

# Crêtes et buissières du plateau de Mascourbe

Des falaises de Roquefort au Rougier



Crêtes et buissière du plateau de Mascourbe (Roquefort Tourisme)



Following drailles (pathways used for the seasonal transhumance) and making your way through buissières (narrow passages between two rows of box trees) will allow you to experience the traditional routes of pastoralism. A hiking circuit providing you with the opportunity to discover an unusual small heritage building: la quille du berger.

As you approach the Mascourbe plateau, a landscape that has been shaped by centuries of agro-pastoralism tradition unfolds before your eyes. During this family hike, explore some splendid buissières and enjoy sweeping views

## Useful information

Practice : Trekking

Duration : 1 h 45

Length : 6.8 km

Trek ascent : 147 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Loop

Themes : Agropastoralism,  
Panorama

over the Nonenque abbey, the Sorgues valley and the Guillaumard plateau.

## Trek

**Departure** : Hamlet of Mascourbe

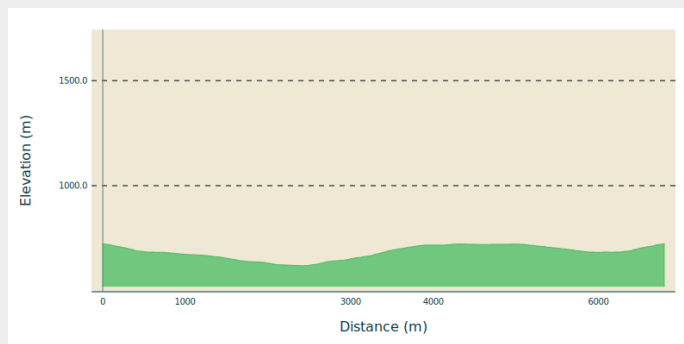
**Arrival** : Hamlet of Mascourbe

**Markings** : — PR

**Cities** : 1. Saint-Félix-de-Sorgues

2. Marnhagues-et-Latour

### Altimetric profile




Min elevation 619 m Max elevation 723 m

1. Take the path that goes on the left towards N.E. and carry on about 1.5 km along a beautiful “bouissière” (a narrow passage defined by two rows of box trees) an ancient path which was used to connect Mascourbe to Nonenque.
2. The view of the plateau emerges and the path turns to the right, going S.E. alongside a fence. Walk to the edge of the plateau.
3. Head towards the southwest among box trees and oaks. The path runs slightly uphill and provides very nice views over the Annou vale and the Nonenque abbey. The trail leads you out of the woodland.
4. Keep on strolling along the edge of the plateau and enjoy the scenic view over the Sorgue valley and the surrounding hills and plateaus (Guilhaumard, Escandorgue, Espinouse, monts de Lacaune). Reach “the Shepherds Tower”, which is a very unusual stone building. Keep on walking along the edge of the plateau for about 700 m.
5. Do not take left the path that runs downhill towards the Nonenque vale, but instead walk away from the plateau to take a track on your right that runs along to a path, that turns into a “bouissière” which leads to the hamlet of Mascourbe

# On your path...



 Mascourbe Farm (A)

 Shepherd's Tower (B)

# 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

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: <https://lio.laregion.fr/>

Carpooling : [BlaBlaCar](#), [Rézo Pouce](#), [Mobicoop](#), [Idvroom](#), [LaRoueVerte](#), [Roulez malin](#)

### Access

From Saint-Affrique or from Cornus, take the D7 up to Saint-Félix de Sorgues, then head for Saint-Jean d'Alcas. Mascourbe is situated 3.5 km from Saint-Félix de Sorgues.

Advised parking

Road over the Borie on the edge of the track

**i Information desks**

**Saint-Affrique Tourist Office**

Boulevard Aristide Briand, 12400 Saint-Affrique

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



# On your path...

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## Mascourbe Farm (A)

The Mascourbe farm, recorded as early as 1373, belonged to the Knights Hospitaller of the Order of Saint John of Jerusalem. Rebuilt around 1583, it is now a fine example of rural architecture with medieval origins. Its buildings are arranged around a large rectangular courtyard, typical of agricultural estates of the period.

This site bears witness to everyday life and territorial organization under the influence of the knightly orders.

Attribution : Roquefort Tourisme

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## Shepherd's Tower (B)

This is a dry-stone construction called Quille or Tour de berger (Shepherd's Tower), on which shepherds used to stand to watch over their flocks. These towers are also a form of artistic expression of the shepherds, in which the shape of a cone, is superimposed on the piles of stones resulting from destoning.

Some of them are built in gneiss or schist and can be seen on the Lévezou plateau.

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