

Walking around Ovaro

Ovaro is the ideal starting point for hiking Tamai, Arvenis and Col Gentile mountains, but also for reach a series of huts, where in the summer, you can find grazing cows and in many huts is possible to buy butter and cheese and eat simple but tasty typical dishes as well. *Malga Forchia, Malga Losa and Malga Pozof* are open from late June to mid-September.

Detailed itinerary of ascents from the municipality of Ovaro:

- Mount *Avedrugno*: 1.533m, 4h. From Mione you go down go through the *Miozza* stream, then you go up (2.30h) to the *Stàvoli Laudi* 940m, from where in the middle of meadows and woods, to the South West, you reach the top.
- Mount *Zoncolan*: 1.740m, 4h. From *Malga Pozof*, for the grassy ridge, you go up to the east to enjoy a beautiful view of *Val Degano, Val Pesarina* and the high valley of the *But*.
- Mount *Tamai*: 1.970m, 4.30h. You go up from Lenzone, so by car and you will arrive at *Malga Arvenùtis* 1.515m. After about 6 km, in the area of *Forchianon*, there are oligomineral water sources. Holding high you reach the 1.840m fork between Mount *Arvenis* in the south and the Mount *Tamai* in the north, reachable from the left across the pastures.
- Mount *Arvènis*: 1.968m, 4.30h. After *Malga Arvenùtis*, you have to take the mule track to the right that climbs to the *Malga Clàupa* 1.646m, then through a ridge until the summit. You can quickly reach the 1.840m fork that separate the *Arvènis* from the *Tamai*.

FROM OVARO TO THE SLOPES OF MOUNT ARVENIS

Ovaro- Malga Arvenutis – Malga Claupa – Stavoli Aiers – Cludinico – Amboluzza – Ovaro

Length: 25.9 km

Duration: 3-4 hours

Difficulty: Challenging – difficult

This itinerary begins from the centre of the village and develops in the heart of Carnia skirting the Mount Arvenis. This strategically located mountain is an exceptional vantage point in direction of all the cardinal points. This itinerary is definitely among the most difficult but also the most spectacular and fulfilling. The long and intense ascent to *Malaga Claupa*, a photocopy of the mythical ascent of Mount *Zoncolan*, will be rewarded by the richness of unique landscapes.

On the opposite side of the Post Office, you can find the street that brings to the *Zoncolan* and the *Arvenis* Mountains. The road climbs immediately in a very challenging way to reach the hamlet of Lenzone; after passing through the bell tower and the church of St. Trinity, turn right and continue through *Via Lenzone*. Once reached the village of this hamlet, at a crossroads take the right and go along *Via Arvenis di Lenzone*.

The ascent (CAI 157 marker) develops on asphalt and the slope, very high and continuous, makes it extremely challenging and difficult. After a total of 4.3 km of hard ascent, you find another water source. Thanks to the hairpin bends that characterized the ascent, you can take advantage of some moments of breath. Near *Malga Arvenutis* begins the natural-bottomed mule that continues with still very challenging slopes. In this section of the street you will enjoy the beautiful landscape of the Arvenis and Tamai Mountains.

From *Malga Arvenutis* (open during the summer) the mule rises again. Reached a fork you turn right towards Mount *Claupa* with its huge *Claupa* hut. 100m before reaching this hut, turn right and take the CAI 166 trail with a pleasant grassy bottom. Climbing the slopes of Mt. *Tribil*, you arrive at a new saddle that crosses the path CAI 165. From this saddle you can enjoy a magnificent view of the tiny villages of *Trischiamps* and *Val di Lauco* and the mountain peaks *Dauda* and *Vas*, then keep the right, for a few hundred meters, always along the path 166 which gradually rises up the southern slopes of Mount *Tribil*.

Reached the highest point of the excursion, the trail, starts to go down. Passed the last stretch of this path, begins a comfortable forest track that descends towards the stable *Aiers*. You reach the beautiful grassy declivity of *Aiers* and at a fork turn left. Near a cabin, the mule continues downhill after making a horseshoe curve to the right. The descent stops for a few hundred meters near the standing *Val di Trava*, then it starts again with the end of the dirt track.

Continue downhill on asphalt and ignore on the left a path that heads towards the stable of *Tarlessa*.

Then turn right. After walking a hundred metres, the asphalt section finished again, you will continue on a natural-bottomed mule track, immersed in a beautiful greenery, downhill at the beginning and then flat. So you reach a crossroads where you will continue to the left. A few meters later, you pass a little bridge on the *Entremarza* river and at the following fork turn left downhill. The mule, runs alongside the river for the first stretch, the fund becomes extremely disjointed and insidious. Be carefully in this stretch, then it runs out near a fork where you will continue to the left. After passing in front of a nice lodge you reach another fork and keep the right. This is one of the most exciting stretches of the entire itinerary as you cross a beautiful greenery with the presence of arboreal essences.

The descent ends near a small football field beyond which the track rises blandly a few hundred meters. Then go down until a fork and turn right towards *Cludinico* Cemetery. Just beyond it, the forest street resumes at its natural bottom. After passing a short uphill ramp we continue on continuous ups and downs. At this point you face about 300 m of downhill that ends with the crossing of another small river. From this point, the track's slope increases to lead you to some abandoned stable. Go towards them and start the steep slope to the highway of *Ovaro*.

The steepest part of the slope ends in the middle of a fenced orchard: here you find a crossroad and turn right. After wading the *Rio delle Valli*, go down more blandly until reconnect to the paved road near a large garden center. Near its entrance take the right to the dirt track, seat of an ancient railroad. This last stretch is a quiet walk that allows you to reach the village of *Ovaro*. Resumed the asphalt near the first houses we continue straight towards *Ovaro's* Post Office.

RING OF MIONE NAVAS MUINA

Difficulty: tourist recommended

period: autumn and spring

Signpost: absent, the excursion takes place along roads and forest tracks with an obvious path

Cartography: *Tabacco* 1:25,000, sheet 013, Carnic Prealps *Val Tagliamento*.

From the Centre of Ovaro go beyond the *Degano* river to the hamlet of Cella and the ancient Pieve of Gorto, 520 m. Just beyond Pieve of Gorto, begins a wide paved mule that leads to the village of Mione, 710m.

You will pass in front of the great *Micoli-Toscana* Palace and turning left you will reach the village with its unique square. Here turn left again, following a narrow paved road, you will arrive in the Valley of *Mozza* stream. Then continue along a wide foreststreet that rises with hairpin bends inside the woods.

At the clearing of *Staipe Chianaia*, disseminate with small barns, continue uphill, along the forest street, until another crossroad. Towards the left street is almosto flat until the wide grassy saddle of *Navas* 1025m, from here dominate *Val Degano* on one site, and on the other, *Raveo* hills and *Val Tagliamento*.

You leave on the right *Casera of Navas* and for a very steep track, you start to descend among beautiful greenery in direction of *Muina*. The wood leave its place to the wide glades where you will find stable *Prencis* 800m, a group of picturesque stables and barns that worth a visit. Then starts the slope down the track, through the woods and meadows, to the village of *Corva*, 571m, above the village of *Muina*. In short time you reach the stock that connects *Muina* to *Ovaro* and, following the latter, you will reach *Agròns*. In this way you close the ring near the *Pieve of Gorto*.

COL GENTILE FROM MIONE

Cartography: *Tabacco*, 013

Gradient: 1000m

Lenght: 12km

Once in *Mione* continue by car along the paved road follow the indications for *Casera Losa*. After a long serie of hairpin bends inside the woods, the street reaches a fanced stable. Leave here your car and continye by foot.

The road crosses a beautiful forest of beech and spruce turning soon into a country road. Once passed the wooded horizon the street goes up in the eastern flank of Mount *Forchia* passing near some stables and offering spectacular views of the underneath Valleys.

Then you will reach the *Forcella* (1824m). From here the view opens towards Sauris mountains. Then continue towards an obvious track in a southwest direction following the grassy ridge.

The track reaches the CAI path n235. From here begins a long and panoramic traverse that, slightly uphill, reaches the grassy basin under the top of the *Col Gentile* and, immediately after, the west ridge of the mountain.

Abandon the CAI path n.235 and follow the indications that continue to the near top. In the last section, is possible to find a large number of alpine plants including *Parnassia*, the yellow *Sassifraga*, the *Achillea of Clavena* and the *Trifoglio Bruno*.

Towards some hairpin bend you reach the summit of *Col Gentile* (2075m). You will descent from the same way ascent. Once you return to the *Forcella*, is highly recommended a little detour to visit the summit of *Mount Forchia*.

TALM MOUNTAIN FROM SOSTASIO

The excursion is quite short, but incredibly intense due to the high average slope that characterizes the ascent. However, the great effort required to conquer the summit, will be repaid by the beautiful landscape. From the top is possible to enjoy a breathtaking panorama, wandering over all the main mountains in the area. Main travel points: Sostasio-Luc- Hut m.*Talm*- Hut *Cacciatori di Rigolato*- m. *Talm*.

Features:

- Departure location: Sostasio, loc. Croce, 607m;
- Route length: 17.8 km
- Maximum altitude reached: m.*Talm*, 1728m
- Difference: 1205m
- Travel time: 2.30 – 3 hours
- Recommended season: summer/autumn
- Cartography: Tabacco 1:25,000 – Sheet 1
- Physical effort: high
- Technical level: challenging

Once you reach the area of *Croce*, in *Val Pesarina*, you can see, on the right, a junction with the indication for the village of *Sostasio* and for *Talm* hut. From here you can start the hard pedaling. This first asphalt section, leads into the traditional village of *Sostasio*, however it plunges into the surrounding greenery soon.

At this altitude there is still the opportunity to enjoy the view of the *Val Pesarina*, before entering the thicket woodland that will characterize much of the remaining climb. After passing the village of *Luc*, the ascent, still on a paved ground, starts to get much harder.

After a few rides on a dirt bottom, you reach a crossroads, here you have to choose the main track leading to the *Talm* hut.

Just below the hut there is a renovated lodge, located between green meadows, from which you can enjoy the landscape on the valley. Despite the short distance traveled, you will have the feeling of having gained high considerably. Go ahead, until you reach the *Talm* hut, at 1093m. From this point begins the most difficult part of the entire itinerary.

Go ahead until *Talm* hut, at 1.093 m. From this point begins the most difficult part of the entire itinerary.

You ride on the CAI 226 trail, a very hard, dark and endless cement section crosses the dense spruce forest.

Go ahead until a narrow hairpin, in this point the road surface becomes natural. Ride along n.226 trail facing very challenging slopes.

Now you will be over the woods so follow the main track, which still climbs for a few meters, until it became more and more bland as a slope, thus giving the opportunity to recover.

You will ride in a light ascent for a few minutes, until a plain marked by the indications for "*Piani di Vas*" and for "*Rifugio Cacciatori di Rigolato*" (The Hunter hut). Here the view is still facing the valley below "*Val Pesarina*", but the itinerary is expected to reach the Hunter hut, which is located just a few minutes from there. From the Hunting hut is possible admiring, for the first time, to admire the majestic group of the mount *Coglians*. Now you take the path n.226, which allows the top of the mountain. It takes about 40 minutes.

From the top is possible to admire a wide landscape: from "*Val Tagliamento*", "*Canale di Gorto*", "*Val Pesarina*" and "*Val Calda*". You will descent from the same way ascent.

COL GENTILE FROM OVARO

Ovaro is the ideal starting point for many cycling routes. The excursion is characterized by the panorama and also to be short but very demanding, due to the important slopes to overcome. This track is suggested to trained athletes. This itinerary does not have just the bike path: you have to face a long walk necessary to reach the summit from *Casera Forchia*, passing one of the most difficult carnic climbs ever experienced.

The n.235 CAI trail used for the descent is a bike path, although you can find potentially insidious situations. Development for main points in order of travel:

Ovaro – S. Martino – Luint – Mione – Path n.220 CAI – Staipe Chebia – Passo della Forcella – Casera Forchia – Path n.235 CAI – Col Gentile.

Feature:

- Starting location: Ovaro, 530m
- Route length: 31 km
- Maximum altitude reached: Col Gentile, 2.075m
- Climbing: 1.815m
- Indicative travel time: 6/7 h
- Recommended season: summer/autumn
- Cartography: Tabacco 1:25,000 – Sheet 1
- Physical effort: high
- Technical level: challenging

Leave your car at the Post Office parking in Ovaro. You will start your excursion riding on the S.S. Carnica in direction of Sappada: pass over a bridge from which you can see (below) a little paved street that leads from Ovaro to Mione. After a few meters, you undertake it turning right and following the directions for Luint, Ovasta and Mione.

The street descend soon, until it leads near the bridge on the river Degano, you will pass over it; then turn right at the crossroad, and continue on a soft hill. At the second crossroad take the left towards Luint and Ovasta.

The slope rises gently until another crossroad, you have to turn left (ignoring the direction for Ovasta). Passing the little village of Luint you will arrive in Mione soon, here you can refuel water and admire some peculiar and evocative examples of the architecture of these areas, such as *Palazzo Micoli Toscano*. Now follow *Via Col Gentile*, the ascent is significantly higher: the roadway narrows and in short time you will ride into a delightful and fragrant spruce forest. This direction is marked by the n.220 CAI.

Reached Staipe crossroad turn right, towards "*Stavolo di Chebia*". Go along trail n. 220, towards *Casera Forchia*. The hard slope ends in correspondence with the *Passo della Forcella*, at 1.824m of altitude. The view is stunning: on the right, you can see *Val Pesarina*, while in front you can see the mule track that leads to *Malga Losa*. Then descend to 1.730 m until finally reaching *Casera Forchia*.

Before taking the long e tiring ascent of the n.235 CAI path, which will lead up to the *Cima del Col Gentile*, is suggested to take a short break to enjoy the surrounding landscape. Leaving Casera Forchia follow the just mentioned CAI path, which can only be covered on foot: you have to push the bike for long stretches, especially in the first part of it. It goes up gently but also laboriously, and there are some passages in which a certain caution is required but, on average, this path does not present situations of significant risk along the ascent.

Reached the plateau, now you have to face the last and tiring stretch of the path, that becomes steeper and has a more stony and treacherous bottom: this panoramic and challenging part, turns its view to the underlying meadows previously crossed.

Now is almost done, soon appears the cross located on top of the *Col Gentile*. For those who wish, at the top it is possible to sign the register placed inside the metal box fixed on the cross. The view from this peak is stunning: you can see *Val Tagliamento*, *Val Degano*, *Pani di Raveo* and *Sauris* basin. The descent takes place along the sameway taken on the outward journey: n.235 path, turns out to be almost entirely cycle.

MALGA CLAUPA RING from OVARO

Introduction: this is a circular route that winds through the splendid setting of the Carnic Alps: it reaches its peak close to the high altitude pastures, it goes further among delightful villages in the middle of woods and wide meadows, but also between huts and stables typical of these quiet alpine areas.

Development by main points in order of travel: Ovaro - Malga Arvenutis - Malga Claupa - Stavoli Aiers - Cludinico - Amboluzza - Ovaro.

Feature:

Starting point: Ovaro, 500m

Route length: 25.9 km

Maximum altitude reached: Slopes of Mount Tribil, 1705m

Difference in altitude: 1280m

Approximate travel time: 2 h 30 min - 3 h

Recommended season: summer / autumn

Cartography: Tabacco 1: 25.000 - Sheet 13

Physical effort: medium

Technical level: medium

Leave your car at the Post Office parking in Ovaro, from here starts the ride that interests this itinerary. The climb takes place in direction of Lenzone. After traveling 6.7 km, the bituminous bottom gives way to the natural one, however very compact. Then after 8.5 km, the panorama opens up revealing the surrounding wonders.

Reached *Malga Arvenutis* (1516m), it is worth stopping to admire the surrounding panoramic scenery. At the crossroad for *Malga Arvenis* go on taking the right, facing a very steep and narrow road that leads to the meadows above.

Once you have started climbing, you immediately realize that the ground you are riding on is one of the worst imaginable, because of the kind of composition that characterizes it (loose and friable material). However, in a short time it is repaid by a priceless landscape, as the view opens up revealing the *Valle del But* where the nearby pyramidal summit of Mount *Dauda* stands out.

Malga Claupa (1634 m), fully functional, is used as a shelter for grazing animals. From this point you have to get around the side of Mount *Tribil*, after the descent will begin. Follow n. 166 CAI path, on a compact and not excessively steep surface, until reaching the maximum altitude. Thus begins the descent, along this open stretch that looks towards *Valle del But*, *Valle di Lauco*, the villages of *Trischiamps*, the *Dauda* and *Vas* mountains and the *Aiers* meadows below. The bottom of this mule track is initially smooth, then more bumpy. Once you reach *Aiers* meadows, you face the easy descent on asphalt up to the stables of *Val di Trava*; continue until a crossroad near a green gate, keep the right.

Turn left at the next crossroad, after a few meters you cross the bridge over the river *Entremarza*, then, reached another cross keep left again.

At the next fork, continue to the left again, you will pass in front of a lodge. At this point turn right, cycling through a very beautiful forest. Reconnecting to the asphalt, you go down to another crossroads, placed immediately above the village of *Cludinico*: if you decide to reach this characteristic place, where it will be possible to supply the water bottles thanks to the presence of some fountains, you will have to go down for a short distance.

Otherwise, just before the village at the height of the cemetery, you have to turn right until you reach a crossroad where you have to take the left.

After passing a short ascending ramp you face a stretch marked by some climbs and descents. Then you will face the steep ascent for *Amboluzza di Sopra*, characterized by a grassy surface: this is the last challenging section of the excursion, that ends reaching the surrounding pastures and huts where you can find a fountain.

After leaving the farm on the left, go down towards Ovaro, facing a cemented steep stretch, at the end of which you will reach an intersection and take the right. At this point you are really close to the end of the itinerary.