

## **MONTE TAMARO**

We are in sight of Monte Tamaro, a massif of the Luganese Prealps which rises to the west of the cycle path to 1961m asl. A mountain subjected to human impact with an important tourist offering at the top and on its slopes. A destination for MTB lovers and hikers, the renowned Tamaro - Lema traverse offers the ultimate panorama, one of the most popular four and a half hour hikes in Canton Ticino. Fun, adventure, culture, cuisine and relaxation in the open air.

It rises south-west of the Monte Ceneri Pass and divides the Canton Ticino into Sopraceneri and Sottoceneri with the pass and other mountains. Continuing north along the route, you reach Alpe Foppa - at 1567 metres, connected by cable car to the village of Rivera below.

From the 1960s, with the opening of the Rivera-Alpe Foppa cableway, Monte Tamaro became a small to medium ski resort. In the 1990s, continuous winters with little snowfall put the plant operators in economic difficulties. As a result, in 2003, also thanks to predictions of a slow and inexorable global warming, it was decided to close the ski facilities and transform the resort into a large summer amusement park. An adventure park was opened at the middle station of the cable car, while at Alpe Foppa a toboggan run and a Tyrolean traverse were built. The Chapel of Santa Maria degli Angeli was built and designed by Mario Botta, with paintings by Enzo Cucchi inside.

"Splash & Spa Tamaro", a water park with slides, indoor and outdoor pools and a large wellness centre with saunas, Turkish baths, massages and treatments, is located next to the cable car's departure station.

The hike from Tamaro to Lema is one of the most renowned and striking subalpine traverses in the Swiss Prealps and is located in an area dominating both Switzerland and Italy. In fact, the breathtaking views that can be enjoyed during the entire hike range from Ticino to the canton of Valais and Italy. The hike winds along the crest of the mountain, with a small difference in altitude, with the exception of the first part which leads to the top of Monte Tamaro. Alpe Foppa with its many attractions as well as Monte Lema are easily accessible by cable car from March to November. Before reaching the top of Mount Tamaro you will find the characteristic and panoramic mountain hut bearing the same name.