

2 3 Watles (2555m)

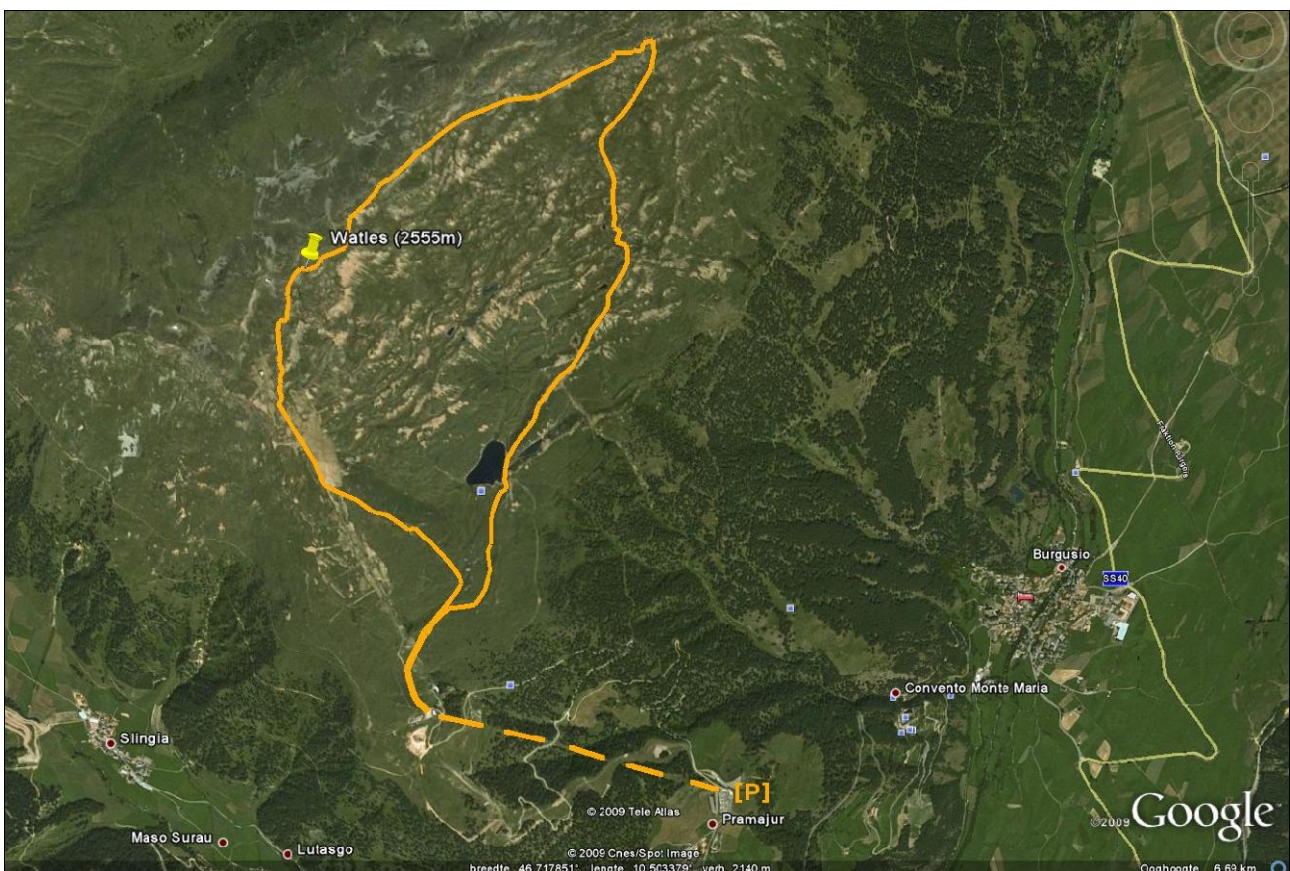
Pramajur – Watlesbahn – Plantapatsch Hütte (2113m) – Pfaffensee (2222m) – Schafberg (2411m) – Watles (2555m) – (Pfaffensee) – Plantapatsch Hütte

Starting point: Plantapatsch Hütte (2113m), accesible via the Watlesbahn (chair lift) from Pramajur. Spacious parking lot at the valley station [Burgusio (1216m) – Vinschgau, Süd-Tirol]

Time: 2½ – 3 hours.

Difficulties: well marked route across good mountain paths. A short passage between Schafberg and Watles has a somewhat rougher character (slightly steeper route mainly across gravel), but in general this isn't a problem.

Why worth it?: mountain top with one of the most beautiful views across this area despite its relative slight height. The idyllic mountain lake Pfaffensee is a great place to relax.



ROUTE DESCRIPTION:

Using the Watlesbahn (chair lift) going from 1702m to a height of 2113m: the “Plantapatsch Hütte”. From here the road signs point towards the “Pfaffensee” (2222m). We follow road No. 4 in northern direction up the mountain. After a rise on the alm, we descend a bit towards the already visible idillic Pfaffensee. Here we follow the route further across a narrow bridge and then going up more steeply and across a well marked and well made path. We first walk towards the “Schafberg” (2411m), so in a very wide arc we climb the Watles. Steeper parts alternate with (relatively) flat passages. Another road sign points us towards Watles 1h 10 min”. Near the Schafberg we find the last road sign towards the Watles across road No. 9 (30 min.).

Across a very broad mountain ridge we climb to the top. The route is clear, well marked and well maintained. Some passages are somewhat steeper across gravel and stones, but these passages are generally no problem. After about 30 minutes we reach the top Watles.

The descent is more direct: first descending in south-western direction towards the ski-lift and following it parallel down. Quite a challenging descent follows across a well worn out path. At about 2/3 of the descent we can take an unmarked path left back towards the Pfaffensee or we keep right to immediately return back to the Plantapatsch Hütte.

Route walked in 2009

Rating Legend:

- **1** Moderately easy tour (also perfect for a late afternoon walk). 2 hours max.
- **2** With some physical condition, no difficulties. 1 to 3 hours max.
- **3** Average tour, a moderate, good physical condition is needed! 2 to 4 hours max.
- **4** Difficult tour. Sometimes you have to use your hands to climb (not all the way, just smaller parts). Between 3 to 6 hours.
- **5** Very difficult tour. Here you're at the boundary of "real" mountaineering. The "climbing factor" takes the overhand. Mostly between 5 and 7 hours.

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