

# Discovering the Upper Cévennes (Day 3).



Vallées cévenoles - Barre-des-Cévennes





Corniches du Méjean, Le Rochefort (Nathalie Thomas)

You leave behind the panoramic views over the Vallée Française and the Corniche des Cévennes as you return to Florac on small limestone plateaux, the cans: Can de Ferrières and Can de l'Hospitalet. They offer uninterrupted views of the Tarnon valley, the Causse Méjean plateau and the Bougés massif.

## **Useful information**

Practice: Hiking on foot

Duration: 5 h

Length: 15.7 km

Trek ascent: 345 m

Difficulty: Medium

Type: Roaming

Themes: Architecture and village, Fauna and flora, History and culture, Water and geology

# **Trek**

**Departure** : Barre des Cévennes

**Arrival** : Florac-Trois-Rivières

**Markings**: **GR** (long-distance hiking

path)

Cities: 1. Barre-des-Cévennes

2. Cans et Cévennes

3. Vebron

4. Florac Trois Rivières

## **Altimetric profile**

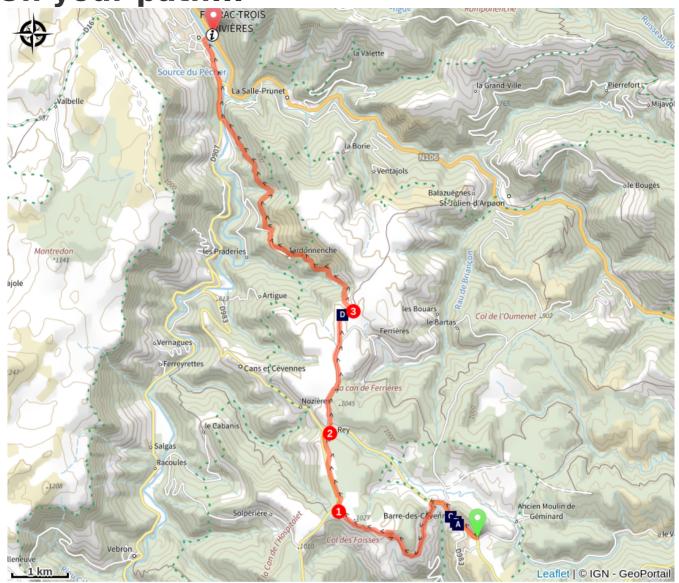


Min elevation 540 m Max elevation 1026 m

From Barre des Cévennes, walk towards Florac on the RD 983 road, and, as you leave the village, turn left onto a path that heads for the Col des Faïsses pass (GR® 7 & 67).

- 1 At the Col des Faïsses, take on your right the GR®43, which runs alongside the Corniche des Cévennes road to the Col du Rey.
- 2 At the Col du Rey, take the small road opposite you, towards Ferrières for 1.7 km, then leave the road for a track on your left (GR®43).
- 3 After 800 m, leave the track for a small path that crosses the hamlets of Tardonnenche and La Rouvière to reach the Barre bridge and Florac (GR®43).

On your path...



- Place de la Madeleine (A)

  Place de la loue (Hiring Square) (C)
- The Château (B)
  The Can de Ferrières (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.



## **A** Advices

Make sure your equipment is appropriate for the day's weather conditions. Remember that the weather changes guickly 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?

#### Access

Barre des Cévennes, D 983.

## Advised parking

Car park as you enter Barre coming from Florac.



# 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

#### Maison du tourisme et du Parc national. Florac

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



#### Parc national des Cévennes

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

# On your path...



## Place de la Madeleine (A)

#### Marker 5

The fountain dates from the 18th century. At the end of the 19th century, the bust of Marianne – the personification of the French Republic - was added. At the same time, a poplar was planted by republican youth as a symbol of freedom. From here, you can see several bourgeois houses, which mostly date from the 17th and 18th centuries. They bear witness to the village's thriving past, when it had some 20 voituriers (merchantcarters), who would drive their carts down to the plains laden with wool and chestnuts and return with salt, wine and oil. Under the houses' large porches, harnesses and carts were kept. During fairs, the seed market took place in these vaults and those of the town hall.



# The Château (B)

#### Marker 6

Constructed in the 12th and 13th centuries, the Château was entirely rebuilt in the early 16th century. From 1710 to 1715, it was modified by the Lord of Barre, who had his coat of arms carved above the entrance. Two towers were also added at this time. During the 1789 Revolution, the coat of arms disappeared under vigorous hammer strokes. In the early 19th century, during an expansion, the main tower was removed.



# Place de la loue (Hiring Square) (C)

#### Marker 1

This little square, located at the north-eastern entrance to the village, was where the "loue" (hiring) used to be held during the great spring and autumn fairs: shepherds, domestics and chestnut gatherers would sit on the parapet and hope for an employer to take them on. The village hosted 12 to 15 fairs every year. The spring and autumn ones could attract up to ten thousand people from neighbouring departments, but also from the Var, Vaucluse and Bouches-du-Rhône. This village-rue (oneroad village) was protected at each end by a fortified gate. One of them, called the Florac Gate, stood near the Place de la Loue. It was destroyed in the early 19th century.



# The Can de Ferrières (D)

This limestone plateau continues to be grazed by flocks of sheep. Note the piles of stones, called clapas. They are not there by chance! They are the result of locals clearing their fields and pastureland of stones. These piles shelter many species.

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