




LANZO CROSSING

**A 9-stage trekking guide to discover the
lanzo valleys.**



discovervallidilanzo.it

A photograph of two hikers, a man and a woman, walking on a mountain trail. They are wearing backpacks and using trekking poles. The background shows a steep, rocky mountain slope under a clear sky. The image is partially obscured by a blue overlay on the right side.

Discover the unexpected trekking.

For those who love mountain hiking, a single day is often not enough. This is how traverses are born multi day treks that link valleys, mountain passes, and refuges. But when these traverses evolve into a wide, rich, and diverse loop, they reach perfection, and the circle-quite literally-is closed.

This is the essence of Lanzo Crossing, a traverse that didn't exist before and has now been charted by a photographer hungry for peaks and panoramas. The route unfolds across three distinct valleys: Valle di Viù, Val d'Ala, and Val Grande, which together form the Lanzo Valleys a territory nestled in the splendid Graian Alps on the border between Italy and France.

Despite their proximity to the city of Turin and the Caselle International Airport, these mountains have maintained a stern and sometimes wild identity, perfect for those who shun overtourism and seek vast spaces of freedom and adventure.

For this reason, Lanzo Crossing is not your typical high altitude trail for mountain tourists. It is a demanding itinerary for mindful hikers, ready to face an environment capable of offering an experience that is never ordinary.



Although it follows pre-existing paths, it requires experience in tackling various types of challenging terrain, where the trails are never “highways” and the landscapes never suffer the crowding of many influencer-heavy locations.

Lanzo Crossing is an experience for those who seek in trekking a ground for self-reflection, adventure, and discovery a journey that will unveil a surprising and unique territory.

Lanzo Crossing is also a photographic exhibition and a film documenting the complete traverse of the Lanzo Valleys.

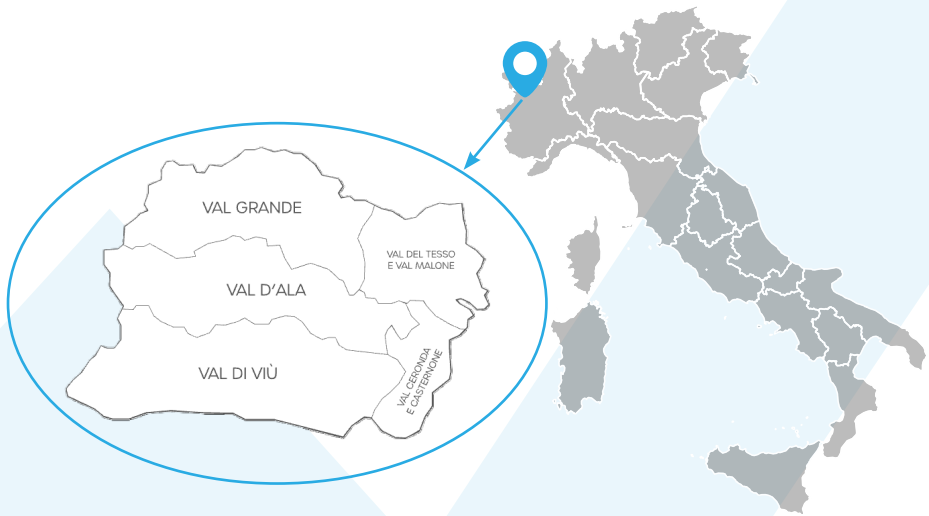
The photographer **Giacomo Meneghello** is the author of many of the photographs accompanying this publication. A selection of his best shots and backstage footage is available at discovervallidilanzo.com/lanzo-crossing/, where you can also watch the film that tells the story of the entire journey.



WATCH THE FILM

HOW TO REACH THE LANZO VALLEYS

The Lanzo Valleys are easily accessible from Turin and the main cities of Northern Italy. Whether you prefer to travel by car, train, or plane, reaching the area is simple and convenient. Notably, Lanzo Crossing has been designed specifically for hikers who wish to travel by train: the first stage begins right at the Lanzo Torinese station, while the final stage concludes at the Pessinetto station, just a little further up the valley.



Take the A55 motorway (Turin Ring Road/Tangenziale) and follow the signs for Lanzo Torinese. From here, provincial roads will easily lead you into the different valleys. The journey from Turin takes approximately 45 minutes.



The nearest airport is Torino Caselle (TRN), located just 30 km from the Lanzo Valleys. From the airport, you can rent a car or take a train to reach your final destination.



From Torino Porta Susa or Porta Nuova stations, take the regional train towards Ceres, with intermediate stops in the main towns of the valley. The journey takes about one hour and offers a convenient alternative to the car.

LANZO CROSSING

The route at a glance.



Both the start and finish points of the traverse are located at railway stations, allowing for a completely car free experience.

The stages are designed to be completed by staying at managed accommodation facilities, minimizing your backpack weight and ensuring proper rest between hiking days. The recommended period for the trek is from mid-July to late September.

Visit the website to discover all available accommodations: discovervallidilanzo.it

Number of stages: **9**

Total distance: **130 km**

Total elevation gain: **8.300 m**

Minimum altitude: **470 m**

Maximum altitude: **3.077 m**

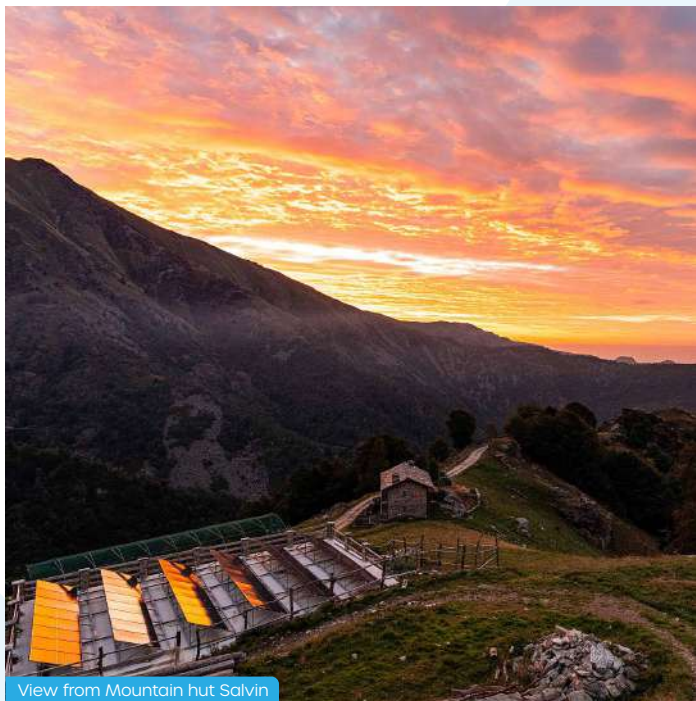
Difficulty: **E/EE**

FROM THE TRAIN TO THE MOUNTAIN HUT

Lanzo Torinese > Mountain hut Salvin

INTRODUCTION

The journey begins in Lanzo, reachable by train. After exploring the historic town, the route climbs the southern slopes of the Valle Tesso. You will traverse lush woodlands and ancient hamlets rich in historical and sacred architecture, eventually reaching the panoramic natural balcony where Rifugio Salvin stands.



View from Mountain hut Salvin

TECHNICAL DATA

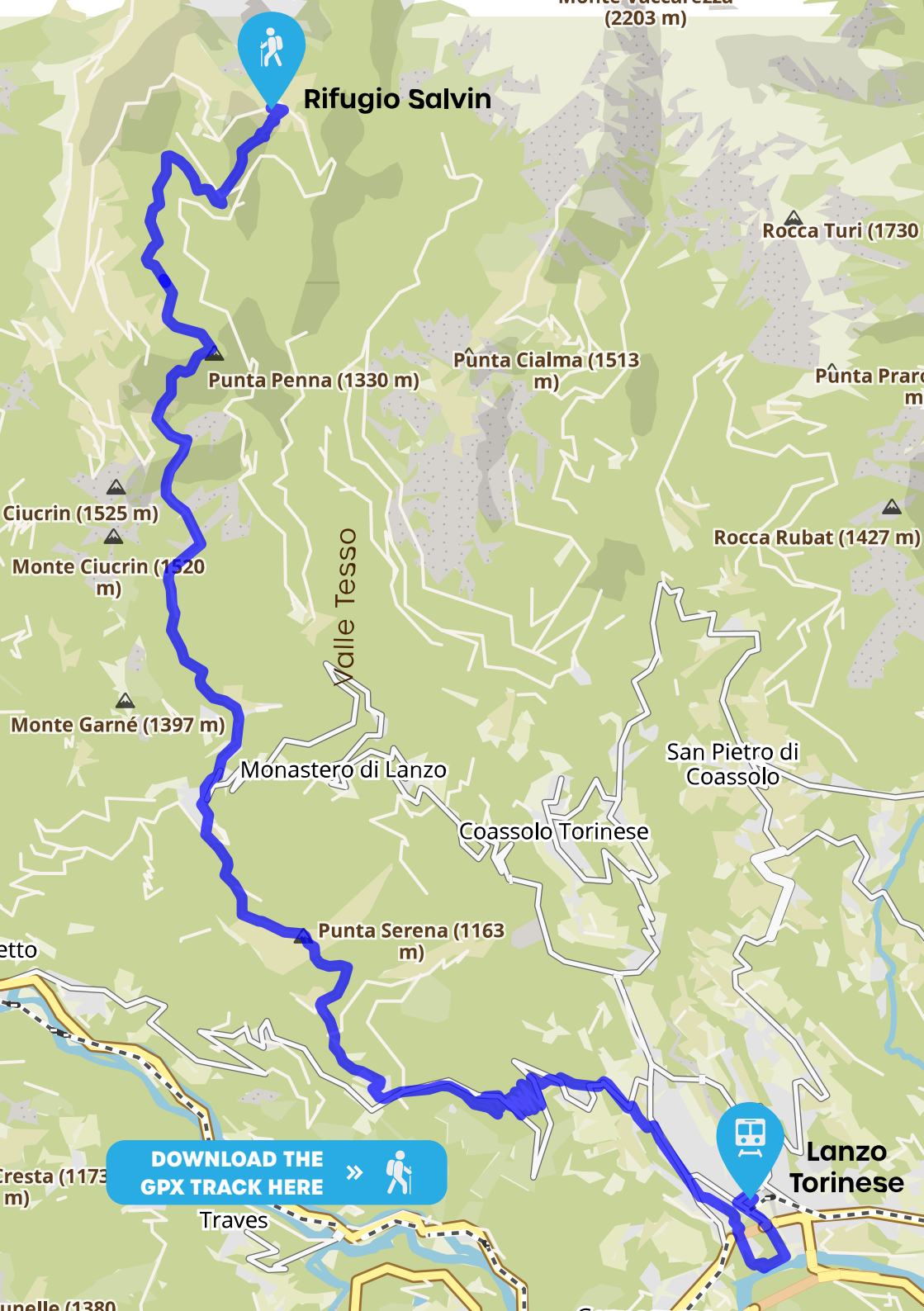
Difficulty: **E**

Distance: **19,5 km**

Elevation gain: **1.300 m**

Elevation loss: **200 m**

Time: **5 hours**



Rifugio Salvin

Punta Penna (1330 m)

Punta Cialma (1513 m)

Rocca Turi (1730 m)

Punta Prar...

Ciucrin (1525 m)

Monte Ciucrin (1520 m)

Rocca Rubat (1427 m)

Monte Garné (1397 m)

Valle Tesso

Monastero di Lanzo

San Pietro di Coassolo

Coassolo Torinese

Punta Serena (1163 m)

etto

DOWNLOAD THE GPX TRACK HERE



Lanzo Torinese

Traves

cresta (1173 m)

unelle (1380 m)



Lanzo Torinese railway station

ROUTE DESCRIPTION



Starting from the charming Lanzo Torinese railway station, cross the square and turn left onto Via Roma. At the roundabout, take Via Frasca on the left; in about 15 minutes, you can reach the magnificent Devil's Bridge (Ponte del Diavolo), dating back to the 14th century.

Returning to the town center, follow Via Loreto to reach the characteristic small church dedicated to the Black Madonna. Near the church, along the provincial road, the trail begins. It leads up to the panoramic Sanctuary of Sant'Ignazio, passing a Big Bench shortly before reaching the top. A short detour to visit the sanctuary is highly recommended for its exceptional views over the valleys.

STAGE 1**LANZO CROSSING**

From the residential area below, follow signs toward the hamlet of Tortore. Here, the path climbs to Punta Serena (1.145 m), another spectacular viewpoint. From this summit, descend along the trail to the village of Chiaves (1.050 m), notable for its parish church and its iconic monumental staircase.

From Chiaves, head north until you reach the Fontana Sistina (Sistine Fountain), the starting point of the Marian Path (Sentiero Mariano), dedicated to the apparitions of the Virgin Mary. Proceed to the hamlet of Marsaglia with its distinctive church. From here, a final ascent leads to Rifugio Salvin (1.580 m), situated in a scenic alpine pasture overlooking the entire upper Valle Tesso.

The Devil's Bridge in Lanzo Torinese



Punta Serena

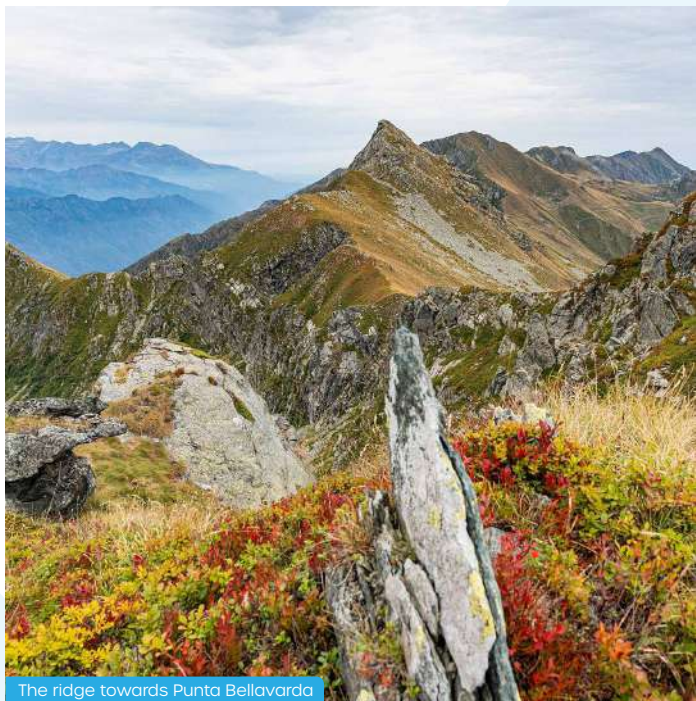


ALONG THE RIDGELINE OF VAL GRANDE

Mountain hut Salvin > Vonzo di Chialamberto

INTRODUCTION

A highly panoramic stage following the Alta Via Canavesana, straddling the ridge between Val Locana (Gran Paradiso) and Val Grande. While the views are rewarding, the descent from Monte Bellavarda requires careful attention and sure-footedness.



The ridge towards Punta Bellavarda

TECHNICAL DATA

Difficulty: **EE**

Distance: **11 km**

Elevation gain: **800 m**

Elevation loss: **1.150 m**

Time: **5-6 hours**

(2784 m)

Punta Pian Spigo
(2540 m)

DOWNLOAD THE
GPX TRACK HERE



Punta Uja (1725 m)

Uja di Bellavarda
(2345 m)

La Rossa (2319 m)

Punta dell'Aggia
(2254 m)

Vonzo di
Chialamberto

Punta Gias Vej (2180
m)

Rifugio Salvin

Cantoira

n (1853)

Monte Rosso (1769 m)

Punta Penna (1330 m)

Monte di Santa
Cristina (1339 m)

Ciucrin (1525 m)

Monte Ciucrin (1520
m)



Descending towards Vonzo

ROUTE DESCRIPTION



The journey begins at Rifugio Salvin, following trail 407 towards Lago di Monastero. After approximately one hour of ascent, you reach the pass below Gias Vej; from here, the path continues along the hillside until it reaches the shores of Lago di Monastero (1.990 m). Leaving the lake, follow the agro-pastoral road that brushes past several Shepherds' huts (Alpe di Coassolo, fountain). Heading northwest, the route stays just below the ridgeline and soon transitions into a narrow mountain trail (marked AVC / 332A).

Continue along the slope to Colle della Gavietta, then traverse the flanks of Monte Marsé to finally reach the summit of Monte Bellavarda (2.345 m) from its southern side. In this section, the trail may occasionally be obscured by high grass or the passage of grazing herds.

STAGE 2

LANZO CROSSING

From the summit, a superb panorama unfolds over Val Grande, Val di Locana, and the surrounding peaks of the Graian Alps. The descent follows the North ridge via a steep path that must be tackled with caution (EE grade, featuring some sections equipped with fixed chains) to reach Colle della Paglia (2.151 m).

From the pass, join trail 326 for a long but manageable descent through the entire Vallone della Paglia. You will pass near the Sanctuary of Madonna di Ciavanis, which is clearly visible and can be reached via a 20 minute detour. The trail continues downwards to the characteristic hamlet of Vonzo (Chialamberto). Just before entering the village, a 30 minute detour to the right following a steep woodland path leads to the legendary Roc d'le Masche (the Witches' Rock).

Roc d'le Masche



The village of Vonzo

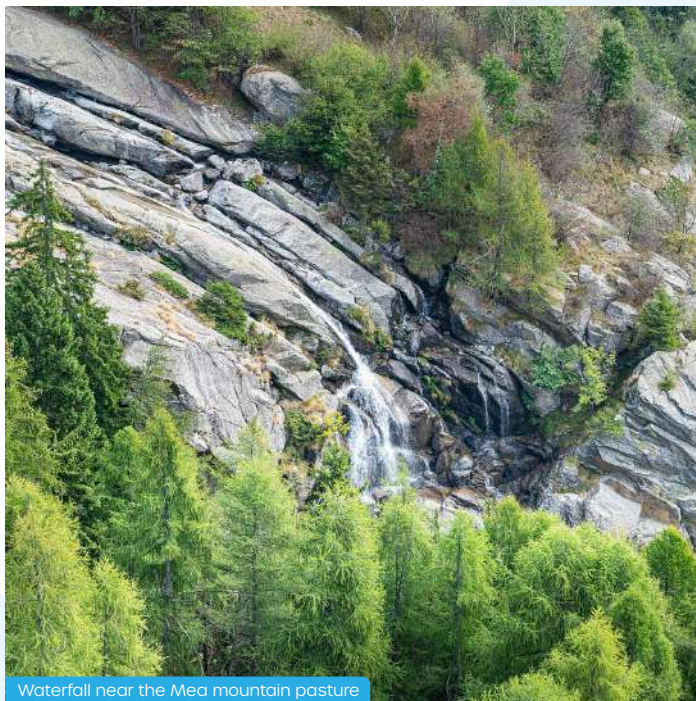


THROUGH WOODS AND ANCIENT ALPINE PASTURES

Vonzo di Chialamberto > Forno Alpi Graie

INTRODUCTION

A long but accessible stage that immerses you in the mid-mountain environments of Val Grande di Lanzo. The route winds through atmospheric beech forests and traditional stone hamlets, culminating in the breathtaking viewpoint from the summit of Bec di Mea.



Waterfall near the Mea mountain pasture

TECHNICAL DATA

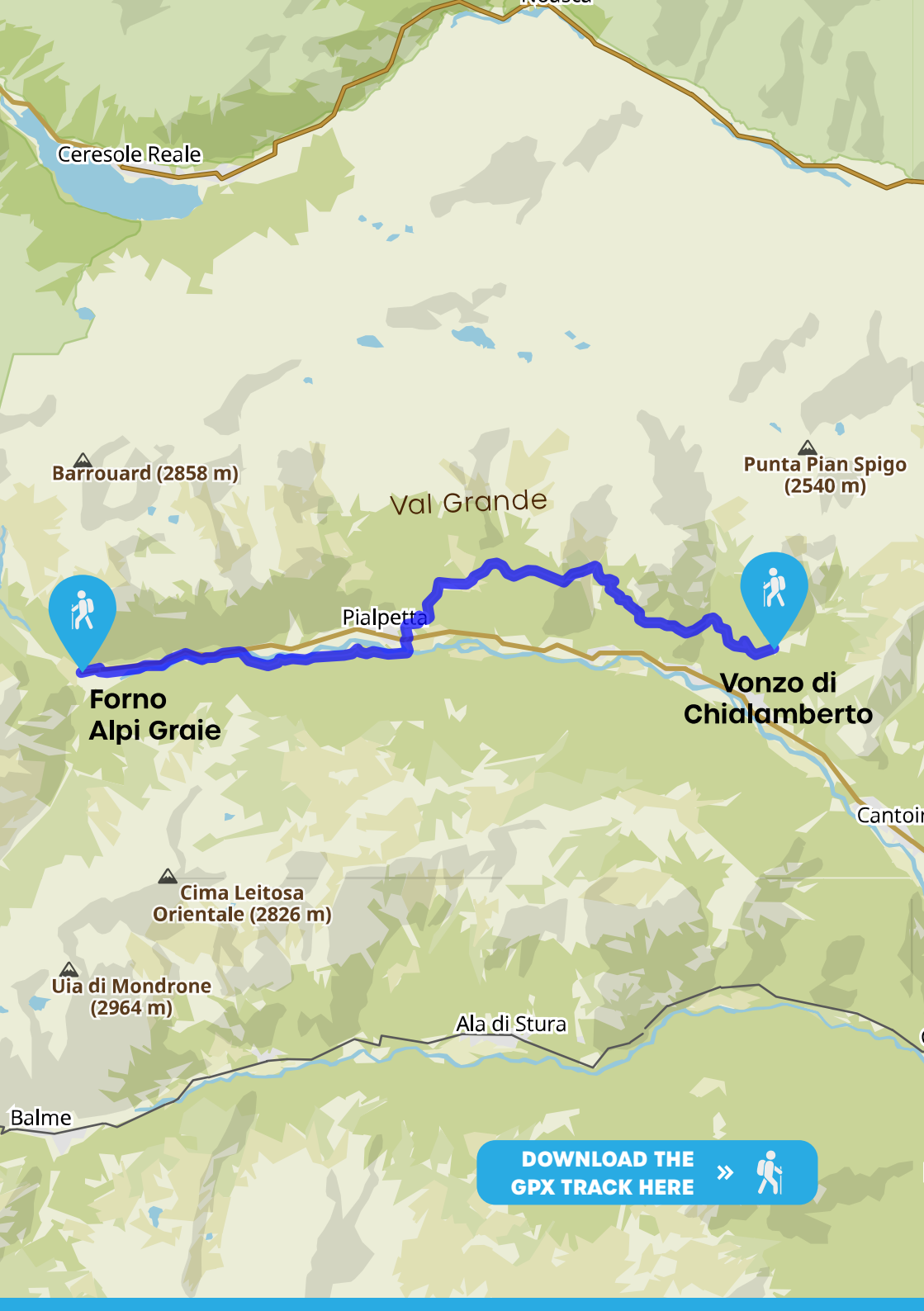
Difficulty: **E**

Distance: **14 km**

Elevation gain: **700 m**

Elevation loss: **700 m**

Time: **5-6 hours**



Ceresole Reale

Barrouard (2858 m)

Val Grande

Punta Pian Spigo (2540 m)

Pialpetta

Forno Alpi Graie

Vonzo di Chialamberto

Cima Leitosa Orientale (2826 m)

Uia di Mondrone (2964 m)

Ala di Stura

Cantoir

DOWNLOAD THE
GPX TRACK HERE





View from Bec di Mea

ROUTE DESCRIPTION



From the village of Vonzo, follow the paved road heading west and downhill towards the hamlet of Pianardi / Bocchetto. This section is a necessary detour from the original 325B trail which previously passed through Candiela and crossed the Vassola stream due to a bridge collapse in the summer of 2025.

Upon reaching Pianardi, where the pavement ends, join trail 323A as it enters beautiful beech woods. Staying at an altitude between 1,200 and 1,600 meters, the path reaches the hamlet of Frassa, notable for its unique chapel with an uphill-facing entrance. After a slight descent, you arrive near the characteristic alpine pasture of Mea. Here stands the Bec di Mea (1,550 m), a striking granite spire carved by ancient glaciers that offers a stunning view over the entire valley. Access to the summit is aided by a walkway and a fixed rope, requiring a few easy scrambling moves (maximum Grade II).

STAGE 3

LANZO CROSSING

Returning to the main path, follow a forest track that soon narrows back into a trail leading to the picturesque village of Alboni, perched on a plateau overlooking Val Grande.

Following trail 322, descend towards the village of Pialpetta. A short detour into the town center allows you to restock at the last grocery shops in the valley. In the locality of Migliere, the route meets the GTA (Great Alpine Traverse); follow it for a short stretch across the Stura stream. Immediately after the bridge, leave the GTA track to follow the trail climbing the orographic right bank of the valley. A gentle 5 kilometer walk leads to the historic village of Forno Alpi Graie, situated at the very head of Val Grande.

Bec di Mea



Encounters in the valley floor

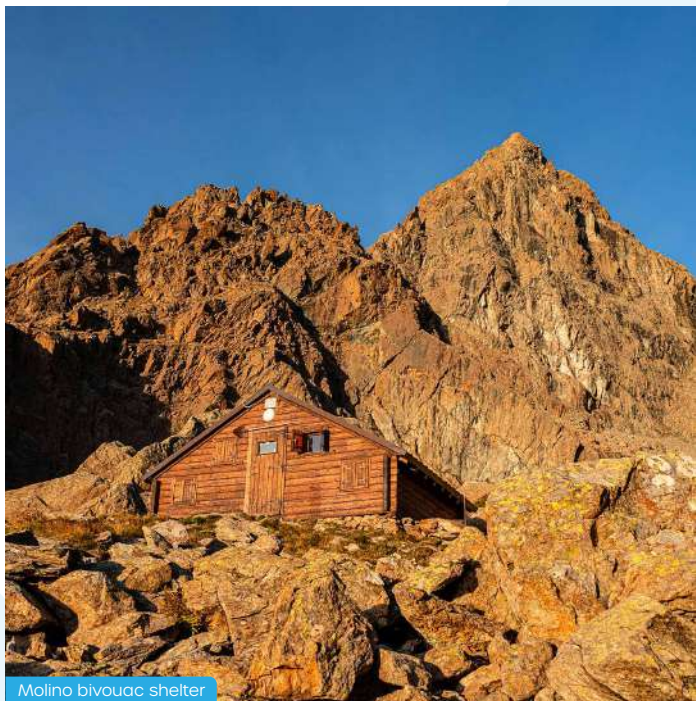


HEAVEN CAN'T WAIT

*Forno Alpi Graie > Balme
(or Molino bivouac shelter)*

INTRODUCTION

A demanding stage due to its length and elevation gain, crossing from Val Grande to Val d'Ala. The route traverses the first section of the striking Vallone di Sea, an area of immense natural value soon to be incorporated into the neighboring Gran Paradiso National Park.



Molino bivouac shelter

TECHNICAL DATA

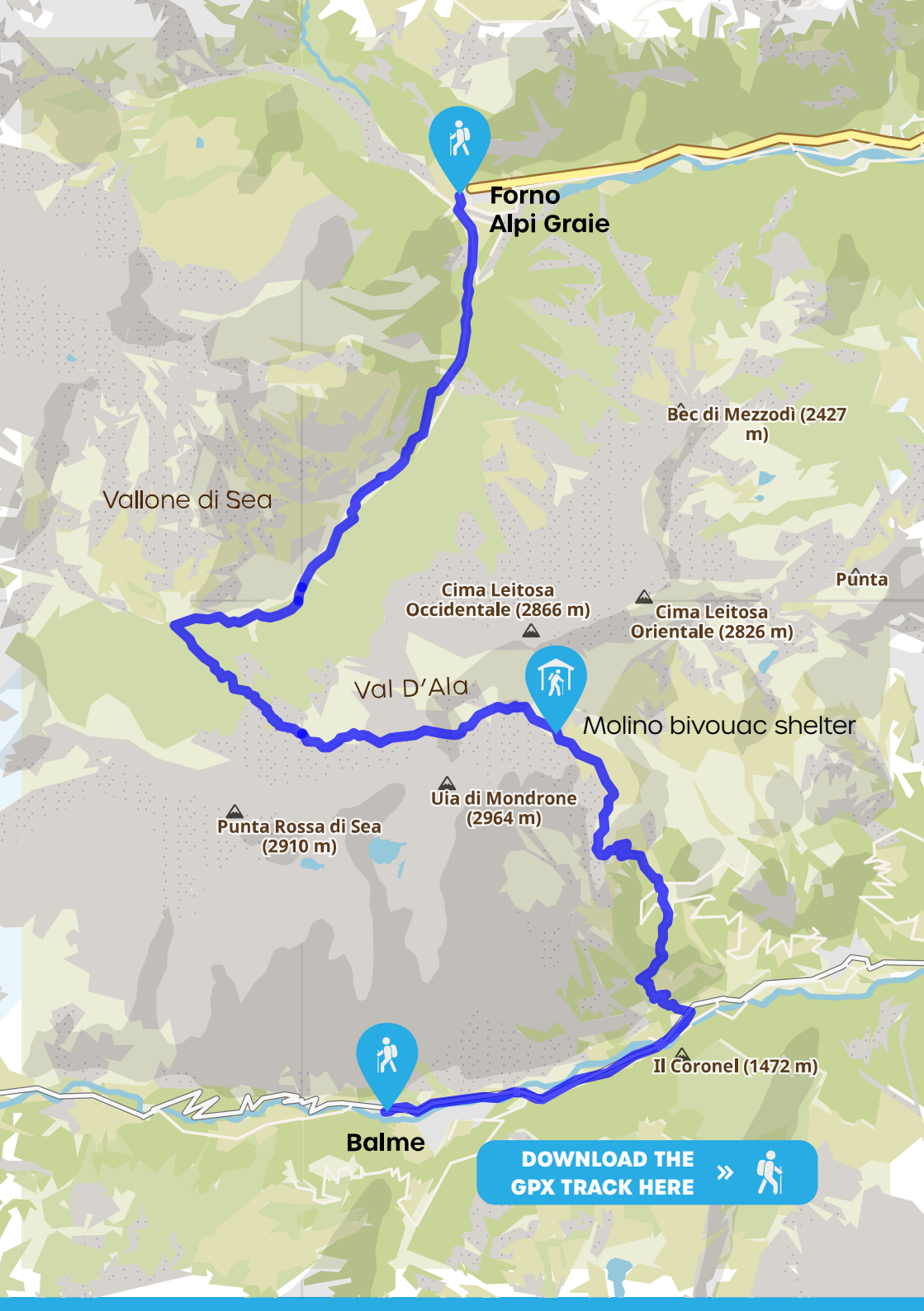
Difficulty: **EE**

Distance: **15 km**

Elevation gain: **1.520 m**

Elevation loss: **1.275 m**

Time: **7-8 hours**



**Forno
Alpi Graie**

Béc di Mezzodi (2427
m)

Vallone di Sea

Cima Leitosa
Occidentale (2866 m)

Cima Leitosa
Orientale (2826 m)

Pûnta

Val D'Ala



Molino bivouac shelter

Punta Rossa di Sea
(2910 m)

Uia di Mondrone
(2964 m)

Il Coronel (1472 m)



Balme

**DOWNLOAD THE
GPX TRACK HERE** >>



In the Sea Valley

ROUTE DESCRIPTION



From the village of Forno Alpi Graie, enter the Vallone di Sea, initially along a dirt road and then following trail 308, which alternates between flat stretches and short, steep inclines.

The trail follows the orographic left bank of this long valley, where you can admire the granite walls that saw the birth of the “Nuovo Mattino” climbing movement, eventually reaching a scenic plain scattered with massive boulders.

A little further on, cross the stream near the Balma Massiet alpine pasture to the opposite bank. Continue until you reach a junction near a wooden footbridge connecting to Alpe di Sea. Here, leave the main path that heads into the upper valley and take the trail to the left (marked 309) to climb towards Passo dell’Ometto (2.614 m).

This section can be challenging in its lower part due to dense vegetation, while the final ascent to the pass is steep and over scree slopes.

From the pass, which offers a stunning view over the upper Vallone di Sea, cross over into Val d'Ala. A steep descent quickly brings the Bivacco Bruno Molino (2.279 m) into sight a basic, unmanaged wooden shelter, always open and equipped with mattresses and blankets. The bivouac is an excellent stop for those wishing to stay at high altitude and witness the sunrise under the imposing face of Uja di Mondrone (ensure you carry sufficient food and water).

Alternatively, to reach Balme for an overnight stay in an inn, continue along trail 233, which descends steeply towards the hamlet of Molette, eventually merging with the GTA (Great Alpine Traverse). Follow the GTA from Molette to reach Balme, the endpoint of this challenging but fascinating stage.

VARIANT

Should Passo dell'Ometto still be covered in snow, an alternative is to use the GTA route that starts from Migliere and climbs to Colle di Trione. From the pass, descend into Val d'Ala, joining the path from Passo dell'Ometto just above the village of Molera, and continue to Balme. If choosing this variant, it is advisable to stay overnight in Migliere or Pialpetta during Stage 3, avoiding the climb to Forno Alpi Graie.



CLIMBING TOWARDS THE GLACIERS

Balme > Gastaldi Mountain Hut

INTRODUCTION

The most famous itinerary in Val d'Ala. Crossing the scenic Pian della Mussa, the trail ascends in the presence of the Uja di Ciamarella and leads to the foot of the Uja Bessanese, where one of the oldest refuges in the Alps is located.



The Uja Bessanese and its glacier

TECHNICAL DATA

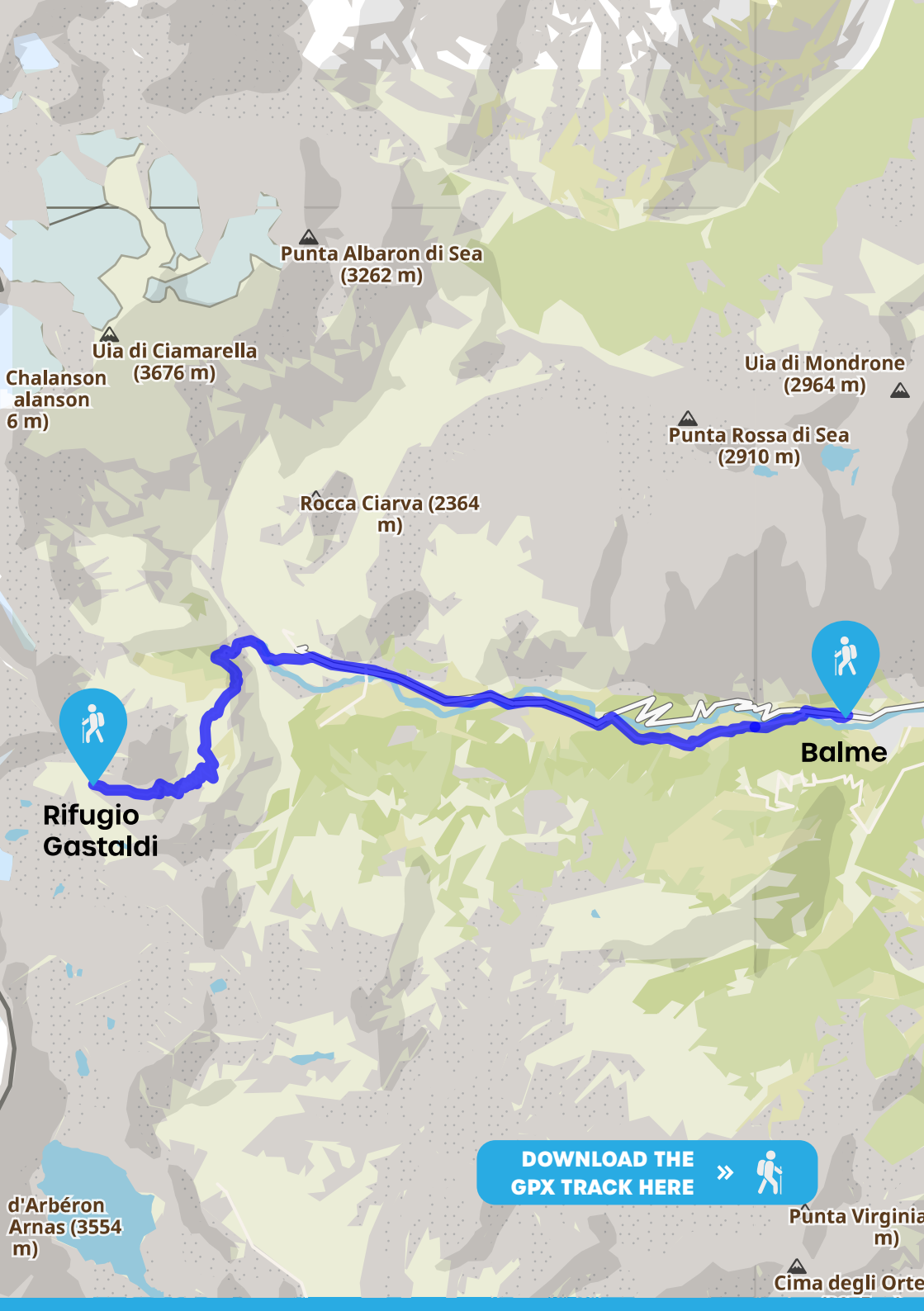
Difficulty: **E**

Distance: **8,3 km**

Elevation gain: **1.200 m**

Elevation loss: **0 m**

Times: **4 hours**



Punta Albaron di Sea
(3262 m)

Uia di Ciamarella
(3676 m)

Chalanson
alanson
(6 m)

Uia di Mondrone
(2964 m)

Punta Rossa di Sea
(2910 m)

Rocca Ciarva (2364
m)



Rifugio
Gastaldi



Balme

DOWNLOAD THE
GPX TRACK HERE >>



d'Arbéron
Arnas (3554
m)

Punta Virginia
(m)

Cima degli Orte



A view towards Uja di Ciamarella

ROUTE DESCRIPTION



From the village of Balme, follow trail 220, which begins by turning onto a small bridge to the left after a few hundred meters on the paved road. The path climbs the orographic right bank of the stream until it rejoins the road upon reaching Pian della Mussa, a stunning basin nearly 3 kilometers long. Cross the entire plain heading west, with the imposing eastern face of Uja di Ciamarella (3.676 m) directly ahead, until you reach the trailhead located just below Rifugio Città di Ciriè.

The route enters an obvious breach known as the Canale delle Capre (Goat Channel), which overcomes a rocky step via steep switchbacks. Some fixed chains are present and prove useful if the ground is wet. This leads to the Piano dei Morti, a panoramic balcony overlooking the entire upper Val d'Ala.

STAGE 5**LANZO CROSSING**

From here, the gradient eases as the trail continues with a long traverse, followed by a series of hairpins and a section equipped with chains. Shortly after, you arrive in the magnificent glacial basin that houses Rifugio Bartolomeo Gastaldi (2.658 m), at the foot of the majestic Bessanese. The refuge also hosts a branch of the Turin Mountain Museum, located in a separate building that served as the original refuge.

For those with extra energy, a 30-minute walk leads to the summit of Rocca Turo (2.758 m), a beautiful viewpoint offering a vista over the Ciamarella glacier and the surrounding ring of peaks.

Pian dei Morti



Gastaldi Mountain Hut



TRAVERSE BENEATH THE GIANTS

Gastaldi Mountain hut > Cibrario Mountain hut

INTRODUCTION

A high-altitude traverse leading from the head of Val d'Ala to the upper Val di Viù. The route unfolds through a striking alpine environment dominated by the imposing peaks that form the natural border with nearby France.



Lago della Rossa

TECHNICAL DATA

Difficulty: **EE**

Distance: **7,3 km**

Elevation gain: **532 m**

Elevation loss: **577 m**

Times: **4 hours**

Dents du Colerin
(3321 m)

Segnale Baretti
(3604 m)



Rifugio
Gastaldi

Ouille d'Arbéron
Punta d'Arnas (3554
m)

La Croix Rousse
Punta Croce Rossa
(3566 m)

Favre
m)

Rifugio
Cibrario



Pointe de la
Vallette Punta
Valletta (3384 m)

DOWNLOAD THE
GPX TRACK HERE





Uja di Ciamarella climbing towards Collarin d'Arnas

ROUTE DESCRIPTION



From Rifugio Gastaldi, take trail 222 heading south, descending about a hundred meters before climbing back up toward Colle di Arnas, a historic pass into France.

Leaving the junction for Colle di Arnas on your right, continue south through a landscape of small tarns and moraine flows. A steep and unstable section leads up to the Passo Collarin d'Arnas (2.847 m). From here, the view is magnificent, spanning the entire mountain chain that forms the watershed with France; notably visible from north to south are the Uja Bessanese, Punta d'Arnas, and Croce Rossa.

From the pass, descend rapidly toward the reservoir of Lago della Rossa (2.701 m). Nearby stands the Bivacco San Camillo, a useful shelter in case of bad weather.

STAGE 6**LANZO CROSSING**

For decades, Lago della Rossa was the highest artificial reservoir in Europe, built upon a pre-existing natural lake. It is a popular destination for hikers, reachable via an easy trail from Val di Viù, and is famous for the spectacle of the spring thaw when blocks of ice float upon its waters.

Cross the lake by walking along the dam, then circumnavigate the eastern arm of the lake heading south. The route now continues with a steep climb toward Colle di Altare (2.903 m), with the characteristic Cresta dei Cugni on your left. Once you reach the pass, a short descent leads directly to the beautiful basin where Rifugio Luigi Cibrario (2.616 m) is located.

Lago della Rossa and its dam



Cibrario Mountain hut



THROUGH MOUNTAIN PASSES AND ANCIENT ROMAN ROADS

Cibrario Mountain hut > Usseglio

INTRODUCTION

A spectacular high-altitude stage that links several mountain passes to reach the Colle dell'Autaret and the scenic Malciaussia basin, before returning to Usseglio. While the itinerary presents no technical challenges, it should not be underestimated due to its significant length and substantial descent.



Colle Sule

TECHNICAL DATA

Difficulty: **E**

Distance: **23 km**

Elevation gain: **950 m**

Elevation loss: **2.300 m**

Time: **8 hours**

DOWNLOAD THE
GPX TRACK HERE



Ouille d'Arbéron
Punta d'Arnas (3554
m)

Punta Virginia (2870
m)

▲ Ouille du Favre
(3415 m)

▲ La Croix Rousse
Punta Croce Rossa
(3384 m)

▲ Torre d'Ovarda
Centrale (3075 m)

▲ Pointe de la
Vallette/Punta
Valletta (3384 m)

Rifugio
Cibrario

▲ Punta della Forcola
(2475 m)

▲ Punta Sulè (3384 m)

Usseglio

Margone

▲ Cima Lusera (2320 m)

▲ I Muret (3062 m)
▲ Monte Palonetto
(2643 m)

▲ Grand'Uia (2666 m)

▲ Rocca del Forno
(2722 m)

▲ Monte Palon (2965 m)

▲ Costa Fenera (2620
m)

▲ Rocca del Prete
(2270 m)

LONE

▲ Rocca Patanua (2409
m)



Sunrise climbing towards Colle Sulè

ROUTE DESCRIPTION



From Rifugio Cibrario, cross the semi-marshy plateau known as Pian dei Sabiunin heading west. Aim for the prominent debris cone - often covered by snow patches until late summer - crossing it to climb the steep slope on the left. In this section, the stone cairns can be difficult to spot, but near the cone, both the trail and the markings (Trail 122, TB) become clear. The path, which follows the Tour della Bessanese, climbs steeply for about an hour over scree and loose rock before entering a highly scenic valley. A final uphill stretch leads to Colle Sulè (3.073 m).

From the pass, a sharp descent leads into the Gavie Valley. At the bottom, turn right following the 122 TB markers, ignoring the trail that continues down the valley to the left. After an uphill section, you reach the small valley of Lago Gavie and continue heading west.

With a few bends and undulations, the path passes near an abandoned military barracks dating back to the 1930s. After crossing a small ridge, descend into the basin of the Upper Autaret Lake (2.991 m). Traverse its eastern shore along a slightly exposed stretch, followed by a slope that terminates at Colle dell'Autaret (3.077 m).

This pass is one of the most significant historical links with France; an ancient Roman road once passed here, and it was the route used to transport the Holy Shroud between Chambery and Turin. Remnants of World War II, including bunkers, small barracks, and barbed wire, are still visible today.

For the return journey, take Trail 116. Traversing southeast along the western shore of the upper lake, descend toward the Malciaussia Valley, offering a splendid panorama of Rocciamelone and the surrounding peaks. After a long stretch along the hillside, climb about 100 meters in elevation to reach Colle Spiol (2.594 m), marked only by a stone cairn. From here, reach a wide, suspended grassy plateau. After crossing a side stream, you reach the stony basin of Pian Sulè (2.528 m), where you must turn right (caution: the turn is not obvious) climbing toward a small saddle.

This marks the start of a long, panoramic descent via hairpins - steep and occasionally exposed - toward Lake Malciaussia, which remains visible on the valley floor. Upon reaching the large reservoir of Lake Malciaussia (1.805 m), continue toward the valley bottom following the narrow GTA trail through the valley to the village of Margone and, finally, Usseglio. This final, lengthy section from the lake to Usseglio can potentially be shortened by hitchhiking, as the lake is accessible by a paved road.

VARIANT

If snow still covers the ascent to Colle Sulè or in case of bad weather, the traverse can be shortened by descending to Usseglio via a more direct path with no further elevation gain. From the refuge, follow Trail 118, which traverses the entire Arnas Valley at high altitude before descending to the village of Margone, from where Usseglio is reached by road.

Lago dell'Autaret



Monte Rocciamelone



IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE HOLY SHROUD

Usseglio > Viù

INTRODUCTION

A long and evocative stage that leads from the upper Val di Viù to the valley's main town. The route winds through beech forests, crosses mountain streams, and passes through traditional Alpine hamlets. Part of the trek follows the "Percorsi Sindonici" (Shroud Paths), touching upon some of the most significant spiritual sites in the valley.



Chapel of San Giulio

TECHNICAL DATA

Difficulty: **E**

Distance: **21,5 km**

Elevation gain: **730 m**

Elevation loss: **1.200 m**

Times: **7 hours**

Uia di Mondrone
(2964 m)

Ala di Stura

Ceres

Balme

**DOWNLOAD THE
GPX TRACK HERE** >> 

Punta Virginia (2870 m)

Monte Ciorneva (2918 m)

Torre d'Ovarda
Centrale (3075 m)

Valle di Viù



Viù



Usseglio

Lemie

Punta Lunella (2772 m)

San Didero

Rubiana



The parish church of Usseglio

ROUTE DESCRIPTION



From the village of Usseglio, follow the GTA markings briefly before leaving them at the edge of town to join the Percorsi Sindonici (PS) itinerary. Pass through the hamlet of Pianetto and traverse the entire plateau along its orographic left bank.

Just before reaching the hamlet of Piazzette, leave the PS trail to the right and continue leftward (marked 131 TC, Tour del Calcante), gaining about 200 meters in elevation. Passing below the slopes of Monte Tumolera, you reach the hamlet of Ciampermà and eventually enter the Vallone d'Ovarda at the village of Villaretti (1.149 m). From here, descend towards Lemie, making sure to take a short detour to admire the beautiful Ovarda waterfall.

From Lemie, descend towards the Stura river and cross to its orographic right bank. Follow the PS markings as a reference towards Forno di Lemie and Viù. Continue descending until you reach the village of Villa, followed closely by Forno di Lemie, home to the striking Chapel of San Giulio and a historic medieval bridge.

After crossing the Forno bridge, climb through a lush forest on the orographic left slope towards the hamlet of Pessinea. From here, an enjoyable and largely level path leads to the village of Balma and the characteristic settlement of Tornetti. Finally, follow the trail flanking the Rio della Viana for a long descent that brings you into the heart of Viù.



CLOSING THE CIRCLE

Viù > Pessinetto

INTRODUCTION

The concluding stage of the traverse is accessible and manageable, featuring moderate distances and elevation changes. The route climbs through the beautiful valley north of Viù to reach Colle della Cialmetta, before descending back toward Val d'Ala and the town of Pessinetto. From here, the train provides a convenient return to Lanzo Torinese and Turin.



Local wildlife near Colle della Cialmetta

TECHNICAL DATA

Difficulty: **E**

Distance: **10,6 km**

Elevation gain: **550 m**

Elevation loss: **750 m**

Time: **5 hours**

Mezzenile

Pessinetto

Monte Cresta (1173 m)

Punta Lunelle (1380 m)

Uja di Calcante (1614 m)

Monte Bellacomba (1199 m)

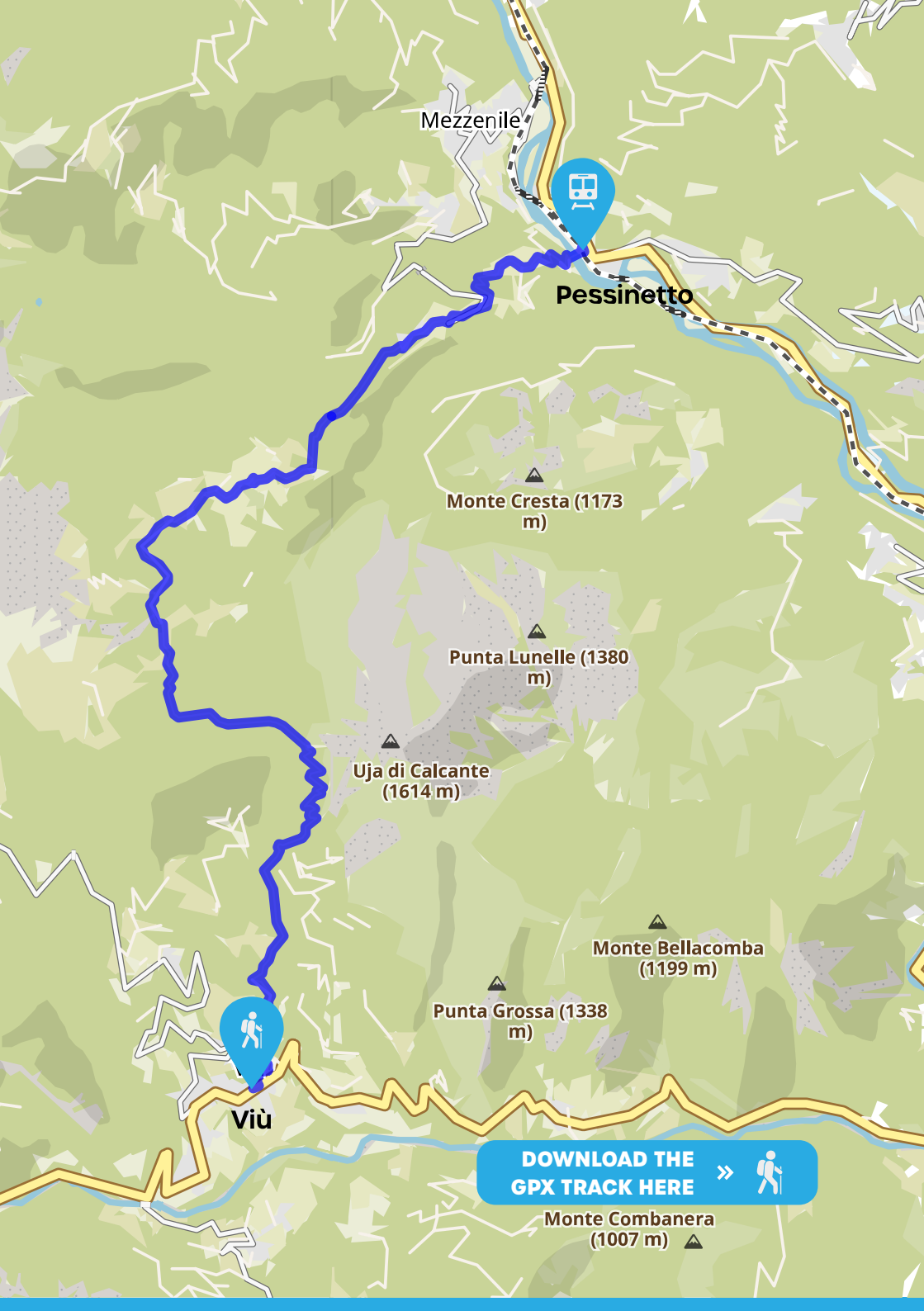
Punta Grossa (1338 m)

Viù

DOWNLOAD THE
GPX TRACK HERE



Monte Combanera (1007 m)





ROUTE DESCRIPTION



From the center of Viù, follow trail 134. Leave the paved road at a sharp hairpin bend and climb gently northward, staying on the orographic right bank of the stream. The path leads through serene woodlands with a moderate gradient until reaching a steeper section; wide zig-zags then lead up to Colle della Cialmetta (1.305 m), where a small Alpine chapel and a social mountain hut stand.

The environment here is evocative, dominated by a lush beech forest from which the peak of Uja di Calcante emerges, clearly visible from the pass. For those wishing to enjoy an expansive panorama over the lower Val di Viù, the summit can be reached via a 45 minute detour.

From the pass, follow trail 204A toward the hamlet of Monti, which is reached after a short stretch along the paved road coming from Colle della Dieta.

STAGE 9

LANZO CROSSING

After passing through Monti, continue on trail 204C toward the village of Bogliano. From here, leave the provincial road that leads to Mezenile and descend toward the Stura river. Cross the river to reach the town and the Pessinetto railway station.

From Pessinetto, you can easily reach Lanzo Torinese, the Turin-Caselle International Airport, and the city of Turin via train or bus.

Play of light in the woods



Pastures near Colle della Cialmetta





VALLI
DI LANZO



discover the unexpected mountain

These are the valleys where it all began. This is where Italian mountaineering was born, where the first guides set out to explore an area that will still surprise you today for how free and natural it has managed to remain. From chestnut and larch woods to rock faces and high-altitude glaciers, the only limit to a true outdoor experience is your imagination. Come and discover a different idea of the mountains and let yourself be surprised **[discovervallidilanzo.it](https://www.scopervallidilanzo.it)**

WARNINGS AND SAFETY INFORMATION

Lanzo Crossing is an itinerary reserved for fit hikers with significant mountain experience. The routes presented here were surveyed in the summer of 2025; however, trail conditions (accessibility, snow cover, etc.) are subject to change over time due to unpredictable external factors. It is, therefore, essential to personally verify weather and trail conditions before setting out, possibly by consulting professional hiking or alpine guides a list of whom can be found on discovervallidilanzo.it.

Furthermore, it is vital to ensure that the physical and technical demands of the trek are compatible with your fitness level and technical expertise. The mountains are a wonderful environment, but they must be approached with caution, experience, and the correct equipment. If in doubt, do not hesitate to enlist the services of a certified mountain guide.

Disclaimer: Any civil or criminal liability for accidents or damages occurring during the excursion is expressly disclaimed. By consulting this material and utilizing the GPX tracks, you acknowledge and accept the full general terms and conditions, which can be viewed at: discovervallidilanzo.it/termini-e-condizioni-d-uso/.

Acknowledgments

The completion of this traverse was made possible by a collective effort involving the contribution and expertise of many associations and individuals. We wish to thank:

Roberto Bergamino - Trails Commission

Federica Garbano - Mountain Leader

Gino Geninatti - President of CAI Lanzo

Maria Giangoia - Trails Commission

Andrea Giors - Trails Commission

Andrea Mantelli - Trails Commission

Jacopo Padoan - Trails Commission

Francesco Pastore - Mountain Leader

Fabio Portinaro - Mountain Leader

Francesco Romanetto - Trails Commission

Mauro Salot - Sentieri Alta Val Malone Association

Davide Savant Moton - Trails Commission

Federico Tibone - Sentieri Alta Val Malone Association

Alberto Varalli - Rapporteur

Giorgio Vinardi - Mountain Leader

Davide Viva - Mountain Leader

Club Alpino Italiano sezione di Lanzo Torinese - Institutional Partner

Concept and Production: **Jolie Advertising**

Operational Coordination and Consultancy: **Alberto Varalli**

Strategy and Content Editing: **Gianfranco Bo** e **Sara Scattarella**

Creative and Graphic Direction: **Giuseppe D'Alfonso** e **Francesco D'Albenzio**

Photography: **Alessia Giardino**, **Giacomo Meneghello**, **Klaus Dell'Orto**,
Monica Schettino, **Daniele Molineris**, **Gianfranco Bo**

Lanzo Crossing is an initiative commissioned by the Unione Montana di Comuni Delle Valli di Lanzo, Ceronda e Casternone and the Unione Montana Alpi Graie. It is part of the interventions implemented with European and national funds dedicated to the National Strategy for Inner Areas (SNAI).



 **VALLI
DI LANZO**
discover the unexpected mountain.

Intervention realized with European and national funds dedicated to the implementation of the National Strategy for Inner Areas (SNAI).

