VTT N°52 - Algues Castle

Des Gorges du Tarn au Causse du Larzac



Dans le hameau d'Algues (Virginie Govignon - OT Larzac et Vallées)



Climb around the ruins of Algues Castle, sometimes skirting its hill, sometimes overlooking it with a superb panoramic view of the Causse Bégon plateau. A route recommended only for the most experienced mountain bikers.

A challenging climb between Algues and Sauclières, followed by a tricky descent towards Saint-Michel-de-Rouviac, are the two highlights of this magnificent hike, which demands a high level of technical skill. The Marquis d'Assas's residence, the ruins of Algues Castle, and the Romanesque church of Saint-Michel dot a breathtakingly beautiful limestone plateau landscape.

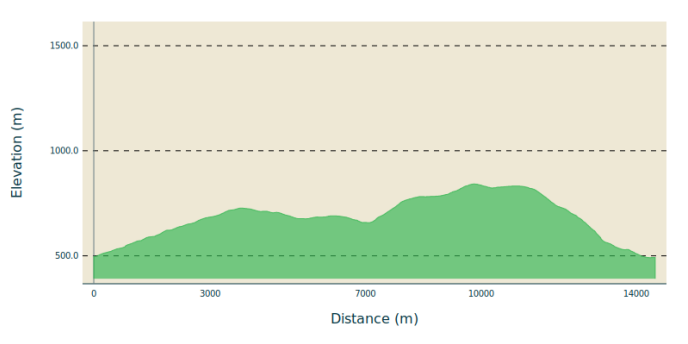
Useful information

- Practice : VTT
- Duration : 1 h 45
- Length : 14.5 km
- Trek ascent : 448 m
- Difficulty : Hard
- Type : Loop
- Themes : Agropastoralism, History and heritage
- Accessibility : VTTAE

Trek

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

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 491 m Max elevation 842 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 junction with the road, follow it to the right towards Caussanel for about 600 m and continue on the track to the left for 400 m. Then take a path on the right that climbs the hill, descends on the other side, and rejoins a wide track heading towards a quarry. Continue to the left on the track, pass the quarry entrance, and continue for a few hundred meters.
4. Take a narrower track that branches off to the right until the view opens up. This is followed by a wide and rapid descent, sometimes through the woods, sometimes along the edge, with a beautiful view of the valley.
5. Almost at the bottom of the descent, at the small pass, take the track on the right to reach the hamlet of St-Michel de Rouviac (viewpoint of the hamlet from the crossroads of tracks), cross it and pass in front of the Romanesque church (11th century) to rejoin the D999. Turn right to reach the starting point 250m further on.

On your path...


Ambouls
la Moulne
la Dourbie
Saint-Michel
le Roubieu
les Quatre Chemins
Font Nègre
les Prés
la Coste
Rivalte
la Violet
Coste Brial
Cantaloube
le Sentou
Lavaur
le Causse
le Caussonel
le Bosc
le Mas de Pauque
le Bois du Roi
les Combeforts
le Frayssinet Bas
l'Auriol
Brévinque
Abrigues
500 m
Leaflet | Plan IGNV2 - Carte © IGN/Geoportail

All useful information

Advices

Steep descent between point 4 and point 5.

How to come ?

Transports

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

Access

35km 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

At the Castelnau Farm, 2km from Nant towards St-Jean du Bruel

Accessibility

VTTAE

Information desks

Tourist Office Larzac et Vallées
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