

The two bridges

Causses Gorges - Ispagnac



Vignes à Ispagnac (Arnaud Bouissou)



This walk through the gateway to the Tarn gorge takes you through a vast chestnut orchard from the mediaeval bridge of Ispagnac to the prestigious pointed-arch bridge of Quézac.

Useful information

Practice : Hiking on foot

Duration : 2 h 30

Length : 7.1 km

Trek ascent : 283 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Loop

Themes : Agriculture and livestock farming, Architecture and village, Transports en commun

Trek

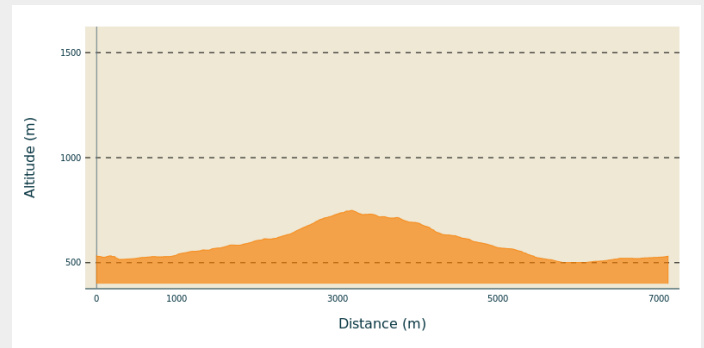
Departure : Ispagnac: car park opposite the pharmacy

Arrival : Ispagnac: car park opposite the pharmacy

Markings :  Yellow waymarks

Cities : 1. Ispagnac
2. Gorges du Tarn Causses

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 500 m Max elevation 749 m

Leave the car park by turning left onto the main road.

- 1) Turn right to reach Ispagnac bridge. Cross it and continue on the tarred road to the hamlet of Biessette.
- 2) Just before the hamlet's first houses, take the path on the right by the signpost for Biesses, and continue straight ahead to the barrier marked "Attention vaches, chevaux, refermer la clôture" (Caution: cows, horses. Close the barrier behind you). The path is wide and goes uphill to a track.
- 3) Turn right onto the track and go through the pine plantation. At the pass, go through a gate (be sure to close it behind you).
- 4) After the barrier, leave the track and take a small path (waymarked white and red), which can be muddy at times, to a junction with the tarred road.
- 5) At the road, turn right and 200 m further take the path on the right again, which overlooks the Tarn, to Quézac bridge.
- 6) Cross Quézac bridge and turn right onto the path that runs alongside the Tarn back to Ispagnac.
- 7) After the campsites, by the large stone cross, take the paved lane on your right, which will take you back to the square in front of the town hall (mairie). Continue straight ahead on Rue de la Ville to the little square (Placette), then walk up the lane on the left. That takes you back to the main road and your starting-point.

On your path...



☉ Quézac mineral water (A)
The vintners of Ispagnac (C)

🏰 Quézac Bridge (B)
🏰 Ispagnac church (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

This walk is accessible to all and relatively shaded on the first section. 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.

How to come ?

Transports

Bus stop: Parking de l'école publique (state school car park).

- Bus line 258 "Florac - Sainte-Enimie - Le Rozier", every day in July and August
- Bus line 252 "Ispagnac - Florac - Alès"

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

Access

From Florac, take the N106 towards Mende, then the D 907bis to Ispagnac.

Advised parking

Car park opposite the pharmacy

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>



Tourism office Cévennes Gorges du Tarn, Ispagnac

Place de l'Église, 48320 Ispagnac

info@attractivite-tourisme-gcc.com

Tel : 04 66 45 01 14

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



Source



Agence d'Attractivité Touristique Gorges Causses Cévennes

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



Parc national des Cévennes

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

On your path...



☹️ Quézac mineral water (A)

Quézac mineral water emerges naturally from the Diva spring, near the entrance to the village, in exceptional surroundings which have been naturally protected for centuries. This pleasant-tasting water is rich in mineral salts and trace elements and is also well-known to be beneficial for the stomach. The spring's water actually comes from Mont Aigoual. According to scientific studies, it takes 30 to 40 years for it to re-emerge in Quézac, after first settling in aquifers, where it acquires its effervescence naturally (rare in France).

Attribution : © Nathalie Thomas



🏰 Quézac Bridge (B)

This bridge crossing the river Tarn gives access to the village of Quézac, located on the left bank. Around 1350, Pope Urban V decided to fund its construction to facilitate pilgrims' access to the collegiate church of Notre-Dame de Quézac. It was finished in the 15th century. Its history is punctuated by partial destruction in floods, and by more or less solid rebuilding. It became a listed monument on 27 August 1931.

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The vintners of Ispagnac (C)

In 2003, Sylvain Gachet, from Savoy, reintroduced grapevines to Ispagnac and Florac, planting six hectares of terraced land. On soils of clay/limestone and schist, he attempted to breathe new life into the Domaine de Gabalie. In 2006, Elisabeth Boyé and Bertrand Servières set up as vintners in the Tarn gorge, also under the stimulus package bringing vineyards back to the valley. They cleared the land of the bartas (brambles) which had invaded almost all the parcels, and rebuilt the dry-stone walls before planting almond trees, vine peaches and five hectares of grapevines: the Domaine des Cabridelles was born. The winemakers share a cooperative cellar in Ispagnac, which is also a sales outlet. Why not make a short stop to try the wines (the cellar is next to the car park by the state school (école publique)).

Attribution : cevennes-gorges-du-tarn



Ispagnac church (D)

St-Peter's Church in Ispagnac is one of the finest examples of Romanesque architecture in Gévaudan. Built in the 12th century, it is dedicated to Saint Peter and Saint Paul. The understated facade of this bulky-looking building has a simple gate with three semi-circular arches topped by a rose window that lets light into the nave. Once inside, you discover a simple and airy architecture. A sound-and-light show helps you to explore. To get the fullest impression of the architecture, you need to leave the building and walk around it to see the apse and its décor.

Attribution : cevennes-gorges-du-tarn