

Col de La Planette

Vallées cévenoles - Cassagnas



Au fond coule la Mimente ! (© com com Florac Sud Lozère)



A forest atmosphere, a birdsong and the murmur of a brook accompany you throughout this walk exploring the mythical mountain ranges of the Cévennes. You will see the Signal du Ventalon beacon, Bougès, Fontmort and, on clear days, even the summit of Mont Aigoual!

Useful information

Practice : Hiking on foot

Duration : 2 h 30

Length : 6.9 km

Trek ascent : 298 m

Difficulty : Easy


Type : Loop

Themes : Forest, History and culture

Trek

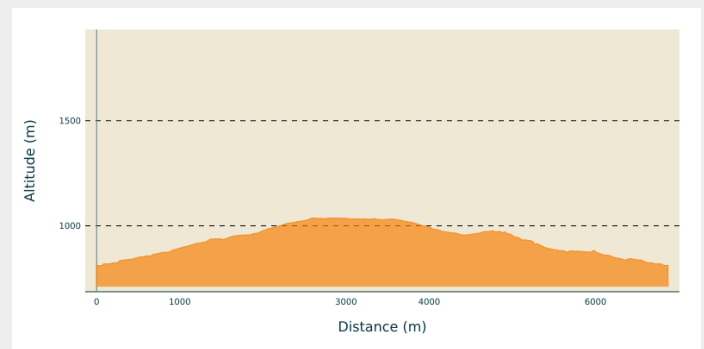
Departure : Cassagnas

Arrival : Cassagnas

Markings :  Yellow waymarks

Cities : 1. Cassagnas

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 810 m Max elevation 1037 m

Leave the car park, turn left and go up the lane leading towards Currières (C3), to the Col de la Planette pass. Continue on the lane for 50 m before taking on your left a forestry track towards the Col de Poulio. At this pass, leave the lane to take the track going downhill on the left (GR 72). Turn left again onto an old path that joins up with the tarred lane, which you take downhill back to the car park.

On your path...



- 🌲 Cassagnas (A)
- 🌳 Rowan or mountain ash (*Sorbus aucuparia*) (C)

- ⚰ Protestant cemeteries (B)
- 🌿 Heathland (D)

All useful information



Is in the midst of the park

The national park is an unrestricted natural area but subjected to regulations which must be known by all visitors.



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 good shoes and put on a hat.

How to come ?

Transports

Bus stop: Cassagnas, embranchement RN106

- Bus line 252 Florac - Le Collet de Dèze - Alès.

<https://lio.laregion.fr/>

Access

From Florac, take the N 106 main road towards the Col de Jalcreste pass for 16.9 km, to Cassagnas

Advised parking

Cassagnas: village car park

Information desks

Tourism'house and national Parc at Florac

Place de l'ancienne gare, N106, 48400 Florac-trois-rivières

info@cevennes-parcnational.fr

Tel : 04 66 45 01 14

<https://www.cevennes-gorges-du-tarn.com>



Source



CC Gorges Causses Cévennes

<https://www.gorgescaussescevennes.fr/>



Parc national des Cévennes

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

On your path...



🏰 Cassagnas (A)

From a report written by the schoolteacher of Cassagnas in 1874: “Tradition tells us that all of the houses in the parish of Cassagnas were burnt down twice. The date of the first fire has not been passed down to us, but one can still see wall faces in several places that show clearly enough where the houses used to stand... This destruction by fire must have occurred at the beginning of the religious wars, or perhaps it even dates back as far as the English invasion. According to tradition, at the time the village of Cassagnas was located a hundred metres above the current village.” The second fire occurred in 1703, as part of the “great burning” of the Cevennes during the Camisard War. (P. Grime)

Attribution : nathalie.thomas



🏰 Protestant cemeteries (B)

“Strange Cevennes, all paved with graves! You can see them right by each mas (farm)... Usually there is only a tilestone planted in the ground, with neither cross nor ornament, to indicate a grave,... If the family is well-off, the tombs are enhanced by a zinc container that keeps the wreaths dry... There are countless properties where the population laid in the ground is ten times greater than the population still standing!” (Roussel Romain, Almanach Cévenol, 1968).

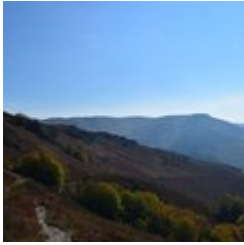
Attribution : © com com Florac Sud Lozère



🌿 Rowan or mountain ash (*Sorbus aucuparia*) (C)

Sorbus allegedly derives from *sorbitio* (beverage, herbal tea) and *aucuparia* from *auceps*, bird-catcher. In the autumn, bird-catchers used rowan berries as bait in their tendelles or thrush traps. Some are said to have coated the branches of rowans with glue to capture birds. More simply, hunters lay in wait near rowans to catch blackbirds and thrushes. (P. Grime)

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Heathland (D)

These transitory landscapes, created by pastureland evolving back into forest, persist due to livestock grazing and slash-and-burn carried out by farmers to maintain grazing areas. Rich in insects, they are frequented by many insect-eating birds. The presence of field mice and reptiles makes them good hunting-grounds for many birds of prey: buzzards, common kestrels and snake eagles. Different types of heath include broom, heather and fern. (P. Grime)

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