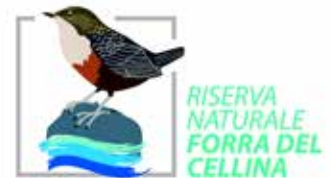


13

NATURALISTIC - ETHNOGRAPHIC TRAILS AND VISITOR CENTRES

BARCIS: CELLINA GORGE NATURE RESERVE ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL CANYONS IN ITALY



PROGRAMME

The trail is located in Cellina Gorge Nature Reserve, which is situated in the following three municipalities: Barcis, Andreis and Montereale Valcellina. The reserve covers the most significant part of the large incision that Cellina river has dug into the calcareous layers between Barcis and Montereale before opening out onto Pordenone's high plains. This geomorphological feature is typical of a large canyon, the largest in the region and certainly one of the most spectacular in Italy.

- Meet with the nature guide at Cellina Gorge Nature Reserve Visitor Centre in Ponte Antoi a Barcis (PN).
- Departure for the Dint trail, an easy trail that allows visitors to deepen their knowledge of the local area's numerous natural aspects, such as vegetation, fauna, geology and surface karst. Viewpoints dotted along the route allow visitors to observe Cellina Gorge in all its beauty.
- Packed lunch in the surrounding area.
(if the weather is bad, packed lunches will be enjoyed at the visitor centre).

- Return to the visitor centre and trip to the "Cellina Gorge Nature Reserve" exhibition, where the natural, historical and ethnographic aspects of this protected area are analysed through illustrative, audiovisual and multimedia materials. The reserve is characterised by unique floristic and vegetational features linked to the area's specific micro climate, which owes itself to the exposure of changeable slopes, diverse geopedological situations and altitudes ranging from about 315-350m above sea level at the bottom of the valley to 1470m above sea level at the summit of Monte I Cameroni.

The reserve doesn't have a lot of wildlife, but it does boast a variety of species that cannot easily be found in similar environments.

The lack of human activity and the protected area's morphological structure has allowed for the rapid development of animal populations, especially those more wary of human interaction.

On the vertical sides of the deep incisions in the reserve are well documented morphologies related to the erosive action of water: erosion pots, "under-erosion" and smooth rocks. These forms characterise the lower and middle part of the slopes, while higher up they are masked, removed and replaced by the fracturing of rock due to frost, thawing and gravity.

Most of the local area surrounding the reserve consists of carbonate rocks. This has led to the establishment of dissolution processes which have given rise to karstic morphologies.

- End of guided tour.

LENGTH OF TIME

- Full day, adaptable half-day
*If it's raining, activities will take place indoors, and alternative activities will be arranged at the visitor centre.
The programme can be modified according to group needs.*

MATERIALS REQUIRED FOR THE EXCURSION

- Hiking boots or sturdy trainers and appropriate clothing for a mountain hike.
- Waterproof jacket

