

Dolomites Snowshoe - hut to hut on the 'Alta Via'

Trip Code: AVS

Version: Snowshoe the Dolomites 'Alta Via'



WINTER



GUIDED GROUP



CHALLENGING



HIGHLIGHTS

- Learn about history of the Dolomites in World War 1
- Marvel at iconic Tre Cime - the landmark of the Dolomites
- Experience stunningly located mountain huts

- Enjoy Cortina and its amphitheatre of spectacular rock spires
- Relax in the spa hotel in San Vito di Cadore

AT A GLANCE

- 6 days snowshoeing
- Max altitude - 2575 metres
- Join at San Vito Di Cadore

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

- 7 Breakfasts
- 7 Dinners
- 4 nights Hotel
- 3 nights Mountain Hut / Refuge

[VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE](#)

Introduction

The Italian Dolomites are famous for their towering rock formations and jagged spires, possibly the most well known (and arguably the most impressive) are the three towers of the Tre Cime and the Tofana di Rozes - during this one week snowshoe holiday we will not only snowshoe in the shadow of the Tre Cime di Lavaredo but then also embark on a stunning 5 day point-to-point journey along part of the famous Alta Via 'High Level' trail.

Accompanied by a local high mountain guide, we are in extremely safe hands and will also benefit from their expert local knowledge to get the best out of our week. As we are led into the wilderness we will be greeted with beautiful quiet trails, and we will not only improve our snowshoe technique but also learn about the history of the area.

Is this holiday for you?

This snowshoeing holiday begins with an introductory day, an opportunity to test out all equipment and clothing before our 5 day point-to-point adventure begins. During this time we will also receive safety instruction before heading to the high mountains. No previous snowshoeing experience is required, but a very good level of fitness is essential. You should be prepared to be walking for 6-7 hours per day, in winter conditions, for 6 days (5 consecutive days).

Accommodation for our first 2 nights and final night in San Vito di Cadore will be in twin share rooms and for the 4 nights in the mountain refuges we will stay in dormitory style rooms with bunks and shared bathrooms. Bedding will be provided at the refuges and you will only be required to carry a sleeping bag liner.

The itinerary will be flexible and during the week the guide will use their expertise and local knowledge to determine the best routes to take advantage of prevailing snow/weather conditions and the abilities of the group. A suggested programme for the week is given in the itinerary section. If snow conditions do not permit snow-shoeing on any of the routes, the group will follow an alternative winter hiking itinerary.

Itinerary

Version: Snowshoe the Dolomites 'Alta Via'

DAY 1

Meet at the group hotel in San Vito Di Cadore.

Today you arrive in the mountain town of San Vito Di Cadore, located in the northern part of the Veneto region of Italy. San Vito Di Cadore is just 11km (6.8 miles) from Cortina d'Ampezzo in Italy, if you arrive early then exploring the jewel of the Dolomites is a must. The beauty of the Ampezzo Valley along with its 1000 year history attracts visitors all year round. Surrounded by majestic peaks, Cortina a UNESCO World Natural Heritage site, can't fail to impress any mountain lover. Proud of its heritage, visit the Ethnographic Museum to learn about the local traditions, history and environment or visit the "Rinaldo Zardini" Palaeontological Museum which houses one of the most significant collections of fossils that exists anywhere today. Your local guide will meet you at the hotel before the evening meal, approximately at 1830hrs, to answer any questions and discuss the days ahead.

Meals: **D**








Accommodation
Hotel

DAY 2

Tre Cime di Laveredo - The Three Peaks.

A short drive takes us to the village of Misurina a lakeside beauty spot and the perfect location for our first snowshoe hike. It's easy to see why the original settlers chose to live at this idyllic mountain setting. This warm up snowshoe walk is the perfect opportunity to test out your equipment and clothing before our 5 day point-to-point adventure begins. Our aim is to catch views of the Tre Cime di Laveredo, also known as the Drei Zinnen or Three Peaks - a world-renowned mountain of the Dolomites. Made up of three immense rock towers rising above the valley the view is truly breathtaking and captures the attention of any hiker or climber visiting the region. Our route takes us from Lago (or lake) d'Antorno up to Rifugio Auronzo following the summer hiking path. We then traverse to Rifugio Laveredo and onto the Forcella Laveredo pass. Our aim is to get to the Auronzo Hut just above on the Ciadin de Longeres where we are treated to another new vista of rock towers and jagged spires in this truly spectacular mountain setting. Any last minute supplies can be purchased today before heading back to the hotel for a spa and to prepare our packs for a 5-day point to point journey along the Alta Via trail. Note: In the event of too much snow or bad conditions San Vito village itself offers many snowshoe options: Rifugio Scotter, Taulà Regolettes and Rifugio Talamini along with a culinary food and wine experience.

Meals: **B D**

	Accommodation Hotel		Ascent 800M		Descent 800M		Time 6 - 7 hrs snowshoeing
	Distance 9KM						

DAY 3

Capanna Alpina to Lavarella.

A taxi transfers us from San Vito to the trail head and start of this 5 day point-to-point snowshoe tour of the Dolomites. We start at the restaurant Capanna Alpina 1726m, close to San Cassiano in Alta Badia, first on an easy wide trail which then narrows through pine trees. The trail steepens to reach the mountain pass Col de Locia 2069m, which offers a wonderful view of the Sella mountain group and the 'Queen of the Dolomites' the Marmolada 3342m, the Dolomite's highest peak. Heading north through a beautiful high valley, the trail undulates gently to reach the summer alpine pasture of Malga Gran Fanes 2105m, where we join the main Alta Via 1 'high level' walking route. We are now walking along what was the frontline during WWI. When not covered in snow it's easy to find evidence of gun emplacements, barracks and tunnels carved out along the trail. The trail continues to Utia de Gran Fanes, a mountain hut with resident donkeys in the summer. The final stretch is a descent to Fanes mountain hut 2060m and after another 10 minutes we arrive to the scenic Rifugio Lavarella which is surrounded by tiny rustic huts situated on a high plateau. The first of several amazing Italian mountain huts which really are more like little hotels.

Meals: **B D**

	Accommodation Mountain Hut / Refuge		Ascent 390M		Descent 190M		Time 4 - 5 hrs snowshoeing
	Distance 10KM						

DAY 4

Exploring Fanes high plateau.

Close to the enchanting green lake, made famous by the ancient Ladin legends, the Lavarella mountain refuge is situated in pristine natural landscape of the Fanes high plateau, far away from traffic and noise of the towns. With two nights booked here we can lighten our packs today as we have the opportunity to explore from the hut door at the heart of the Dolomites UNESCO World Heritage Site. Your guide will pick the best day snowshoe itinerary according to the weather. For example; in good conditions Monte Ciastel is a fine objective. Leaving from the hut back we retrace our steps to Col de Limo then continue up to the WW1 shelter just above the little summit totalling 1000m ascent - a 7 hours. A less demanding day might be the Col Toronn circuit in the Pices Fanes area where we climb up to Ciastel de Fanes which is 600m - 4 hours. Or you could even enjoy a rest day and what better place to be for it! Return to

the hut and experience their outdoor finnish sauna, savour the beauty of the Fanes Sennes Braies natural park in unspoilt nature. Then celebrate with the refuge's very own beer - from the highest brewery in Europe at 2050m. A day to remember!

Meals: **B D**






	Accommodation Mountain Hut / Refuge		Ascent 600M		Time 5 - 7 hrs snowshoeing
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------

DAY 5

Rifugio Lavarella to Rifugio Sennes.

Our destination today is the Sennes Rifugio - part of the Fanes-Sennes-Braies National Park. Back on the true Alta Via route we start with an easy descent leaving behind us the wonderful amphitheatre of snowcapped mountains of the Fanes plateau. A snow covered forest track then descends more steeply passing the Lago Piciodi through the Vallone di Rudo. We reach the Rifugio Pederu where we can stop for lunch before the main climb for the day. First on a good tracks and then across snow covered meadows we reach the Col de Lasta, 2297m. This beautiful area in the summer months is used for grazing cattle, horses and goats and where the marmots make the most of the lush pastures but in the winter it has a very different remote and wild feel. A final ascent brings us to the Rifugio Sennes (2126m) our next over night stop. Our hut is really more like a hotel offering a wide panorama over some of the most beautiful peaks of the Dolomites: Croda Rossa 3146m, Cristallo (3221m), Sorapis (3205m) and Tofana (3243m) - plus wonderful hospitaliy.

Meals: **B D**






	Accommodation Hotel		Ascent 780M		Descent 880M		Time 6 - 7 hrs snowshoeing
	Distance 15KM						

DAY 6

Rifugio Sennes to Malga Ra Stua.

From Rifugio Sennes we first tour above the hut, the route rises gradually over rolling terrain to reach the Rifugio Biella (closed in winter). Enjoy stunning views of the Seekofel mountain at 2810m which is easily the most photographed mountain of the Prags / Braies Dolomites. Located at the language border of three people (German to the north, Italian to the south-east and Ladinian to the south-west) it carries three utterly different names "Seekofel / Croda del Becco / Sas dla Porta". We say farewell to the wild Plateau of 'Sennes' and head along the Val Salata to our next over night stop. Situated in an idyllic snowcovered high alpine pasture we reach the lovely family run Rifugio Ra Stua. Where testing the local strudel is a must!

Meals: **B D**






 Accommodation Mountain Hut / Refuge	 Ascent 300M	 Descent 700M	 Time 4 -5 hrs snowshoeing
 Distance 7KM			

DAY 7

Ra Stua to Val di Gotres.

We leave our hosts at Ra Stua refuge and make a steady climb to reach the Forcella Lerosa and wild open plateau of Valbones de Inze for a fantastic panoramic view where the Cortina d'Ampezzo and Sennes Regional Natural Parks meet. An amazing location to absorb the full breadth of the Dolomites and learn about the regions unusual geology. During this week we've been literally spoilt for choice when it comes to breath taking mountain scenery and today is no exception. We then begin our descent on easy trails through the a valley of pine forests winding our way down to end our tour at Podestagno in the Val di Gotres. We meet a taxi to transfer us back to Cortina to enjoy a celebratory drink in the main square, then it's back to San Vito do Cadore and the Hotel Fiori for a welcome spa and our final nights accommodation.

Meals: **B D**

 Accommodation Hotel	 Ascent 400M	 Descent 850M	 Time 4 - 5 hrs snowshoeing
 Distance 8KM			

DAY 8

Departure day.

KE Land Only package services end after breakfast. Transfers are not included on this day.

Meals: **B**

Holiday Information

What's Included

- The services of a professional qualified International Mountain Leader
- All accommodation as described
- Meals as detailed in the Meal Plan
- All road transfers required by the itinerary (Not airport transfers)
- All snowshoe equipment and safety equipment

What's not Included

- Airport transfers at the start and end of the holiday,
- Some meals as detailed in the Meal Plan,
- Miscellaneous spending - drinks etc.

Joining Arrangements & Transfers

TRAVEL TO YOUR DESTINATION

In some cases you may choose to take a ferry and/or train to your holiday start and end destination. Please see further information on [Travelling by Train](#).

If flying from the UK there are low cost airlines available to the start and from the end of your holiday.

To benefit from full financial protection, ease your holiday planning, and avoid dealing with airlines, we can book scheduled flights from the UK as part of a flight inclusive package. Scheduled flights are usually more expensive than low cost alternatives, however potentially less stressful if your flight is cancelled or delayed. If you book flights through KE Adventure Travel we will [offset the carbon of your flight](#).

Cortina has excellent train and bus links. Rome2Rio is a useful site which gives a map and overall picture of how the local public transport network links up and who to book with. From Cortina the journey to San Vito Di Cadore is around 25 minutes on public transport. If travelling from Venice then you will change buses before Cortina. If travelling from Innsbruck and you will change in Cortina please take a look at Rome2Rio for the route. Local trains and buses to reach Cortina can be found at www.sad.it and trains from the UK to Cortina can be sourced here.

The closest airports are Venice in Italy and Innsbruck in Austria.

Venice: Venice has two airports. The main airport is Venice Marco Polo but some airlines such as Ryanair fly to Venice 'Treviso'. There is a 15 minute drive between these two airports. To transfer from Venice to Cortina choose either the Cortina Express or Flixbus the journey time is between 2h-2h30. We recommend buying tickets in advance which can be done easily and in English. Check the timetables carefully as they vary with stops and times. If arriving into Treviso airport you will need to take an airport bus into Treviso town to pick up the Cortina bus. The bus tickets vary in price depending on how far in advance you buy them from 5€ - 20€ one way.

Innsbruck: From Innsbruck the journey time about 4 hours. From the airport you can take a free shuttle bus, it takes 15 mins and leaves every 10 mins, to reach Innsbruck central railway station. From the central rail way travel by train to Brennero (also known as Brenner) then to Fortezza (also known as Franzensfeste) then to Dobbiaco (also called Toblach) and then the local Sud Tirol no. 445 bus to Cortina.

If you would like to arrange a private transfer from Innsbruck or Venice or any other destination - www.taxicortinasci.it

Meal Plan

All meals from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on day 8 are included in the holiday price, excluding lunches. Packed lunches can be ordered at your overnight accommodation (in preparation for Day One, you may wish to bring some muesli bars, chocolate and snacks with you). We suggest you allow 30 Euros per day for your lunches.

Food & Water

When in the towns and villages all tap water is drinkable. In mountain huts there is usually not a sustainable drinking water supply. Water in plastic bottles is brought in to the hut. All huts have a recycling point. If you have to purchase water in plastic bottles please buy the largest bottle you can so as to use less plastic. Please take purification tablets or a filter bottle (such as a [Water-To-Go bottle](#)) to treat your water if you can fill from a local stream. Bottled water is not provided. We do not encourage the purchasing of single use plastic bottles. Local authorities are working to find solutions to using plastic water bottles in huts. We monitor the situation carefully for updates.

Special Diets

Whilst we can cater for vegetarians, albeit sometimes with a more limited choice, we cannot always provide for special diets. Due to the nature of some of the trips that we operate and the countries in which we operate them, it can be very hard (and sometimes impossible) to cater for a wide range of dietary choices and you may have to supplement your meals with food/snacks from home. If you have specific dietary requirements please do speak to our sales team and they will be able to advise you whether or not we will be able to offer your specific choice. Please note that we are unable to provide separate menus and cannot accept liability for any problems arising from special dietary requirements or intolerances.

Accommodation

During the holiday the group will spend 3 nights in a hotel and 4 nights in mountain huts. For the mountain huts, normally we manage to reserve rooms or small dormitories just for our group so you are not sharing with other groups, however, this cannot be guaranteed. In summary, once we leave San Vito Di Cadore you may be accommodated in private bedrooms with en suite facilities or in larger rooms with shared showers and toilets.

On the Alta Via route accommodation is limited and we may have to book Rifugios other than those mentioned. In this respect the itinerary will sometimes vary from that described in terms of the length of days and distance covered.

Group Leader & Support Staff

The group will be led by a qualified, English-speaking International Mountain Leader.

Altitude

This holiday does not involve any significant ascent to altitude and we would not expect any altitude issues with this trip.

Spending Money

We estimate that €300 should be sufficient to cover all personal expenses including the above-mentioned meals.

Baggage Allowance

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage and a daypack. Note that your daypack will need to be big enough to carry everything you require (including your mountain equipment) for the 4 nights travelling hut to hut.

For international flights please check your baggage allowance with your airline.

Group Size & Holiday Status

For each holiday there is a minimum number of participants required to enable it to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to run'. You can check the trip status for each departure in the 'Dates and Prices' table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status so you are free to proceed with your international flight booking and other travel arrangements.

General Information

Passport & Visas

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders.

A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

For other nationalities, please refer to your own Government website for the latest information.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday. Please ensure that you check for the latest advice for each country visited before travel.

Health & Vaccinations

Vaccinations

You should contact your doctor or travel clinic to check whether you require any specific vaccinations.

GHIC / Medical cover

UK residents should carry a free Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC). This entitles you to state provided medical treatment when you're visiting an EU country or Switzerland. This is not a substitute for medical travel insurance which is vital when travelling overseas.

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips. You will need to carry your own treatment for the allergy with you, as 'adrenaline auto-injectors' are not carried as standard by KE leaders and staff. You should inform your leader on arrival of your allergy, and let them know where you keep your adrenaline pen.

Currency

The currency for part or all of this holiday is the Euro.

Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

Private Groups Information

Make this KE Adventure holiday your own!

- Do our normal group departure dates not fit?
- Would you prefer to travel with just friends and/or family?
- Are you looking to organise a trip for your local walking, biking or mountaineering club?

It's really easy to make a trip your own. Simply select from our full range of adventure holidays and choose the dates that work for you and your group.

We are experts in creating holidays for groups of friends, families, charities and clubs. Our personal service means you'll be fully involved as we make the arrangements for your perfect adventure holiday.

Independence with Security

Travelling as a KE Private Group allows you more flexibility and choice, but still with the peace of mind that everything is pre-planned and arranged for your group by a reputable adventure travel company.

To take your first step to an amazing adventure with your friends and family complete the private group enquiry form, or call our **Sales Experts on: 017687 73966**

Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.

Equipment Information

Equipment List

When packing for a trip in the mountains it is important to have the appropriate equipment and clothing. This kit list features items we believe are necessary for the weather you might encounter and the accommodation you will be staying in.

Generally clothing for snowshoeing should be equivalent to that used for walking in the mountains in winter. For this trip all the necessary snowshoe equipment is provided by the guide for an additional charge. This includes snowshoes, walking poles, snow probe, snow

shovel, and avalanche transceiver. The carrying of this safety equipment is compulsory and demonstrates 'best practice'.

Your guide will arrive at the 'Welcome Meeting' with only enough snowshoe equipment for those who have booked it via their Booking Form.

Equipment

- Snowshoes, Poles, Avalanche Transceiver, Shovel and Snow Probe - provided by guide for an additional charge

- Rucksack - 30-35 litres, with waist and chest strap. Ideally it should have a system that allows you to attach snowshoes if it is necessary to carry them.

- Rucksack - waterproof liner/cover

- Winter Hiking Boots - warm and waterproof. They must cover your ankles. A 'stiff' B2 boot which takes a crampon is not advised

- Bags to waterproof items, such as documentation

- Gaiters - useful on days with deep fresh snow

Clothing

- Waterproof jacket - essential, this must keep you dry during a day of continuous snowfall or at least as dry as any waterproof jacket ever keeps you!

- Waterproof trousers - in case of heavy snowfall

- Trousers - windproof and warm

- Thermal top - long sleeves

- Thin fleece - long sleeves

- Waistcoat - fleece/wind stopper

- Gloves x 2 (one thick and one thin)

- Over-mittens for colder days can be useful
- Warm hat
- Sun hat
- Head/ear band
- Duvet jacket (or second warm layer)
- Scarf or 'Buff' for neck
- Socks - 2 or 3 pairs

Comfort

- Lip salve
- Sunscreen - essential
- Sunglasses - essential
- Goggles - very useful in snowfall
- Snack bars/chocolate
- Tissues - we recommend biodegradable bags to dispose of rubbish
- Anti-bacterial hand wash

Personal First Aid

- Personal medication
- Blister plasters (e.g. Compeed)
- Painkillers/anti-inflammatory

- Glucose tablets/Energy gel
- 2 x Rehydration sachets - eg Dioralyte
- Throat lozenges
- Antiseptic cream/spray

Documentation

- Mountain Rescue/Ski Insurance documents - compulsory
- Passport
- Credit card
- Cash - Euros
- GHIC - if travelling from UK for medical cover

Items for your overnight in the mountain hut/refuge

- A sheet sleeping bag liner is only needed on this trip if you are staying in a dormitory.
 - However we aim to always book private rooms that have linen included.
- Small pack towel is required at the Rifugio Lavarella
- Toiletries - miniature versions if possible
- Head torch - plus spare batteries
- Slippers or sandals - lightweight shoes to change into. Boots are not allowed indoors.

Additional Items

- Clothing for use at accommodation

- Hair dryer if required
- Travel Kettle if required
- Camera/ Book/Music
- Toiletries - soap/shower gel; not all accommodation supplies these
- Ear plugs - if room sharing
- Small thermos for hot drinks
- Padlock - for luggage
- Micro-spikes/boot grippers - optional, for icy conditions on the street/car park
- Sit mat (optional)

Cotswold Outdoor

Many of the equipment items listed above are available from [Cotswold Outdoor](#) - our '**Official Recommended Outdoor Retailer**'. When you book a holiday with KE you will receive a 12.5% discount with Cotswold Outdoor, Snow+Rock and Runners Need. The discount code can be downloaded from your MyKE account and you can use this code at the checkout, either in store or online.

Why Choose KE

Why KE

This is snowshoeing with more adventure and offers more of a challenge. Travelling from hut to hut within stunning scenery, carrying everything we need for the 5 day point to point adventure.

Please Note This document was downloaded on 18/05/2025 and the trip is subject to change