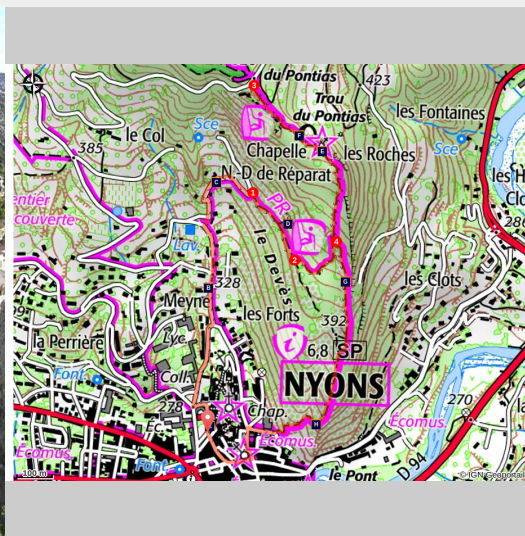


## The Devès

Nyons



Le Devès, surplombant la ville de Nyons (Pnr Baronnies provençales)

*A walk on the heights of Nyons,  
between scrubland and olive groves: it  
is the right path to soak up the  
Nyonsaise atmosphere.*

"It's a ride that I feel the atmosphere" hiking "although being close to the city. After a climb on a small road in the middle of olive trees we reach the Devès hill where we enjoy a view of the whole city of Nyons and the Eygues valley. The trail of Ridge is a little technical in the rocks but such an atmosphere when one leads in the face of the old ramparts of the old-city!!! "Vincent Aubert, sports technician of nature to the RNP Baronnies of Provence.

### Useful information

Practice : WALKING

Duration : 2 h

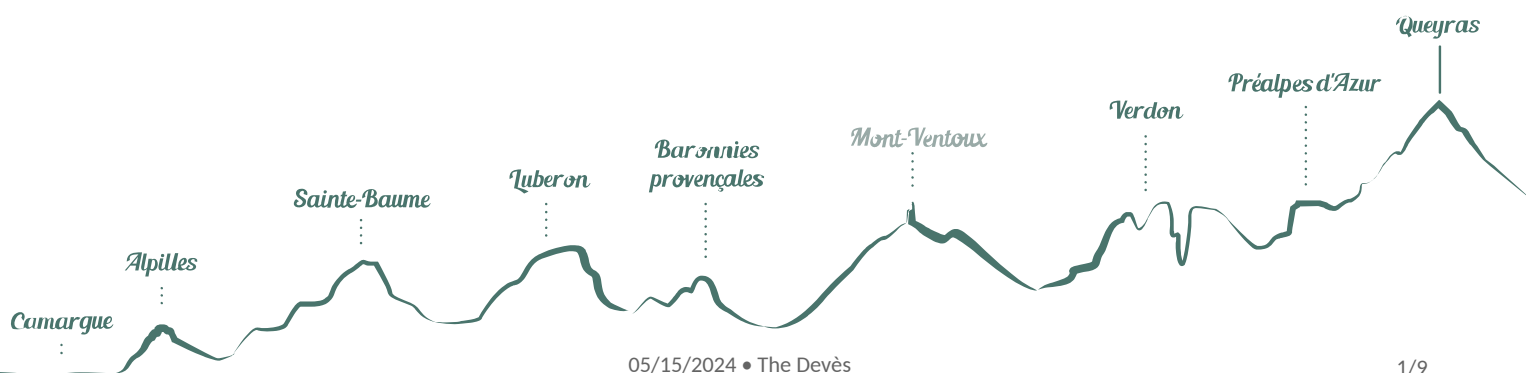
Length : 3.8 km

Trek ascent : 249 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Boucle

Themes : Heritage and history, Local products



# Trek

Departure : Nyons, town hall square

Arrival : Nyons

From the car park in front of the town hall, turn left on the street leading to the school. Follow André Escoffier street, which rises to the right of the school. At the dead end, continue on the paved road that climbs 50 meters then continue straight on a stony path that climbs among the olive trees. Cross a path from side to side and continue straight on a narrower path along a wall. Arriving at the concrete road, go up until you reach the big cypresses and turn right along the path that goes up the hedge. The path leads to a paved road that must be followed at the climb. Climb two small bends, then, at the fork at the foot of the big block of ocher rock, turn right on the small road down, which extends to a plank lined with olive trees.

1 - In the left turn, leave the road to take a right on the trail marked by a post indicating the climbing site. Go up this gently sloping path and pass at the foot of the rock climbing. At the exit of the green oak wood (rocky plate), leave the flat path to take the left that climbs. After the stone walls arranged in a circle in the oak grove, climb the wooded scrubland and reach the Devès junction (directional post alt. 470 m) with the GR 9.

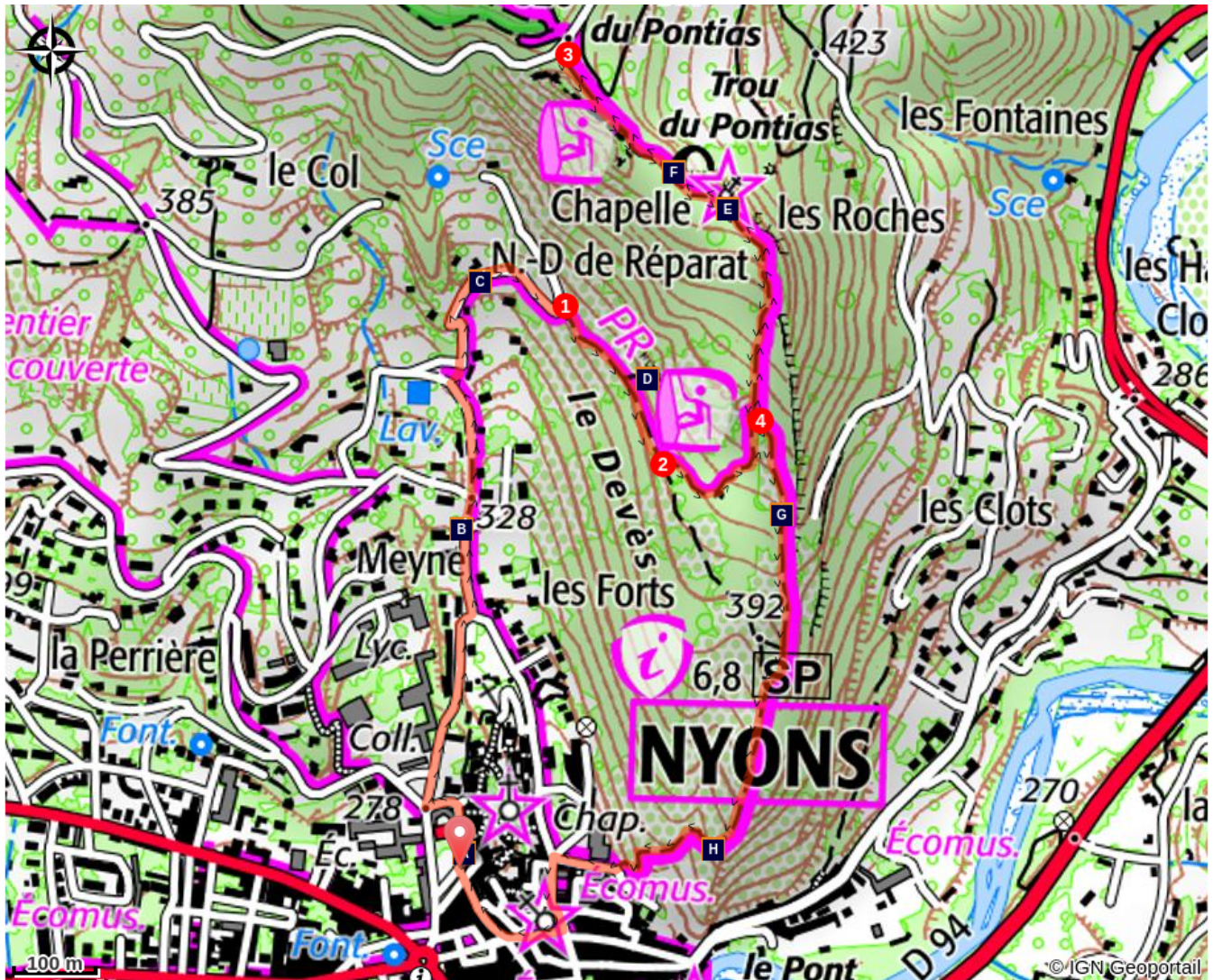
2 - Continue the path that goes left on the ridge to the Notre-Dame de Réparat chapel. Pass the Pontias Hole and continue on the Pontias Pass (road).

3 - Make a U-turn and return to the Devès intersection (directional post alt 470 m)

4 - Continue straight to go down the ridge and below, pass rocks and steps. When the path arrives in view of a building, keep going down to the left and, at the first houses, go down the Devès street. Through the small streets of the old town return to the Town Hall Square.



## On your path...



- Nyons, gateway to the Baronnies (A)
- The olive and the olive oil of Nyons (C)
- The Notre-Dame de Réparat Chapel (E)
- Three types of juniper on Devès! (G)



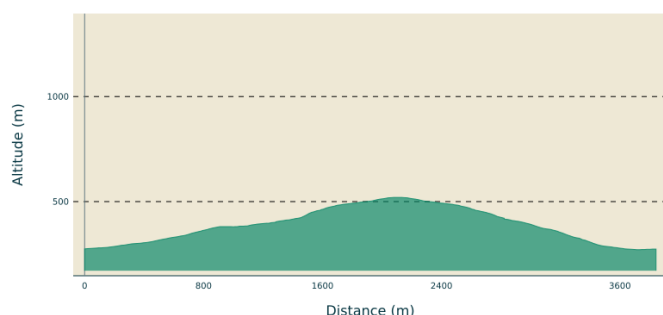
- The olive groves through time (B)
- The Bourdons cliff (D)
- The Pontias, the vintage wind (F)
- The city of Nyons from Devès (H)

# 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](#).
- 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 271 m  
Max elevation 520 m

## **Transports**

TER SNCF Coach Connection: [Operating hours of the line 71](#) (Montélimar-Nyons)

## **Access**

51.5 km south-east of Montélimar, by the D 541.

## **Advised parking**

Parking de la Place Buffaven (Mairie)

## Information desks

Maison du Parc naturel régional des Baronnies provençales



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

[smbp@baronnies-provencales.fr](mailto:smbp@baronnies-provencales.fr)

Tel : +33 (0)4 75 26 79 05

<http://www.baronnies-provencales.fr/>

OT Baronnies en Drôme Provençale - Nyons

Place de la Libération, 26110 Nyons

[info@baronnies-tourisme.com](mailto:info@baronnies-tourisme.com)

Tel : +33 (0)4 75 26 10 35

<http://www.baronnies-tourisme.com>



# On your path...

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## Nyons, gateway to the Baronnies (A)

Located between the Vaux Mountain the north and the Eygues banks to the south, contiguous to the clue (rocky around a watercourse), the town of Nyons is the gateway to the Baronnies Provençal massif by the Eygues valley. From the fourteenth to the nineteenth century, its bridge was the only structure, upstream of Orange, to allow the crossing of the river in any season. The city becomes the point of passage for the commercial and military routes.

Attribution : Alexandre DEBELLE

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## The olive groves through time (B)

The establishment of olive trees in the Baronnies Provençale dates back to Antiquity as evidenced by the presence of Roman weights used for the oil press. Olive trees are already mentioned as a Nyons resource since 972 and in the Middle Ages, a large part of the local economy of the region is based on the olive oil trade. The two big freezes of 1929 and 1956 caused the loss of half of the olive trees and the closing of many mills.

Attribution : Pnr Baronnies provençales

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## The olive and the olive oil of Nyons (C)

The Nyons olive, "Tanche" variety, is harvested ripe, so black, after the first frost, from late November to late January. Olives of large caliber are intended for canning (mouth olives, Tapenade, Affinade ...) and the smaller ones are used to make the oil. The cultivation method and the quality of the olives of the west of the Baronnies Provençal massif was recognized in 1994 by the creation of an Controlled Appellation of Origin: The PDO "black olive and olive oil of Nyons".

Attribution : Pnr Baronnies provençales

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## The Bourdons cliff (D)

The Bourdons cliff is a site equipped for sport climbing in the 1980s and partially re-equipped in 2001. It presents a limestone pierced with numerous small crevices which denote compared to the other climbing cliffs of the massif. There is a climb of fifteen meters high with "water drops", "bulging" and slabs making this site a complete cliff for climbers.

Attribution : Pnr Baronnies provençales

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### The Notre-Dame de Réparat Chapel (E)

The Notre-Dame de Réparat chapel, built at the top of Devès, owes its name to the site that surrounds it, called "la Roche" (rupis in Latin). This district is formerly occupied: its inhabitants took advantage of its belvedere location, between the plain to the west and the Baronnies mountains to the east.

Already mentioned in the thirteenth century, it was associated with a hermitage but in the nineteenth century, it is abandoned and falls into ruin. The hermitage was restored about twenty years ago.

Attribution : Pnr Baronnies provençales

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### The Pontias, the vintage wind (F)

On the city of Nyons and on its heights blows a wind typical of the micro-climate the Pontias. This northern wind is credited with keeping the Nyonsais air fresh and dry. The Pontias legend tells that it appeared when Césaire, bishop of Arles at the beginning of the 6th century, threw his glove against a rock in which he had previously captured a breeze by the sea. Where the glove touched the rock, the earth opened and the wind gushed out, creating the "Pontias hole".

Attribution : Pnr Baronnies provençales

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### Three types of juniper on Devès! (G)

The Devès vegetation, on its slope oriented to the south west very exposed to the sun, is particularly adapted to the hot and dry conditions: it's the scrubland. Several varieties of juniper (G. commun, G. cade, G. of Phenicia) have colonized this stony and filtering soil, where oaks and pines can not plant their roots. Their tiny leaves (thorns) and their small size are all strategies developed to limit their needs (and losses) in water.

Attribution : PNR des Baronnies provençales

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### The city of Nyons from Devès (H)

In the center of the old town of Nyons, the church and the monastery Saint-Césaire are located on a site certainly occupied since antiquity. Above, the Forts district, with its thirteenth-century towers and its walls, is a secular neighbourhood. To the east and west, the city then developed around the Place des Arcades and a street that led to the Alps. The city remained in the walls until the eighteenth and it was not until the twentieth century that it spread in the lowland.

Attribution : Pnr Baronnies provençales

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