

Hiking path throughout the Tiergues and Soulsou Causses

Des falaises de Roquefort au Rougier



Dolmen de Tiergues (Roquefort Tourisme)



This circuit that leads you in the frontal causses across small valleys and ridges, displays a whole rich heritage and offers a getaway through time and space, with some superb views over Saint-Affrique.

Throughout stone tracks, low stone walls, a buissière and a pine plantation, this hike unveils some treasures of the local heritage: the Caylus rock, a former Seigneurial castle, the Tiergues dolmen, an outstanding megalith and the Soulsou farm. To get more info, a stop at the Maison de la Mémoire in Saint-Affrique is imperative!

Useful information

Practice : Trekking

Duration : 4 h 30

Length : 17.1 km

Trek ascent : 432 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Loop

Themes : Geology, History and heritage, Panorama

Trek

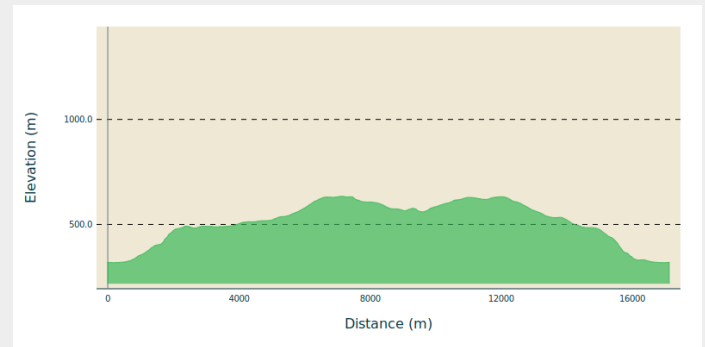
Departure : Parking Maréchal Foch à Saint-Affrique

Arrival : Parking Maréchal Foch à Saint-Affrique

Markings : — PR

Cities : 1. Saint-Affrique

Altimetric profile





Min elevation 318 m Max elevation 634 m

1. From the Maréchal Foch square in Saint-Affrique, take the road towards Rodez (route de Tiergues). 100 m after the Painlevé square, pass under the porch to your left. Carry on the path and reach the junction with the road which you take to the right up to a sharp bend. Walk straight on a track until an intersection with a larger path. Take this rising path up to the road.
2. Take right the stone track, then follow the path that ascends progressively and overhangs the road to Tiergues.
3. When you reach the junction, take the track of the dale which runs parallel to the D50. Follow the ravine and the brook towards Tiergues.
4. At the signposted intersection, take to the left a rising wooded path which leads to the plateau where the Tiergues dolmen is located.
5. After your visit to the dolmen, walk to the right along the D250 and reach the hamlet of Tiergues. To get through the village, walk around the graveyard and walk past the church (notice the sundial on the façade of a house).
6. As you get to the intersection with the cross, fork to the left and follow the trail that slopes gently down towards the D993. Take this road for 70 m and leave it to join a footpath on the right, then reach the tarred road which leads to Canissac and go further up to the left.
7. Walk past the buildings up to the junction and head towards Soulsou. Walk around the farm to the South-East and take a wide trail which runs parallel to the ravine. Carry on in the middle of pine plantations until you reach an intersection.
8. Leave the main trail and take right a path that goes across the undergrowth and follow it to the junction with a tarmac road that you take to the left. Leave consecutively two roads going to the left, then 100 m after a bend and a place called "Julhac", take right a track up to a junction with a tarmac road that reaches the town centre.

On your path...



-  Town of Saint-Affrique (A)
-  The Rock of Caylus (C)

-  The Old Bridge of Saint-Affrique (B)
-  Tiergues dolmen (D)

All useful information

Advices

Box tree moths are active from May to October. During the caterpillar phase, they feed on the leaves of box trees. They crawl down trees and move on long silken threads, although these threads are annoying when hiking they do not pose any health risk

Gear

Prévoir une réserve d'eau et une tenue adaptée

How to come ?

Transports

Travel by bus or train: <http://www.mobimipy.fr/>

Carpooling : [BlaBlaCar](#), [Rézo Pouce](#), [Covoiturage-libre](#), [Idvroom](#), [LaRoueVerte](#), [Roulez malin](#)

Access

Saint-Affrique is situated 31 km southwest of Millau via the D 992 and D 999

Advised parking

Parking place Maréchal Foch à Saint-Affrique

Information desks

OT Pays du Roquefort

Avenue de Lauras, 12250 Roquefort/
Soulzon

contact@roquefort-tourisme.fr

Tel : 0565585600

<http://www.roquefort-tourisme.fr/>



Source

On your path...



Town of Saint-Affrique (A)

The name Saint-Affrique, with its two “F’s,” often raises curiosity. Its origin dates back to the 5th century, when Arian Visigoths were persecuting Catholic Christians. Africanus, a bishop exiled from Comminges, is said to have taken refuge near the Sorgues River, where he preached to the local population and performed various miracles – a story depicted in the stained-glass windows of the Church of Our Lady of Mercy. The name Saint-Affrique, attested as early as 942 in the archives of Vabres l’Abbaye, may come from the Visigothic term “Affric” or “Effric,” meaning “powerful and fearsome.”

Anecdote : during the French Revolution, the town was briefly renamed “Montagne sur Sorgues” to remove any religious reference, as was common practice at the time.

Attribution : Virginie Govignon



The Old Bridge of Saint-Affrique (B)

Listed as a historic monument, the Old Bridge is one of the most beautiful medieval bridges in France, documented as early as 1408. With its bold yet elegant design, it spans the river with a central arch measuring 21.4 meters, flanked by two smaller arches. Built with a humpback profile and supported by slender triangular piers, it perfectly illustrates the skill of medieval builders. A true landmark of Saint-Affrique, this architectural gem offers a journey back in time through the city’s history.

Attribution : Virginie Govignon



The Rock of Caylus (C)

Perched at an altitude of 519 meters, the Rock of Caylus once supported the castle of the Counts of Caylus, built in the 11th century. Destroyed in 1238, the castle was the heart of a fortified complex that protected the local population. In 1808, the last remaining sections of the fortifications were dismantled to make way for the road to Tiergues. This site reveals a lesser-known chapter of Aveyron's feudal history and power struggles.

Attribution : Virginie Govignon



Tiergues dolmen (D)

With nearly 1,000 dolmens, Aveyron is the French department with the highest number of these prehistoric monuments. Contrary to popular belief, they were not built by the Celts, but by Neolithic communities more than 4,500 years ago.

The word "dolmen," meaning "stone table" in Breton, refers to prehistoric collective burial sites. Listed as a historic monument, the Tiergues dolmen is one of the most remarkable in Aveyron. Explored in the 20th century by archaeologist Émile Cartailhac, it bears witness to the beliefs and funeral practices of our distant ancestors. Nestled in a preserved natural setting, this site offers a true journey into the heart of prehistory.

Attribution : David Potron