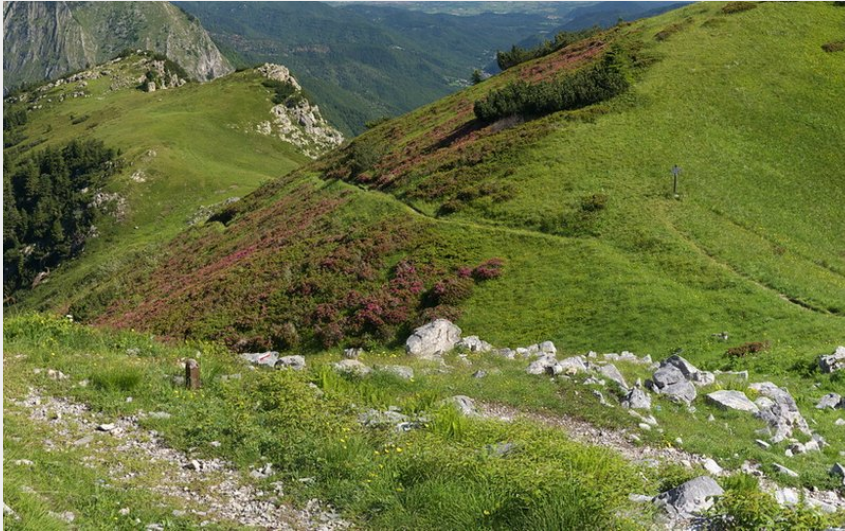


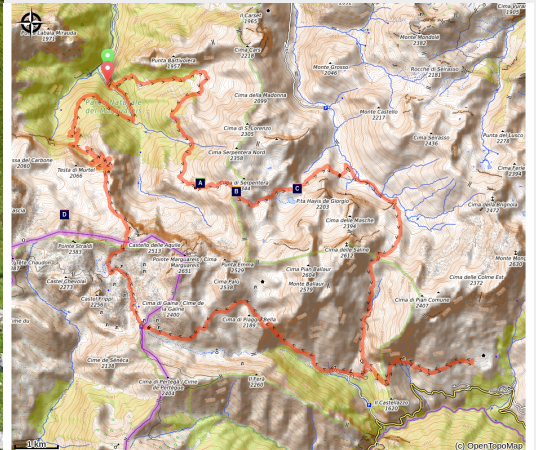


Giro del Marguareis

Chiusa di Pesio



Il Colle del Prel (Roberto Pockaj)



Circuit route, all on easy paths. Some orientation problems in the case of poor visibility: but apart from this drawback, the path is suitable for all those who want to do a uncomplicated trek.

You could define this circuit as being in the kingdom of karst, where the pasture as far as the eye can see, interspersed with vertical limestone walls are the principal features. And then dolines, limestone pavements and expanses of white rocks. The lakes are missing, as karst terrain absorbs water at high altitude; but there is no shortage of waterfalls, especially in mid-valley areas, where underground water courses come to light with spectacular results.

Useful information

Practice : Hiking

Duration : 5 days

Length : 47.9 km

Trek ascent : 3705 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Walking breaks

Themes : Archeology and history, Fauna, Flora, Geology, Lake, Pastoralism, Refuge, Viewpoint

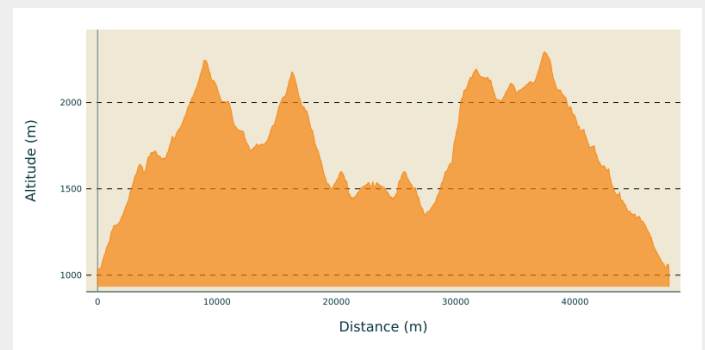
Trek

Departure : Rifugio Pian delle Gorre (1032 m)

Arrival : Rifugio Pian delle Gorre (1032 m)

Cities : 1. Chiusa di Pesio
2. Briga Alta
3. Ormea
4. La Brigue

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 1033 m Max elevation 2293 m

The official route of the Marguareis tour includes five stages. But one of the merits of this ring is the number of paths that connect the stopping places: you can organise the route at will, reducing it to a quick tour around Marguareis in a couple of days, or extending it to five days taking in Mongioie .

Even departure is at your choice: usually Pian delle Gorre, in Valle Pesio, but it is equally good to start from Carnino in the upper Tanaro Valley.

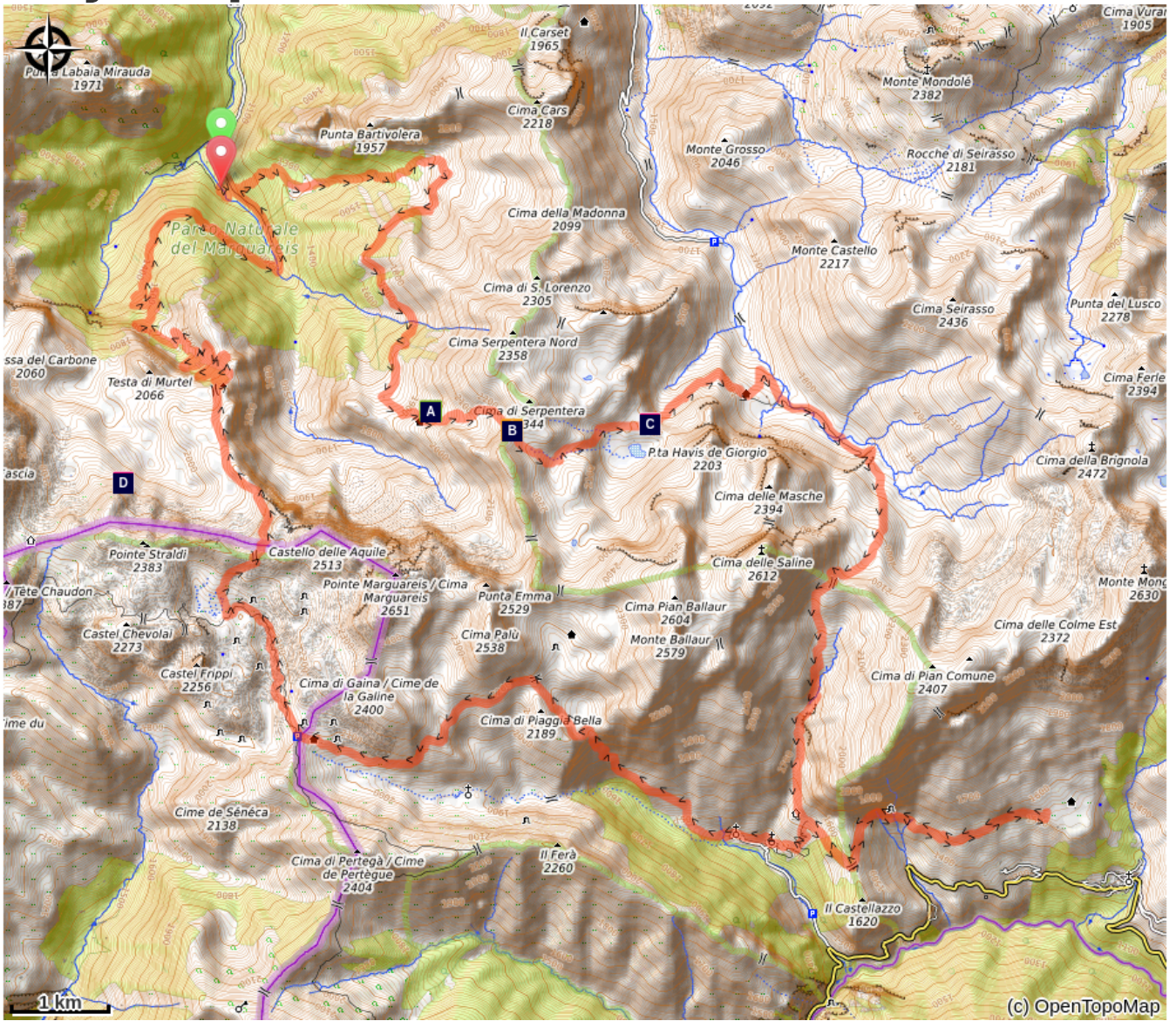
All stopping places are in managed refuges that provide accommodation and, on request, packed lunches.





The ideal period for hiking is July to September. In the years with little snow even June and sometimes the beginning of October (you should check accommodation opening). August is not a problem, if you take into account the probability of a little heat and clouds that tend to form from lunchtime on.

Stages :

1. Giro del Marguareis, stage 01: from Rifugio Pian delle Gorre to Rifugio Garelli
7.6 km / 1081 m D+ / 3 h 24
2. Giro del Marguareis, stage 02: from Rifugio Garelli to Rifugio Mondovì
4.8 km / 284 m D+ / 2 h
3. Giro del Marguareis, stage 03: from Rifugio Mondovì to Rifugio Mongioie via Passo delle Saline
10.7 km / 727 m D+ / 4 h 9
4. Giro del Marguareis, stage 04: from Rifugio Mongioie to Rifugio Don Barbera
10.7 km / 971 m D+ / 4 h 9
5. Giro del Marguareis, stage 05: from Refuge Don Barbera to Refuge Pian delle Gorre
18.6 km / 647 m D+ / 5 h 30

On your path...



-  The Burnat Bicknell Botanical Station (A)
 -  Pier Mario Garelli (B)
 -  The furrowed fields (C)
 -  La Conca delle Cárzene (D)

All useful information

How to come ?

Transports

Autolinee Valle Pesio S.r.l. - Via Cav. G. Avena, 41/43 - 12013 Chiusa di Pesio (CN)
+39 0171-735756 - vallepesio@savgroup.it

<https://www.savgroup.it/linee/43.pdf>

SNCF line TER Provence Alpes-Côte d'Azur For travel in the PACA region and towards Cuneo www.ter-sncf.com/pac

Trenitalia for travel in the Piedmont region <https://www.trenitalia.com/it.html>

Access

From Chiusa di Pesio go up the valley to the Charterhouse (Certosa) here follow the narrow tarmac road to Pian delle Gorre. Pay parking in summer.

Advised parking

Rifugio Pian delle Gorre (1032 m)

On your path...



✿ The Burnat Bicknell Botanical Station (A)

The site covers over 10,000 square meters, and is named after Emile Burnat and Clarence Bicknell. Burnat, a Swiss botanist, was the author of the important work 'Flores des Alpes Maritimes'; Bicknell, an English botanist active in Valle Pesio for about thirty years, he was also the first to catalogue the rock engravings of Monte Bego.

About 500 plant species typical of the Ligurian Alps are collected in the two botanical stations, offering a unique opportunity for both enthusiasts and casual visitors. Illustrative panels describe the various environments and the botanical species are easily recognizable thanks to the scientific name on the labels.

Attribution : Roberto Pockaj



🕒 Pier Mario Garelli (B)

The refuge was dedicated to Pier Mario Garelli when it was built. He was known to all as Piero, a lawyer and climbing partner of Sandro Comino. President of the CAI of Mondovì, immediately after the armistice he joined the Resistance, with the III Alpine Division operating in Val Casotto. He was arrested in Mondovì, and initially locked up in Turin. On May 25, 1944 he was transferred to the concentration camp at Fossoli, then to Bolzano and finally to the concentration camp at Mauthausen. He died in the subcamp of Gusen, just before the end of hostilities.

Attribution : CAI Mondovì



👁 The furrowed fields (C)

The 'furrowed fields' (also called 'carried fields' due to the shapes that vaguely recall the furrows left by the wheels of carts in the mud) are erosion phenomena typical of limestone rocks, due to the runoff of rainwater.

Attribution : Roberto Pockaj



La Conca delle Càrsene (D)

The Conca delle Càrsene is a vast plateau consisting of limestone rocks, characterized by expanses of bare, white rocks alternating with grassy cover.

It manifests the typical aspects of karst areas with limestone pavement, dolines and sinkholes. A superficial hydrographic network is completely missing: rain and snow meltwater are immediately absorbed and give rise to the resurgence of Pis del Pesio, located several hundred metres below.

Curiously, there are also areas located beyond the Alpine watershed, such as Plan Ambreuge, that are part of the catchment area, so water falling south of the Alps, after an underground journey, flow out on the Italian side.

[Alpi Liguri, p.80]

[La Guida del Parco Alta Valle Pesio e Tanaro, pp.46-47]

Attribution : Archivio EAM