VTT N°51 - From the Dourbie Valley to the Larzac Plateau

Des Gorges du Tarn au Causse du Larzac





Sur le Puech Bassel (Virginie Govignon - OT Larzac et Vallées)

Through broad-leaved tree forests and the bare moors of the limestone plateau, between wide tracks and boxwood-lined paths, a grand loop to explore the southeastern slopes of the Larzac plateau in Aveyron. A guaranteed delight.

Given its length and elevation gain, a certain level of endurance is required on this route, which presents few technical difficulties, except for a few particularly steep sections between Algues and Sauclières. These efforts will be rewarded halfway through with a stop at the Templar village of La Couvertoirade, followed by

Useful information

Practice : VTT

Duration : 4 h 30

Length : 42.6 km

Trek ascent : 886 m

Difficulty : Very hard

Type : Loop

Themes : Agropastoralism, Flora, History and heritage, Top 20 à Vélo

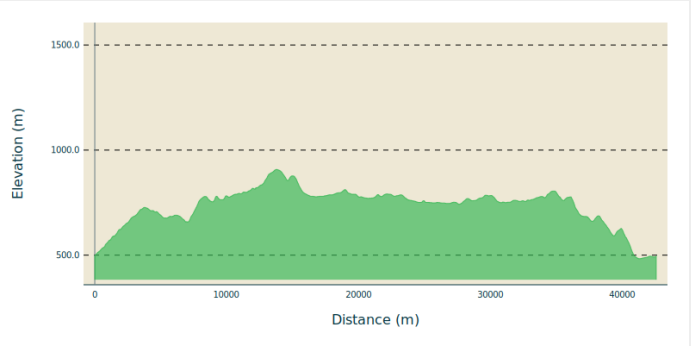
Accessibility : VTTAE

crossing the Larzac region's landscape reminiscent of a western landscape!

Trek

Departure : D999, Castelnau Farm, Nant
Arrival : D999, Castelnau Farm, Nant
Markings : VTT Parc
Cities : 1. Nant
2. Saint-Jean-du-Bruel
3. Sauclières
4. La Couvertoirade
5. Cornus

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 483 m Max elevation 908 m

1. From the parking area, cross the road to take the track that climbs gradually to the hamlet of Algues. Continue for approximately 2 km along the road until you reach the junction with the RD999.
2. Take the track that branches off to the right, descending slightly but quickly climbing again with some very steep sections.
3. At the intersection with the road, follow it to the left for about 400 m, cross the bridge, then turn left to join the old Le Vigan-Tournemire railway line and the GTMC mountain bike route as far as La Couvertoirade. Continue straight ahead to go through the tunnel and continue for 2.5 km on a gentle climb.
4. Cross the road and continue along the old railway line for 500 m. Leave it to the left to join the D7 and follow it to the right for 300 m.
5. Leave the road and take the track on the left to reach the highest point of your route, the Puech du Bassel, at the GTMC mountain bike marker. The route crosses the Larzac plateau via a series of tracks and paths typical of the Causse region, passing by the Domaine de Gaillac (accommodation, restaurant, equestrian center, museum). In La Couvertoirade, follow the road to the left to visit this fortified Templar and Hospitaller site (round trip).
6. Join the D185 towards La Pezade for 800m to find a beautiful, wide track on the right. Stay on this track, which has a Wild West feel. In La Salvetat, enter a very beautiful boxwood-lined path (to the right of the track).
7. At the hamlet of Le Cun, turn right to reach La Blaquèrerie. Cross the village to reach the D7 and take the road opposite, slightly to the right, towards La Portalerie. Continue for about 1km, then turn right onto the old railway line for about 3km.
8. Continue left on the GR71D for 6 km to reach Nant. At the gas station, follow the road towards St-Jean du Bruel for 1 km to reach the Castelnau farm.

On your path...


Serre de l'Aigle
Beauvoisin
le Viala
Bois du Viala
la Mouline
Ambouls
St-Michel
Fougayrolles
la Coste
le Roubieu
D999
Lavaur
le Liquier
Mas du Pré
le Caussonel
le Mas de Pommiers
le Durzon
le Bois du Roi
le Frayssinet Bas
Canalettes
Sauclières
Forêt Domaniale du Causse du Larzac
CAUSSE DU LARZAC
Combe Redonde
Blaquererie
Cazejourdes
Belvezet
Gaillac
D273
D7
Gruelle
A75
les Menudes
La Couvertoirade
D185
1 km
Leaflet | Plan IGNV2 - Carte © IGN/Geoportail

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.

Advices

This route crosses pastureland, and livestock guarding dogs are preset to protect the flocks.

If you encounter livestock guarding dogs:

- Stop and dismount so they can identify you. Remain calm and passive; do not threaten or pet them.
- Give the flock a wide berth and keep your distance to disturb it as little as possible.
- Continue walking alongside your bicycle.
- Keep your dogs on a leash.

Learn more

How to come ?

Transports

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

Access

35 km southeast of Millau via the D809 and D999 (Larzac plateau) or the D991 (Dourbie Gorges). Castelnau: 2 km from Nant towards St-Jean du Bruel via the D999.

Advised parking

Castelnau Farm, near the walnut tree

Accessibility

VTTAE

Information desks

Tourist Office Larzac et Vallées
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http://www.visit-larzac.com/



Source

C.C. Larzac et Vallées - Site Grands Causses VTT-FFC N°321

Site VTT cofinancé par l'Union Européenne.

Sites VTT FFC