



Rifugio Menaggio (1400 m) is situated on the southern slope of Monte Grona where one can enjoy a spectacular view of Lake Como and the surrounding mountains. From the rifugio you can extend your hike to Monte Grona (1736 m) and to Monte Bregagno (2107 m). The rifugio provides refreshments and lodging and is open daily from June to the end of September – on Saturdays. Sundays and holidays from October to June. For information and reservations tel. +39 034437282 or +39 3278855090.

**ITINERARY:** Breglia - Rifugio Menaggio

**WALKING TIME ONE WAY:** 1h 45min

**ASCENT:** 650 m

**DIFFICULTY:** Hike with a steep ascent

**TRAIL SIGNS:** Red-white-red

**CONNECTIONS:** Breglia can be reached from Menaggio with bus line C13

Parking possibility at Breglia or at Monti di Breglia (1000 m) Attention! The forest drive to Monti di Breglia is a toll road, with a 3.00 euro fee payable at the toll machine at the beginning of the road.

**N.B.:** Avalanche beacon mandatory on snow covered trails above 1500 m

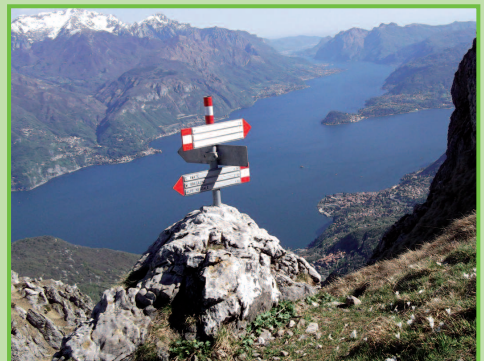


**ROUTE: Breglia** is a small mountain village situated in the municipality of Plesio, 7 km above Menaggio. From the bus stop at Breglia (749 m) cross the road and walk up the small road leading up to Monti di Breglia (sign indicating "Rifugio Menaggio"). At the second bend, just beyond a fountain, take the first shortcut to the right (sign: "Monti di Breglia/Rifugio Menaggio"). The steep trail ends up on the road again. Cross it and take the second shortcut. After 20 m, at the electricity pylon, turn right. The steep trail leads to the road again, which you follow for about 100 m. You find the next shortcut across a field to the left. After crossing the road again follow the trail through the woods to Monti di Breglia (1000 m). Short after, there is a picnic area with a fountain and a beautiful view. Follow the uphill trail on the left passing by a rock plate (sign: "Rifugio Menaggio 1.20") until you reach a parking area. Take the trail to the left. At the next junction follow the path marked as "Sentiero Alto" to the right (in case of heavy snow we recommend the trail to the left). It leads among birches and broom shrubs up to the junction for S. Amate and Monte Bregagno. At this junction, walk to the left. The now quite level trail leads along the slope of the mountain to Rifugio Menaggio. The view embraces the whole central lake area with the towns of Menaggio with Monte Crocione (1640 m), Bellagio with Monte San Primo (1682 m) and the Corni di Canzo and Varenna dominated by the Grigne (2410 m).

## WALKS FROM RIFUGIO MENAGGIO

### Pizzo Coppa

Fifteen minutes from the rifugio there is a viewpoint called "**Pizzo Coppa**" from where you have a splendid view not only of Lake Como but of



Ascent to Monte Grona (© A. Morganti)

the whole Menaggio valley with Lake Piano and Lake Lugano. Take the trail on the left side of the rifugio (facing the building).

### Monte Grona (1736 m)

From **Monte Grona** you can admire one of the best views of the Pre-Alps over: Lake Como, Lake Piano, Lake Lugano, the close-by peaks of Monte Bregagno, Monte Legnone, Pizzo di Gino and Grigne and the highest peaks of the Alps, from Monviso to Piz Bernina.



**Three ascents:** (good walking boots required)

**Via Normale** - time: 1 h 15 min; ascent: 336 m; the beginning of this trail (the less difficult) is behind the rifugio.

It leads up to the saddle called "Forcoletta" and from there a steep rocky trail leads to the top.

**Via Direttissima** - Time: 1 h; ascent: 336 m; the beginning of this trail is behind the rifugio. It is a very steep trail winding up the south face of the mountain. Being exposed to the south, it does not accumulate too much snow in Winter.

**Via Ferrata** - (Only for alpinists with adequate equipment,). Time: 3 h. Follow the signs to Pizzo Coppa and Via Ferrata.

### S. Amate (1623 m) and Monte Bregagno (2107 m)

From Rifugio Menaggio you can walk to the little chapel of S. Amate (time 0.45 h – ascent 240 m) and from there on to the top of **Monte Bregagno** (time 2 h - ascent 707 m from the rifugio).

Take the steep trail behind the Rifugio signed as "Forcoletta" and "Monte Grona Via Normale". At the fork "S. Amate – Monte Grona" turn right to S. Amate. The trail ascends the mountain slopes and reaches the grassy mountain ridge. From here walk down to the saddle of S. Amate and its chapel. The spectacular view from here embraces Lake Como, the woods and pastures of the Val Sanagra, Lake Lugano and the Alps. From the chapel, you can follow the signs back to Breglia. The trail takes you to a little saddle called "el capel de Giuvan" (Johnny's Hat) by the locals and eventually joins the path you followed on the way up from Breglia to Rifugio Menaggio. If you want to reach the top of Monte Bregagno, walk uphill the steep grassy mountain ridge from S. Amate to Monte Bregagnino (1905 m). Then walk shortly down to a saddle and up again to reach the rounded top of Monte Bregagno. The view over Val Albano and the northern end of the lake is extraordinary.

### L'Alta Via del Lario

From Rifugio Menaggio you can follow the Alta Via del Lario, a high altitude 4-day trek for experienced hikers.

