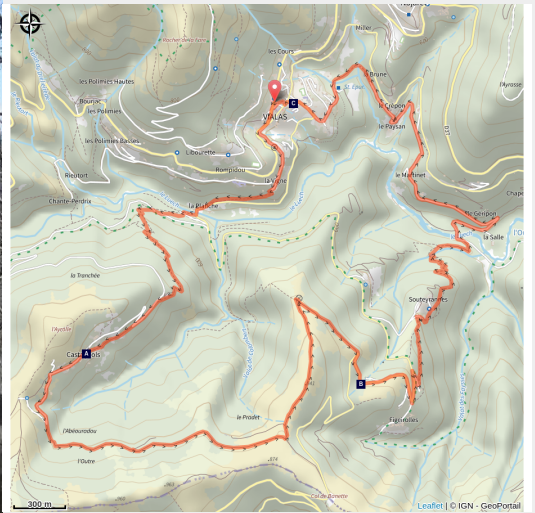


# L'Avès

Mont Lozère - Vialas



Hameau de Castagnols (nathalie.thomas)



*On the slope opposite Vialas (the avès), discover hamlets that existed before the village.*

A treasure trove of heritage is waiting to be discovered on this hike: hamlets with typical architecture, land art in dry-stone walls and the Bonijol mill, restored by stone enthusiasts!

## Useful information

Practice : Hiking on foot

Duration : 4 h

Length : 12.4 km

Trek ascent : 635 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Loop

Themes : Architecture and village

# Trek

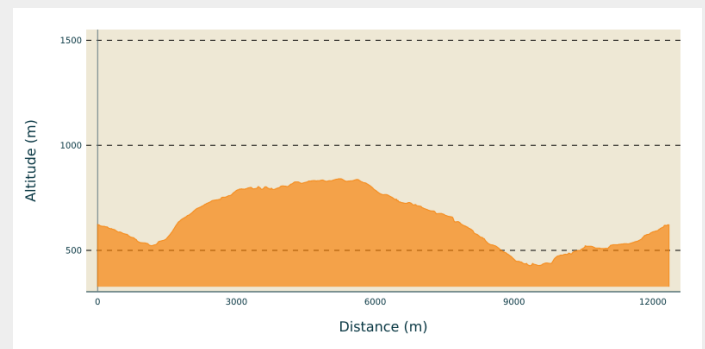
**Departure** : Vialas

**Arrival** : Vialas

**Markings** :  Yellow waymarks

**Cities** : 1. Vialas

## Altimetric profile



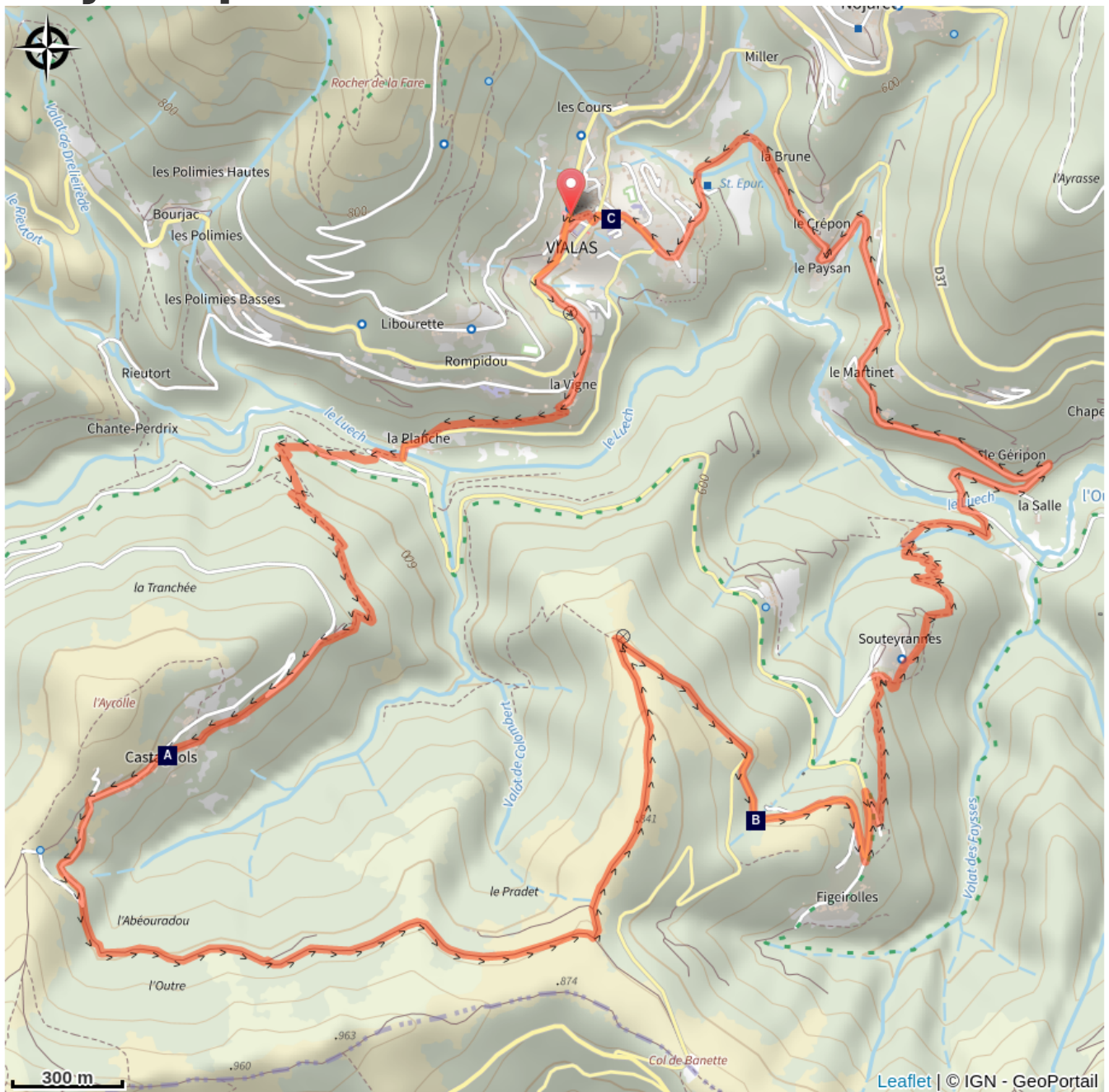
Min elevation 427 m Max elevation 841 m



Signposts will guide you all along this route, as well as yellow painted waymarks. In the description below, the signposted place names and/or directions are given in ***bold italics*** between quotation marks:

Climb to ***"Castagnols"*** via ***"Gendarmerie"***, ***"La Vigne"***, ***"Plagette"***, ***"Lou Devez"***, ***"La Tranchée"***. At ***"Castagnols"***, return to ***"Vialas"*** via ***"Le Pradet"***, ***"Le Luech"***, ***"Le Crépon"***, ***"La Fontaine du Foirail"***.

This hike is taken from the guidebook **Mont Lozère - Pays des sources**, published by the Pôle de pleine nature du Mont Lozère.

# On your path...



 Castagnols (A)  
 Vialas (C)

 Bonijol mill (B)

# 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

No particular difficulty. 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 sturdy shoes and put on a hat. Please close all gates and barriers behind you. Shortcut possible via the Valat du Colombert.

## How to come ?

### Access

From Génolhac or Le Pont-de-Montvert, take the D998 to Vialas

### Advised parking

Vialas car park

## **Information desks**

### **Office de tourisme Des Cévennes au mont Lozère**

le Quai, 48220 Le Pont de Montvert sud  
mont-Lozère

[info@cevennes-montlozere.com](mailto:info@cevennes-montlozere.com)

Tel : 04 66 45 81 94

<https://www.cevennes-montlozere.com/>



### **Tourism'house and national Parc at Florac**

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

[info@cevennes-parcnational.fr](mailto:info@cevennes-parcnational.fr)

Tel : 04 66 45 01 14

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



## **Source**



CC des Cévennes au Mont Lozère

<http://www.cevennes-mont-lozere.fr/>



Parc national des Cévennes

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



Pôle pleine nature Mont Lozère



# On your path...

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## Castagnols (A)

(origin of the name: chestnut orchard).

An important village long before Vialas, located close to a traffic artery on the ridge, Castagnols was the parish seat until 1684. The canons of the collegiate chapter at Bédouès benefited from the substantial revenues of its priory, founded by Guillaume de Grimoard, the future Pope Urban V. The inhabitants of Castagnols later strongly supported the Reformation. The Catholic church was burned down during the Camisard era. After 1970, Cévennes enthusiasts rebuilt it from the ruins.

Attribution : nathalie.thomas

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## Bonijol mill (B)

This mill is located on a plot of the Bonijol property and is part of the hamlet of Figeirolles. An association created in 2000 has restored and is managing the site. The fact that it is a mountain mill makes it all the more remarkable. The mill operates using an ingenious system for collecting and storing water. It has two sets of grinding stones, one for chestnut flour and another for rye flour. ([www.moulinbonijol.fr](http://www.moulinbonijol.fr))

Attribution : nathalie.thomas

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## Vialas (C)

The temple (Protestant church): in 1612, the Protestant community had this church built at its own expense, several kilometres from Castagnols. Donated to the Catholic community before the Edict of Nantes was revoked, it thus escaped the destruction meted out to Cevenol temples. The Protestants got their church back in 1804.

The secondary school: in 1889, after the so-called Jules Ferry Laws were passed, the primary school with its two classes was completed by a secondary school. This was the first ever in Lozère. In 2005, the establishment, now a boarding school, welcomed 60 pupils from all over the region.