some points to consider.

### ■ Basic rules for improved safety in the mountains and other hostile environments.

- Never underestimate the dangers and risks associated with any type of activity connected to the mountains and to hostile environments in general (mountaineering, speleology, skiing, mountain biking, hunting, mushroom picking, delta plane flying and parachuting etc.): the rapid changes in weather, the difficulty of the route, walking time, etc.
- Good mental-physical condition and adequate preparation and training for the task to be undertaken are essential.
- Avoid attempting routes that are beyond your technical ability and physical and mental preparation.
- Never walk alone; whenever possible be accompanied and/or advised by qualified organisations (Alpine Guides, C.A.I. and C.N.S.A.S. Stations).
- Obtain adequate information about the route's features and difficulty as well as the area in general. Study all the necessary information regarding destination or route in advance, using the appropriate guides and maps.
- Always leave precise information about where you are going and which route you intend to take, using visitors books in huts and bivouacs when appropriate.
- Find out the weather conditions in advance, especially the local forecast.

- Bring adequate footwear and clothing: avoid wearing training shoes and shoes with smooth soles; bring warm clothing, anorak and a change of underwear.
- Bring a head torch, food which is light and easily absorbed by the body and extra fluids (preferably water with perhaps added saline integrators).
- Bring a small first aid kit.

### ■ Basic rules on how to behave in the event of an accident

- Stay calm and do not act impulsively.
- Evaluate the general situation (environment) and the specific situation (the accident). Try to identify actual and possible dangers.
- Immediately adopt measures to avoid and prevent further risks.
- Call S.U.E.M. 118. for help immediately. If this is not possible use the following intermittent visual signalling method: - 6 times a minute – once every 10 seconds - pause for 1 minute, then repeat the operation until you are sure you have been seen, or use any other system to mark your presence.

### ■ How to alert S.U.E.M. 118/C.N.S.A.S.

To request an intervention by the C.N.S.A.S., you must always dial 118 and follow the advice below.

#### General instructions to follow when you call 118

- Supply precise information about the injured person/s (name, surname, residence) and the telephone number from which you are calling.
- Give details on the location of the accident or visual references that can help easily identify the spot.
- Give a brief summary of the accident stating the time it happened.



- Specify the number of injured and their condition.
- Describe the weather conditions, especially visibility.
- Highlight any obstacles in the area with particular reference to power lines and cables, chair lifts and ski lifts and any other overhanging cables that could get in the way.
- Give any other information that could aid the operation (people present, particular difficulties etc.)

### **Interventions for injured persons or persons in a situation of danger**

- As for point 1 of the general instructions.
- Supply the exact location of the accident or where the injured can be found (mountain group, slope, path, *via ferrata*, valley, gully, ledge, crest, gorge, etc).
- Mention the presence of any other people who were present at the accident and, in particular, if they are able to collaborate (Alpine Guides, C.N.S.A.S. staff, others etc.).

### **Interventions for missing or lost persons**

- Give information regarding the identity of the victim/s.
- Specify date and time of departure.
- Describe the method of transport used (i.e. Car: number plate, model, colour etc.).
- Indicate destination and chosen route and/or probable or possible fixed objectives (hill walking, climbing etc.).
- Give the number of companions and their hill-walking or mountaineering abilities and experience.
- Describe clothing (paying attention to colour and material) and what supplies they have with them.
- Inform of any problems: psychological - physical – family – social – etc.
- Communicate information already given to other organisations (including C.N.S.A.S.).
- Supply any other useful information regarding the subject(s), location and general environmental conditions.

### **Interventions in cases of avalanche**

- 1. Give information regarding the identity of the victim/s, date, time.
- 2. Give the exact or presumed number of people swept away or buried.
- 3. Specify the brand and model of A.R.V.A. apparatus and/or other research technology.
- 4. Identify the presence of any witnesses able to give an exact account of what happened:
  - If a visual-auditory- A.R.V.A., search has been carried out;
  - Provide a brief description of the avalanche (size and characteristics) and the exact point where the people were swept away and/or disappeared (right, left, high, low etc.);
  - subjects already extracted and their position;
  - other information and details that might help the intervention.

Keep in mind that all the refuges located along the Alta Via delle Dolomiti n. 1 are equipped with a public telephone; in addition, the refuge managers are trained to help send correct and quick requests to Alpine Rescue.

### **International mountain rescue signals**

International mountain rescue signals are still the same today as they were in the past, and often the only means possible in the immensity of the mountains is sending a visual or acoustic signal 6 times per minute, at regular intervals, and then every 10 seconds. Pause for a minute and repeat the same signal until you receive a response. This is done three times in a minute at a distance of 20 seconds in a visual or audible way. By acoustic we mean shouting or whistling or any other perceptible noises; by visual signals we mean waving handkerchiefs, items of clothing or mirror signals; at night you can use a torch or, if possible, a fire (obviously with caution, especially if you are in a wooded area). Over the last few years the ever more frequent use of helicopters by Alpine Rescue has

rendered new signalling methods necessary. Colourful sleeping bags or anoraks spread out on the ground or marks in the snow can help you be located from above. The SOS rescue sign can be made with letters of about 2m high using contrasting stones placed on the ground, or footprints in the snow.

In order to be seen from above, i.e. by helicopter, you need to make the following signals with your arms, or with lights at night:



Lift and spread out both arms  
Green light

**-Yes, to the pilot's questions.**  
**-Land here**  
**-Help is needed**



Lift and spread out left arm  
Right arm pointing down  
Red light

**-No, to the pilot's questions.**  
**-Don't land here.**  
**-No help needed**

When giving the helicopter instructions to land, keep the following in mind: with your arms outspread, remain still at the edge of the landing place; where possible the area surrounding the landing place should be clear of obstacles up to a space of 20x20 metres.

**TAKE NOTE!** Don't move away until the rotor blades have stopped: you are an important fixing point for the pilot.

Any items of clothing laid on the floor to help the pilot should be held down with stones to protect against the strong airflow given off by the helicopter's blades!

## ■ Route Signs

Everywhere along the route, the hiker can find three types of signs at all the main points:

- a) Red triangle with the Alta Via number inside (in this case 1); this type of sign is less common than the following:
- b) Path sign consisting of two horizontal red stripes with a white stripe in the middle of which you can find the path number in black. Along paths that require more frequent signs, in between those above, you can find simple red or red and white signs.
- c) Wooden chart signs on fixed poles (old types in metal).

The coordination of signposts on the busy network of alpine paths in the Veneto Region is constantly monitored, sector by sector. Where the triangles, path signs and charts are found to be in poor condition (unfortunately also as a result of vandalism!) and thus difficult or impossible to see, the hiker should pay careful attention to the indications set out in this guide. However, an attentive walker should not have problems of orientation if they constantly refer to a good map or put into practice information given by refuge managers along the route.

## Difficulty Scale

- T**, for tourists, i.e. elementary difficulty  
**E**, for hikers  
**EE**, for expert hikers  
**EEA**, for expert hikers with via ferrata equipment  
**A**, for climbers



## Itinerary

Recommended Period:	<b>from the end of June until the end of September</b>
Departure Point:	<b>Lago di Bràies in Pusteria</b>
Arrival Point:	<b>Belluno</b>
Walking days:	<b>12</b>
Route Length:	<b>about 125 kilometres</b>
Refuges on the main route:	<b>15</b>
Bivouacs on the main route:	<b>1</b>
Refreshments on the way:	<b>6</b>
Longest stretch:	<b>the seventh, 6 hours, from Palafavèra to the Rifugio Vazzoier</b>
Shortest stretch:	<b>the first, 3,30 hours, from Lago di Bràies to the Rifugio Biella</b>
Total time required (excluding variants):	<b>about 57 hours</b>
Difficulty:	<b>EE and EEA , brief stretch of A in the Màrmol area</b>
Total gradient in ascent:	<b>about 7300 metres</b>
Total gradient in descent:	<b>about 8400 metres</b>
Maximum gradient in ascent:	<b>1070m, third day, Fànes - Lagazuòi</b>
Maximum gradient in descent:	<b>1900m, last day, Màrmol - Belluno (1570m until Case Bortot)</b>
Maximum altitude:	<b>Rifugio Lagazuòi, 2752m</b>
Minimum altitude:	<b>Belluno, 389m (Case Bortot, 568m)</b>
Dolomite Groups involved:	<b>11</b>
Opening period of the refuges:	<b>c. 20 June - 20 September</b>
Signs :	<b>Good everywhere</b>

**Recommended Maps** (in order of use): Tabacco maps 1:25.000

- n. **031 "Dolomiti di Bràies"**, for the stretch from the *Lago di Bràies* to the *Rifugio Fànes*
- n. **03 "Cortina d'Ampezzo e Dolomiti Ampezzane"** for the stretch from the *Rifugio Biella* to the *Forcella Ambrizzòla*
- n. **015 "Marmolada-Pelmo-Civetta-Moiazza"** for the stretch from the *Passo Falzarego* to the *Rifugio Carestiato*
- n. **025 "Dolomiti di Zoldo Cadorine e Agordine"** for the stretch from the *Forcella Ambrizzòla* to the *Bivacco del Màrmol*
- n. **024 "Prealpi e Dolomiti Bellunesi"**, for the stretch from the *Bivacco del Màrmol* to *Belluno*

The "Alta Via delle Dolomiti n.1", which winds its way from Bràies in Pusteria to Belluno, can be divided up into three distinct parts :

- **From the Lago di Bràies to the Tofàne** with the Dolomite groups of the *Croda Rossa d' Ampezzo, Fànis, Tofàne*
- **From the Tofàne to the Civetta** with the Dolomite groups of the *Nuvolàu, Croda da Lago, Pelmo and Civetta*
- **From the Civetta to Belluno**, with the Dolomite groups of the *Moiazza, Tàmer-San Sebastiano, Prampèr-Mezzodì, Schiara*

From the SS49 road of Pusteria between Villabassa-Niederdorf and Monguelfo-Welsperg, the asphalt road number 47 breaks off to the south-east and penetrates for some 12 kilometres into the verdant Bràies valley, scattered with small, picturesque groups of houses in typical local style. Particularly beautiful and interesting is the small church of *San Vito di Bràies* with its adjoining cemetery, where some famous mountaineers are buried. The silhouette of the *Croda Rossa* Group can be seen opposite.

At the bottom of the valley, after the characteristic *Hotel Lago di Bràies - Pragser Wildsee*, 1494m (parking, restaurant facilities, shop), is the sparkling expanse of the *Lago (lake) di Bràies*, one of the most famous spots in the Dolomites and the departure point of our itinerary. The maximum depth of the lake is 36m, the surface area 31 hectares and it is surrounded by thick fir-woods. In its waters is reflected the imposing *Torre del Signore*.



# Description of the walk

## Day one

### ■ From the Lago di Bràies to the Rifugio Biella at the Croda del Becco

<b>Gradient:</b>	900m in ascent, 60m in descent
<b>Length:</b>	about 6 kilometres
<b>Time required:</b>	3,30 hours
<b>Path:</b>	n.1
<b>Difficulty:</b>	T and E

From the Hotel, take the little road to the south which goes along the western edge of the romantic *Lago di Bràies* until the first inlet, then go onto the convenient path marked n.1 which follows the river bank until its most southerly point. From here begins a climb which becomes increasingly steep and tiring along the valley overlooked by the first spurs of the *Croda del Becco*. After going up a basin thick with mugo pine trees you reach a narrow passage created by two rocks, from where you go round the leap passing to the left and then reaching the upper furrow.

After a wood you come to a concave clearing, go up an easy rock plate and reach an area scattered with boulders where, if you look carefully, you will see a small spring. Proceeding in zigzags you will then reach the opening known as *Porta sora'l Forn* (or *Forcella Sora Forno-Ofenscarte*), 2388m near a votive chapel.

Going down a little you come to the *Rifugio Biella* at the *Croda del Becco*, 2327m, over which looms the huge sheer rock face of the characteristic, extremely peculiar *Croda del Becco*, 2810m, easily reachable along a fairly good path in the rock in about 1hr15 mins from the refuge. Superb view from the top.

**3,30 hours** from the *Lago di Bràies* to the refuge.



Lago di Braies

The *Rifugio Biella*, a solid three-storey brick construction standing all alone in a clearing in a lunar landscape, is owned by the Treviso Section of the CAI (Italian Alpine Club). It was built in 1906 and renovated in 1926. It offers the same services as a small hotel (with a Nepalese cook) and is open from 20th June – 20th September. It can sleep 46 people, plus another 6 in the winter shelter. Lighting with generator, water and toilets inside. CNSAS “118” Rescue Station. Tel: +39 0436 866991

## Day two

### From the Rifugio Biella to the Rifugio Fanès

<b>Gradient:</b>	in ascent 565m; in descent 830m
<b>Length:</b>	about 14km
<b>Time required:</b>	4,30 hours
<b>Paths:</b>	n.6 and 7
<b>Difficulty:</b>	T

To get from the *Rifugio Biella* to the *Rifugio Sennes* you can follow either of the following routes:

- Take the convenient road marked n.6 which goes round in a huge “s” shape and takes you easily to *Sennes* in about an hour, or
- Go along the above road for about 1km, then take the path which branches off to the right (south-west; altitude 2260m; also marked n.6) and goes up through moorland to the nearby wide crest. Then go down the grassy depressions opposite or go down to the south-west, then to the south, until the dirt-track from where you will soon reach the *Rifugio Sennes*, 2116m. This route takes about the same time as route a), but it offers more interesting flora and better views. 1 hour from the *Rifugio Biella*

**1 Hour** from the *Rifugio Biella*.

The *Rifugio Sennes*, which is privately owned, lies near the characteristic group of Alpine huts which are dotted around the pastureland plateau of the *Alpe di Sennes*, a place of calm and peace with the backdrop of the *Croda Rossa d'Ampezzo*, the *Cristallo* and the *Fânes*. It offers the same services as a small hotel, and is open from 1st June – 15th October, from 26th December – 9th January and from 1st February – 30th April. It sleeps about 50; no winter shelter; tel: +39 0474 50 10 92.

From the *Sennes*, take the road marked n.7 and go southwards, firstly slightly downhill via the grassy depressions across the vast *Pian della Lasta*. Then, after leaving to the left (south-south-east) the path (also marked n.7) for the *Rifugio Fodàra Vedla*, continue south-west, remaining on the road. Then go into the narrow gorge between the *Pici Parëis* and the *Col di Rù* and goes rapidly down the valley in sharp bends to the flat stretch where you will find the *Rifugio Pederù*, 1548m.

**1,30 hours** from the *Sennes*

**2,30 hours** from the *Biella*

The *Rifugio Pederù* is also privately owned and offers basic hotel services from the beginning of June to 20th October and from 26th December to 20th April. Sleeps c.30; no winter shelter. Tel: +39 0474 50 10 86.





Croda del Becco

From the *Rifugio Pederü* the *Alta Via n. 1* continues through the *Valùn de Fànes* along a fairly boring carriage – road, although the surroundings are quite interesting.

It is advisable to ask the refuge manager to take you to the *Rifugio Fànes* in his landrover.

If you decide to continue on foot, you can follow either the road or the shortcuts on path n.7, passing through a fascinating, desolate, almost lunar environment . The surrounding peaks are strangely coloured and have a peculiar charm.

Once past the beautiful little lake of *Le Piciodèl*, 1819m, you pass alongside the *Rü dal Plan* (*Torrente del Piano*), up some bends, and at an altitude of 1988m, you turn decisively south. At 2022m, leave to the right (south-west) the road for the nearby *Ücia Lavarella* (*Rifugio Lavarella*, 2042m), go over a little bridge and reach *Ücia de Fànes* or the *Rifugio Fànes*, 2060m.

**2 hours** from the *Pederü*

**4,30 hours** from the *Biella*

The *Rifugio Fànes* is a fine, comfortable wood-panelled building. It is privately owned and sleeps c.60. Bar, guesthouse, restaurant, tavern. Open from the beginning of June to the middle of October and from 26th December to the end of April; no winter shelter; tel : +39 0474 50 10 97

The nearby *Rifugio Lavarella* is somewhat smaller and more modest, but comfortable. Open from the beginning of June to the beginning of October and from the middle of February to the middle of April. Basic hotel services. Sleeps about 30. The 7-12 path links it to the *Alta Via* just south of the *Rifugio Fànes*. Winter shelter. Tel: +39 0474 50 10 79.

## Day three

### From the Rifugio Fànes to the Rifugio Lagazuòi

**Gradient:** in ascent 1070m; in descent 375m

**Length:** about 11 km

**Time required:** 5 hours

**Path:** n. 10-11, 20b, 20

**Difficulty:** EE

From the *Rifugio Fànes* (known locally as *Ücia de Fànes*), follow the road marked n.10-11, which, after three sharp bends uphill, comes out onto the lunar plateau which leads to the *Passo* (pass) *di Limo* (*Ju de Limo*), 2174m, and to the nearby *Lago di Limo* (*Lé de Limo*), 2159m.

South of the lake you meet first path n.10, then the road with the same number; both branch off to the left (east) and go towards the *Val di Fànes* and *Cortina d'Ampezzo*.

You should instead continue to the right (south) along the dirt-track road, marked n.11, following the pastureland hillocks, which soon lead to the *Ücia di Gran Fànes* (*Malga Fànes Grande*), c.2100m.

Just after the *malga* (alpine hut), path n.17 branches off to the left. Ignore it, and follow path n.11 to the south-west. This leads to the *Ju da l'Ega* (*Passo Tadèga*), 2157m; from here you go up to the south along the *Gran Pian*.

At a height of 2117m, just before the end of the dirt-track road, take path 20b to the left (south-east), which goes up decisively to the

*The area between the Rifugio Lavarèlla and the Rifugio Fànes*







Forcella del Lago, 2486m, between the bold *Torre del Lago* and the grand *Cima Scotóni* in the *Fànès* Group.

From the *forcella* (saddle), go down southwards through steep scree, among boulders, until you reach the splendid oasis *dell'Alpe* or *Monte de Lagazuòi*, with the magical, sparkling *Lago di Lagazuòi*, 2182m, in whose waters is reflected the bold structure of the *Torre del Lago* and the *Cima* (peak) *Scotóni*, with the immense rock gate of the *Cima Fànès Sud*.

Follow the shore of the lake on the western side and, just after, leave path n.20b, which branches off to the east and continue on n.20 southwards.

The good path covers all of the charming *Monte de Lagazuòi* and reaches the *Forcella Lagazuòi*, 2573m. From here it then goes up to the *Rifugio Lagazuòi*, 2752m, and to the arrival station of the cableway coming from the *Passo Falzàrego*.

**5 hours** from the *Rifugio Fànès*.

The **Rifugio Lagazuòi** is a comfortable building connected to the *Passo Falzàrego* by the cableway. Almost always open, privately owned, basic hotel services, sleeps 74. Excellent stop-of point, not least because of the spectacular views, particularly attractive at dawn and at dusk. Tel : +39 0436 86 73 03, [rifugio.lagazuoi@dolomiti.org](mailto:rifugio.lagazuoi@dolomiti.org).

## Day four

### ■ From the Rifugio Lagazuòi to the Rifugio Nuvolàn

**Gradient:** in ascent 635m, in descent 810m

**Length:** about 15 km


**Time required:** 5,30 hours

**Path:** n.20, 401, 402, 404, 403, 412, 440

**Difficulty:** EE

From the *Rifugio Lagazuòi* you follow path n.20 northwards and return to the *Forcella Lagazuòi*, 2573m. Here you take path n.401 to the east, which soon takes you to the *Forcella Travenànzes*, 2507m, from where you look out on to the characteristic *Val Travenànzes*, surrounded by austere peaks and famous rock walls streaked with a myriad of colours.





Descending towards the Laghetto (little lake) of Lagazuòi

From the *Forcella Travenànzes* you can go down directly and easily to the *Passo Falzàrego* by path n.402 and from there continue on the *Alta Via*, but this would mean missing out one of the most beautiful stretches. Therefore, we recommend continuing as described below.

Proceeding northwards on the northern side of the *Cima Falzàrego* and the *Col dei Bòs*, keeping on path 401-402 which here has double signposting, you reach the *Forcella Col dei Bòs*, 2331m, at the foot of the tragically famous rock fortress of *Castelletto*, theatre of heroic battles during the Great War. (see Variant 1).

Meeting point of paths. The 402 goes down directly to the locality of *Ra Nona* (where we will in any case arrive later), while a path goes up northwards towards *Castelletto* and then onto the *Ferrata* (equipped mountain route) *Livella*.

Take path n.404 which runs eastwards beneath the beautiful rock face of the *Tofana di Rozes*, and offers excellent views. It is possible, along this stretch, to visit the *Grotta della Tofana*, which opens out above a leap which can easily be reached (signs, secure inexperienced walkers, lamp).

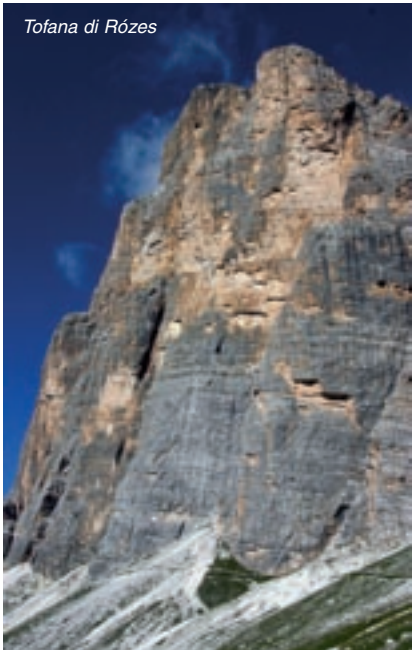
Keep on the 404 until the *Valon de Tofana* at a height of 2375m at the meeting point with the 403 which from the *Rifugio Dibona* goes up to the *Rifugio Giussani*. With a clear diversion south, go down by the 403, zigzagging until you meet the road which comes from the *Dibona* and ends here.

It is not absolutely necessary to reach the nearby *Rifugio Angelo Dibona*, 2037m, but, as it was built in honour of the great guide from *Cortina*, a visit is highly recommended. Privately owned, comfortable, open almost all year, basic hotel services and overnight accommodation for 68 people; tel +39 0436 86 02 94.

From the road above, take path 412 which takes you decisively south-west, passing under the bank of rocks which support the path 404, which we have just left. This stretch is also called "*sòte còrdes*" in *Cortina* dialect, i.e. under the ropes, because the rocky rib appears just like a cordon of ropes.

The path continues quite high up, passes the ruins of a shepherd's shelter and, at *Rozes*, 2183m, meets the military road which goes

Tofana di Rôzes



up towards the *Forcella Col dei Bòs*. Now, partly following the road and partly following the shortcuts, the 402 goes down to the south-west and comes on to the SS48 *delle Dolomiti* at *Ra Nona* (the ninth bend of the road), 1985m, where you can stop for refreshment.

Follow the SS road for about 300m southwards and, at a bend which cuts through a marshy area, take path 440 which goes sharply south, then east and then south-east for *I Casonàte*. Then, go up quite steeply, on a basically good path, firstly through sparse woodland, then through the little Potòr valley, reaching the large knoll of rock slabs mixed

with scree, sparse pastureland and a dirt-track road north of the *Monte Averàù*, not far from the *Rifugio Scoiattoli*, 2255m. You can avoid the road (numbered 439), by following the 440 which soon reaches the *Rifugio Averàù*, 2413m, near the *Forcella Nuvolàù*.

Following a good path up the sloping side of the mountain, you soon reach the beautiful esplanade of the summit with the *Rifugio Nuvolàù*, 2575m.

The *Rifugio Nuvolàù*, owned by the *Cortina d'Ampezzo* Section of the CAI, was built on the look out point of the *Cima Nuvolàù* in 1883 and later rebuilt in 1970. Exceptional stop-off point, offering fine hospitality and spectacular views at dawn and dusk. One of the most spectacular, boldest structures in

The south wall of the Cima Scottoni





*From the Rifugio Lagazuói towards the Pelmo*



Going up to the Rifugio Nuvolàu; on the left, the Cinque Torri



the Dolomites (high precipices drop down on three sides), it is open from 20th June – 30th September and offers basic hotel services. Sleeps 24; water inside; toilets outside; lighting with generator; CNSAS “118” Rescue Station. Tel : +39 0436 86 79 38.

## Variant I

### ■ Through the Galleria del Castelletto

From the *Forcella Col de Bòs*, 2331m, where path 402 goes down to the south east and the 404 continues to the east, take the path (sign table) which goes north-east and leads to the *Galleria del Castelletto*, a rock spur famous for its role in the Great War.

It was the pillar of the Austrian defence towards the *Val Travenànzes* and dominated the Italian positions of *Val Costèana*. At 3 o'clock on July 11th 1916, the peak of the *Castelletto* was blown up with 35 tonnes of nitrogelatine, with many casualties among the Austrian troops.

The gallery can be visited, obviously with a lamp, first conquering a rock wall equipped with metal ropes (traces of an encampment), then entering into the belly of the mountain, zigzagging up with a gradient of 100m in ascent and a development of some 500m,

with the help of wooden steps and a handrail. There are signs indicating the various weapon pits. You finally come out onto the rock face not far from the crater of the explosion.

If you would like to continue on to the *Ferrata Lipella*, proceed on the *Val Travenànzes* side along a long ledge downhill to the beginning of the metal ropes.

If you want to get back onto the *Alta Via n.1*, follow a ledge and go down by a route equipped with a metal rope, until you re-take the path which leads back to the *Forcella Col dei Bòs*, from where you continue as indicated for day four.

## Day five

### ■ From the Rifugio Nuvolàu to the Rifugio Città di Fiume

**Gradient:** in ascent 260m, in descent 915m

**Length:** about 11 km

**Time required:** 5,30 hours

**Path:** n. 438, 443, 436, 458, 467

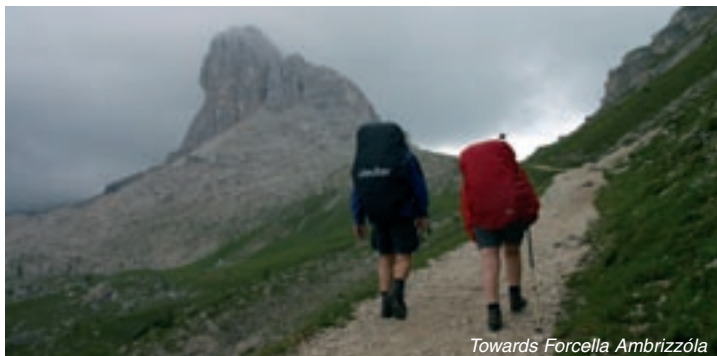
**Difficulty:** EE, EEA in the descent from the Rifugio Nuvolàu to the Passo Giàù.

From the *Rifugio Nuvolàu*, after a few metres, you go on to the south-west side of the summit esplanade where you go immediately down by a rock leap with the help of a ladder and some metal ropes. The trace of the path which follows is marked 438 and leads to a large valley scattered with grooved rock slabs, from which you go briefly up to a little crest ridge which leads to a gorge which goes down towards the *Giàu*.

The gorge is crossed by a path which conquers easy rock leaps (the less experienced should be prudent) and, at the bottom there are even some fixed ropes. Finally, the road leads to the left, at the top of a steep grassy ridge, parallel to the gorge, which you go down in sharp zigzags. At the bottom you touch on the gorge again, which you then immediately leave behind and go on to a convenient path which leads you through boulders and then pastureland, and finally onto the knoll which descends smoothly and easily down to the *Passo Giàù*, 2236m, where there is an excellent hotel and restaurant.

**1,15 hours** from the *Rifugio Nuvolàu*.





Towards Forcella Ambrizzòla

At the *Passo Giau* you immediately take to the south-east, beyond the road, path 436, which crosses the vast area of grassland and leads to the *Forcella di Zonia* and then enters and climbs up a valley west of the *Col Piombin* until the saddle of the same name, 2239m. Beyond the saddle you cross until you enter the wild *Val Cernèra*, which you cross to the east. With a final, easy, zigzagging climb you reach the large *Forcella Giàu*, 2360m, which was already visible from the *Passo Giau* and from where there is an extraordinary view over the *Lastoni di Formin*, the imposing base of the *Croda da Lago*, and the pock-marked stretch of pastureland which goes as far as the *Forcella Ambrizzòla*.

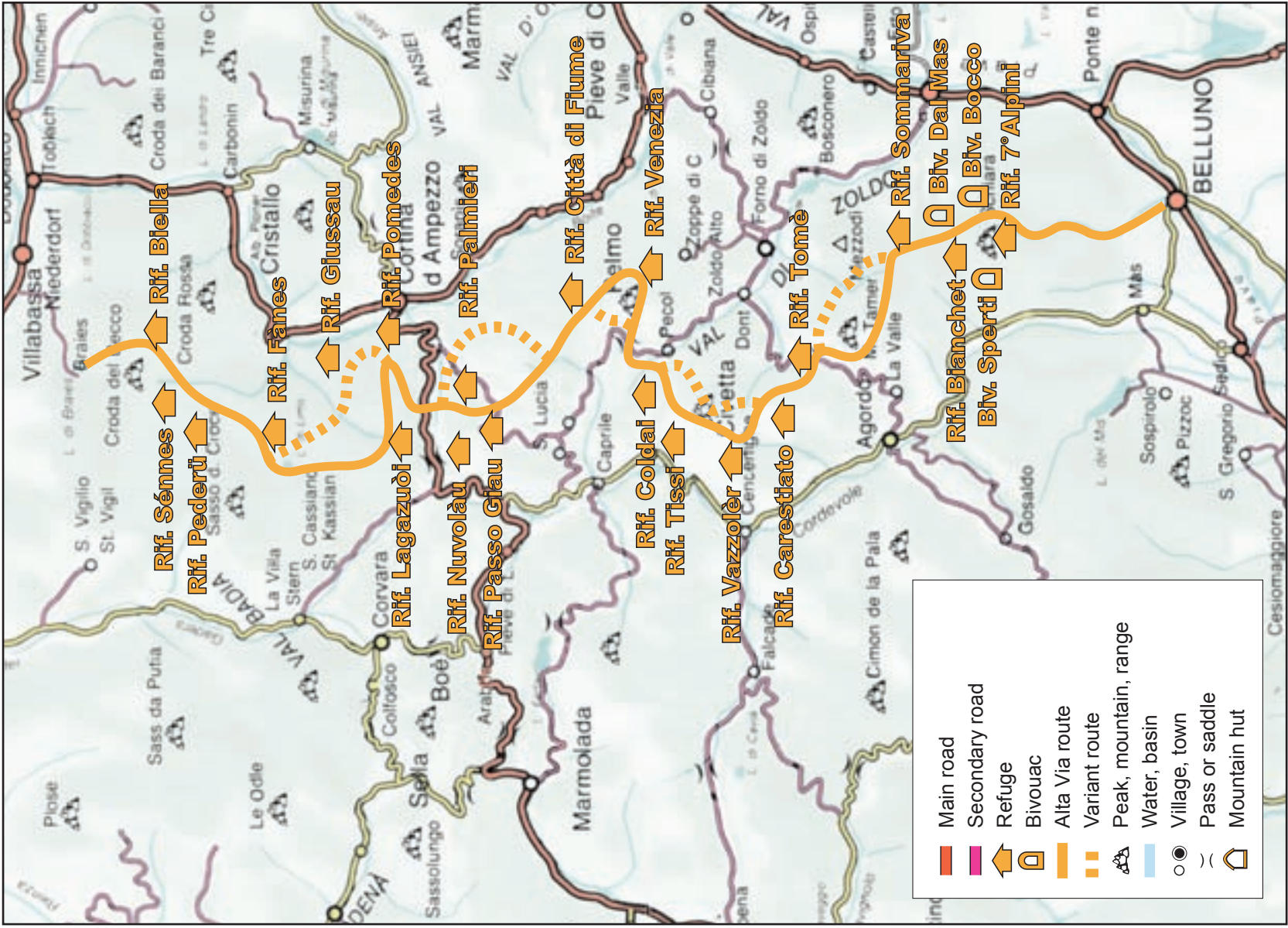
Passing under the vertical Dolomite walls of the *Lastoni* (or *Lastöi*), you pass some 50 metres of gradient above the clear waters of the *Lago Delle Baste*, 2281m, and then (at an altitude of 2175m), close by the mesolithic site of *Mondevàl* (worth a visit; it is fascinating) and the nearby *Casèra* (hut) *di Mondevàl di sopra*, 2158m, where you can find some simple shelter in case of necessity.

If you have stayed at altitude (i.e if you didn't go down to the site and the *casèra*), continue eastwards on path 436, until you go up a little and reach the *Forcella Ambrizzòla*, 2277m; if you set off from the *casèra* and then from the site, you cross the pasture, first to the south-east, then to the north-east on path n.446, and this will take you to the same saddle.

**2,45 hours** from the *Rifugio Nuvolàu*.

The *Rifugio Nuvolàu* from the peak of the *Averàu*







From the *Forcella Ambrizzòla* (from the saddle, go down path n.434 to the north for the *Rifugio Palmieri* and the *Lago de Fedèra* or *Lago da Lago*; see Variant 2), continue south, almost at altitude, on path n.436, which soon passes across the *Forcella Col Duro*, 2293m, from which you go down first among boulders, then pastureland, towards the *Casèra Prendèra*, 2148m.

Here the n.436 goes eastwards, and after passing under the four peaks of the *Rocchetta*, goes down to San Vito di Cadore.

Take the n.458 to the south -east, which goes to the *Forcella di Col Roàn*, 2075m, and then to the *Forcella Roàn*, 1999m. After a wooded

hillock, it reaches a pastureland shelf where you will find the *Forcella de la Puina* (= ricotta), 2034m, from where you can easily continue south-west until you reach the *Rifugio Città di Fiume*, 1918m.

**4,30 hours** from the *Rifugio Nuvolàu*

Owned by the *Fiume* Section of the CAI, the *Rifugio Fiume* is a renovation of the *Malga Durona*, carried out in 1964. Open from 15th June to 15th September (temporarily closed for maintenance work), it offers basic hotel services. Sleeps 25; electricity; hot water and shower; inside toilets; winter shelter sleeping 6; CNSAS 118 Rescue Station. Tel +39 0437 720268

*The Pelmo from Palafavèra*



## Variant II

### ■ From the Rifugio Nuvolàu to the Rifugio Fiume via the Rifugio Cinque Torri and the Rifugio Croda da Lago Palmieri

This stage is useful for those who prefer not to tackle the equipped route which goes down to the *Passo Giàu*, or for those who intend visiting the charming spot where the *Rifugio Croda da Lago Palmieri* is situated. This stage is straightforward and easy, but a bit longer than the one above, and it also does not contemplate the visit to the mesolithic site of *Mondevàl* (unless you go down for the purpose from the *Forcella Ambrizzòla*).

From the *Rifugio Nuvolàu*, go back northwards, on path 439, to the *Forcella Nuvolàu*, and take the little road (keeping to the 439) north-east until you come to a fork. To the left (north) you can soon reach the *Rifugio Scoiattoli*, 2255m (privately owned, basic hotel services, sleeps 42, open also in winter tel. 0436 867939), where the *Rifugio Bâin de Dònes* chairlift arrives at the SS48 *Dolomiti* road, convenient for anyone wanting to “give up”. Continue to the right (north-east) and you will soon reach the *Rifugio Cinque Torri*, 2137m.

The *Rifugio Cinque Torri*, just behind the small, majestic Dolomite towers, the pride of the Cortina basin, is privately owned. Open from June to September, basic hotel services, sleeps 16. Tel +39 0436 29 02.

From the *Rifugio Cinque Torri*, go down for a bit until you reach a fork. From here, follow to the right (east) a little road (still marked 439), which soon afterwards turns northwards in the direction of the SS48 road. You should instead continue to the east on path n.437 which goes down to the *Ponte* (bridge) *de Rucurto*, 1708m, on the SS638 road from the *Passo Giàu*.

After crossing the road, you should immediately re-take the 437 eastwards and go up a wooded hillock and a rock terrace, then pass the torrent of the *Val Formìn*, north of the *Croda da Lago* group. Here you will meet the good path – mule-track n.434. Take this path and

go up, first following some steep hairpin bends and then almost on the flat, through the *Val Negra*, until you reach the lovely spot where the *Rifugio Croda da Lago “Gianni Palmieri”* is situated, 2046m, on the southern edge of the romantic *Lago Fedéra* or *Lago da Lago*.

About **4 hours** from the *Rifugio Nuvolàu*.

The *Rifugio Croda da Lago* is owned by the *Cortina* Section of the CAI and is named in honour of *Gianni Palmieri*, who was awarded the Gold Medal of the resistance. It is built on the banks of a beautiful alpine lake, in whose waters are reflected the bold pinnacles of the *Croda da Lago* Group. Built in 1901 and renovated in 1947, it offers basic hotel services for 45 people and is open from 15th June to 20th September. Water inside; inside and outside toilets; shower; winter shelter for two people; CNSAS 118 Rescue station. Tel: +39 0436 20 85, info@crodadalago.it, www.crodadalago.it.

From the *Rifugio Croda da Lago – Palmieri*, take the convenient mule-track marked 434 to the south, which in about an hour will take you to the *Forcella Ambrizzòla*, 2277m, from where you continue for the *Rifugio Città di Fiume* as already described on day five.

**6,30** from the *Rifugio Nuvolàu*.

## Day six

### From the Rifugio Città di Fiume to the Rifugio Venezia and Palafavèra

<b>Gradient:</b>	in ascent 580m, in descent 990m
<b>Length:</b>	about 12 km
<b>Time required:</b>	5,30 hours
<b>Path:</b>	n. 480, 472, 474
<b>Difficulty:</b>	EEA on the "Gino Flaibani" Path, then E

From the *Rifugio Città di Fiume*, follow the good mule-track marked 480 to the south, which will soon take you to the *Forcella Foràda* (*Foràta*, on the map), 1977m. Leave the mule-track, which continues north-east for the *Val de Foràda*, and go southwards, still on the 480, on the "Gino Flaibani Path" (looked after by the *Fiume* Section of the CAI), which allows you to cross, and thus also to "circumnavigate" the massif of the *Pelmo*.

Go back on to the south-east and go up a steep gorge, follow sparse pastureland at altitude and go down a little until you reach a grassy shoulder which starts from the *Cima Foràda*.

On the right (south), the wild *Circo di Val d'Arcia* opens out; until just a few years ago it contained a small glacier.

From here a tiring ascent up the subsidence-prone cirque (with a splendid view over the superb northern walls of the *Pelmo*) and a final effort will take you to the *Forcella di Val d'Arcia*, 2476m, a little window on the great *Cadore* area.

**2,15 hours** from the *Rifugio Città di Fiume*

From the saddle, go down on the right (south-east), cross two imposing gravelly gorges and follow the good tracks to a large, clearly evident col with a large rock spur. From the col, descend diagonally down the huge stream of scree which comes down from the *Forca Rossa*, pass nearby the beginning of the *Cengia di Ball* (normal route for the peak of the *Pelmo*) and, continuing in a southerly direction, you reach the *Rifugio Venezia "Albamaria De Luca"*, 1946m.

**1,15 hours** from the *Forcella Val d'Arcia*

**3,30 hours** from the *Rifugio Città di Fiume*

The *Rifugio Venezia* is an excellent stop-off point for those who wish to extend by one day their *Alta Via* trip, or extend by a couple of hours the easy, fantastic next stage. The refuge is situated on a knoll at the *Sella* (or *Passo di Ruturto*, 1931m, in an enviable position offering fabulous views over the nearby *Cadore Dolomites* and at the base of the superb north-east pillar of the *Pelmo*. Departure point for the *Cengia di Ball* and the peak of the *Pelmo*.

Owned by the *Venice* Section of the CAI, the refuge was built in 1892 and renovated in 1954. Open from 20th June to 20th September, it offers basic, friendly hotel services. Sleeps 55, plus 9 in the winter shelter. Inside bathroom services with hot water and shower; lighting with generator; CNSAS 118 Rescue station. Tel : +39 0436 9684, email [rifugiovenezia@libero.it](mailto:rifugiovenezia@libero.it).

From the refuge a moderate climb southwards on path n.472 will soon take you to the *Sella di Ruturto*.

From here, continue to the south-west, with an easy traverse under the imposing walls of the southern shoulder of the *Pelmo* until the *Lac (Lach)*, where the *Val de Cuna* and the *Costàuta* meet at an altitude of c. 1968m. Now turn west, pass at the southern base of the imposing *Pelmetto* in the locality of *Le Mandre*, and you will come close to the *Col delle Crepe Cavaliere*, where path 472 continues for the *Passo Staulanza*.

Take path 474 to the left (north-west), on marshy ground, which just afterwards turns decisively to the south-west and goes down the *Val del Ru Bianco* until it comes out onto the SS251 road at *Palafavèra*, 1507m (*Pala Favera*, on the map), where you can find a few hotels-refuges and a campsite.

**2 hours** from the *Rifugio Venezia*

**5,30 hours** from the *Rifugio Città del Fiume*.

At *Palafavèra* the *Rifugio Monte Pelmo*, open from June to October, sleeps 9 and offers basic, friendly hotel services. Tel: +39 0437 78 93 59 ; email [sioux2001@tiscali.it](mailto:sioux2001@tiscali.it)

The *Rifugio Palafavèra*, which is a littler bigger, is open from June to October and in the winter season; it sleeps 25 and offers hotel services. Tel +39 0437 78 91 33 ; email: [info@palafavera.com](mailto:info@palafavera.com) website: [www.palafavera.com](http://www.palafavera.com)

The *Palafavèra* Campsite has 200 spaces (they do not rent tents) and a grocer's shop (useful for stocking up on any necessary supplies before the long *Civetta-Moiazza* traverse); tel +39 0437 78 85 06

## Variant III

### ■ From the Rifugio Città di Fiume to the Passo Staulanza

If for any reason you wish to end your *Alta Via* trip at the *Rifugio Città del Fiume*, or in the event of bad weather, for example, you prefer not to risk going round the *Pelmo* through the *Forcella Val d'Arcia* and the *Flaibani Path*, you can take, from the refuge, path n.472 (but also the road which goes via *Malga Fiorentina*, 1799m), which in an hour and a half takes you, after skirting to the west the scree of the large basin of the *Val d'Arcia*, to the *Passo Staulanza*, 1766m, on the SS251 road.

Refreshment available in the *Rifugio Passo Staulanza* (sleeps 25; Tel : +39 0437 78 85 66, email info@staulanza.it, website www.staulanza.it).

*Palafavèra* is just over 4km south from here and can be reached by the SS251 road.

**2,30 hours** from the *Rifugio Città di Fiume*.

## Variant IV

### ■ From the Rifugio Fiume to the Rifugio Venezia and Palafavèra

Until the *Passo Staulanza*, as for variant 3 in 1,30 hours.

From the pass, keep on the 472 (*Anello Zoldano*), pass the *Col delle Crepe Cavaliere* and, via the *Triól dei Cavai* (Horses' Path) and the *Sella di Ruturto*, you reach the *Rifugio Venezia*, 1946m.

From here, retracing your steps, you will reach *Palafavèra* in 2 hours, as described in Day Six.

**5,30 hours** from the *Rifugio Città di Fiume*.

## Variant V

### ■ From the Rifugio Fiume to the Rifugio Coldài via the Casèra Bèla Mont or Vescovà and Pioda

From the *Rifugio Fiume* to the *Passo Staulanza* as for Variant 3; **1,30 hours**.

From the pass, follow the SS251 road south –west for about 750m until you come to a fork on the right (west) from where a little road takes off, marked 568. Follow it until the fork at an altitude of c.1700m. The right branch (west) continues towards the *Casèra Fontanafredda*. Take the left branch (south-west), which goes to the *Casèra Monte Bòi Vescovà* or *Bela Mont* 1722m (refreshment), an hour from the *Staulanza*.

After you leave the road, follow path n.561 (*Anello Zoldano*) to the south-west, then south-east until you get back onto a little road at an altitude of 1885m. From here, about 400 metres further on, a path takes off to the right (west) which leads to the *Forcella di Alleghe*, 1816m, and to the nearby *Casèra di Pioda*; about one hour from the *Casèra Vescovà*.

From *Pioda*, take the good mule-track marked 556 and in less than an hour you will reach the *Rifugio Coldài*, 2132m.

**4,30** from the *Rifugio Città di Fiume*.

## Day seven

### ■ From Palafavèra to the Rifugio Sonino al Coldài, the Rifugio Tissi and the Rifugio Vazzolèr

**Gradient:** in ascent 850m, in descent 650m

**Length:** about 14 km

**Time required:** 6 hours

**Path:** n. 564,556,560(563)

**Difficulty:** E

From the SS251 road, after the *Palafavèra* Campsite, a little military road marked 564 (closed to cars) branches off to the west and leads to the *Casèra di Pioda*. From here, follow the good mule-track





*North-west wall of the Civetta*

marked 556 which goes up the wide, sparse pastureland to the Rifugio "Adolfo Sonino" at Coldài, 2123m.

About **2 hours** from Palafavèra.

The *Rifugio Sonino al Coldài*, built in 1911 and renovated in 1999, lies on the northern edge of the grand *Civetta* Group, at the head of the *Val de le Ziolère*, near the *Forcella Coldài*. It is owned by the Venice Section of the CAI, and is open from 20th June to 20th September. Basic hotel services, sleeps 83, plus 8 in the winter shelter. Inside toilets with hot water and shower; lighting with generator, CNSAS 1.18 Rescue Station. Tel: +39 0437 78 91 60

At the *Rifugio Sonino al Coldài* begins one of the most majestic stretches of the Alta Via n.1; it is not particularly tiring and presents no difficulties, and it includes the opportunity to see the great northern wall of the *Civetta*, the "Wall to end all Walls", the Wand der Wände, as it is called by the Germans, who are great lovers of this mountain.

From the refuge, you go up in a short time to the *Forcella Coldài*, 2191m, and descend the opposite side down the gravelly basin right on to the banks of the pretty *Lago Coldài*, 2143m, which reflects the bold rock walls above.


Going round the west bank of the lake you go up to the *Forcella di Col Negro*, 2203m, from where there is a magnificent view of the *Torre d'Alleghe* at the peak of the *Civetta*.

Now the path goes down a little into the *Val Civetta* proper, ignoring the traces which lead in the direction of the walls which are clearly visible from here, superb and striking. Then, from the hollow at 2030m, the path goes up again to the wide *Forcella del Col Reàn*, 2107m. Just before the saddle path n.563 takes off to the right (north-west) and leads, after a brief climb, to the *Rifugio "Attilio Tissi"*, 2250m, almost at the top of the *Col Reàn*, from where there is an incomparable view over the *Lago di Alleghe* to the north-west and the huge *Civetta* to the east.

**2 hours** from the *Rifugio Sonino al Coldài*

**4 hours** from *Palafavèra*.

The *Rifugio Tissi* is named after the excellent mountaineer and politician from *Belluno* and is owned by the *Belluno* Section of the CAI. It was built almost at the top of the *Col Reàn* in 1963 and extended in 1986. It is open from 20th



North-west wall of the *Civetta* from the *Piccola (little) Civetta*  
-at the bottom you can see the *Laghetto (little lake)* of *Coldài*





*Cantóni di Pelsa with the Torre Venezia (on the left) and the Torre Trieste (on the right)*



From the Rifugio Vazzolèr to the  
Rifugio Carestiato



June to 20th September, offers basic hotel services and sleeps 49, plus 6 in the winter shelter. Toilets and shower with hot water inside; lighting with generator, CNSAS 118 Rescue Station. Tel : +39 0437 72 16 44

From the *Tissi* it is best to go back to the *Forcella Col de Reàn* and take path n. 560 which descends firstly towards the south-west and then to the south towards the picturesque *Pian de la Lora*, passing by the what is left of the *Casòn de Col Reàn*, 1895m, dominated by the gigantic rock barriers of the *Cima De Gasperi*, *Su Alto* and *Terranova*. Going easily up, you reach the *Sella di Pelsa*, 1914m, with a charming view over the *Cantoni di Pelsa*, huge needles of twisted dolomite rock.

The splendid walk continues across the *Pian di Pelsa* under the western wall of the *Torre Venezia*, then you go down near the nearby green pastureland plain of the *Case Faretti* from where you enter a little road which runs under the imposing south wall of the *Torre Venezia*.

Lastly, you cross a thick wood and suddenly find yourself in the peaceful oasis where the *Rifugio "Mario Vazzolèr"* is situated, 1714m.

**c.2 hours** from the *Rifugio Tissi*

**6 hours** from *Palafavèra*.

The *Rifugio Vazzolèr*, owned by the *Conegliano Veneto* Section of the CAI, was built in 1929 and renovated in 1992. It is open from 15th June to 20th September, offers basic hotel services and sleeps 52, plus 8 in the winter shelter. Electricity. Outside and inside toilets, hot water and shower; CNSAS 118 Rescue Station. Tel: +39 0437 66 00 08, email [vazzoler@email.it](mailto:vazzoler@email.it).

## Day eight

### From the Rifugio Vazzolèr to the Rifugio Carestiatò

<b>Gradient:</b>	in ascent 550m, in descent 430m
<b>Length:</b>	about 8 km
<b>Time required:</b>	4 hours
<b>Path:</b>	n. 555,554
<b>Difficulty:</b>	E

After you leave the peaceful oasis of the *Rifugio Vazzolèr*, take the road which goes north for a bit, inside the wood, until you reach the bed of the torrent of the *Val dei Cantoni*, at an altitude of 1685m, where the path veers abruptly eastwards and continues towards the *Pian de le Taie* where there is the fork with path n.558 which goes up towards the huge *Torre Trieste*.

Continue down the dirt-track road which goes down the *Val Corpassa* until the *Capanna Trieste* and *Listolàde*, on the SS203 road, in the *Agordino* area. At the second large bend at an altitude of 1430m, at *Sass de la Dispensa*, with a little green pastureland clearing, path 554 breaks off to the left (south). Follow it, and after a stream of scree, the path goes up slowly across the hillside among the mugo pines under the high precipices of the *Castello delle Nevère*, then crosses a little valley, reaches a small shelf and continues under the threatening streams of scree (*Giarói* or *Ghiaoini del Palanzin*), until it reaches the grassy *Forcella di Col Palanzin*, c. 1700m

The path continues among the trees, then cuts through the scree on reddish outcrops and reaches the *Forcella Col dell'Orso*, c.1700m. Go through a grassy bank with some trees and continue behind the rocks to the *Forcella del Camp*, 1933m, from where the path, beyond the spur, goes northwards.

Up to this point, about **2,30 hours** from the Rifugio Vazzolèr.

Now cross under the *Tridente* and the beautiful *Torri del Camp*, from where the southern sector of the *Moiazza* is already visible. Go down to the east in the *Van dei Cantòi*, cross a wooded area, pass through *Le Stamère* and then, under the *Pala delle Masenàde*, without

On the *Forcella del Camp*





excessive gradients, go up the debris and trees to the *Col dei Pass*, where you will find the *Rifugio "Bruno Carestiato"*, 1834m.

**4 hours** from the *Rifugio Vazzolèr*.

The *Rifugio Carestiato*, owned by the *Agordo* Section of the CAI, was built in 1948 and renovated in 1971 on the *Col dei Pass* in a splendid position. It is open from 20th June to 20th September, offers basic hotel services and sleeps 34, plus 9 in the winter shelter (closed for maintenance work). Accommodation can be found at *Passo Duran*. Electricity with generator. Inside toilets, hot water and shower; CNSAS 118 Rescue Station. Tel: +39 0437 629 49.

## Day nine

### From the Rifugio Carestiato to the Rifugio Sommariva al Pramperét

**Gradient:** in ascent 450m, in descent 430m

**Length:** about 13 km

**Time required:** 5 hours

**Path:** n. 549, (SS347), 543

**Difficulty:** E

From the *Rifugio Carestiato*, continue on the little road marked n.549, first steeply north, then easily south and east. Cross the beautiful fields with gentle ups and downs, leave the road and take to the south east the path which goes decisively down towards the *Passo Duràn*, 1601m, which you will reach in about 45 minutes from the *Rifugio Carestiato*.

The *Rifugio Passo Duràn "Cesare Tomé"* is located right on the pass. It used to be owned by the *Agordo* Section of the CAI, and is now the property of the Alpine guide Soro Dorotei. It is open from 1st June to 30th September, and on non working days in May and October. It offers basic hotel services with local cooking and sleeps 22; no winter shelter. Electricity. Toilets and shower. Tel: +39 0437 651 99 or the manager on +39 0437 320 34, email soro.dorotei@libero.it.



Malga Moschesin

Near the pass you can also find the *Rifugio San Sebastiano al Passo Duran*, privately owned, sleeps 25 and is open all year; tel +39 0437 623 60, email info@passoduran.it, website www.passoduran.it.

From the *Passo Duràn*, go along the SS347 to the south, i.e. towards the *Agordino* area, for just over one and a half kilometres until the wide bend in the road at *Ponte sul Ru de Calèda*, c. 1500m, 20 minutes from the pass. From here you can look up and see the imposing towered bulk of the *Sass de Calèda*.

Leave the SS347 road and take path n.543 to the south, which in a short time goes up to the *Forcella Dagarèi*, 1620m, from where the path continues south east, keeping at an average altitude of between 1600 and 1700m. Beneath the *Tàmmer Grande*, you meet path n.594 which comes up from the *Casèra de la Rova*. Continue on the 543 which now goes southwards and climbs moderately up until it meets, at an altitude of about 1770m, path 544 which also comes from the *Casèra de la Rova*.

Keep to path n.543, which, towards the south-east, goes past the beginning of the 542 of the *Valle Ru* and goes on to the *Malga* (or *Casèra*) *del Moschesin*, 1800m (a reasonable shelter option in case of necessity) and then, uphill, the *Forcella del Moschesin*, 1940m, which looks out on to the harsh *Val Prampèr*; remains of a small barracks.

**4 hours** from the *Rifugio Carestiato*



Crossing the San Sebastiano group

Once you come down the saddle, after a few zigzags, take the *Sentiero* (path) *de le Balanzòle* to the right (east), which runs beneath the peak of the same name, at the edge of the scree, with gentle ups and downs, until you reach the ample grassy shelf of the *Pra de la Vedova* and the romantic *Rifugio Sommariva al Pramperét*, 1857m.

**5 hours** from the *Rifugio Carestiato*.

The *Rifugio Passo Duràn “Cesare Tomé”* is the property of the *Oderzo* Section of the CAI. The original structure dates back to 1923, and it was renovated in 1995. The beautiful, peaceful setting, the friendliness of the owner and the fine cooking make it a place to remember. It is open from 20th June to 20th September. It offers basic hotel services and sleeps 36 plus 6 in the winter shelter. Lighting with generator. Outside toilets and water inside. CNSAS 118 Rescue station. Tel: +39 337 528403.

**N.B.** From the *Val Prampèr* to the *Casa Bortòt*, you will be moving within the *Dolomiti Bellunesi* National Park, where it is compulsory to keep always on the marked paths and where you must behave appropriately in what is a veritable *sancta sanctorum* of Nature.

Make sure you know how walkers must behave within the park, and remember the wardens keep a careful and strict watch over visitors.

## Variant VI

### ■ The Zoldana Variant: from the Rifugio Passo Duràn Tomè to the Rifugio Sommariva al Pramperét.

From the *Rifugio Carestiato* to the *Rifugio al Passo Duràn “Cesare Tomé”*, as for the beginning of Day Nine.

From the *Passo Duràn*, go down a little to the north, about 300 metres, on the *Val di Zoldo* side, until you meet a flat mule-track which breaks off on the right (north-east) and which is marked 536 (*Anello Zoldano*; difficulty of the variant: EE)

The mule-track goes onto ridges covered with field and woodland, passes by a little torrent at an altitude of 1568m, and just after that meets path 539 which goes down into the *Zoldano* area. Keep on the 536, which goes east for a bit, then south until the *Forcella de le Barance*, 1688m, and after crossing the *Van dei Gravinài* almost at altitude, it zigzags up to the *Forcella de la Càure* (Càure = Goats), 1725m.

From the saddle, a short descent will take you to the shelter “*Baita Valentino Angelini*”, 1680m, at the locality of *I Scarselóin*.

**2,30 hours** from the *Passo Duràn Rifugio Tomè*.

The *Baita Angelini* is an attractive little wood and brick construction owned by the *Val di Zoldo* Section of the CAI, named after the brave mountaineer and academic Valentino Angelini, brother of Giovanni. Built in 1982, it can be used for an emergency stop and is always open. Water just a few metres away. For information, contact the *Val di Zoldo* section of the CAI on 0437 78100.

Path n.536, after a brief traverse, goes down steeply towards the area of *sòra’l Sass de San Bastiàn* and, at 1480m, turns east until it meets the 524 which comes up from *Pralongo*. Keep on the right, on the 536, which goes towards the north spur of the *Petorgnòn*. After passing the *Viàz de l’Ariosto* along a ledge and exposed rocks (EE), you will find yourself beyond the spur and the reach the bottom of

a large couloir. Go up it for a bit, and, at about 1600m, you come easily out onto a promontory. With some ups and downs, continue north-east and the east until the *Forcella Col de Michiel*, 1491m, which dominates the *Val Prampèr*, the *Pian dei Palù* and offers a magnificent view over the *Piz di Mezzodi*.

After the saddle the 536 goes down through a narrow couloir, then crosses southwards, high on the *Masarèi*, and joins the dirt-track road of the *Val Prampèr*, marked 523, at an altitude of 1480.

Follow the dirt-track southwards and you will reach the beautiful *Casèra* (or *Malga*) *Prampèr*, 1540m, which offers emergency shelter and outstanding views.

Continue south-east on the 523 along a good mule-track which goes diagonally up the slopes of the *Cima Prampèr* until it easily reaches the *Pra de la Vedova* and the *Rifugio Sommariva al Prampèr*, 1857m.

c.7 hours from the *Rifugio Carestiato*.

## Day ten

### ■ From the Rifugio Sommariva al Prampèr to the Rifugio Pian de Fontana

<b>Gradient:</b>	in ascent 540m, in descent 760m
<b>Length:</b>	about 6 km
<b>Time required:</b>	3 hours
<b>Path:</b>	n. 514
<b>Difficulty:</b>	EE

From the *Rifugio Sommariva al Prampèr*, cross the *Pra de la Vedova* back again towards east for a bit, then take the first path which breaks off to the left (south-west), marked 514. This path goes up the knolls among the mugo pines and then, higher up, cuts across the slopes of the western peak of the *Balanzòle* on the *Prampèr* side.

When you come to a ravine with strange rock slabs and little basins (water at the bottom), the path goes up the sloping pastures to the *Portèla del Piazedèl*, 2097m, south of the rocks of the eastern peak of the *Balanzòle*.



Towards the Schiara

Now proceed southwards, on the side of the Dantesque *Val Clusa*, and go through *I Piazediài* with its green oases and stretches of scree with rock slabs, until you come to a high clearing with tufts of grass and patches of flowers, scree and patches of snow at the beginning of the season, called the *Vant dei Piazediài*, c. 2050m.

From here, cross southwards in the direction of the green side of the *Barancòn*, then go up through debris and little rocks, zigzagging up to a little saddle at 2330m, from where the grand, wild *Valòn dei Erbàndoi* looms up.

Go up along the crest until you come to a grassy shoulder, then step-cut rocks, not difficult, from where a good, flat track cuts through the scree and reaches the *Forcella Sud dei Van de Città*, c.2395m. An imposing view opens out over the *Van de Città*, high basins which seem moon craters of a strange, harsh beauty; surely one of the most romantic places in the mountains.

*Le Presòn* (= the Prison), so-called because of some "cells" hollowed out into the rock, separates the *Van de Città* (*Zità*) *de entro* from the *Van de Città de fóra*; the *Alta Via* goes through the *Van de fóra*.

From the saddle, go down sparse pastureland and easy slabs until the bottom of the *Van*, under the *Forcella de Erbàndoi*, then go



up a first step and touch the underlying ravine, which you cross to the north-east until a grassy crag at 2030m, under *Le Presòn*.

Through harsh surroundings, rich in all kinds of flora, go down steep grassy cliffs (be careful if they are wet), until the underlying *Rifugio Pian de Fontana* and the *Bivacco "Renzo Dal Mas"* next to it, 1632m.

**3 hours** from the *Rifugio Sommariva al Pramperét*.

The *Rifugio Pian de Fontana* is located where there used to be an old shepherds' hut, built in 1935. The refuge was built in 1993 and the bivouac in 1994, from a rural building next to the refuge. It is owned by the Longarone Section of the CAI. It is open from 20th June to 20th September. It offers basic hotel services with local cooking and sleeps 26, plus 12 in the winter shelter and 6 in the *Bivacco "Renzo Dal Mas"* nearby. Lighting with generator. Inside and outside toilets with hot water and shower. CNSAS "118" Rescue Station . Tel. +39 335 6096819, website [www.goldnet.it/piandefontana](http://www.goldnet.it/piandefontana)

## Day eleven

### ■ From the Rifugio Pian de Fontana to the Bivacco del Màrmol

**Gradient:** in ascent 830m, in descent 195m  
**Length:** about 6 km  
**Time required:** 4 hours  
**Path:** n. 514  
**Difficulty:** EE and brief stretches of EEA at the Màrmol (Grades 1 and 2)

From the *Rifugio Pian de Fontana*, go south on path 514, cross the pasture and go to the col at 1592m, then zigzag rapidly down the wooded mountainside until you come to a fork at about 1500m. Path 520 goes down to the south, then the east, through the *Val de Ross*, while the 514 continues to the west and then to the south-east. Follow the 514, going immediately up to the south-west and then crossing south along the side of the mountain, zigzagging until you reach the precipitous edge with the *Forcella la Varetta*, 1704m, which

looks out onto a charming basin full of flowers and overlooked by the red crags of the *Talvèna*.

Opposite you can see the superb Schiara. Not far away is the *Casèra La Varetta*, 1709m, which can offer basic shelter if need be. Water nearby.

Now the excellent path cuts across the head of the *Val Vescovà* at altitude, passing beneath the *Cima della Scala*, above the crags, then zigzags steeply down to a fork where the 514 meets the 518 which comes from the *Rifugio Bianchet* (see Variant 7).

If you want to continue on to the *Bivacco del Màrmol*, follow path 514 which goes south, slightly uphill, to the *Casonèt de Nerville*, 1641m, a modest emergency shelter.

From the *Casonèt*, go up the head of the valley towards the *Forcella de Nerville* (but don't go as far as the *Forcella*), meeting a boulder with an old shepherds' hut. Then go into the ravine which is the base of the gully which goes down to the north, from the *Forcella del Màrmol*, between *Schiara* and *Pelf*.

Across karstic terraces you go into the gully which higher up presents rock leaps which are not difficult, and some patches of snow, and finally reach the *Forcella del Màrmol*, 2262m, immersed in harsh, wild surroundings. From here a fearsome icy gorge goes down to the north, which must be avoided at all costs, inviting as it may appear.

From the saddle, go slightly upwards to the right across rocks, following the good signs and, after a few little couloirs, go a little to the left and tackle a chimney. Now you are about 60 metres above the saddle and you must follow an equipped ledge to the left, then some chimneys, until, at a fork, you will see the signs for the climb to the peak of the *Schiara*.

From the fork (be careful in case of fog or snow), go down the *Belluno* side through rocks and grass until the edge of a large fissure with snow on the bottom. From here stretches of rock equipped with fixed ropes will soon take you to the *Bivacco del Màrmol "Sandro Bocco"*, 2266m (some say 2280m).

**4 hours** from the *Rifugio Pian de Fontana*.

The *Bivacco del Marmol*, owned by the *Dolo* Section of the CAI, was set up in 1968 and is dedicated to a member of the Alpine Regiment killed in action. It has 9 bunks; always open and unstaffed; water nearby, five minutes in the direction of the *via ferrata*. From the nearby eastern crest of the *Schiara* there is a magnificent view.

The bivouac offers the extraordinary opportunity to climb the peak of the *Schiara*, 2565m, in the morning, and enjoy one of the best views in the Dolomites. The climb takes about an hour, and there are some exposed stretches, but they are not particularly difficult from a mountaineering point of view. From the peak of the *Schiara* you can descend in four ways :

- 1- return to the *Bivacco del Marmol* and continue on the trail of the *Alta Via 1* as described for Day Twelve;
- 2- take the *Ferrata Berti* (South-west crest) down from the peak until the *Forcella della Gusèla* and the *Bivacco Della Bernardina*, and from here take the *Ferrata Zacchi* to the *Rifugio 7° Alpini*
- 3- from the *Forcella della Gusèla* along the *Sentiero Alpinistico* (Mountaineering Path) *Sperti*, the *Bivacco Sperti* and the *Rifugio 7° Alpini*
- 4- from the *Forcella della Gusèla* to the *Rifugio Bianchet*.

## Variant VII

### ■ From the Rifugio Pian de Fontana to the Rifugio Bianchet, the Val Vescovà and the SS Agordino Road

From the *Rifugio Pian de Fontana* until the fork where paths 514 and 518 meet, i.e. just before the *Casonét de Nerville*, as for Day Eleven.

Then you take path 518, which takes off to the right (south-west), around an altitude of 1600m, and goes steeply down into the Val Vescovà, Initially down a steep wooded mountainside, then a grassy basin surrounded by high crags which form the head of the valley. After the dry bed of a torrent and a grassy area, the path becomes good, goes through the wood and continues under the ruins of the *Casèra della Valle*, 1396m. It then comes out onto a field, crosses a little valley and soon reaches the *Pian dei Gatt* with the *Rifugio "Furio Bianchet"*, 1245m.

The *Gusèla del Vescovà*.  
At the bottom, *Bivacco della Bernardina*



The *Rifugio Bianchet* is in the beautiful clearing of the *Pian dei Gatt*, with the imposing walls of the *Schiara* and the charming *Gusèla del Vescovà* in the background. It is run by the Belluno Section of the CAI. It is open from 20th June to 20th September. It offers basic hotel services and sleeps 40, plus 6 in the winter shelter. Water inside; toilets with hot water and shower. CNSAS “118” Rescue Station. Telephone +39 0437 66 92 26.

From the refuge, take the dirt-track road through the forest, marked 503, which goes west, initially fairly straight and then with several bends, along the wooded *Val Vescovà*, until it reaches the SS203 Agordino road, at the locality of *Pinèi*, 486m.

**4 hours** from the *Rifugio Pian de Fontana*.

With this variant, you can conclude, in just eleven days, your adventure on the Alta Via delle Dolomiti n.1

## Day twelve

### ■ From the Bivacco del Marmol to the Rifugio 7° Alpini, Case Bortòt and Belluno

<b>Gradient:</b>	in ascent 100m, in descent 1570m until the Case Bortòt, 1770m until Bolzano Bellunese, 1900m until Belluno
<b>Length:</b>	about 9 km
<b>Time required:</b>	5 hours to Case Bortòt, 7 hours to Belluno
<b>Path:</b>	n. 514, 503, 501
<b>Difficulty:</b>	EE and EEA on the Ferrata del Marmol

From the *Bivacco del Marmol*, the simplest and most logical way to get down to the *Rifugio 7° Alpini* is to go via the *Ferrata del Marmol*. As is true for all the *ferrate*, intelligence, determination and common sense are essential, especially in foggy weather (which is common) or rain, or snow, which can happen even the middle of summer. The *ferrata*, which must not be underestimated (remember it is a rocky route with a gradient of 500 metres, in a harsh environment), is however safe, well maintained and well marked.

We feel obliged to point out that some hikers have found

themselves in serious difficulty here, because, having reached the bivouac late in the afternoon, and thinking that, with the help of the fixed ropes, the underlying refuge could be reached in the blink of an eye, they were caught unawares by nightfall or bad weather; the refuge is in fact at least two and a half hours from the bivouac (best to take into account three hours), and is not to be taken lightly even in ideal conditions.

In any case, Variant 7 remains a valid shortcut, but it is best to decide beforehand, without reaching the bivouac and from there doubling back.

From the bivouac, turn right (west), along a grassy ledge, then in a corridor with a fixed rope followed by a little hanging garden. Still following the fixed ropes, go down a few chimneys (ladders; exposed) and you will come to a little saddle. Nearby there is water in a cave.

The surroundings are spectacular, dominated by the yellow walls of the *Schiara*.

Avoid a gorge, keeping to the left (east) over scree and little drops (equipped). When you come to a ladder, you land on a grassy slope which you go down for a bit, then go right, where you will meet three ladders in succession (exposed stretch), which take you to the bottom of the deep gorge (at the beginning of the season there is still snow).

After a narrow ledge, you go onto the *Ferrata Zacchi* on the south wall of the *Schiara*. Go down it (it is well equipped where necessary, there are some exposed stretches). When you come into a deep gorge, you will find water and a marvellous view. Then you will suddenly find yourself at the end of the wall, right at the base, on grass, next to the characteristic, monumental *Portón*, at about 1780m.

From the base, in about an hour's descent down well marked grassy rock formations, you reach the *Rifugio 7° Alpini*, with the *Capanna Bivacco “Severini Lussato”* next to it.

About **3 hours** from the *Bivacco del Marmol*.

The *Rifugio 7° Alpini* was built at the *Pis Pilòn* in 1951 and renovated in 1970-75, while the nearby *Lussato* shelter dates from 1967, built on the

remains of an old shepherds' hut. It is owned by the *Belluno* Section of the CAI. It is open from 15th June to 25th September. It offers basic hotel services and sleeps 65, plus 5 in the winter shelter. Water inside; inside and outside toilets, hot water and shower; lighting with generator. CNSAS "118" Rescue Station. Telephone +39 0437 94 16 31, website [www.rifugiosettimoalpini.it](http://www.rifugiosettimoalpini.it).

The "*Severino Lussato*" hut / bivouac, dedicated to a mountaineer from *Belluno* who was killed on the *Tofane*, is an unstaffed shelter which can be used when the refuge is closed, or full.

From the *Rifugio 7° Alpini*, go down the col, known as *Il Calvario* or *Col de le Silimandre*, across the grassy rock plate along path 501, to the south, until you enter the romantic, solitary *Val d'Ardo*, in a deep hollow rich in woodland, craggy, cut across by a torrent which forms several emerald cascades: here, peace reigns.

When you come to the *Mariano* basin, 681m, cross a bridge and take the wide mule-track, high above the *Ardo*, which goes up a bit to an altitude of 770m, then goes gently down to the *Casa Bortòt*, 707m, where the valley opens out.

**2 hours** from the *Rifugio 7° Alpini*

**5 hours** from the *Bivacco del Marmol*

From Bolzano Bellunese, you can reach *Belluno* by taxi, hitchhiking or public transport.

If you are still determined to continue on foot, follow the road which goes down through pleasant fields until you make your "triumphal" entrance into the capital of the Dolomites, *Belluno*, 389m, where the *Alta Via delle Dolomiti n.1* comes to an end.

*Belluno*, with 70% of the Dolomite mountains, truly merits the definition of capital of the Dolomites. The city is beautiful, bright, industrious and hospitable.

The old part of the city has several splendid monuments which range from Pre-Roman and Roman to medieval and Renaissance, all of which are surrounded by beautiful squares and large gardens.

The historical centre can easily be visited in a few hours, perhaps at the end of your hike, when everything appears more beautiful, more interesting.

Well worth a visit is the beautiful *Piazza del Duomo* (Cathedral Square), with the splendid *Palazzo dei Rettori* (Rectors' Palace), which dates from the

15th century and today houses the Prefecture – a veritable jewel of refined art. Then there is the *Municipio* (Town Hall), in Veneto style, and the cathedral with its noteworthy Baroque belltower, by *Juvarra*, 68 metres high and completed in 1743. Also interesting is the *Museo Civico* (Municipal Museum), in the same square, which contains interesting Roman and Pre-Roman relics, important paintings, sculptures and engravings and local historical relics from various eras.

Another charming spot is the *Piazza del Mercato* (Market Square), the most characteristic medieval and Renaissance corner of *Belluno*, with a typical *Belluno*-style fountain and the nearby *Porta Dojona* (Dojona Gate).

The *Chiesa di Santo Stefano* (St. Stephen's Church) is one of the most important monuments in the city, a fine example of Italian Gothic architecture, completed in 1486, with the Roman sarcophagus of *Flavio Ostilio* at the side, bearing the motto "Ricordati sempre dei monti" (Always remember the mountains).

The heart of the city is the grand "*Piazza dei Martiri*" (Martyrs' Square), where the locals enjoy an evening stroll alongside beautiful, well-maintained gardens.



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### **Carte Tabacco 1:25.000**

- Map n. 031 "Dolomiti di Bràies",  
*for the stretch from the Lago di Bràies to the Rifugio Fànes;*
- Map n. 03 "Cortina d'Ampezzo e Dolomiti Ampezzane",  
*for the stretch from the Rifugio Biella to the Forcella Ambrizzòla*
- Map n. 015 "Marmolada-Pelmo-Civetta-Moiazza",  
*for the stretch from the Passo Falzarego to the Rifugio Carestiat*
- Map n. 025 "Dolomiti di Zoldo Cadorine e Agordine",  
*for the stretch from the Forcella Ambrizzòla to the Bivacco del Marmol*
- Map n. 024 "Prealpi e Dolomiti Bellunesi",  
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## Refuge stamps

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## Refuge stamps

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# Information

## **Provincial administration**

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Fax +39 0437 940073, mail@infodolomiti.it, www.infodolomiti.it

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Piazza Parrocchia, 11 – 39100 Bolzano – Tel. +39 0474 999999  
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## **Tourist Association – Dobbiaco**

Via Dolomiti,3 – 39034 Dobbiaco (BZ)- Tel. +39 0474 972132  
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fax +39 0437 958716, belluno@infodolomiti.it - www.infodolomiti.it

For problems regarding bookings, confirmations, cancellations, opening and closing periods of mountain huts, etc., you can also contact, apart from the respective managers of course, the Italian Alpine Club Sections who own the properties. For the refuge telephone numbers and those of their managers refer to the text



# Italian Alpine Club Sections

## **Treviso**

31100 Piazza dei Signori, 4 - Tel. +39 0422 54 08 55 from the Rifugio Biella

## **Cortina d'Ampezzo (BL)**

32043 Via G. Marconi, 18a - C.P. 239

for the Nuvolàu and Croda da Lago refuges

## **Fiume-Venezia**

30124 Venezia San Marco 2725- Tel. +39 041 5 22 12 54

for the Rifugio Città di Fiume

## **Venezia**

30124 San Marco 2725 - Tel. +39 041 5 22 12 54

for the Venezia and Coldài refuges

## **Belluno**

32100 Piazza San Giovanni Bosco, 11- Tel. +39 0437 93 16 55

for the Tissi, Bianchet, 7° Alpini, Capanna Lussato refuges

## **Conegliano Veneto (TV)**

31015 Via Rossigni, 2A- C.P. 54 - Tel. +39 0438 2 40 41

for the Rifugio Vazzolèr

## **Àgordo (BL)**

32021 Piazzale G. Marconi, 13 - Tel. +39 0437 6 29 04

for the Rifugio Carestiatò

## **Oderzo (TV)**

31046 Via Comunale di Fratta, 35 - Tel. +39 0422 71 63 54

for the Rifugio Sommariva al Pamperèt

## **Forno di Zoldo (BL)**

32012 Via Roma, 70 - Tel. +39 0437 7 81 00

for the "Valentino Angelini" hut

## **Longarone (BL)**

32013 Piazza IV Novembre, 1 - Tel. +39 0437 57 65 61

for the Rifugio Pian de Fontana and Bivacco "Renzo Dal Mas"

## **Dolo (VE)**

30031 Via Brusaura, C.P. 87

for the Bivacco del Màrmol "Sandro Bocco"