

5. THEMATIC WALK - Hard work in trench

Not only soldiers or graduates were enrolled into the army. A basic troupe was the civil engineer, men who cared about the building of every kind of military infrastructures, necessary to easily and quickly move entire battalions from a zone to another one and to let them station. They built, dug, made the rocks explode: pieces of a compressor motor were found just here, on the Marmolada top, used to create the „ROSSO's TUNNEL“ to reach Forcella Vu, the most strategic war position of this area.

Spades, shovels and barrows were then used to take away all the material collapsed after the explosion. A never ending work.

Each soldier had his own personal equipment, with all the basic tools to survive: guillotine, barbed wire, nails and ropes used to climb even the most impervious rocks.

From 1916 were built some prototype of ropeways in Marmolada too, used to carry the most of the war material, carried before by human shoulders.

storms and avalanches were anyway a real danger, considering the building materials (relay dodgy) and the absence of brakes or security measures.

Numbers: before the introduction of ropeways, the Austro-Hungarian Army employed 3910 men to carry all the material for 700 soldiers on the front line.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who was the civil engineer? Which kind of professional figures did compose it?
2. What was the personal equipment?
3. How could they carry all the material on such a high top?
4. Pretend to leave from Malga Ciapela to reach the highest war position in Marmolada. What do you take with you?