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# WATER MEMORIES

BARCIS

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### Barcis

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# WATER MEMORIES

## BARCIS

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## 1 GEOGRAPHY

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### 1.1 Barcis & his surroundings

The town of Barcis (409 m) lies on the North bank of the homonymous artificial lake, in a sunny position, with the waters that reflect it.

The Barcis basin is surrounded by mountains with over 2000 m height: Cavallo, Messer, Crep Nudo, Resettum, Raut. In his northern side it borders on the Natural Park of the Friulian Dolomites, Unesco World Heritage Site. Barcis is a starting point of a varied network of itineraries: you can enjoy easy lake promenades as well as more challenging hikes that lead to the Dolomite peaks. Many cultural and sporting events and popular festivals take place there, especially in the summer.

Between Barcis and Montereale, in the area that surrounds the spectacular ravine carved by the stream of the River Cellina, lies the Nature Reserve Forra del Cellina (Cellina Gorge Nature Reserve). On the sheer walls of these deep incisions there is a complex system of canyons, joined to one another, formed by the streams of the creeks Alba, Cellina and Molassa. The gorge is one of the most spectacular in Italy.

In the territory of this protected area interesting karst forms are found. The canyon is the center of a system of caves. A couple of caverns are viable for speleological excursions (only guided tours). The



particular microclimatic conditions of the Reserve created the ideal environment for the development of floristic and vegetational peculiarities.

Leaving the Barcis Lake, heading north, towards the Arcola village, there is the Prescudin regional forest, a naturalistic environment protected and guarded by the Forest Guard. In the park there is a charming old building, Villa Emma. The mansion has been restored and it is used for scientific and naturalistic meetings.

Predaia, a beautiful small village located north-east of Barcis, is the starting point for the excursion to Mount Lupo and the ruins of San Daniele del Monte. In this area was also located an ancient town named Cellis, which disappeared as a consequence

of a landslide. In Predaia you can admire well-preserved ancient houses and the chapel of San Giorgio.

At Ponte Antoi (404 m) you can see the dam, built in 1954. An easy path leads to a suggestive belvedere from which you can enjoy a wide view of the dam, the lake and the mountains that surround it.

In the village there is also the Visitor Center of the Cellina Gorge Nature Reserve, from which depart the guided visits to the canyon and caves.

## **1.2 Mountains and creeks**

The mountains surrounding Barcis are: from the North, proceeding clockwise, Mount Lupo, 1053 m; Mount Fara (1342 m), which overlooks the Cellina gorge; to the South, between Barcis and Piancavallo, are the Campron Mountains (1470 m), the Mount Ciastelat (1641 m), the Mount Piz (1755 m). Mount Angelo (1207 m) and Mount Laura (1230 m) separate the Pentina Valley from the Prescudin Valley.

The main feature of the Barcis basin is the water, that comes down copiously from the mountains. The creeks flow into the main stream, the River Cellina, whose catchment area covers 392 square kilometres.

Starting from the West we find the torrent Varma, which enjoys a very bad reputation for having sent the Regional Road 251 underwater countless times to the confluence of Cellina (currently the road has been elevated); the creeks Alba and Molassa, famous for their suggestive gorges; to the South is the Caltea creek and to the South West the Pentina.

## **1.3 Mountain, pastures and shelters**

For hundreds of years mountain pasture was an essential economic activity in Barcis, as in the whole alpine and pre-alpine area.

Today, however, the only mountain pasture still in operation in the surroundings is Malga Pian Mazzega, also known as Paronuzzi hut, which is the most important high-altitude production site on the Cansiglio-Cavallo ridge. Around Barcis, no longer active, we find Malga Valli (1020 m), Malga Caulana (1006 m), Malga Pentina (465 m). More shelters are casera La Pala, casera Montelunga, casera Bitter. There are also some bivouacs for the hikers: Molassa, Provagna, Val Zea, Pastour.

#### *Good to know!*

*In the Alps of Friuli you can find many shelters (named casere), very basic inside, which are usually open to backpackers and hikers. In some cases, however, you need to ask for the keys to the municipality. Hikers normally bring their food and sleeping bags. For emergency situations there is survival food such as canned food or rice in the shelter, as well as brandy and some blankets. There is a wood-burning kitchen that also acts as a heating. It is a duty to put everything back into place after eating and/or spending the night. The name “casera” means “house”. Once it was the place where the milk produced during the pasture was processed.*

### 1.4 How to get to Barcis

**By car:** from the South: take the motorway A28 Portogruaro-Conegliano and exit at Cimpello (Pn), then take the motorway junction that leads to the roundabout from which starts the Regional Road 251. Follow the Road 251 to Montereale Valcellina. Montereale (24 kilometres from Pordenone, close to the Prealps) is the door that opens onto Valcellina. Keep going on the road 251 along the Fara tunnel. You will leave on the right the crossroad for Andreis. Continue until you reach, shortly thereafter, the basin of Barcis gathered around the banks of the lake. Only from May to October you can reach Barcis by car



from the sports resort of Piancavallo via the Pian delle More tourist road, which runs through the Val Caltea and ends on the lake by the village of Vallata. This is an highly suggestive itinerary.

At the entrance of Barcis there is a large parking area. Here you will find also a functional area equipped for campers and caravans. Near the parking lot there is a nice playground for children.

**By train and bus:** From Udine or Venice by train to Pordenone. In Pordenone, in the same station square, you can find the line 14 from Pordenone to Maniago. Then take the line 32 from Maniago to Barcis.

Timetables on [www.atap.it](http://www.atap.it)

**Train + bike:** If you are a trained cyclist, you can load the bicycle onto the train. Take the touristic railway line Sacile-Maniago and get off at Budoia-Polcenigo station. Then ride from Budoia to Piancavallo following the cycle track called “Venezia delle nevi” (“Venice of the snow”, opened in 2019). The track, largely unpaved, is particularly suited for gravel biking. The stretch extends for 11 kilometres with a drop of 700 metres. There are two water points: one at the beginning, in the place of Dardago; the second one, a beautiful fountain, is about at halfway. Once in Piancavallo, you follow the Pian delle More tourist road to Barcis.



## 2. THE ENVIRONMENT

### 2.1 Geology

The area of Barcis is of considerable geological value. In the rocks are evident traces of the deep tropical sea that covered a large part of the territory in the Jurassic era.

The Carnic Prealps are characterised by deposits of limestone, shale and, above them, the scale. In the limestones of this area there are recognisable fossils of *rudist bivalves*, robust shells suitable to resist the turbulence of the sea that crashed against the cliff which stretched from Barcis in a west-south west direction. Rudist fossils can be observed in the Cellina gorge, inside the Grotta della Vecchia Diga (Old dime cave), in the “Corridor of Fossils”.

From the Middle Cretaceous period (130 million years ago) Africa and America began to separate. In this process, the ancient sea that submerged Friuli disappeared, crushed between Africa and Europe that were approaching. The continental plates, colliding, continued their advance one against the other. In the clash between plates, portions of the earth's crust, called tectonic scales or flaps, overlap each other generating over-slip phenomena.

This is similar to what happens when two decks of playing cards are pushed against each other: the cards slide one on top of the other and pile up forming a single thicker deck.

The fault line that goes from Barcis to Staro Selo in Slovenia, oriented along the East-West route, is the outermost slip among those that develop in the central area of Friuli. It is a still active fault that causes earthquakes, sometimes disastrous, as in 1348, 1511 and 1976.


This fault is clearly visible along the nearby Val Susaibès, in correspondence of a transversal displacement to the line. Here, the Dolomite layers are oriented vertically. If you watch carefully, you can observe the mirror faults, very smooth surfaces generated by the movement of the faults. Along the sides of the gorge there are large areas subject to accelerated erosion which give rise to a considerable production of gravelly debris. Due to the high degree of fragmentation of the rocks and the continuous movement of the fault, the slopes are devoid of vegetation.

*Guided tours of the Val Susaibès with geology experts are organized by the Regional Park of Dolomiti Friulane.*

*The Barcis meteorite*







*The dam and the surface drainage system  
seen from the Dint viewpoint*

## 2.2 Genesis of a lake

The works for the exploitation of the Cellina waters for hydroelectric purposes date back to the early 1900s.

Inside the ravine was built an intake dam known today as the “old dam”, equipped with an adductor channel to divert and bring the Cellina waters downstream, to the Malnisio power station.

Designed by the engineer Aristide Zenari, it was one of the first hydroelectric plants built in Italy. Over a thousand workers participated in the construction. The energy generated in Malnisio powered the lighting of Venice.

The gigantic construction site needed a service road. The works for the dam were an opportunity to build a road that connected Barcis with the Friuli plain. The first roadway leading to the valley (known as “Old Road”) was opened in 1906. The last stretch of the road, from the dam to Molassa, not initially planned, was designed free of charge by Eng. Zenari. In the 1950s the old dam ceased its function with the creation of the new barrier at Ponte Antoi. A new plant was built near it. The plant of Malnisio, abandoned, is now a museum.

The artificial lake was created in 1954 by Sade (Adriatic Electricity Society), which in 1962 merged into Enel (National Electricity Authority). The lake was named after the engineer Napoleone Aprilis, author of many hydroelectric projects in the area, including the Vajont dam, sadly famous for the tragic landslide which in 1963 caused a wave that swept the town of Longarone.



In the early development process of the hydroelectric industry the town of Barcis has risked to disappear. In fact, in 1940 a huge basin of 70 million cubic meters of water was designed, with a dam 11 meters higher than that actually built; the settlement of Barcis, according to plans, would have been submerged and rebuilt elsewhere.

World War II, however, blocked any plans. At the end of the conflict, the designers took up the idea again, but in the meantime the costs of materials and expropriations had risen, resources had decreased and, last but not least, the political context was completely different.

The company SADE then decided to implement a less ambitious project: the new dam, at the entrance to the Cellina gorge, would have stopped at 402 m above sea level.

Vaulted and double-curved, the barrier currently creates a 20 million cubic meter reservoir that laps the town of Barcis, which has remained almost intact in its historical structure.

The area in which the upper course of Cellina flows is one of the rainiest in Italy. The stream is subject to sudden floods and in periods of rain it can cause overflows. Its level is regulated by the drainage of reinforced concrete surface, a well with a ring entrance located just upstream of the dam. The continuous supply of gravel has made the flow of the lake drop over the years.

### 2.3 Flora

From a naturalistic point of view the Barcis area can be divided into three sites characterised by different vegetation features: the cultivated zone, the Cellina Gorge and the Prescudin Reserve. The latter are an authentic paradise for botanical rarity lovers.

Small horticulture and the cultivation of fruit trees are still widespread in the village, in the hamlets and in the immediate surroundings. In the past, each family had animals

from which got meat, milk and derivatives. Today the area of pasture meadows has disappeared and reforestation is advancing. The ash, in association with oak and hornbeam, is the leader of this process.

The Cellina Gorge and the Prescudin Reserve have got a remarkable biodiversity, due to the particular microclimate and the strong differences in height. A characteristic feature are the groves of gorge. The most common shrubs in this bush are black hornbeam and yew. Among the blooms there are the golden lily and the *spirea prostrata tomentosa*, a rosacea present in Italy with two subspecies only on the mountains of Veneto and Friuli, as a relic of the preglacial alpine flora.

The overhanging rocks of the ravine are the ideal environment for the Carnic bellflower and the rare rock rampions. At the base of the slopes there are heather and rhododendron

*Rock rampion*



bushes. In the upper part, where the terrain is less steep, there are beech woods on limestone soils. On the debris cones and on the screes are found many botanical rarities. Among those you can observe: *Geranium macrorrhizum* L.; *Athamanta cretensis* L.; *Saxifraga aizoides*; *Gymnocarpium robertianum* (Hoffm.) Newman.

The Prescudin regional forest is a closed secondary valley. In its dense woods you can find beech, yew and black hornbeam trees.

At higher altitudes there are mountain pine forests, lean meadows and rocky environments. Numerous species are endemic, with over 500 varieties identified. The lovers of botanical rarities will be fascinated by the scree vegetation of the Gravon del Tasseit, situated in the wilderness area of Upper Prescudin.

*All botanical species are strictly protected and harvesting is severely prohibited.*

## 2.4 Wildlife

The Prescudin Park and the Cellina Gorge Nature Reserve are rich in wildlife. Among the most representative species there is the golden eagle, typical of mountain environments with open areas for hunting and rocky walls for nesting. At least three pairs have been identified.

Among the birds of prey there are also the griffon vulture, the buzzard, the honey buzzard, the goshawk, the sparrow hawk, the peregrine falcon and the kestrel. There are also numerous nocturnal birds of prey such as the eagle owl, the barn owl, the common owl, the tawny owl and the owl, which nests in abandoned buildings.

The lake is home to birds typical of humid environments, such as mallard, plummet, moorhen, great crested grebe, cormorant and coot. At the time of migration and in winter it is possible to spot teals.



The woods are the ideal environment for galliformes. Among those, the hazel grouse, which prefers mixed woods and bushes on uncultivated meadows interrupted by open areas, landslides and valleys. The black grouse is present in the Prescudin Park, in the Cellina Gorge and in the mountains north of Barcis.

Among the amphibians are the common toad, the spotted salamander, the Alpine newt, the yellow-bellied toad and various species of frogs. Some reptiles also live in the ravine: the water snake and the tessellated natrix. In scattered boulders and on screes it is possible to observe the horned viper, the green lizard, the smooth snake, the orbit and the common viper. The crystal clear waters are the ideal habitat for trout, present in the Molassa and Cellina streams and in the Barcis lake.

Squirrels and dormice are widespread in the Prescudin area. Carnivores include weasels, martens and badgers: the latter is quite rare.



The deer is present in the whole area and often damages the fruit trees near the woods, so much that the plants must be protected with high nets.

Roe deer have always been numerous in the valley and now the return of the forest has further increased their presence.

In the late 1960s some fallow deer had been released for hunting in the Prescudin regional forest. The mouflon had been introduced to the Barcis area in 1985, also for hunting purposes; the specimens left are not numerous. Like the fallow deer, it is a non-native species.

After the last ice age, the fallow deer were extinct in Europe but since the Middle Ages they were brought from Asia and reintroduced several times to various areas of Italy for hunting. The chamois, widespread in all the Alps and also present here, is very similar to the goat in terms of habits and feeding. Its population is growing.

*Trouts in Barcis lake*



### 3. HISTORY

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#### 3.1 The origins

There are different interpretations of the etymology of the toponym *Barcis*. According to some scholars, the name *Barcis* derives from the Provençal “baxis”, which means basin. Others indicate a 14<sup>th</sup> century denomination “warcis” (“passage”) while a further origin could be the term “barga” which means “sheltered place”. This toponym, of pre-Latin etymology, would attest that Valcellina was already frequented in ages prior to Roman domination.

With the decline of the Roman Empire, these places, like other Alpine valleys, became shelter for the inhabitants of the plain who tried to escape wars and barbarian raids. They populated Valcellina permanently and began to practice agriculture and breeding.





The Abbey of Sesto al Reghena

The first written documents referring to the settlements date back to the 8<sup>th</sup> century. The documents mention a hospice for pilgrims from the Carolingian or Lombard era, owned by the Benedictine Abbey of Santa Maria in Sylvis in Sesto al Reghena. The Abbey, situated in the plain of Friuli, was rights holder on many lands in the valley. Founded in the years 730-735 A.D, Santa Maria in Sylvis was a superpower of the time. The abbot owned huge estates not only in the Friuli region, but also in the Venetian region, in Histria and beyond. Those lands were privileged of immunity by Charlemagne.

The Abbey of Sesto al Reghena, which had the political and legal jurisdiction of the valley, entrusted the government of its fiefdoms to local vassals, the lords of Montereale, with the obligation of residence.

Around the year 1000 already existed stable villages that included ancient Cellis, Barcis and Andreis. The lands of the feud extended from Mezzocanale to the Forcella Balzana.

The period from 1000 AD to around 1300 AD was characterised by a mild climate throughout Europe. It represented a phase of prosperity also in the valley: there were “woods, meadows, pastures, fishy waters, mills and oratories” (Papal Bill of Lucio III, 1182 AD).

Another document, dating back to around 1250 AD, reports that the lords of Montereale undertook to deliver annually to the abbey *quatuor staria frumenti, quatuor urnas vini, quatuor staria milei, et quatuor*



*staria surgi* (600 pounds of wheat, 50 pints of wine, 600 pounds of millet and 600 pounds of sorghum).

The current inhabited center of Barcis established itself after the mid-1300s, when a landslide, or perhaps a series of landslides, accentuated by the disastrous earthquake of 1348, resulted in the abandonment of the village of Cellis. Cellis was located in the area today called “Le Rope” at an altitude of 550 m, 1.5 km northeast of Barcis, in a fertile area that rested on unstable land (flysch), whose deforestation for agricultural purposes, together with other factors, including the increase in rainfall, caused it to slide downstream.

The memory of the ancient settlement remained intact over the centuries, so much that the local poet Giuseppe Malattia della Vallata (1875 - 1948) dedicated some verses to the lost village.

Another historical testimony is constituted by the chapel of San Daniele del Monte. The small church was located at an altitude of 1082 m, north of Mount Lupo, which dominates the Barcis basin. Its construction began around 1240. It was consecrated in 1319.

The location of this chapel reveals the traces of climatic and, consequently, economic changes: the church, at the time of its erection, stood on the border between the cultivated territory and the forest line.

It was dedicated to St. Daniel, the biblical prophet saved from the beasts, since it was believed that the saint would protect fields and pastures from the raids of wild animals. Struck by lightning on several occasions, the chapel was rebuilt every time. After yet another thunderbolt, on July 14, 1806, it caught fire and it was never restored.

With a long and challenging walk you can get to the ruins of the chapel and so realise that in the late Middle Ages the crops and pastures reached higher altitudes than in the XV - XIX centuries, when temperatures became colder.



Banner  
of the  
Cadorina  
Community

### 3.2 The dominion of Venice

Between the end of the 1300s and the beginning of the 1400s, after a war against the German Empire, the Republic of Venice came into possession of vast territories in Friuli. Valcellina then passed to the *Serenissima*. Under this dominion Barcis, together with the other villages of the valley, became part of the Community of Cadore.

However, the Abbey of Sesto al Reghena remained the owner of some lands. The documents of the Abbey attest that in 1527 Abbot Alberto di Sesto granted the possessions that the Abbey held in Barcis to Varnero of the lords of Montereale as a fief of residence.

From this concession the Montereale counts derived property rights which were often grounds for conflict. To worsen the quarrels on border issues, in 1611 in Barcis

*The palace Mocenigo-Centi*



there was a big fire that completely destroyed the municipal archive. Thus, valuable property documents were lost.

This circumstance gave rise to disputes both with the Municipality of Aviano and with the feudal Counts of Montereale. The quarrels continued for the entire 1700s. The Senate of Venice confirmed to the Counts of Montereale the possession of the feud, but left to the inhabitants of Barcis the enjoyment of the woods in virtue of the “Privileges” that the Republic granted to villagers under certain conditions, namely that a part of the forest was reserved for the naval dockyard of Venice (Casa de l’Arsenal), and that the remaining part could not be alienated, rented or modified.

The most beautiful palace in Barcis, Palazzo Mocenigo-Centi, dates back to the period of Venice’s domination.

The conditions of the villagers during the fifteenth to nineteenth centuries were very precarious. The winters were freezing and the streams were subject to disastrous floods. The valley remained isolated for many months and farmers often suffered from hunger.

The population lived in a permanent state of misery due to lack of resources and bad weather. A significant testimony of the conditions of the Municipality comes from a letter that the inhabitants sent to the Serenissima to obtain tax relief.

In the plea the villagers complained of the bad roads, dangerous and impractical for the wagons, so that they were forced to carry all the goods on their shoulders. In winter, snow and ice besieged the village and when they melted they caused floods that swept the crops every year. Wild animals raged and





*The frozen Venice lagoon - 1755 (anonymous painter)*

the peasants were forced to stay awake at night to light fires that would drive them away.

The inhabitants of Barcis also had to carry out the construction and maintenance of five bridges, which in some years had to be redone up to ten times because they were continually torn by floods and were also covered by snow and ice for four or five months a year.

The dramatic picture may seem unlikely in our day and lead to suspicion of a certain exaggeration, given that it was a matter of obtaining tax exemptions.

However, it should be remembered that from the mid-fifteenth to the mid-nineteenth century, in the Northern hemisphere of the Earth, a climatic cooling known as the *small Ice Age* occurred, which saw very cold winters in which it was not uncommon for the Venice lagoon to freeze too. In 1755 the chronicles report 6 days of Bora chill wind in the upper Adriatic, at the end of which the Venetian lagoon could be crossed on foot walking on ice, which

reached a record thickness of 43 cm. Areas with particular microclimates and delicate balance, such as Valcellina, then as now, are the most sensitive to climatic variations.

### 3.3 The Reign of Italy

In 1797, following the Treaty of Campoformido, Napoleon gave the territories of the Republic of Venice to the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Friuli though remained under Napoleonic domination as part of the Kingdom of Italy until the Restoration of 1815, when it returned to the Empire.

Barcis was confirmed by the Empire as an autonomous municipality in the District of Maniago. In 1819 the municipality was granted a City Council, having exceeded the number of 300 inhabitants.

The chronicles report yet another disastrous fire in 1858, following which 108 houses were destroyed.

The population did not like the dominion of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and aspired to be part of the nascent Kingdom of Italy: according to reports from the times, the patriots of Barcis also participated in the uprisings of Navarons in Friuli in 1864. In 1866, after the third war of independence, the municipality, along with the whole valley, was annexed to the Kingdom of Italy.

The new Italian State laboriously tried to achieve the technological and industrial development that had already begun in Europe in the mid-eighteenth century. The improvement of communications and the hydroelectric exploitation of mountain streams were part of this progress. The construction of the dam and the road, completed in 1906, put an end of the isolation in the valley and brought a new lease of life. However, an unpredictable series of changes began, which over the course of a century completely changed the face of Barcis, wiping out many traditional activities.



*The Old Valcellina Road in a period postcard (around 1930)*

In recent decades, ancient crafts have been rediscovered and enhanced from an anthropological and historical point of view. The gastronomy has re-evaluated the cultivation of native varieties of fruit trees and the collection of wild herbs.

### 3.4 Ancient crafts

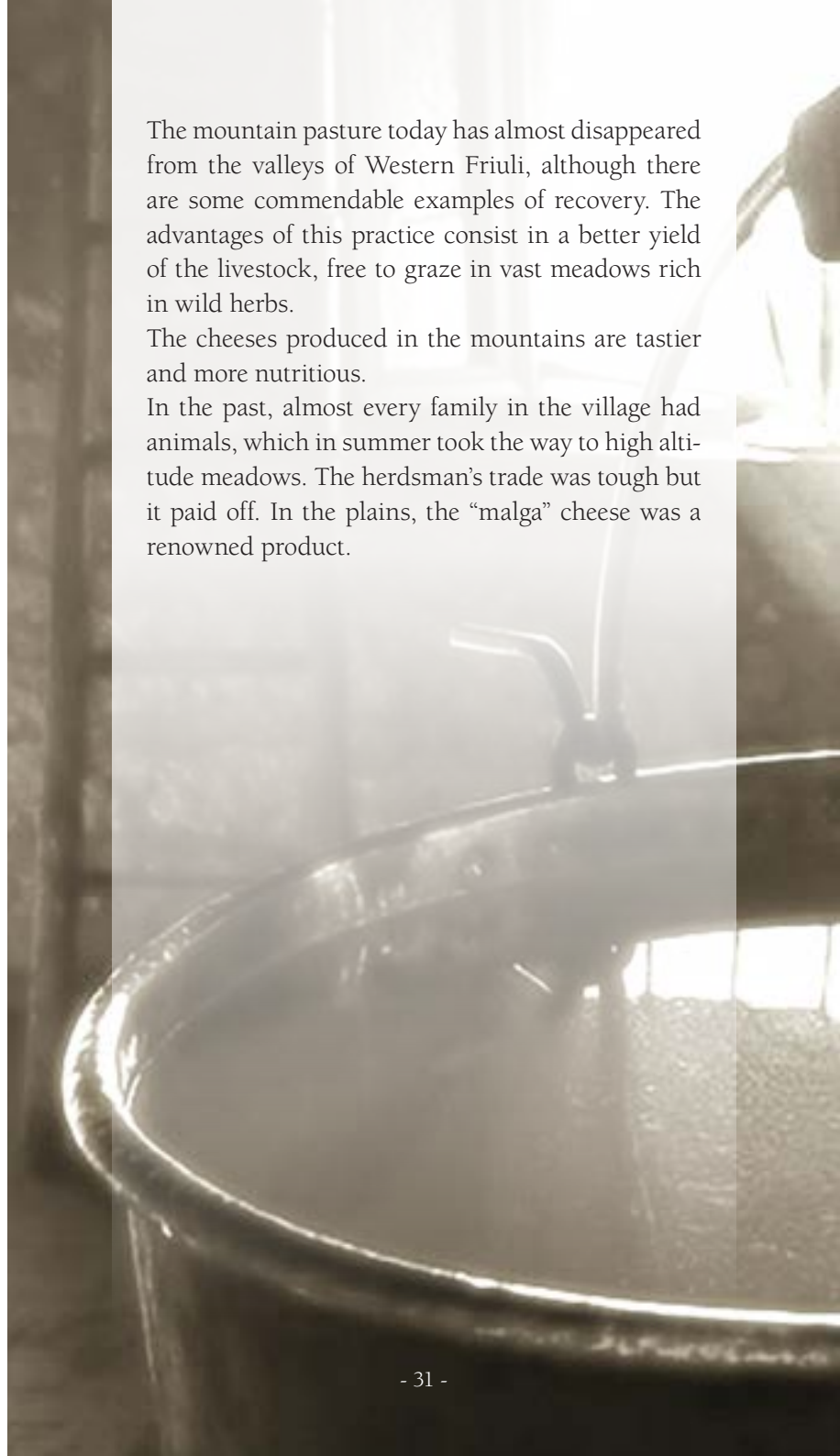
#### Mountain pastures

The mountain pasture is very ancient in Friuli. There are documents which show that this activity was practiced even before the year 1000. Precise rules on the exploitation of alpine pastures were already applied at the time of the Patriarchs of Aquileia (11th-15th century). The pasture consists of bringing the cattle to the high pastures between the end of May and the middle of June. The typical product of the mountain pastures is cheese, which is processed and stored in special huts named “malghe” or “casere”. The descent to the valley takes place in September.

The mountain pasture today has almost disappeared from the valleys of Western Friuli, although there are some commendable examples of recovery. The advantages of this practice consist in a better yield of the livestock, free to graze in vast meadows rich in wild herbs.

The cheeses produced in the mountains are tastier and more nutritious.

In the past, almost every family in the village had animals, which in summer took the way to high altitude meadows. The herdsman's trade was tough but it paid off. In the plains, the “malga” cheese was a renowned product.





At 4 o'clock in the morning, good or bad weather it was, the herdsman would put his hat on his head, go and get the cows, take them to the stable for milking and then take them back to the pasture, where the helpers took care that they did not get lost or fell into the cliffs.

Each shepherd was given a few dozen cows. In the late afternoon they were brought back from the meadows for evening milking. The herdsman, his family and his helpers slept in the hut, where the transformation of milk into cheese also took place. The forms of cheese were then placed in the cooler area of the building.

### Lumberjacks

The excellent qualities of the Barcis lumberjacks were recognised throughout the Republic of Venice. This is also



evidenced by documents of the time. A letter from 1794 speaks of local lumberjacks as the best in the business. In Venice, wood was widely demanded for civil buildings (foundation poles, floors, roofs, windows, furniture) but

especially for naval constructions in the Arsenal. There was also a strong need for firewood for kitchens and stoves. Then, alpine forests were systematically exploited from Venice since the 13th century. The profession of lumberjack was therefore essential and required a deep knowledge of the forest to keep it productive.

The lumberjack was one of the main professions of the inhabitants of Barcis, passed down for generations. However, it was very tiring and dangerous, and did not make much money, since it was possible to work only in summer.

### Log transporters

There were other trades linked to the exploitation of the forest: that of the construction of the “risine” (the slides on which the trunks were brought down) and that of the floating of the timber from the valley to the plain (“menada”).

The “risine” were rudimentary wooden channels, laid on the ground, hollowed between the stones, or in elevation. The sliding was carried out during the cold months by using snow and ice to obtain a frozen canal that facilitated the sliding of the trunks in the streams.

Another very dangerous business was taken place in the rivers: that of the “menaus”, men who followed the



transport of the wood through the waterways down to the valley. To ease the transit, the workers would build small dams (called “stue”) which also used to serve as basins for collecting timber.



### **Charcoal burners (“carbuner”)**

To produce charcoal, the burners came to the Barcis woods even from very far away. They camped for several months with the barracks in the clearings near a stream.

When the moon was waning the “carbuner” cut beech and hornbeam and left them to mature for about three weeks, after which the construction of the charcoal burner (poât) began.

The charcoal burners cut the trunks into pieces of about one meter and arranged them vertically along the central chimney, to form a cone-shaped pile.

After covering the wood with dry leaves and damp earth so as not to let air pass and to ensure a slow carbonisation, the charcoal burner filled the fireplace with embers to start the process. After about 15 days the carbonisation

was complete. The signal was given by the smoke, which turned from white to blue.

The transition from wood to coal involves a significant decrease in weight, varying from about 25 to 40%; vegetable charcoal, however, is an excellent fuel even starting from low value wood.

### **The women carriers**

The work of the women carriers was closely related to the production of coal. The charcoal, once cleaned, was placed in jute bags. The carriers reached the place where the charcoal was produced, loaded it on the panniers and brought it to the village.

Until the construction of the driveway in 1906, the women carried the charcoal on their shoulders also to the towns of the plain. They would carry up to 60 kg at a time, often for two trips a day. The transport of hay and wood was also entrusted to the women carriers.







*Hypericum (Hypericum perforatum)  
is one of the herbs of St. John*

### Herb-pickers

In the past, spontaneous herbs and fruits were an important source of nourishment for the villagers. It was very important to know how to recognise plants to use them as food. Some herbs were used to flavour poor dishes, while others were served as salads, rich in vitamins and minerals. One of these was the herb of the good Henry (*Chenopodium bonus-henricus*), a nitrophilous plant that grows abundantly in pastures and contains iron and vitamin B.

In the Middle Ages, women who collected herbs came out at dusk in search of plants that could heal diseases. At that time, this was a very risky activity, as healers could be accused of witchcraft.

This skill has been handed down for thousands of years. It was a knowledge acquired since childhood. Reaching plants in inaccessible places and giving them to the beloved person was considered a proof of love and courage.

The most experienced gatherers, even today, follow a precise calendar and select up to 100 different species. The

tradition of wild herbs is renewed in Barcis every year, on the occasion of the feast of Saint John, on June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Local cuisine has rediscovered ancient recipes and offers exquisite dishes based on “sclopit” (bladder campion), mountain chicory, dandelion and other wild herbs. Herbs are also used for grappa, infusions and syrups. In jars, in olive oil, herbs can be preserved throughout the winter.

### Peddlers

The villagers of Barcis, great walkers, reached the plain through the mountain pass Forcella della Croce (also called “Croùs” or “Crivola”) to buy and sell.

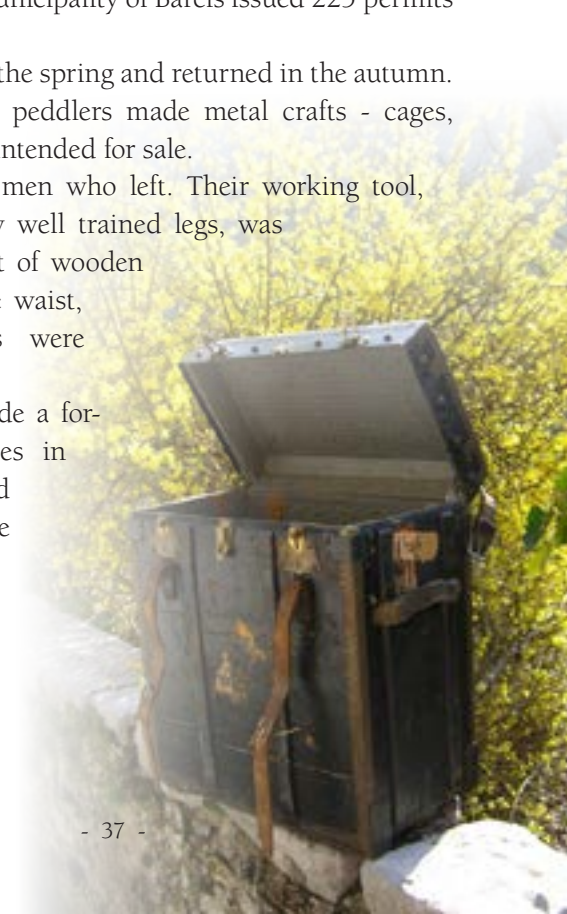
When the forges of Maniago developed significantly, many villagers dedicated themselves to the itinerant trade of cutlery. In 1866 the Municipality of Barcis issued 225 permits for street vending.

The vendors left in the spring and returned in the autumn. During winter the peddlers made metal crafts - cages, mouse traps - also intended for sale.

It was mostly the men who left. Their working tool, in addition to very well trained legs, was the “fondin”, a sort of wooden drawer, tied to the waist, where the wares were stored.

Some peddlers made a fortune, opened stores in Italy and abroad and definitively left the valley.

*The “fondin”  
was the working  
tool of the peddlers*





### 3.5 Wars and devastations

#### The Great War

During the retreat of Italian troops after the defeat of Caporetto (27 October 1917), Barcis was theatre of fighting between the Italian troops and those of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The Italian commands intended to stop or delay the pursuit of the Imperials in the mountains between the Tagliamento and Piave rivers, to establish a new defensive line on the latter.

Barcis was attained by an imperial Schützen brigade on the morning of 7 November 1917.

A few hundred Italian soldiers (Alpini and Bersaglieri) stood in defence of the passes. Then the command of the XII Army, which had placed its temporary headquarters in Barcis, decided to attack the Austro-Hungarians from the slopes of the mountains above the village.

Alpini and Bersaglieri lined up in the North. The attacks of the Schützen, who were better armed, were fierce. The defenders resisted tenaciously, but in the afternoon the Austro-Hungarian units got the better of it and the Italian

troops were forced to abandon positions. The few remaining troops found their way out of rough side paths and managed to reach the upper part of the valley and therefore Longarone.

#### Barcis is set on fire

Italy entered the war in 1940 alongside Hitler's Germany. After the fall of Mussolini and the fascist regime on 25 July 1943, the head of the new government, Marshal Badoglio, signed an armistice with the Allies on 8 September. From here began the terrible period of the Nazi occupation in Italy.

In Carnia already in the autumn of 1943 groups of partisans began to gather. In a short time they managed to establish a dense network of fighters and supporters in strategic places. One of the main centres of the Resistance was Barcis, which was in a crucial connection point exactly as it had been in the Great War.

Among the objectives of the partisans there was the blocking of livestock destined for the German troops. On the occasion of a cattle requisition there was the first Nazi retaliation in Valcellina against the inhabitants: in March 1944 the Germans burned two houses and all the pastures of the Vajont and Mesazzo valleys.

However, the fight of partisans in the mountains was growing stronger. The local populations gave an example of firmness and self-denial, frequently and severely falling victim to the atrocious reprisals of the German occupying army. The persecutions continued for a whole year, between the spring of 1944 and until the Liberation, which took place in Valcellina on May 1, 1944.

The partisans arrived in Barcis on June 13, 1944. On June 26 of 1944 the Nazis carried out a round-up in the village, deporting some citizens. Between July and August there were numerous fights between partisans and Nazis near



*Palazzo Centi after the Nazi fire*



Barcis. During a battle, the partisans successfully attacked a German tank, which ended up in the Cellina river.

The reaction of the Nazis was immediate: on August 10, a first group of houses was set on fire, including that of the poet and scholar Giuseppe Malattia, who had courageously defended his fellow citizens. His library with tens of thousands of books went completely to ash. To slow down the advance of German troops arriving in the valley, the partisans had mined the last tunnel on the Valcellina road before Barcis in the night between 10 and 11 September. A convoy of Nazis stumbled upon a mine, which blew up a truck.

The tragedy took place on the morning of 11 September: the first contingents of Germans entered the village by plundering the poor things left and burning 180 houses and 100 stables. The inhabitants, warned by the partisans, had fled to the surrounding mountains.

Throughout the winter, Valcellina was theatre of continuous and violent guerrilla. The inhabitants were scraping for food, forced into makeshift quarters in sheltered locations. Finally, on May 1, 1945, the Germans surrendered, leaving rubble and ruin behind.

Here is how Leandro Malattia, one of the sons of the poet Giuseppe Malattia, remembers those days: "The fire had had warning signs; shootings, disappearances of people, raids, were commonplace in Barcis. Never a frontal clash between the belligerents, but a continuous guerrilla war that created a serious state of tension and unease among the inhabitants. They came to find themselves unaware and helpless in the midst of the clashes, and the only sure thing was that every offence caused by the partisans to the Germans would be followed by reprisals on the weakest, the inhabitants. People lived the moment with great dignity and with a sense of resignation in the face of anguished events, of which he did not feel guilty" (1944. *Dies Irae. Valcellina. L'incendio nazista di Barcis*. Aldo Colonnello ed.).



*Public transport in Barcis (around 1950)*

### 3.6 Migrations

There were movements of workers from the mountains to the plains and vice versa at all times. However, it was from the time of the Industrial Revolution that Barcis' men moved more and more often to the Italian cities of the plains (Udine, Trieste, Venice) and also abroad, in search of better paid work. The villagers did not shy away from the heaviest jobs, such as that of the Belgian mines.

Between the end of the nineteenth century and the mid-twentieth century, Barcis almost completely depopulated. In 1862 there were 1,750 inhabitants. By 1931 they had gone down to 1148; in 1971 they had fallen by half to 534. In 2011, only 261 residents were registered.

An element that pushed some local workers to move permanently away from Barcis was the crisis of the cutlery in Maniago. The peddlers who marketed these products went into other business sectors and some of them went away forever.

A further boost to migration was given by the construction of the road that connected Barcis to Montereale in 1906, to which a large part of the local workforce contributed.

Once the work was finished, the workers who had acquired building skills went away to find other public works sites, especially in the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

After the Great War, the migratory movement surged, due to the misery conditions left by the conflict. There were many people who left for America; most did not return.

Even more devastating from the demographic point of view was the Second World War.

The ruin of the country after the fire started by the Nazis on 11 September 1944 sanctioned for many people the definitive abandonment of Barcis. The municipality saw its population shrink by a quarter over 70 years.

### 3.7 From 1950 to the present

Of the few inhabitants left in Barcis at the end of the Second World War, some took refuge with relatives and friends who hosted them in their homes and stables in the valley, others settled in wooden barracks and began reconstruction.

The country, though depopulated, slowly rose from its ruins. In the early 1950s, the project to build the artificial basin was re-proposed, the construction of which gave work to many people and completely changed the appearance of Barcis. Some houses, stables and fields were expropriated, but most of the country was preserved. The burned buildings were rebuilt, new houses were built, the Palazzo Centi was restored. Some migrant families converted the ancestors' homes into holiday homes.

The local administrators have promoted events and manifestations, like the prize named after the poet Giuseppe Malattia. Cultural itineraries and hiking trails have been set.



In 1992 the old Valcellina road was dismantled. The opening of the new track, which runs in the long tunnel dug under Mount Fara, allows you to get to Barcis from the plain in a few minutes.

The determination of some young families, who accepted the challenge of living in the village; the tendency towards a type of tourism less oriented towards major attractions and more attentive to the discovery of nature and hidden beauties; the search, also in the food and wine field, for local productions, together with the rediscovery of ancient traditions; finally, last but not least, the commitment of many associations in promoting exciting events: all these factors made the small town of Barcis become one of the most popular holiday locations in the valleys of western Friuli.

*The Barcis lake in a postcard (1954)*



## 4 ITINERARIES

### 4.1 A walk in Barcis

Barcis develops between the northern slope, the regional road 251 and the lakefront. Coming from Montereale Valcellina, after the crossroads for Antoi bridge, on the left of the road there is a large parking area, a playground and a functional area equipped for parking campers and caravans.

Leave the car there and proceed on foot on the regional road: you will reach Piazzale Vittoria (Monument to the fallen) where you will notice the elegant building where the Mountain Community, the Touristic Consortium and the Environmental School didactic center are housed.

A little further, on the right, in piazza Vittorio Emanuele II, there is the Town Hall, a modern building which also houses the Library, the Tourist Office, the Pro Barcis association, the surgery and the Post Office. In front of the



Town Hall, across the street, there is the Cesare Battisti Square, adorned with a double semicircle marble bench.

A few steps away, at an acute angle to the regional road, there is the Church of San Giovanni Battista, patron saint of the town. It was built in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, on a previous building dating back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century. With a single nave, it has a Baroque high altar in marble with the statues of Saints Peter and Paul lacquered in white on the sides and an antependium with bas-relief angels.

In the presbytery lunette there is a fresco depicting the Banquet of Salomé and the Beheading of San Giovanni Battista. The two holy water fonts and the baptismal font date back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century. In the bell tower, an inscription bears the initials of the clients and the date of execution: S. G. B. P. N. / 1780.

The Lungolago Square, located a short distance away, is the heart of the town. There is a stage for outdoor events and concerts, very popular in the summer months.

The beautiful Mocenigo-Centi palace dates back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Its lines constitute a contamination between the style of Venetian architecture and the rustic one of

Valcellina. It was the home of the Mocenigo nobles and then passed to the Centi family, who kept a hotel there for a long time. Currently is the seat of the public library.

On the facade there is a double loggia, with a lowered arch on the ground floor and with a round arch on the upper floor. It is built in living stone and enriched with carved masks. Part of the building was destroyed by the fire lit by the Nazis. After the war it has been rebuilt exactly as it was, on the basis of ancient illustrations.

On the path that runs along the lake there are some houses with vegetable gardens, most of which have been carefully restored and embellished with terraces and flowered corners.

Crossing the road again, going uphill, in the alleys behind the Town Hall there are some paved courtyards overlooked by old houses, faithfully restored preserving the original layout, so that in some corners it seems to have gone back in time.

## 4.2 Alpine and rural churches

The path for the ruins of San Daniele del Monte is a historical religious route that leads to the remains of the church dedicated to the biblical prophet, whose stone wall floor and perimeter can still be seen. The itinerary is not particularly difficult but it is necessary to pay attention to some exposed points, especially if the ground is wet.

Follow the path CAI 974a which starts in Roppe di Barcis (475 m). It climbs for 4 km with an altitude difference of 620 meters (journey time 1h 45').

You climb right away and quickly along a wide mule track. Walking between dry stone walls you reach an outlet of the aqueduct. Going up again, you can see the ruins of “Casa Picchel” where, according to tradition, the bishop rested during the procession to the sanctuary. From here the path becomes more impervious and the environment is more





*The St. Francis Chapel*

wild. After passing a ridge you arrive at a balcony located above Val Molassa with a panoramic view of the mounts Raut, Castello and San Daniele and on the next stretch to be covered, which arrives at the La Vallata fork (altitude 979 m).

From here the trail sign continues north, leaving the top of Monte Lupo behind and reaching below the top of San Daniele del Monte where, with short and steep hairpin bends, it leads to the site where the small church so devoted to local people and pilgrims once stood.

Near the hamlet of Roppe there is the church of San Giorgio around which there was the abandoned village of Cellis. The church, which dates back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century,

was restored by the local Alpine group in 1969. The gable roof of the building is crowned by a mullioned belfry window. The internal hall is covered by a trussed roof and is divided by the presbytery by means of a triumphal round arch.

The light enters through the eye of the facade and from crescents open on the side walls. Characteristic is the holy water stoup inserted into the internal wall of the entrance. The wooden sculpture of St. John Baptist, which was once kept in the parish church, also dates back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

In Ribe there is the only church in the valley dedicated to Saint Francis of Assisi. According to tradition, there was a station for changing horses for travellers heading to Maniago.

It is still possible to see the remains of the foundation in the area in front of the church, which was once occupied by a portico used as a place of shelter from the rain and overnight for the wayfarers.

Inside, the high altar houses a simple stone sculpture depicting Saint Francis and the wolf.

### 4.3 The paths

The valley is marked by a dense network of paths that connect villages and valleys with each other. Once they were essential for economic reasons: to make wood in the forest, go hunting, reach the huts, carry out trade; and religious: reach devotional places, make pilgrimages.

The itineraries proposed below are of varying difficulty but all of great charm. The detailed map is available at the Barcis tourist office, Piazza V. Emanuele 5, phone: 0427 76300.

Maximum caution must be observed for the imperviousness of some places, especially the ravines: never leave the trail signs.

### Alpine path and panoramic path

This is an easy path around the shores of the lake, lasting about 2 hours.

From the Town Hall, head towards the square, take the road next to Palazzo Centi and go uphill along a cycle&pedestrian path until you reach the opposite side through the wooden bridge over the lake.

Immediately after the bridge, turn left and continue on the paved road until you find, on the left, a wooden sign with the indication “Sentiero degli Alpini” (Alpine path), which runs alongside the lake inside a fir forest. The route winds slightly up and down for about 1 km, at the beginning overcoming the small ravine formed by the Caltea stream that descends from Piancavallo.

Continue eastward along the lower slopes of the beech

forest of “Montelunga”. At the end of the path, you go up again on the asphalted road and in a few minutes, walking carefully through the tunnel, you reach the dam of Ponte Antoi.

Continuing along the road you reach the Visitor Centre of the Cellina Gorge Reserve, where there is also the access tunnel to the Valcellina Old Road.

Leaving on the right the Dint Road, historic route connecting with the municipality of Andreis, you go beyond the road embankment until you reach the left bank of the lake again. From here you continue (on the left) on a cycle&pedestrian path and through slight ups and downs you get to the sports facilities area where the ring ends.

### Armasio Path

From the centre of Barcis, follow the cycle&pedestrian path that runs alongside the lake to the spot of Fontane, where you reach the opposite bank after passing the wooden bridge. Take the paved road of Val Pentina on the right and follow it for about 500 m until you meet a pedestrian bridge that crosses the stream (altitude 406 m).

Here begins the path named after *Emanuele Salvador*, which runs for a short distance along the Pentina stream and then climbs to the hamlet of Armasio (530 m), a handful of houses surrounded by meadows and fruit trees.

Continue and leave the CAI 995 path on the right (it climbs to Mount Laura, 1230 m); instead, stay in front of the old houses, following the forest track on the left, which rapidly reaches the Armasio fork (555 m).

After crossing the pass, the track descends on the left-hand side of the Pentina valley for more than 1 km until it reaches a picnic area and, immediately after, a bridge that crosses the stream. After passing it, take the municipal road to the valley until you come back to the footbridge over the lake. Cross it again and reach the starting point.

*The Alpini Path  
is a track full of charm even in winter*



### **The Path of the Dint with three viewpoints**

Easy route, well marked, with explanatory panels and views on the Barcis basin, the Forra and the old Valcellina Road (length 3630 m; difference in height: 126 m; walking time: about 2 hours).

The itinerary starts from the Cellina Gorge Reserve Visitor Centre (car park). Follow the panoramic road upstream towards the dam of Ponte Antoi where, near a concrete building, on the left, you will find the starting point.

The first stretch rises sloping in an area characterised by sinkholes and karst block forms. Go ahead until you reach, uphill to the right, a walkway that allows you to observe the sinkhole called Rain Well.

You then go up to the first viewpoint, a spectacular panoramic point on the dam and the artificial basin that laps Barcis.

Following the ridge to the East, you walk until you reach the second viewpoint, from which you can see the Cellina Gorge and the Old Valcellina Road.

After a while you reach a crossroads: leave on the left

the path which leads down to the Visitor Centre; instead, continue straight on, slightly uphill. The path goes on between karst phenomena and spruce forest, up to a field of sinkholes.

Going forward, with continuous ups and downs, there is another crossroads: on the left there is a short path to an asphalted road that leads downhill to the Visitor Centre and which we will take on the return. We continue, instead, to the right, uphill, along the ridge, reaching the third panoramic point from which you can see the ravine, Mount Fara, the inhabited area of Andreis and the conformations of the Periadriatic fault (Barcis - Staro Selo fault: see chapter 2). On the way back, you return on the same route until the previous crossroads.

### **Montelonga Hut**

This is a challenging hiking itinerary (8.4 km; difference in altitude: 896 m; walking time: 4hrs and 40 minutes) that climbs along the beech forest of Montelonga, marked by a network of tracks and dotted with huts. Block karst morphologies can be observed during the excursion.

From the southern shore of the lake, take the panoramic road of Ponte Antoi. After passing the dam, you reach a cosy refuge (Rifugio Vallata, it serves local dishes), where you can leave the car in a large parking lot.

Continue along the paved road for about 100 meters where, before the junction for Piancavallo, the CAI 970 signpost detaches to the left over a retaining wall. We are at an altitude of 431 meters.

In the first part, the track, always well-marked, rises rapidly in a zigzag, completely immersed in the beech forest, alongside the ridge of the Caltea Valley and of the stream. After passing the ruins covered by the vegetation of the Casera Guerra, the path becomes a direct way that intersects the forest road seven times until it suddenly emerges



### *The Montelunga Hut*



on the plain, where you reach the Montelunga shelter (1327 m), equipped with stove, tables, benches and 6 beds.

The view of the mounts Duranno and Cima Preti is splendid. The return is on the same route.

It is also possible to continue along the signpost CAI 970, which starts in front of the hut, in a territory marked by sinkholes. At the first crossroads, leave the path that goes down to Pala d'Altei and go up, on the left, until you cross the forest road which shortly afterwards goes towards the other alpine shelter: La Pala hut, 1195 m (with a stove and 6 beds). The journey takes 45 minutes.

From the hut, the path descends rapidly towards the first houses of the hamlet of Portuz, overlooking the lake towards Pian della Vallata.

Going along the paved road along the banks of the lake, you will soon reach the Vallata refuge where you close the ring route. This circular hike is about 12 km long and takes almost 5 h.

### **Charcoal Trail**

This route, of particular historical interest, connects some places that have been used in the past by the Barcis community for economic purposes.

The activities that took place in this stretch of forest were linked to the production of coal, the summer pasture, the exploitation of the forest and meadows.

The only trace that remains of the charcoal burners are the pitches, used until the mid-twentieth century, now gradually re-invaded by the vegetation.

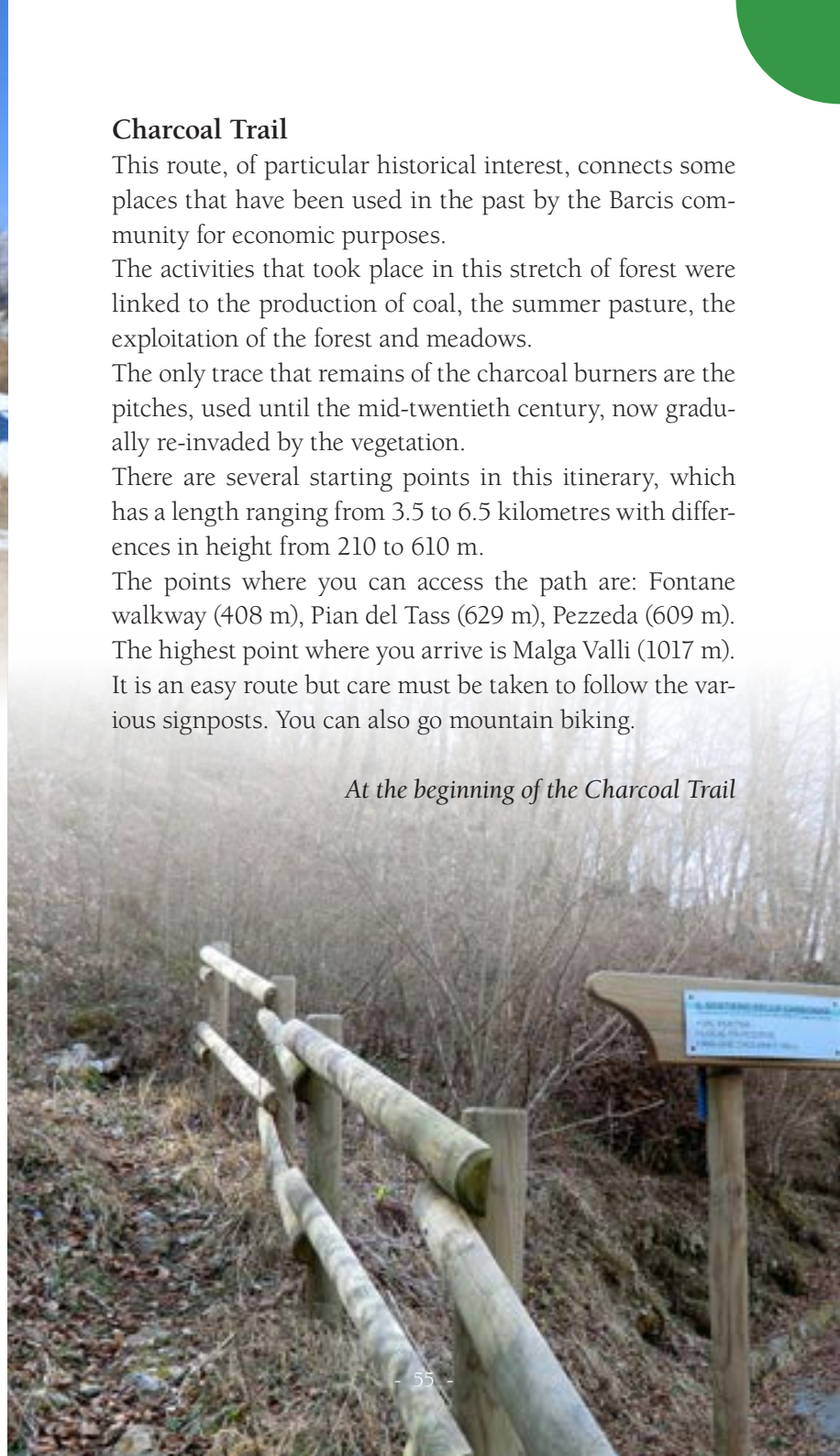
There are several starting points in this itinerary, which has a length ranging from 3.5 to 6.5 kilometres with differences in height from 210 to 610 m.

The points where you can access the path are: Fontane walkway (408 m), Pian del Tass (629 m), Pezzeda (609 m).

The highest point where you arrive is Malga Valli (1017 m).

It is an easy route but care must be taken to follow the various signposts. You can also go mountain biking.

### *At the beginning of the Charcoal Trail*





## The Bitter hut

Located between the Val Pentina and the Prescudin forest, Casera Bitter (1138 m) is surrounded by a beech forest and it is equipped with a table, a stove and, on the upper floor, a large room with beds. It is an easy path of 3 kilometres in length, with a vertical drop of 600 meters for a journey time of about 2 hours. From Barcis you reach the opposite side of the lake upstream through the wooden bridge and then follow the signs for Val Pentina and Pian dei Tass farmhouse where you leave your car (altitude 540 m).

Just behind the building is the CAI 978 path which, with a continuous slope, climbs with wide bends, interspersed with long diagonals, between grasses and sparse vegetation. Follow the ridge on the side of the Val dei Tass for a long stretch until you reach the Belvedere (altitude 1060 m), with a spectacular view on the long wall of Mount Resettum, on Mount Cima d'Asta, on Mount Castle and Mount Raut, as well as a panoramic outlook on the Barcis basin. The path makes still a few bends in the beech forest, and then in ten minutes it reaches the Bitter hut. The building, which lies solitary in a splendid setting, has been recently renovated. The return is on the same route.

From the Bitter hut, you can go on along the path that continues into the woods until, after an hour, you touch the Sass fork (altitude 1185 m). From here you continue going down into a dense forest until you reach the junction with the CAI 978 path that climbs to the Pastour bivouac. Turning right to the Val del Tasseit you reach, in over another hour, Villa Emma, a beautiful building located in the Prescudin forest (640 meters).

## The old cross and the fountain

This historic route, called "Antica Crous" (the old cross), develops along the CAI 983 path in Bosplans, north of the municipality of Andreis.

We cross the important pass which was once the only way of communication between the villages of Valcellina and the Friuli plain. A mandatory passage that was part of the labor of the ancient villagers. In Bosplans you can admire the Crivola fountain, located along the CAI 983 path that leads from Montereale to the Andreis valley. Excavated in a single boulder of rock, the fountain provided water to the local community and to the pilgrims who entered the valley.

*The ancient Cross  
and the Crivola fountain*



#### 4.4 The Forest of Prescudin

With its 1650 hectares of woods, streams and scree, the Prescudin Forest (Protected Regional Area) is intended exclusively for scientific purposes.

It is a nature reserve that has obtained the recognition of “wilderness area” and is therefore adequately protected and restricted. The environment is constantly monitored to study the relationships between climate, soil and vegetation.

The basin of the Prescudin stream is divided into two main valleys: the Val Tasseit and the Val Zea, furrowed by rushing streams that have led to evident erosive phenomena.

You arrive at the Prescudin reserve after passing the town of Barcis northwards for about 3 kilometres. You leave the car in a large parking lot by the hamlet of Arcola (428 m), on the right hand side of the regional road, near the last houses of the village. The forest road, closed to public access with a bar, is located on the left of the highway, at about 500 meters from the parking lot.

Go up for about 3.5 km until you reach a locality called Palazzo (640 m). In a wide clearing lies a large building, Villa Emma, which together with other buildings and equipped areas is a place of study for groups and individuals who carry out research and naturalistic observation. Several itineraries start from this charming residence. Some of these are remarkably demanding, given the rugged scenery of the territory.

#### 4.5 Gorge of Cellina Reserve

You will be enchanted by this great canyon. The cliffs frame the crystalline waters of the River Cellina, that over the centuries have carved and shaped a gorge system which flow into each other, enclosed between the towns of Andreis, Barcis and Montereale Valcellina.

The ravine is one of the most spectacular in Italy for the

imposing phenomena of river erosion, with the enormous “potholes” dug over the centuries by the work of the waters of the Alba, Molassa and Cellina streams.

The carbonate nature of the rocks has given rise to both surface karst phenomena like sinkholes, furrowed fields, grooves and grandiose cones (this last are particularly spectacular on the mount “I Cameroni”, 1470 m) and hypogean karst forms (caves, wells, tunnels).

The territory of the Reserve, managed by the Dolomites Natural Park (Parco Naturale delle Dolomiti Friulane), covers an area of about 1,3 square miles and aims to preserve the naturalistic aspects of one of the most beautiful gorges in the Alps.



*The Cellina gorge  
from the Old Road*





Mount Cameroni from Mount Fara

### Valcellina old road

Guided tours only. An enchanting path, which winds on the profile of the rock with the sight on the deep and spectacular canyons carved by the impetuous waters in one of the most fascinating natural reserves of Friuli Venezia Giulia.

The road was inaugurated in 1906 to connect the villages in the Valcellina to the plain with a carriage road. Until then, there were only paths, which could be traveled on foot or with a donkey.

The bold project was drawn up by the engineer Aristide Zenari, head of the section of the Royal Corps of Civil Engineering. Zenari was the first person to travel the road from Montereale to Barcis, on a buggy pulled by a Hungarian bay horse.

The road, prone to frequent landslides, was closed down in 1992, when the Regional Road 251 was opened. The new road passes under Mount Fara with a long tunnel.

*Ticket offices: Ponte Antoi, Barcis and Andreis (opening hours 10.00-18.00, last entry 17.00). The route is open from late July to September every day, in the other months only on weekends. The visit may undergo variations or temporary closings in adverse weather conditions or for maintenance. The protective helmet, whose use is mandatory due to the continuous micro-cracks, is provided at the ticket office and must be returned at the exit. For more information: Park website(also in English) [www.parcodolomitifriulane.it/en/](http://www.parcodolomitifriulane.it/en/)*

To visit the accessible stretch of the Old Road you can also board the Valcellina tourist train (service from late March to early October). Ticket office in Ponte Antoi or at the Souvenir Boz shop, piazza Lungolago, Barcis. Departures at different times from the centre of Barcis and from Ponte Antoi.



### The cave of the old dam

Guided tours only. The cave of the old dam (at an altitude of 483 meters with a mainly horizontal development of 1388 m) represents the most important karst complex present in the Natural Reserve of the Cellina Gorge. It was discovered in 1952 by the engineer Corradino Corrado during the construction of the Barcis dam. The cave is full of concretions and fossils which are the subject of continuous exploration and scientific and hydrogeological research.

*Informations available on the Park website, available also in English: [www.parcodolomitifriulane.it/en/](http://www.parcodolomitifriulane.it/en/)*

### Tibetan Bridge

Guided tours only. The Tibetan bridge over the Cellina gorge was inaugurated in August 2016. The 55 meter long bridge offers a spectacular and unexpected view of the ravine and the emerald waters of the stream. Made entirely of steel, it allows you to safely cross the gorge. Visitors are provided with the necessary equipment (harness, helmet and hooks).



*The Tibetan Bridge allows you to gain the opposite side of the ravine (only guided tours)*

### Hydroelectric power plant museum

You can complete the historical view of the hydroelectric exploitation of the Cellina River by visiting the former hydroelectric power station "Antonio Pitter" in Malnisio, a splendid example of industrial architecture of the early twentieth century. The plant was decommissioned in 1988 and was reopened to the public in 2006 as a museum after careful restoration work. The exposition is managed by the Scientific Imaginary Science Centre, a regional network of interactive and experimental science museums.

Inside you can see turbines, alternators, machinery, all perfectly preserved: they tell the extraordinary technological adventure that has transformed the Cellina stream into an energy source. Inside the former plant there are also interactive sections of the Scientific Imaginary Museum dedicated to the knowledge of physical phenomena.

*For more information visit the Scientific Imaginary Science Centre website, available also in English: [www.immaginario-scientifico.it/eng-page](http://www.immaginario-scientifico.it/eng-page)*



*The cave of the old dam*



Ancient house  
in the hamlet of Alcheda



## 4.6 The other towns of the Valcellina

The Valcellina includes several small towns, not far from the Barcis basin, which are part of the Dolomites Natural Park.

### Andreis

The village lies on a green terrace and is surrounded by the Raut, Rassetum and Fara mounts. Stone walls, dark wooden balconies and external stairs are unmistakable characteristics of the typical local houses (*casa andreana*).

The ethnographic museum of Andreis preserves objects that testify to local life, culture and traditions, especially from the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century (informations: Ecomuseo Lis Aganis, [www.ecomuseolisaganis.it](http://www.ecomuseolisaganis.it)).

The museum displays several examples of wood and bone workings and “scarpec”, the typical Friulian footwear with a rag sole and velvet upper, embroidered with flowers on the tip. By appointment it is possible to visit the blacksmith’s workshop (“Fâvria”).

Another fantastic place full of charm is the ancient tavern Ponte Molassa (Molassa Bridge tavern). After traveling the SR 251 from Montereale, at the end of the long Fara tunnel, take the exit for Andreis and then towards Molassa.

The construction, embraced on a monolith of rock, is overhanging the ravine of the Molassa creek, whose impetuous waters, further downstream, flow into the Cellina gorge.

### Claut

From Claut starts the itinerary to the site of the dinosaur footprints (path CAI 966). The route starts from the hamlet of Lesis, along the forest road that follows the course of the Cellina stream, getting across one of the most suggestive places in the area. Continuing through the woods, at the foot of a series of hairpin bends, you can visit the Cellina



*The site of the dinosaur footprints*

springs. There is a bouldering area nearby. At the mouth of the wild Val Gere the path leads to Casera Casavento, where in summer there are grazing cows. In the refuge you can taste cheeses and typical local products. At the foot of the Casavento River Waterfall there is a boulder fallen from the overhanging rock wall on whose surface there are two dinosaur footprints. A whole footprint is observed almost in the center of the surface; the other is partially preserved on the edge of the boulder. They belong to the same track, left 215 million years ago by a theropod, a bipedal and carnivorous dinosaur. The footprints were impressed by the right hind leg, which had three fingers and was 35 centimetres long.

Generally the traces are best observed when the sunlight illuminates them in a grazing way, therefore in the early morning or in the evening. But if you should arrive on the site in the central hours of the day, then just wet the boulder with a little water from the stream and they will appear immediately.

Also worth seeing is the ethnographic museum “Casa Clautana”, focused on the traditions of Valcellina. The museum is especially dedicated to the women of the valley who, in addition to taking care of their children and doing housework, in the summer used to leave the country to reach the cities of the plain to sell wooden utensils. On their shoulders they carried a wicker pannier for their journey “around the world” (*fora pal mont*).

There are other interesting tours that depart from Claut: to refuge Pussa (940 m); to the sulphurous source Pussa (*pussa* means “stink” in local dialect); to the waterfall Ciol de Pes; to Casera Senons (1323 m), a hut immersed in a wild landscape in the middle of a beech forest.

In the village there is an ice stadium, open to the public from October to April (timetables on the web site [palaclaut.altervista.org](http://palaclaut.altervista.org)). Ice skates are available on rent).

### **Cimolais**

The town of Cimolais is situated in a particularly suggestive place, surrounded by high Dolomite peaks, among which the most famous is the Campanile (Bell Tower) of Val Montanaia, a huge dolomitic peak that stands vertically in a plateau of grass and stones. Small streets and stone houses are the testimony of a rural world that has remained intact in an uncontaminated environment. In the parish church there are beautiful wooden altars from the 1600s. Several charming alpine chapels are scattered throughout the fields.

In the past, during the winter, the inhabitants carved



the wood by hand to obtain tools which they sold in the summer in the plains, to supplement the family budget. As evidence of this activity, hidden in the corners of old houses, there are still some examples of an ancient pedal lathe, called *tornaretha*, operated with the driving force of the legs.

*The Campanile (Bell Tower)  
in the Montanaia Valley*



Cimolais is the seat of the Friulian Dolomites Regional Park. The Visitor Centre organises educational and hiking activities with the alpine guides of the Park.

*More information on the Park website, also in English:* [www.parcodolomitifriulane.it/en/](http://www.parcodolomitifriulane.it/en/)

The valley is dotted with a network of paths, mountain bike trails and snowshoe trails. A boulder area is located in the Falesia di Compol. To get to the crag, follow the road that goes up the Val Cimoliana to Ponte Compol, just before the park barrier. Park the car and go up the bed of the stream for about ten meters. The three sectors of the boulder area are all beyond the stream, which in case of recent rains could be difficult to cross. Many climbing routes are suitable for beginners.

### **Erto and Casso**

These are two extraordinary villages, shaped as mountain sculptures and therefore declared National Monument. The two villages are located on the opposite slopes of the Mount Toc landslide and are characterised by spontaneous architecture in local stone with a typical pink colour. Erto has long ranks of stone houses, Casso has singular tower-houses that rise upwards, attached to each other, in a steep environment crossed by cobbled lanes. On Good Friday in Erto takes place the sacred representation of the Passion of Christ, an event rich in history and emotion that involves the whole town.

In Erto there is also the documentation center of the Vajont dam disaster. On the night of October 9 of 1963 a giant wave, generated by a landslide that fell into the artificial lake formed by the dam, canceled many villages causing about 2000 deaths. The town is the starting point for guided visits to the crowning of the dam, which still exists today. The flood wave in fact passed over the dam without destroying it.

*The tower houses of Casso*



A network of paths leads to some highly suggestive destinations: the Val Zemola, where at the foot of Mount Duranno are the Maniago refuge, the industrial archeology museum of the Erto marble quarry and the Cava Buscada refuge at 1800 meters.

The rocky conformations known as “The books of San Daniele of Mount Borgà” are impressive stacks of rocky slabs whose shape resembles that of an enormous book. They are reachable with a difficult hike (a guide is recommended).

Near Erto there is a boulder area as well, in the locality Molièsa. The crag of Erto, discovered and made known by Mauro Corona, an extravagant mountain writer very famous in Italy, is known all over the world as one of the most challenging competition grounds for the rock climbers.

*The landslide of Mount Toc*







## 5 SPORTS ACTIVITIES

In Barcis, in addition to hiking and mountaineering, it is possible to practice several sports, including some very special and exciting specialties such as canyoning.

In summer is open the municipal swimming pool facing the lake. The lake is also suitable for swimming (at your own risk: there are no bathing assistance services). On the lake, in addition to canoeing and kayaking, it is possible to sail, windsurf and stand up paddling.

Other opportunities for athletes include running, cycling and mountain biking. There are three permanent ring routes dedicated to runners, where, on the last Sunday of June, takes place “La Panoramica”, a non-competitive running event open to all. The routes develop in the enchantment of woods, streams and villages. They start from the lake square, next to the Palazzo Centi. The path length is 6 km along the shores of Lake Aprilis; 13 kilometres along the Val Pentina and 24 kilometres along the Val Pentina and in the Montelonga wood.

### 5.1 Sport fishing

The Lake of Barcis is optimal for different types of fishing: bottom, float, spinning and fly, taking into account certain factors such as the clarity of the water, the attendance of the banks, the weather, the seasons and hours of the day.

The Valcellina every year hosts, from July to September, international competitions and championships in the trout-stream and trout-lake specialties. In order to fish in this lake, sport fishermen must have a regular permit, obtainable from the fishing associations of Pordenone, with the payment of a fee.

### 5.2 Canoe, kayak, stand up paddling, sailing

The “Trofeo Libertas” slalom race on the Barcis Lake, dedicated to young canoeists, aims to raise awareness and promote the specialty: after the race there is the possibility for the public to experiment canoeing and kayaking for free.

Canoe and kayak courses are held in the summer in



Fontana, under the walkway. The courses are organised by the Polisportiva Montereale. Guided canoe and kayak excursions are organised by the Association Guida Naturalistica: informations on the web site [www.guidanaturalistica.it/](http://www.guidanaturalistica.it/). Stand up paddling (SUP) fans find here a fantastic setting to practice this specialty, for the splendid color of the waters and the magnificence of the mountains surrounding the lake. There is a sailing school for kids. Informations: Barcis nautical base, Località Ribe, by the parking area for Campers.

### 5.3 Motor boating

The lake of Barcis is the venue of a circuit powerboat world race. The history of motor boating in Barcis began in the early 1980s, thanks to the commitment of the Pro Barcis Association. In 1984, on the occasion of a rubber boating event, the proposal was made, welcomed with enthusiasm by the Municipality, to host an Italian championship. In 1992 a race valid for the European championship was

added. In 2000 the most coveted goal arrived: the F3 World Championship. Today the F3 category no longer exists so the races in Barcis are for the categories O350 (world championship), F. 1000 Int (European and Italian championship) and F2 (Italian championship). The event “Barcis Motor boating” takes place in mid-June. In 2019 the races were suspended due to the accumulation of debris in the lake after a devastating storm (Vaia storm) that occurred at the end of October 2018.

### 5.4 Niche sports

Canyoning, flyboard, hovercraft, jet skis are sporting specialties that are hardly practiced but no less exciting for this. Canyoning allows safe descents, with wetsuit and harness, in the bottom of the gorges of the streams, where the water has dug walls and puddles. The canyoning itinerary in the gorges of the Molassa torrent is particularly suggestive. The flyboard is a particular pressurised jet equipment, powered by a jet ski, which allows to make incredible evolutions. It has created so much attention and interest that it has given rise to professional competitions. Barcis, since 2016, hosts the first stage of Flyboard’s X-Treme Days.

### 5.5 Bicycle, mountain bike, BMX

There are 11 cycle routes in the immediate surroundings of Barcis, five of which are within everyone’s reach, and six are mountain bike itineraries. Among the most suggestive excursions are the tour of the lake, the lonely Pentina Valley and the regional forest of Prescudin. Those who want to experience the thrill of BMX stunts can ride from Barcis to Piancavallo on the tourist road of Pian delle More. In Piancavallo, in the Caprioli Area, there is a large air mattress for BMX jumps and evolutions and a free style track with fixed structures (walkways, parabolic, kicker, drop) and natural technical passages.







## 6 GASTRONOMIC SPECIALITIES

### 6.1 Cheese and meat

The local culinary tradition is one of a poor cuisine that over time has been able to reinvent itself creatively by offering tasty dishes of the peasant culture: cheeses and products from the mountain pastures, sausages and game.

There are many varieties of seasoned and smoked meats and sausages: the “Pitina” with the variants “Peta” and “Petuccia” a hemispherical meatball made with smoked meat mixed with spices and aromatic herbs; the “Saüc of Mount Cavallo”, a sausage made with carefully minced local meats coarse-grained and enriched with flavoured tongue and pork muscles; “Brusaula”, dried meat of selected pulp of beef, pork or chamois, without nerves and fat, smoked after maceration in salt, pepper and herbs; the “Filon”, which is obtained from the pork loin, boned, trimmed to obtain a lean meat loaf; “Muset” or cotechino, a type of sausage usually paired with “brovada” (macerated turnips).

### 6.2 Ras and herbs

Typical specialty of Barcis is the “Ras”, a sort of white turnip that is sown in August and is harvested after the first autumn frost. In the first days of the year, the peasants prepare the “Pastic”, a mixture made with Ras, onion and garlic, together with sausage, sautéed ribs or lard, served with the grainy liquid from the first boiling of polenta (called “suf”). Other specialties are the herb omelette and the “Petut”, a dessert similar to a sweet bread. The traditional dishes can be enjoyed in restaurants, farmhouses and mountain huts.

## 7 FEASTS AND EVENTS

### 7.1 St. John's Feast

Since the earliest times, the summer solstice was considered a magical moment.

In Christian times, the event was associated with the anniversary of the day of St. John's birth, on June 24, six months before Christmas.

On June 24 in Barcis there is a Holy Mass and a procession with the statue of the Saint. The herbalist's market, the trade show “Ceramists in Barcis” and the non-competitive march “La Panoramica” take place in the days preceding and following the feast.

In the streets of the village the stalls display flowers, plants, medicinal herbs and red fruits. The craftsmen sell their works in ceramic, marble, onyx, terracotta and clay. These are the herbs considered “magic”: hypericum, garlic, mugwort, verbena, mint, currant, fern, rue. The herbalist's market recalls the medieval tradition, when in the night between 23 and 24 June old herbs were burned in bonfires and new ones were collected. Various practices were used among the peasants to know the future precisely on this night because, according to the saying, “St. John does not want deception”.

It was also believed that the witches gathered under the walnut trees to keep their Sabbath: to keep them away from the houses, special arrangements were used, such as that of weaving behind the doors branches of rosemary, juniper, blessed olive, laurel, fig or wot.

Another trick was to put a bowl of salt and a broom in front of the house entrance. It was said that, before entering the house, the witches were forced by a spell to count the grains of salt and the threads of the broom, but that they could never finish before midnight, when they had to retire since the day of the Saint protector began.



## 7.2 International Folklore Festival

Barcis hosts some of the performances of the International Folklore Festival Aviano - Piancavallo, which takes place every year in August.

The venue of the Festival is Aviano (Pn), but some stages are planned in other suggestive places in Friuli. One of these is the space for Barcis' performances on the square facing the lake.

The Festival is one of the most important folkloristic events in the Region, a show of significant cultural and tourist interest that launches a message of brotherhood and peace. This event is being added to the International Council for the Organization of Folklore Festivals and Folk Arts (UNESCO) for the interest and meaning that the initiative assumes not only in the regional and national but also in the international context.

## 7.3 Literary awards: Malattia and Cavallini

The award named after Giuseppe Malattia della Vallata was launched in 1988, on the occasion of the forty years since the death of the poet and bibliophile of Barcis. The Prize was inspired from the desire of the Malattia family to keep alive the memory of his ancestor.

The initiative is dedicated to poetic compositions both in the languages of the Italian ethnolinguistic minorities (Albanian, Catalan, Greek, German, Occitan, Croatian, Franco-Provençal, Friulian, Ladin, Sardinian and Slovenian) and in local dialects.

Participants must submit a maximum of three poems not exceeding fifty verses each, unpublished.

The president of the award organising committee is currently Mr. Maurizio Salvador, who has been an enthusiastic promoter since the beginning. Many collateral events take place on the occasion of the Malattia Award: exhibitions, concerts and conferences live up the lakefront and attract a crowd of poetry lovers. The awards ceremony takes place

*Mr. Vittorio Sgarbi at the XX anniversary of the Cavallini prize  
(July 2016)*





in mid-July on the event area in front of the Centi palace. Two other awards were born from the original prize: the Cavallini Prize and the Cappello Prize. The first was established in 1996 by Vittorio Sgarbi, art critic, politician and writer, honorary citizen of Barcis, in memory of his uncle, Bruno Cavallini. The prize is awarded to cultural personalities able to bridge the minority cultures and the globalised world. The second one is named after the late Friulian poet Pierluigi Cappello and it is dedicated to rhymes and literature for children.

#### 7.4 Who was Giuseppe Malattia della Vallata

Giuseppe Malattia was born in Barcis, in the Vallata hamlet, on the slopes of the Montelunga wood, on March 25, 1875. He was the eldest son of a family of humble mountain workers and spent his childhood helping his parents in agricultural work. He attended school until the third grade.

His love for books flourished at an early age and is testified by a writing by his son Leandro: “At the age of seven he had begun to collect fragments of printed sheets scattered on the ground along the path he went to go to school in the village. These were then rearranged by him at home and thus was born the “book of buttons”, a set of scattered pages held together in the back by some rudimentary iron wires and closed on the front by two straps hooked to three buttons, fixed in turn to some red checkered fabric“. When he was twelve Giuseppe Malattia left Barcis to follow an uncle who was a street vendor. He arrived with him in Turin, where he settled and remained there until the age of thirty. This stay was fundamental for his cultural formation, which he faced as a self-taught. He learned Greek and Latin and other modern languages on his own and studied the main works of literature in the original versions. In this way he laid the foundations for his famous library.



At the end of the nineteenth century he had started writing poetry and in 1904 he published the collection “Edelweiss” at the Streglio publishing house in Turin: “poems conceived and written in the scraps of time that daily occupations leave me”.

In 1906 he left Turin and moved to Udine, where he founded the “Dante” bookshop and collaborated with various newspapers, including “La Patria del Friuli” and “Il Gazzettino”; he wrote numerous essays and articles for the Friulian Philological Society.

After the Great War, Giuseppe Malattia transferred his book heritage to Barcis from Udine.

While continuing his poetic and literary activity, in the twenties the scholar became part of the municipal administrations of Barcis, Andreis and Montereale Valcellina. His central commitment was the social and cultural promotion of fellow citizens.

In 1923 he published his main work, the volume “Villotte Friulane Moderne”, written in the particular Friulian language spoken in Barcis. In 1924 he published “I Canti della

Valcellina". Giuseppe Malattia in 1925 married Erminia Montanino and two children were born from the marriage: Franco and Leandro.

From a literary point of view, the work of Giuseppe Malattia della Vallata is characterised by some inspiring motifs typical of his time, like the exaltation of the homeland ideal, the reflection on the human condition and the inability to understand the mystery of life and death despite the progress of techniques.

His writings also show how strong the bond with civil commitment was. Giuseppe Malattia suffered an irreparable loss when, in 1944, during a retaliation, the Nazis set fire to his house with the over twenty-thousand volumes that he had collected.

"The German commander was adamant - recalls Leandro Malattia - he gave us three or four minutes of time, no more, to pick up some clothes and some blankets from home. From the beams the fire spread immediately to the whole house which quickly turned into a frightening stake that thwarted the work and sacrifices of an entire existence".

After the war, Giuseppe Malattia moved with his family to Venice and there, with the help of a friend, he resumed the activity of antiquarian bookseller. By then, however, the poet's soul was destroyed: he died on December 7, 1948.



## 8 SLEEP, EAT, BUY

### HOTELS

ALBERGO DIFFUSO LAGO DI BARCIS  
Via Garibaldi, 13 - Barcis (Pn) - tel. 333 1631333  
[www.albergodiffusobarcis.it](http://www.albergodiffusobarcis.it) - [info@albergodiffusobarcis.it](mailto:info@albergodiffusobarcis.it)

HOTEL CELIS  
Via Dante 3 - tel. 0427 76376 - Fax 0427 76376  
[www.celis.it](http://www.celis.it) - [info@celis.it](mailto:info@celis.it)

### FARMHOUSES AND HIKING HUTS

RIFUGIO VALLATA  
Località Vallata, 12 - tel. 349 7053300 / 0427 76325  
[www.rifugiovallata.it](http://www.rifugiovallata.it) - [rifugiovallata@alice.it](mailto:rifugiovallata@alice.it)

AGRITURISMO PIAN DEI TASS  
Località Pentina - tel. 0427 76282 / 0434 948782  
[www.agripiandeitass.it](http://www.agripiandeitass.it) - [info@agripiandeitass.it](mailto:info@agripiandeitass.it)

### CAMPSITES, EQUIPPED AREAS AND HOLIDAY HOMES

CAMPEGGIO SAN FRANCESCO  
Località San Francesco - tel. 0427-76366 - fax 0427 76069 - cell. 3319450910  
[www.campingbarcis.it](http://www.campingbarcis.it) - [info@campingbarcis.it](mailto:info@campingbarcis.it)

CASA PER FERIE FONTANE  
Località Fontane - tel. 0427 76014 - fax 0427 76340

CASA PER FERIE SAN GIOVANNI  
Via San Giovanni, 1 - tel. 380 1958750 - fax 0427 76069  
[valcellina.coop@libero.it](mailto:valcellina.coop@libero.it) - [facebook.com/foresteriasangiovanni](https://facebook.com/foresteriasangiovanni)

AREA ATTREZZATA PER CARAVAN E AUTOCARAVAN  
Via Lungolago - tel. 0427 76014

COLONIA SANTA MARIA  
Località Pentina - tel. 0427 76281

CASA PER FERIE VAL PENTINA  
Via Pentina, 13 - tel. 0427 282 / 338-3868606  
[www.agripiandeitass.it](http://www.agripiandeitass.it) - [info@agripiandeitass.it](mailto:info@agripiandeitass.it)

AFFITTACAMERE DA FOSA  
Via località Pezzeda, 7 - tel. 328 1786858 / 0427-890002  
<http://dafosa.wix.com/da-fosa> - [dafosa.barcis@gmail.com](mailto:dafosa.barcis@gmail.com)

### WINE BARS

AQUILA NERA  
Via Roma 18 - tel. 0427 76390 - [aquilanerabarcis@libero.it](mailto:aquilanerabarcis@libero.it)



## **RESTAURANTS, TRATTORIE AND PIZZERIE**

### **OSTERIA PONTE ANTOI**

Località Ponte Antoi 2 - tel. 0427 76224

[www.ponteantoi.it](http://www.ponteantoi.it) - [ponteantoi@barcis.it](mailto:ponteantoi@barcis.it)

### **TRATTORIA DA ROSANNA**

Via Dante, 38 - tel. 0427 76064

### **LA BOTTEGA DELLA PIZZA**

Via Roma, 5 - Pizza da Asporto e Kebab - tel. 342 1098840

## **CAFES**

### **BAR ALLA FRASCA**

Via Vittorio Veneto, 10 - tel. 0427 76002

### **BAR CENTRALE**

Via Roma 4 - Tel. 0427 76224

### **OSTERIA AGLI ALPINI**

Via Roma 15 - tel 339 6210837

### **POLISPORTIVO COMUNALE UISP BARCIS**

Via Campogrande - tel. 366 7278344

## **GROCERY STORES**

### **ALIMENTARI DA FRANCESCO E DEBORAH**

Piazza Vittorio Emanuele II, 4 - tel. 349 7019384 / 348 4159728

[prendinfrancesco@libero.it](mailto:prendinfrancesco@libero.it)

### **ALIMENTARI PANIFICIO DE GIUSTI**

Via Piave - tel. 0427 76202 - [panificiodegiusti@libero.it](mailto:panificiodegiusti@libero.it)

## **TYPICAL PRODUCTS**

### **ÇIASTRIN**

Via Roma - tel. 338 5030093 - [www.alchiastrin.it](http://www.alchiastrin.it)

### **AZIENDA AGRICOLA LA MANTOVA (dairy products)**

Via Campogrande - tel. 340 8171177 - [lamantova@gmail.com](mailto:lamantova@gmail.com)

## **NEWSSTAND, SOUVENIR**

### **EDICOLA VALCELLINA**

Via Roma 1 - tel. 0427 76069 - [valcellina.coop@libero.it](mailto:valcellina.coop@libero.it)

### **SOUVENIR BOZ**

Piazza Lungolago - tel. 348 7291378 / 348 7291378

### **NATURAL LAVANDA**

Via Vittorio Veneto, 4 - tel. 0427 76069

### **MENTA (hats and fashion accessories)**

Via Roma, 18 - tel. 340 8908310

[orianachin@gmail.com](mailto:orianachin@gmail.com)

### **SALONE SARA**

Via Salita Carducci, 2 - tel. 338 7501791

[saraprendin@libero.it](mailto:saraprendin@libero.it)

### **MANDI MANIA**

Via Roma, 8 - tel. 340 2742534

### **I 2 REMI di Capitan Marco**

Rental of canoes and kayaks. Visit to the caves

tel. 328 5775120

[marcotormen@hotmail.it](mailto:marcotormen@hotmail.it); [facebook.com/capitanomarco.tormen](https://facebook.com/capitanomarco.tormen)

### **PETROL STATION 24H**

Via Vittorio Veneto, 37 - tel. 0427 76029

## **SERVICES TO CITIZENS**

### **MUNICIPALITY OF BARCIS**

Piazza Vittorio Emanuele II, 5 - tel. 0427 76014

### **TOURIST OFFICE - PRO BARCIS (summer period)**

Piazza Vittorio Emanuele II, 5 - tel. 0427 76300

Lunedì-Domenica 10.30-12.30/15.00-18.00

### **CONSORTIUM PRO LOCO CELLINA MEDUNA**

Piazzale della Vittoria, 1 - tel. 0427 764438

### **SURGERY**

Piazza Vittorio Emanuele II, 5 - tel. 0427 78199

### **MEDICAL GUARD - AMBULANCE (summer period)**

Piazza Vittorio Emanuele II, 5 - tel. 0427 78199

Sabato 14.00/20.00 - Domenica 8.00/20.00

### **PUBLIC LIBRARY BARCIS "GIUSEPPE MALATTIA DELLA VALLATA"**

c/o PALAZZO MOCENIGO CENTI

tel. 0427 76014/0427 76300 - [www.bibliomp.it](http://www.bibliomp.it)

### **OPEN AIR SWIMMING POOL**

Via Vittorio Veneto

Lunedì-Domenica 14.30/18.30

### **CELLINA GORGE VISITORS CENTRE (summer period)**

Località Ponte Antoi - tel. 0427 87333

Sabato-Domenica 10.00/12.00 - 15.30/18.30

## **Further information on Barcis**

is available on the website [www.valcellina.it](http://www.valcellina.it)

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