

ITINERARY 4D

CIMOLIANA VALLEY - MELUZZO VALLEY



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description

UNESCO Dolomites system	Dolomiti Friulane
mountain group(s)	Spalti di Toro
UNESCO values	<p>Landscape: The Cimoliana Valley, to the north of the village of Cimolais, is a long valley that leads deep into the most well-known groups in the Dolomiti Friulane: the Spalti di Toro and Monfalconi. The valley is a fine example of the landscape in this area, with imposing cliffs of Dolomite rock and deep valleys carved by wild streams running through them, creating large flows of debris that are continuously on the move.</p> <p>Here nature is wild and free and the only traces of man are flat areas on the valley floor for grazing. These areas, with their meadows and pastures, are dotted with houses and barns and are some of the most authentic and unspoiled in the Dolomites. Where the Cimoliana Valley ends and the Meluzzo Valley begins is the last of the pastures which can be reached by road: Pian Meluzzo. This environment is of great naturalistic interest because it contains all the features typical of the Oltre Piave Dolomites on one area: brooding majestic peaks, large alluvial deposits, woodland with both broadleaved and conifer trees and fields filled with rare botanical species like the lady's-slipper (<i>Cypripedium calceolus</i>) and the horned rampion (<i>Phyteuma sieberi</i>). Here, after heavy rain, you can also admire the beautiful Meluzzo Lake, also known as the "ghost lake" as it elusively appears and disappears.</p> <p>Geology: the predominant rock in the Dolomiti Friulane is Main Dolomite, which was deposited towards the end of the Triassic period on an extensive flood plain, showing the early tendency to trap poorly oxygenated basins</p>

	<p>(Forni Dolomite). Many dinosaur footprints from the late Triassic period have been found here.</p> <p>The NE-SW orientation of the main mountain ridges (Cridola, Busca, Duranno, Preti, Pramaggiore and Cornagiet) and the formation of the principal valleys (Vajont, Cimoliana and Settimana) reflect the inclination of the layers and the planes of the numerous thrust faults.</p> <p>The landscape is adorned with towers and spires where the stratification or the planes of low-angle thrust faults intersect with vertical tectonic fractures, as in mounts Cridola, Monfalconi and Spalti di Toro.</p> <p>[source: www.dolomitiunesco.info]</p>
description of the route	<p>This beautiful excursion in the heart of the Dolomiti Friulane Natural Park will take you through unspoiled natural environments with extremely interesting geomorphological and floral characteristics.</p> <p>The itinerary begins in Pian Meluzzo, near the Pordenone mountain hut, where there is plenty of parking. Pian Meluzzo is approached from Cimolais, through the Cimoliana Valley (about 10 km). In the summer, access is upon payment of a toll at the information point at the Compol bridge (from the end of July to the beginning of September). There are two different routes from Pian Meluzzo.</p> <p><u>Route A (4D_A_Val_Meluzzo.gpx)</u>: The route follows a forest road (CAI sign no. 370) towards Casera Bregolina Grande and runs near Meluzzo Lake. This Alpine lake is very elusive, as it only materialises in spring and autumn after heavy rain. If you want to go to the shore, leave the road and follow the short path with a gentle incline through the beautiful beech woods around it. Go back the way you came.</p> <p><u>Route B (4D_B_Casera_Meluzzo.gpx)</u>: This itinerary follows the forest path (CAI sign no. 361) towards the Meluzzo Valley. The first section (about 250 m) can cause some difficulties because the path crosses scree of the Val Montanaia stream which should only be tackled with the right equipment (an off-road wheelchair or a Joëlette). Once you are over the scree, the route continues along a forest dirt track where the terrain is compact and even. Continue for a further 200 m and you will come across a large meadow-pasture with a great variety of Alpine flowers, including gentian and parnassia. In the summer months these pastures are used for grazing and you can often see animals here. Evidence of the rural tradition in this area can be found on the edge of the pasture where a shepherd's hut, Casera Meluzzo, is used today as a shelter for walkers to stay the night. Once past the hut, the path crosses a small ford which is nearly always dry and has a cement surface and then continues on to a beautiful, large forest with silver firs, Norway spruce and black pines which give off a strong scent of resin. Go back the way you came.</p> <p>These two itineraries can be joined together to make a <u>circular route (4D_Anello_Val_Meluzzo.gpx)</u> by following part of the path that goes along the east shore of the lake. This section, however, is narrow and only accessible on foot.</p>
advice	
recommended period	From spring to autumn (when the Pordenone mountain hut is open; info: http://www.rifugiopordenone.it/)
recommended gear	Comfortable clothing suitable for the mountains, a lightweight change of clothes and an anorak in case the weather suddenly changes, hiking boots,

	drinks, hat and sunscreen when it is sunny.
recommended equipment	<p>Due to the condition of the terrain, route A is suitable for all kinds of wheelchairs, except for the section that goes through the beech wood to reach the lake shore; for this section you will need an electric hiking wheelchair or a Joëlette.</p> <p>There is a difficult section at the beginning of Route B (about 200 m) where the path goes across some scree. This can easily be crossed with a Joëlette or an off-road wheelchair if you are experienced.</p>
recommendations	<p>Always travel with others, so they can help you deal with any difficulties you may encounter.</p> <p>When following the itinerary in a wheelchair, on a mountain bike or with a pushchair, fit tyres with deep treads and always carry a complete tyre repair kit with a pump and spare inner tube. It is a good idea to take some spare batteries. The electricity at the mountain hut is produced by a generator and is unable to recharge batteries for mountain bikes and electric wheelchairs.</p>
N.B.	None
info	
altitude	1100 – 1200 m a.s.l.
starting point	<p>Pian Meluzzo, 33080 Cimolais PN</p> <p>GPS coordinates: 46.37868, 12.49007</p> <p>Altitude: 1160 m a.s.l.</p>
arrival point	<p>Pian Meluzzo, 33080 Cimolais PN</p> <p>GPS coordinates: 46.37868, 12.49007</p> <p>Altitude: 1160 m a.s.l.</p>
distance	<p>route A: 700 m</p> <p>route B: 1800 m</p>
overall difference in height	None
incline	Flat
minimum width	2.50 m (forest road)
terrain	Compact with sections with coarse gravel, fine gravel and dirt road
obstacles	One section crosses some scree (approx. 250 m)
exposed stretches	None
facilities	
access	Only with private means
restrictions	There is a charge to access the road between the end of July and beginning of September
car park	Free car park with no reserved spaces
accessible toilets	None
refreshments	Pordenone mountain hut (not accessible: steps to enter)
recharging stations for electric bikes	None
network coverage	No coverage whatsoever, landline at the mountain hut
GPS mapping	<p>4D_A_Val_Meluzzo.gpx</p> <p>4D_B_Casera_Meluzzo.gpx</p> <p>4D_Anello_Val_Meluzzo.gpx</p>
street view	https://www.google.com/maps/@46.378442,12.4898013,2a,75y,52.39h,78.43t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1s6p-8DWzVrHRC_2w1jLFiBQ!2e0!7i13312!8i6656?hl=it-IT

signs along the route	CAI signs and information boards of the Dolomiti Friulane Park
UNESCO info points	None
guides	Dolomiti Friulane Park guides [info: http://www.parcodolomitifriulane.it/visite-guidate/le-guide-del-parco/]
rental services	None
emergency numbers	112 European emergency telephone number
contacts	
contact for info	prenotazioni@parcodolomitifriulane.it fabianobruna68@gmail.com
information provided by and itinerary checked by	Dolomiti Friulane Park guides
route mapped on	September 2019
responsibility	<p>The contents of this information sheet do not exempt hikers from responsible behaviour.</p> <p>The weather in the mountains can change very quickly and the degree of difficulty of the itineraries depends on a number of factors which often cannot be foreseen, including the conditions of the route, how fit you are and your equipment. Before starting out, always check the weather forecast and contact the local tourist board for an update on the conditions of the route.</p> <p>Weather: https://www.meteo.fvg.it/home.php Local tourist board: http://www.comune.cimolais.pn.it/</p>