



Bastionata del Lago

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PARETONE - PANORAMIX SECTOR



The Mount San Martino throw down to the east side of the Lake of Lecco with a huge and complex limestone wall, at its bottom in the early '80 born the crags of the Bastionata del Lago, cradle of the sport climbing in Lecco, and then the crags of Pradello, previously explored by Ivan Guerini. Anyway in this area some remarkable alpine routes was climbed already in the early '70, among these the famous Via Panzeri-Riva on the Red Pillar (Sergio Panzeri, Giancarlo Riva and Franco Passerini, 1975) and the Via degli Amici on the big wall right of the Bastionata (Daniele Chiappa, Sergio Panzeri, Giacomo Stefani, Roberto Chiappa 1974). Last, in the 1987 C. Invernizzi, F. Colombo, C. Gorla and Virgilio Plumari climbed "Sul lago dorato" and "Soli di ghiaccio", two long routes about 200m right of the Via degli Amici, that anyway didn't have great fortune. The range of vertical and compact slabs just right of the Bastionata still remained unexplored, till the 2002 when it was Paolo Vitali, Sonja Brambati and Pietro Corti turn. They climbed from bottom with a power drill two new routes technically hard: Vitali leading, Brambati in the middle for ropes manoeuvres and last Corti cleaning the routes. And it's not finished yet! The same climbers are already working at a new route on the left. The climbing style is technical but also stamina is needed, on the wonderful grey-white limestone full of holes and reglette that dries quickly, typical of the Bastionata. To repeat them you only need the quickdraws, the descent are rapelling on the routes. Spring and autumn are the best seasons to climb there, sun after the 11am. Be careful in the spring when the yellow Caledonia flowers, it can produce tiresome scalds.

Quote: 300m; Oriented W; Equipping: very good with stainless fixes; Gear: rope 70m or 2X50m.

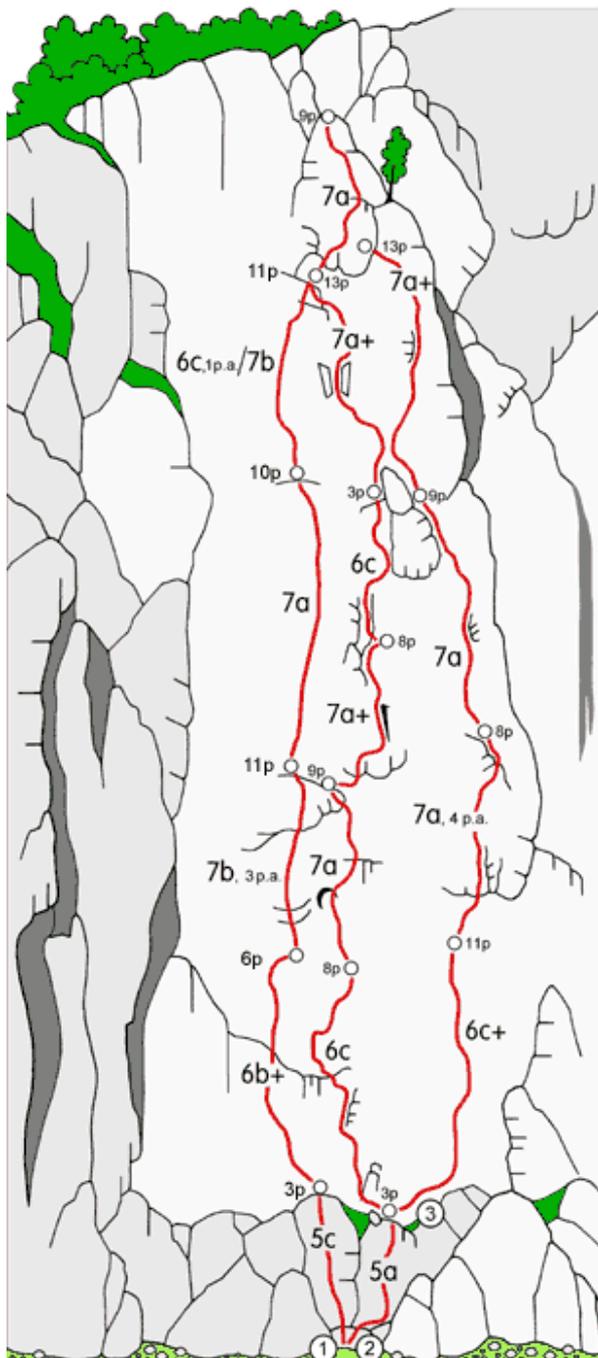
Access: coming from Lecco follow the road on the lake direction Colico-Sondrio, before the junction with the road SS36 take the exit right that pass under the railway bridge, the road ends soon at Pradello. Park just after the bridge on the left, go back to the turn and follow the path that starts with some steps and then goes right. At the first cross follow the path on the left, go over a short fixed rope, in the following wood you will find a new cross, going left you will reach the Red Pillar, while continuing right on the main path you will find the sectors of the Bastionata del Lago: ERTOMANIA first and ON THE ROAD last; continue on the right a few minutes and you will notice the cleaned wood on the left where the routes start. The starting point is just left of the route Via degli amici. 15 minutes from the car.

1) CHELIDONIA EXPRESS

Paolo & Sonja in may 2003 and may 2004.

L1 5c 15m - L2 6b+ 30m black slab - L3 7a/b with 2-3pa 30m slab with two bombè - L4 7a 35m nice slab - L5 6c with 1pa (last fix) or 7b 30m vertical wall with holds and holes - L6 in common with PANORAMIX. Comp. 6b+ obb.

All the routes have been opened ground-up.



2) PANORAMIX

Paolo & Sonja with Pietro Corti in March 2002.

L1 5a 15m - L2 6c 30m technical slab - L3 7a 28m hard slab with small holds - L4 7a+ 20m hard starting moves followed by a diedre - L5 6c 15m small crack and slab - L6 7a+ 35m super, just overhanging wall: stamina on small holes and holds - L7 7a 30m friction slab followed by a white vertical ridge. Comp. 6b+ obb.

3) BREVA & TIVAN

Paolo & Sonja with Pietro Corti in October 2002.

L1 5a 15m same as the preceding - L2 6c+ 40m vertical slab - L3 7a and 4 p.a. 30m short overhang still to be climbed free - L4 7a 30m technical slab then a diedre - L5 7a+ (grade to be confirmed) 40m vertical slab then crack - L6 together with Panoramix. Comp. 6b+ obb.

21/05/2004

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