

ITALO ZANDONELLA CALLEGHER

# **The Dolomites ‘Alta via’ n.5**

*or “Alta Via di Tiziano”*

**as created by Toni Sanmarchi**

High Mountain Paths  
from Sesto in Pusteria to  
Pieve di Cadore



**Front Cover:**

The Antelao, king of the Dolomites

**Inside Cover 2**

The Torre dei Sabbioni

**Inside Cover 4**

From the left: The Campanile di Selvapiana  
and the Campanili 1 ,2 and 3 di Popèra

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## General notes

" The *Alta Via n° 5* is dedicated to Tiziano Vecellio (Titian) the greatest of the Veneto painters, who took inspiration from the powerful outline of the mountains and the *Marmaròle* which dominate his home town of *Pieve*, enabling him to enrich the background of his extraordinary landscapes. The *Alta Via n° 5* partially crosses over the *Marmaròle* and has an extremely interesting mountaineering itinerary. In the heart of the *Marmaròle* there is an magnificent old refuge, which has the name Tiziano, and there is also a peak that is named after him. The "*Alta Via*" ends in *Pieve di Cadore*, where Titian was born in a humble house, well worth a visit to pay homage".

This is what the unforgettable "*Captain Barancio*", alias Toni Sanmarchi, wrote in both previous editions (1973 and 1979 Tamari Ed., Bologna) of his precious guide, called the "*Alta Via di Tiziano*". But 30 years before that, around 1942, he had already began useful explorations in the area; (see *Dalle Marmaròle al Sorapiss*, in "The Italian Alpine Club's monthly magazine", n° 1-2, 1946, from page 3 to page 9). At that time he had thought out the complicated traverse of the *Marmaròle*, using all of his energy, and that of his numerous friends from the Cadore (Cornaviera, De Polo, Cortellazzo, Da Re, Frescura...) in the tiring search for plausible passage-ways among valleys and saddles, between refuges and ideal places to pitch a bivouac, among passes and ridges...It was only later by drawing on ideas from the list of dolomite routes put forward by Mario Brovelli in an article that appeared in "*Lo Scarpone*" on 1st September 1966 (where he also named the route "*Via di Tiziano*") that he described this splendid traverse that, from the beautiful *Sesto in Pusteria*, crossing the imposing and famous dolomite peaks of *Croda dei Tòni*, *Popèra*, *Marmaròle* and *Antelao*, leads to gentle *Pieve*, the historical capital of the Cadore.

This *Alta Via*, just like its other famous sister trails, features long treks divided into various daily walks. Mountain huts and fixed bivouacs (even a tent and a sleeping bag) offer comfort at the stop off points.

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 bit rough are always equipped.

However, on the *Marmaròle*, 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 place remains extraordinary and unique. The same thing goes for the mountain-climbing variant that climbs up the *Popèra*! To suit the tastes of more expert hikers, some alternatives to the classic route are suggested (variants). These are more technical and gratifying hikes, which go along *vie ferrate* (equipped paths) or climb up to reach the famous peaks of 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, Toni Sanmarchi's words are still true. In fact one can say with satisfaction that things have remained nearly the same.

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 German authors have modified the original route, adapting it to their own personal taste, for general tourism needs and that of their guidebook users. In some places the original Italian route has been drastically altered, with strange diversions, making the *Alta Via* excessively long: more than fourteen days instead of seven, with some stretches reduced to only three quarters of an hour in one day! It's true that this would be ideal for holidays; relaxing and enjoyable, but we have preferred to remain faithful to "the old days",

even if this means that some stretches may seem a bit severe in length.

In comparison with Toni Sanmarchi's guide, published in two editions, at this point 30 years old and now unobtainable, we have also 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 Toni Sanmarchi, alias "*Captain Barancio*".

## ■ 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 clearness, above all because it 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 spread out 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, especially the refuges *Zsigmondy-Comici*, "*Giosuè Carducci*" and *Popèra*-"*Antonio Berti*".

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.

***The Croda De Marchi  
in the western  
Marmaròle***





## Useful advice for hikers

### ■ Precautions - Equipment

The network of paths used by the “Alta Via” 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 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 (*Arabba 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 speciality 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’s a good idea to carry some medicine and first aid equipment with you, especially common ones such as: painkillers, Vitamin C, supplements, plasters, gauze, bandages....

**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.



*The equipped ridge which  
leads into the Val di  
Mezzo on the "Strada  
Sanmarchi" in the  
Marmaròle*



## Alpine rescue services

*(by Fabio Bristot, President of the 2nd Zone, Belluno Delegation)*

In this section, the C.N.S.A.S. (National Corporation of Alpine and Speleological Rescue) of the 2nd Belluno Delegation Zone would like to explain to the members of *Dolomiti Emergency* what the institutional aims of our organisation are: in other words, what Alpine Rescue is and what it does.

We have also tried to offer some information and useful advice that might seem trivial at a first glance and is normally taken for granted, as well as providing a basis for further research. This is to help people understand how our structure is organised and improve knowledge of Belluno Alpine Rescue's work.

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) and which require the work of personnel specialised in both mountaineering techniques and mountain rescue.

The recent 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, all year round (particularly in the summer months) service, with on-going training and compulsory drills on the rock face ( with or without helicopter help), 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 access or movement problems, or in special weather conditions, require the work of qualified personnel that have expertise in all areas of mountaineering and speleological techniques and rescue.

## Prevention

Aside from the above factors that require a strong presence in the area, in order to guarantee the primary rescue of people, 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 (Mountain 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 necessary information in advance regarding destination or route, 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, energy giving food (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 isn't 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 C.N.S.A.S. Belluno throughout the Belluno district, 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 suspended cables that could get in the way.
- Give any other information that could aid the operation (peo-

ple present, particular difficulties etc.)

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

- As for previous point 1.
- Supply the exact location of the accident or where the injured can be found (mountain group, slope, path, via ferrate, 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 (Mountain Guide, C.N.S.A.S. staff, others etc.).

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

- As for previous point 1.
- 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**

- As for previous points 1 and 2.
- Give the exact or presumed number of people swept away or buried.
- Specify the brand and model of A.R.V.A. apparatus and/or other technology.
- 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 particulars that can help the intervention. (f.b.)

Keep in mind that the refuges located along the *Alta Via n. 5* are equipped with public telephones; in addition all refuge managers are trained to help send correct and quick requests to Mountain 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 audible 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 Mountain 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 that are about 2m long using contrasting stones placed on the ground, or footprints in the snow.

When giving the helicopter instructions to land, keep the following in mind: with the 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!

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.**

## Route signs

Along all the routes, the hiker can find three types of signs at all the main points:

- Red triangle with the *Alta Via* number inside (in this case 5); this type of sign is less common than the following:
- Path sign consisting of two horizontal red stripes with a white stripe in the middle on 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.

# Technical details

## Itinerary

Recommended period	<b>from the end of June until the end of September</b>
Departure point:	<b><i>Sesto in Pusteria</i></b>
Arrival Point:	<b><i>Pieve di Cadore</i></b>
Walking days:	<b>7</b>
Route Length:	<b>about 90 kilometres</b>
Refuges on the main route:	<b>7</b>
Bivouacs on the main route:	<b>3</b>
Refreshments on the way:	<b>3 (<i>Fiscalina, Auronzo</i>)</b>
Longest stretch:	<b>the fifth, 9 hours</b>
Shortest stretch:	<b>the second, 3 hours</b>
Total time required (excl. variants):	<b>about 38 hours</b>
Difficulty:	<b>EE and EEA (some equipped stretches; iron ways on the variants)</b>
Total Gradient in ascent:	<b>about 5700 metres</b>
Total Gradient in descent:	<b>about 6100 metres</b>
Maximum Gradient in ascent:	<b>1152m, from <i>Ponte da Rin</i> to the <i>Forcella Paradiso</i></b>
Maximum Gradient in descent:	<b>1538m, from the <i>Forcella Giralba</i> to the <i>Ponte da Rin</i></b>
Maximum Height:	<b><i>Forcella Jau de la Tana</i>, 2644 metres</b>
Minimum Height:	<b><i>Auronzo di Cadore</i>, 866 metres</b>
Mountain ranges involved:	<b>4</b>
Hut opening periods:	<b>from about 20th June – 20th September</b>
Signposts:	<b>good everywhere</b>

**Recommended maps** (in order of use) - Tabacco Map 1:25.000,

n. **010 “*Dolomiti di Sesto*”,**

for the stretch from *Sesto* to *Ponte da Rin*;

n. **017 “*Dolomiti di Auronzo e del Comèlico*”,**

from *Ponte da Rin* to the *Rifugio Baión*;

n. **016 “*Dolomiti del Centro Cadore*”,** for the stretch from the *Rifugio Baión* to *Pieve di Cadore*.

***From Sesto-Sexten  
towards the Cima  
Undici and Croda dei  
Toni***





## Itinerary

The "Alta Via delle Dolomiti n° 5", or *Tiziano*, which winds from *Sesto in Pusteria* to *Pieve di Cadore*, can be divided into three distinct parts, corresponding to the main mountain ranges crossed:

*Croda dei Tóni and Popèra;  
Marmaròle;  
Antelao.*

**SESTO IN PUSTERIA-SEXTEN** "probably gets its name - writes Sanmarchi - from a group of six houses which have been at the entrance to the *Val Campodidentro* since the early middle ages". The name *Sexta* appeared for the first time to label a stopping place situated on the *Passo* (pass) di *Montecroce* road. The term *Sechstén* figured soon after in a land document from 1360 and the present term *Sexten-Sesto* probably derive from that.

The *Sesto* valley is the most eastern of the Alto Adige valleys. Starting from *San Candido* it extends for about 15 kilometres in a southeastern direction and ends at the *Passo di Montecroce Comèlico*. Narrow and woody at the lower end, the valley spreads out encompassing a fertile basin along which the various hamlets of the municipality are scattered: *Ferrara-Schmieden*, *San Vito-St. Veit* with parish church and town hall, *Moso-Moos*, *Monte di Dentro-Innerberg*, *Monte di Mezzo-Mitterberg*, *Monte di Fuori-Aussberg*. The village of *San Vito* has various public offices and tourist services among which you can find Mountain Rescue and Guides. It is a resort with a lot of hotels, B&Bs, chemists, doctor and banks.

Things to see: the Parish Church dedicated to *San Vito* consecrated a martyr in 1384; the cemetery with frescos by *Stolz*, depicting the *danse macabre* and decorating the arches; the sepulchre monument to *Sepp Innerkofler*, who fell on the *Patèrno* in 1915.

***The Val Fiscalina  
with the Croda dei  
Toni***



# Description of the walks

## Day one

### ■ From Sesto-Sexten to the Zsigmondy-Comici refuge and the "Giosuè Carducci" refuge.

From *Sesto-Sexten* (1316m) the more "obstinate" can leave on foot, others by car following the SS 52 road to the southeast for the *Passo di Monte Croce Comèlico*. After arriving in *Moso-Moos* (1339m) you go to the right (south west) along the tarmac road, which penetrates into the *Val Fiscalina-Fischleintal*; the tarmac ends at Dolomitenhof a *Campo Fiscalino* (1454m) where there is a large car park.

Along the dirt track road (cars are forbidden to pass) marked 102 and 103, you continue on a nice walk as far as *Capanna di Fondovalle-Talschlufshütte* (1548m) from where you go to the right into the woods. Once you have reached the fork with *Val Sassovecchio* (chart), you take the path marked 103 to the left and begin to climb up the low mugo pine base of the *Cima* (peak) *Una* where there are a lot of easy switch-backs. After a few zigzags and a stretch at altitude, with one last steep leap you reach the *Rifugio Zsigmondy-Comici* at 2224 metres.

**2 hours** from the car park in *Val Fiscalina*.

Owned by the Padua Section of the Italian Alpine Club, the "*Emil Zsigmondy-Emilio Comici*" refuge is situated in the magnificent boundary cirque of the *Val Fiscalina Alta-Bacherntal*, in sight of the north walls of the *Croda* (crag) *dei Tóni-Zwölferkofel* and the eastern slope of the *Cima Undici-Elferkofel*. Dedicated to two great mountaineers, one Austrian the other Italian. It offers the same services as a small hotel and is open from 25th June to 25th September. It has 98 beds available. Book on 0474 71 03 58 or contact the manager on 0474-71 04 13. Winter apartment with 6 beds.

***The imposing Cima  
Uno at the beginning  
of the Alta Via 5***





From the *Rifugio Zsigmondy-Comici* you descend for a while on the path 101 as far as the hollow where the *Rio Fiscalino-Bachernbach* (2179m) starts. You then climb upwards, cutting across the scree that is spread out below the overhanging *Croda dei Tóni* passing a bit above *Lago Ghiacciato* (2328m), by now reduced to a muddy pool. Here there is a fork. Carry on to the right on the path marked 103; the 101 on the left leads to the *Strada degli Alpini*, which is only of interest to those who decide to do the fantastic VARIANT II.

Continuing up the relatively easy crumbly slope you soon arrive at the wide and rocky *Forcella* (saddle) *Giralba* (2431m), which is spread out between the *Croda dei Tóni* and the *Popèra*. From here, in about 15 minutes, you descend to the visible "*Rifugio Giosuè Carducci*" (2297m), in the upper *Val Giralba*.

**1.15 hours** from the Rifugio Zsigmondy-Comici.

**3.15 hours** from the car park in Val Fiscalina.

The "*Giosuè Carducci*" refuge is owned by the "*Cadorina*"-Auronzo di Cadore C.A.I. Section and is dedicated to the great Italian poet, author, amongst others of the famous "*Oda al Cadore*". It offers the same services as a small hotel and is open from 20th June to 20th September. It has 25 beds. Book on 0435-40 04 85 or contact the manager on 338-8 83 80 59.

Two variants to the main itinerary are highly recommended in this guide; variants that are closely connected with the continuation and the completeness of the traverse and which are able to satisfy even the most demanding walker due to their surroundings, mountaineering interest and impressiveness.



***Going up to the  
Zsigmondy Comici  
Refuge towards the  
Croda dei Toni***



## Variant I

### A trek round the Croda dei Tóni

After having reached the *Rifugio Zsigmondy-Còmici* (2 hours from the *Val Fiscalina* car park) follow the path marked 101 towards west ascending with wide curves up to the *Passo Fiscalino-Oberbachern Joch* (2519m). Here there is a great view of *Popèra* and *Croda dei Tóni*; about 1 hour from *Rifugio Zsigmondy-Comici*. From the above pass you can reach the *Rifugio Pian di Cengia-Büllelejochhütte* (2528m) in about 15 minutes. A very pretty and privately owned building and which operates like a small hotel in the summer with 12 beds.

From the *Passo Fiscalino* descend directly south until you join the path marked 107 coming from *Laghi di Cengia* at 2414 metres (you can get to here in an easier but more time-consuming way by continuing on from the *Passo Fiscalino* up to the *Rifugio Pian di Cengia* then to the nearby *Forcella Pian di Cengia* to take the path marked 104 which leads you to the above height of 2414 metres). On the easy path marked 107 you arrive at the *Passo del Collerena* (2491m) then, after an enjoyable traverse, you reach the *Forcella della Croda dei Tóni-Zwelferscharte* at 2524 metres. At this point the path winds moderately across the gravely pedestal of the *Croda dei Tóni*, slightly undulating across a very steep gully and carries on over gravel at the base of the *Cima Antonio Berti* and the *Cima d'Auronzo* until it reaches, after a few bends, the *Forcella dell'Agnello* at about 2578 metres;

**1.30 hours** from the *Passo Fiscalino*;

**2.30 hours** from the *Rifugio Zsigmondy-Comici*.

The Bivacco “*Antonio e Tonino De Toni*” is located immediately behind the saddle at 2578 metres. It was erected in 1960 in memory of an uncle and nephew who were killed in action, the first on *Monte Piana* during the First World War and the second in Russia during the last war. It is owned by the Padua CAI Section, has 8 beds and is always open but unstaffed.





***The Croda dei Toni  
where the VARIANT  
I of the Alta Via 5  
passes***



From the bivouac you need to descend for about 570 metres keeping behind the basal rocks of the *Cima d'Auronzo* following with care the 107 until you meet a few ledges (a tricky stage); height about 2005 metres. Here you find yourself above the impressive *Val Gravasecca*, which is among the most fearful of the Dolomites and for this reason you absolutely must not descend it. Once you have crossed over the stream that has the same name and is nearly always dried up, you arrive at a grassy terrace. Along some tracks you go up along a narrow, crumbly gully until the *Forcella Maria* (2351m) between the *Punta Maria* and the *Cima Pezziós*; **3 hours** from the *Bivacco De Toni*; **5.30 hours** from the *Rifugio Zsigmondy-Comici*.

At this point the path cuts across the very steep slopes of *Punta Maria* (be careful) until you come to a wide knoll from where you go down briefly to reach the *Rifugio "Giosuè Carducci"* at 2297 metres;

**1 hour** from the *Forcella Maria*.

**6.30 hours** from the *Rifugio Zsigmondy-Comici*.

**8.30 hours** from the car park in *Val Fiscalina*.

## Variant II

### ■ A walk around the Popèra and a climb up to the top of the Croda Rossa

More than just a variant, this is a mountaineering itinerary in itself, requiring an overnight stay at the *Rifugio al Popèra* "Antonio Berti". The route is rather long and complicated, not without difficulty and requires care, experience, ability, and training, good weather conditions and good kit. Especially at the beginning of the season, or after snow, which can fall even in August, it can be useful to have, both on the *Strada degli Alpini* to the north of the *Cima Undici* and on the *Ferrata* (path) *Zandonella a Croda Rossa*, ropes and lightweight crampons. The equipment on the *Strada degli Alpini* can generally be used from the 10th July up to the first snowfall.

This variant combines well with the *Alta Via n. 5*; indeed, in our opinion, it integrates, enriches and excellently completes it, even if it requires at least one more day than the normal walking schedule. It would be a real shame not to visit this environment, which is so unique and magnificent that, together with the central-western *Marmaròle*, it can be considered the best part of the *Alta Via*.

From the *Rifugio Zsigmondy-Comici* you follow the path marked 101 up to the *Lago Ghiacciato* (2328m); at the fork you take the 101 to the left, climb up the big hillside of *La Lista*, go down for a bit into the opposite valley and traverse the foot of the *Busa di Dentro* northwards until you meet the *Strada degli Alpini* at the edge. You can also get to here from the *Rifugio "Giosuè Carducci"* on the path marked 103 up to the *Forcella Giralba*, then on the tracks that lead to *Busa di Dentro*.

The *Cengia della Salvezza*, as it was called during the war, then becoming the *Strada degli Alpini*, cuts across an overhanging rock face, passes a deep, exposed and evocative gorge, continues along a series of big natural footholds, traverses a few narrow gullies, helped by fixed ropes, and turns towards the lower edge of the *Busa di Fuori*. At this point, cutting across the western slope of the *Cima Undici*, over the large gravelly terraces you reach *Forcella Undici* at 2600 metres. Here you can



find a Crucifix. The hardest part of the *Strada degli Alpini* starts here.

The path carries on along an extremely narrow ledge and cuts along the north wall of *Cima Undici* criss-crossed with four notable gullies almost always covered by hard snow. This stretch is helped by fixed ropes, ladders and little wooden bridges. Remember that this apparatus is partially removed at the end of the season while at the beginning it is often difficult to find some ropes because they are buried in the snow. Finally, climbing up over uneven rock, then traversing almost at altitude, you reach the *Passo della Sentinella* (2717m) where the magnificent *Vallòn Popèra* appears lying in the hollow between the group of the *Croda Rossa* and the dolomite barriers of *Cima Undici* and *Monte Popèra*.

To get up to here and not climb up to the top of the *Croda Rossa* using the *Ferrata* (equipped path) "*Mario e Giuliano Zandonella Callegher*" is a real shame. If the weather is good and you left early enough from the *Rifugio Zsigmondy-Comici*, this is the perfect time to do it!

From the *Passo della Sentinella* you go down for a bit over gravel up to a little cavern at the side of the path. Here there is a track that traverses high up over debris from the *Croda Rossa*; follow this track, which has some awkward stretches, staying just below the walls, until you get to the *Cavernette*, natural red-coloured ravines, used by the Alpine troops during the First World War. At a final cavern there is a stone plaque in memory of Giuseppe Mazzotti, who had real affection for this crag and a little further up on the right, is the beginning of the *Ferrata Zandonella*, conceived and designed by the Val Comèlico CAI Section in memory of two great mountaineers from *Comèlico* who tragically died.

The *ferrata* consists of two sections. The first, which begins from a wartime cavern-shelter (with a stone plaque dedicated to the two Zandonella brothers) is normally done in ascent, following an iron ladder, fixed ropes and where you can meet varies remnants from the war during the climb, as well as on the ledge and at the summit. The route is quite hard, especially during the first part, which is vertical; then it becomes easier and leads you without difficult to one of the peaks at 2939 metres.

The second section descends vertically to the east, touching the East Cirque. Traverse it on snow below the bold *Guglie* (needles) of

the *Croda Rossa*, go back up a ridge which rises up from the *Forcella* then move on to a ledge, which wraps southwards round the three *Guglie* (needles). Continue along this ledge, which was constructed during the war, until you finally descend to the gravel river. From here you can easily go down towards the *Sasso* (rock) *Fuoco* where you meet the path marked 101. Following this you reach the *Laghetto Popèra* (2142m) from where, along a good mule-track, you walk through the splendid *Vallón Popèra* until you get to the *Rifugio "Antonio Berti"* at 1950 metres.

**56 hours** from both the *Rifugio Zsigmondy-Comici* and the *Rifugio Carducci*.

**89 hours** if you also do the *Ferrata Zandonella*.

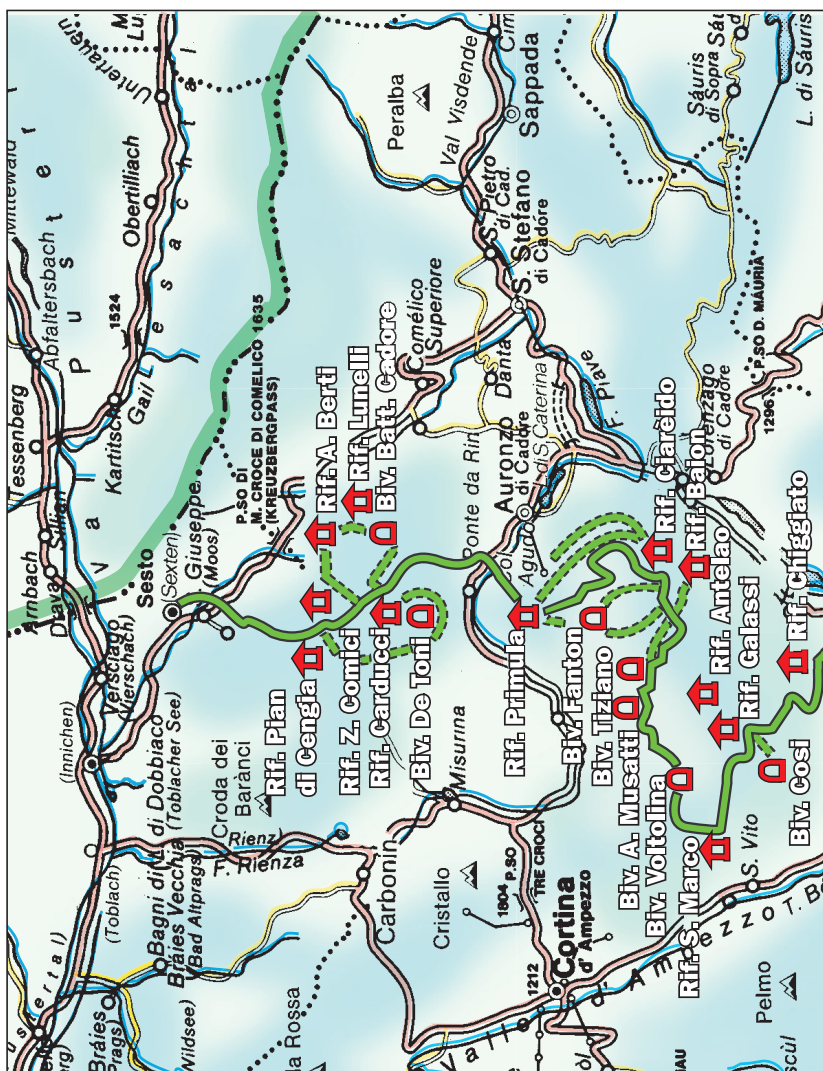
The "*Rifugio Antonio Berti*" is dedicated to the author of the first Eastern Dolomites guidebook who was a pioneer of Veneto mountaineering and our mountains' poet. The refuge is owned by the Padua CAI Section and has 56 beds. It is open from 25th June to 25th September and offers the same services as a small hotel. Book on 0435-6 71 55 or contact the manager on 0435-6 80 31.

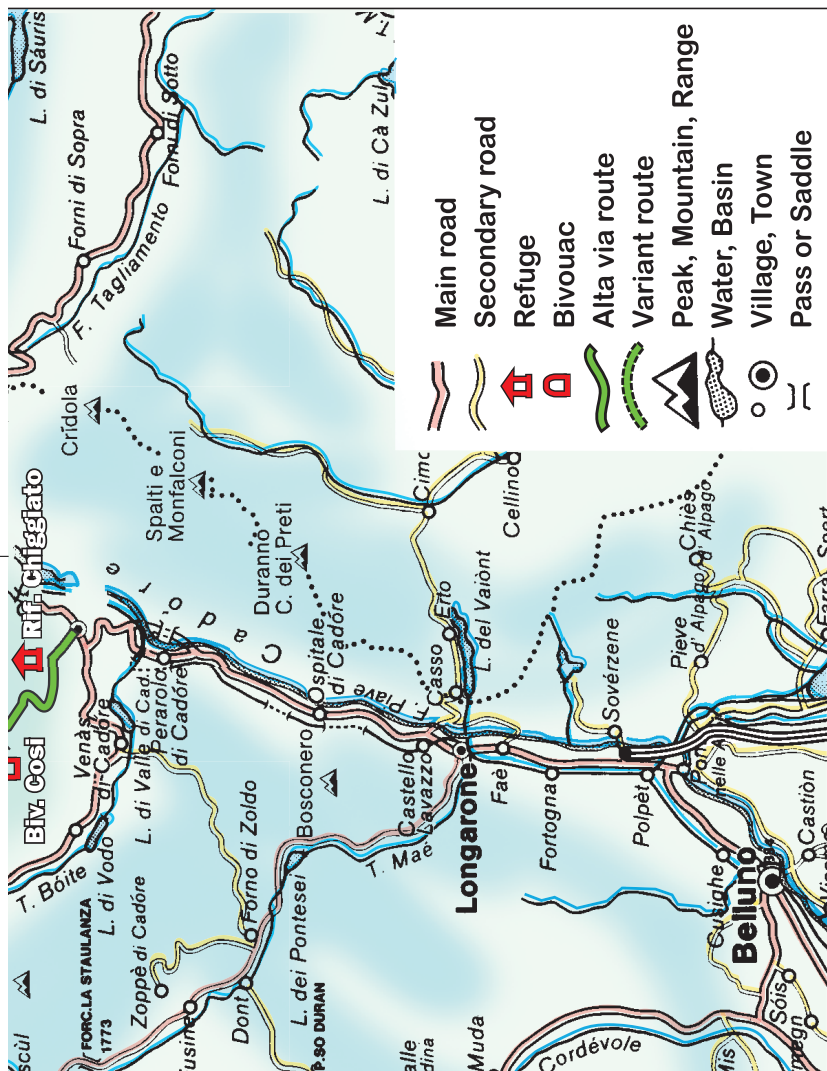
Winter apartment with 8 bunk beds.

Twenty minutes to the east, you can find the fabulous, restored, but not yet ready to use, *Rifugio al Popèra "Olivo Sala"* at 2049 metres.

Below the *Crestón Popèra*, in the large and splendid basin, you can find the *Rifugio Selvapiana "Italo Lunelli"* (1568m) which has 40 beds. Tel: 0435-6 71 71.

From the *Rifugio al Popèra "Antonio Berti"* you descend as far as the *Torrente Rìsena*, cross the scree and take the path marked 109 which goes up towards the *Guglie di Stallàta* and the *Campanili* (pinnacles) di *Popèra* on a steep, stony and crumbly slope. A large red sign on a boulder invites you to climb up to the left (the right path goes to the beginning of the old *Ròghel via ferrata* which dangerously crossed the *Canalone* (corridor) dei *Fulmini*. Continue climbing like this until you reach the foot of *Guglia I di Stallàta*, just before the *Campanili*. A series of fixed ropes take you right onto the middle of *Guglia I's* rock face, then to a long and difficult vertical chimney which you overcome with the aid of fixed ropes and a few helpful pegs fixed into the rock. A traverse on an overhang is particularly difficult, but nowadays (2003) it is facilitated by extra artificial elements. With one last vertical climb and a short traverse, you reach the narrow saddle between the *Guglie* at a





height of about 2580 metres; panoramic balcony with views of *Popèra* and the Dantesque *Val Stallàta*. At this point you descend, still using fixed ropes, along the western face of *Guglia I* until you reach the base. Here, almost in all seasons, there is a steep frozen snowfield that you have to cross without any artificial aid; a rope would be useful!

At the end of the gully, in a little secluded valley below, you can find the *Bivacco Battaglion Cadore* at 2219 metres. It is owned by the Padua CAI Section, opened for the first time in 1952 and located exactly on the precipitous edge of a primitive amphitheatre. Destroyed by avalanche, it was replaced by the present one in 1969. It is always open but unstaffed with 9 sleeping places. There is water outside the door!

**3 hours** from the *Rifugio al Popèra* “Antonio Berti”.

If it is not necessary to get to the bivouac, you can continue to the right, keeping below the rocks and descending over gravel until you come on to the path marked 110, which traverses westwards over the stream of debris that comes down from the mountain and from *Cima Popèra*. After you have made a complete circle of the mighty amphitheatre, you turn to the south and enter into a gully. After climbing this you reach the legendary *Cengia Gabriella* that cuts across the eastern face of *Monte Giralba* from below. The trail, skilfully created by Mother Nature, amongst crevices, ledges, rock faces and wide ledges, runs south, overcomes a few exposed stretches and finally climbs up towards the southern ridge of the *Giralba* which overlooks the exceptional bastions of *Cima Bagni* and *Croda di Ligònto* to the east and the colossal eastern barrier of *Croda dei Tòni* to the west. On the *Giralba* you can see the *Rifugio “Giosuè Carducci”* in the distance.

The path now continues, still on a ledge, along the western side of lower *Giralba* and, reaching a saddle, you go into a narrow, slanted and snow-covered gully through which you descend as far as the gravel lying between the two *Giralba* mountains. From here you go on until you reach a height of 2140 metres, then by the *Giralba* mule-track you climb up to the *Rifugio “Giosuè Carducci”* (2297m) in about 30 minutes.

**4 hours** from the *Bivacco Battaglion Cadore*.

**7 hours** from the *Rifugio al Popèra* “Antonio Berti”.



*Monte, Cima e Campanili di Popera on the VARIANT II of the Alta Via 5*

## Day two

### ■ From the “Giosuè Carducci” Refuge to the Ponte (bridge) Da Rin near Auronzo

This second walk is only considered as a transfer; in fact it just involves going down through the picturesque *Val Giralba* as far as the *Val d'Ansièi* and *Auronzo*, although it shouldn't be underestimated. The gradient of more than 1500 metres is notable; the valley is “disgracefully” unending and monotonous at the lower part; and if the sun is blazing down, there isn't much to laugh about in the middle of all those mugo pines....

From the refuge, however, you easily descend to *Pian de le Salère*,



*The Pupo di Lozzo in  
the Western  
Marmarole*



enclosed between the great rock barriers of the *Cime Pezziós* to the west and the *Croda di Ligònto* to the east. Here the *Val Giralba* ends and you continue on until the *SS Auronzo-Misurina* road, level with the tiny hamlet of *Giralba* at 935 metres.

### **3 hours.**

Following the SS road towards *Auronzo* for 2 kilometres you arrive in *Orsolina* (901m) where you can find the detour for *Val da Rin*, walk three.

Here there is a bus stop for *Aurònzio di Cadore* (872m), where you can visit the lovely historical centre and drink a huge beer at the edge of the lake...

In *Auronzo* there are various hotels and B&Bs where you could stop over, keeping in mind that during July and August it would be better to book in advance.

Those who are fitter, or in a hurry, can join walk two with walk three, moving on directly to the *Rifugio Ciarèido* or to the *Rifugio Baiòn*, although they are about 5,30-6,30 hours from here; a lot less if you go up by chairlift. In this way, you can gain back the extra day used for doing the *Croda dei Tòni* variant or the *Popèra* one.

**AURÒNZIO DI CADORE** (866m) is made up of the villages of Villagrande to the north west and Villapiccola to the south east, linked without interruption by pretty houses spread out along the picturesque artificial lake. The valleys to the side are covered with big forests, which climb up to skim the bottom of the huge dolomites. Near Villapiccola, at the beginning of the lake, you can see the small, impressive Santa Caterina gothic church built in 1553. The church's apse is covered with little gold hearts. In Villapiccola the San Lucano church dates back to 1856 and is by Segusini, in Villagrande the Santa Giustina parish church dates back to 1772; both of them have frescos by De Min.

Auronzo has more or less been renewed with good taste and sobriety, becoming a first class holiday resort. Various hotels of all types are spread out along the large hamlet, which is also equipped with tennis courts, cinema, rowing boats etc. It offers all necessary public services. There is a bus to Calalzo, which is the main rail station for Belluno, Cortina, Comèlico and also connections further afield.



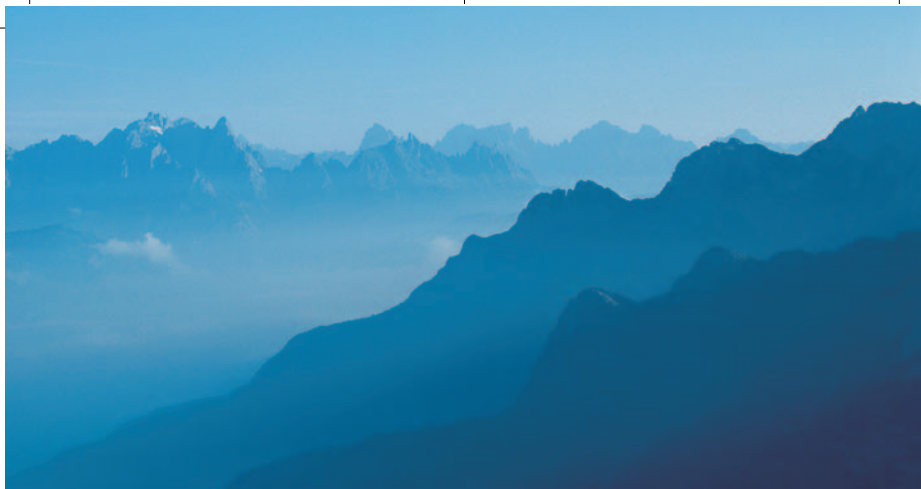
*The long, wild Marmarole chain*

## Day three

### ■ From Ponte da Rin to the Ciarèido refuge or the Baión “Elio Boni” Refuge

Here we are going to describe the original route, the more complete one, which also allows you to experience the remote eastern part of the *Marmaròle*, dominated by the *Ciastelìn*. Three other interesting variants are also suggested, all leading to *Rifugio Baión*.

Once you have left the SS road level with the hamlet of *Orsolina*, you cross over the *Ansiei* on the *Ponte da Rin* (bridge) and along a good tarmac road, you continue on until you get to the characteristic local inn *La Primula* (1060m); the inn is privately owned has a restaurant and bar and is about 3.5 km from the bridge; one hour on foot. A bit beyond the chalet you pass a stream on the path marked 273 reaching a fork at a height of 1110 metres, at the entrance to the *Val di Poorse*. After leaving the two small roads you continue on the 273 and after the beautiful woods of *Pian delle Cìave*, you leave the *Val di Poorse* to climb up towards the *Pomadonna* cirque. There is a fork at the upper edge of the woods. Leave the 273, which goes east, and take the 272 to the right (south) that, after having skirted a huge



landslide on the left, enters into the aforementioned cirque, heads towards a rocky spur on the left and enters into a steep and crumbling gully. The path climbs the length of it and delivers you on to the *Forcella Paradiso* at 2045 metres.

**5 hours** from *Orsolina di Auronzo*.

Here there is a magnificent panorama of the Eastern Dolomites. Descend down along a good path to the *Rifugio Ciarèido* at 1969 metres.

**30 minutes** from *Forcella Paradiso*.

**5.30 hours** from *Orsolina*.

**8.30 hours** for those coming directly from the *Rifugio Carducci*.

The refuge, which is an ex military shelter, is situated in a charming position on the slopes of *Monte Ciarò*, just to the west of the *Pian dei Buoi*. In concession to the Lozzo di Cadore CAI Section, who have carried out an excellent restoration, the refuge is linked to a rather rough carriage road that comes from *Lozzo* and which is practicable half an hour from the refuge; offers small hotel services from 10th June to 30th September with 24 beds. Book on 0435-7 62 76 or contact the manager on 0435-7 65 25. Winter apartment with 4 beds.

You can finish the walk here or, as it is a gentle walk, you could continue on for a bit until you get to the *Rifugio Baión "Elio Boni"*.

In this case you can carry on along the 272 crossing over gravel from the *Ciarèido* until beyond the rubble and low mugo pines, then

you drop down quickly and enter into a wood at the end of which, you reach the *Rifugio Baión "Elio Boni"* at 1828 metres.

**1 hour** from the *Rifugio Ciarèido*.

**9.30 hours** for those coming directly from the *Rifugio Carducci*.

From *Ciarèido* you can get to the *Baión* a little more easily by going down by road as far as *Pian dei Buoi* where a slightly rambling road leads to the *Rifugio Baión*; about 4 kilometres.

The *Rifugio Baión* was built by the Domegge di Cadore CAI Section who transformed the old cottage with the same name into the present excellent refuge, dedicating it to Elio Boni, a mountaineer from Cadore. It offers the same services as a small hotel and is open from 10th June to 20th September. It has 49 beds and you can book on 0435-7 60 60 or contact the manager on 0433-8 71 31.

## Variant III

### ■ By the Monte Agùdo by chairlift

To get to the Eastern Marmaròle refuges you can also follow the alternative routes below:

From the *Giralba* you walk along the SS road as far as *Orsolina*, then take the bus to *Auronzo* where, level with *Reane* (about 870m), you find the *Monte Agùdo* chairlift station. Once you have reached the refuge with the same name (1573m) you take the path marked 271, which goes towards the *Pomàuria* ridge. Passing to the east of the *Croda del Grazioso* and *Mandria*, continue on the western side of the *Col Burgiou* and you come out onto a path that is marked on the map as 1262 and which comes from the *Rio Valsàlega* valley. Carrying on southwards along the ridge, the path comes out onto a little road at a height of 1632 metres, near to the *Tabià* (old traditional stone cottage) of *Forcella Bassa*. Walking easily along the road for a few kilometres, you reach the *Pian dei Buoi* fork at 1812 metres, meeting the military road to the *Rifugio Ciarèido*, which is to the west, or the *Rifugio Baión* to the south.

**3 hours** from *Monte Agùdo* to the *Rifugio Baión*; a bit less to the *Ciarèido*.

**7 hours** for those coming directly from the *Rifugio Carducci*.

## Variante IV

### ■ From Orsolina di Auronzo via the Val di Poorse

From *Giralba* to *Orsolina* and to the characteristic, local inn *La Primula*, follow the same directions as the beginning of WALK THREE. Just beyond *La Primula* the tarmac ends and you take the small dirt road to the left (south east), which is marked 273. Having passed the stream, you remain on the track and reach a fork; continue left (east) at the *Tabià da Rin*, 1110 metres. At this point you enter into the woody *Val di Poorse* where, at a height of about 1200m, you meet another fork. Both tracks lead to the *Valdacene* cottage (1707m); the right one (orographical left) becomes a path at a height of about 1400 metres; the left one (orographical right) ends at a height of about 1580 metres and then changes into a good path that, having crossed the stream at 1630 metres, climbs up a valley up to *Valdacene*.

**NB:** at a height of about 1580m you can climb northwards, quickly reaching the path marked 1262 level with the *Tabià di Forcella Bassa*, at 1632m, which comes from the chair lifts at *Monte Agùdo*, then by dirt road to *Pian dei Buoi*.

With a final climb to the south of *Valdacene*, the path reaches the *Pian dei Buoi* military road at a height of 1812m from where at the second fork, continuing to the west, you arrive at the *Rifugio Ciarèdo* by road, or continuing south, *the Rifugio Baión*.

**4.30 hours** from *Orsolina* to the *Rifugio Baión*; a bit less for *Ciarèdo*.

**8 hours** for those coming directly from the *Rifugio Carducci*.



From left: *The Cimon del Froppa, the Croda Bianca and the Ciastelin in the Marmarole*



***The Forcella Jau de  
la Tana***



## Variant V

### ■ From Orsolina to the Baión refuge via the Val Baión and the Fratelli Fanton Bivouac

Up to the *La Primula* inn, as per WALK ONE. A bit further on from the inn you turn onto a dirt road to the left (south east) pass a stream and, just after a fork, you take the 270 on the right (south) which you follow easily for a while, keeping to the dirt road which ends at a height of about 1250 metres. Once passed the stream, you climb southwards towards the *Val Baión*, surrounded by majestic crags. At the bottom of the valley, next to where the two gullies unite and which descend respectively from the *Forcella Peronàt* and from the *Forcella Marmaròle*, a little path breaks off from the main one and after about 15 minutes goes up to the *Bivacco Fratelli Fanton* at 1750 metres.

**3.30 hours** from *Orsolina*.

Dedicated to Umberto, Paolo, Augusto, Teresa e Luisa Fantòn, great pioneers of mountaineering from Cadore, the Cadore CAI Section's bivouac is situated next to a rock mass called *Albergo di Baión* in a remote cirque dominated by the lofty rocks of *Ciastelin*, *Croda Bianca*, *Cimòn del Froppa*, *Punta Teresa*, *Punta Petòz* and *Croda dell'Àrbel*. Water (almost always present) a few minutes away, uphill from the bivouac, from the crags of *Ciastelin*; 9 sleeping places; unstaffed.

Going back onto the 270 path, or continuing along it if, at the fork, you had decided not to go up to the *Bivacco Fanton*, you follow it up to a second fork. Up to the left, still on the 270 (on the right, with difficult stretches, the 280 leads to *Forcella Marmaròle*, at 2661m, then onto the *Forcella del Froppa*, at 2790m, and to the *Bivacco Tiziano*), until you reach, after a never-ending series of tight curves, the *Forcella Baión*, at 2234 metres. From here you descend via the opposite side, south, until you meet a decent path marked 262, which comes from the *Rifugio "Giovanni Chiggiato"*. Following it to the left (west) you quickly descend to the pasture and then, after a short climb, you reach the *Rifugio Baión*, 1828 metres.

**5-6 hours** from *Orsolina*.

**9-10 hours** for those coming directly from the *Rifugio Carducci*.

## Day four

### ■ From the Baión to the “Rifugio Tiziano” Bivouac via the Giàu de la Tana

From the *Rifugio Baión* you take the path marked 262 to the west and at the other end of the pasture, you climb up through woods; then horizontally, you enter into the thick of low mugo pines meeting a fork on the right with the path to the *Forcella Baión* and the *Bivacco Fratelli Fanton*; chart.

Traversing uphill below *Monte Peronàt* you climb a few easy footholds in the rock with the help of a metal rope, then you carry on along the ridge, descending until you go round the southeast corner of the *Croda Bianca* via an easy ledge, equipped with metal ropes. At the beginning there is a plaque on the rock dedicated to Pope John Paul.

Continue along at altitude, passing the *Vallón del Froppa* where the tracks leave for *Forcella Marmaròle*; see VARIANT VII. Carrying on along a fine path in the woods, staying more or less at altitude, you reach the boggy clearing of *Forcella Sacù* where the path branches off to the left for the nearby *Rifugio “Giovanni Chiggiato”* (1911m) which is about 20 minutes away.

**2 hours** from the *Rifugio Baión*.

The *Rifugio Chiggiato* merits a visit; it is situated next to the top of the *Col Negro* (1952m), in an extremely panoramic position with views of southern *Marmaròle*, *Antelao*, *Duranno-Cima dei Preti*, etc... It is owned by the Venice CAI Section and dedicated to “The Father of Venetian Mountaineers”. It is open from 20th June to 20th September, offers the same services as a small hotel and has 56 beds. Book on 0435-3 14 52 or contact the manager on 0435-3 07 36.

Winter apartment with 8 beds

The Calazo di Cadore CAI Section’s *Ricovero* (shelter) “*Leo Frescura-Rocchi*” is situated a bit higher up at 1950m, although it is closed.

From the *Forcella Sacù* clearing you go north-westwards on the 260 passing below the overhanging rocks of *Cresta d’Aierón*. After a very steep stretch, locked between two rocky wings, you go into the gloomy *Val de la Tana*. The path traverses high along the valley, steeply descends for a bit before climbing over steep gravel up to the base

of a spur where the *via ferrata* called *Sentiero* (path) *degli Alpini* starts.

The *ferrata*, first equipped in the 1940s by Alpine troops from the Cadore Battalion, was totally re-done in 1989 by guides from *Auronzo*. It immediately tackles the spur and you climb up using for the most part a long series of metal ropes which accompany you, without much difficulty, up to the *Forcella Già del Tana* (2650m) between the *Punta Anita* to the east and the *Cime di Val di Tana* to the west. From the saddle there is a magnificent view of *Popèra*, *Cadini di Misurina* and the *Tre Cime di Lavaredo*.

From the saddle you descend along the opposite slope, keeping to the right (there are frequent signs), towards the middle of the valley, where once you could find the *Froppa di Dentro* glacier and where the itinerary coming from *Forcella Froppa* (see VARIANT VI e VII) converges from the right. Continuing on you enter into the magical and unusual world of the *Lastóni delle Marmaròle*, characterised by all kinds of crevices, ice eroded basins carved into the rock, natural arabesques and fantastic corridors...

Be careful if it is foggy, which it is quite often here; even though the signs are good, you can easily get lost. However, the direction to follow is northwest. Pay attention also to snow, which can even fall in August and which can dangerously cover the various crevices and can hide the signs.

After a few ups and downs among the grassy and rocky hollows, you reach *Col di Val Longa* where the *Bivacco Tiziano* is situated together with the ancient, extraordinary and historical structure of the *Rifugio Tiziano*:

**4.45 hours** from the *Rifugio Chiggiato*.

**6.30 hours** from the *Rifugio Baion*.

The *Bivacco Tiziano* is situated on the *Col di Val Longa* at 2246m, on the edge of the *Lastóni delle Marmaròle*. A typical semi-cask construction with 9 sleeping places, it was erected in 1977 by the "Cadorina" and Venice CAI Section.

The wonderful old stone refuge is situated next to it, built in 1898 and abandoned after senseless vandalism in 1945. It was reopened in 1961 by the "Antonio Berti" Foundation and adapted into an unstaffed shelter-bivouac with 12 bunks. It was shamefully damaged again and then partially restored in 1989. It is closed but you can get the key at the Auronzo CAI Section. You can find trickling water in *Val Longa*, about half an hour to the south, on the *Monticello* slopes.

## Variant VI

### ■ From the “Rifugio Tiziano” Bivouac via the Val Baión, the Forcella Marmaròle and the Forcella Froppa

Those wanting to omit (although it is not advisable) the *Ciarèdo* and *Baión* refuges, preferring to follow - from *Orsolina di Auronzo* – the variant for the *Val Baión* and the *Bivacco Fanton*, can proceed as follows, keeping in mind that this is a mountaineering route, with a lack of signs and some orientation difficulty.

Until just below the *Bivacco Fanton*, as per VARIANT V, then once you have reached the two original branches that meet at the rock mass called *Albergo di Baión*, you leave the path marked 270 that heads to *Forcella Baión* and you follow the tracks of the 280, quite rare and intermittent, which climb steeply among mugo pines and then over gravel from the *Vallón degli Invalidi*, often covered with snow. When you reach a drop marked with clearly visible red arrows, you go along an easy ledge from right to left, which goes up the base for a few dozen metres. Via exposed but easy rock, you pass an edge to get into the detrital valley. Further up snow is likely even late in the season. Go up, keeping to the right (red signs) as far as the last snowy expanse, which leads on to the *Forcella Marmaròle* (2661m), which opens up between the *Cresta degli Invalidi* and the *Froppa*.

**3 hours** from *Bivacco Fanton*.

**6 hours** from *Orsolina di Auronzo*.

Following the obvious tracks, which go up along the detrital gully, in about half an hour you get to the alpine pass of *Forcella Froppa* (2790m), between the *Cimón* and the *Col del Froppa*.

At this point you go down a very steep gully, often icy, which leads on to what remains of the *Froppa di Dentro* glacier (practically nothing). You cross it north-westwards (a few signposts) with numerous ups and downs until you meet the tracks from the 260 coming from the nearby *Forcella Jau de la Tana*. Follow these in descent until you enter and traverse the *Lastóni delle Marmaròle* and then onto the grassy summit where the *Bivacco* and the *Rifugio Tiziano* are situated at 2246 metres.

**2 hours** from the *Forcella Marmaròle*.

**8 hours** from *Orsolina di Auronzo*.





*The splendid Tiziano Refuge and the new bivouac*

## Variant VII

### ■ From the Baión refuge to the “Rifugio Tiziano” Bivouac via the Forcella Mamaròle and the Forcella Froppa

Route with mountaineering stretches, poorly marked and with orientation difficulties.

From the *Rifugio Baión* you take the path marked 262 following it on the original *Alta Via* itinerary until the opening of the *Vallón del Froppa*. Fork on the right (north west) via *Forcella Mamaròle*. Up to here also from the *Rifugio Chiggiato*. Climb the valley over unclear tracks (that soon disappear) up to the highest part where a narrow gully opens up which can be dangerous when covered with snow. You continue along with difficulty until a drop that seems to interrupt the path. Carrying on to the right you pass a rock plate covered with debris, continue along a difficult gully, coming out onto the *Forcella Mamaròle* at 2661 metres.

**3.30 hours** from the *Rifugio Baión*.

From the *Forcella Mamaròle* to the *Bivacco Tiziano* as per VARIANT VI. 2 hours.

**5.30 hours** from the *Rifugio Baión*.

## Variant VIII

### ■ A rock-climb up to the Cimón del Froppa

Finding yourself along the VARIANTS VI or VII, on walk four, the more determined can crown their adventure with a climb up to the highest peak of the *Marmaròle*, the *Cimón del Froppa* (2932m), via the path opened by Julius Kugy and *Cicco Orsolina* in 1884.

The most northern of the three saddles that make up the *Forcella Froppa* is called the *Forcella Kugy*, reachable in a short time from the *Forcella Marmaròle* for those coming from both *Val Baión* (VARIANT VI) and from *Vallón del Froppa* (VARIANT VII). The stretch between the two saddles is quite tricky and a bit exposed, often covered with snow and ice.

The beginning of the path is on the *Forcella Kugy*, marked with a red arrow, and is the only difficult part of the climb. Once it was overcome using human pyramids; nowadays, with a short climb up which isn't above Grade III, it is conquered; there is a piton at the top of the small precipice, which is useful for quick and easy abseiling. Using the same piton, you can climb up the rock face more easily, although this is nonetheless for experts (Grade I and II) along a chimney up to a small ledge. Passing over a series of smooth slabs and easy gullies you get to a terrace on the ridge. Walk along a ledge to the right, going round an edge then a not so solid gully, you come out on to a small saddle. Proceed to the right over gravel, entering into a gully, which you climb up to where it ends near the summit. In total there are three rope climbs of about 40 metres.

**45 minutes** from the *Forcella Kugy*. Descent by the same way.

## Day five

### ■ From the Tiziano refuge bivouac to the “Alberto Musatti” bivouac and the “Leo Voltolina” bivouac

This route, which shouldn't be underestimated, is suggested as one stretch only, but obviously walkers can split it into two (Tiziano-Musatti e Musatti-Voltolina) if they want to stay to enjoy the altitude, want to do some training, or because of weather conditions. The author preferred to use a tent, thus gaining in freedom.

From the “*Rifugio Tiziano*” bivouac you descend southwards entering into the remote *Val Longa* and going back up it on the 280, up to where the slope on the right which acts as a backdrop to the valley appears walkable where a red arrow is marked. Via a good track westwards full of red marks you go up the steep grassy slope, made more pleasant by the abundant first class flora, up to the high gravelly ridge of *Tacco del Todesco*. From here, still going westwards, over rocks, you reach a saddle at a height of 2614m; spectacular views, especially of *Monticello* and the *Cime di Val Longa*. Along a fairly good path you traverse for a while to the west, to then descend over rocks, then gravel until you reach a large desolate and lonely valley, often covered in snow, which comes out into the tormented area of *Medúce di Fuori*.

Following the many signs and zigzagging among the boulders, you head northwest towards the mighty mass of the *Méscol*. After having passed the large grassy basin on its right edge (north) and turning at the end towards west, you reach the “*Alberto Musatti*” bivouac at 2111 metres. There is an excellent place for pitching a tent just to the south of the bivouac, on the edge of a beautiful piece of flat ground underneath the *Campanile di San Marco*.

**3 hours** from the *Bivacco Tiziano*.

Dedicated to Alberto Musatti, jurist and mountaineer who was the Chairman of the Venice CAI Section for many years, the bivouac is situated in the central part of the *Marmaròle* in the arid and lonely surroundings dominated by the grey mass of the *Campanile di San Marco*. 9 sleeping places, unstaffed. Perhaps due to the absolute lack of water in the area (you need to use melted snow from the base of the *Campanile di San Marco*), the bivouac is not among the cleanest; although this is not just down to lack of water....Water that can be found in abundance on the 279 path for *Val d'Ansièi*, about half an hour's descent from the bivouac.

The stretch that goes from the *Bivacco Tiziano* to the *Bivacco Voltolina* is also known as the “*Strada Sanmarchi*”, from the name of its creator. Until recently it was the target of complaints and often unduly strong criticism ; and even the target of shameful desecration. Reason: lack of signs and insufficient fixed apparatus. This severe environment, especially in conditions of snow, fog or rain, had caused so many people give up half way along that very few walkers dared to tackle it. Fortunately nowadays, to everyone’s satisfaction, the situation has improved considerably, although it remains a route that shouldn’t be underestimated and must not be taken lightly.

The Alpine Guides from *Auronzo* have completely re-done the existing equipment, adding more where necessary (gullies, ledges and *Forcella del Méscol*) and created decent signs.

From the *Bivacco Musatti* you go along grass on the path marked 280, slightly descending, then traversing on the extreme right of the green basin of *Medúce di Fuori*, just below the grassy slopes of the *Méscol*.

Via tracks (marked red) you climb a steep drainage canal with difficulty, coming out on to the left and continuing on steep grassy patches up to a difficult chimney, aided by fixed ropes. The chimney is vertical and crumbly; watch out for falling stones! Beyond this you go slightly to the right, then up a tiring, winding slope, up over bumps and rocks that lead to a ledge overhung by precipices. Follow the ledge to the left, climbing diagonally with the help of fixed ropes. One part is rather exposed, but equipped. In this way you reach a steep grassy area. To the left of this a dihedral-ramp of good rock rises up, equipped with fixed ropes (be careful in rain as the ramp can become muddy). At the end of the dihedral you reach the small *Forcella del Méscol* (2400m), in sight of the solitary *Medúce di Dentro* cirque.

Go steeply down the tracks over thinly grassed ground as far as a gully which you walk along on the extreme right and which leads into the *Medúce di Dentro*. You cross this (red markings) taking yourself diagonally to the right, up and then down among great yellowish rocks that characterise the impressive basin and which give off a pinkish, evanescent light.

Walk along the entire basin towards the west, in other words in the direction of the *Croda Rotta*, climbing up over scree. Beyond a shelf and a green slope you reach the back of a wall crossed by a grey crevice which is very smooth and has, about half way along it, a damp grotto

trickling with water. You go up through the gully helping yourself with some iron ladders and being very careful about falling stones from the overhanging gravelly basin. At the end of the gully you go along tracks that at first go slightly to the right, then clearly to the left until a short shelf with a pool of water, the only one in the area and of which you should take advantage! A bit further on from the pool is the *Forcella di Croda Rotta* (2569m) in a very aerial environment, wild and fantastic.

From the saddle you continue along at altitude to the left, making absolutely sure you don't go downwards. The traverse that follows is tricky, being about 50 metres long, very difficult if there is snow or sheet ice and ends at a notch in the ridge where there is a pole with the words "NON SCENDERE" (Don't Descend). It is without any doubt the key point on the traverse. From here you can enjoy a fantastic view of the *Campanile di San Marco*. At this point you clearly go down steep but easy gravel, keeping to the left, that is close to the smooth walls of *Torre Frescura*.

You go up a gravelly rise, along a path that is marked quite well and keeping to the left at the *Cresta Vanedél*, you descend to some rocks. Walk along an exposed ledge, equipped with fixed ropes, from which you alight on to the *Forcella Vanedél* (2372m) barred by a metal rope and only about three metres wide. There is an impressive view of the narrow, very crumbly tube gully, which goes down towards the southeast into the *Val Vanedél*.

From the saddle you go up the opposite side, which seems difficult, with the help of a big metal rope, reaching a wide pulpit made up of creviced rocks, just at the foot of the final rock face of the *Croda De Marchi*. Here there is a sequence of fixed ropes that safely take you onto the grassy and rocky cliffs, then to a gravelly basin where a good path takes you down, keeping to the left above the green *Col Nero*, until you get to a very exposed ledge which is 25-30 centimetres long, exceptionally equipped with thick ropes. At the end of the ledge you go into the *Val di Mezzo* along easy, grassy ground (watch out for the signs!) You traverse this, going down slightly over grass until you reach the stream where you meet the paths for the *Cengia del Doge*, heading towards the northwest and to the *Bivacco Voltolina*, heading to the south and which is numbered 278. You follow the latter, climbing moderately uphill, which takes you to the *Bivacco "Leo Voltolina"* at 2082 metres in about 20 minutes.

**6 hours** from the *Bivacco Musatti*.



***The Torre dei  
Sabbioni***



**9 hours** from the *Bivacco "Rif. Tiziano"*.

Owned by the Venice CAI Section, the *Bivacco Voltolina* is dedicated to a Venetian mountaineer who fought in the First World War. It is situated in a magnificent and chaotic hollow, scattered with enormous boulders on the edge of the *Pian de lo Scottèr* (which you can find a bit further uphill towards the mountains and which merits a visit) in extremely solitary and magnificent surroundings, encircled by the great walls of the *Cima Bel Prà*, *Scottèr*, *Bastióni* and *Croda De Marchi*. It has 9 sleeping places and is unstaffed. Very clean and well looked after; you can find water only a bit further down in the stream near the fork, where there is a big overhanging mass.

## Day six

### From the Voltolina bivouac to the San Marco and Galassi Refuges

From the Bivacco "*Leo Voltolina*" you go back down the path marked 278 to the stream. Here there is a fork. On the right is the "*Strada Sanmarchi*" which we have just walked. Straight down to the north you go to *Palüs San Marco*; to the left, northwest, you go onto the *Cengia del Doge* on the 280. Then you go high up to the left towards the eastern walls of the *Corno del Doge*. After some mugo pines you go onto the *Cengia del Doge*, which cuts across the big north wall. The exposure increases bit by bit as you proceed, but the path is always quite good; it is only interrupted on a few short stretches which are well equipped, as for all the other important sections.

Towards the middle of the wall, a stretch of fixed rope helps you to overcome a large foothold in the rock; here the ledge becomes narrower and this is the most tricky part as it is crumbly.

Other short, exposed stretches are equipped and soon take you to a gully, often covered with snow, beyond which you can see the *Val di San Vito*. Carrying on to the south west, after having gone round the *Corno*, the path begins to descend, meeting a gully then a drop, then on to a stretch of rock until you reach the middle of the *Val di San Vito*. At the other side of the stream, at a height of 2047 metres, the path marked 280 ends where it joins with the path marked 226 which comes up from *Palüs San Marco*, together with the 243 (*Sentiero Minazio*) coming from the *Bivacco Comici* and with the

***The San Marco  
Refuge towards San  
Vito di Cadore and  
the Pelmo***





247 which descends from the *Bivacco Slataper*.

So, following the 226, you go gently up the upper part of *Val di San Vito*, pass behind the famous *Torre dei Sabbioni* and arrive at the *Forcella Grande*, at 2255 metres. Once past the grassy slopes south of the above saddle, the winding path enters the detrital gully of *Giou Scuro* which you walk along steeply, in sharp zigzags partially cut into the rock until you cross it to the left. Once down through the woods you shortly arrive at the *Rifugio San Marco* at 1823 metres.

**3 hours** from the *Bivacco Voltolina*.

The *Rifugio San Marco*, opened in 1895, is owned by the Venice CAI Section and is situated on the *Col de chi da Oss* (Val Boite dialect meaning "Hill of those who live behind" obviously eluding to those from *Auronzo*). There is a stone plaque in memory of *Giovanni Arduini*, Chairman for many years of the Venice CAI Section and a pioneer of Venetian mountaineering. It has 37 beds and is open from 20th June to 20th September, offering the same services as a small hotel. Wonderful views of the nearby *Antelao* and *Pelmo*; book on 0436-94 44 or the manager on 0436-97 18.

Winter apartment with 9 beds.

From the *San Marco* refuge the path marked 227, once past the vegetable field, goes into the woods and quickly emerges (small water-filled gully) to traverse a very crumbly shelf which is quite fragile in descent. After scrambling along the gravelly base of the *Cima Bel Prà* and the *Scottèr*, you finally meet the path, which comes from *San Vito di Cadore* and the nearby *Rifugio Scottèr Palatini*.

Still following the 227 you easily reach the *Forcella Piccola* situated at 2120 metres. From here you briefly descend eastwards to arrive at the *Rifugio "Pietro Galassi"*, at 2018 metres.

**1.30 hours** from the *Rifugio San Marco*.

**5.30 hours** from the *Bivacco "Emilio Comici"*.

Built in 1913 on the *Val d'Öten* slopes as a military shelter for mountain troops who were on mountaineering exercises, the refuge was then dedicated to *Pietro Galassi*, Lieutenant of the Alpine Troops, who fell in action in Libya in 1913. It was then delivered to the *Pieve di Cadore* CAI Section by the military authorities in 1915 only to be taken over again during the Second World War, then abandoned. In 1950 it was handed over to the *Mestre* CAI Section who restored it. It has a total of 106 beds and is open from 20th June to 20th September with the same services as a small hotel. It is managed by the Section with members volunteering for shifts; book on 0436-96 85 or the manager at the *Mestre* CAI Section on 041-93 81 98.

Winter apartment with 8 beds.

## Variant IX

### ■ A climb to the Summit of the Antelao from the Galassi Refuge

A mountain-climbing route, not excessively difficult, but long and in rigid surroundings. A very satisfying and recommended climb.

From the Galassi refuge you hike up to the *Forcella Piccola* (2120m; with chart). Using the path to the south you get to a pasture, then on to a gravelly valley often covered with snow up to July. You go up to the right below the rocks. With this path, going along a series of exposed ledges, you arrive on a ridge area called the *Bàla*. Passing along other exposed ledges you come round the ridge and meet a notch, which you manage to pass over slabs. You are now on the *Laste*. Beyond two small rock spikes called the *Becétt*, you briefly descend to another notch that is passed with difficulty, immediately climbing up a smooth chimney and arriving on to the second stretch of the *Laste*, which are typical slanted slabs, full of crevices and corruptions that are not difficult but should be crossed with caution when there is snow or ice present, something that happens quite often at this height. Keeping to the right you carry on laboriously up to a gully-corridor, which goes to the left (there are signs). You should proceed as close to the left as possible, almost at the exposed edge of the ridge, which is easier and more solid, until level with the *Bivacco "Piero Così"* at 3111m; chart present. The bivouac is not visible from here but it is very close, just go along the ledge to



the left and you are there.

Built in 1957 in memory of a mountaineer from Padua who died in the mountains, the *Bivacco "Piero Cosi"* is like a real eagle's nest, suspended over the impressive drop of the *Antelao's* north gully. It is always open and is unstaffed; 9 beds; water from snow.

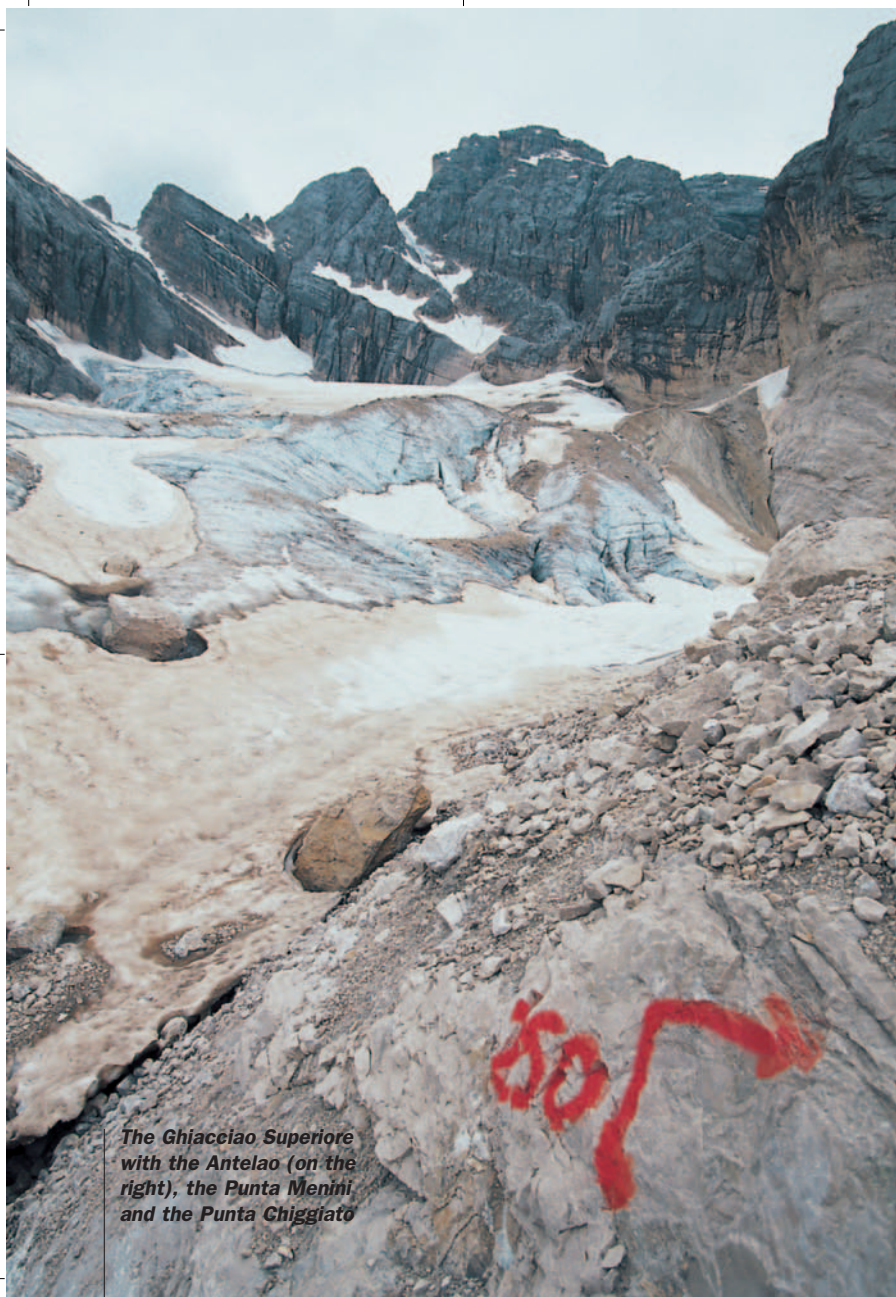
You go up to the right from the bivouac then left via ledges. After a trek over slab you go on to the last ridge from where, via a short ledge and subsequent chimney equipped with fixed ropes, you arrive just below the summit; here there is a cairn and a pole. Descend a bit, climb up the final rock face and you are on the summit of the *Antelao* (3264m) the king of the Dolomites, second highest only to the queen *Marmolada*. trigonometrical point; statue of the Virgin Mary; plaque in memory of a fallen mountaineer; huge panorama.

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*The Vetta dell'Antelao with snow on the Laste*







***The Ghiacciaio Superiore  
with the Antelao (on the  
right), the Punta Menini  
and the Punta Chiggiato***

**4 hours**, in good conditions, from the *Galassi* refuge.  
**Day seven**

## ■ From the “Piero Galassi” refuge to the Antelao Refuge and to Pieve di Cadore

From the “Piero Galassi” refuge you take the path marked 250 which climbs up to the south and then traverses a rock barrier until entering into the moraine of the *Antelao*’s Lower Glacier from where you carry on south eastwards reaching the base of a rock plate deeply carved by erosion, about 200 metres high and equipped with fixed ropes. At the end of the plate you emerge on to the small *Forcella del Ghiacciaio dell’Antelao* (2584m), sheltering behind the face of the glacier that once rested on *Lastrón dei Pian dei Arbói*.

Via a narrow gully, smoothened over time by ice (be careful if there is snow or sheet ice) and after a small crumbly ledge you enter into the upper cirque of the enormous valley situated to the north east of the *Antelao*. At this point you make a long descent, being careful not to lose track of the signs, on gravely then grassy ground, ending among mugo pines, as far as a flat piece of ground which you cross over towards the south east, ignoring the path marked 258 which goes down to cross the enchanting *Val Antelao* to then arrive in *Val d’Òten*. Carry on along the path marked 250 reaching a height of 1920m (water), then up to the right to meet a fork marked 230 which heads to *Campestrin*, which you ignore.

Continue to the left, along a slope, reaching the *Forcella Piria* at 2096 metres. The path now goes down towards the east below the *Crøde di San Pietro* and traverses high up above the woods; then descends among mugo pines and then trees as far as *Sella Pradònego* and the *Rifugio Antelao* at 1796 metres.

**5 hours** from the *Rifugio “Pietro Galassi”*.

The Antelao refuge is situated on *Pradònego*’s grassy saddle below the unassuming *Crøde di San Pietro* and has great views of the mountains south of *Comèlico*, such as *Cridola*, *Spalti di Toro e Monalconi*, *Duranno-Cima dei Preti* and the south ridge of the central *Marmaròle*. It is owned by the Treviso CAI Section and offers the same services as a small hotel. It is open from 1st June to 31st October and has 25 beds. It is also reachable by road from *Pieve di Cadore* and

*Pozzàle*; book on 0435-7 53 33 or call the manager on 0422-82 30 10.

From the *Rifugio Antelao* a small road goes down towards the south east, as far as the *Forcella Antracisa* (1693m) where you can find the *Capanna Tita Pancera* belonging to the Pieve di Cadore CAI Section (locked; key at the Section; furnished with 11 sleeping places and kitchen utensils). At the saddle there is a fork with two ways of descending:

- From the *Forcella Antracisa* by road. Walk along the ridge towards the east for about one and a half kilometres, reaching the unassuming *Monte Trànego* (1847m), descending down to *Pozzàle* (1054m) after a few hairpin bends and to *Pieve di Cadore* at 880 metres.

**2.30 hours** from the *Rifugio Antelao*, by road, for about 11 kilometres.

**7.30 hours** from the *Rifugio Galassi*.

- From the *Forcella Antracisa* by path marked 253. Go down a bit to the south, then take the path to the left (253 – south east) which cuts along the grassy slope, traverses the debris from *Costanuda* gravel plain, south of the *Trànego* and arrives at the haysheds in *Val Costede* (1283m) beyond which, at a height of 1157m, the small road that leads to *Pozzàle* and to *Pieve di Cadore* (880m) begins.

**2 hours** from the *Rifugio Antelao*.

**7 hours** from the *Rifugio Galassi*.

**PIEVE DI CADORE** (880m), situated on a large saddle between the *Col Contràs* to the west and *Monte Ricco* to the southeast, overlooks the confluence of the *Val Calda* into the *Piave*.

Pieve's history merges with that of the Cadore. In the XIV century a school of Italian literature was activated. In *Pieve*, in 1490, Tiziano Vecellio (Titian) was born, the most famous painter from the Veneto.

The town's banner is decorated with the Gold Medal for Bravery "for the memorable and tenacious resistance carried out in 1848 by the people of the *Cadore* against the overwhelming and powerful invader" and with the War Cross for resistance in 1918.

Arriving from *Pozzàle*, the road enters into *Pieve* with the town hall immediately on the left, then *Piazza Tiziano* where there is a bronze statue of the artist, the work of *Antonio Del Zotto* (1880).

Opposite there is the *Palazzo della Magnifica Comunità*, rebuilt in 1525 in

place of the other dated 1447, partly destroyed during the *Lega di Cambrai* war. On the ground floor you can find the fine Caffè Tiziano, completely restored, but maintaining the architectural themes of the XIV century. On the first floor you can admire the hall, where resistance against the enemy was decided in 1848 under the command of Pier Fortunato Calvi. Here you can see the bust of Natale Talamini (1808-1876), patriot and poet, and that of Luigi Coletti, loyal comrade of Calvi. In other rooms you can admire the rich 15th century wooden engravings by illustrious citizens of the Cadore and important historical records.

Joined on to the building, to the left, is the splendid crenelated tower with an extremely old mediaeval bell; at the foot of the tower you can see a marble tombstone dedicated to Calvi, unveiled in 1875, destroyed by the Austrians in 1918 and rebuilt in 1919. On the other side of the tower there is a stone war memorial from the Great War.

On the left of the *Palazzo della Magnifica Comunità* is the parish church, work of Schiavi (1814-1819). Inside you can see the Madonna with Child painted by the great Titian.

Across the square you can find the humble house where Titian was born, restored into a museum. Among other things it contains the certificate issued by Carlo V (1533), which made him a count and a knight.

In *Pieve di Cadore* you can find all essential public services, as well as hotels, B&B, small restaurants, chemists, hospitals, helicopter rescue, tennis courts and swimming pool etc.

Bus services to *Calalzo* (railway station), *Cortina*, *Comèlico* and *Sappàda*, *Carnia*, *Belluno* and during high season also direct services to Milan, Padua and Venice.

It is here that the *Alta Via n. 5* ends. In this delightful mountain town, surrounded by the *Marmaròle*, with sublime mountains full of history at its back, which are solemnly mirrored in the *Lago (lake) di Centro Cadore*.

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## Maps used

### Tabacco Map 1:25.000

SHEET 010, Dolomiti di Sesto for the stretch from Sesto to Giralba di Auronzo including the Croda dei Tóni and Popèra variants.

SHEET 017, Dolomiti di Auronzo e del Comèlico for the stretch from Giralba di Auronzo to the Bivacco Voltolina.

SHEET 016, Dolomiti del Centro Cadore for the stretch from the Bivacco Voltolina to Pieve di Cadore.

## Italian Alpine Club Sections

**Padua** 35100 Galleria S. Bernardino, 5 - Tel. 049.8750842  
for the Rifugio Zsigmondy-Comici and the Rifugio "Antonio Berti"

**Auronzo di Cadore** 32041 Via Dante, 4 - Tel. 0435.99454  
or the Rifugio Carducci

**Lozzo di Cadore** 32040 Piazza 4 Novembre  
for the Rifugio Ciarèido

**Domegge di Cadore** 32040 via don F. Barnabò  
for the Rifugio Baión

**Venice** 30124 San Marco 1672 - Tel. 041.716622  
for the Rifugio Chiggiato and the Rifugio San Marco

**Mestre** 30172 Via Fiume, 47/a - Tel 041.938198  
for the Rifugio Galassi

**Treviso** 31100 Piazza dei Signori, 4 - Tel. 0422.540855  
for the Rifugio Antelao



# Index

<b>General notes</b> .....	pag. 3
<b>Useful advice for hikers</b>	
Precautions – Equipment .....	pag. 7
<b>Alpine rescue services</b>	
What is the C.N.S.A.S.?.....	pag. 9
Where does the C.N.S.A.S. operate ? .....	pag. 10
<b>Prevention</b>	
Basic rules for improved safety in the mountains and other hostile environments .....	pag. 11
Basic rules on how to behave in the event of an accident .....	pag. 12
How to alert S.U.E.M. 118/C.N.S.A.S. ....	pag. 12
International mountain rescue signals.....	pag. 14
Route signs .....	pag. 15
<b>Technical details</b> .....	pag. 17
<b>ITINERARY</b>	
<b>Day one</b>	
from Sesto-Setten to the Zsigmondy-Comici refuge and the “Giosuè Carducci” refuge .....	pag. 21
<b>Day two</b>	
from the “Giosuè Carducci” refuge to the Ponte da Rin near Auronzo .....	pag. 35
<b>Day three</b>	
from Ponte da Rin to the Ciarèido refuge or the Baión “Elio Boni” refuge .....	pag. 38
<b>Day three</b>	
from the Baión refuge to the “Rifugio Tiziano” bivouac via the Giàu de la Tana.....	pag. 44
<b>Day five</b>	
from the “Rifugio Tiziano” bivouac to the “Alberto Musatti” bivouac and the “Leo Voltolina” bivouac .....	pag. 49
<b>Day six</b>	
from the Voltolina bivouac to the San Marco and Galassi refuges ....	pag. 53
<b>Day seven</b>	
from the “Piero Galassi” refuge to the Antelao refuge and to Pieve di Cadore .....	pag. 59