



Hiking the Seceda – Rifugio Firenze Circuit Trail, Dolomites

Blog > Europe > Italy > Dolomites



Seceda is a mountain in the Odle/Geisler Group situated within **Puez-Odle Nature Park** in South Tyrol in Northern **Italy**.

The Seceda summit (2519 meters) is a must-see destination in the **Dolomites**, because of its unbeatable view of the Fermeda Peaks. Atop Mount Seceda, the Fermeda towers look like a Swiss army knife, eternally destined to slash the sky.

We've visited Seceda six times in June, July, August, September, October, and December.

The easiest and fastest way to get to Seceda is to ascend with the **Ortisei-Funes-Seceda Cableways** from **Ortisei** in **Val Gardena**. During the summer season, the Seceda cableways usually operate **between end of May and early November**.

From the Seceda cableway mountain station, it's a mere 10-minute walk to the summit lookout point. From the summit, the hike continues along the Seceda ridge towards the jagged Odle Peaks.

The spectacular Seceda ridge is just the beginning of a highly-satiating circuit trail that links Pieralongia, Rifugio Firenze (Regensburger Hütte in German), and Baita Troier. Below, you'll find a complete description of this Seceda – Rifugio Firenze circuit route.

Camping | Seceda is located within Puez-Odle Nature Park, a protected UNESCO World Heritage Site. Please note that wild camping is strictly forbidden along the Seceda Ridge and in Puez-Odle Nature Park. If you want to visit Seceda at sunrise, or sunset, stay in the mountainside **Almhotel Col Raiser** or **Rifugio Fermeda**.





Furnes-Seceda Cableway

Valley Station, Ortisei | [Google Maps](#)

- **Cableways:** Ortisei-Furnes (gondola) and Furnes-Seceda (aerial cable car)
- **Trailhead:** Seceda Cableway mountain station
- **Distance:** 8.9 km circuit
- **Time Needed:** 3:15 hours without breaks
- **Elevation Gain/Loss:** 524 meters
- **Difficulty:** Easy – Moderate
- **Minimum Elevation:** 2038 meters
- **Maximum Elevation:** 2519 meters
- **Trails:** 6, 1, 2B, 13B, 13, 1
- **Route:** Seceda Mountain Station (2500 m) – Seceda Panorama Point (2519 m) – Furcella de Pana/Panascharte (2439 m) – Pieralongia (2297 m) – Rifugio Firenze/Regensburger Hütte (2037 m) – Lech da Iman (2225 m) – Baita Troier (2250 m) – Seceda Mountain Station (2500 m)



and breakfast), **Chalet Hotel**

Hartmann – Adults Only

(midrange), **Hotel Gardena**

Grödnerhof (luxury), or **Adler**

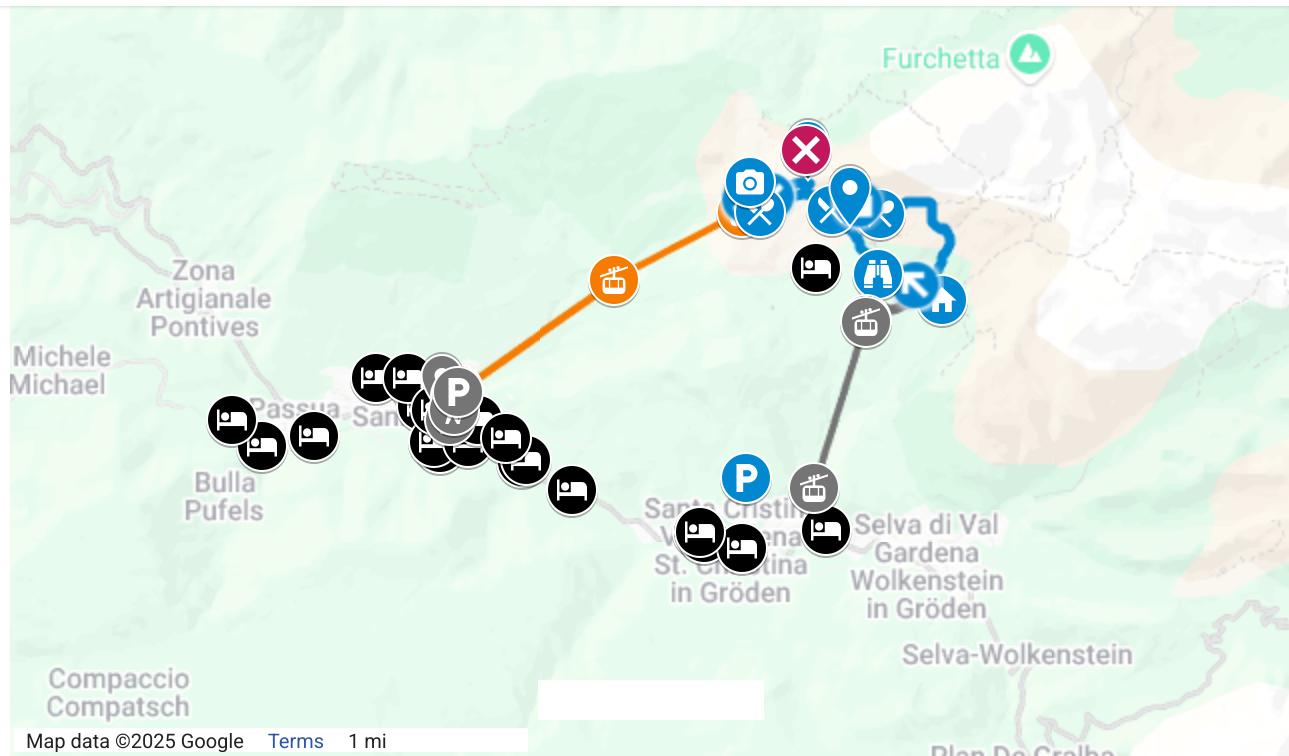
Spa Resort Dolomiti (luxury)

- **Recommended Trail Map:**

Tabacco 05 Val Gardena –

Alpe di Siusi

Seceda Hiking Map



How to Get to Seceda in the Dolomites

Step 1: Head to the Seceda Cableway Valley Station in Ortisei, Val Gardena



Walking Directions

If you're arriving in Ortisei/St. Ulrich by **bus**, get off at Piazza S. Antonio/Antoniusplatz in the village center.

It takes about 5 minutes to walk from the center of Ortisei to the Seceda cableway, using the **La Curta** pedestrian connection.

From Antonio Square, look for a sign to "Seceda." Head down the small street between Sparkasse Ortisei Bank and Calzature Rabanser Di Senoner Emilia shoe store.

Take the covered "La Curta" escalator up. After the escalator, locate the pedestrian tunnel straight ahead with a conveyor belt walkway.



Driving and Parking Directions

It is possible, though not recommended, to drive to the Seceda cableway valley station, which is located on Via Val d'Anna 2, I-39046 Ortisei, Val Gardena, South Tyrol. Exact Location: [Google Maps](#).

There's a **paid** parking garage and outdoor parking area directly at the valley station with a capacity of 250 spaces. During our last visit, the parking was 2.50 EUR/hour between 7 am and 7 pm and .80 EUR/hour between 7 pm and 7 am.

If you're staying in Ortisei, do not drive to the valley station. Most accommodations are within walking distance to the cableway.

If you're staying in any other area of Val Gardena, either take a bus to Ortisei, or start this hike at the [Col Raiser Gondola](#) mountain station.

Step 2: Purchase a Round-Trip Ticket to Seceda

To get to Seceda, you have to take the **Ortisei-Furnes gondola** followed by the **Furnes-Seceda cable car**.

When you purchase your cableway ticket, you'll be asked whether you want to go to Furnes (middle station) or Seceda (top station). Purchase a round-trip ticket to Seceda.



this [Seceda – Monte Pic ascent route](#).

Step 3: Ascend to the Seceda Mountain Station (2 Cableways)

Hop on the Ortisei-Furnes gondola to the Furnes middle station.

At Furnes, disembark the gondola and walk a few meters to the Furnes-Seceda cableway station. Hop on the Furnes-Seceda aerial cable car to the Seceda mountain station.

Hold onto your tickets. You will need to scan them again on the return ride back to Ortisei.

Seceda Hiking Trail Description

Seceda Mountain Station to Seceda Summit / Photo Spot (10 minutes)



When you disembark the Seceda cableway mountain station, you will immediately see the slanted and formidable Odle/Geisler peaks.

The panoramic view extends to the Puez Group, including **Piz Duleda** (2909 m), **Col dala Pieres** (2747 m), and Monte de Stevia (2500 m), as well as the Sella Group and Sassolungo Group.

Follow the sign to the Seceda summit and photo spot.

It takes about 10 minutes to reach **Mount Seceda** (2518 meters). The summit is crowned with a Gipfelkreuz (summit cross) and a circular, metal structure indicating the names and elevations of prominent peaks in the **Italian Alps** and **Austrian Alps**, which are visible from this vantage point.

Looking to the left of the vicious Seceda ridgeline, you can see the summits of Medalges (2454 m), Sobutsch (2486 m), and Sass de Putia/Peitlerkofel (2,875 m), the northernmost mountain in the Puez-Odle Dolomites.



For context, the trail directly to the north of Seceda, at the base of the Odle/Geisler mountains, is the famous [Adolf Munkel Trail](#).



Near the summit, a narrow, semi-exposed path leads to another interesting viewpoint, located at a slightly lower elevation.

Hiking here is completely optional. Only hike to this Seceda photo spot if you have no fear of heights and the conditions are dry.

Seceda Summit to Pieralongia (40 minutes)



The trail continues along the Seceda ridge in the direction of the Fermeda peaks: Pitla Fermeda, Grana Fermeda, and Gran Odla.

The entire path is embedded with cement blocks and lined with fences on both sides. The path is reinforced in order to thwart erosion and for safety, as it's easier to grip cement than wet and muddy grass.

Please do not bypass the fences for photos.

The ridge footpath descends and joins **trail 6**. The path levels out and turns to gravel as you near the Panascharte saddle.

Continue along trail 6 across the grassy Seceda Alp to Forcella Pana (Furcella de Pana in Ladin, Panascharte in German), a dizzying, narrow saddle located at 2439 meters.

The Pana saddle links **Val di Funes** with **Val Gardena**, but it's currently closed due to a rockfall. For the purpose of this hike, you can safely ignore



of the **Troier Hut**, signed “Trojer Hütte – Baita Trojer.”

As you contour down the Alp, an impressive mountain panorama stretches out before you.

Alpe di Siusi is the rolling plateau to the southwest that stretches between the mighty Sassolungo/Langkofel Group and the Sciliar/Schlern Group. The Sella Group is the colosseum-shaped massif that stands to the southeast of Selva Val Gardena.

The forested, somewhat insignificant looking hill ahead is **Monte Pic**, one of the best sunset photography spots in the Dolomites.

At the junction, **turn left** in the direction of Rifugio Firenze (Ulia de Ncisles in Ladin and Regensburgerhütte in German), signed 1 hour.



This enchanting trail, flanked by a wooden railing, leads east towards Monte Stevia. You'll pass a few picture-perfect hay huts along the way to the next junction.

At the next junction, turn **left onto trail 2B** in the direction of Pieralongia Hütte, signed 30 minutes.

This stretch of the Seceda hike traverses a mountain pasture, which is grazed in summer. Keep a respectful distance from the animals and do not in any way disturb them.

Beneath the slanted Fermeda peaks, the trail maintains the same easterly direction. Enjoy the views of the green-velvety landscape, speckled with huts and tarns.



At the Pieralongia mountain pasture, you'll find a rustic mountain hut, situated amid dolomite boulders. This managed hut serves light snacks and refreshments.

Just beyond the hut, there are twin spires, thrusting in opposite directions.

Pieralongia actually means “long rock” in Ladin.

Pieralongia to Rifugio Firenze/Regensburger Hütte (40 minutes)



Pass the rustic Pieralongia hut and continue straight on **2B** for another 15 minutes (750 meters).

Beneath the Fermeda towers, the trail effortlessly cuts across boulder-studded meadows towards Mont de Stevia.



The trail descends to a signed junction. Maintain the same direction, following the sign to Rifugio Firenze.

At the next intersection, **turn right onto trail 13B** to Rifugio Firenze, signed 30 minutes.

After about 10 minutes, continue descending on the well-groomed **trail 13**. The path crosses wide-open meadows, peppered with Swiss Pine, all the way down to the Firenze mountain hut (20 minutes).



In summer, Haflinger horses and cows wander about freely.

Located beneath the imposing wall of Mount Stevia, **Rifugio Firenze** (Regensburger Hütte in German, Utia de Ncisles) enjoys a dramatic setting at the edge of Puez-Odle Nature Park at 2040 meters.

Regensburger Hütte was built in 1888 and was one of the first mountain huts in Val Gardena.

It was originally managed by the German-Austrian Alpine Club (DÖAV). However, after the First World War and the annexation of South Tyrol, the administration of the refuge was transferred to the Italian Alpine Club (CAI). In 2010, the hut was entrusted to the Autonomous Province of Bolzano (South Tyrol), which still owns it.

The hut terrace takes in the full sweep of the Odle Group along with the Sassolungo Group. You can eat lunch in Rifugio Firenze anytime between 11:30 am until 3 pm.



Rifugio Firenze/Regensburger Hütte to Baita Troier (50 minutes)



Rifugio Firenze

To complete the Seceda circuit trail, **follow trail 1** in the direction of Trojer Hütte / Baita Troier (also spelled Troier) and Seceda, signed 50 minutes and 1:30 hours respectively. This part of the hike is almost continuously uphill.

The gravel path soon divides. **Stay right.**

Ascend the smooth, well-graded trail through stands of Swiss Pine.



The path steeply climbs up to the UNESCO **Mastlé Val Gardena Panoramic Balcony**, which is a circular steel structure that serves as a viewing platform. The structure illustrates the names and corresponding directions of the surrounding peaks.

The main focal point is Sassolungo, but there are also arresting views of **Piz Duleda** and Monte Stevia.



From the UNESCO viewpoint, continue up to the fence that runs along the ridge. From here, the gravel path descends with great ease across a wide-open meadow.

Shortly after passing the small lake of **Lech da Iman**, you'll arrive at **Baita Troier**, an alpine pasture hut with a small enclosure of farm animals.



If you already ate lunch at Rifugio Firenze, we recommend eating dessert here. We ordered their mouthwatering **Buchtein**.

Baita Troier to Seceda Mountain Station (30-40 minutes)



Continue ascending along trail 1 back to the Seceda mountain station.

The trail leads steadily uphill along a cement-block path.



At the next junction, continue on the lower path to Seceda. There's no need to hike all the way back up to the Panascharte saddle. The smooth, mostly flat trail crosses the grassy slopes and steers you all the way back to the cableway mountain station (20 minutes).

Seceda - Rifugio Firenze Circuit Hike Difficulty



This is an easy-moderate day hike. The difficulty will depend on how acclimated you are to higher elevations, the weather conditions, and your hiking experience.



station might come as a surprise.

After rain, or snow, the terrain can get very slippery. Though hiking poles are not a necessity, they will help stabilize you, if you're hiking in mud.

When to Hike



It's possible to visit Seceda from late May until early November.

The best time to hike to Seceda is between June and mid/late October, when the trail is usually clear of snow.



You can monitor the conditions atop Seceda by looking at this [Seceda webcam](#).

May

If you're visiting the [Dolomites in May](#), before the Seceda cableways are operating, you can hike up to Seceda from Val Gardena.

We recommend starting the hike at the Praplan car park above Santa Cristina. Follow this [Monte Pic and Seceda trail guide](#).

If you're attempting this hike in early-mid May, please ask the Val Gardena tourist office about current trail conditions. If there's a lot of snow, it may not be safe.

June – October

The Seceda cableways operate between **late May and early November**.

The operating hours are between 8:30 am and 6 pm. [See exact dates](#).

December – April



Seceda and it was incredible.

From the summit, you can ski down to Ortisei via the Val d'Ana ski slope, or Santa Cristina.

If you're based in Ortisei, you will ascend to Seceda via the Ortisei-Furnes gondola followed by the Furnes-Seceda cableway (as you would if you were hiking).

If you're based in Santa Cristina, find your way to the **Saslong valley station**. Santa Cristina hotels like **Dorfhotel Beludei** and **Hotel Touring** operate private ski shuttles that will drop you off here. When you arrive at Saslong, locate the Gardena Ronda Express. This underground train connects Saslong (the Ciampinoi ski area) with the **Col Raiser gondola station** (Seceda ski area).

From the Col Raiser gondola mountain station, take the easy blue run to the **Fermeda chairlift**. The chairlift delivers you to the Seceda ridge.

98% of Seceda winter visitors are skiers, or snowboarders. However, it's also possible to ride the Ortisei-Furnes-Seceda cableways and hike 10 minutes up to the Seceda summit viewpoint to take in the views, even if you're not skiing.

Alternative Hikes to Seceda



Col Raiser Gondola | You can also hike to Seceda from the Col Raiser Gondola mountain station. The valley station is located in Santa Cristina, so this is the best option for hikers based in the Val Gardena villages of Selva, or Santa Cristina. Another compelling reason to start at Col Raiser is that the Col Raiser gondola is cheaper than the Ortisei-Furnes-Seceda cableways. If you're trying to decide where to start, consider that if you start and end at Seceda, you will have two opportunities to see the ridge. The lighting will be different and the conditions may be different as well.

Cristauta – Praplan | If you want to hike to Seceda **without a cableway**, drive to the Cristauta – Praplan car park above Santa Cristina. We recommend hiking to the summit via Baita Gamsblut, **Rifugio Fermenda**, and Baita Daniel. After hiking the Seceda Ridge, descend to Baita Troier and then continue in the direction of Baita Curona. Ascend to Monte Pic and hike back to the car park via Baita Seurasas. For a complete trail description, read our **Monte Pic – Seceda trail guide**.



Munkel Trail and then cross the Odle Group via the scree-filled Mittagsscharte. After a rugged descent to a grazing area, the path continues with ease to Pieralongia and then up to Seceda. Read our [Resciesa – Seceda hiking guide](#).

Via Ferrata Option | And finally, if you want to combine a visit to Seceda with an intermediate via ferrata, check out our guide to [Via Ferrata Sass Rigais](#).

For an overview of all these hikes, read our [ultimate guide to Seceda](#).

Where to Stay in Ortisei



Budget Accommodations

Budget | B&B Lavi Ortisei val Gardena is a clean and comfortable bed and breakfast managed by a very friendly host. The B&B is situated outside of the town center, though within walking distance (~15 minutes).

Midrange Accommodations



Casa al Sole

Midrange | Casa al Sole is a newly renovated bed and breakfast in the center of Ortisei, only a short walk from the Seceda cableway valley station. Highlights of staying here include the timeless minimalist interiors, the natural wine bar, warm hospitality, and homemade breakfast. This 12-room B&B is masterfully run by Manuel and Alexandra, who infuse every aspect of their establishment with a genuine commitment to guest satisfaction. Read our [Casa al Sole Review](#).

Midrange | Chalet Hotel Hartmann is a charming adults-only hotel featuring tastefully furnished alpine interiors, a delicious breakfast buffet, a complimentary afternoon snack, and a spa area (bio-sauna, steam bath and solarium). This is an ideal accommodation for couples and anyone traveling without children. It's a 20-minute walk to reach the town center.

Midrange | Hotel Garni Walter is a top-rated, family-run accommodation in Ortisei. Guests love the generous breakfast buffet, the views, the location, and the overall cleanliness. It's a 5-minute walk to the Ortisei village center.



Luxury | Hotel Gardena Grödnerhof is a 5-star hotel in the heart of Ortisei, home to the Michelin star Ann Stuben gourmet restaurant. This wellness hotel offers unparalleled spa facilities, flawless service, guided hikes and mountain bike tours, and a weekly fitness program. Guests are treated to a welcome cocktail, generous breakfast buffet, and afternoon cakes and snacks (3 – 5 pm).

Luxury | Adler Spa Resort Dolomiti is a stunning property surrounded by private grounds, advantageously located in the pedestrian zone of Ortisei. This 5-star hotel offers outstanding service, first-rate spa complex, beautiful rooms, and an on-site restaurant (half board available). 3-7 nights minimum stay.

Luxury | Hotel Angelo Engel is situated directly in the village center of Ortisei, walking distance to the Ortisei-Furnes-Seceda cableway. We loved the central location, the courteous staff, the wellness and sauna area, and our spacious room.

Luxury | Perched high above Ortisei, the newly-renovated La Cort My Dollhouse – Adults Only hotel offers 26 stylish rooms, a rooftop spa and pool, and fabulous views. Given its location, we only recommend staying here if you're traveling by car. La Cort is a great choice for travelers who want more flexibility during their visit (no rigid eating times, etc..). Breakfast (7:30 am – 11 am) and Linner (4 pm – 7 pm) are included in the rate.

Luxury Apartments | Gran Tubla offers two-bedroom apartments with fully-equipped kitchens and sweeping views of Val Gardena. Guests also have access to a heated indoor-outdoor pool, sauna, and garden. Breakfast can be delivered to your room upon request.



Val Gardena Travel and Hiking Guides

Hotels:

- [Best Hotels in Val Gardena](#)

Val Gardena Hiking Trails:

- [Best Hikes in Val Gardena](#)
- [Best Hikes in the Dolomites](#)
- [Rifugio Stevia and Col dala Pieres Day Hike](#)
- [Val de Chedul – Vallunga Valley Circuit](#)
- [Piz Duleda Peak Hike](#)
- [Sassolungo Circuit Trail](#)
- [Alpe di Siusi Meadows Circuit Trail](#)

Via Ferratas:

- [Via Ferrata Oskar Schuster](#)
- [Via Ferrata Sass Rigais](#)
- [Gran Cir](#)

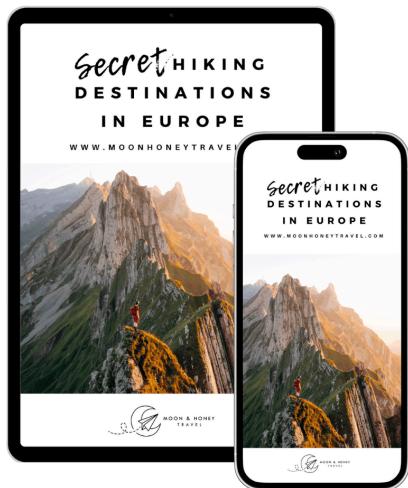
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- [7-Day Dolomites Road Trip](#)
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Sabrina Brett

Hello! I'm a spirited traveler on a quest to hike in the most picturesque alpine and coastal destinations across Europe. In 2016, I left my home and job in San Francisco, California, to move to Germany, and later Austria. The following year, I created this blog to help like-minded travelers experience new and exciting ways to travel authentically. I travel to hike, and I hope to inspire your next adventure.

This post may contain affiliate links.

41 thoughts on “Hiking the Seceda - Rifugio Firenze Circuit Trail, Dolomites”

Rex

[July 6, 2019 at 7:50 pm](#)



[Reply](#)

moonhoneytravel

July 7, 2019 at 8:35 pm

Hi Rex,

Another possible ascent is with the Col Raiser Gondola in Selva di Val Gardena. But, I believe that closes in mid-October. It's possible to follow a trail under the gondola to the top station. From there, take trail no2 to the Seceda ridgeline.

Good luck!

Sabrina

[Reply](#)

YuFu

July 10, 2019 at 12:46 pm

Hi,

I'm planning a trip to seceda and I'm wondering that can I camping there (like in front of Fermeda peaks)?or it's forbidden?



[Reply](#)

moonhoneytravel

[July 10, 2019 at 4:45 pm](#)

Hi YuFu,

Camping isn't allowed. You can stay in Regensburger Hütte (Rifugio Firenze) and then hike to the Fermeda peaks for the sunrise.

Have fun!

-Sabrina

[Reply](#)

Alessia

[July 27, 2019 at 6:58 pm](#)

Hi, great info! Is this itinerary possible in December?

[Reply](#)



Hi Alessia,

You won't be able to hike. But, it may be possible as a ski-tour.

[Reply](#)

Joanne

[August 13, 2019 at 6:49 am](#)

Hi Sabrina, I'm planning to visit Dolomites in early May around 8May-10May. Are the trails at Seceda and Tre Cime di Lavaredo open? Which hikes would you recommend if we are staying there for 3D2N?

[Reply](#)

moonhoneytravel

[August 13, 2019 at 6:54 am](#)

Hi Joanne, It'll depend on how long the winter is. We went to the Dolomites this past May and it was still snowing. I'd recommend contacting the local tourist boards shortly before your trip to find

[Reply](#)**Joanne**[August 14, 2019 at 2:09 am](#)

Hi Sabrina, thanks for getting back to me. I thought May would be a better time to visit as it's a shoulder season and less crowded. Will contact the tourist office for advice. Thank you.

[Reply](#)**Bovi**[August 18, 2019 at 3:37 pm](#)

Hi Joanna,

i'm planning to visit Fermena Peak in 2nd November, is it possible for hiking and how long from the parking station to that spot round trip?

Me and my brother really wanna see that stunning scenery. Can you suggest accommodation as well ?

[Reply](#)



Hi Bovi,

If you're walking from the bottom of the Col Raiser Station, it'll probably take around 3 hours to ascend to Seceda (~6 km one-way / 950 m ascending).

Look for accommodation in [Selva di Val Gardena](#). Have a great trip!

– Sabrina

[Reply](#)

Yaelyko

[September 24, 2019 at 10:51 am](#)

Hi Joanna

This hike seems lovely, We are traveling with kids and sometime find the time description doesn't meet our pace.

Can you tell what is the distance of this hike?

[Reply](#)

moonhoneytravel

[September 26, 2019 at 11:45 am](#)

[Reply](#)**Michelle**[October 11, 2019 at 10:38 am](#)

Hi Sabrina!

I just want to thank you for such clear directions, but after doing the hike this week, I was taken back of the difficulty of the hike. I'm glad the rest of my family did not want to go and instead had a rest day in Bolzano because I had a difficult time on the hike. I'm not a novice and in decent physical shape, but it was definitely not an easy hike. I would say intermediate; especially for those not used to hiking in the Alps. Based off your difficulty stated as easy, I assumed I would be able to take my family on this hike as novices. They would not have made it through, especially the ascent from Regenhutte back to the gondola. The trails are easy to follow and the paths are well maintained, but the physical difficulty, if you're not used to hiking, was at least intermediate.

[Reply](#)**moonhoneytravel**[October 11, 2019 at 11:05 am](#)



completed the hike, even though it was more difficult than you imagined.

-Sabrina

[Reply](#)

Rena

[February 21, 2020 at 7:20 pm](#)

Hi Sabrina!

We are thinking of doing this hike in May, do you have a recommendation on what time we should start the hike if we want to see the sunrise? or is there a accommodation place up the trail?

Thank you

– Rena

[Reply](#)

moonhoneytravel

[February 22, 2020 at 8:49 am](#)

Hi Rena,

The Ortisei – Furnes – Seceda cableways start operating on May 29, 2020. If you want to reach the Seceda ridgeline before May 29th, it'll take at least 3 hours to get up there from the valley. You will also



Sabrina

[Reply](#)

Brittni

[August 16, 2021 at 11:28 am](#)

We will be going in mid-September and plan to hike up and take the cable car back down. After reading multiple articles, would you say the “prettiest” hike up is from Col Raiser station? We are staying at Hotel Angelo but are fine with driving to get to a better hike location. Are we allowed to park and start the hike before the cable car opens for the day (8 or 830)? And is it possible to just purchase a decent (although thinking of just buying the pass).
Thanks!

[Reply](#)

moonhoneytravel

[August 17, 2021 at 8:31 am](#)

Hi Brittni,

If you’re staying in Ortisei, I don’t think there’s any good reason to drive to Col Raiser (unless you want to hike to [Col dala Pieres](#)). If you follow this circuit hike to Rifugio Firenze, as described here, you’ll have wonderful views the whole way. And you’ll see

[Reply](#)**Alexandra**July 8, 2020 at 1:41 pm

Hello!

Thank you so much for the detailed articles. I am going to the Dolomites in 2 weeks and I used your 7 day itinerary as a reference for my trip.

This is a dream for me.

Is it possible to drive up to the Seceda station from Ortisei and park there? I don't want to pay the 34 EUR on the cable ticket if I don't have to. I'm not sure if you stated in the article if this is possible!

[Reply](#)**moonhoneytravel**July 8, 2020 at 7:29 pm

Hi Alexandra,

Glad to hear it!

You can't drive to Seceda. The only alternative is to walk from the valley.

**Courtney**August 3, 2020 at 10:09 am

I'm just here to say that this hike is NOT easy! The hike to the Rifugio is easy, but hiking back up that dang STEEP hill for about 2.5/3miles is nothing but easy. I surely wasn't expecting that much of steep climb based off this blog. So, if you do this hike... expect a hard climb back up.

Reply**moonhoneytravel**August 5, 2020 at 6:00 am

Hi Courtney!

Thanks for the feedback!

Congrats on finishing the hike,
Sabrina

Reply**Gordon Hu**September 8, 2021 at 5:04 pm



middle of November so to take this chance, we are planning to hike Seceda on Nov.20. It's absolutely not the right time, but I have no choice. Take a chance !

2 questions:

1. I will have my wife and my 6yrs old son with me, because there is no cable car, where is the last parking spot I can find before hiking ? Any chance to drive up to a rifugio or hut ?
2. Which hiking route is with best view for photos ? I am a photographer.

Thanks a lot !

Gordon Hu

[Reply](#)

moonhoneytravel

[September 9, 2021 at 3:19 pm](#)

Hi Gordon,

If there's a lot of snow, it's probably not advisable to hike to Seceda in late November.

We hiked to Seceda without a cable car from Cristauta/Praplan Parking Lot above Santa Cristina. Read this post: [Seceda and Monte Pic day hike](#). Otherwise, some people hike from the Col Raiser gondola valley station.

Good Luck,

Sabrina

**Jane**[February 17, 2022 at 11:52 pm](#)

I have been researching the Seceda Ridgeline area for an adult family hike. Most of the information suggests taking the cable and gondola to Seceda and proceed from there to Refugio Firenze where we plan to overnight. One article I read claimed that the Sededa route from Ortisei was not very scenic. He preferred leaving Cristina and taking the cable up to Col Raiser and hike from there. Can you help me decide?

[Reply](#)**moonhoneytravel**[February 18, 2022 at 12:07 pm](#)

Hi Jane,

The hike from Seceda to Rifugio Firenze via Pieralongia Alm is very scenic. However, it's only 1:20 hours (4.4 km one-way), which is quite short. I would expand on the hike. For example, you could hike to Rifugio Firenze and then summit [Col da la Pieres](#), before ending your day at the hut.

All the best,

Sabrina

**Peijet**[June 4, 2022 at 6:16 pm](#)

Hello Sabrina,

Love your website so much! Thank you for all the details just a question to ask as it seems that the hike back from the Rifugio to the mountain station seems to be a bit tough – how long will the hike be if we finished at Pieralongia and return the same way we came?

[Reply](#)**moonhoneytravel**[June 4, 2022 at 6:33 pm](#)

Hi Peijet,

Thank you!!!

The hike from Rifugio Firenze to Seceda is neither technical, nor difficult, but is it uphill (500 meters). I would encourage you to do it (with breaks), unless that sounds like too much. The hike from Seceda to Pieralongia is probably 40 minutes one-way (2.1 km one-way), so only 1:20 hrs total.

-Sabrina

**Laura**July 15, 2022 at 7:29 am

Another wonderful recommendation from you wonderful ladies. We did this yesterday and it was amazing. 360 views like Tre Cime the whole time! This was definitely the hardest hike we did because of the long ascent at the end. If you don't normally hike, it will be crazy difficult for you. But otherwise just take your time, stop at the huts and enjoy the views. Or consider taking the fermeda chair lift back up to Seceda if you don't want to do the climb.

Reply**moonhoneytravel**July 27, 2022 at 8:43 am

Hi Laura,

So glad you enjoyed this Seceda hike!

-Sabrina

Reply**Scott Kramer**November 16, 2022 at 5:21 pm



shorter and easier) Distance? Uphill elevation? Then take Col Raiser Cableway back down. Can we get a bus to take us back to Seceda cableway to our parked car in the 3rd week of June?

[Reply](#)

moonhoneytravel

[November 22, 2022 at 3:55 pm](#)

Hi Scott,

If you hike Seceda-Pieralongia Alm-Rifugio Firenze-Col Raiser mountain station, it would be 1:45 – 2 hours, 5.6 km point-to-point, and 430 meters descending/62 meters ascending.

From col raiser valley station, you can take a bus to Santa Cristina and Ortisei (perhaps 2 buses in total). It's possible, yes.

-Sabrina

[Reply](#)

Arzu

[June 3, 2023 at 9:15 pm](#)

Hi, and thanks a lot for detailed information. Can you please write how can I go to Val Gardena from Bolzano? are there bus or train



[Reply](#)

moonhoneytravel

June 10, 2023 at 10:19 am

Hi Arzu,

Please read [How to Get to the Dolomites](#).

There are direct buses from Bolzano to Ortisei, Val Gardena.

Best,

Sabrina

[Reply](#)

LVS

May 25, 2024 at 4:30 pm

Hi. Thank you for all of the clear and detailed information. I'm wondering if this hike can be modified to Pieralongia – the UNESCO Dolomites panoramic balcony – Rifugio Firenze – Baita Odles Seggiovia Fermeda Lift. And whether it's recommended?

[Reply](#)



Hi,

We recommend following the route as described. But, it's always possible to modify the route as needed.

Kindly,

Sabrina

[Reply](#)

Gary

October 20, 2024 at 6:57 pm

Hi Sabrina,

You'd asked me to let you (in an email) know what our favorite hike in the greater area was, and this was it—both for views and that we had semi-sunny weather for the morning (it rained quite a bit during the 3 weeks we were in Ortisei). Unfortunately, we couldn't (well, wouldn't) do many of your more ambitious hikes due to poor weather, and because we're in our 70s and my partner's conditioning nixed the hard stuff (which would have taken a lot longer for her than it would have for me). We did modify your route somewhat to make this hike a bit longer and meandering. We found the hike pretty easy, though perhaps all our sightseeing stops contributed to that.



compass, educated us nicely. I highly recommend that hike for its overview and introduction to trail steepness generally not found in the U.S.

[Reply](#)

Sabrina Brett

[October 26, 2024 at 12:03 pm](#)

Hi Gary,

Thank you for reaching out! I'm sorry the weather was disappointing. With the multiple snow storms and the rain, this September was very unusual.

I hope you still enjoyed your trip. Very glad you liked Monte Pic!

All the best,

Sabrina

[Reply](#)

Julie Smith

[January 5, 2025 at 5:36 pm](#)

Hi

We are planning a visit to the Dolomites mid April and wanted to experience the Seceda and were hoping that we could use a cable



Thankyou

Julie

[Reply](#)

Sabrina Brett

January 5, 2025 at 9:42 pm

Hi Julie,

The Val Gardena ski season is projected to run until April 5, 2025. If you visit when the ski resort is open, you can ride the cableways to Seceda and carefully walk to the viewpoint. Later in the month, when the cableways are closed, the only way to reach Seceda is by hiking from Cristauta / Praplan Car Park above Santa Cristina.

However, it's usually not advisable to hike here in April due to the lingering snow. If possible, postpone your trip until end of May (earliest), or visit earlier for the ski season. Read [Best Time to Visit the Dolomites](#) for a complete overview of what each month is like.

Kindly,

Sabrina

[Reply](#)

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