

## ACCESSIBLE VIEWPOINT - CIMA TOFANA




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### description

UNESCO Dolomites system	Dolomiti Settentrionali
mountain group(s)	Tofane
UNESCO values	<p><b>Landscape:</b> the Dolomites are the universal archetype for a specific mountain landscape that takes its name, "Dolomite landscape", from these very mountains. A number of key features define this particular landscape. Firstly the extremely complex topography, distinctive for the mountain ranges that, while separate, are juxtaposed in a particularly contained setting. Secondly, the uncommon variety of shapes, both vertical (cliffs, needles, spires, pinnacles, towers and jagged peaks) and horizontal (ledges, roofs, overhangs, crags, plateaux and high plains). First and foremost however, the Dolomites are famous for their exceptional varieties of colour and the extraordinary contrast between the soft lines of the pasturelands and the sudden vertical thrust of the stark, bare mountain peaks.</p> <p>The remarkable mountain landscape that we see today has changed very little since it formed millions of years ago. The unmistakable, familiar shapes of the Dolomite peaks are none other than the atolls and coral reefs of those ancient times, while the Alpine passes and inhabited valleys we see today correspond to the deep stretches of sea which originally separated them. This is the only example in the world of a fossil landscape that is as recognisable as this, a tropical archipelago that has transformed into extraordinary towering mountains.</p> <p><b>Geology:</b> The Dolomites are one of the best conserved examples in the world of fossil reefs and tropical environments of the Mesozoic era. They preserve</p>

	<p>fossil evidence of the organisms which were instrumental in their formation around 250 million years ago. The sequence of rocks illustrates the resurgence and evolution of life following the greatest extinction event ever recorded in the history of geology that occurred between the Permian and Triassic eras and led to the disappearance of more than 90 % of living species. The interaction between the atolls and the coral reefs of the Triassic and the powerful volcanic eruptions which were a common occurrence in those distant times are clearly and spectacularly visible here. The minimal tectonic deformation, the majestic outcrops, the great depth of the accumulated sediment and the extensive lateral continuity of these mountains reveal the history of the earth like in a giant rock book and allow us to explore in person the ancient geography of those seas and islands.</p> <p>[source: UNESCO Dolomites Foundation, <i>UNESCO World Heritage Dolomites</i>, 2010]</p>
description of the route	<p>The accessible viewpoint at Cima Tofana lies at an altitude of 3244 metres and can be accessed directly from the centre of Cortina d'Ampezzo by the Tofana-Freccia nel Cielo ski lift. Tofana di Mezzo is the highest peak in Cortina and the third highest in the Dolomites and affords one of the most spectacular panoramas of the World Heritage Site. The viewpoint overlooks the Ampezzo valley and its most famous peaks - Croda da Lago, Lastoi de Formin, Antelao, Sorapis and Cristallo - but the horizon stretches as far as the eye can see over the whole Dolomite area.</p> <p>The lift system consists of a new modern cable car, the first to be installed in Cortina, which in the 2019/2020 winter season replaced the first section of the Cortina-Col Druscié cableway, and two further cableway sections - Col Druscié-Ra Valles and Ra Valles-Cima Tofana. The final section - where the panoramic terrace is located - is only open in the summer. The valley station is in Cortina, near the ice rink. Access to the valley station is very easy from the car park opposite the cable car station (1200 m a.s.l.). Take the first available cabin to the middle station of Col Druscié (1778 m a.s.l.). Here you can enjoy a meal at the restaurant (accessible) and admire the view. Take the cableway to Ra Valles (2470 m a.s.l.), where there is a restaurant (not accessible) and then the third section to Cima Tofana (3244 m a.s.l.), where the panoramic terrace, your final destination, is located.</p>
<b>advice</b>	
recommended period	<p><u>Summer</u>: the accessible viewpoint can only be reached by lift in the summer (the Ra Valles-Cima Tofana section is only open in the summer). Always check opening times and periods: <a href="http://www.freccianelcielo.com/">http://www.freccianelcielo.com/</a></p> <p>N.B.: in winter the lift only carries passengers as far as Ra Valles (cable car + 1 section of cableway; there are ski lifts and chair lifts in the Ra Valles area to reach all the other slopes) to serve the Alpine skiing slopes. The Cortina d'Ampezzo ski area is accessible to disabled skiers.</p>
recommended gear	<p>Wear comfortable clothes in layers and hiking boots if you wish to go outside the stations. Always take some heavy clothing with you (even in the summer) and protection from the rain. It is advisable to take sunscreen and a hat to protect you from the sun</p>
recommended equipment	<p>No special equipment is needed when visiting the panoramic terrace (if you stay inside the stations and follow the paths to the restaurants). In the other</p>

	areas, the surface may be uneven, inaccessible or dangerous.
recommendations	Always travel with others, so they can help you deal with any difficulties you may encounter. In bad weather, contact the cableway on +39 0436 5052 before setting out to make sure it is open (e.g. if there is strong wind).
N.B.	In the summer of 2020 only the new Cortina – Col Druscié cable car will be open, as work to replace and overhaul the lifts in the Ra Valles area will be underway.
<b>info</b>	
altitude	1200-3244 m a.s.l.
starting point	Valley station of the Tofana-Freccia nel Cielo cable car, Via dello Stadio, 12, 32043 Cortina d'Ampezzo (BL) GPS coordinates: 46.545769, 12.131515 Altitude: 1200 m a.s.l.
arrival point	<b>Middle station of Col Druscié</b> (restaurant and panoramic terrace): GPS coordinates: 46.543496, 12.104119 Altitude: 1778 m a.s.l. <b>Middle station of Ra Valles</b> (restaurant): GPS coordinates: 46.547719, 12.085295 Altitude: 2470 m a.s.l. <b>Uphill station of Cima Tofana</b> (panoramic terrace; <u>open in summer only</u> ): GPS coordinates: 46.551409, 12.067259 Altitude: 3244 m a.s.l.
distance	Cable car 2165 m, 1st section cableway 1499 m, 2nd section cableway 1609 m, the journey by cable car and cableway takes approx. 20 minutes. Each section of the Freccia nel Cielo has a different capacity; the new cable car can carry up to 1800 people an hour in its 47 cabins with 10 places each; the cabins of the first section of the cableway, instead, have a capacity of 70 people each and those of the second section 40.
overall difference in height	2044 m
incline	25.5% (cable car) 46.63 % (1st section cableway), 44.69% (2nd section cableway)
minimum width	1.20 m
terrain	Paved surface if you remain inside the stations
obstacles	None. None of the stations have architectural barriers
exposed stretches	None (inside the buildings)
<b>facilities</b>	
access	<u>Private transport</u> : the departure station is easy to reach by car. Ski bus service available in the winter
restrictions	None
car park	Large pay car park for the cableway (with reserved spaces for the disabled)
accessible toilets	In the valley station and restaurant in Col Druscié. None at Ra Valles or Cima Tofana
refreshments	Restaurant in Col Druscié (fully accessible); restaurant in Ra Valles (a couple of steps to enter); Bar Cima Tofana
recharging stations for electric bikes	None
network coverage	Coverage provided by main mobile phone operators, free wi-fi in the area
GPS mapping	Negligible

street view	<p><b>Panoramic photo car park and valley station (Cortina):</b>  <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/@46.545478,12.1314682,3a,75y,33.08h,62.5t/data=!3m8!1e1!3m6!1sAF1QipM7dz9FbNSUCRKouLLz-c8zFH-40-yWrTVxNyCx!2e10!3e11!6shttps://www.googleusercontent.com/fp/FAF1QipM7dz9FbNSUCRKouLLz-c8zFH-40-yWrTVxNyCx%3Dw203-h100-k-no-pio-ya92.87157-roo-fo100!7i9000!8i4500?hl=it-IT">https://www.google.com/maps/@46.545478,12.1314682,3a,75y,33.08h,62.5t/data=!3m8!1e1!3m6!1sAF1QipM7dz9FbNSUCRKouLLz-c8zFH-40-yWrTVxNyCx!2e10!3e11!6shttps://www.googleusercontent.com/fp/FAF1QipM7dz9FbNSUCRKouLLz-c8zFH-40-yWrTVxNyCx%3Dw203-h100-k-no-pio-ya92.87157-roo-fo100!7i9000!8i4500?hl=it-IT</a></p> <p><b>Panoramic photo Col Druscié:</b>  <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/@46.543055,12.1038888,3a,75y,283.75h,90.54t/data=!3m8!1e1!3m6!1sAF1QipMvcm3C5BqejjmCs68n6iMyOiuRfbta2HQPsk!2e10!3e11!6shttps://www.googleusercontent.com/fp/FAF1QipMvcm3C5BqejjmCs68n6iMyOiuRfbta2HQPsk%3Dw203-h100-k-no-pi-o-ya116.44115-ro-o-fo100!7i5472!8i2736?hl=it-IT">https://www.google.com/maps/@46.543055,12.1038888,3a,75y,283.75h,90.54t/data=!3m8!1e1!3m6!1sAF1QipMvcm3C5BqejjmCs68n6iMyOiuRfbta2HQPsk!2e10!3e11!6shttps://www.googleusercontent.com/fp/FAF1QipMvcm3C5BqejjmCs68n6iMyOiuRfbta2HQPsk%3Dw203-h100-k-no-pi-o-ya116.44115-ro-o-fo100!7i5472!8i2736?hl=it-IT</a></p> <p><b>Panoramic photo Ra Valles:</b>  <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/@46.5473611,12.0850981,3a,75y,130.17h,80.06t/data=!3m8!1e1!3m6!1sAF1QipML_AuMBldonlv-sOfrdOjqObLLmMfiwkTBK1!2e10!3e11!6shttps://www.googleusercontent.com/fp/FAF1QipML_AuMBldonlv-sOfrdOjqObLLmMfiwkTBK1%3Dw203-h100-k-no-pi-o-ya52.358555-ro-o-fo100!7i8704!8i4352?hl=it-IT">https://www.google.com/maps/@46.5473611,12.0850981,3a,75y,130.17h,80.06t/data=!3m8!1e1!3m6!1sAF1QipML_AuMBldonlv-sOfrdOjqObLLmMfiwkTBK1!2e10!3e11!6shttps://www.googleusercontent.com/fp/FAF1QipML_AuMBldonlv-sOfrdOjqObLLmMfiwkTBK1%3Dw203-h100-k-no-pi-o-ya52.358555-ro-o-fo100!7i8704!8i4352?hl=it-IT</a></p> <p><b>Panoramic photo panoramic terrace at Cima Tofana:</b>  <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/@46.5515823,12.0674353,3a,75y,105.86h,85.91t/data=!3m8!1e1!3m6!1sAF1QipMVSHbrap3yvLYCXyayoe8rFUVgaucpCsLLjUE!2e10!3e11!6shttps://www.googleusercontent.com/fp/FAF1QipMVSHbrap3yvLYCXyayoe8rFUVgaucpCsLLjUE%3Dw203-h100-k-no-pi-o-ya27.746338-ro-o-fo100!7i8704!8i4352?hl=it-IT">https://www.google.com/maps/@46.5515823,12.0674353,3a,75y,105.86h,85.91t/data=!3m8!1e1!3m6!1sAF1QipMVSHbrap3yvLYCXyayoe8rFUVgaucpCsLLjUE!2e10!3e11!6shttps://www.googleusercontent.com/fp/FAF1QipMVSHbrap3yvLYCXyayoe8rFUVgaucpCsLLjUE%3Dw203-h100-k-no-pi-o-ya27.746338-ro-o-fo100!7i8704!8i4352?hl=it-IT</a></p>
signs along the route	Every visitor is given a map of Tofana with lots of information about the cable car and lift, as well as all the activities and events held in the different resorts
UNESCO info points	None
assistance	There are no assistants on the lifts but drivers and staff are available to help if necessary
rental services	None
reductions	20% off ticket prices for the disabled person and person accompanying them; other reductions are available upon request at the ticket office upon presentation of proof of invalidity
emergency numbers	112 European emergency telephone number 118 Italian emergency telephone number
<b>contacts</b>	
contact for info	<a href="http://www.freccianelcielo.com">http://www.freccianelcielo.com</a> / tel.: +39 0436 5052
information provided by and itinerary checked by	 <p><a href="http://www.freccianelcielo.com">http://www.freccianelcielo.com</a></p>
route mapped on	25/10/2018
<b>responsibility</b>	<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</p>

contact the local tourist board for an update on the conditions of the route.

Weather: [http://www.arpa.veneto.it/previsioni/it/html/meteo\\_dolomiti.php](http://www.arpa.veneto.it/previsioni/it/html/meteo_dolomiti.php)

Local tourist board: <https://www.dolomiti.org/it/cortina>

Lift opening times and periods: <http://www.freccianelcielo.com/>