



**Rifugio Branca 2493 m - ORTLES-CEVEDALE GROUP**

**CLASSIC ALPINE MOUNTAINEERING ROUTES – Val Rosole - Stelvio National Park - Valfurva (SO)**

**Monte Cevedale 3769 m**

This is one of the most popular mountaineering routes of the area also because it lies at the meeting point of three valleys: the Valfurva, the Val di Pejo and the Val Martello. It can also be reached from the Val di Solda. It is relatively easy to reach thanks to its proximity with many Alpine refuges. The view from the summit is spectacular: a true wonder of nature.

**Alpine difficulty:** medium skier/for the final part good skier

**Period:** from the beginning of March until the middle of May

**Starting Altitude:** 2493 m Rifugio Branca-2180 m Ponticello Cedec

**Arrival altitude:** 3769 m

**Vertical Height gain:** 12766 m. from the Rifugio Branca-1589 m. from the ponticello Cedec.

**Orientation:** S-N from the Rifugio Branca - Val Rosole/S-SW-NW-N from the Val Cedec

**Where to stay:** Rifugio Branca – near the Lago di Rosole – It can be reached in about one hour following the Forni mountaineering itinerary – Open from the beginning of March Phone / Fax +39 0342.935501 – info@rifugiobranca.it

**Time of ascent:** 3/5 hours - depending on the weather conditions and the physical preparation.

**Maps:** Kompass 072 Parco Nazionale dello Stelvio 1:50 000 – Tabacco 08 Ortles-Cevedale 1:25.000

**Important Note:** Always carefully check the weather and snow forecast here: ARPA Lombardia – [www.arpalombardia.it/meteo](http://www.arpalombardia.it/meteo) – [www.aineva.it](http://www.aineva.it)

**Equipment:** basic mountaineering equipment and Self Rescue Kit(ARTVA avalanche transceivers),shovel and probe.

**Beware:**part of the itinerary goes through a glacier or through difficult terrains.For this reason,please make sur that you have suitable equipment and a first-aid kit with you

**From the Rifugio Branca-Val Rosole:1b.**

Once you are at the Colle del Pasquale (3423 m) that can be reached following the itinerary that leads to the Monte Pasquale from the Val Rosole, start ascending in an easterly direction through the first rocky section on the southern side of the west ridge of the Monte Cevedale (if it is necessary remove the skis) and then continue along the ridge till when it gets plainer. From here cross horizontally towards the northern side (beware the big crevasses) till when you reach the ascent of the classic route.**1c.** From the Colle del Pasquale it is possible to descend towards the north on the underlying plain at 3200 m to join the classic route from the Vedretta di Cedec.

**Classic route from the Vedretta di Cedec**

From the Rifugio Branca, follow the easy narrow route till you reach the plateau below in the proximity of the Lago di Rosole. Keep following this usually well-trodden route till the plain at an altitude of 2300 m. Move downhill on the right of the Frodolfo stream to the small bridge on the stream Cedec (2180 m.) From here start ascending in a northerly direction till the Forni mountain hut (**itineray 1d**). Continue on the well-trodden route descending for a short section to the Ponte della Girella. Now head upwards on the opposite side till you join up with a mule track that easily leads to the Rifugio Pizzini. Continue in a north-easterly direction almost till the start of the cableway that leads to the Rifugio Casati. Just before that turn right towards the east moving below the evident rocky face that ascends to the Monte Cevedale. Keep on the very left side of the glacier till when you reach a wide plateau at around 3200 m. Move in an easterly direction on the steep slope then go right on the top part. Once there, follow the depression that leads to the final plateau above. Gradually reach the base of the steep slope and then with a diagonal traverse go to the right to reach the foresummit on the north-east ridge. Now the route gets easier and you get to the summit where a new summit cross welcomes you.

**From the Rifugio Casati: 1a.** From the start of the cableway to the Rifugio Casati, continue towards the right for about 200 meters. Then ascend following the first evident couloir. When the route gets easier, turn left to get to the steep ridge where the last part of the summer track to the Rifugio starts. Once you arrive close to the Rifugio Casati at an altitude of 3254 m, turn decisively to the right and through an easy route climb the wide hump. The middle section is plainer and gradually leads you to the final slopes to join up with the previous itinerary.

**Descent**

Follow the ascents itineraries.

**Directly from the Rifugio Casati: d1.**

With good weather conditions descend the south-west side that from the Rifugio Casati descends directly to the start of the cableway.



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### **Cima Solda (3376 m)**

Fantastic panoramic point with views of the Valle di Solda and of the Val Cedec. This peak can be reached either passing through the Rifugio Casati or from the steep southern slopes. Great descends with spring firn.

**Alpine difficulty:** good mountaineer skier

**Period:** from the beginning of March until the middle of May

**Starting altitude:** 2493 m Rifugio Branca – 2180 m Ponticello Cedec

**Arrival altitude:** 3376 m

**Vertical height gain:** 1196 m

**Orientation:** S-SW

**Time of ascent:** 2 and a half hours/3 and a half hours - depending on the weather conditions and the physical preparation

**Maps:** Kompass 072 Parco Nazionale dello Stelvio 1:50 000 – Tabacco 08 Ortles-Cevedale 1:25.000

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**Equipment:** basic mountaineering equipment and Self-Rescue Kit (ARTVA avalanche transceivers), shovel and probe.

#### **Classic route: 2a.**

Follow the route to the Monte Cevedale till the Rifugio Casati. From here move towards north along the ridge and then head up to a wider hump till when you reach the summit.

**Direct ascent: 2b – 2c.** From the start of the cableway to the Rifugio Casati, climb directly the steep slope above avoiding – by going right or left – the rocky section on the southern side of the Cima Solda.

#### **Descent**

Follow the ascent itineraries or descend directly from the Rifugio Casati: d1. Otherwise directly from the Forcella di Solda: d2



MONTE CEVEDALE 3769 m - CIMA SOLDA 3376 m

