

AREA

Dolomites – Croda da Lago - Nuvolau

FACE

Northeast

DIFFICULTY

Easy

TIME

2,30-3,00 hours

BEAUTY

3

NOTES

No obvious danger. The itinerary can also be carried out during snowfalls.

ASCENT

0

DESCENT

325 m

POPULARITY

Low

GEAR

Normal equipment for winter walking, snowshoes and poles. Binoculars recommended.

INTRODUCTION

This easy and beautiful walk through lush woods leads to the lakes Aial and Pianozes. Deer, the true kings of the forest, may be encountered along the way. The walk can be carried out even when it snows.

GETTING THERE

From Cortina take the SS48 towards Passo Falzarego to Pocol and then turn off onto the 638 towards Passo Giau.

ACCESS

Park about 1 km after Pocol next to the path markers at the hut at Pezziè de Parù.

DESCRIPTION

Take path no. 434, cross the river Rio de Costeana and turn off left onto path no. 431. Walk alongside the river for a short while and then continue straight ahead at the first fork along the path 431. This leads into the forest and on to a clearing with the hut "Cason del Macaròn". This is an excellent observation point for the Becco d'Aià, one of the most famous crags used by climbers in Cortina. Deer, in their brown and grey winter coats, can often be seen here.

From the hut walk down along the narrow road to reach a metal bar. Immediately after this turn off right, briefly uphill to reach Lago d'Aial and the refuge (Aial means "clearing for charcoal"). From the refuge walk down path no. 430; a couple of easy short-cuts speed things up and give you a chance to get used to walking on steeper terrain. At the end of the long descent and after a short flat section the itinerary turns first left then right to reach Lago di Pianozes and Chalet Pianozes (1180m). The lake and plants surrounding the lake are extremely beautiful and it is well-worth walking around it, especially

since there are troughs for deer which may be feeding.

RETURN

Take the bus back from Campo.

LINKS

<http://cortina.dolomiti.org>

<http://www.planetmountain.com>

<http://www.guidecortina.com>

