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NATURALISTIC - ETHNOGRAPHIC TRAILS AND VISITOR CENTRES

CIMOLAIS: WILDLIFE PARK, MILLS, SAW MILL



PROGRAMME

The trail runs between the plains of Pinedo and the village of Cimolais, a landmark in Friulian Dolomites Park, where the institution's headquarters are located. Cimolais is also known for its famous rock spire known as the Bell Tower of Val Montanaia, a popular destination for mountaineers from all over the world.

- Meet with the nature guide at Osteria Pianpinedo in Cimolais (PN).
- The wildlife park, located in Piana di Pinedo between the towns of Cimolais and Claut, covers an area of 35 hectares. It's a splendid example of biodiversity, as the Dolomites' micro climate is entirely naturally preserved in this specific area. Immersed in nature, visitors will have the opportunity to catch a glimpse of deer, roe deer, ibexes and chamois along the way. Visitors may also see some marmots peeping out of their hole, or a squirrel or two. Visitors can also observe numerous plant species, some of which are very rare.

The wildlife park's visitor centre immerses visitors in "nature's senses." Senses will be heightened while walking through a virtual forest and cave, where visitors can listen out for the sounds of animals and spot their footprints. Adjacent to the visitor centre is a real-life "Cason," which transports visitors back in time to past centuries to learn how ancient woodsmen lived. Return to Cimolais village.

- Packed lunch in the environment.
(if the weather is bad, packed lunches will be enjoyed at the visitor centre).
- Guided tour of the visitor centre and the "Park Fauna" exhibition: a multi-sensory journey that allows visitors to find out about some of the park's common animals in more detail, such as the eagle, the chamois and the marmot. The centre's various sections allow visitors to observe various objects and findings. The route also includes an interactive floor, where projected images interact with movements and actions: visitors can blow away fog from the trees and the edges of mountains, step on dry leaves or leave footprints in the snow.
- Departure for an excursion along the ethnographic nature trail in order to learn about ancient crafts related to the earth's resources, such as mills, sawmills and the distillation of pinecone syrup (Mugòlio). Thanks to the presence of water, numerous activities related to the mills in Cimolais were developed, with only visible ruins remaining along the trail. The old sawmill (known as a siègia) was also constructed for the exploitation of water, and its story is told through illustrative panels located in a reconstructed facility dedicated to demonstrating ancient activities. Visitors can watch as water flows between the blades of a water wheel.

- 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 centres.
The programme can be modified according to group needs.*

MATERIALS REQUIRED FOR AN EXCURSION

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

