

## ENEGO. A STRATEGIC PLACE

I can't explain why I chose this place...maybe it chose me. Enego is a natural land terrace, located about 800 metres above sea level and has always been in a strategically important position. The region's charm is not only clearly visible and noticeable in the spectacular view on the mountains, in the vast diversity of landscapes, the unique locations in the villages or in the mild climate. In particular and especially we see before our faces the permanent presence of eugonic vegetation, a very interesting variety of species and marvelous beauty.



Whoever wanders from the river Brenta up high on the hills above Marcesina can within just a few hours explore and admire the prettiest pre-alpine flora. Starting from poplars, lindens and ash trees growing on the first slopes of the valley you pass medicinal herbs, holy hay, which grows wildly or was grown on the terraces. In the clearings of the forest you discover blackberries alongside raspberries, and lush ferns and juniper thicket coiling up into each other, seemingly interweaved with the bushes.

Looking up you see blooming rhododendrons, even further up the mountain the pine with her long arms and finally, enthroned above all, the edelweiss. From mid-summer, however, enthusiasts are invited to scour the region of Marcesina for the famous "porcini"-mushrooms, but of course also for other, little-known but no less delicious mushroom species.

In this area flints have been found from the Neolithic period. Enego extends from an altitude of 200m above sea level over the banks of the Brenta until the Ortigara massif (elevation 2150). At an altitude of 1300m, you will find the

charming Marcesina-plain: a strip of green between earth and the sky, with vast meadows and majestic fir trees, a destination for hikers both in summer and in winter. In villages such as Valmeron there are also numerous ski lifts for downhill skiing and a well-equipped center for cross-country skiing.



It is the easternmost of all the communities of the plateau, on the edge of the deep Valsugana Valley, seen from which you will experience wonderful panoramas. The whole area extends over the eastern end of the "Plateau of the 7 parishes", then drops down to the Brenta canal, to its right bank. The country can simply be defined as a natural terrace from which you can admire the small Dolomites, the Lagorai chain and the Monte Grappa. Besides the fact that it is one of the countries of the "Plateau of the 7 parishes", the area also intersects Trentino region where you can visit for example the cave of Ernesto (municipality Grigno, Trento).

### THE HISTORY OF COUNTRY: from early history to the world war

About the origin of the word " Enego " there is ambiguity : it could derive from the Germanic name " Enika ", or from the Latin " Enicus " or " Enno " .Thanks to its location on the edge of the Asiago plateau , overlooking the Brenta Canal and on the Valsugana Valley, the Enego region has enjoyed since Roman times the interest of the population.

A Roman "Drusus"-coin has actually been found there during construction works in 1700 and testifies the historical significance of this charming place already during the time of the Roman Empire .

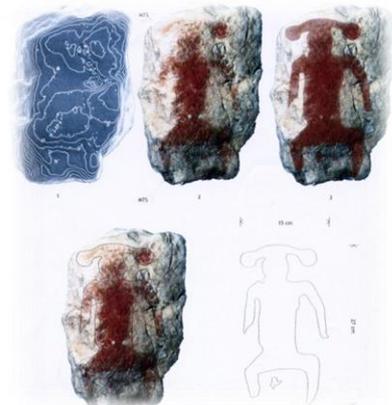
But the story , like those of the plateau to a large extent , got a bit lost in the course of time.

It was probably in that very period that the first settlement was built , a place of rest along the road that led to Germany, where one could collect its strength. Around the third century, when the first barbarian invasions began, a fortress was built whose ruins can be found today in the area of Bastia.

In the twelfth century Enego got a fief of the bishops of Padua, subsequently passed on to those of Vicenza and finally to the Ezzelins .

Under the reign of Cangrande della Scala , in 1330 , another castle was built of which a guard tower has outlasted until today.

During the Middle Ages all plateaus and then also Enego got populated by folks of Bavarian and Tyrolean origins, the so-called " Cimbri " . The Cimbri remained for



centuries one's own identity and differ in terms of language and customs from the rest of the population.

In 1310, during the reign of the Scala family, they united to form the government of the "seven parishes", which were still held up in the subsequent reign of Visconti (1387-1404) and Venice (1404-1797). In 1508 it was shortly occupied by the army of "League of Cambrai", but soon returned to the Republic of Venice.

Between the sixteenth and seventeenth century, disputes started to rise with the neighboring areas of Grigno that centred the possession of Marcesina and Monte Frizzon. With the fall of the Venetian Republic and the arrival of Napoleon, secular federation got dissolved. During the Risorgimento, many Enego-inhabitants proved themselves as patriots, but only with the third war of independence in 1866, Veneto moved on and then belonged to the newly founded kingdom of Italy.

During the war, the plateau was right along the front and Enego itself suffered severe damages. While the soldiers were fighting hard, especially around Monte Oligara, the civilian population was forced to leave the area and continue to seek refuge in the south of Italy.

### WHAT ELSE IS THERE TO DISCOVER AROUND ENEGO



In addition to the path which is closely connected with the earliest history and the war era, especially those walks are recommended that are leading to the sites of the pastures where the cows spend the summer, or the visit of Europe's highest bridge, the Ponte di Valgadana.

Next on old paths on which one crosses the path with various animals of the forest (deer , roe deer, wild sheep , mountain goats ) as well as birds and other animals such as badgers, squirrels and hares. The place, equally popular with cyclists , motorcyclists and trippers from spring to autumn, offers a wide selection of routes – long and short – on the old " tratturi " and trails still existent from the Roman period .



A particularly noteworthy track would be the ancient " Piovega path" , a mule track



that was probably paved in the fourteenth or fifteenth century ( as the majority of historical paths around Brenta Canal ) and which still is in good condition . Equally impressive a visit in the autumn months , in Valmaron, to enjoy a landscape of breathtaking colorful diversity .

For lovers also the history of the Marcesina and the Barricata-level in the area Enego / Grigno can not be neglected. You can walk there, along with donkeys , or even tour with bike or motorcycle. **This is actually rural economy : to know and appreciate these acreage, that are so much influenced by history and events.**

Some of these routes , striking and rich in scenic impressions are the following :

- The old path of Piovega: from Piovega di Sotto to Fosse and to Enego  
Path of Piovega between th cliffs of Brenta-canal
- Capital Meneghini or the Madonna Mora from Piovega to Fosse
- The acreage from Velt to Enego
- Brenta-Canal walked on the path "Strada del Genio" to Cismon del Grappa
- Cycling road Brenta- part "Tombion" in Valsugana
- Cycling road Valsugana-Brenta: Trento Bassano, Padua, Venice
- "Loop road of the barricade": Cornale Primolano, Selva di Grigno, Barricade, Marcesina, Enego



- Promenade for pedestrians/bikers alongside the Brenta-canal from Enego to Borgo Valsugana
- Autumn Colors of Valmaron
- Valbrutta to Valmaron (Enego)
- Cave of Ernesto in Stival Frizzon Enego (municipality of Grigno)
- Early history of the Marcesina- and Barricata- plateau (Enego and Grigno)
- The track of Cippi 1752 - the borders of the venetian republic
- Motorcycling/Hiking/biking: Enego, Val d'Antenne, Valbrutta, Marcesina, Forcellona, Valmaron, Lisser, Tombal
- Motorcycling/Hiking/biking: Enego, Valgoda, Godeluna, Stoner
- The former fort Monte Lisser Enego
- The narrow entrance to fort Lisser...access road to the fort near

