

Lagazuoi EXPO Dolomiti: An exhibition site and convention centre "on the roof of the Dolomites" to envision the Alps of yesterday and tomorrow

The wonders of nature, art, culture and history, coming together in a new architectural feature in the heart of the Dolomites, on the peak of Mount Lagazuoi in Cortina d'Ampezzo.

A chamber of wonder suspended between heaven and earth, in the clear, pure mountain air at an altitude of nearly 3000 metres.

The heart of the Dolomites rises between vertical rock formations at an altitude of 2778 metres, where the air is clear and pure: we are on Mount Lagazuoi, in the middle of an archipelago of rocky peaks, a biodiversity hotspot of purest beauty that has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

What better spot than this to create one of the highest exhibition galleries in the world: Lagazuoi EXPO Dolomiti.

An innovative space with a vantage point from which to observe the mountain realm and an exhibition centre of international importance.

At this altitude the perspectives change. The distance yields an overall vision; the horizon expands and extends in every direction, both physically and metaphorically. The mountain becomes a place of contemplation, synthesis and constant reflection on the **relationship between man and nature**:

an awareness shared by all humankind. Hence the creation of Lagazuoi EXPO Dolomiti - a place of discovery that can be reached in a few minutes by the Lagazuoi cable car and which is barrier-free and accessible to all.

A unique scenario

The Dolomites, formed 250 million years ago, are a veritable living workshop: here you can experience the interplay between man and nature.

For these stone giants, the millennia which lie between us and the first inhabitants of the Alps, Mondeval Man and Ötzi, represent only a very short period of time: a window of time that reveals much about our past and gives us food for thought to ponder on the future, especially in terms of sustainability.

Lagazuoi EXPO Dolomiti is centrally located in the heart of this amazing natural setting.

Located halfway between Cortina d'Ampezzo, Queen of the Dolomites, and Alta Badia, Lagazuoi EXPO Dolomiti is less than an hour's drive away from the Fassa, Gardena and Puster Valleys, and is a gateway to the Natural Park of the Ampezzo Dolomites and to the Fanes Senes Braies Natural Park.



For miles around, spires and towering rocks rise up to the sky and offer a panoramic view sweeping around the most renowned of the Dolomite peaks, which at sunset become tinged with a characteristic pink colour.

Being part of Dolomiti Superski, the largest ski carousel in the world, Mount Lagazuoi is connected to the slopes of Cortina and Val Badia.

In Winter it's an Eldorado of winter sport thanks to guaranteed snow-covered ski slopes, among them the Armentarola piste, considered one of the most spectacular slopes in the Alps.

In summer, Mount Lagazuoi is visited by hikers and climbers of all levels of ability, as it offers both challenging climbing routes - including crags, rope-lined routes and climbing practice walls - and easy panoramic paths, such as the one up to the summit cross. The pathways linking the emplacements, trenches and tunnels of the largest Open Air Museum of World War One are of great significance for history and for the surroundings.

The project

Lagazuoi EXPO Dolomiti is an innovative project that brings culture, history and art high up into the mountains, to a place where the landscape is not only a beautiful backdrop but also a natural kaleidoscope of beauty and meaningfulness. That's why the Dolomites have become the ideal venue for special exhibitions dedicated to photography, contemporary and ancient arts, and the history and prehistory of the region. In addition, from now on Lagazuoi EXPO Dolomiti will be hosting seasons of events at a high altitude with in-depth analyses, temporary exhibitions and projects in collaboration with other mountain regions.

The focus will be on the mountains, with cross-themes linking topicality to research into science, art and history.

The first temporary exhibition, **Ötzi and Valmo – when prehistoric man walked the Alps**, will be open to the public until 2nd April. Brought together for the first time, the casts and reproductions of the most significant archaeological finds of the Alps provide a rare glimpse into the lives of our Alpine forefathers.

Ötzi the Iceman lived 5300 years ago, during the Copper Age, in Val Senales, while his ancestor Valmo, or Mondeval Man, lived 8000 years ago, only 8 km as the crow flies from Mount Lagazuoi.

The new exhibition hall opens its doors with a journey back in time to discover the origins of humanity.

The exhibition is to be staged in collaboration with the "Vittorino Cazzetta" Mondeval Museum at Selva di Cadore (BL), Associazione Tramedistoria, the University of Ferrara, the Neanderthal Museum in Mettmann (Germany), GEO Magazin, the Archaeological Museum of Bolzano, and Associazione Amici del Museo della Val Fiorentina.



The building

Lagazuoi EXPO Dolomiti is a cultural outpost dedicated to the topic of people and mountains with a special focus on the Dolomites. It was inaugurated on 2nd February 2018 and is open **from December to April and from May to October**. The architectural project was entrusted to Studio Scuderi e Associati (Cortina d'Ampezzo), the structural project to Ing. Roberto Pegorer (Treviso), and the project management and coordination to Ing. Stefano Illing (Cortina d'Ampezzo). The warehouse and the workshop of the top station have been converted and given a completely new function: now the building is **a high altitude place where thoughts are created**. The under-floor heating with solar panels and the storage heater guarantee **energy self-sufficiency**.

Located in a place of extraordinary beauty, Lagazuoi EXPO Dolomiti blends harmoniously with the landscape. Ramps and a lift ensure **complete accessibility** to every area of the site both in summer and in winter.

The complex extends over three floors, accessible by a panoramic lift, with **four exhibition rooms**, a conference hall, and a lobby with coffee bar and panoramic terrace.

The big parking space at the valley station is free of charge.

The exhibition site can be easily reached in 3 minutes by the modern and fast Lagazuoi cable car from the Falzarego Pass, situated at an altitude of 2100 m. You can get to the cable car by car along the historical and famous Great Dolomites Road (SS 48), or by bus from Cortina d'Ampezzo or from the neighbouring Badia, Gardena and Agordo valleys.

Facts & Figures

- **2752** m. above sea level
- 4 exhibition rooms on 3 floors
- **2842** ft² and **328** linear ft of exhibition space
- **1** conference room equipped for groups of up to 50 people
- 1 lobby with coffee bar / ticket office / reception / info point
- 1 Terrace Bar with **80** seats (30 inside and 50 on the terrace)
- **1** Refuge some 50 metres from the location with bar, restaurant with **300** seats (100 inside, 200 on the terrace), 74 beds
- 1 free car park at the valley station of the cable car with **150** parking spots
- **Distances**: Cortina d'Ampezzo 17 km; Misurina 30 km; Tre Cime di Lavaredo 38 km; Val Badia: San Cassiano 12 km, La Villa 16 km, Badia 18 km, Corvara 20 km; Puster Valley: Toblach 44 km, Bruneck 46 km, Innichen 52 km; Val Gardena: Selva di Val Gardena 43 km, Ortisei 58 km; Fassa Valley: Canazei 42 km, Vigo di Fassa 59 km; Valle Agordina: Alleghe 23 km, Agordo 42 km

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