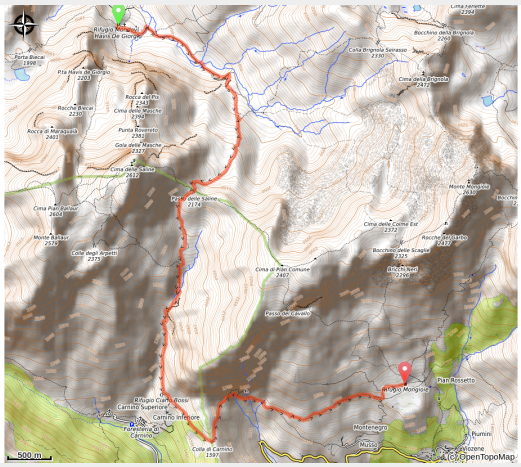
# Giro del Marguareis, stage 03: from Rifugio Mondovì to Rifugio Mongioie via Passo delle Saline

Briga Alta

Panorama su Pian Marchisio, Cima delle Saline e Cima delle Masche (Roberto Pockaj)




*This excursion to the land of alpine meadows and karsts has generally easy paths for crossing the pass, with however sometimes not easy paths. The passage over the Vene suspension bridge is impressive.*

For this route taking place mainly between pastures and alpine meadows, hikers can prepare to encounter many varied landscapes: traces of ancient karstic phenomena, manifestation of erosions caused by runoff water on dolines and on betoires, then beautiful pine forest and pastures of Pian Rosse to complete this adventure.

## Useful information

Practice : Hiking

Duration : 4 h 9

Length : 10.7 km

Trek ascent : 727 m

Difficulty : Medium

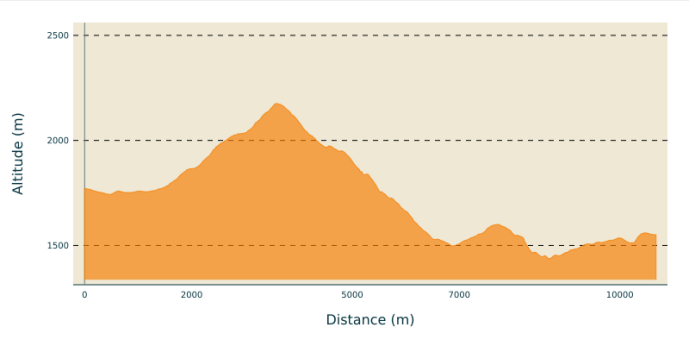
Type : Walking breaks

Themes : Fauna, Flora, Geology, Refuge, Viewpoint

# Trek

**Departure** : Rifugio Mondovì (1755 m)
**Arrival** : Rifugio Mongioie (1550 m)
**Cities** : 1. Briga Alta
2. Ormea

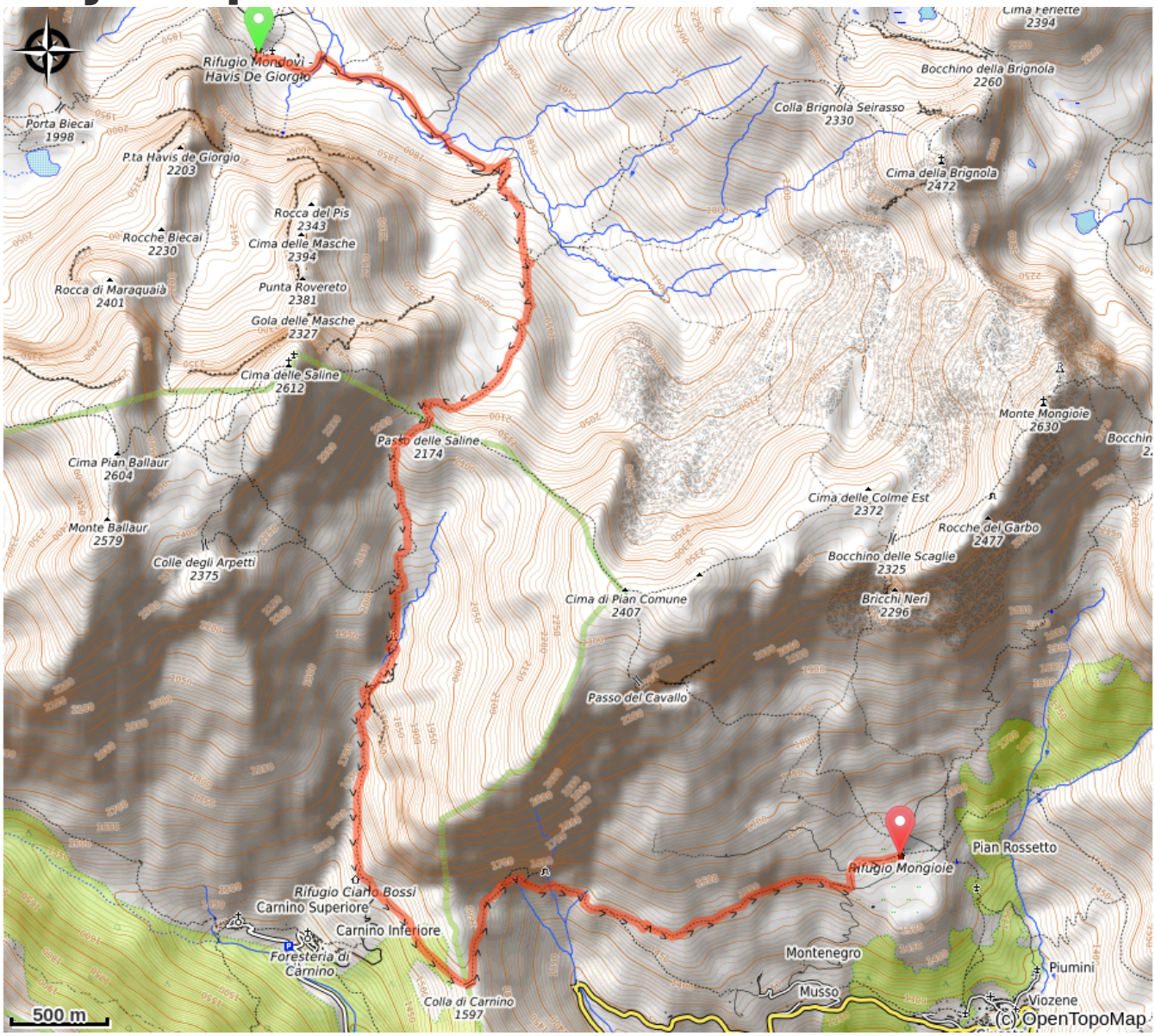
## Altimetric profile




Min elevation 1437 m  Max elevation 2176 m

Follow the dirt road to the Mondovi Havis De Giorgio Refuge back down. After a short while the road forks, take the right branch. The road continues for a long time on the flat, fording the watercourse in the valley bottom twice.
Just beyond the Gias Pra Canton, the dirt road climbs a rocky outcrop to a fork on the right with the path to Passo delle Saline.
Once you have taken the path, it leads to a plateau above. Signpost posts lead through meadows and outcropping rocks. Now the path runs through Alpine meadows(more marker posts) bends to the right and climbing to a grassy knoll.
Climb the steep slope (inopportune shortcuts) that leads to Passo delle Saline (2177 m, 1:40 hours from Rifugio Mondovì).
At the pass two paths are ignored: to the right for Cima delle Saline and to the left for Mongioie, it gets rather steep as you drop down into the Vallone delle Saline, between rounded slopes and pastures. Beyond the restored Gias delle Saline the landscape changes drastically.
In fact you are closed in by steep limestone walls, as you enter the narrow Gola delle Saline, which is overcome by crossing to the left (facing downhill).
Outside the gorge you cut down a debris slope, then, entering the wood, you leave the short detour to the Rifugio Ciarlo Bossi (1526 m) on the right.
A little further on you reach the ruins of Tetti delle Donzelle (1516 m, 1:10 hours from Passo delle Saline).
At the junction near the ruins, turn left onto the wide path that reaches the Colla di Carnino (1594 m, 0:15 mins from Tetti delle Donzelle) through a beautiful pine forest.
Continue on the opposite side of the modest pass, over flattish ground and slight slopes, and pass the stream that flows into the Vallone delle Fuse by a suspension bridge (if not in use, use the path on the left just before the bridge).
After a few turns down hill you start to traverse again. Ignore the path on the right for Viozene and climb slowly: leaving the forest and continue on flat ground on a sunny ridge. Once you reach the wide Pian Rosso plateau, you get onto a dirt road; following it to the left you reach Rifugio Mongioie (1550 m, 1:00 hour from Colla di Carnino).

# On your path...


Rifugio Mondovì - Havis De Giorgio
Porta Biecai 1998
P.ta Havis de Giorgio 2203
Rocca del Pis 2343
Cima delle Masche 2394
Rocche Biecai 2230
Rocca di Maraquaia 2401
Punta Rovereto 2381
Gola delle Masche 2327
Cima delle Saline 2612
Passo delle Saline 2174
Cima Pian Ballaur 2604
Monte Ballaur 2579
Colle degli Arpetti 2375
Cima di Pian Comune 2407
Passo del Cavallo
Colla Brignola Seirasso 2330
Bocchino della Brignola 2260
Cima della Brignola 2472
Cima Feriette 2394
Monte Mongioie 2630
Cima delle Colme Est 2372
Rocche del Garbo 2477
Bocchino delle Scaglie 2325
Bricchi Neri 2296
Rifugio Mongioie
Pian Rossetto
Rifugio Ciaro Bossi
Carnino Superiore
Carnino Inferiore
Foresteria di Carnino
Colla di Carnino 1597
Montenegro
Musso
Piumini
Viozene
500 m
© OpenTopoMap

# All useful information

### Is in the midst of the park

The national park is an unrestricted natural area but subjected to regulations which must be known by all visitors.