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## **«We are happy to share our view with over one million people.»**

Since the latest app update, the first HD Livecam images from Ticino are available in the WeatherAlarm app. In this interview, Alan and Nadia Ochsner, who are the cabin hosts at Capanna Gorda in Aquila, present their new camera.

### **Hello! First of all: Congratulations on winning the new Livecam! We are all looking forward to seeing many new panoramas from Ticino! How did you become aware of the WeatherAlarm Contest?**

Thank you for your wishes! Since 1st November 2018, I am working together with my wife as a host at the Gorda cabin. At the beginning, we had the intention to install a new webcam here ourselves. We already own a small webcam at home and on another farmhouse in our region - but for the Gorda Hut we were looking for a solution for 360 ° panoramic pictures. That's how we became aware of the WeatherAlarm and Roundshot Contest.

### **What measures did you take to win as many votes as possible for your location? After all, there were six other competitors in the race.**

We launched a massive campaign and asked all our contacts to take part in the Contest - be it in Ticino or beyond the Gotthard. People were contacted via whatsapp and facebook. We also asked them to share the vote with as many other people as possible. And so we won!

### **Were there any reactions from your local community on winning the Livecam? Have your guests mentioned the new camera?**

Yes, we have received quite a few positive reactions. Many did not know the webcam features of WeatherAlarm and Roundshot, yet. There were also requests as to whether it would not be possible to display various data on the current weather directly on the webcam image - in response, we were able to encourage many to download the Weather Alert app. We are all looking forward to seeing our Livecam images published in the WeatherAlarm app.

### **When did you install the Roundshot Livecam? Did you have special challenges or did you face any problems?**

In December, the Roundshot team came by to install the camera. Fortunately, there were no major problems. The biggest challenge, however, was to transport the 3-meter-long mast to the cabin. Due to the snowfall in the days before, the transport was done by snowmobile. Then we had to remove the snow from the roof to attach the Livecam mast. But in the end everything went smoothly.

### **The Capanna Gorda is located at over 1'800 meters above sea level. How is power supplied to the camera, including the heating and cooling of the Livecam?**

Our cabin is equipped with a modern photovoltaic system consisting of 13 solar modules and 6 batteries for energy storage. In addition, we have a power generator that engages automatically when needed. This will ensure the operation of our cabin - including the new Livecam.

### **What does it mean to you that "your" livecam is the first one in the whole canton of Ticino that will appear in the WeatherAlarm app?**

We are very proud! Here in the north of Ticino, the new webcam is located in an ideal location: near the Alps and with the best views of the nearby mountains. And yes, the webcam is of course also the best advertisement for the cabin itself. We are happy to share our views with over 1 million people.

### **Where is the Capanna Gorda exactly? And how do you get there?**

The Capanna Gorda is located at 1'800 meters above sea level in the beautiful Blenio Valley, on a beautiful meadow near the Gorda Mountains. The hut is easily accessible both in summer and in winter: in summer it can be reached on foot or by car from Aquila or Olivone. In winter, a beautiful hiking trail leads to the hut, perfect for a trip with snowshoes or touring skis.

### **Can you tell us something about the story? Since when is this cabin open?**

The hut has been in existence since 1965. At that time the house was built exclusively from wood. In 2000, it was replaced by the current construction. The hut is now made of stone walls and wood. We offer a total of 30 beds on two floors, as well as a kitchen, a dining room and modern sanitary facilities with showers and toilets.

### **What is special about your region? Why should visitors come to your region? And what hikes can you do from your cabin?**

In winter, the region is ideal for snowshoeing, ski touring or similar winter sports. We are fortunate that we are in a sunny and easily accessible area with rather low avalanche danger. The most popular destination, both in winter and in summer, is the Punta di Larescia peak.

In summer, there are also other excursions, be it in the Leventina Valley or in the direction of Lucomagno. And there are wonderful trails for mountain bikers in the area.

On the Alp of Gorda you can also take beautiful walks and enjoy the local products. In addition, the night sky over the Gorda cabin is well suited for astronomical observations. The starry sky is very clear here, and we regularly organize evenings for stargazing. In addition, even a project for the construction of an observatory near the Gorda hut is underway.

Therefore: everyone is welcome! Above all, our region offers peace and beautiful nature. From here, various recreational opportunities can be undertaken, with the best views of the Ticino Alps - and all categories and all ages are welcome, from families to hikers to mountain bike riders. And the view is definitely worth it.

### **We are looking forward to the upcoming panoramic pictures. What can we see in these images? Which mountains, valleys and other geographical conditions will be visible?**

The view from the Gorda Hut extends from the Grenia mountain peaks along the ridge to the north to the highest point, the Adula Glacier at Rheinwaldhorn (3402 m above sea level). Towards the south you can see the side valleys (Valle Malvaglia and Pontirone) and gradually to the outermost point in the Morobbia valley. In the west we have the summit of Matro, the ski resort of Nara and last but not least the Punta di Larescia.

### **Is the Gorda cabin open all year round?**

Yes, the Capanna Gorda is open all year round. We are catering to our guests daily from June to October; during the remaining months, at weekends and during school holidays in the canton of Ticino.

**Thank you for the interview! We look forward to the new images and congratulations once again on winning the new Livecam!**