

Roc Troué

Piémont cévenol sud - Soustelle



Panorama depuis le sentier (© Nathalie Thomas)



Immerse yourself in the lower Cévennes, between sweet-chestnut groves and maquis scrubland, as you explore the Galeizon valley and the plains of Languedoc.

Useful information

Practice : Hiking on foot

Duration : 4 h

Length : 10.0 km

Trek ascent : 494 m

Difficulty : Medium


Type : Loop

Themes : Architecture and village, Fauna and flora

Trek

Departure : Peyraube Tombs site

Arrival : Peyraube Tombs site

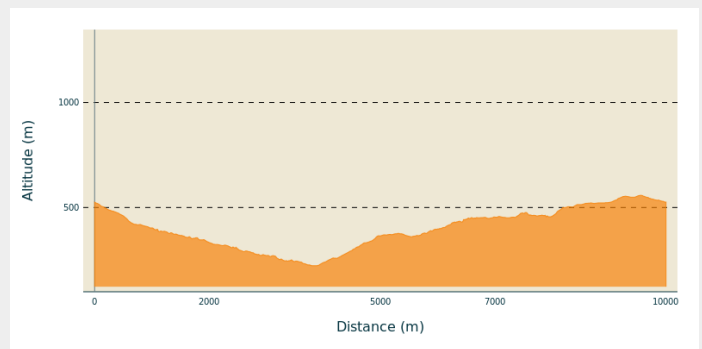
Markings :  Yellow waymarks

Cities : 1. Soustelle

2. Lamelouze

3. Les Salles-du-Gardon

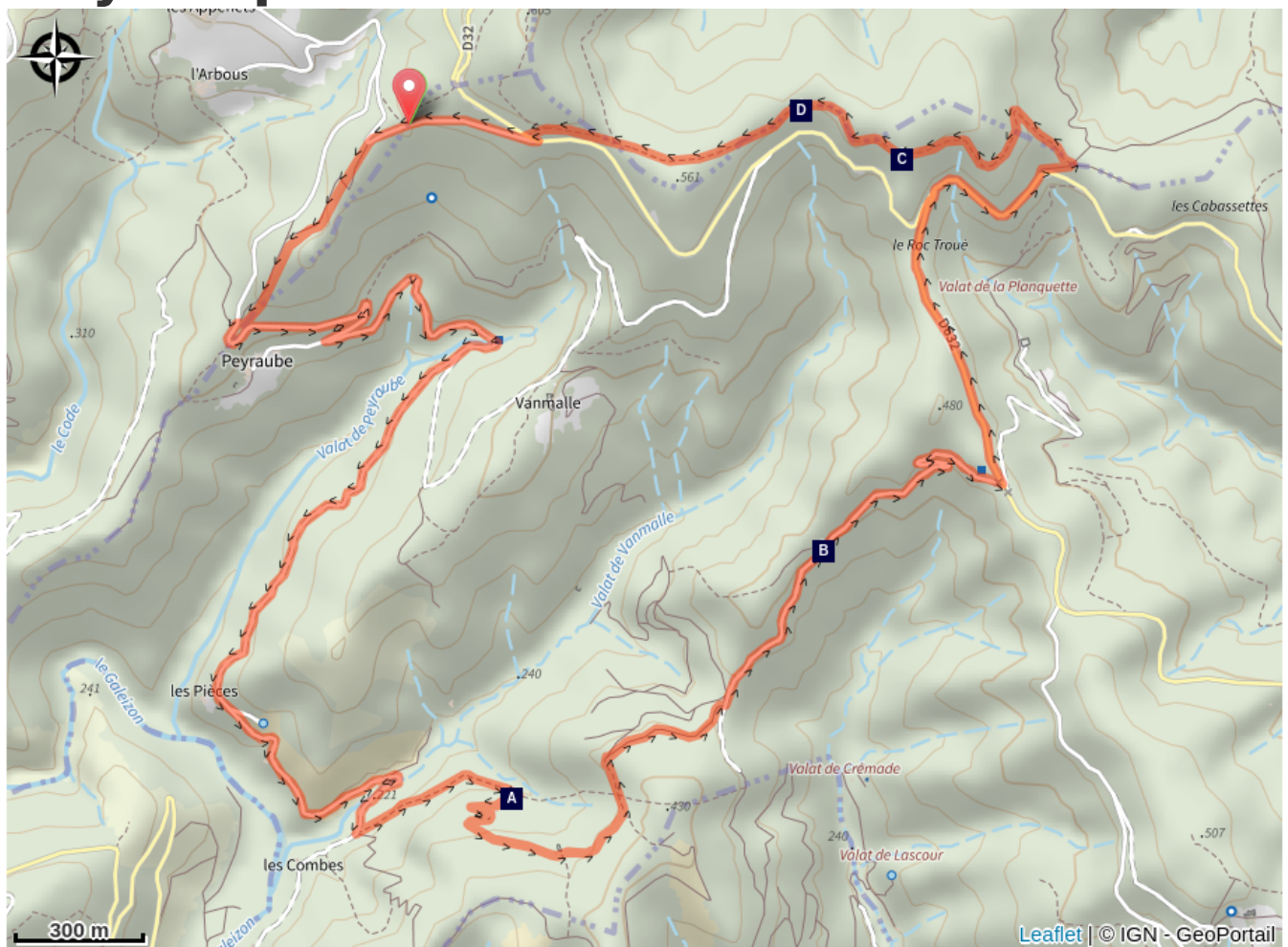
Altimetric profile




Min elevation 223 m Max elevation 558 m

From the car park, go downhill on the road. A few metres after the first bend, turn left and go downhill on a path to reach the road to Peyraube. At the reservoir, go downhill on the road and take the track on the left before entering Peyraube. Continue on this track and pass in front of Les Pièces. Before Les Combes, at the sign for Le Flaquier, take the path on the left towards Les Cabassettes. Go uphill into the chestnut grove, walk in front of Le Flaquier to the second ruin and continue on the path to join up with a track. Turn left onto this track to reach the D 632 road. Turn left onto the road and continue to its crossroads with the D 32. Turn right onto the D 32 for 400 m, then take the path on the left to climb to the Col des Cabassettes pass. At the pass, take the path on the left that leads you through the Roc Troué (notched rock), past the dolmen of the same name and to the D 32. Take the lane towards Peyraube to return to the car park.

On your path...



 Le Flaquier (A)

 Roc Troué (C)

 Maquis (B)

 The Roc Troué dolmen (D)

All useful information

Advices

Make sure your equipment is appropriate for the day's weather conditions. Remember that the weather changes quickly in the mountains. Take enough water, wear solid shoes and put on a hat. Please close all gates and barriers after yourself.

How to come ?

Access

From La Grand-Combe to Les Salles du Gardon, then take the D 283 to La Croix des Vents, Le Sollier and towards Peyraube. Park before the hamlet of Peyraube, in the car park for the Peyraube Tombs.

Advised parking

Car park at the Peyraube Tombs site

Information desks

Tourism office Cévennes Tourism, La Grand-Combe

Maison du mineur, rue Victor Fumat,
30110 La Grand-Combe

contact@cevennes-tourisme.fr

Tel : 04 66 52 32 15

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



Source



Parc national des Cévennes

<http://www.cevennes-parcnational.fr/>



Syndicat des hautes vallées cévenoles

<https://www.biosphera-cevennes.fr/>

On your path...



Le Flaquier (A)

(Private property) You enter the ruins via a staircase chiselled into the rock. All the buildings - sheepfold, bread oven, clède (building for drying chestnuts) - are built on the bare rock. Long ago, a spring above them was tapped and fixed for the hamlet's needs. The large water retention basin carved into the rock has since dried out. (B. Mathieu)

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Maquis (B)

This is a scrubland of tree heaths, evergreen (mock) privets, sage-leaved rock roses and strawberry trees, between which frolic two-tailed pashas. This butterfly can be identified by its tan and brown colour, its underside which is ocellated black and white, and by the two tails it has at the bottom of its wings. It can only be found where there are strawberry trees, and for a good reason: they are the only plants that host its eggs, nourish its larvae and provide twigs for its chrysalis to hang from. The pasha likes to feed on ripe fruit as well as fermented and even alcoholic matter! It is also known as the foxy emperor. (B. Mathieu)

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Roc Troué (C)

The repeated passage of flocks of sheep over the millennia - first wild, then domesticated - has dragged a path to this summit. Under the impetus of the monks of Cendras, humans enlarged the path by hand to make it easier to use by convoys of saddled mules and by sheep. In 1689, the King's Intendant in Languedoc, Monsieur de Basville, implemented a royal order to organise the road network in the Cevennes in such a way that canons could be pulled along it and enable troops to hunt down Protestant rebels more easily. [...] The dry-stone retaining walls and especially the giant breach cut into the rock that gives it its name - Roc Troué or Notched Rock - showcase the colossal efforts of our ancestors. The track is now in such a bad state that it is hard to imagine it was ever suitable for carts! (B. Mathieu)

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⚠ The Roc Troué dolmen (D)

Complexes of dolmens were built 4,000 years ago; the ones that collapsed were re-used up to the 6th century BC to deposit the ashes of the deceased and a few last offerings [dolmens furent bâtis il y a 4 000 ans puis effondrés et re-employés DONC, on les a effondrés expres avant de les re-utiliser? Un peu bizarre comme formulation/idee ? Revoir la V.O.)]. Some seem to have been more elaborate, such as this one: a round base supports a dolmen built like a small house with a rock table for a “roof”. In fact, it is not certain that, in the Cevennes, prehistoric tombs were covered in this way. Archaeological excavations have uncovered pottery shards, bronze bracelets, hewn flints, a few cremation deposits or, in some cases, nothing at all! (B. Mathieu)

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