





## PIAN DI NOVELLO FOREST

Leave from the large parking lot in **Pian di Novello**, immediately above the village. Begin the route on **Via dei Lamponi**, heading towards the hotel "La Casetta", and after a few dozen meters, go past the barrier bar, near a fountain where the old ski facilities were found.

Continue going slightly uphill for a short stretch of paved road until the roadbed become dirt but practicable. The scene offered by the beech wood with its colors is truly stupendous and the benches along the route make it even more enjoyable. A little further ahead on the left, we can see a reconstruction of an old charcoal pit, an ancient method to produce vegetable charcoal and even further ahead is a spring known as "Orto di **Giovannino**" that is the name for this track that is used for cross-country skiing in the winter.

Going along for about 3 km from the starting point, we find on the right in a beautiful position is the "Lagacciolo" Refuge (1200 m.), which is also known as the Lippi Refuge. Generally closed because it is managed by the Corpo Forestale di Stato (State Forest Department), it offers hikers and bikers a large picnic area with a spring and a barbecue. The first part of this route is absolutely not demanding and is a favorite destination for families including children and the elderly. From here a lovely loop route begins, (it is recommended to follow it in a clockwise direction) that does not present any difficulties but a minimum amount of training is required due to the length and, although gradual, the altitude gain.

Continue straight always following the wide, main cart road passing up any side detours (the track is so clear that it is practically impossible to mistake). Although the route is long, there are various wooden signs that indicate other possible itineraries or variants.

The route initially runs across rather level ground, it next goes uphill, and then, bending decisively to the right, it begins to climb, passing through a dense wood with leaf-covered ground until it reaches the Fonte dei **Cecchini Refuge** (1310 m.). Here too, there is a lovely stone fountain and a picnic area besides the wooden refuge that, although closed, has a wide canopy that offers shelter in the case of rain. The place is certainly filled with charm: when the sunlight penetrates the thick wood, marvelous chromatic variations of color are created, and a light fog also appears in the undergrowth from humidity, the landscape assumes a decidedly fantastic air. The last part of the itinerary begins after the rest stop, first along rather level ground followed by a slight climb; it then is completely downhill until we return to the "Lagacciolo" Refuge and after that, to the Pian di **Novello** parking area.





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nale (L.135/2001 art. 5) "Valorizzazione comprensorio sciistico tosco liano" cofinanziato da Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri - Dipartimento

