

AREA

Dolomites - Brenta

PEAK

Cima Brenta

FACE

East - West

ALTITUDE

2200 - 3000m

DIFFICULTY

Medium

TIME

5 hours from Rifugio Tuckett to Rifugio Alimonta.

BEAUTY

5

DESCRIPTION OF DIFFICULTY

Technically not particularly difficult but exposed. Well-equipped throughout, it reaches 3000m. Wrap up warm if windy, especially during the first climb to Bocca del Tuckett.

TOTAL ASCENT

1200 m

FERRATA ASCENT

500 m

**PERIOD**

From July to October, depending on snow conditions.

POPULARITY

High

GEAR

Normal via ferrata kit. Ice axe and crampons necessary at the start of the season

INTRODUCTION

The extraordinary Via delle Bocchette Alte is the most famous ferrata in the Brenta Dolomites. Offering panoramas of incomparable beauty throughout, it is an itinerary that fails to disappoint. The route crosses the famous Bocchette along a series of exposed ledges reaching an altitude of 3000m. Always interesting and demanding, it requires good level of fitness and solid mountaineering skills.

GETTING THERE

Drive to Madonna di Campiglio.

ACCESS

Rifugio del Tuckett can be reached from Madonna di Campiglio in two ways.
1. by car to Rifugio Vallesinella (1513m),

to then continue easily on foot along path no. 317 to Rifugio Casinei (1825m) and then, in two hours, to Rifugio del Tuckett (2271m).

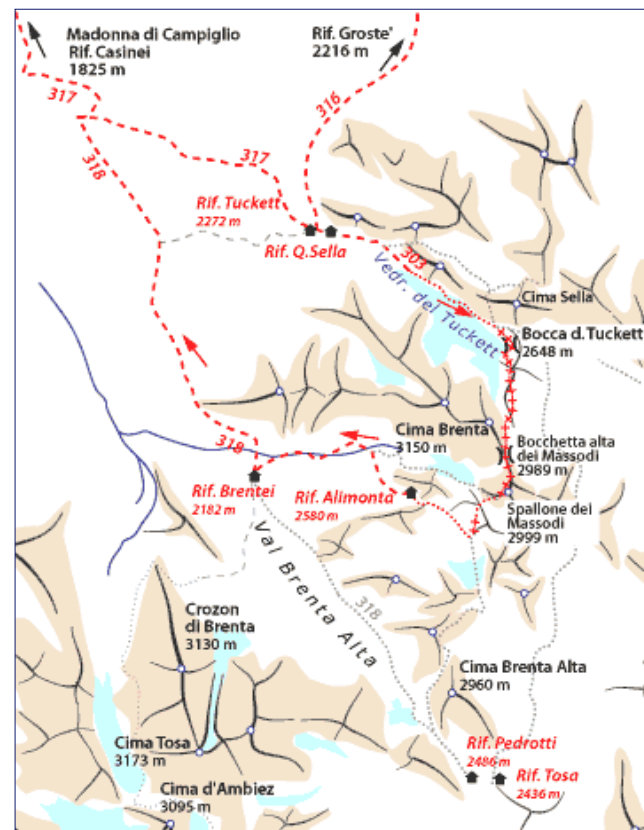
2. take the lifts to Rifugio Grosté (2261m) and then continue along the easy path no. 316 to Rifugio del Tuckett.

ASCENT

From Rifugio del Tuckett take path no. 303 to reach the snowfield and the Bocca del Tuckett saddle. Continue right from here following signs up stepped rocks to the obvious start of the ferrata. Cables and ladders follow steeply up the crest to vertical ladders that lead up to the main ledge system. Crampons and ice axes may be found necessary on this first tiring, cold and windy section, especially at the start of the season. The exposed but well-equipped ledge now leads off leftwards, along the eastern flank of Cima Brenta. After an easy zigzag ascent reach a plaque and the Via Normale that scrambles up, via cairns and a series of chimneys, to Cima Vallesinella and Cima Brenta (3151 m – 1 hour, care and attention required). The ferrata however continues on and descends into a dark and damp gully, past cables to a small icefield. This section is rightly considered the crux as the cable may be buried in snow at the start of the season and tends not to be taught. After having crossed this (queues possible) the ferrate leads up and down ledges to reach a wide terrace with a fantastic view south onto the flat Spallone dei Massodi and the impressive Cima Brenta to the north. Leave this panorama point and descend steeply via cables and ladders to the Bocca Alta dei Massodi and the famous Scala degli Amici. Thirty exposed vertical meters lead to the windy Spallone at 3000m. Follow signs across this to duck down into a gully and a gravelly path that descends to further ladders and the saddle (Bocca Bassa dei Massodi nestled beneath Cima Molveno (2917m)). A variation leads off rightwards slightly beforehand down the Via Ferrata Oliva Detassis, but the Via delle Bocchette Alte continues left at the fork to the obvious saddle and then on up to Cima Molveno. Descend easily to the Vedretta dei Sfulmini glacier and Rifugio Alimonta (2580m).

DESCENT

For those who have not planned to spend the night in Rifugio Alimonta (so as to continue on the Via delle Bocchette Centrali the next day), walk down the obvious and well-marked path to Rifugio dei Brentei, 2182m in about an hour. Return to the Rifugio Vallesinella and the car park in a further 1.30 hours.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Via Ferrata Scrambles in the Dolomites
by Höfler/Werner Translation Cecil Davies
Cicerone Press

LINKS

<http://cortina.dolomiti.org>
<http://www.planetmountain.com>
<http://www.guidecortina.com>

