

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

Trip Code: AVS

Version:





#### **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 it's amphitheatre of spectacular rock spires
- Relax in the spa hotel in San Vito di Cadore

#### AT A GLANCE

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS**

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

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:

# **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 <a href="www.sad.it">www.sad.it</a> 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.

#### **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.

#### 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 <a href="Water-To-Go">Water-To-Go</a> 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.

#### 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 abovementioned 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 including vaccinations and health certificates (see Health & Vaccinations below), and visas for your holiday. Please ensure that you check the FCDO 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.

#### Severe Allergies

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 <u>Travel Insurance</u> 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)

<ul> <li>Over-mittens for colder days can be useful</li> </ul>
■ 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)

# 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 06/12/2025 and the trip is subject to change