How Trentino Is Managing Access to Its Most Popular Lakes and Mountains

Next summer, Trentino is introducing again a series of smart mobility measures to manage visitor numbers at some of its most popular (and most fragile) natural sites, combining new bus services, eco-shuttles, online parking systems and cable car connections to reduce private car use across the region.

The initiatives reflect a broader shift in how Trentino approaches summer tourism. Rather than reactively addressing any negative impacts of 'overtourism', the province is proactively investing in infrastructure that actively protects the landscapes visitors come to see. The measures cover three of the region's most visited lake areas - Lake Molveno, Lake Caprioli and Lake Tovel - as well as a wider sustainable transport plan connecting Trento to the Paganella plateau.

The Paganella Express: A Bus Link from Trento to the Mountains

From 27th June 2026 until the beginning of September, a new high-frequency bus service called the 'Paganella Express' has connected Trento to the Paganella plateau, including Molveno, with departures every 30 minutes from 6.18am to 11.17pm. The service is designed to reduce reliance on private cars by integrating with existing train connections, making it possible for visitors to travel from Trento to the mountains and back without a vehicle. It will come back next summer.

The bus service forms part of a wider three-pillar mobility plan for the Paganella area. Alongside public transport, two new cable car connections are planned (Zambana Vecchia to Santel and Andalo to Pradel) to improve car-free access between the valley floor and the plateau. The third pillar focuses on cycling infrastructure for everyday use, with new safe cycling paths being created between villages to encourage local commuting by bike, not just recreational riding.

Lake Molveno: Real-Time Parking and Online Booking

Lake Molveno, repeatedly voted Italy's most beautiful lake, is introducing a camera-based parking management system for summer 2026, carrying on into 2027. Every car park in the town will be monitored in real time, with availability displayed on information boards at the main entrances and throughout the centre. Visitors heading to the Ischia car park (the largest near the lake) can book spaces online in advance via the 'ParkMolveno platform', following successful trials in 2024 and 2025. The aim is to eliminate the circling traffic of drivers searching for spaces, reduce congestion and ensure that visitors spend their time at the lake rather than in a queue.

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Lake Caprioli: Advance Booking and Eco-Shuttles

In Val di Sole, access to Lake Caprioli is regulated through a new system limiting the number of parking spaces available to daily visitors. Spaces must be booked online in advance. For those without a booking, or those preferring not to drive, an eco-shuttle service will run every 30 minutes between the village of Pellizzano and the lake.

A Model for Sustainable Alpine Tourism

Taken together, these initiatives position Trentino as one of the most proactive regions in Europe when it comes to managing tourism sustainably. At a time when destinations across Italy and the wider Alps are grappling with overcrowding, Trentino is investing in systems that balance visitor access with environmental protection, and ensures that the landscapes people travel to remain worth seeing.

Discover Trentino with the new “Mio Trentino” Travel Planner

An essential tool for exploring the region year-round, Mio Trentino is the official digital travel assistant designed to make every trip seamless and personalized—from summer hikes and autumn harvest festivals to winter skiing and spring lake getaways.

Powered by integrated AI technology, the app acts as an intelligent, interactive guide that learns user preferences to provide real-time, context-aware suggestions. Travelers can simply ask questions, choose from customized recommendations, and organize their ideal trip on the go.

Key AI-driven and digital features include:

- AI-Powered Smart Recommendations: Delivers hyper-personalized suggestions for activities, events, and local dining by analysing personal interests, current location, weather conditions, and time of day.
- Integrated Trentino Guest Card: Offers instant digital access to **free public transportation province-wide, along with complimentary or discounted admission** to top castles, museums, and natural sites all year long.
- Seamless Mobility & Booking: Helps users plan **travel routes**, check live transport schedules, and reserve tickets for attractions, guided tours, and local experiences directly within the app.
- Interactive **Year-Round Guide:** Provides up-to-date information on seasonal events, trail maps, opening hours, and real-time updates for outdoor sports and cultural activities.

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By unifying AI-assisted trip planning, transport access, and local ticketing into one intuitive platform, Mio Trentino empowers visitors to discover the best of the region in every season.

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About Trentino:

The beautiful region of Trentino is located in the North-East of Italy, in the heart of the Italian Alps, nestling between Lake Garda and the Dolomites. It's also within reach of the vibrant and stylish cities of Verona, Venice and Milan.

Trentino is famous for its natural landscapes, its impressive mountains, its green valleys and its lakes - there are 297 of them in total. This makes it an ideal year-round destination for outdoor enthusiasts.

Winter offers over 800 kilometres of ski slopes, while summer beckons visitors to the shores of Lake Garda and the numerous trails perfect for hiking, mountain biking, and climbing in the mountains, while autumn provides a delightful experience with its vineyards and charming towns and villages. Truly, Trentino is an Italian destination for every season.

For more information on Trentino click here.

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