



This walk, which starts with the breathtaking cable car ride from Argegno to Pigra (860 m), follows ancient cobblestone tracks with a beautiful view of the lake down to Colonno.

**ITINERARY:** Argegno - Pigra - Corniga - Colonno

**WALKING TIME:** 2 h

**ASCENT:** 90 m **DESCENT:** 660 m

**DIFFICULTY:** From Corniga to Colonno the track leads very steeply down hill

**TRAIL SIGNS:** some signs

**CONNECTIONS:** Argegno can be reached by bus line C10, by boat or hydrofoil

The cable car from Argegno to Pigra runs every 30 minutes.

The time table varies according to the season - information tel. +39 031 821344

Colonno is connected with bus line C10 Como-Menaggio



**ROUTE:** **Argegno** is a small, picturesque town situated at the mouth of the Telo stream, at the beginning of the Intelvi Valley that connects Lake Como with Lake Lugano. From the boat dock at Argegno, walk to the cable car station which is at the northern end of the town where there is also a bus stop (bus stop Funivia). The cable car links the lake to the village **Pigra** in just five minutes with a difference in altitude of 600 meters and a maximum gradient of 95%. The view of the lake and the mountains is breathtaking. Before starting the walk down to Colonno we recommend a walk through the village by following the signs "*Scopri Pigra*".

Back to the cable car station at Pigra go straight on as far as the roundabout and from there continue straight on till you reach the post office (PT). Take the street which leads uphill to a wash house, then turn right and walk along via Sociale to the end of the town. Near the big building with the writing "*Antica Società Operaia*" pick up the track with the sign for Lomia / Corniga. You pass a little chapel dedicated to the Madonna del Soccorso and from here the track leads down in wide bends into the "*Valle delle Camogge*". Past a

farmhouse in the area called Lomia (800 m), the track reaches the stream of the Val Camogge which you cross over a bridge. The trail then continues steeply uphill to **Serta** (830 m), where there are a few houses. From here a comfortable track leads to the big settlement of **Corniga** (760 m) at 50 minutes. from Pigra. The little church dedicated to St. Anna is of 1631. Behind the church there is a "*nevera*", a cylindrical formed construction. These stone constructions, which lead deep into the ground, were filled with snow (neve) and used in the summer to conserve food. From the church



View of Isola Comacina (© J. Bents)

continue downhill to the right and follow the track, at some points very steep, which connects Corniga with the town Colunno.

Past the settlement of **Cambianico**, you can enjoy a beautiful view of the Dosso di Lavedo, the Island Comacina and Monte San Primo (1600 m) on the opposite shore. At the end of the track, when you reach the paved road continue left and after 200 m, take the steps to the left which lead down to the centre of **Colunno**. At the end of the steps, from the small piazza continue straight on till you reach the bridge over the stream Pessetta. Here you find yourself on a part of the Roman road called "*Antica Strada Regina*". This ancient road, used till the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, used to be one of the important connection routes between Como and the countries situated north of the Alps. At Colunno a Greek colony was established by the Romans. They founded in addition to Colunno the towns of Lezzeno, Lenno, Nesso and Griante, and introduced olive groves and vineyards. The typical small cobblestoned streets of Colunno with narrow passages and alleys which lead down to the lake are typical of a medieval town. We highly recommend to explore the village and to walk down to the church square where the Parish church S. Michele Arcangelo stands. At Colunno the "Greenway" starts (see walk 6), a most pleasant walk of about 3½ hours that connects the towns of Sala Comacina, Ossuccio, Lenno, Mezzegra and Griante.



Cable car Argegno - Pigra

