

July 2011: Updates to First edition (2008 reprint)

RIVA/TRENT/ROVER Route closures

As far as we are aware all routes that were closed in 2011 were open in 2012 except for ROVER 4, which has been closed because of further rockfall.

However, anyone planning a trip to this area should be aware of a spate of closures of via ferratas, either to repair damaged protection, or to assess the stability of areas of rock. It is always difficult to say with any certainty how long these routes will remain closed, since it is necessary to arrange for funding for proper assessments of rock stability, and the works judged to be necessary to return the routes to a safe condition.

While these closures are inconvenient for ferratists trying to plan a trip to this wonderful area, we should all take comfort from the fact that the local sections of CAI, and the local authorities, are impressively vigilant in ensuring the safety of climbers.

RIVA 1

The parking area for the route is signposted from the Tione road (the SS237), immediately opposite the Q8 garage, which is 100m from the junction with the SS345bis. There is a large car park in front of an indoor bowls centre. A clearly marked traverse path in the woods leads in 5mins to the old approach route and, in a couple of minutes, go uphill as before.

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BASSANO DEL GRAPPA

New map Tabacco 1:25000 number 051 is now available (the old map is unobtainable).

BASAN 1

p135 last sentence – left fork sign is “Sacello San Liberale”, probably best translated as San Liberale Shrine.

p136, 2nd para – ‘protection is intermittent, but always there when needed and completely sound and new throughout the route’

end of 3rd para – new cables throughout the route but the yellow plastic tube with the book of pulp was still there in 2010!

BASAN 2

Route now re-cabled throughout.

p139, end of para 3 – The route has been extended above the Military Road 152. Path to 152 goes off to the right but a scramble up above the tunnel of the road leads to a further short steep pitch. This is followed by a splendid sturdy new bridge, another short steep pitch and a final “sting in the tail”! A wide gap spanned by good cable is bridgeable if you are really tall but for those short of reach a “tyrolean traverse” on the cable is the best way across (although we have seen someone leap across, clipped on of course, like jumping Adam and Eve on Tryfan in Wales). The route ends at the summit of Monte Boccaor where WW1 trenches have been restored. Take care to return to path 152 and not follow the trenches, which can lead you off in the wrong direction.

VICEN 5

p162, para 3 – the first ladder is still wonky.

last para – the park bench is now in bits.

p63, 1st full para - the way ahead is now signed “Sentiero e Ferrata Ezio Ferrari” path 211. About 5mins after crossing path 202 “Ferrata” is signed to the left; this is the Ferrata Ferrari with the Sentiero Ferrari 211 continuing ahead well waymarked towards Monte Gamolon. Unfortunately there is broken cable on the Ferrata; it is not closed but 2nd full para – At Passo Scagina it is possible to return directly to R.Bertagnoli on path 221 (about 45mins' descent)

ROVERETO

It is possible to use Recoaro Terme as a base for routes Rover 1, 2 and 3 (plenty of accommodation and a good tourist information office).

ROVER 2

Seriousness: C – for someone with limited experience “C” reflects the “Alpinistico” scrambling required on the route.

Approx time: 7–8 hours

A booklet "The Museum Route, Mont Pasubio and the 52 Tunnels" is now available in English from the tourist info as part of the Ecomuseum Great War project.

p283 – A number of escape points are marked with a white circle/red dot, where a descent to the Strada delle 52 Gallerie is possible (also see p284 para 2 below).

p284, end of 1st para – 3½ (not 2½) hours to M Forni.

The text from 'It is also potentially confusing' to 'a course closely to your left' should now be replaced with: 'From col follow waymarks to left along unprotected ledges and through a tunnel to another tunnel signed "5C" in a white circle. Continue through the tunnel and from now the route generally undulates along, or just below, on the north side of the ridge, frequently only just above the Strada delle Gallerie, which is following a course closely to your left. At this point a scrambly descent to the left leads to Strada delle 52 Gallerie between G40 and 41.'

p285 – There is a diversion around tunnels 46/47 due to a landslip 'le frana'.