Lodrino – Cima di Negross

I read some fascinating document reporting the rise of Poncione Rosso and I matured the ability to make it even though it is certainly not trivial. At the same time, however, I also read a description of the Skyrace Lodrino-Lavertezzo and I asked to me if would have been possible to reach the Poncione Rosso starting from Lodrino instead from Lavertezzo climbing it by a less known way. I began to investigate and collect documents, then I decided to go exploring.

The first step would be the Cima di Negross (2182m) and then ... I would see what to do. The natural continuation implied to reach the Cima di Stuell (2312m), Cima di Vacarisc and then the Poncione Rosso (2505m). So I left Lodrino, behind the main Church (269m) and I started to climb into the rock: yes, because just a staircase is made along a vertical rock wall that seems impossible to climb because it falls on Lodrino. For a good while this is the path, then it becomes a classic trail in the woods, perhaps quite a lot better, until the Hut and Alva Alpe (1557m), a pleasant place where ends the convenient path and the frequent marking; also the trail becomes difficult to find in many areas. Fortunately I found a very visible sign to the Alpe Negross and I avoided to continue along the path of Skyrace which is a lot lower than the ridges. Shortly after, I arrived to the Alpe and my life became more complicated: no mark nor indication. Instinctively, long after I divagated on the stones behind the Alpe Negross I decided to climb to the NW ridge but it had nothing to do with the impressive Cima di Negross I saw in the report of ale84. The course was however difficult, not at all satisfying and very nebulous; fortunately, sometimes, some signal erected with stones by someone (I publicly thank him) helped me to orient myself. Often I had to put my hands on some rocks. When I reached the peak (two peaks are joined by a crest) finally the view opened on the N side from where I saw the N ridge climbed by ale84 that left Pon (959m); from there Cima di Negross looked impressive and behind she saw Cima di Stuell and the Poncione Rosso . There I realized that my plan ended: there was to go down at least 200m (beer was over!) and then rise the Cima di Stuell half on a ridge that seemed climbing but the remaining 200m required, in my view, ropes, nails, tools and a fellow because the look is really "Dolomite". Is there also a nice horizontal ledge that recalls the Monti Pallidi.

Then I returned the same way with the satisfaction of having tried just a good drop and a long path. Was it a sin of presumption, my? Maybe, but you know that we must dream and sometimes we realize our dreams.

Final note: while you get down you can better follow the marks left by the hiker "benefactor" because very often they are more visible from the top.

Key data: Difference in level: 1913m Ascent km 7.5 Descent km 7.5 Ascent 5h08' Descent 3h45' SLF (ascent) km 26.63 5.18 km/h (descent) km 26.63 7.10 km/h