The Durzon Spring - Canalettes

Des Gorges du Tarn au Causse du Larzac



La montée au dessus de la source (Virginie Govignon - OT Larzac et Vallées)



From the Durzon valley to the Larzac plateau, this shaded and refreshing route, punctuated by a few challenges, brings you to discover the curiosities of the limestone world of the Causse.

The Durzon resurgence and the Mousterian (Paleolithic) settlement are the unmissable highlights of this grand loop, which begins in a bucolic setting and continues along steep paths, among mossy rocks, to the Canalettes forest house. The return journey is via the descent of the Pas de la Mule, just as steep as the ascent.

Useful information

Practice : Trekking

Duration : 2 h 30

Length : 8.3 km

Trek ascent : 224 m

Difficulty : Medium

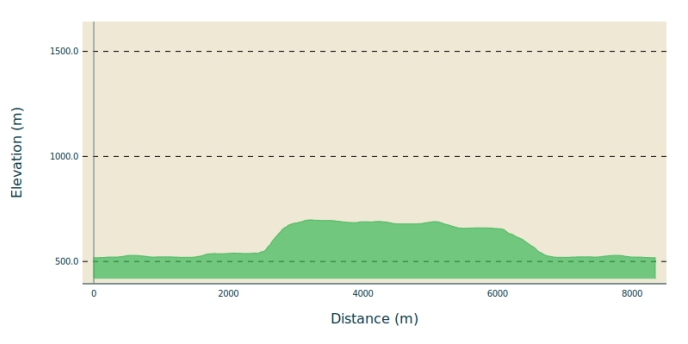
Type : Loop

Themes : History and heritage, Water

Trek

Departure : Pont du Mas du Pré (D178) , Nant (4km from the village centre)
Arrival : Pont du Mas du Pré (D178) , Nant (4km from the village centre)
Markings : PR
Cities : 1. Nant

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 518 m Max elevation 698 m

ROUTE CLOSED DUE TO WORKS FROM 18 MAY 2026 TO 30 JUNE 2026

1. From the parking area, take the road to the left towards Mas du Pré and cross the pretty bridge (you can see the hamlet on the left). At the iron cross, turn right and follow a fairly wide dirt track that runs alongside meadows and fields. The track then narrows as it enters the woods. The Durzon River is very close. At the intersection, leave the small tuff bridge on the right (private property of Victor Hugo's descendants) and turn left.
2. 200 meters further on, at a fork in the path, take the right-hand path and continue for about 800 meters to reach the spring.
3. Continue straight ahead (it is possible to cross the Durzon on the concrete footbridge and take the small path on the left to go around the expanse of water and rejoin the path that climbs above the spring). The climb, quite steep, is through woods and over rocks for about 500 meters. Once on the plateau, continue along the path for about 1 km until you reach a wide track on the right.
4. Make the short round trip (200 m) to the Mousterian shelter, then continue on the path that branches off to the right to reach the Canalettes forest house. At the junction with the track, follow it to the left towards La Blaquèrerie for 300 m.
5. Leave the track by taking the grassy path on the left towards the Pas de la Mule. After 500 m, turn sharply left and continue downhill on the track for 600 m through the forest.
6. Turn right onto a narrow path at a concrete marker inscribed with the number 21. The path winds its way down before beginning the descent between the rocks. Pass the Pas de la Mule and continue to rejoin the path along the Durzon river. Take the path on the right, the same one you took on the way up, to return to the starting point.

Recommendations:
Fairly steep climb between point 3 and point 4. Difficult but short section at Pas de la Mule.

On your path...



The Durzon Spring (A)

All useful information

Is in the midst of the park

This itinerary is located in the World Heritage zone Causses and Cévennes, mediterranean agropastoral cultural landscape.

How to come ?

Transports

To travel by bus or train, by carpooling Aires de covoiturage and hitchhiking Rezopouce.

Access

33km southeast of Millau via the D809 and D999 (Larzac) or via the D991 (Gorges de la Dourbie). From Nant follow the D178 towards the spring.

Advised parking

On the D178 (4km from the village of Nant), just before the Mas du Pré bridge on the left

Information desks

Tourist Office Larzac et Vallées
Place du Claux, 12230 NANT

infos@tourisme-larzac.com
Tel : +33(0)565622364
http://www.visit-larzac.com/



Source

C.C. Larzac et Vallées

On your path...



The Durzon Spring (A)

Located at the foot of the Larzac Causse, in the south-west of Nant, the Durzon Spring is a karstic resurgence whose supplying basin extends over 100km² between L'Hospitalet du Larzac, Le Caylar, Cazejourdes and Egalières. The Karstic system doesn't retains water on surface and constitutes big undergroung water reserves.
The flow of the source varies between 0,8m3/s and 35m3/s and has an average temperature of 11,13°C. The Durzon river runs for 6km and flows into the Dourbie river at the place "La Mouline".

Attribution : SandrinePerego