

AREA

Dolomites - Marmolada

PEAK

Marmolada

FACE

West

ALTITUDE

3343 m

DIFFICULTY

Difficult

TIME

4 hours

BEAUTY

4

DESCRIPTION OF DIFFICULTY

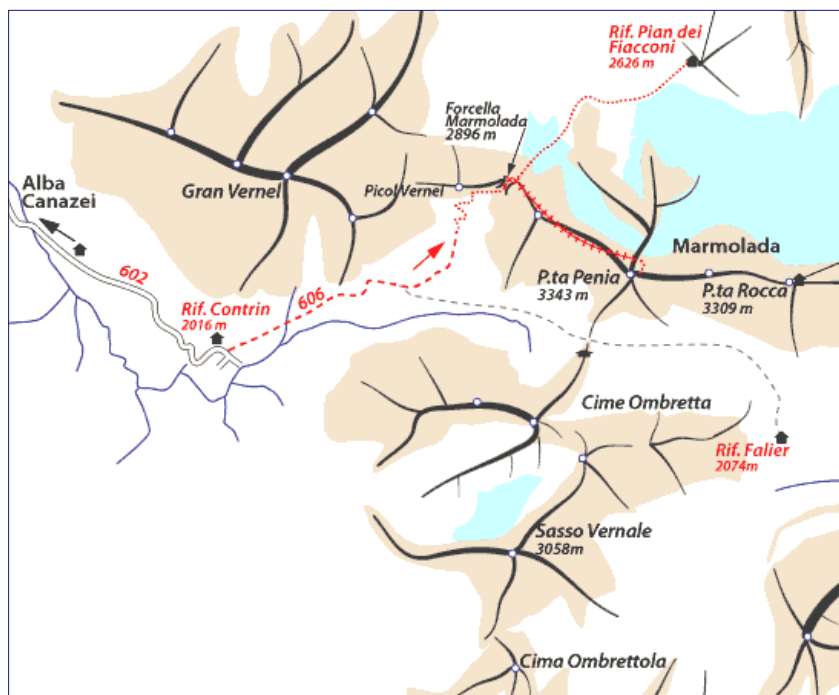
Solid mountaineering skills are needed to cross the snow fields and the glacier. A rope may be found useful for the ferrata and is absolutely necessary for the glacier traverse. The itinerary can only be carried out in excellent, stable weather.

TOTAL ASCENT

900 m

FERRATA ASCENT

450 m



to Rifugio Contrin (2061m). Given the length of the itinerary we recommend you spend the night here.

From Rif. Pian dei Fiacconi: from Caprile or Canazei drive to Passo Fedaia and then take the chairlift (or path no. 606 - 1 hour) to Pian dei Fiacconi and the Rifugio.

ACCESS

From Rifugio Contrin take path no. 606 up the valley to Forcella Marmolada; from Rifugio Pian dei Fiacconi take path no. 606 downhill to then coast beneath the north pillar to reach the glacier. Climb up this to a rocky section that leads to Forcella Marmolada.

ASCENT

From the narrow Forcella della Marmolada traverse north to a small gully. Ascend this to a polished slab which, equipped with pegs, leads up through the first section of the west face to reach, via a ramp leftwards, the western crest. Follow this and coast above the immense south face: beneath are 800m of fantastic limestone and some of the most famous climbing routes in the entire Dolomites. Follow the obvious line to reach the snowy summit plateau and the Punta Penia hut (3343m). The 360° panorama from the highest point in the Dolomites will not disappoint.

DESCENT

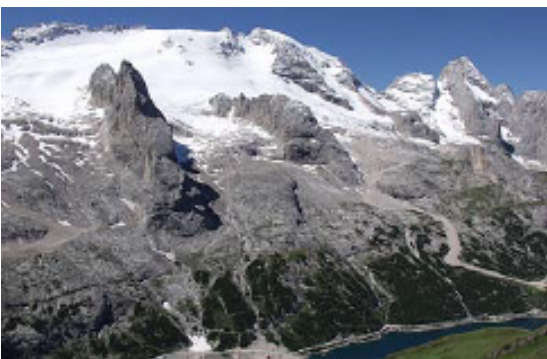
Descend along the line of ascent. Alternatively, follow the classic traverse to Pian dei Fiacconi along the north face and the "Schiena di mulo" crest. From the crest follow the markers to scramble over rocks down to the glacier. Continue roped up throughout the crevace strewn terrain to reach Rifugio Pian dei Fiacconi (2625m) and the cable car.

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>

**PERIOD**

July to September, depending on snow conditions

POPULARITY

High

GEAR

Normal via ferrata kit + ice axe, crampons, harness, rope and helmet.

INTRODUCTION

The Queen of the Dolomites and the highest peak in this magnificent massif, Punta Penia, attracts hikers and mountaineers throughout the entire year. The classic Cresta Ovest places ferrata skills into a severe alpine environment: this traverse and descent along the normal route through the Marmolada glacier to Pian dei Fiacconi requires solid mountaineering skills and stable weather.

GETTING THERE

From Rifugio Contrin: from Alba di Canazei (park at the Ciampac cable car) take path no. 602, and cross Val Contrin

