



**UAAA**

Global Youth Summit 2013



*“Discovering the world around...”*

# Valmalenco, heart of Rhaetian Alps

**CLUB ALPINO ITALIANO  
COMMISSIONE REGIONALE LOMBARDA DI ALPINISMO GIOVANILE**

**SCUOLA DI ALPINISMO GIOVANILE DELLA PROVINCIA DI SONDRIO  
‘LUIGI BOMBARDIERI’**

# General information - I

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

This project is dedicated to young people within **10-17 age range.**

A maximum number of **36 participants** are admitted.

**Dates :** **July 2013 - From Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Closing date:** **31<sup>st</sup> May for Italians / 15<sup>th</sup> June for others**

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

Return is by bus from Chiareggio to Sondrio railway station.

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

**Cost :** **310 Euros per-capita** (including : full board; Sondrio / Chiareggio bus round trip; Chiareggio / Lanzada bus; entrance ticket to Lanzada mine).

**Information :** ANAG Dolores DE FELICE – mobile ++39 333 9683927  
(email: [livenatureddf@gmail.com](mailto:livenatureddf@gmail.com))

# General information - II

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

### Walking timings

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

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

### Stay

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

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

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

It is required to inform organizers about any allergy or intolerance that participants may have.

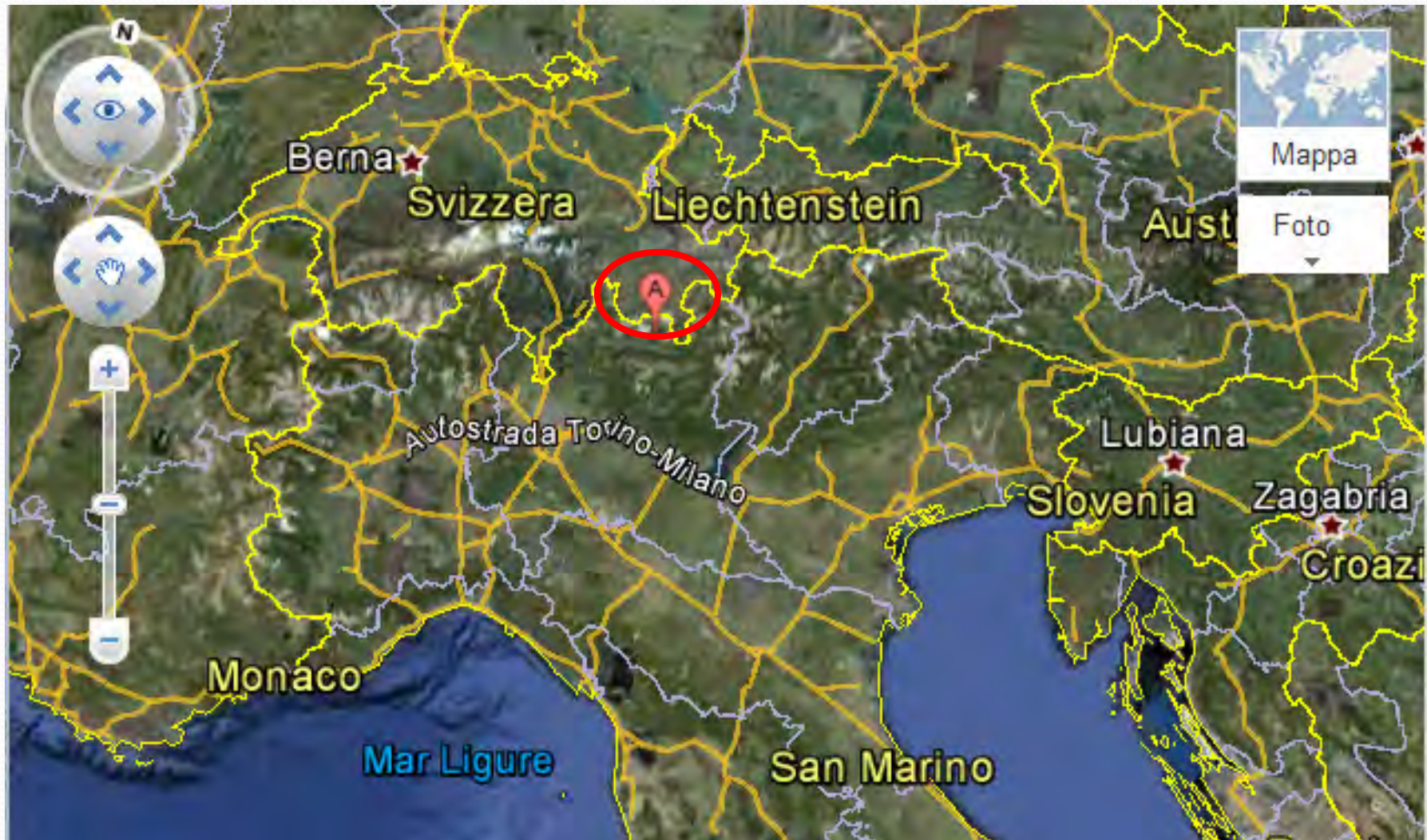
### Equipment

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

Further details (included list of technical equipment, where requested) will be given to participants on due time



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









# Chiareggio

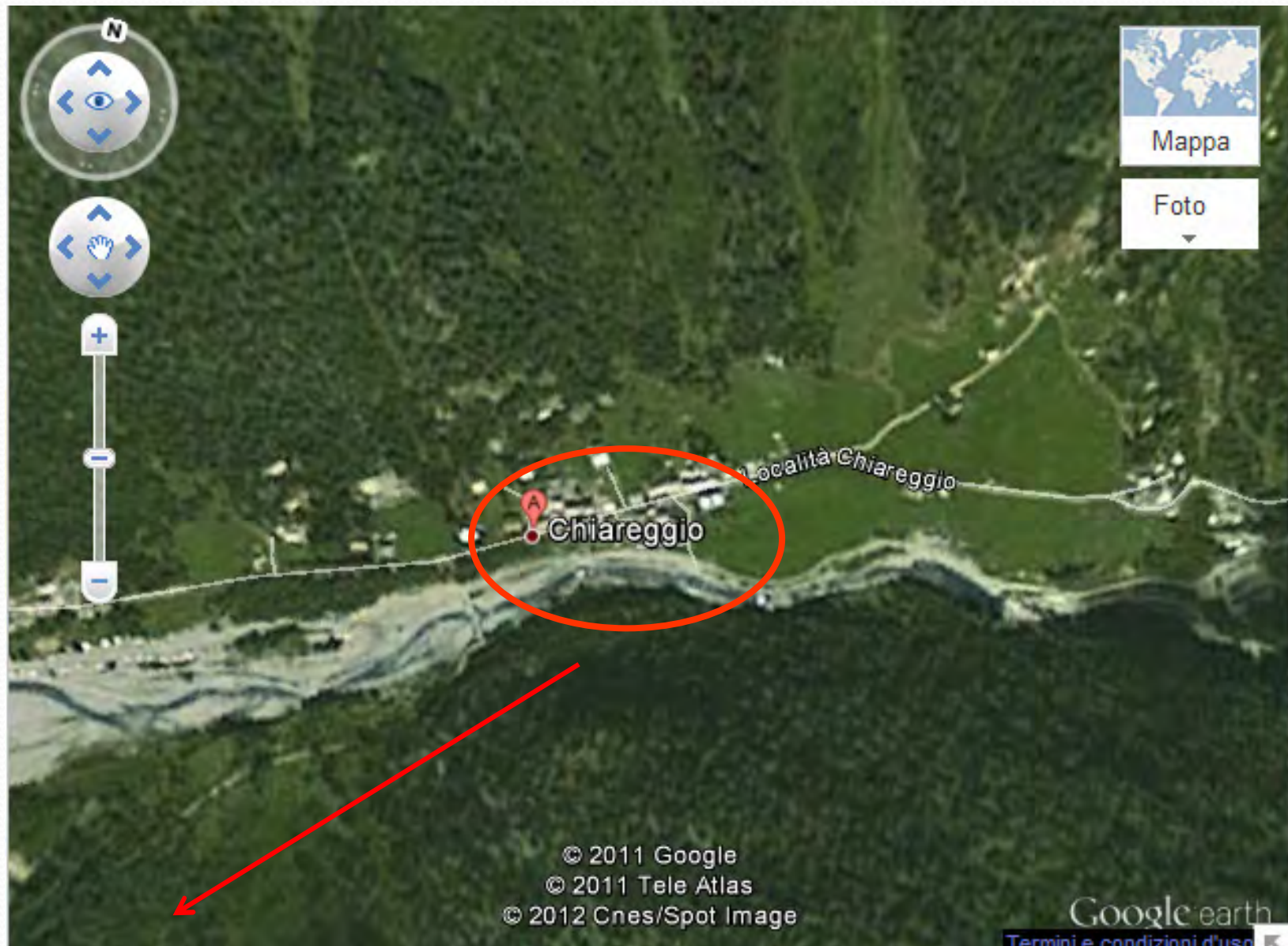
↑ VALMALENCO ↓



← VALTELLINA →

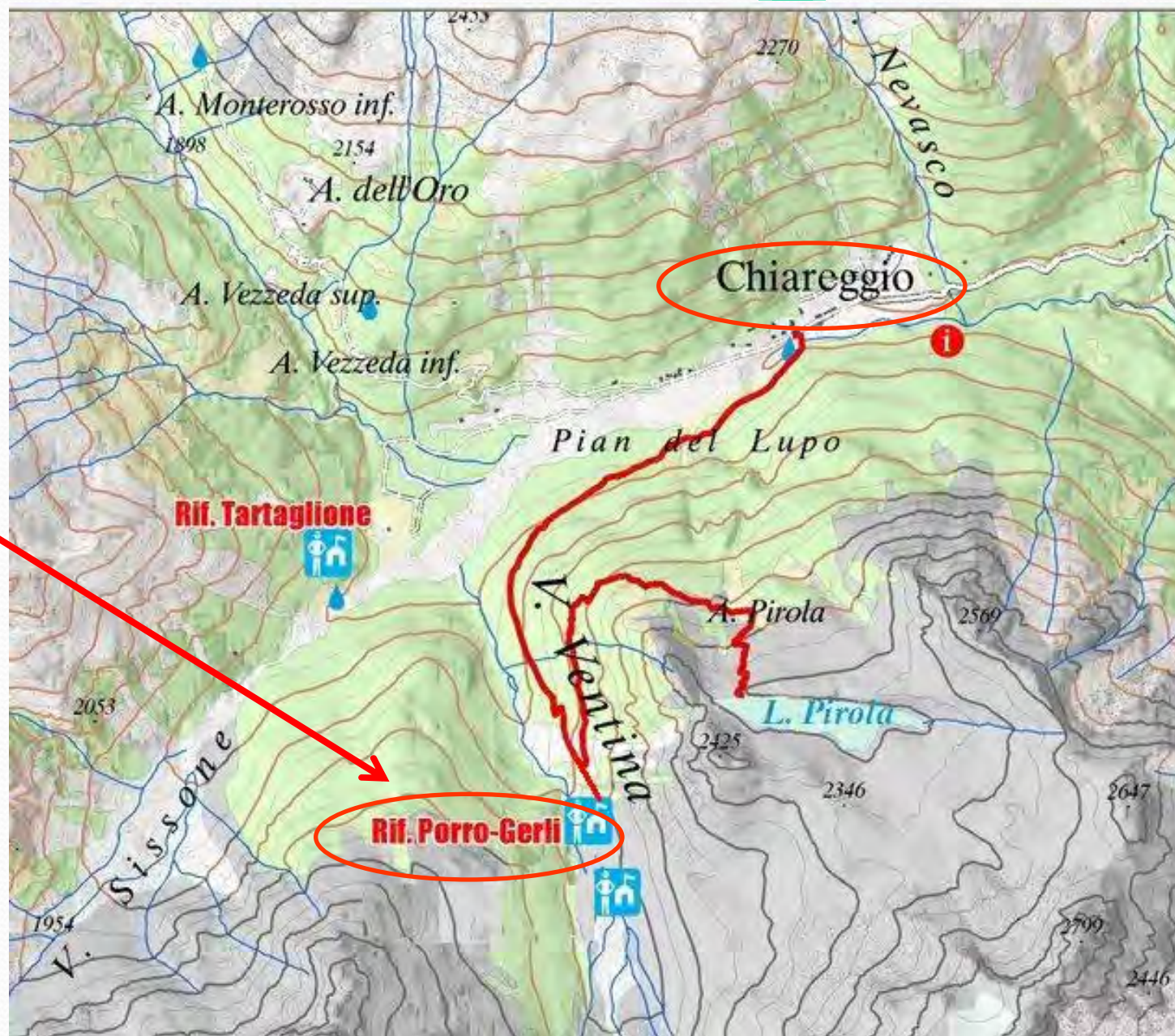


...way from Chiareggio to our refuge...





We will be  
there !!





# Gerli – Porro Hut

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





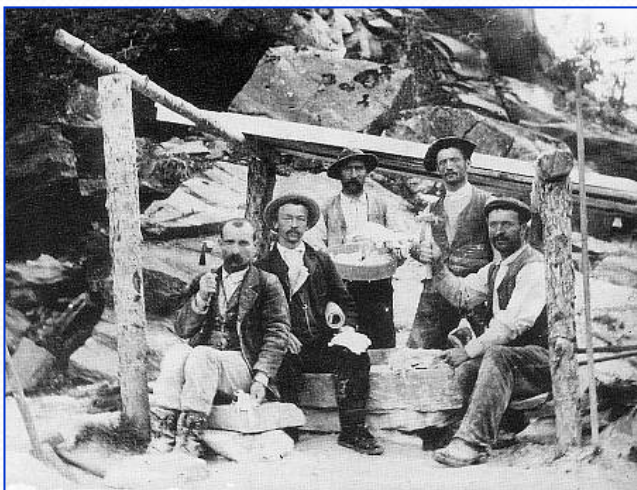


**A really versatile  
environment...**





# ... rich of history and traditions





# Mt. Disgrazia first ascent...

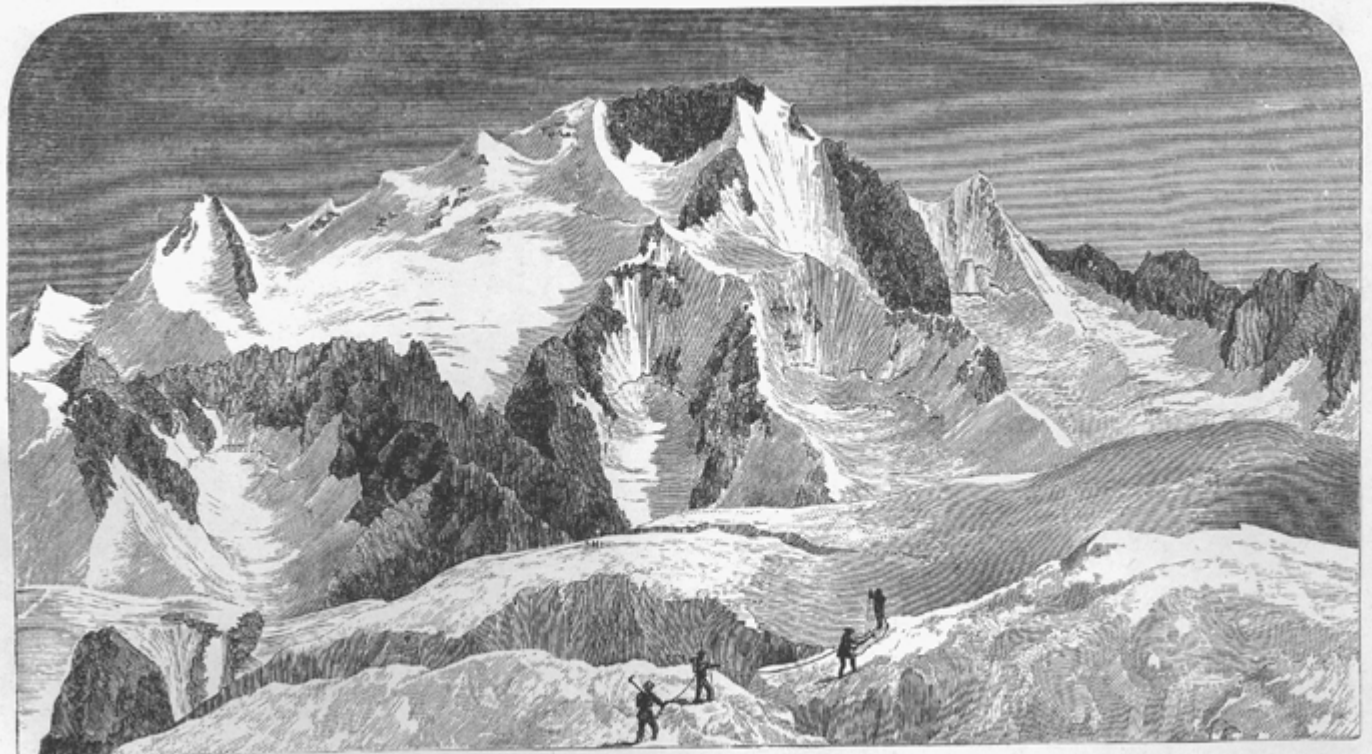


Sir Leslie Stephen



Melchior Anderegg

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



MONTE DELLA DISGRAZIA FROM THE CRESTA AGIUZA SATTEL.



## ...an exciting adventure...



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

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

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

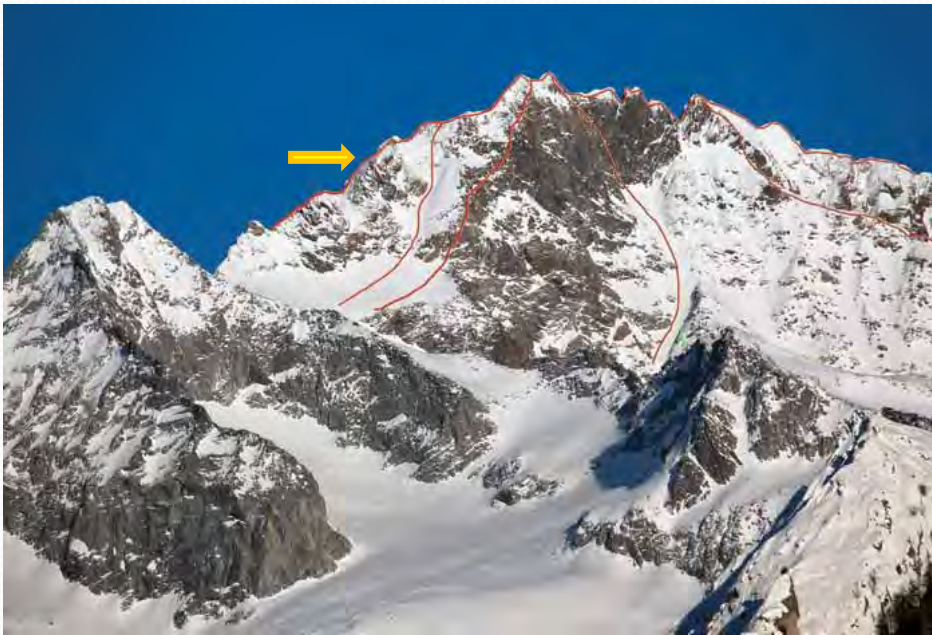
They tried from Val Sissone first, and reached Mt. Pioda – named “Hope tip”-, but initially exhaustion and the late hour stopped them from proceeding.

Some days later, on August 24th, 1862, Edward Shirley Kennedy, Leslie Stephen, with the guide Melchior Anderegg and his colleague Thomas Cox, they fine-tuned their target and...

## ...an extraordinary success

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

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



Mt. Disgrazia, SW slope (M. Sertori)

Their attempts and consequent success have been described by E. Kennedy in the “*The Alpine Journal*” in an engaging and humorous way.

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

It was 1863.



# The program for “the younger”...

*(but not only---)*

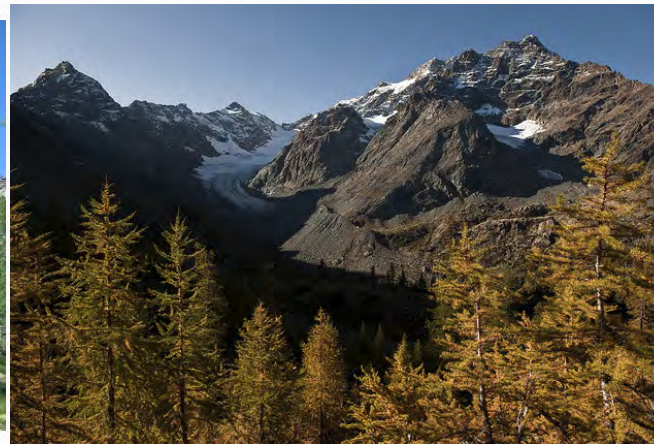




# Day 1 – Pirola lake : Geology

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

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





# Day 2 – Alpe Zocca : Sheep farming

“**Alpe Zocca**”, “**Alpe Sentieri**”, to see first hand, and with the help of some interesting stories, what sheep farming really means; transhumance and milk /cheese manufacturing





# Day 3 – Approaching the glacier...

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

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

The alpine history of Valmalenco will be also discovered, particularly focusing on 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first ascent of Mt. Disgrazia by two alpinists from UK : E.S. Kennedy and L. Stephen

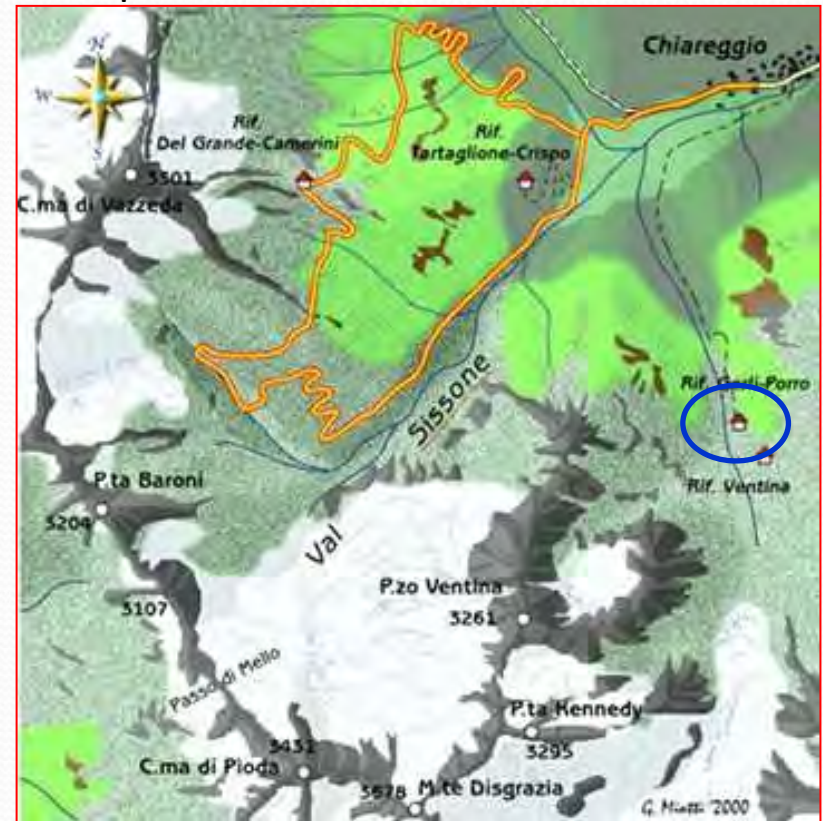




# Day 4 – Sissone Valley : mineralogy

**“Sissone” Valley** is a special place where rare minerals can be found along our path. We will have an expert with us, who will share with how special this valley is where some minerals – unique to this valley – have been found.

A visit to “Chiareggio Geological Park” is also planned on the same day, to learn about Valmalenco geology from the time of formation of the Alpine Chain, till now.



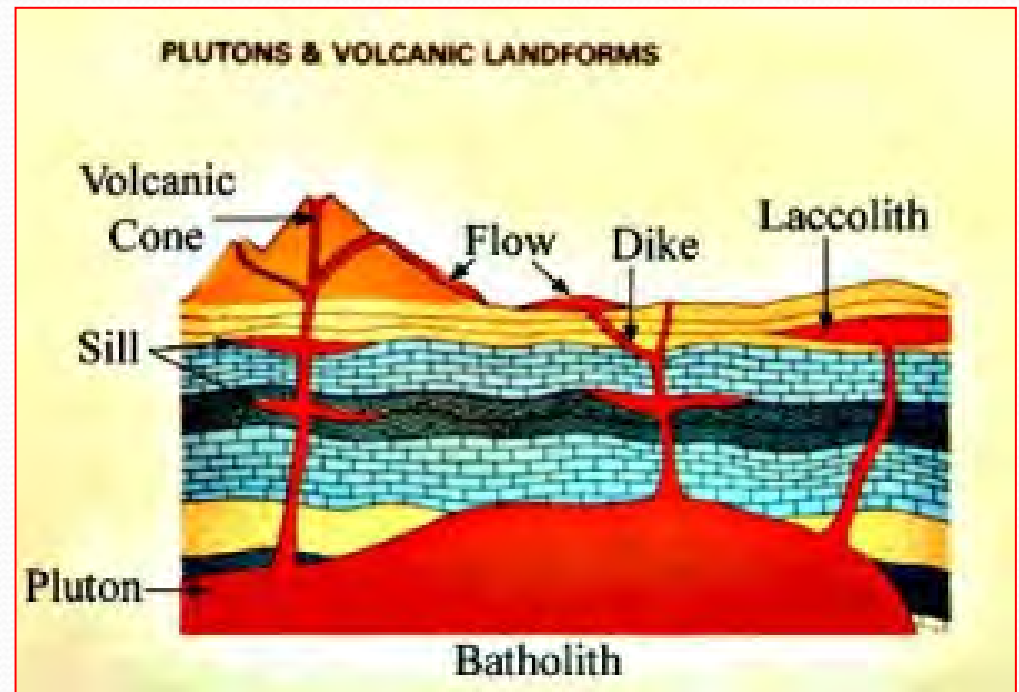


## Sissone Valley minerals : why are they so special...?

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

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

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





# Sissone Valley minerals

It is not necessary to have either hammers or explosives to find interesting minerals along the paths in Sissone Valley : we just need to walk amongst the rocks at the bottom of the valley, where we may see some!

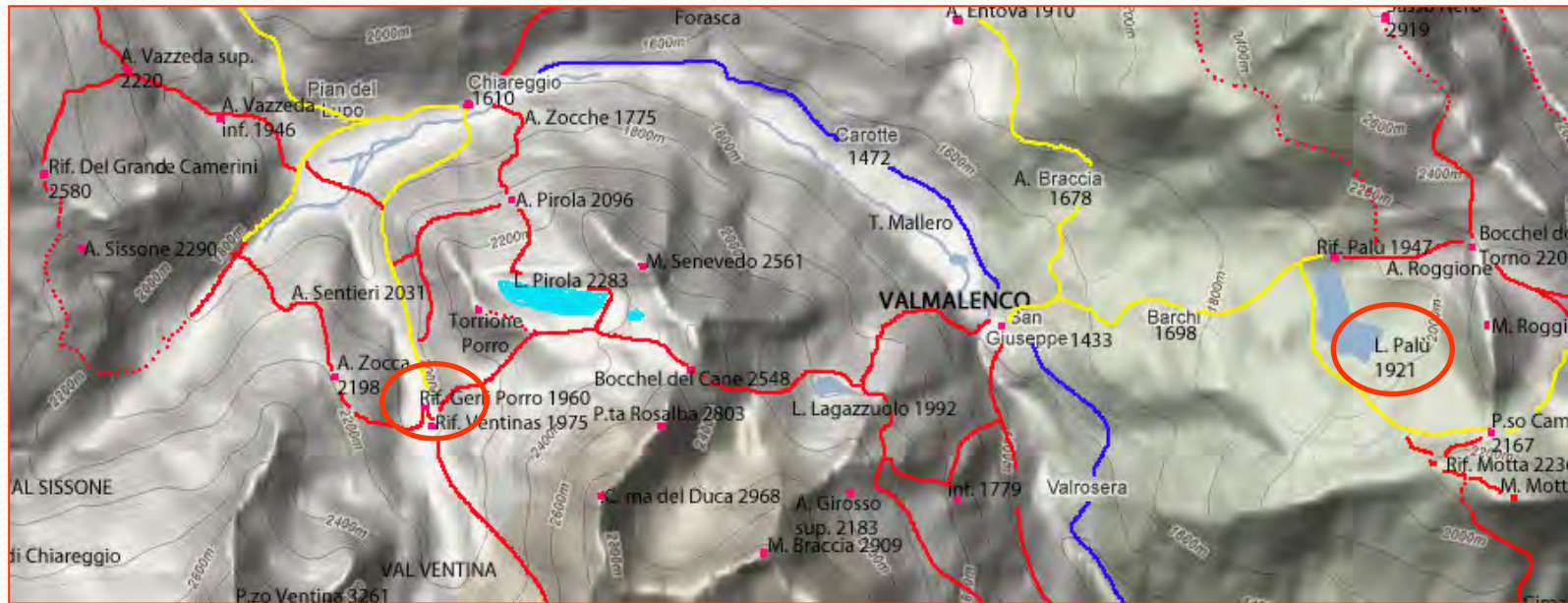
Here are some examples of the minerals that could be found in the valley ... 😊





# Day 5 – Lake Palù : wildflowers

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





# Day 6 – Mines and rock pots...

Visit to “**Bagnada**” museum mine (located at **Lanzada**) and to “*Giants rock pots*” located at **Campo Franscia** (bus trip from Chiareggio to Lanzada and back)  
(Giant pots: curious phenomenon caused by falling water force, causing a whirly rotation of little stones, which excavate rock with time)





# ...and something for the “grown up”...



*“Cassandra” Pass (mt 3097)*

*“Taveggia” Bivouac (mt 2845)*



*“Del Grande-Camerini” Hut (mt 2550)*



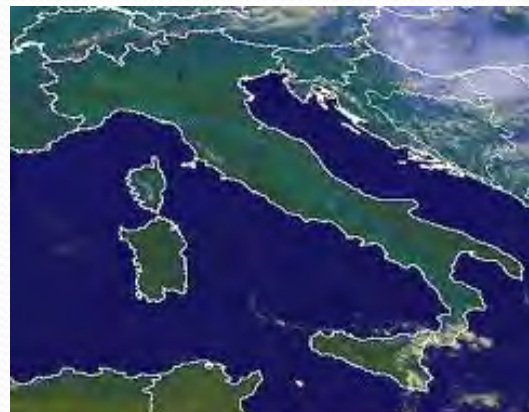
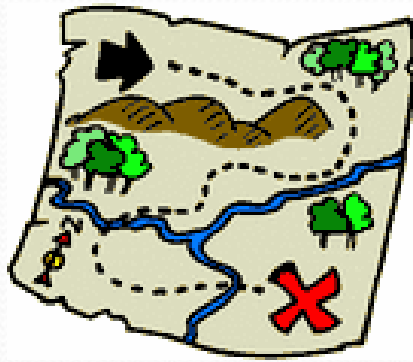
*“Rachele” Peak (mt 2998)*



# All together in the hut...

In addition to the scheduled “field” activities, indoor activities are also available, depending on availability of time and each day’s programs.

These could include : videos on specific topics; path finding; weather forecast evaluation, etc.





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

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

...**encourage curiosity, powers of observation and thinking** about some peculiar aspects of the surrounding environment, from a historical, natural and anthropological point of view

...allow participants to **build up correct environmental awareness**, through direct living experience with nature

...encourage participants' acceptance and respect of others, and **develope a sense of human solidarity**, through socializing and sharing of common experiences

...**facilitate friendships and co-operation** within groups, and enabling them to develop friendships with peoples of other cultures and life conditions

...help **achieve a deep sense of well-being** while staying in an idyllic natural environment



# Valmalenco (Italy), July 14 – 20, 2013



...Waiting for YOU...

