

## Tour of the Montagne du Buègue

Saint-May



La montagne de Buègue (Vincent Aubert - PNR Baronnies Provençales)

*A hike for good walkers, to meet the traces of the rural and pastoral life of the Mountain Bugee.*

This road proposes to go around the mountain of Buègue starting from the plateau of Saint-Laurent and passing by the suspended valley of Léoux. This hike allows you to discover, between passes and valleys, several points of view on the surrounding landscapes and associated with specific traits of the agriculture of dry mountain.

### Useful information

Practice : WALKING

Duration : 3 h 30

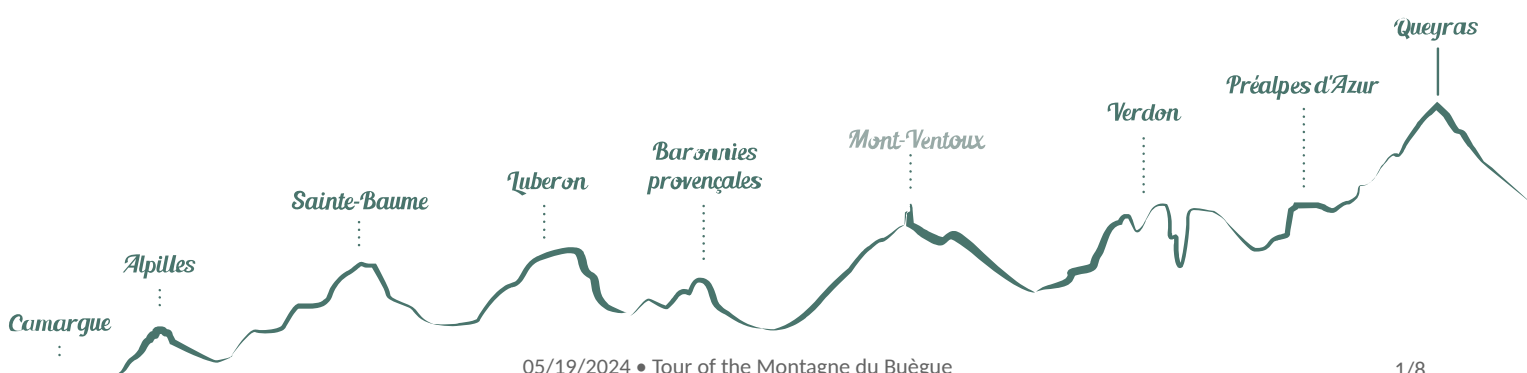
Length : 13.2 km

Trek ascent : 659 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Boucle

Themes : Farming and pastoralism,  
Fauna



# Trek

Departure : Croix de Bodon

Arrival : Croix de Bodon

From the parking lot of the Croix de Bodon, turn right onto the tarmac road to Bodon Abbey, 250m away. After the abbey, go past the roadside house and take the paved road up towards the top of the plateau.

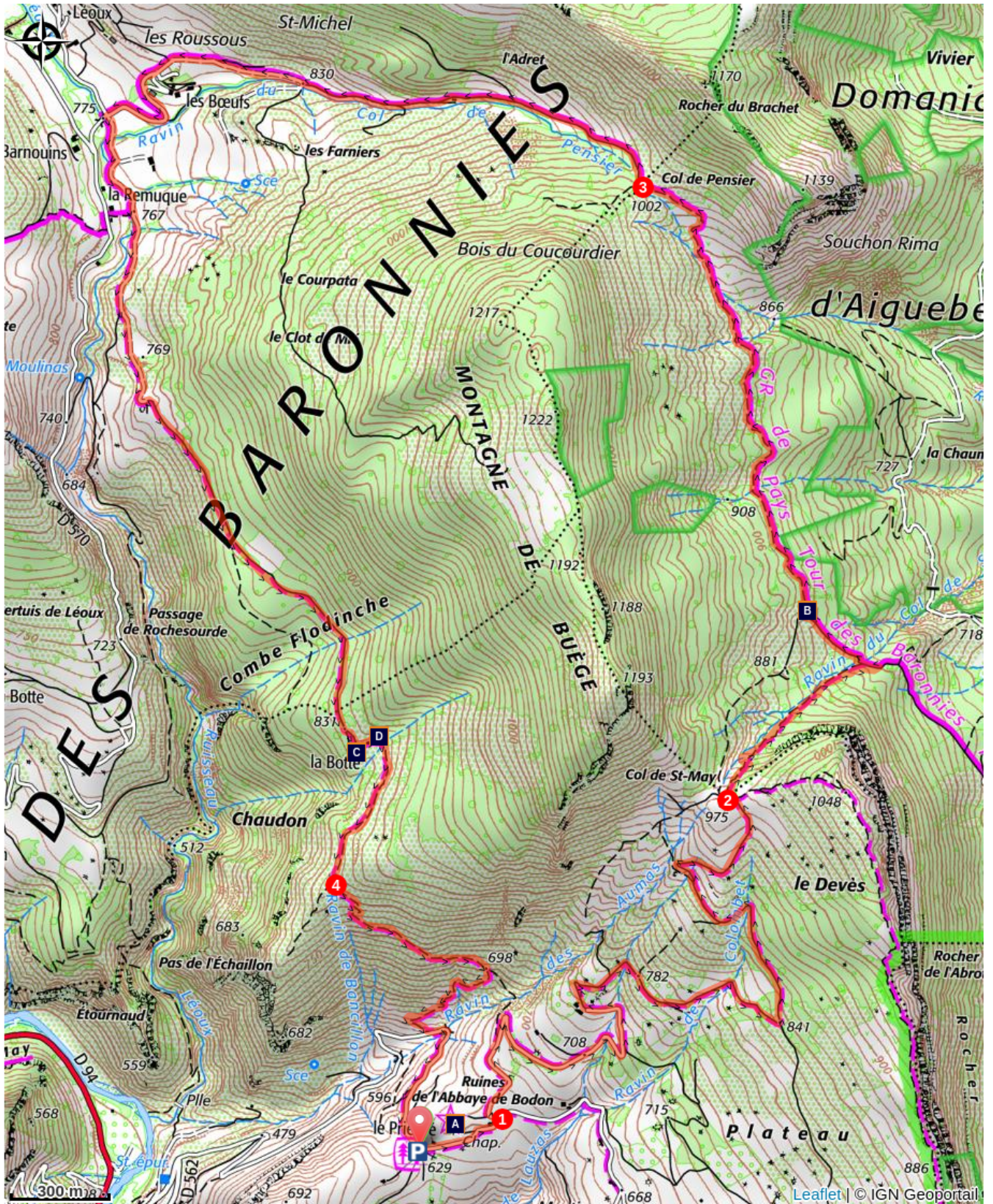
1 - Go up on the winding tar path to the highest farm where the small road turns into a dirt road. Follow this path for 2km to reach the lavender field at the top of the plateau. The signpost of Col de Saint-May is located 30m east of the lavender field.



2 - At the Col de Saint-May (975m) take the first trail to the right descending in ubac towards "Rémuzat" by the "Ravine du Col". (Be careful shortly after departure, passing overhanging and sloping on the side of amar!!) Follow the path along the creek until you come to a path that you follow to the left. Cross the little brook to go up steeply on a road that you leave in the first turn to take a path on the right that passes in front of the ruins of an old farm with a linden planted in front. Continue up the trail, past another ruin on the way to the Col de Pensier (1002m), which you will reach a little further.



3 - Go down the wide trail to reach the valley of Léoux and reach the road after a farm. At the bridge, do not cross the creek, turn left along the river. In the turn that leads to a farm, turn right and follow the trail which gradually rises above the stream until losing it and join a house at the place "Bergerie de la Botte". Stay behind the house, continue along the trail which slopes to the left, change slopes, and join the shoulder of themountain in front.

4 - Upon arriving on the ridge, leave the path for a path down left on the south flank. The trail joins the small road from Saint-May to the Plateau Saint-Laurent. Climb back up and rejoin the starting point.

# On your path...



-  The Chapel of Saint-Laurent (A)
-  The former sheepfold of La Botte (C)

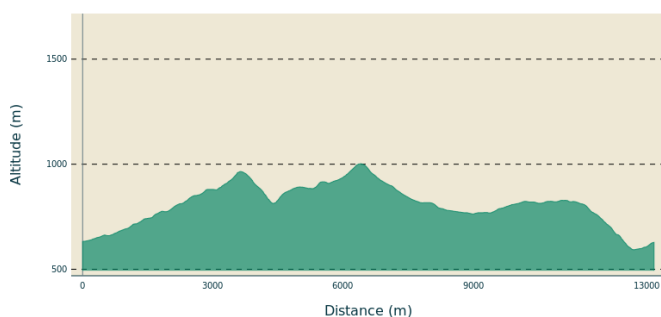
-  The farm of the small Chaume (B)
-  Tadpole oak trees (D)

# All useful information

## ⚠️ **AdVICES**

- RESPECTER LA TRANQUILLITE du lieu où on se promène, [éviter de crier](#) et ne pas utiliser d'instruments ou d'appareils sonores (radio, etc.), par respect pour les autres usagers mais aussi pour la [quiétude de la faune](#), notamment en périodes de reproduction et d'hivernage où les animaux sont beaucoup plus vulnérables.
- Éviter de cueillir les plantes sauvages : certaines d'entre elles sont [protégées](#).
- Éviter de randonner dans le lit des cours d'eau. Le piétinement est susceptible de déranger les espèces et la vie aquatique (poissons, libellules, crustacés). [Marcher de préférence sur les berges de la rivière](#).
- Une partie de l'itinéraire est fortement [exposée au soleil](#), prendre l'équipement nécessaire (eau, casquette, crème solaire, ...) pour les chaudes journées d'été. Privilégier un [départ tôt le matin](#) pour éviter les heures chaudes de la journée.
- RISQUE INCENDIE. Le feu est l'ennemi de la forêt... et du randonneur ! [Ne pas fumer](#) en forêt et [ne pas allumer de feu](#), d'autant que quelle que soit la saison, c'est [interdit](#) ! Et en période estivale, avant de partir en balade, se renseigner sur les [conditions et réglementations d'accès aux massifs forestiers](#).

## Altimetric profile



Min elevation 593 m  
Max elevation 1002 m

## Access

26km east of Nyons on the RD94 (route de Gap). In the Gorges de l'Eygues leave the D94 for the D562 going up to the village of Saint-May then follow the small road indicating "Vautours" for 2km.

## Advised parking

Parking de la Croix de Bodon, situé au-dessus du village de Saint-Mau et accessible par la route du plateau de Saint-Laurent

## Information desks

Maison du Parc naturel régional des Baronnies provençales



575 Route de Nyons - La plaine du Pont, 26510 Sahune

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# On your path...

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## The Chapel of Saint-Laurent (A)

The Saint-Laurent chapel is one of the remains of the church of the priory of Bodon. Originally from an abbey founded in the 6th century by a holy monk named Mary or May, in the 12th century, this priory controlled forty churches located between La Motte-Chalancon, Lemps and Sainte-Jalle, and was then attached to the abbey of Ile-Barbe, in Lyon. This small chapel was located in the southern apse of the church of which there are vestiges (private property, forbidden access).

Attribution : PNR Baronnies Provençales

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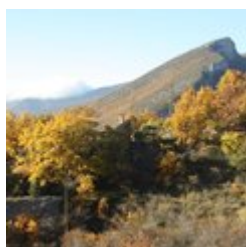


## The farm of the small Chaume (B)

These ruins are the last visible remains of the several farms of this side of Buègue, gradually abandoned since the end of the 19th century. The L-shaped building, frames a courtyard bounded by a wall to the south. On the ground floor, it gathered several spaces devoted to animals: A sheepfold for goats and sheeps, a stable for horses, a "pourcieu" for pigs. On the first floor, a part was reserved for living, while the other one was devoted to storing the hay.

Attribution : PNR Baronnies Provençales

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## The former sheepfold of La Botte (C)

The former sheepfold of La Botte is one of the most visible scenery markers of the pastoral activity which reigned on the mountain of Buègue until the post-war period. Now rehabilitated as a dwelling, the building was built with the slope: The level offset made it a ground floor destined to the animals and a first floor devoted to the hay. On the other hand, the sheepfold had been positioned on a sunny slope and near a creek.

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## Tadpole oak trees (D)

Above the road towards the Bugeue ridge, a wood of old oaks with crooked trunks, was used to feed the flocks. Young twigs were regularly cut to feed the animals with the leaves of the trees. With each cut and each regrowth of these branches, the scars of the wood formed balls that the bark would overlay little by little. These trees are called "tadpole oaks" (with a head) because of their very specific shape.

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

[www.cheminsdesparcs.fr](http://www.cheminsdesparcs.fr)

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