

From Esmate to the Hermitage of San Defendente

Road access from Bergamo:

Endine Gaiano (Val Cavallina), S.S. 42, Solto Collina, Esmate (577 m.)
Km. 40

Start of excursion:

Parking cemetery of Esmate (577 m.)

Travelling time:

1^h 20' (a/r)

Height difference:

100 m.

Difficulties:

AE   

Recommended period:

All year round

Water on the route:

YES at the Esmate cemetery

Rest stop:

NO

Information:

Municipality of Solto Collina, Tel: 035 986012

Topographic map:

IGM F. ° 34 III N.O. Lovere

Geographical coordinates:

45,7921° N, 10,0338° E

This is a short hike in a mountainous and little-known area of the Alto Sebino to reach the small country church dedicated to S. Defendente. After passing through the village of Esmate, walk along Via Cerrete.



Just before the cemetery, on the left, where you can park.



Climbing along the tarmac road, you reach the Chapel of San Rocco.



Near the chapel, the first information board is on the right, we follow CAI path 565 C.



Behind the chapel we find a small parking area.



The signpost points us in the direction of the Hermitage of San Defendente.



The path is an up and down on terrain that varies its bottom continuously.



At the fork, we keep to the right and continue uphill.



We come to a short stretch of paved path.



We continue into the forest on constantly rising, unpaved terrain.



We arrive at a rest area where we can admire the 'Poiat', which was used to produce charcoal.



After a short uphill stretch we reach a clearing, with a puddle of water on the left and an erratic boulder in the background.



A marker has been painted on the erratic boulder and there is a Madonna at the bottom behind the boulder.



We now pass a signpost.



Now the path begins to descend on granular terrain, we reach a fork and continue to the left.



The path is now cemented on the last section.



We see in the background of the path the Hermitage of San Defendente.



On the left side of the ascent is a board with pictures of families from the past.



We have finally arrived at the Hermitage of San Defendente (674 m, about 40' from the start). Built towards the end of the 16th century, the church stands isolated on a rocky clearing open on the steep slopes that descend towards Lake Iseo.



Towards the lake is a picnic area.



Near the Hermitage, a plaque commemorates a song by the Alpine soldiers in memory of the fallen.



In the distance you can see Monte Isola and the island of Loreto.



From the bench we can admire the Corno Trentapassi.



We now descend in the direction of the junction, which we passed earlier, there keeping to the left we descend towards Esmate, along a stretch of cemented road with oblique grooves that favour the ascent.



After a short ascent, the path flattens out, turning left.



As we climb, we glimpse a small stone house on the left.



Between the trees we catch a glimpse of a building.



We admire more closely the care devoted to the little house.



The beauty of the little house is in the attention to detail.



From the belvedere behind the cottage we see Solto Collina.

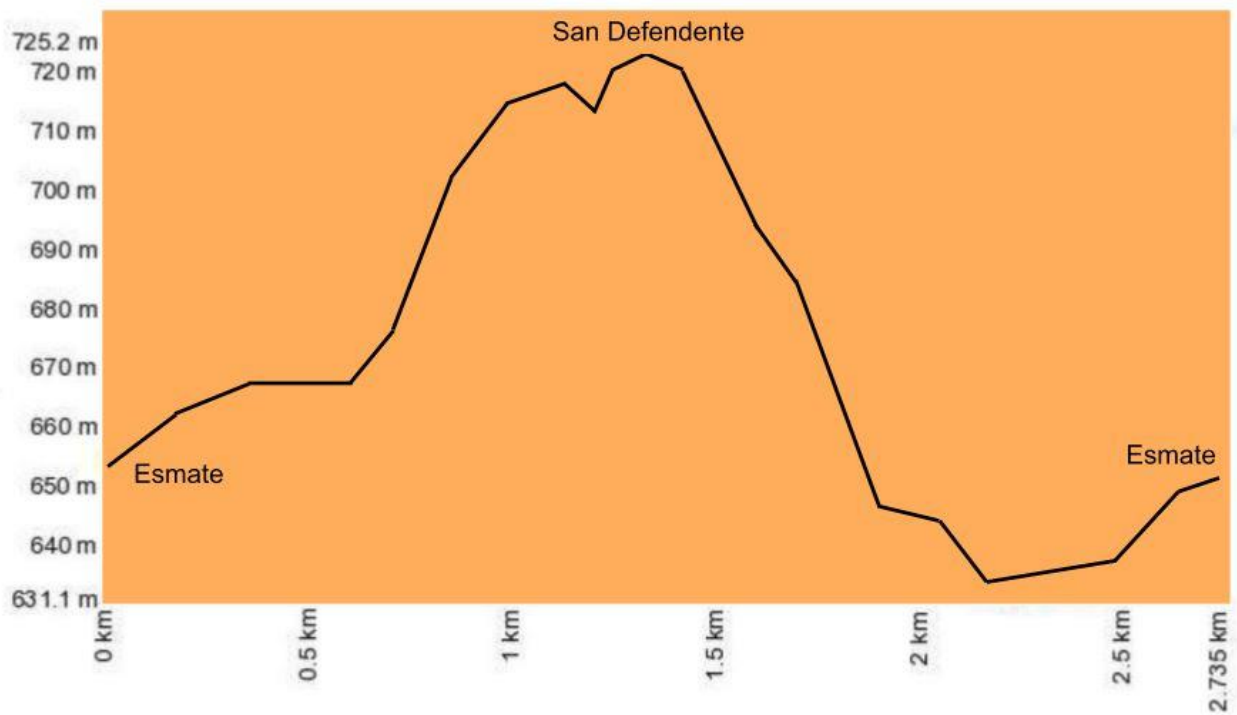


Turning our gaze to the left towards the lake, we find Riva di Solto.



Retracing our steps, we reach the initial path and continue our descent, keeping to the right. Having reached the asphalted section, we enter Via Cerrete, turning right, which will take us to the starting point of our route, the cemetery of Esmate.

Altimetry



Mappe del percorso

