

La balade du Quartier

Saint-Julien



Iris sauvages (©Stefano Blanc - PNR Verdon)



A remarkable family circuit between banks, cliffs, and beaches with beautiful views of protected and landscaped areas.

This hike allows you to access an exceptional site in a protected natural area for its biological, geological and landscape wealth that starts at the very bucolic "Saint Julien Plage" where it is good to stroll on the banks of the lake then you will walk then on the old canal guard trail and its many works overlooking the lake and coves to reach the cliffs with remarkable views with the beautiful beaches of Esparron Lake.

Useful information

Practice : WALKING

Duration : 2 h 30

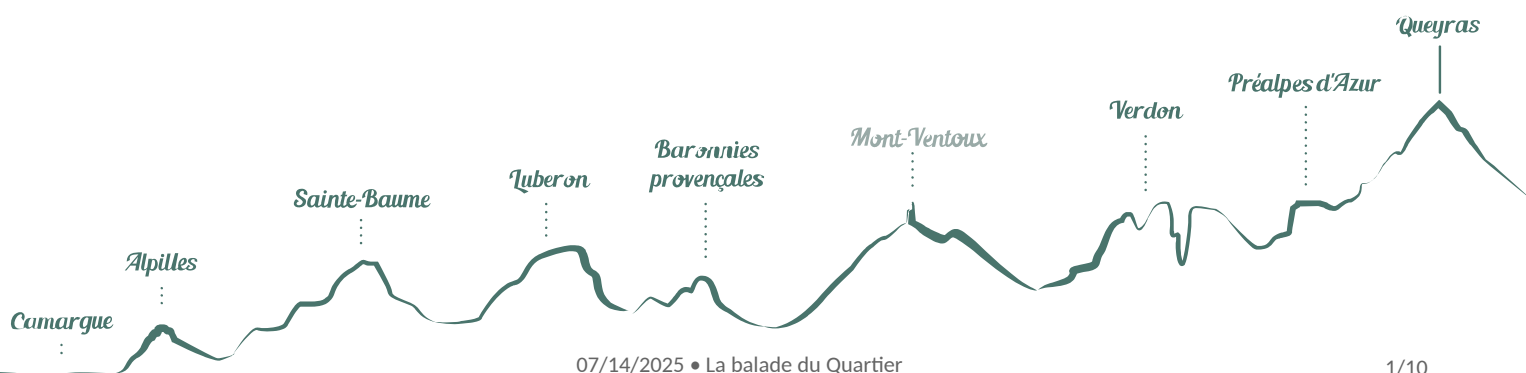
Length : 8.8 km

Trek ascent : 172 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Aller-retour

Themes : A lookout, a viewpoint,
Heritage and history, Waters and rivers



Trek

Departure : Since Saint-Julien Beach

Arrival : In Saint-Julien Beach

Markings :  GRP®  PR

From Saint-Julien beach go on the right (starting post of the trail) climb the few steps and follow the path along the old Verdon canal (yellow and red marking GR® de Pays). Pass the water intake of EDF and the Canal de Provence and walk on the path between the lake and the channel. Pass the stone bridge of the Barade and continue on this path to the end of the canal a little before the tunnel closed by a gate turn left.










1- Go through the opening of the channel turn right and climb on the plateau overlooking the lake. Follow the markings on the cliff (note you are on a Var ENS Sensitive Natural Area) do not go out of the path, until a large pebble track.

2- At Poteau Balcon du lac (385 m) - Go down the track to the left to its end, cross the channel and reach the edge of the lake by a path on the left.. Continue to follow the path along the riverbanks past the "Ponton du Lac" and continue to the level of the concrete bridge. Continue along the route of the old canal guard road to the left of it. Follow him to the house of the canal guard (Provence canal property) on the left at the locality of the district.

3- Return either by the track going up on the right (Beacknoning) At the next intersection continue straight and join point **(2)**. Return to departure by the route taken on the way. Otherwise redo the return by the same path.

On your path...



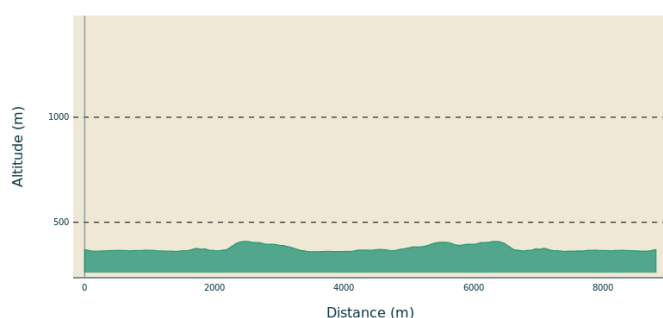
- | | |
|--|---|
|  Saint Julien-Plage (A) |  The intake from the canal de Provence (B) |
|  Bridge or aqueduct? (C) |  Sensitive Natural Area (D) |
|  Like a Caribbean air (E) |  Between Provence and the Alps (F) |
|  The cut off bridge (G) |  Far off the Chiran (H) |
|  Medieval route or Roman road (I) | |

All useful information

Advices

The site of Saint-Julien beach is equipped with a parking lot whose number of places is limited (150 places). In July-August access to parking is not free. Do not park on the banks. Prudence during the journey along the canal, monitor the children. This route is located in a Sensitive Natural Area (protected areas) picking, sampling, cairns forbidden do not go out of the dog trail on a leash. Provide 2 l of water per person, hat, walking shoes. From 15th of June to 15th of September risk of closure of the massive look at the site of the prefecture in "find out more" fire risk access to the mountains.

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 360 m
Max elevation 409 m

Access

From Gréoux the baths after the Verdon bridge turn left on the path of the chemin d'Aurafrede

Advised parking

Parking de Saint-Julien Plage

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 de Brignoles - Provence Verte & Verdon Tourisme

Boulevard Grisolle, 83670 Barjols

barjols@provenceverteverdon.fr

Tel : +33 (0)4 94 77 20 01

<http://www.provenceverteverdon.fr>

OT Gréoux-les-Bains

7 place de l'hôtel de ville, 04800 Gréoux-les-Bains

greouxlesbains@tourisme-dlva.fr

Tel : +33 (0)4 92 78 01 08

<http://www.greoux-les-bains.com/greoux-les-bains/fr/40/office-de-tourisme.html>

On your path...



Saint Julien-Plage (A)

Saint-Julien plage was born at the creation of the lake and over time became a small paradise very popular with locals, a haven of peace where it is good to come to refresh after long sunny days in the shade of the oaks along the banks of the lake.

Attribution : Stefano Blanc - PNR Verdon



The intake from the canal de Provence (B)

The first of two large water intakes contributing to the power supply of the EDF Vinon sur Verdon and the Canal de Provence to supply domestic and agricultural water, 116 municipalities, including Marseille, Toulon and Aix-en-Provence. The water then passes through the Maurras Gallery and other galleries and open channels to start as Canal de Provence near Rians.

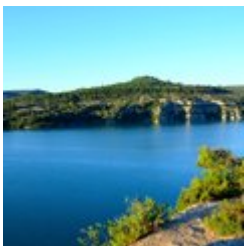
Attribution : Stefano Blanc - PNR Verdon



Bridge or aqueduct? (C)

Seen from below it looks like a bridge but it is the water of the old canal of Provence that was ended in 1875 which passed over then it is indeed an aqueduct, one of the many remarkable works of this old canal which operated until 1969 and it is the water intake of the canal of Provence with the creation of the lake which took the relay to convey the water until Aix en Provence, Marseilles, and many cities from the south of Provence.

Attribution : Stefano Blanc - PNR Verdon



Sensitive Natural Area (D)

The Sensitive Natural Areas of the Var, known as ENS, are sites located in environments remarkable for their biological diversity. They are inherently fragile, rare or endangered. These treasures of biodiversity are managed according to this fragility. Appropriate amenities enhance their wealth and avoid over-frequenting harmful environments. The County Council strives to preserve the remarkable sites and the landscapes, to safeguard the natural habitats.

Attribution : Stefano Blanc - PNR Verdon



Like a Caribbean air (E)

The impoundment of Lake Esparron in 1969 drowned the rich agricultural lands of the valley but in return the rise of the waters allowed to redraw the banks leaving sometimes beaches, sometimes steep cliffs, redrawing the landscapes that were transformed into an idyllic place if only by the colour of the water or by creating real small coves.

Attribution : Stefano Blanc - PNR Verdon



Between Provence and the Alps (F)

Just before going down towards the lake an opening is offered to you with the view on the village of Esparron de Verdon, the immense plateau of Valensole and on the bottom the Alps massifs, you are at the heart of the high Provence, the prevailing winds with evocative names Tremontano - Tems dré - Montagnero - Ventouresco often bring back the freshness of the snow-capped peaks.

Attribution : Stefano Blanc - PNR Verdon



The cut off bridge (G)

Here the little road seems to flow into the lake. It has not always been so. In 1967, the launching of the lake submerged a stone bridge by 12 meters with three arches that spanning the Verdon connected "Le Quartier" to the rest of the Esparron town. Passage between the Var and the Alpes de Haute-Provence This bridge built in 1725 by the municipality of Arles was a passageway for transhumance herds between the Crau and the pastures of the Pre-Alps avoiding the quirks of the Verdon.

Attribution : DR



Far off the Chiran (H)

From the limestone cliffs overlooking the lake we have a magnificent view of Esparron de Verdon and its castle, we can also see in the distance the snow-capped Mount Chiran which is the second summit of the Verdon Prealps (1 905 m) after its neighbor on the right the Mourre de Chanier (1,930 m). Just above the keep the Grand Mourre (1898 m). The Chiran is separated from the Mourre de Chanier by the Portal of Blieux, col of 1,595 m of altitude.

Attribution : Stefano Blanc - PNR Verdon



Medieval route or Roman road (I)

If you are careful the path is a true archaeological treasure, indeed there is a paved path, medieval for some, Roman for others, it is true that here the Verdon valley has served as a place of passage from time immemorial for but also for transhumance herds between Crau and the Prealps pastures. In 1725 the town of Arles built a bridge a little further upstream avoiding the vagaries of the Verdon in 1967 the launch of the lake has submerged it.

Attribution : Stefano Blanc - PNR Verdon



- En aucun cas les auteurs des contenus de ce site ne sauraient être tenus pour responsables de problèmes ou d'accidents sur les itinéraires cités.
- Cependant, nous comptons sur vous pour signaler toutes contradictions importantes entre cette fiche et le terrain.
- Pensez également à signaler les éventuels problèmes rencontrés pendant votre balade sur <http://sentinelles.sportsdenature.fr> (erreur de balisage, panneau défectueux, pollution, conflit d'usages...).
- La vente de cette fiche est autorisée au coût d'impression.
- Ne pas jeter dans la nature.

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.

- The authors of this website will in no case be held responsible for problems or accidents on the routes mentioned.
- We count on you to point out any inconsistency between this content and the field itineraries
- Please report any problems encountered on the routes (route marking problems, defective panels, pollution, conflict of uses ...) on <http://sentinelles.sportsdenature.fr>
- The sale of this sheet is authorized at the cost of printing
- Please don't litter

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.

www.cheminsdesparcs.fr

*Tours et détours dans les Parcs naturels régionaux
de Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur*

Avec le soutien de

