Pigeon huts and ATV cabins

Riez

Petite halte au cabanon (Velo Loisir Provence)

Path making... A bicycle from one shed to another

A silhouetted hut on the plateau of Valensole, a pastoral hut in the shade of a slope, a fountain on a village square are all links that the territory maintains with those who have lived there or who live there on a daily basis. The paths leading to them become again pathways of life which invite everyone to adapt their step, or their turn of the wheel to better discover and feel the many facets of the Verdon.

Useful information

Practice : MOUNTAIN BIKE

Duration : 4 h 30

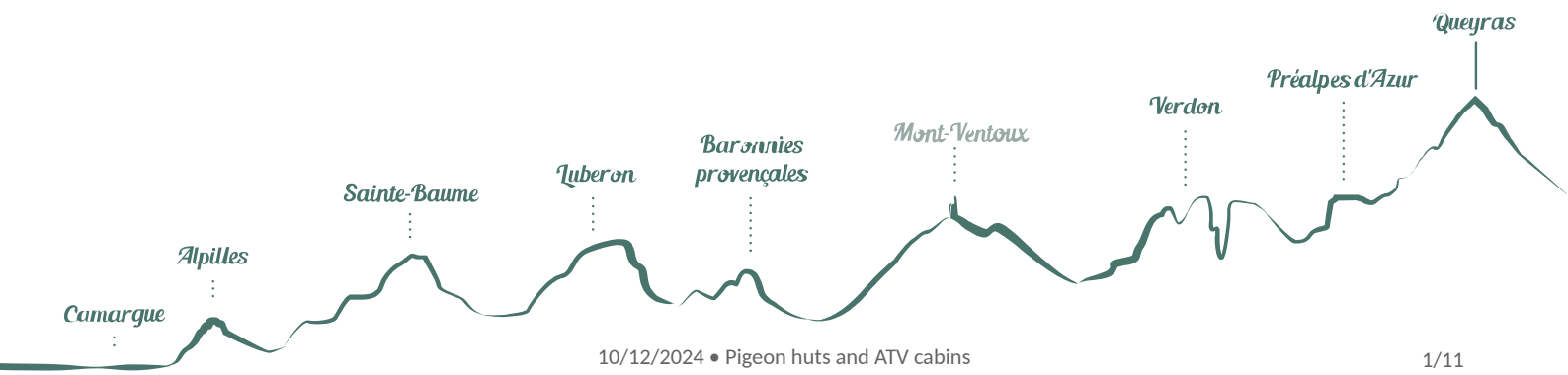
Length : 21.7 km

Trek ascent : 428 m

Difficulty : Difficult

Type : Boucle

Themes : Heritage and history

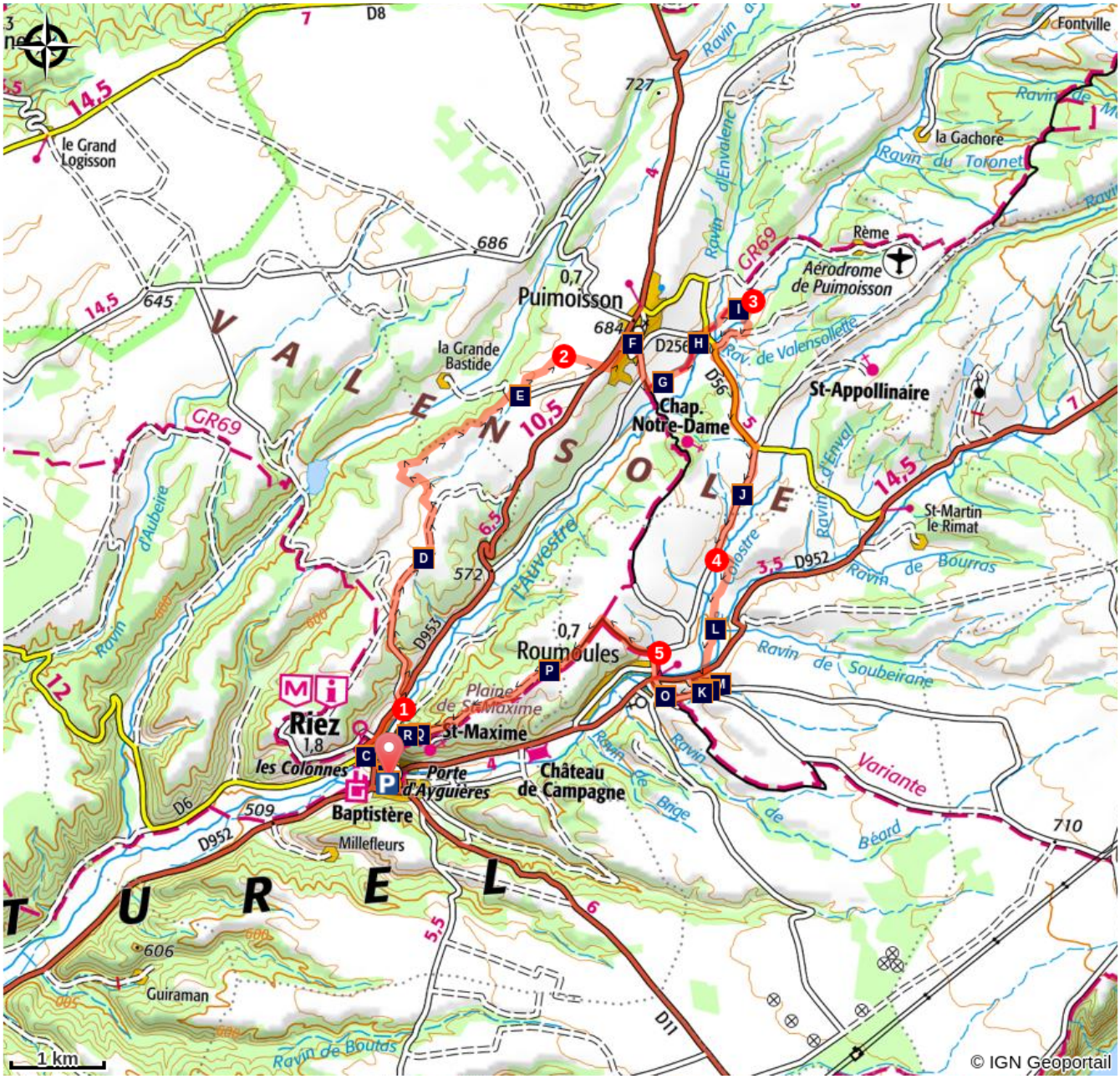


Trek

Departure : Riez
Arrival : Riez

From Riez, take a small communal road and climb up the plateau; the climb is arduous but promises a striking view of the Verdon mountains. Find a trail that is at first brittle and steep and increasingly rolling. Travel between truffle and lavender to the village of Puimoisson. Go down the plateau by the Moustiers road, between rolling trails and small secondary roads, then follow the Colostre (ford, potentially flooded, caution! possibility of variant while staying on the road) in the direction of Roumoules. Exit Roumoules by the GR4 and, after a few hundred meters, climb up the plateau via a steep and stony path (bifurcation loop 2). Amore accessible variant takes you through the trading estate. There is a straight and rolling trail completely open on the fields of lavender and olive trees that join the chapel of Sainte-Maxime. Take a last stony descent (variant possible by road) until the heart of the picturesque lanes of Riez.

On your path...



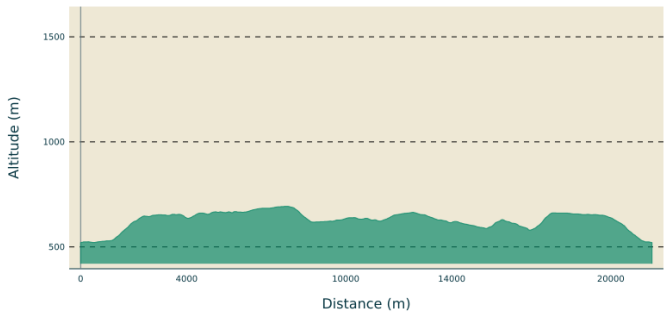
- Let's give life back to the Colostre! (A)
- The town cottages (C)
- The dovecote of Coulettes (E)
- The cabin in the field of the courtyard (G)
- The cabin of Envalenc (I)
- The covered well (K)
- The dovecote on the road to Saint-Blaise (M)
- The flight grid (O)
- The Lure mountain (Q)
- The dovecotes of the Louis Gardiol path (B)
- The cabin of Saint-Suffret (D)
- The dovecote of the village (F)
- The cabin of Ferrayes (H)
- The dovecote of Beines (J)
- The cabin of Carles (L)
- The cabin in the Saint-Blaise path (N)
- The cabin of Saint-Maxime (P)
- The Saint Maxime spring (R)

All useful information

Advices

On the roads, follow the rules and be careful at intersections. - Do not attempt to enter the huts, they are private property! Be careful as you approach, some cabins can be dangerous (falling stones, snakes, & hellip;) - Be careful in the hot summer temperatures: take plenty of water and a picnic. Make sure you have all the necessary accessories/equipment for a good hike: helmets, repair tools, air pump, anti-theft, maps, sunscreen.

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 520 m
Max elevation 693 m

Transports

Limitons les déplacements en voiture, pensons aux transports en commun et au covoiturage. Tous les transports en commun sur www.pacamobilite.fr

Access

A 18 km au nord-est de Gréoux-les-Bains, par la D952.

Information desks

House of the Verdon Regional Nature Park

Domaine de Valx, 04360 Moustiers-Sainte-Marie

info@parcduverdon.fr
Tel : +33 (0)4 92 74 68 00
http://www.parcduverdon.fr/

OT Riez
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tourisme.riez@wanadoo.fr
Tel : +33 (0)4 92 77 99 09
http://www.ville-riez.fr/

On your path...

Let's give life back to the Colostre! (A)

The Colostre is a biological reservoir of great importance for lower Verdon and Durance. But it lost its beauty during the twentieth century, from a bed in braids to a more straight and steep path. If the number of fish species has decreased, the river and its valley still shelter some emblematic species such as the Beaver or the Small Horseshoe bat. A restoration project is under way to restore its good functioning and all its vitality.

Attribution : Corinne Gauthier - PNR Verdon

The dovecotes of the Louis Gardiol path (B)

1 / You are on the L. Gardiol path: look up. The attic of the village houses often had a dovecote, facing south. We can notice the flight grid surrounded by green and brown glazed tiles.

Attribution : Marjorie Salvarelli - PNR Verdon

The town cottages (C)

2/ In the outskirts of the town you will find cottages with an urban look very much influenced by "the 30s". Discover one of them, a small hook towards Valensole; we note its slender roof with four slopes, made of mechanical flat tiles are very characteristic of this period. A glass greenhouse was used as a winter garden.

Attribution : Gwenael Saby - PNR Verdon

The cabin of Saint-Suffret (D)

3 / Just like many country cottages, it suggests the remains of a gutter that was connected to a tank underground. Collecting rainwater was the only way for the owner to have a water supply.

The dovecote of Coulettes (E)

4 / At the end of the road on the right, the Coulettes's dovecote, restored in 2013 by the Verdon Park, has retained its rural decor. The ground floor includes a bird table topped with a rack and an upstairs section for pigeons with pigeonholes. A wooden birdhouse was built to accommodate a barn owl.

Attribution : Annie Robert - PNR Verdon

The dovecote of the village (F)

5 / Look at this little dovecote inserted in the setting of the village. The triangular pediment is pierced by a small, wooden flight grid. We see metal rods which indicate the presence of drawstrings that reinforce the hold of the masonry.

Attribution : Gwenael Saby - PNR Verdon

The cabin in the field of the courtyard (G)

6 / This building, notable for the presence of a cypress, has a living room upstairs where the owner can warm up by the fireplace.

Attribution : ©Stefano Blanc - PNR Verdon

The cabin of Ferrayes (H)

8 / This cabin, which is very run down, allows visitors to see the material used: The pebbles, typical of Valensole, were filled with a mortar of lime before being covered with a protective lime coating.

Attribution : Gwenael Saby - PNR Verdon

The cabin of Envalenc (I)

9 / Metal plates are visible in each corner of the building. Smooth and slippery, they keep away predators, preventing them from holding on.

Attribution : Marjorie Salvarelli - PNR Verdon

The dovecote of Beines (J)

10 / The cone-shaped loft can be seen in the distance. Traces of a stone cornice remain, delimiting the old roof with a double offset.

Attribution : Marjorie Salvarelli - PNR Verdon

The covered well (K)

14 / Near the river, a covered well alongside the entrance to the remarkably restored shed.

Attribution : Marjorie Salvarelli - PNR Verdon

The cabin of Carles (L)

11 / Turn left and in 200m you will discover the cabin of Carles. Note the aesthetics of the Génoise tiling, which has two rows of tiles with rounded corners marrying the gable wall.

Attribution : Marjorie Salvarelli - PNR Verdon

The dovecote on the road to Saint-Blaise (M)

12 / Notice the frame of the window: It is made by the stack of solid bricks, cut with a notch which forms the rabbet. When better plastered, the shutters are more effective during windy days. Before the putlogs collapsed, you could still see a date inscribed in plaster: 1857.

Attribution : Marjorie Salvarelli - PNR Verdon

The cabin in the Saint-Blaise path (N)

13 / The cabin houses the gardening tools. Note the presence of an arbor supporting two vines.

Attribution : Marjorie Salvarelli - PNR Verdon

The flight grid (O)

15 / In front of the parking lot, there is hidden grid off behind a plane tree. It indicates a construction date "1847", the initials "LC", all decorated with trefoil hearts.

Attribution : Marjorie Salvarelli - PNR Verdon

The cabin of Saint-Maxime (P)

16 / The big cabin in the middle of the Saint-Maxime plain is used to store farm machinery.

Attribution : Marjorie Salvarelli - PNR Verdon

The Lure mountain (Q)

The dominant view extends over the village, the Colostre lowland and in the distance the main peaks of Provence, from here we can see the Lure mountain which culminates at 1826m.
Attribution : Stefano Blanc - PNR Verdon

The Saint Maxime spring (R)

St. Maximus, patron of Riez, was bishop of the city in the fifth century. His cult is celebrated in all areas and his name has remained attached to many places. This hill overlooking the city bears its name, as the source springs halfway up. One naturally lends therapeutic virtues to this source. Tradition has it that its waters cure the eye ailments that were formerly attributed to its low rate of limestone.

Attribution : Stefano Blanc - PNR Verdon

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L'outil Geotrek a été financé par l'Union européenne, le Parc national des Ecrins et le Parc national du Mercantour.

Le projet Chemins des Parcs est financé par la Région Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur et les Parcs naturels régionaux des Alpilles, de Camargue, du Luberon, du Queyras et du Verdon.

Ce projet partenarial rassemble également le Comité Régional du Tourisme, les agences départementales de développement touristique, les offices de tourisme et les syndicats d'initiative.

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The Geotrek tool was funded by the European Union, the Ecrins National Park and the Mercantour National Park.

The Chemins des Parcs project is funded by the Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur Region and the regional nature parks of Alpilles, Camargue, Luberon, Queyras and the Verdon.

This project was developed in partnership with the Regional Tourism Committee, the departmental tourist development agencies, and tourist offices.

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