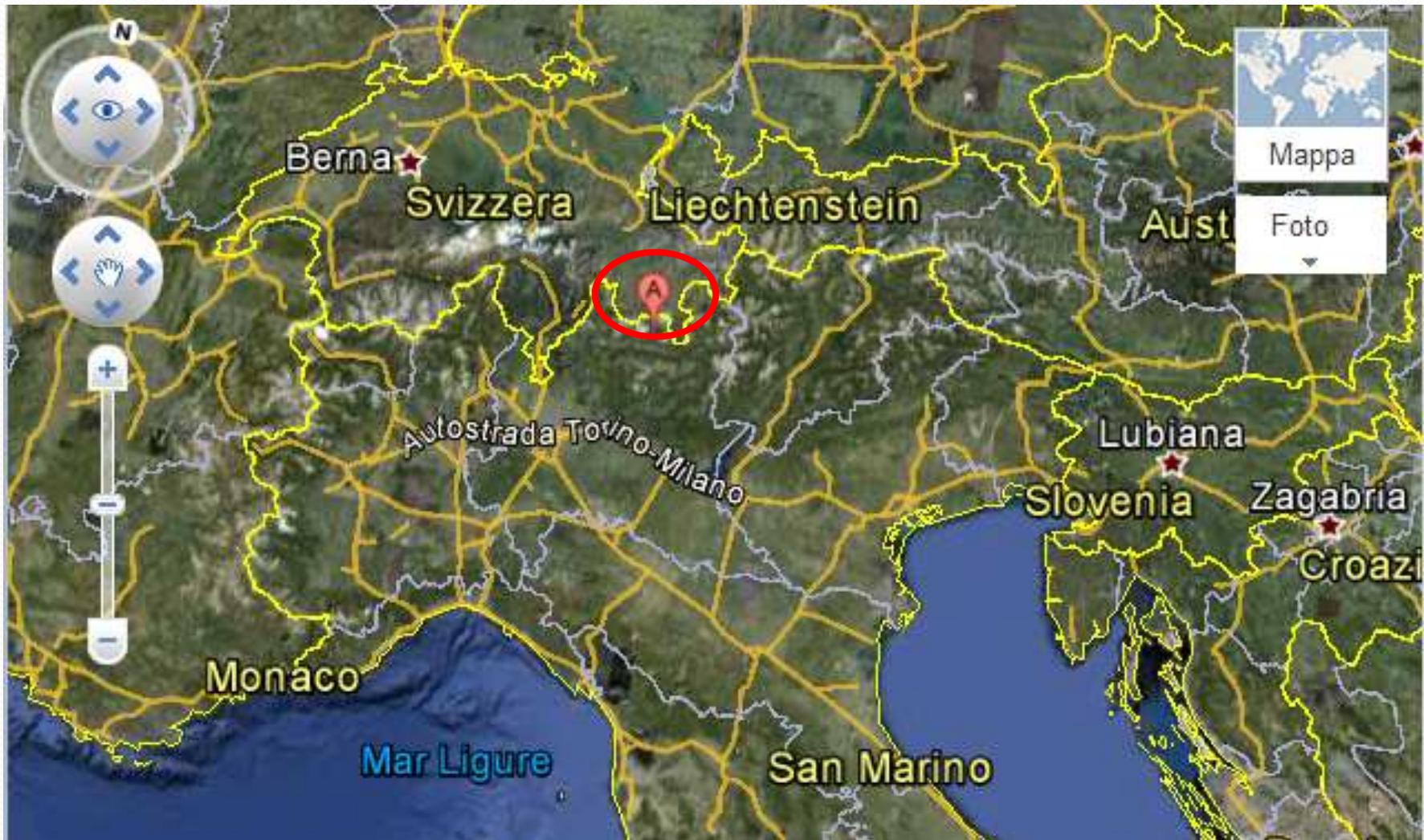




*“Discovering the world around..”*  
**Valmalenco, heart of Rhaetian Alps**

**CLUB ALPINO ITALIANO  
COMMISSIONE REGIONALE LOMBARDA DI ALPINISMO GIOVANILE  
SCUOLA DI ALPINISMO GIOVANILE DELLA PROVINCIA DI SONDRIO  
‘LUIGI BOMBARDIERI’**

# Chiareggio, Valmalenco...*where is it* ?





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Google earth  
Termini e condizioni d'uso

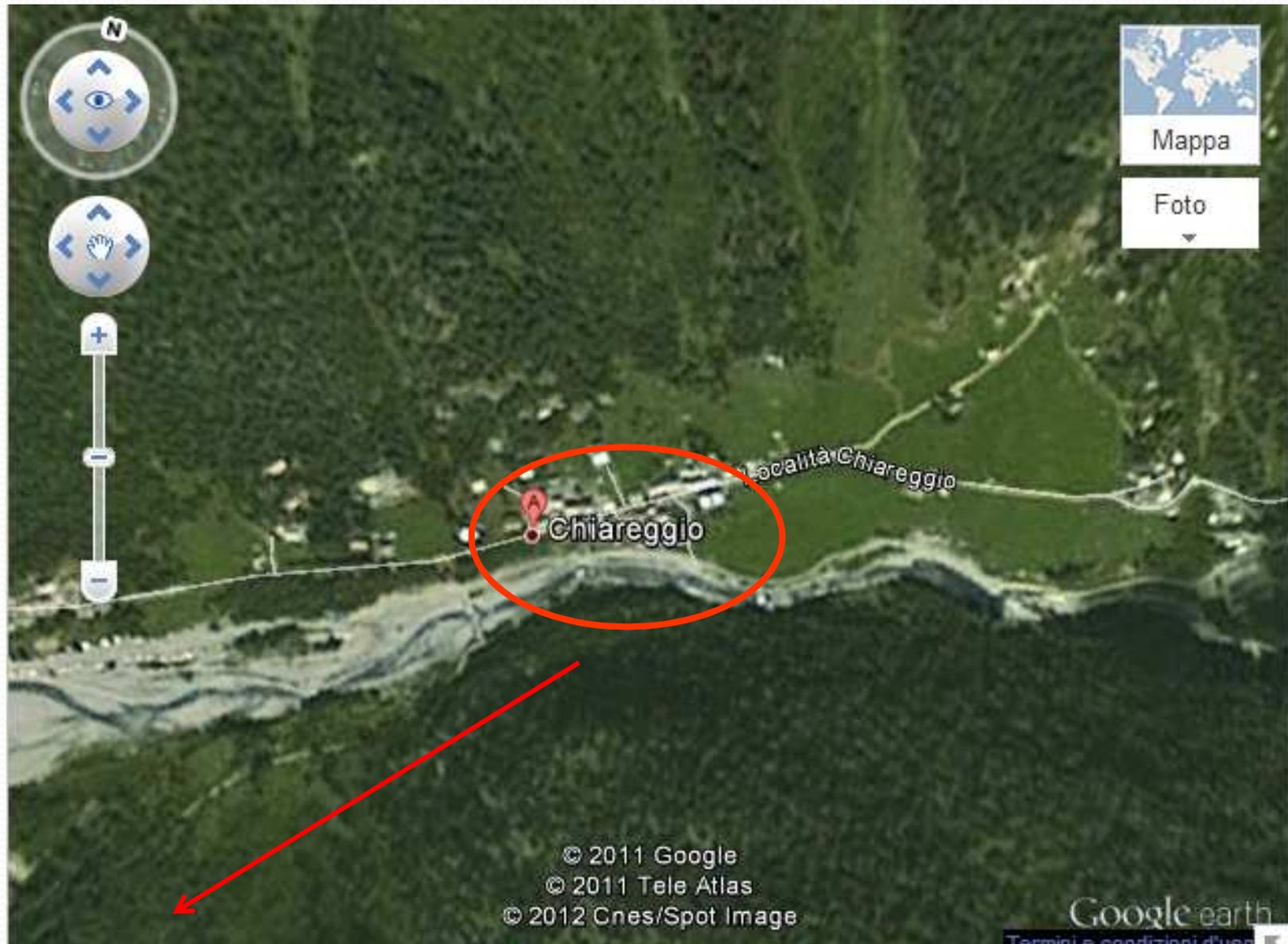
# Chiareggio

VALMALENCO

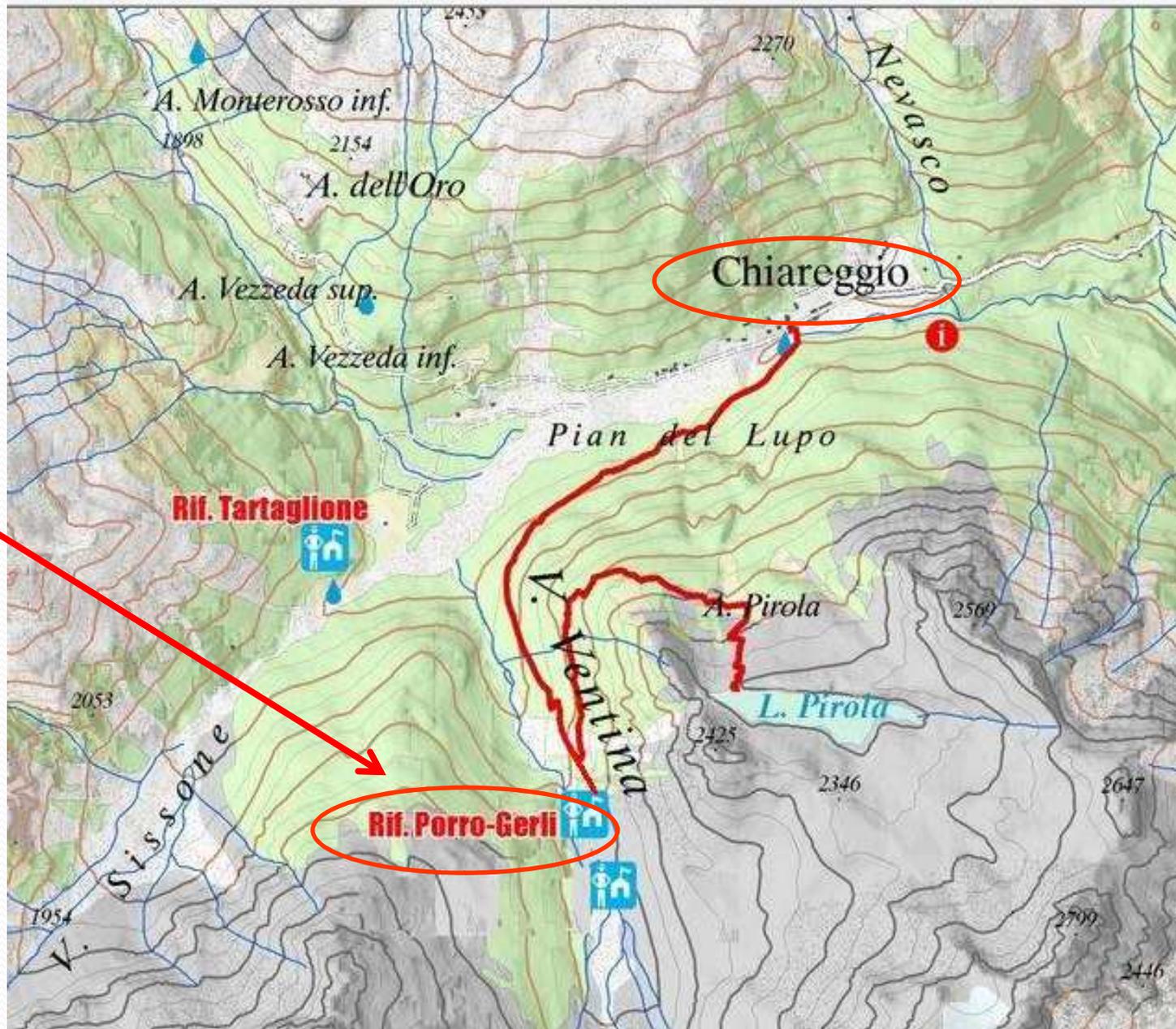


VALTELLINA

...way from Chiareggio to our refuge...



**We will be there !!**



# Gerli – Porro Hut

The wonderful place where we will stay during the whole week...





**A really versatile  
environment...**



# General information - I

## Summer week by “Gerly Porro” Hut - 1960 mt Valmalenco, Sondrio (Italy)

This project is dedicated to young people within **10-14 age range**.

A maximum number of **36 kids** is admitted.

**Dates :** **July 2012, from Sunday 1th to Saturday 7th**

**Closing date:** **30 april for italians / 10 may for others**

**Venue :** **Sondrio railway station** (details will follow), then bus to Chiareggio (private bus, short trip).

Return is by bus from Chiareggio to Sondrio railway station.

It is possible to make use of a cableway to transfer baggage / materials and organize a jeep transport, if needed.

**Cost :** **300 Euros per-capita** (including : full board; Sondrio / Chiareggio bus round trip; Chiareggio / Lanzada bus; entrance ticket to Lanzada mine).

**Information :** AAG Piera EUMEI – mobile ++39 339 6175251 - [crlag2@gmail.com](mailto:crlag2@gmail.com)

# General information - II

## Summer week by “Gerly Porro” Hut - 1960 mt Valmalenco, Sondrio (Italy)

### Walking timings

Hikes will be on a daily base, each one with different features and length. The proposed activities will be adapted on kids' abilities. The walk could last on average 4 hours/day.

We have a long mountain experience (20 years) with children of such age group, therefore each activity can be well adapted to their potential, experience and weather conditions.

### Stay

It will be a “residential” week, meaning we will have breakfast, dinner and sleep always in the same hut (Rif. Gerli Porro).

The “menu” will be varied every day, with local typical and season food.

Cost is including breakfast, lunch and dinner : lunch will be “packed lunch”, unless the weather is not good, in such case we will have lunch by the hut.

### Equipment

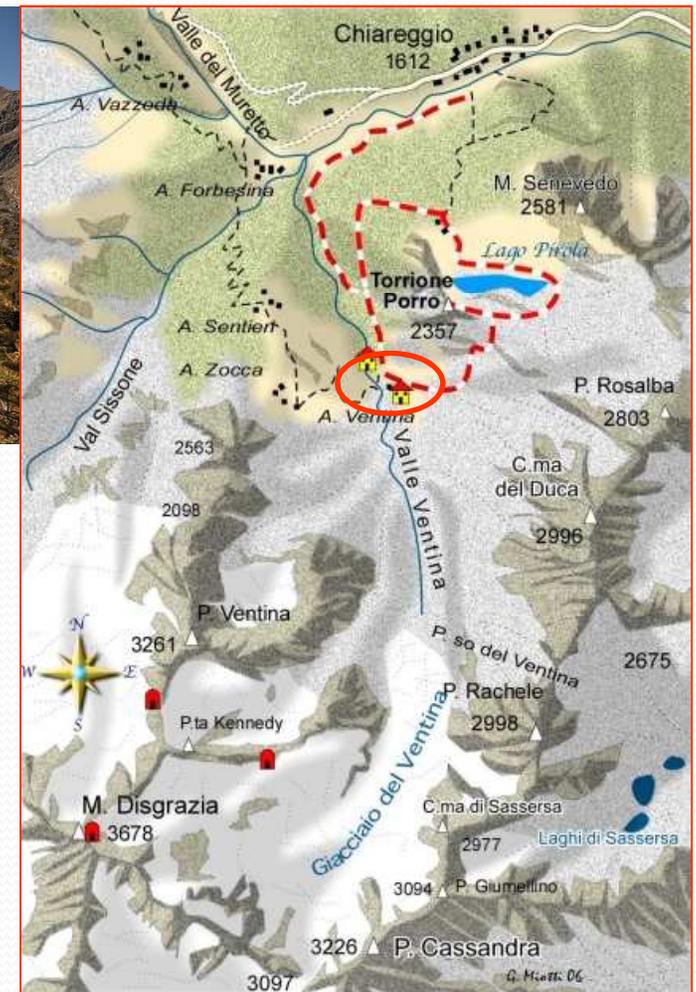
Clothing for mid-mountain hiking, boots, anorak, sheet bag, toilet kits, personal clothing, personal torch, etc.

Further details will be given to participants on due time

# Day 1 – Pirola lake – Geology

Visit to “**Pirola**” lake and “**Porro**” big rock tower, walk to the “millennium larch” (one of the most ancient trees in all over the Alps).

Direct observation of “serpentine” : an interesting and peculiar mineral being the main component of the rocks around.



# Day 2 – Alpe Zocca – Sheep farming

“**Alpe Zocca**”, “**Alpe Sentieri**”, to see directly “on field” and with the help of some interesting stories, what does really mean sheep farming, transhumance and milk /cheese manufacturing

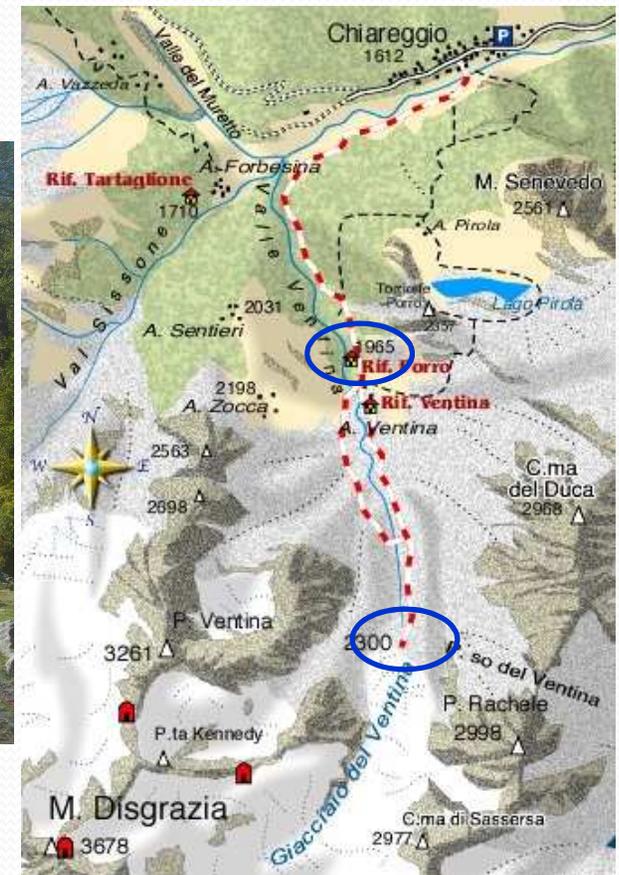


# Day 3 - Approaching the glacier...

We will get very close to “**Ventina**” glacier, walking along a glaciological path.

It is also possible to walk directly onto the glacier, to reach “Taveggia” bivouac or Cassandra pass (harness, ice axe and crampons needed), under the supervision and guide of youth leaders, together with local alpine guides.

The alpine history of Valmalenco will be also discovered, particularly focusing on 150 anniversary of Mt. Disgrazia ascent, performed by two alpinists from UK : E.S. Kennedy and L. Stephen



# Mt. Disgrazia first ascent...

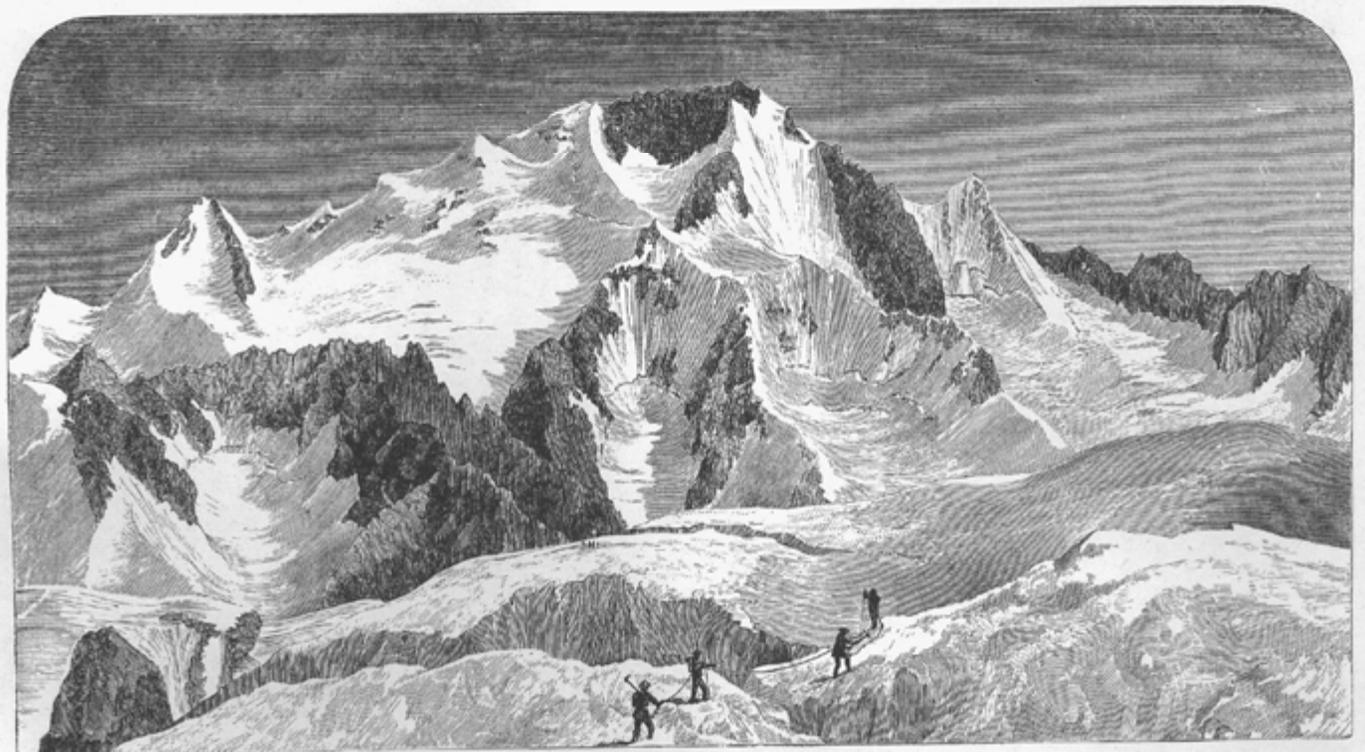


Sir Leslie Stephen



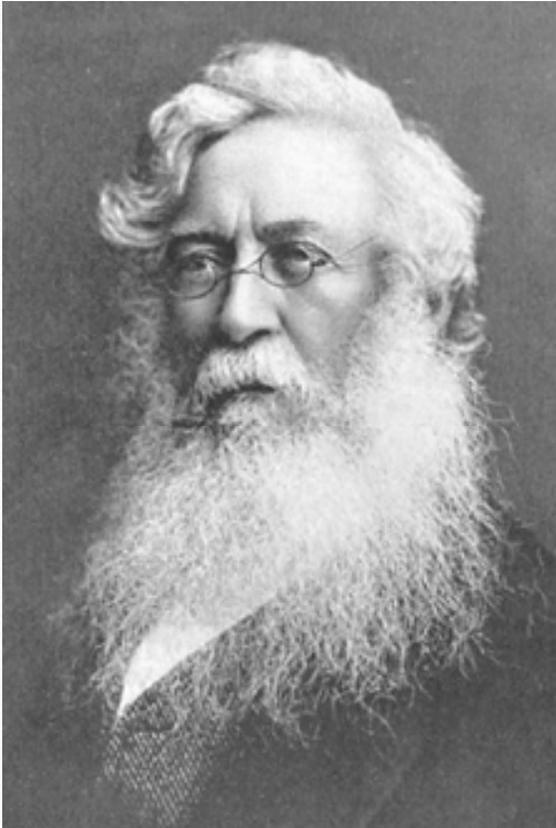
Melchior Anderegg

First ascent of Mt. Disgrazia was performed on August 24th, 1862 by a group of British pioneers : **Leslie Stephen** (famous authoress Virginia Woolf's father) **Edward Shirley Kennedy** and **Thomas Cox** – leaded by a Swiss mountain guide : **Melchior Anderegg**.



MONTE DELLA DISGRAZIA FROM THE CRESTA AGIUZA SATTEL.

## ...an exciting adventure...



Edward Shirley Kennedy (1817 - 1898), charter member of the British Alpine Club.

Mt. Disgrazia was considered an alpinistic target only relatively late in time, compared to other mountains of same area, even if it is very well visible from mid Valtellina and definitely dominates the Valmalenco western side.

In fact, it was only in 1862 that the British, being at that time among the most active “peak hunters” of all over the Alps, succeeded in climbing its peak.

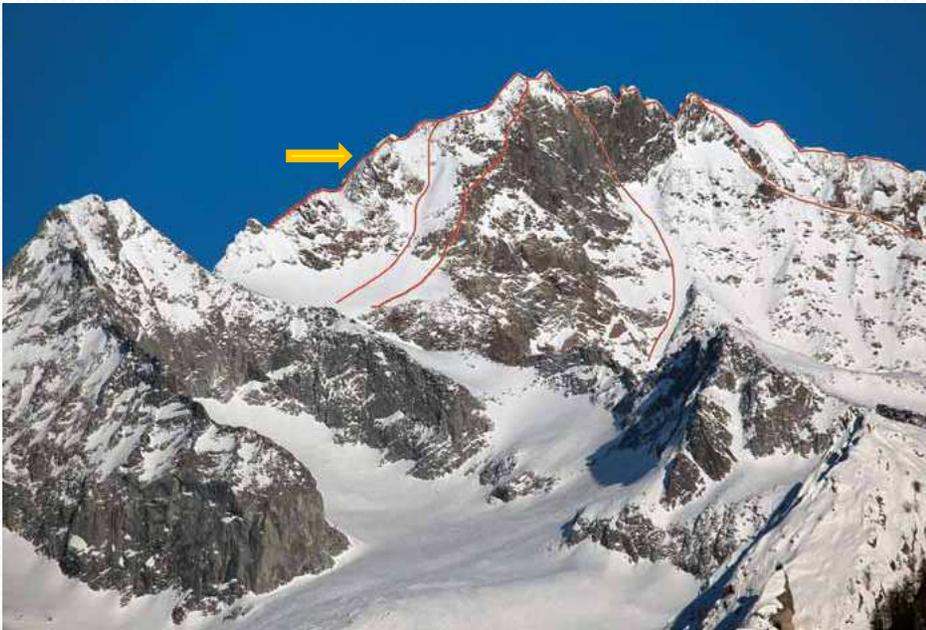
They tried from Val Sissone first, and reached Mt. Pioda – named “Hope tip”-, but initially exhaustion and the late hour made them to desist from proceeding, even if their first scouting allowed them to disclose many uncertainties being key for their ultimate trip...

Same days later, on **august 24th, 1862**, **Edward Shirley Kennedy**, **Leslie Stephen**, with the guide **Melchior Anderegg** and its colleague **Thomas Cox**, they fine tuned their target and...

## ...and an extraordinary success !

...after an “adventurous” trip in a horse-drawn carriage from Chiareggio to Bagni di Masino, they climbed up from Mello Valley to Pioda Saddle, across Cecilia Pass, and climbed the west-north-west crown, finally setting their feet on the highest point to the peak of the big “bastion”.

An amazing track, hanging between the “kindly” snow covered slopes of the western side and the “severe” slippery frosty slides overlooking Chiareggio on the other side.



Mt. Disgrazia, SW slope (M. Sertori)

Their trial and consequent success have been described by E. Kennedy in the “*The Alpine Journal*” in an engaging and humour-fully way.

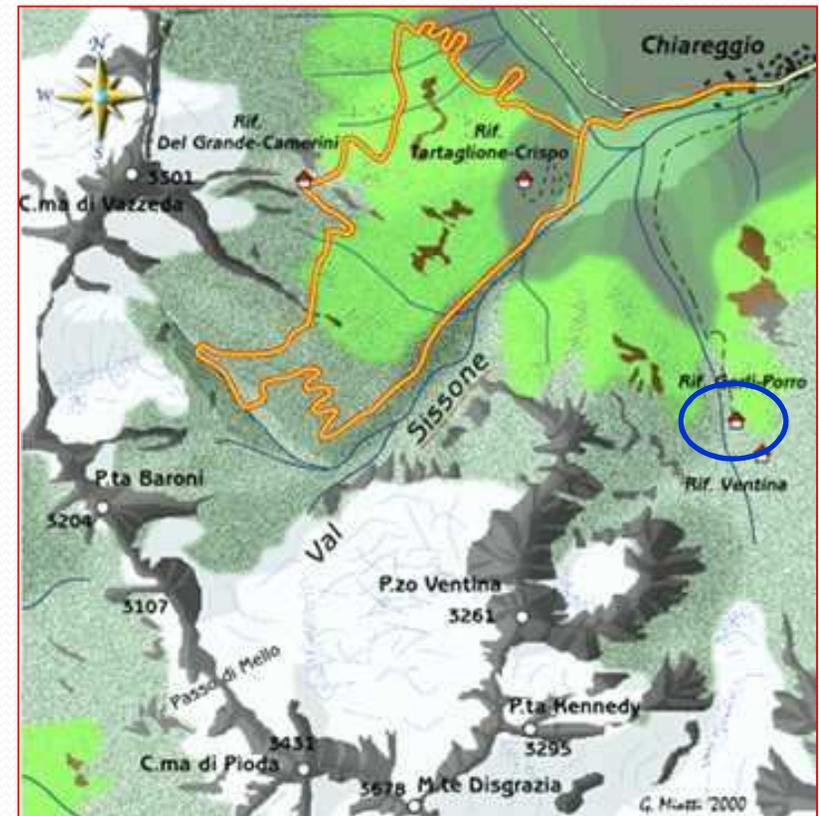
Especially, were really funny his notes about how risky was to ride in a chariot (at that time) compared to climbing a mountain...

It was 1863.

# Day 4 - Sissone Valley : mineralogy

“**Sissone**” valley is a special place where rare minerals can be found along our path. We will have an expert with us, who will show us and explain how special is this valley. There, some kind of minerals, being unique in the world, have been found.

A visit to “Chiareggio Geological Park” is also foreseen in the same day, aimed to discover Valmalenco geology from the time of Alpine chain formation until today.

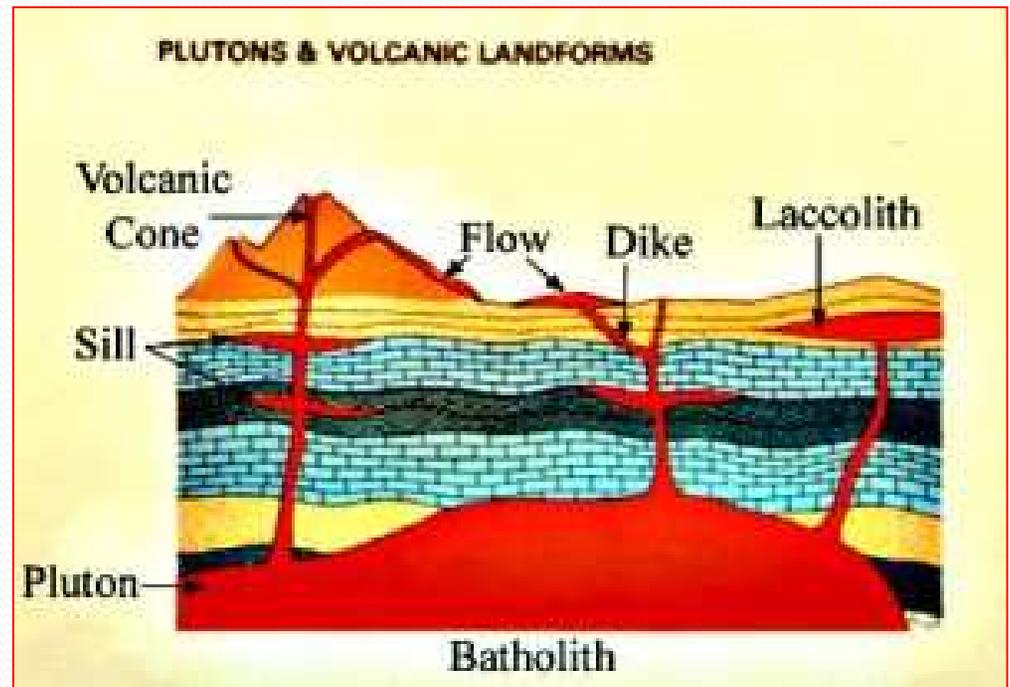


## Sissone Valley minerals : why are they so special...?

Sissone valley minerals have always been very attractive to many experts in the field. The specialty of this place is due to a complex sequence of geological phenomena which took place in very ancient times.

In fact, approximately 30 million years ago, central Alps were subjected to the effect of a “magma bubble”, quickly raising from the very deep (just like boiling water in a pot) but stopping at a certain distance from the surface.

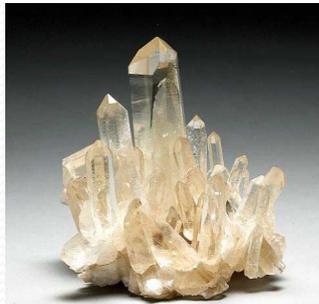
That enormous “boiling mass” (named “pluton”) then got solidified with time, while releasing intense heat to the surrounding rocks. Consequently, a number of complex chemical reactions, made easier by such very high temperatures, caused the formation of special minerals.



# Sissone Valley minerals

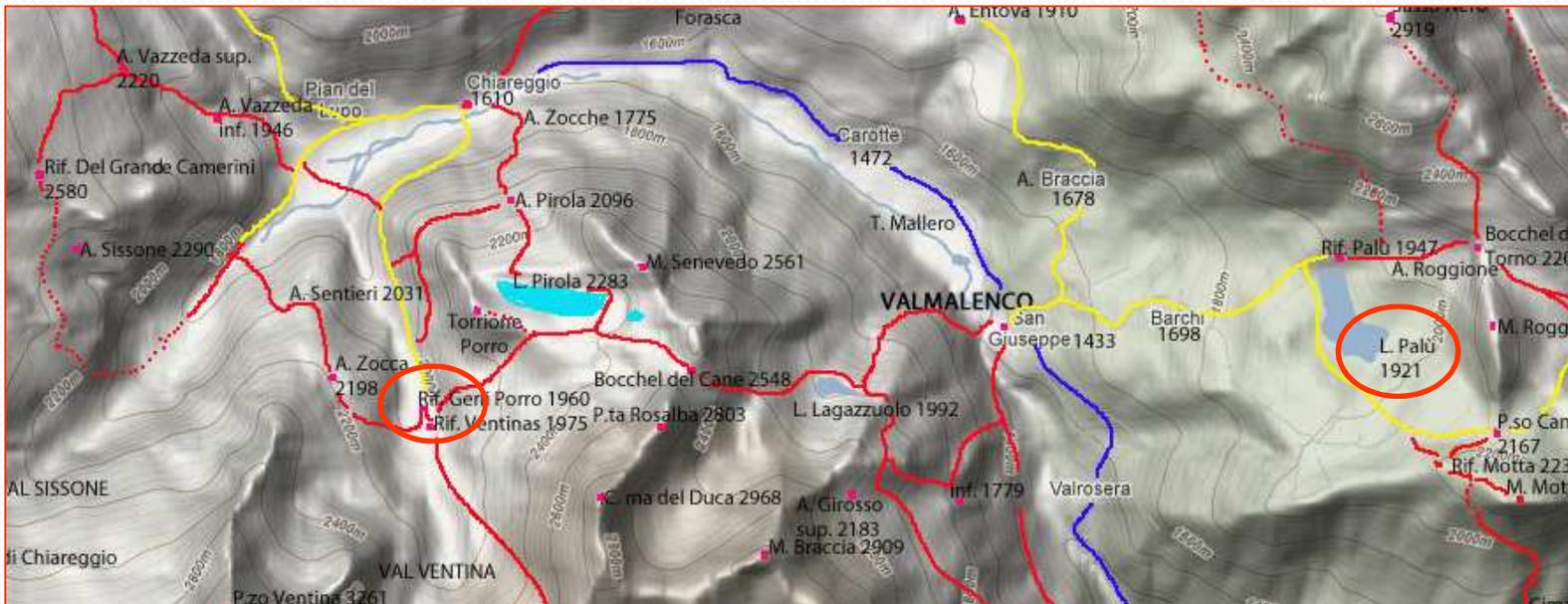
To find interesting minerals along the path in Sissone Valley is not needed to secure neither hammer nor explosive: we just need to walk along the rocks in the bottom valley, and some nice samples could attract our sight...

Here are some examples of the minerals that could be found in the valley ... 😊



# Day 5 - Lake Palù wildflowers

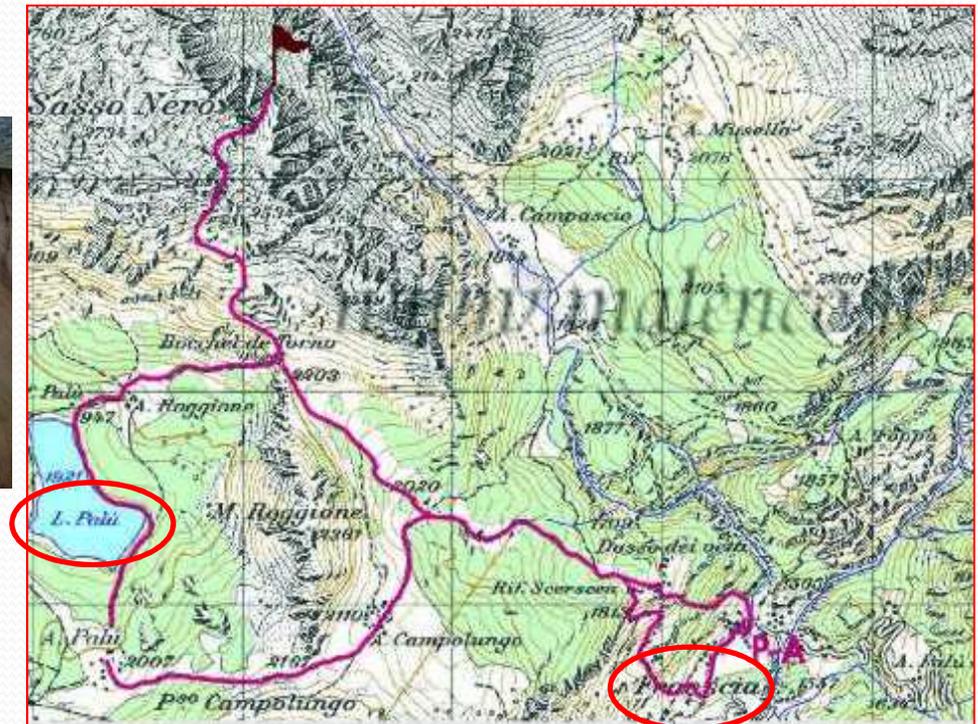
In this “magic” place we will have the opportunity to discover a wonderful flora and observe very closely many interesting plants and flowers



# Day 6 - Mines and rock pots...

Visit to “**Bagnada**” museum mine (located at **Lanzada**) and to “*Giants rock pots*” located at **Campo Francia** (bus trip from Chiareggio to Lanzada and back)

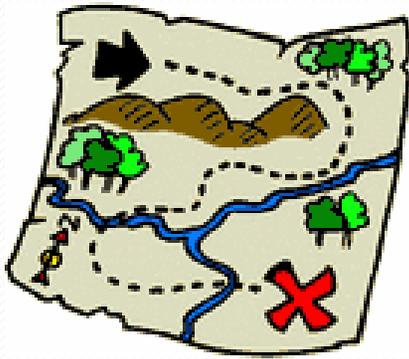
(Giant pots: curious phenomenon caused by falling water force, causing a whirly rotation of little stones, which excavate rock with time)



# ...and together in the hut...

In addition to the scheduled “on field” activities, also indoor activities can be done, depending on time availability and programs of each day.

They could be : videos or slide shows on specific topics, chosen on the basis of participants needs or interests; path tracking; weather forecasts evaluation, etc.



## ...The Valmalenco experience can...

...create an opportunity for young people coming from different Countries to meet and see how their common passion for the mountain can **help in overcoming any potential social and cultural barriers**

...**encourage their curiosity, power of observation and thinking** about some peculiar aspects of the territory around, both by historic, naturalistic and anthropic point of views

...allow guys **building up a correct environmental awareness**, through direct living experience with nature

...educate guys in accepting others, respecting them and **developing the sense of human solidarity**, through socialization and sharing of common experiences

...**facilitate friendship and cooperation** within groups of people having different nationalities, also enabling them to develop familiarity with other cultures and life conditions

...help **achieving a deep sense of well-being** while staying in a nice and pure natural environment

# Valmalenco (Italy), July 1 - 7, 2012



...Waiting for YOU...

