



## Via ferrata in the Italian Dolomites

During the First World War the Austrians invaded Northern Italy in an attempt to seize the disputed region of Tyrol. The Italians withdrew to the defensible position offered by the precipitous Dolomite Alps where both sides then built elaborate cableways, ladders, tunnels and bridges to permit them to move out of sight of the enemy. A fruitless struggle ended with neither side being able to displace the other but the system of via ferrata (literally 'iron ways') that they left behind has been maintained and upgraded to provide a fantastic, recreational mountaineering resource.

Such was the ingenuity of the engineers that it is possible for any fit individual to scale the apparently impossible walls of these majestic mountains in safety and with relative ease. Steve is offering two separate weeks of guided via ferrata to ensure that you make the most of your experience. Based in the idyllic town of Cortina you will have the opportunity to enjoy five different day trips into the surrounding mountains, always ensuring you're back with plenty of time to savour the Italian hospitality in the valley.

**Venue:** Cortina D'Ampezzo

**Content:** Five separate, exciting day trips to introduce you to a wide variety of via ferrata at a standard suited to the participants. You can choose to take a 'back seat' and have a guided experience or you can opt to take control of your own adventure and learn how to tackle these amazing mountains independently in safety.

**Ratio:** 1:4

**Cost:** £650 - not including any cable car use, accommodation, food and travel to and from Cortina. This leaves you free to choose your own route and standard of lodgings though Steve is more than happy to advise or assist. Transport on activity days is available.

**Equipment:** Walking boots  
Climbing harness  
Via ferrata lanyard  
Walking poles  
Rucksack for day use  
Helmet  
Lightweight waterproofs  
Hat and gloves  
Sunglasses and sun protection  
Suitable clothing for high mountain use in a predominantly warm climate



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If you wish to purchase any equipment please call for advice first. It may be possible to source equipment at trade prices for you.

The weather in any mountain area can change rapidly. Whilst the Dolomites in the summer are frequently warm and dry, as the images here show, poor weather is possible and thunderstorms can occur as the temperature rises in the afternoon. Your clothing needs to accommodate for this. We may have to change our plans in light of any adverse weather.

If you are interested in this amazing experience please call Steve for a chat – he'll be delighted to hear from you.

**Due to high staff/client ratios and the disruptive effect of late withdrawals, any booking cancelled within 30 days of the start will incur loss of all fees. If you have any concerns regarding your ability to participate in a course, trip or other activity on which you have enrolled we strongly advise you to take out appropriate insurance. Steve Banks is not in a position to indemnify clients against any illness, injury or other misfortune which may affect attendance. If a course has to be cancelled by Steve Banks a full refund will be given. The full terms and conditions are published on the website:**

**<http://www.stevebanksoutdoors.co.uk/booking.php>**



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