

From the Forcella Sanctuary to Santa Maria di Misma

Road access from Bergamo:

Pradalunga (Valle Seriana), La Forcella, locality the "Sbardelada" (680 m.)
Km. 12

Start of excursion:

La "Sbardelada" (680 m.)

Travelling time:

2^h 40' (a/r)

Height difference:

190 m.

Difficulties:

AE 

Recommended period:

All year round in dry soil

Water on the route:

YES

Rest stop:

Trattoria-pizzeria "La Forcella", Tel: 035 768215.
Municipal Park "La Pratolina" (Coop. Calimero).
S. Maria di Misma, catering by reservation only on Sundays

Information:

The 'Pratolina' for hut reservations, Tel: 035 74355
S. Maria di Misma, Parish of Cenate Sopra, Tel: 035 956008.

Topographic map:

IGM F. ° 33 II S.O. Alzano Lombardo

Geographical coordinates:

45,7431° N, 9,7999° E

A beautiful walk along paths that have connected the Seriana Valley with the Cavallina Valley since ancient times. The route unfolds through natural, evocative environments, but also interesting for the religious and historical testimonies. From the Pradalunga square, take the carriage road that climbs to the Sanctuary of the Madonna della Forcella (626 m.).



The Sanctuary, built at the beginning of the 17th century, was enlarged, to a design by architect Elia Fornoni, in the years 1910-1915. More recent is the construction of the Casa del Pellegrino (Pilgrim's House) and the annexed restaurant. After the Sanctuary, the carriage road continues for about 800 metres to "La Sbardelada" where, just before a barrier, you can park.



This is a vast area surrounded by 'Roére', the dumps from the numerous Cote stone quarries in the area. The appropriately finished Cote stones were, and in some cases still are, used for sharpening cutting tools; only a few decades ago did the quarrying activity, practised since antiquity, cease.



Following the road that ascends asphalted and then dirt road, we reach the locality of "Pratadòlt (770 m.), a meadowy widening where chestnut trees grow.



After the bend to the right, the path flattens out slightly.



We continue the ascent towards the grassy widening on the right.



To the right of a house is the 'La Pratolina' farmstead, a beautiful building of 17th-century origin. The area is rich in greenery.



To the right of a house is the farmstead 'La Pratolina', a beautiful building of 17th-century origin.



Resuming the ascent, a wooden crucifix appears on our right.



A signpost indicates the direction to follow.



After a second barrier, we continue along the dirt road for about 500 metres to the locality of "Mesòlt" (778 m. 45' from the car park).



At the crossroads we continue to the right.



Leaving path C.A.I. 539, which climbs to Mount Misma, to the left, we continue on level ground in the middle of a dense wood with numerous chestnut trees.



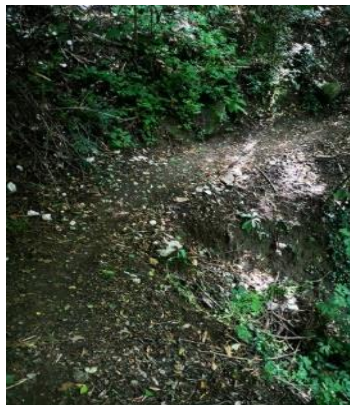
Here the route narrows into a path with small steps and stretches where care must be taken.



In a short time we reach Monte Bastia, at 'Roculù' (789 m), an old hunting lodge with a characteristic masonry hut.



Continuing along the narrow path we encounter stretches where we must be very careful.



We encounter some very tight bends and pay attention.



The path, now marked C.A.I. 626, continues in an easterly direction through the Valpredina Nature Reserve, which is managed by the WWF.



The ground remains compact and passable, paying attention in some sections.



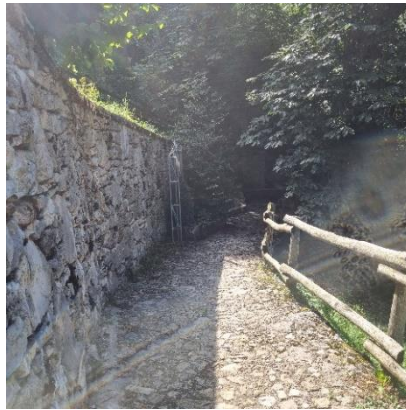
A little further on, in the Corna Rossa locality, a short stretch is crossed without difficulty, between large boulders that collapsed from the wall above in 1992 (a sign indicates no stopping).



The trail continues on a slope in view of the S. Maria di Misma complex, which stands alone on the south-eastern slopes of Mount Misma (830 m. 1^h 40' from the car park).



The foundation of the first church is placed in the year 1100, modified over the centuries, the current building dates back to 1500; the bell tower bears the date 1578. Here we stop for a well-deserved rest and to admire the view that greets us.



We set off on the path down to Cenate di Sopra.

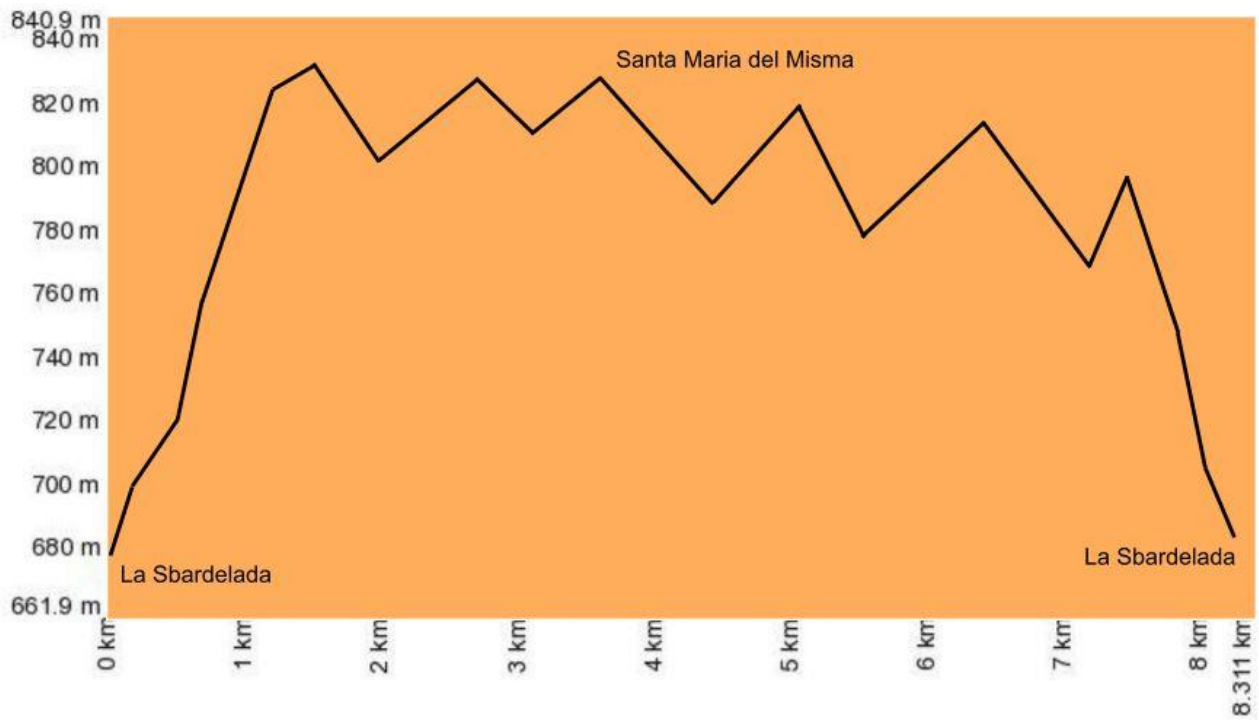


We reach a fountain where we quench our thirst before walking back to the starting point.



On the way back, which retraces the route of the outward journey, we encounter a signpost indicating a path towards the WWF Oasis of Valpredina.

Altimetry



Mappa del percorso

