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Dent d'Hérens, 4179 m, Mountaineering



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Act on Copyright in Literary and Artistic Works The Ministry of Justice

March 1, 1996 Stockholm (Act 1960:729, of December 30, 1960, as amended up to January 1, 1996).

CHAPTER 1.

Subject Matter and Scope

Article 1.

Anyone who has created a literary or artistic work shall have copyright in that work, regardless of whether it is 1. a fictional or descriptive representation in writing or speech,

- 2. a computer program,
- 3. a musical or dramatic work,
- 4. a cinematographic work,
- 5. a photographic work or another work of fine arts,
- 6. a work of architecture or applied art,
- 7. a work expressed in some other manner.

Maps and other works of a descriptive nature executed as drawings, engravings, or in a three-dimensional form, shall be considered as literary works.

Valpelline, Valle d'Aosta.

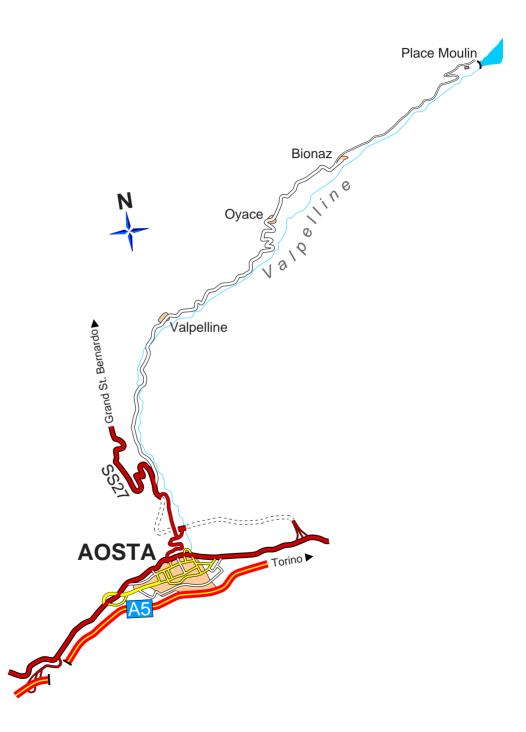
The valley Valpelline is, if not unknown, less frequented than many of the other valley's nearby. A small road lead you up to the dam at Place Moulin (1968 m).

After a long but beautiful walk you reach the hut Aosta at 2781 m. The climb itself is a long approach on moraine and glacier with many crevasses that often has to be passed on "ice-bridges". After about 3hours (from Aosta hut) you reach the foot of the mountain with scrambling/easy climbing, difficulty II grade. The route is graded PD+, climbing grade II with glacier walk. Time needed from the hut to the summit is about 4-5 hours, count 3 hours for descend.

To get to the Place Moulin, drive from Aosta in the direction of Grand St. Bernardo at road SS27/E27. In the village Variney, just where the tunnel ends if you drive from the highroad, turn of in the direction of Valpelline/Oyace. Drive the winding road and just before the village Bionaz, turn left in the direction of Place Moulin. Outside the gate of the dam there is a big car park, continue another 50 metres to another big car park where the gravelled road for the hike starts.

You will see the summit of Dent d'Hérens from the gravelled road from Place Moulin.









Rifugio Aosta.

The walk from Place Moulin(1960 m) to the hut (2781 m) takes about 5 hours on a well prepared foot path. If you can bring a Mountain-bike the first part, to the Rifugio Prarayer and one more kilometres (all together 5 km) is a gravelled road/dirt-road and you will save time and effort. The hut Aosta is opened from Mars to the middle of September, and when it is closed there is possible to sleep in a open winter part with 14 beds. During season you can have full pension if you want, during winter you need to bring gas/cooking stuff and plaits. The 14 beds has 2 blankets each.

Early start.

A early start is to be prefered, you will need about 5 hours to the summit and quite often in this areas clowdes starts to be built up around the high summits at 11.00 to 13.00 a clock.

Just outside the hut, South, a small track leads down to the moraine where the ice during years is drawn back by a warmer climate. Follow the small track, step up to a ridge on the moraine. Since the ice is moving the track will later disapere, walk far left in the

snow/ice to avoid crevasses. Normally the way up the first step slope on the glacier is on the far left side, where the rock of Tête de Valpelline meets this part of the "Glacier des Grandes Murailles".

The Glacier.

After the first slope you enter a big quite flat part of the glacier with less crevasses and this part can be done quick.

If you are heading for to do the summit by the East crest, (graded III), follow the fixed rope just to the right of a beautiful red part of the crag to your left. If you heading for the normal route, continue on the ice, crossing slightly to the right, East, South-East.

The ridge is a beautiful route, with a dramatic view over Glacier des Grandes Murailles and on the other hand Tiefenmattengletscher in Switzerland, the normal route is faster and they will meet on the East ridge of Dent d'Hérens. See picture on next page.





For the normal route, cross the glacier and go quite far to the left before entering the rock. Scrambling up on rotten rock, on this part there is very hard to not drop off stones, so if you enter the rock with someone above, be careful! If you see someone enter the rock under you, be even more careful!

Enter the ridge early, following a light grey part of the crag to the left where it is also easy to walk, as a tiny track. On the ridge you meet the other route that follows the crest longer. Put on the crampons again and follow the ridge on the snow just to the left of the ridge.

Follow the ridge to a point close to the summit, then turn right and walk the last 50 metres to the summit.

If weather should force you to search for shelter there is a bivouac at the foot of the rock, Biv. Pirelli, South of the mountain on the ridge between Glacier des Grandes Murailles and the step rock down to Ghiaccaiao di M.Tabel facing Breuil Cervinia.





Other sources to find information.

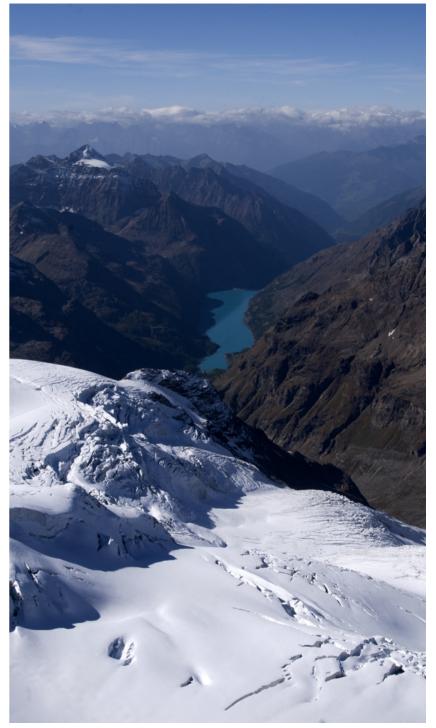
http://maps.google.com/ to see a satellite picture of the area.

http://www.rifugioaosta.it/a/index.html, the huts web site.

http://www.tempoitalia.it/previsioni/meteo/valle_d_aosta/giorno_1/valpelline.html, shows the coming weather in Valpelline.







Detailed Map.

Use this map to find your way up to the summit. During July-August there is often a track to follow, but don't take for granted that they lead to the summit.

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