

AREA

Dolomites – Lagazuoi - Fanes

FACE

Northeast

DIFFICULTY

Difficult

TIME

3 - 4 hours

BEAUTY

5

NOTES

Snowpack must be well bonded and stable. Watch out for cornices.

ASCENT

300 m

DESCENT

300 m

POPULARITY

Low

GEAR

Normal equipment for winter walking, snowshoes and poles. Further: ice axe, crampons and rope.

INTRODUCTION

Sass de Stria (2477m), literally “bewitched rock”, was entirely tunnelled by the Austrian Army during the First World War, rendering it an important strategic stronghold, impenetrable for the Italian Alpini. The itinerary reaches the summit of the natural sentry post at Passo Falzarego and requires a certain level of fitness and familiarity with mountaineering techniques.

GETTING THERE

From Cortina take the SS 48 to Passo Falzarego and then continue on right down towards Valparola.

ACCESS

Park on the right close to the Austrian fort (2183m) at Sass de Stria.

DESCRIPTION

Start by walking SE towards a large painted boulder. Follow the shoulder up and away from the valley that separates the Valparola road from Sass de Stria to reach the rocky crest without much difficulty. Continue on past a few rocky sections to the “crux”: a narrow chimney and an iron ladder. Take care as you climb up this as it is usually half-covered in snow. Next follow the crest, steering well clear of the cornices, to the summit cross at 2477m.

RETURN

Return along the line of ascent.

LINKS

<http://cortina.dolomiti.org>

<http://www.planetmountain.com>

<http://www.guidecortina.com>

