The Italian Dolomites
Your Holiday Handbook
We look forward to welcoming you to the Dolomites

This A-Z booklet contains some local and key information, the latter being highlighted in bold. We hope it whets the appetite and helps you hit the ground running. We only send it to the person who booked the holiday. A full holiday handbook is available at colletts.co.uk/handbook and you should forward this link to all members of your party. We wish you a happy and successful holiday. Please call us if you have any questions.

Activities
See - Guides & Other Activities.

Alta Badia
Our base in the South Tyrol. It is the top end of the Val Badia comprised of six small mountain resorts. An enchanting valley surrounded by awesome peaks and strewn with Tyrolean hamlets. The valley rises southwards from the town of Brunico. Its principal village is Corvara and it is also home to five other villages. It is an excellent location for a wide range of high, medium and low level walks and bike rides. The Alta Badia is one of four valleys which terminate at the Sella Massif. It was part of Austria until 1918 and retains a Germanic character. German, Italian and Ladin are spoken. Many of our organised walks take place in and around the Alta Badia. It has an enlightened - yet reassuringly conservative and environmental - approach to tourism.

Austrian Double/Twin Bed
Austrian double beds are very common in most of our properties and throughout this part of the world. They comprise two single mattresses and two single duvets on a double bed frame, which can sometimes (but not always) be separated.

Badia
Also known as Pedraces, Collett’s has been in Badia since 1999. It is an authentic alpine village, and home to Chalet Haus Valentin, Hotel Melodia and a range of self catering apartments. The Santa Croce chairlift is a ‘must’, regardless of where you choose to stay - an enchanting ride over flower pastures and traditional farmsteads, which opens up walks of all grades. At the top you can drop in on Rifugio Nagler (run by our good friends Roberto & Giusi) for a drink or some superb food. A glorious spot!

Bakers
There are bakers in both Badia and Corvara. They open each morning (Monday-Saturday). In peak season they also open again in the afternoons and on Sunday mornings. Alternatively, bread can be bought from Sport Kostner in Corvara, or from the Spar mini-market in San Leonardo – a ten minute walk from the centre of Badia.

Banks
There are two banks in both Corvara and Badia - both have cashpoints. Opening times (approx): Mon-Fri, 8am - 12pm & 3pm -4.15pm.

Bolzano
Bozen in German - Provincial capital of South Tyrol. A pleasant 90 minute drive from Corvara. A beautiful mountain city with porticoed streets, great shops and a colourful market. Home of the Iceman at the fascinating Museum of Archaeology (closed on Mondays) – good option for a rainy day.

Bikes & Cycling
Mountain and road bikes are available to hire locally. The Alta Badia is an increasingly high-profile destination for road and mountain biking. We have details of some bike routes in our Ideas & Information Files, but more info and maps are available from local Tourist Offices. Bikes can be taken on most of the cable cars and chairlifts without extra charge. Approx. cost of bike and helmet hire is €25 - €30 depending on spec etc. See - Organised Walks & Cycle Tours.

Breakfast
In our hosted chalets, breakfast is continental and served between 7.45 and 9am. There are tea, coffee, juices, cereals, ham, cheese, yoghurt, fruit, bread, jams and eggs. We are around to keep the buffet stocked, but it is generally a self-service system. In the Hotel Panorama and Hotel Melodia, there is a mix of self-service buffet and waiter/waitress service, plus menu choices that one expects from a good hotel.

Brunico
Brunneck in German - gateway to the Alta Badia (or Val Badia). This is an attractive fortified Tyrolean town, which sits at the northern end of the valley. There are good bus connections to and from Badia and Corvara and there are train connections to Bolzano and the mainline between Munich, Innsbruck and Verona.

Buses
Corvara and Badia are well served by local bus services - especially in high season. You can travel up and down the valley easily, whilst in high season you can also access adjoining valleys, which is ideal for walks and other itineraries. Services are, however, more limited during early June and late September.
Butcher
There is a butcher in Corvara, but not in Badia (the nearest one to Badia is 2km away in La Villa). Some frozen and sometimes even fresh meat is stocked at the supermarkets of both villages.

Cable Cars, Chairlifts & the Alta Badia Summer Pass
Cable cars and chairlifts take you to magnificent viewing points, usually with somewhere to have a drink or a meal, as well as the starting points of some wonderful walks. Dates and times of opening vary. The Alta Badia Summer Pass may be of interest - a weekly pass which allows you to use 14 lifts in the Alta Badia as often as you wish during 5 days of the week, as well as free use of the public buses and discounts on some of the local facilities. For adults the pass costs €63 per week, and for children under 16 it costs €44 per week.

Cafés
There are plenty of cafés in the area. A favourite in Corvara is Café Raetia - a speciality tea shop which offers teas from around the world. Their apple strudel is divine! In Badia, try Café Ricky in the centre with its wonderful cakes, pastries, homemade biscuits and chocolates.

Campolongo Pass
This is the southern point of entry into the Alta Badia, lying between Arabba & Corvara. It is the lowest of the renowned Four Passes at 1875m (See - Four Passes).

Canazei
An attractive town on the west side of Pordoi Pass in the Val Di Fassa. It has many shops, an attractive piazza, an olympic size indoor swimming pool and ice skating.

Canyoning
See - Guides & Activities.

Cars, Driving & Breakdown Service
By law, you should always drive with dipped headlights in Italy. Call 116 for the emergency breakdown service. Fly-drivers will find the Emergency Assistance Number within the car hire documentation. In the event of a breakdown, your car hire supplier should arrange for the car to be repaired and/or replaced. Self-drivers are likely to drive through Austria to the Dolomites, so remember that toll stickers need to be purchased and displayed for the Austrian motorways. These are available at service stations approaching Austria and in Austria itself (€8.90 for a 10 day period, €25.90 for 2 months). In addition, just south of Innsbruck, there is a toll to pay at the Brenner Pass (€9). There is also a small toll (approx. €3) for the short stretch of Italian motorway that takes you towards the Dolomites. If driving to us from Venice or Treviso, you will pay a motorway toll of approx. €8.

Chalets
Our chalets are a 'home from home' with a big dose of hospitality thrown in by us. Our chalet hosts will make you welcome and comfortable and, backed up by the rest of our resort team, they will be a good source of local knowledge and ideas. A semi-continental breakfast and an excellent three course dinner are taken around a large table, which is indicative of the convivial nature of a chalet holiday. Guests are welcome in the chalet during the day and you can help yourselves to complimentary tea and coffee or to a drink from the bar. Packed lunches are available daily and charged locally.

Chemist
Farmacia in Italian and Apotheke in German, indicated by a green cross. In Corvara the chemist is diagonally opposite Sport Kostner at the top end of the village. Badia's nearest chemist is in La Villa (2 km) on the main street at the north end of the village.

Church
Times for Holy Mass in 2016 were as follows - Corvara - Sunday - 10.00 & 18.00 / Badia - Sunday - 9.00 & 17.30.

Coeliacs
See - Dietary Requirements.

Cortina
Known as the Pearl of the Dolomites, this is a former Olympic town in a magnificent mountain location. It is a stunning 45 minute drive from Corvara and Badia. Great for window-shopping - but it can be very quiet in low season.

Corvara
Corvara is the principal village of the Val Badia, and home to Chalet Angelo, Chalet Roch, the Hotel Panorama and some of our self catering apartments. Corvara has two gondolas, one to the Prolongia Plateau at 1980m for easier and moderate walks, the other to the eastern turrets of the Sella at 2152m for amazing high level walks and also two Via
Day Off
We have our local day-off on a Wednesday. In our hosted chalets, breakfast is served but dinner is not included as a part of your half-board stay. Most guests use Wednesday as an opportunity to eat out locally. There are no organised walks and there is no Office Hour. You can subscribe to Thursday's organised walks on Tuesday evening. If you are arriving on a Wednesday, there will be somebody around to meet you, settle you in, recommend somewhere to eat and pass on the walking options for the following day.

Dietary Requirements
We need to know of any dietary requirements at least 7 days before your holiday. Please contact us now if you have not informed us if you, or any of your party, are vegetarian, vegan or coeliac etc. Thank you.

Dinner
In our chalets we serve dinner each evening except Wednesday. Guests sit together over a three course meal with complimentary wine. On Wednesdays, dinner is not provided as part of your half-board holiday and you can use this as an opportunity to eat out locally. Dinner times as follows: Roch - 7pm. Angelo - 7.30pm. Haus Valentin - 7pm.
If you are staying in a hotel, dinner is available to you every evening until about 9pm.
If self-catering, you are welcome to join us for dinner in one of our chalets as long as we have space around the table, but please give us 24 hours notice. Dinner is charged locally at €25 per person.

Disclaimer & At Your Own Risk
During your stay you are responsible for your own safety. You join organised walks at your own risk as part of an autonomous group, in which each member has a duty of care to each other. Similarly, we cannot be held responsible for the opinions and information we offer for self-guiding. In an age of litigation, we repeat the 'at your own' risk message at the start of each organised walk and it can become repetitive, but the message is too important.

Doctor
Call 118 for all medical emergencies and a paramedic ambulance. See - Emergency. Remember your EHIC card.
Badia: +39 0471 839 639 - Dott. di Marino
Corvara Doctor: +39 0471 839189 / 337 616080 (mobile) - Dott. Caretta
La Villa Tourist Doctor: +39 0471 849300 - Dr. Pfützenreuter
If you need to see a doctor, please come and see us and we will be happy to help.

Dolomites
The name comes from the French geologist, Deodat-Guy-Sylvain-Tancrè de Gratet de Dolomieu (!), who visited the area in 1789. He was fascinated by the area's carbonate rock, made up of stratified calcium magnesium carbonate and purer limestone.

Enrosadira
The coral in Dolomitic rock reflects the sun as it is setting, creating a deep rose-pink glow on the rock face. This glorious phenomenon is known locally as Enrosadira. It is at its best in September, when it really seems as if the mountain is on fire! Chalet Haus Valentin in Badia is an unbeatable vantage point from which it can be appreciated.

Falzarego Pass
Half-way to Cortina, this is one of the area's most significant places for recognising the military confrontation during World War I. It is rife with caves, trenches and tunnels (including the Lagazuoi Tunnels). The Lagazuoi Cable Car, open from May to October, takes you direct to Rifugio Lagazuoi, with a great 360° panoramic view. There are some outstanding high level walks and Via Ferrata that start from the Falzarego Pass.

Fauna
The wildlife of the Dolomites makes its home chiefly in the natural parks, remote valleys and high recesses of the mountains. Many native animals remain common, among these are marmots, chamois, large deer and capriolo (the small roe deer) or you might be lucky enough to spot a stambecco (a large wild mountain goat). A rich variety of birds can also be seen: the magnificent golden eagles often soar among the highest peaks; grouse seek the protective cover of forests; the white ptarmigan (which turns brown in summer) and ravens can be found in higher open areas and, of course, the alpine chuffs will always be around, notably at lunch time!

Flora & Flower Walks

Ferrata. Corvara is our main base in the Val Badia, and has a range of shops, cafes and many sports facilities including skating, a swimming lake, climbing wall, golf, tennis and archery etc.
The Dolomites offers you some of the best alpine floral sites in Europe. Wildflower walks take place 5 days a week (not Wednesday or Saturday) from early June to the end of July. The walk programme is created at the discretion of our resident flower enthusiasts. If you want to join a wildflower walk, please come to Office Hour to find out more. Once a week there is also a presentation, usually with slides - and not necessarily specific to the Dolomites. See - Mountain Flowers of the Dolomites.

**Four Passes**

Summer's Sella Ronda! – A famous and breathtaking drive which goes all the way round the Sella massif via the four passes of Pordoi (2239m), Sella (2244m), Gardena (2121m) and Campolongo (1875m). If you have your own transport try doing this drive during the early part of your stay, as it will help you orientate yourself and get a feel for the geography of the area.

**Gardena Pass, 2221m**

Located above Corvara, the Gardena Pass joins the Alta Badia with the Val Gardena. It is the starting point of several good walks and also the Cirspitze, a Via Ferrata we recommend as a good introduction for the uninitiated.

**Golf**

There is a 9 hole course near the Campolongo Pass. It claims to be the second highest golf course in Europe and offers wonderful backdrops. It opens in late June and 18 holes will cost approx. €50.00. Clubs can be hired.

**Geography & Geology - UNESCO World Heritage Site**

The Italian Dolomites cover an area of more than 90km (north-south) by 100km (west-east). They are at an approximate latitude of 46.30° north (about the same as Zermatt) and between 11° and 12° longitude east (about the same as Munich, Venice, Rome & Innsbruck). The Dolomites consist of more than 14 mountain massifs, each with at least one 3000m peak. The fantastic scenery of the Dolomites is a result of their geology with its unique combination of two different rock types, dolomitic and volcanic. They were granted UNESCO World Heritage status in 2009.

**Glacier Treks & Summit Ascents**

We can organise, with the Alta Badia Guides, a guided trek across the Marmolada glacier or a guided Via Ferrata ascent to its summit via the West Ridge. The latter requires alpine experience and vertigo-freedom. Glacier & Summit treks are popular and should be booked directly with the Guides’ office - we can assist with this whilst you are in resort. All necessary equipment is provided. Prices do not include lifts or lunch but a small snack pack is provided. If bad weather causes cancellation before you have embarked on the trek, your money is refunded.

**GPS**

The latest editions of the Tabacco 1:25,000 series of maps show grid references - for GPS users, these coordinates relate to Rome 1940 with UTM setting.

**Guides & Other Activities**

If you would like to book a mountain guide or bike guide, or book any other activity such as horse riding, paragliding, canyoning, whitewater rafting etc, just ask and we will help. Ideally you will need your own transport to partake in certain activities. For example, the whitewater rafting and canyoning centre is a 50 minute drive from us. Please note: such excursions and activities are neither run nor controlled by Collett’s (even if advertised by us); that we only act as your agent; and that your contract for these services is with the third party supplier in question and not Collett’s Limited. Consequently, we are not responsible/liable for the provision of any such third party excursions or activities or for anything that might happen during the course of its provision by the supplier.

**Hairdryers**

Hairdryers are provided in all of our hosted chalets. We have further hairdryers available for guests staying in self catering apartments – just ask if you would like to borrow one.

**Half-Board**

In our hosted chalets, half-board accommodation includes bed, breakfast and evening meal (except Wednesday evening). In our hotels, it is the same, although dinner is provided every night. Packed lunches can be ordered daily through Collett’s and paid for at the end of your stay.

**Horseriding**

Horseriding is available in Badia, San Cassiano and also a little further afield at the Sitting Bull Ranch at Longiarù about 25 minutes drive from Badia. Rides or lessons can be booked in resort. Just ask.

**Hospitals/Medical Centres**

If it arises that you have to go to hospital/medical centre unaccompanied by us, here are details of those nearest to us.

**Corvara Medical Centre** - just off the main street behind the band stand. There is an x-ray facility, so here might be a good start.

**Brunico Hospital** - if you are in Badia or Corvara, go to Brunico at the bottom (northern) end of the Val Badia. On entering
**Brunico**, turn left at the first roundabout (after the Shell garage and signed to Ahrntal). Follow this road for about 2kms before turning right over a bridge - the hospital is signed to the right about 1km down this road. Tel. 0474 555444 or 0474 581111.

**Agordo Hospital** - if you are near Arabba & the Marmolada (south of the Alta Badia) it might be better to go to Agordo (45 minutes away) by following signs to Belluno. In Agordo, turn left just after the big church in the main piazza and follow the road for half a mile. For casualty, follow the sign to PRONTO SOCCORSO. Tel 0437 645111 or 0437 62870

### Ideas & Information Files

**Our Ideas & Information Files** contain suggestions for many outstanding walks of all grades and other days out. Copies are available at **Office Hour**. You can browse the files for itineraries and ideas. You can also borrow a copy of any of the featured walks in the form of a **Route Laminate** for use the following day.

#### Ice Skating

Available at the ice rink in Corvara during high season.

#### Iceman

The **Iceman** put Bolzano on the world map. You can see his almost perfectly preserved body of 5300 years at the **Museum of Archaeology** at the heart of this beautiful mountain city. The museum is closed on Mondays.

#### Innsbruck

**Innsbruck** is a feasible day trip from the Dolomites and it takes a little over two hours to get there. It is a scenic mountain drive. Consider **Bolzano** first though - it's nearer, similar and arguably just as attractive.

#### Internet

Wi-Fi is available in each of our hosted chalets and two hotels. Please bear in mind that it may not be as quick as you are used to at home.

#### Kettles

Electric kettles are rare items in Italy! It is against Italian Law to have them in hotel rooms and other licensed guest accommodation. Italians use stove top coffee makers in general and do not drink tea like the British do!

#### Ladin

Describes dialect, culture and people of the wider local area.

#### Lagazuoi Tunnels and Austrian Troop Path

A labyrinth of WWI tunnels built in the mountain above the **Falzarego Pass**. The tunnels are accessed by the **Lagazuoi** cablecar, and maps are available from a kiosk by the cable car station. The tunnels are quite an adventure and not for the faint-hearted. They bring to life the incredible conditions in which the Austrians and Italians fought for key positions in the tragic mountain conflicts of WW1. A helmet and a torch are essential for the tunnels. Please consider bringing a torch from home, you can hire a helmet in the outdoor shops in Badia and Corvara, just ask one of our organisers for more information. The tunnels are good for a rainy day (although it can get slippery underfoot). In addition, an Austrian troop path has recently been re-opened. It is not for the faint-hearted either and has some exposed (albeit protected) sections.

#### Latitudes & Longitudes

**Corvara**: Lat. 46° 32’ N - Long. 11° 52’ E

**Badia**: Lat. 46° 31’ N - Long. 11° 53’ E

#### Laundry

We are slightly limited on washing machines, but if you really need to do some laundry during your stay, please ask. There is a charge per load of washing.

#### La Villa

Situated half way between the villages of Corvara and Badia, **La Villa** is where you turn off if you are heading to **San Cassiano** and the **Falzarego Pass** for **Cortina** and **Lagazuoi**. It has a range of shops and cafes, and can easily be reached via the riverside paths from both Corvara and Badia.

#### Low Season

In late May, early/mid June or late-ish September the area will be fairly quiet and certain shops and services are closed. The walking is good though and these are lovely periods to be in the area. We run a full programme of organised walks, cycle tours, painting etc. from the beginning to the end of our season – with the exception of flower walks, which are only offered in June and July.

#### Magnetic Variation

We rarely use compasses here because the terrain is a paradise of dramatic features. However, magnetic variation is quite minimal (around one degree west) and is not generally referred to on maps. We have noticed that in some areas the compass displays some strange inaccuracies, due to either the magnetic properties of volcanic rock, or buried metal from wartime remains.
Marmolada, 3343m - Queen of the Dolomites
The highest mountain in the Dolomites and home to the only glacier in the range. You can get to the top by using the three stage cable car at Malga Ciapela (open from mid-June to late Sept.) or you can take the bucket lift on the other side of Lake Fedoa, accessed by crossing the spectacular dam at the west end of the lake. This will take you to the snout of the glacier, close to two rifugios. (See - Glacier Treks & Summit Ascents).

Mountain Flowers of the Dolomites
The perfect book for the casual botanist! A user-friendly ‘must’ for anyone with an interest in the exceptional flora of the Dolomites. It was written by two of our own flower specialists, Cliff Booker and David Charlton. Contact us now for a copy and gen up before you go. £9.95 plus £2.00 UK P&P.

Mountain Rescue
Call 118.

Mountain Safety
Remember you join our walks and cycle tours at your own risk. You can read about our walks procedures and refresh your mountain safety know-how at collets.co.uk/handbook

Office Hour & Planning Your Days
A popular Collett’s institution, which is far more informal than its name suggests. Over maps and a relaxing pre-dinner drink, you can chat with our own walkers and plan your days, obtaining information on walks, whether you self-guide or opt for one of our organised walks. You can also chat about Via Ferrata, flower walks, painting, cycling and more. Moreover, we can help you book locally-supplied alpine activities. Office Hour is held every evening (except Wednesday) from 6pm in chalets Angelo, Roch and Haus Valentin. If you are a hotel or self-catering guest, just walk to your nearest Office Hour and you will be made welcome. Many guests come simply to enjoy a relaxing pre-dinner drink in the good company of other guests.

Organised Walks & Cycle Tours
At Office Hour you will find out about the organised walks and cycle tours taking place the following day. You will find out when and where you need to meet up. Remember you join an organised walk at your own risk, so please make it your business to study the walk before you choose to join it. Our team can help you do this at Office Hour, using maps and their own knowledge. There are no organised walks on our day-off, Wednesday. Organised walks are only cancelled when bad weather might deem them dangerous. See - Walker’s Checklist.

Packed Lunches
A Collett’s packed lunch is available every day to all our guests, whether you are staying in a hosted chalet, a hotel or self catering. Office Hour is a good time to place your order and your lunch will be ready to collect the following morning at 8.30am (from the chalet, at which it was ordered). A packed lunch costs €6 – this can be added to your account and paid for on the eve of your departure. See - Red File.

Packing Suggestions
See - Inside back cover of this booklet.

Painting Strolls
Informal painting tuition is available 5 days a week – not Wednesdays or Saturdays. Armed with a packed lunch and some watercolours, we usually take a short walk to a nice location. Here we while away a few hours painting under the casual guidance of our artist. Group sizes are usually just 3 or 4 people, rarely more than 6. We try to keep the groups quite small and if they do become oversubscribed, we might ask people to book in for another day. We provide painting materials for the occasional painter but if you intend to paint regularly, we would ask you to bring your own materials.

Paragliding
Tandem paragliding is available in Corvara. We can book this for you or you can go directly to the hut situated in the field below the Boé Gondola in Corvara, which is also the meeting point. Rough price - €115 inc. souvenir t-shirt.

Petrol & Diesel
Petrol stations can be found in the villages of Badia, Corvara and La Villa.

Police
Call 112 for emergencies, for Corvara Police call 0471 836063 and for Badia Police call 0471 847123.

Pordoi Pass, 2239m
Located above Arabba, the Pordoi Pass forms the border between Veneto and Trentino and is a wildflower ‘mecca’. Close to its souvenir shops, you will find the starting point of the spectacular Sass Pordoi cable car to the summit plateau of the Sella...
Massif. It also provides access to one of the area’s most beautiful walks – the Viel del Pan or Bindelweg. It is also an easy stroll out to the German War Mausoleum.

Rainy Days
Hopefully there won’t be any! If you are unlucky, please bear in mind that the weather in the mountains can be very localised and it is not unusual to leave the village on a rainy day to find brighter conditions in a neighbouring valley. Suggestions for rainy days are available in our Ideas & Information Files or simply ask us for inspiration.

Red File
In our hosted chalets, each of our guests has a page in the Red File, where you enter any drinks or snacks taken from the chalet’s bar. We will enter any packed lunches you order. You can settle up with us in cash or with a card. Card payments are processed in Euros. Local self catering and hotel guests also have a page in the Red File, for drinks at Office Hour, packed lunches etc. We ask you to settle your Red File account on the eve of your departure.

Restaurants
It is easy to find good restaurants and pizzerias in the Alta Badia. The valley is justifiably proud of its excellent gastronomic reputation. Prices are reasonable and the food is often exceptional. If you want to go upmarket and stylish, there are several options where you can treat yourselves to something really special. For something different, there are also places which concentrate on traditional Ladin cuisine. Guests staying in our hosted chalets on a half-board basis will need to find a restaurant on our day off (Wednesday) when we do not serve dinner. If invited to do so, we will be happy to recommend and (if necessary) book somewhere appropriate for you.

Rifugios – Mountain Huts
These are a key attraction of walking in the Dolomites. They offer well-earned refreshment and wonderful vistas from their sun terraces! Huts are strewn all over the Dolomites, often at trail intersections. It is not unusual for us to drop into a hut on our organised walks – we have our favourites! Most of them are not really huts – they are more substantial, like inns or hostelries. Some are more comprehensive than others in what they offer, but you can generally rely on a warm welcome, excellent service, good food and drink at reasonable prices. If you like the idea of an overnight stay in one of the huts, visit colletts.co.uk/hut

Route Laminates
These are laminated copies of the walks, Via Ferrata, bike routes, scenic drives and days out featured in our Ideas & Information Files. They are available for you to borrow at Office Hour. Please return them soon after your walk. You must not use the Route Laminates as definitive walking guides. They are for reference only, as the maps they contain are not necessarily to scale. You should mark up your own map accordingly to determine independently whether the itinerary is suitable for you and your party. You borrow Route Laminates at your own risk. Remember that terrain and route conditions can change at any time, rendering any map or itinerary description outdated.

Sass Pordoi Cable Car
A thrilling cable car ride to the 'top of the world,' which ascends at 8m per second from the Pordoi Pass to the summit plateau of the Sella massif. In under 2 minutes you rise 711m to an altitude of 2950m. Open from late May/early June to October.

Self Catering
Whilst generally well-equipped, our self-catering apartments do not normally have ovens. Most have hobs, supplemented by a microwave. We provide bed linen and a small welcome pack. Contact us now if you would like to book towels, although these are provided in Superior Self Catering Apartments (See - Towels & Bed Linen). You are also welcome to book in for dinner at one of our chalets during your stay, subject to availability and paying locally at £20 per person. Both Corvara and Badia have mini-markets stocking most essentials. Consider dropping into a supermarket on your way to the Dolomites, especially if arriving on a low season weekend. If travelling up from Venice or Treviso, there are out-of-town hypermarkets on your right as you drive into Belluno - look out for Emisfero. Guests travelling from the north may want to head into Brunico. There is a supermarket called Supertip Spar as you enter the town.

Slippers
Some floors in our chalets and apartments are either tiled or wooden, so you may wish to pack a pair of slippers to wear around the chalet. Please remove walking boots before entering the chalets and apartments. Thank you.

Smoking
Since 2005, smoking in public buildings has been illegal in Italy. All chalets and self catering apartments are no-smoking.
Sport Kostner
A large supermarket and outdoor shop in Corvara, which hires out Via Ferrata kit. Collett’s guests get 10% discount in the sports department.

Sun Protection
At higher altitudes the sun is much more intense and can easily cause sunburn, even when it appears to be a cloudy day. It also reflects off the light coloured rock of the Dolomites, so a high factor cream is recommended.

Supermarkets
Sport Kostner is in the centre of Corvara. Its supermarket is on the ground floor. Guests staying in Badia have a new and impressive Spar at the top end of the village. Nearer the centre, there is Margit’s Mini-Market which sells the basics.

Swimming
During high season there is the outdoor swimming lake in Corvara - you can sunbathe here too. There is an indoor pool at La Villa (at the Scuola Media) - open Mon/Wed/Fri 14.00 to 21.00 & Tue/Thu/Sat. from 14.00 to 19.00.

Taxis
Taxis in this area are invariably 8 seater minibuses. Corvara - try Alfred Pescosta on 0039 347 2615525(m) or Alfredo Lori on 0039 339 7969199(m). Badia - try Taxi Vico on 0039 0471 847245 or 0039 335 6116528 (m).

Tea & Coffee
In our chalets, if we are not around, help yourself to complimentary tea and coffee.

Tennis
Tennis is available at Corvara and La Villa. Bookings can be made at the courts.

Tipping
Tips are not expected in this region and should be made purely at your discretion.

Towels & Bed Linen
In chalets Angelo, Roch & Haus Valentinn, we supply one bath towel and one hand towel, changed once during a stay of up to 10 days and twice for longer stays. Bed linen is only changed if you are staying for more than 10 days. For self-caterers, towels are not supplied unless pre-booked by you through our UK Office at £6 per set. Contact us if you are self-catering and require towels. If you have booked towels, they will be in your accommodation on your arrival - one bath towel and one hand towel per person. This does not apply to guests staying in the superior self-catering, where towels are provided.

Transfer Times
From Venice & Treviso the transfer time to Corvara is about 3 hours. For Badia, add 10 or 15 minutes.

Treviso
A beautiful mediaeval city with canals, cafes and piazzas. The No. 6 bus connects the airport to the train station and town centre. There is a left luggage facility opposite Treviso airport and at the railway station, where trains leave for Venice every 30 mins.

Vegans & Vegetarians
See - Dietary Requirements.

Venice
Many people add a stay here before (or after) their holiday. Visit collettts.co.uk/venice for a list of recommended hotels. Waterbuses to and from the airport depart every 30 minutes – visit alilaguna.com. You can purchase waterbus tickets in the airport’s arrival hall.

Important Information if you are meeting an Airport Transfer: buy a return ticket to St. Mark’s Square on your arrival at the airport; at St. Mark’s Square, take the time to find the right jetty for your trip back to the airport by looking for ALILAGUNA signs – and establish departure times, remembering that the journey back to the airport takes 65 mins. Buses are operated by ATVO and leave the airport for Piazzale Roma on the Grand Canal every 30mins. This journey takes 25 minutes and is much cheaper than the waterbus. See atvo.it for timetables etc. For more information, see veniceairport.com. A Left Luggage kiosk is on the ground floor of the airport, charging €4.50 per item, open until 9pm.

Via Ferrata
A significant attraction of the Dolomites, Via Ferrata gives you the opportunity to explore the massifs on a system of cables, ladders, tunnels and gorge-spanning bridges. This is the birthplace of Via Ferrata and we are at the heart of the greatest concentration of Via Ferrata in the world, many of which are detailed in our Ideas & Information Files so that – if you have the relevant experience – you can embark on the routes of your choice. Our resort team includes people who are dedicated to helping anyone with an interest in Via Ferrata. They can chat with you about local routes, help you hire equipment.
locally and, if required, they will book a guide for you. (See - Glacier Treks & Summit Ascents for details of our weekly organised Via Ferrata excursion to the summit of the Marmolada).

### Walker’s Checklist

When walking in the mountains, we recommend you take the following in your rucksack: waterproof jacket, extra layers for cold weather, water (at least 2 litres), sunglasses, sun hat and sun cream, food, map and compass, money (for chairlifts/drinks/snacks etc), and your mobile phone!

### Water

Tap water in this area is drinkable. Pack a water container and take plenty of water with you when out. Two litres is recommended.

### Weather Tips & Climate

Please don’t ring us to find out what the weather will be like during your holiday! We would hate to get it wrong and with mountains it is hard to get it right! Generally, the prevailing weather in the Dolomites during the summer is good, but as in any mountainous areas, the weather can be unpredictable and localised. Weather info is available at [meteoalpin.com](http://meteoalpin.com) or [arpa.veneto.it](http://arpa.veneto.it)

As for temperatures, June and September can sometimes be quite chilly at night (down to 5°celsius) whilst it can go up to 30°celsius during the day, although the average would be nearer 20°celsius. An up-to-date forecast will be available at Office Hour each evening and at the local tourist offices. Naturally, our hosts keep a firm eye on weather conditions and try to ensure it is safe to proceed with an excursion, but it is everybody's responsibility to consider cancelling an excursion (and to voice any anxiety) if worried about the risk of adverse weather conditions.

### Whitewater Rafting

See - Guides & Activities.

### World War I Walks

The scale of the conflict in the Dolomites is surprising. It began in the Dolomites because the border between Italy and Austria ran through the mountains. From 1915 to 1917, the two countries fought a war of fixed positions and the frontline barely moved. Both sides were ingenious in establishing their positions, they built trenches, observation posts and miles of tunnels, often sleeping within earshot of the enemy. The winter of 1916 saw 10m of snowfall and more than 10,000 men died in avalanches. On the Marmolada, 400 died in a single avalanche. Neither side won this tragic conflict and the destiny of the area was decided at the Treaty of Saint Germain in 1919 in Paris. If WWI is of interest to you, you can visit the open-air museum at Lagazuoi & Cinque Torre near the Falzarego Pass. You can walk in trenches, on old troop paths and visit the Lagazuoi tunnels.

From 14th August to 7th September, John Scanlon, a previous guest of Collett’s with a profound interest in and knowledge of WWI, will be offering a weekly programme of walks specifically relating to areas of WWI interest. He will also give an occasional presentation in one of our hosted chalets in the evening. There is no charge to join John’s walks. For more information see [colletts.co.uk/war-walks](http://colletts.co.uk/war-walks)
Checklist & Packing Suggestions - Italian Dolomites

Essential Items
- Passport
- Euros or credit/debit cards (there are cash machines in Corvara & Badia)
- Holiday Insurance
- EHIC (European Health Insurance Card)
- Mobile telephone & charger
- Signed disclaimer
- Medication?

Flyers
- Flight tickets and/or printed boarding pass
- Have you checked the size & weight of your baggage?

Fly Drivers
- Driving licence
- Printed copy of driving licence ‘check code’
  - Visit gov.uk/view-driving-licence
- Car hire voucher
- Credit card of the lead driver
- Sat Nav & European road map
- Torch

Self Drivers
- Driving licence
- Ferry / tunnel ticket
- Insurance & car registration documents
- European breakdown cover
- GB Sticker (must be displayed in the EU)
- Warning triangle (must be carried in the EU)
- Fluorescent triangle (must be carried in the EU)
- Spare bulbs
- Sat Nav & European road map
- Torch

General
- Clothes, footwear & wash kit
- Sunglasses, sun hat & sun cream
- Swimming kit (outdoor pool in Corvara)
- Camera, memory card, batteries & charger
- Binoculars
- Pocket reference books (e.g. flowers)
- German/Italian phrase book
- Games, playing cards, books?
- Continental plug-adapter (European voltage for normal appliances is 220-240 Volts)
- A level of fitness to suit your own intentions!

For Walking
- Strong, light, comfortable walking boots, which support the ankle
- Waterproof jacket and trousers
- Clothing for hot and cold weather
- Lightweight rucksack (25 litres plus)
- Telescopic walking poles
- Basic first-aid kit
- Water bottle (min. 2 litres, 3 litres is recommended for harder walks)
- Map case
- Compass, whistle, torch, survival bag

Via Ferrata
- Helmet
- Sit harness or full body harness
- VF Tails

Glacier Excursions
- Strong, comfortable walking boots, which support the ankle (low cut footwear are not suitable)
- Gaiters (if you have them), gloves & hat
- Walking trousers (not shorts) and warm layers

Painters
We keep a limited supply of watercolour paints, materials and folding stools for those wishing to have a go at painting. If you intend to paint regularly, please bring the following:
- Compact watercolour paints kit & palettes
- Watercolour blocks/pads
- Pencils (up to 2B) & putty rubber
- Craft knife or scalpel for sharpening pencils
- Folding/collapsible stools

WWI Walks
- Helmet
- Head torch

Useful Numbers to save in your Mobile Contacts

| Chalet Haus Valentin | Via Runcac 35, I-39036 Badia | 0039 0471 839687 |
| Chalet Roch | Strada Parüs, 1, I-39033 Corvara | 0039 0471 836204 |
| Chalet Angelo | Via Sciuz 5, I-39033 Corvara | 0039 0471 835738 |
| Resort Manager | Urgent cases only please | 0044 7426 264 289 / 0039 3478 212 648 |

Emergency Services 118 / Ambulance 118 / Fire 115 / Police 112

Any Questions? Call 0044 1799 513331

Buon Viaggio!

These packing suggestions are a guide and are in no way definitive - if you have any suggestions, please email them to bookings@colletts.co.uk

Remember, you can see the latest from resort at www.facebook.com/CollettsMountainHolidays