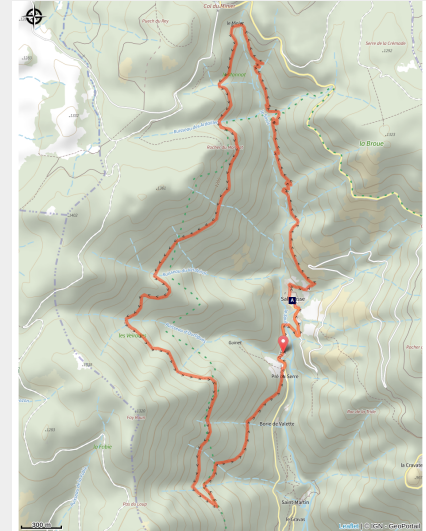


Souls

Aigoual



Vallée de Souls (N Thomas)



A handsome exploration of the Souls valley with its calades (cobblestoned tracks) and paths winding through the granite blockfield.

Useful information

Practice : Hiking on foot

Duration : 4 h 30

Length : 10.6 km

Trek ascent : 567 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Loop

Themes : Architecture and village,
Forest, Water and geology

Trek

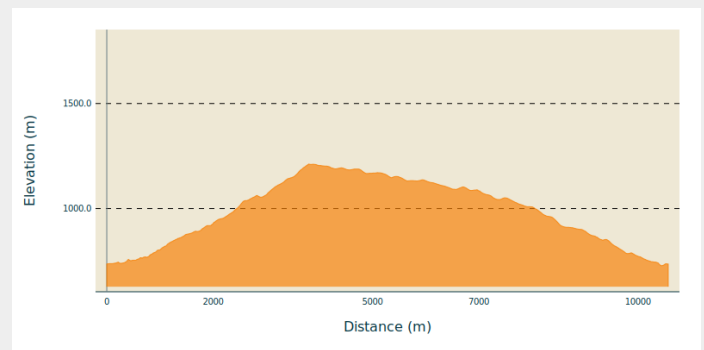
Departure : Salagosse (municipality of Bréau-Mars)

Arrival : Salagosse (municipality of Bréau-Mars)

Markings :  Yellow waymarks

Cities : 1. Bréau-Mars

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 728 m Max elevation 1212 m

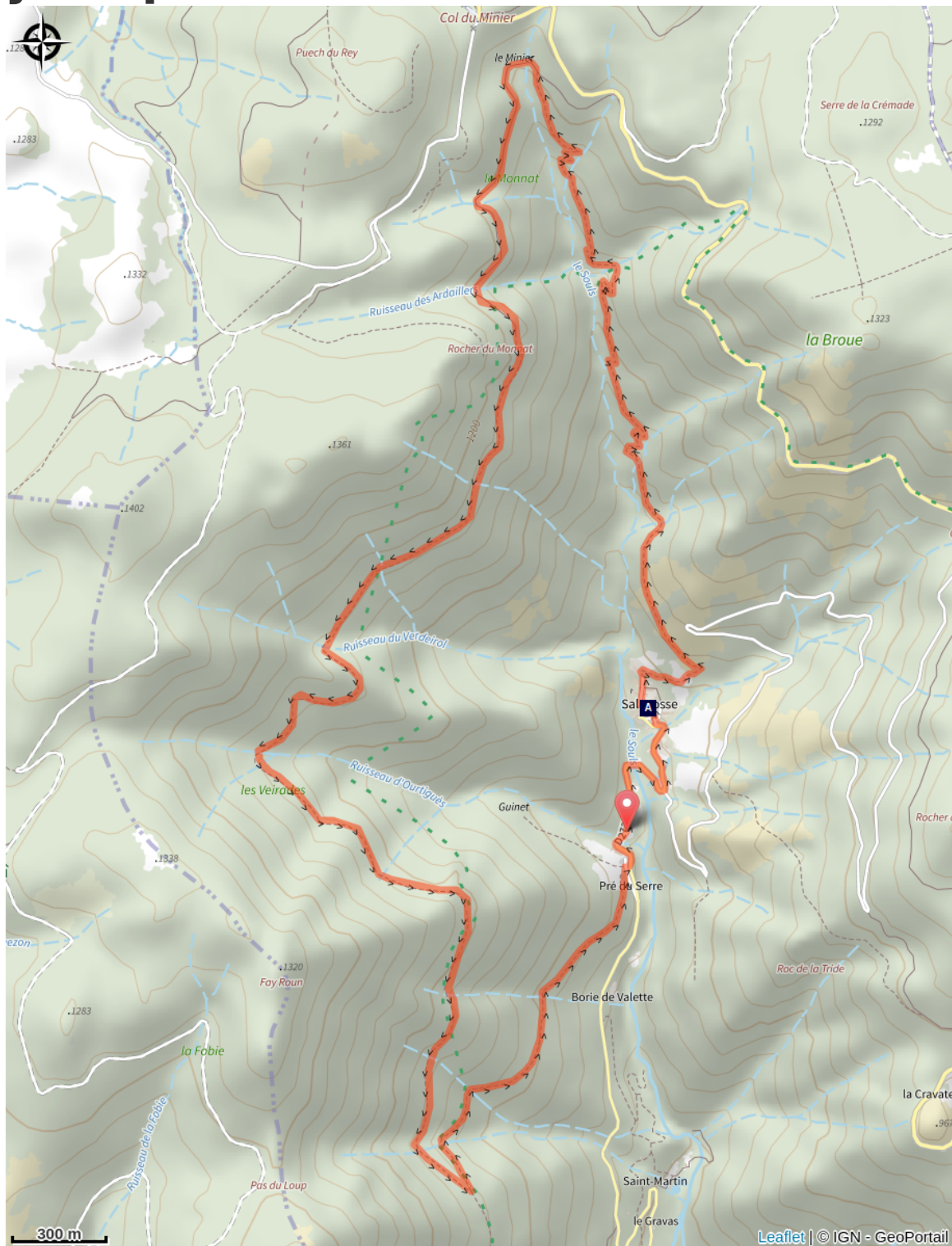
Signposts will guide you all along this route. In the description below, the signposted place names and/or directions are given in **bold italics** between quotation marks :

Starting from "**SALAGOSSE**", walk towards "**COL DU MINIER**" along the Souls river to "**Sous le Col du Minier**". From here, walk towards "**MARS**" till you reach "**Le Bois de l'Homme**", where you fork off to return to

"**SALAGOSSE**" via "**Le Pré de Serre**".

This walk is taken from the guidebook **Les Vallées Cévenoles - En Pays Viganais**, published by the Communauté de communes Pays Viganais-Cévennes as part of the collection Espaces Naturels Gardois and the label Gard Pleine Nature.

On your path...



The municipality of Bréau-Salagosse (A)
Foresters' houses (C)

Altitudinal vegetation zones (B)
A wild zone rich in game (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. Take enough water, wear sturdy shoes and put on a hat. Please close any gates and barriers behind you.

How to come ?

Transports

LiO is the regional public transport service of the Occitanie/ Pyrénées – Méditerranée region. It facilitates everyone's movements by prioritising public transport. For more information, go to the lio Occitanie app or visit : <https://www.mestrajets.lio.laregion.fr>

Access

From Le Vigan take the D999 towards Cavaillac, then at the roundabout turn onto the D272, towards Salagosse, Mars. Before the village of Mars, fork onto the D272b towards Salagosse. Park 300m before the village

Advised parking

300m before Salagosse

Information desks

Tourism office Cévennes and Navacelles, Le Vigan

Maison de pays, place du Marché, BP 21,
30120 Le Vigan

contact@sudcevennes.com

Tel : 04 67 81 01 72

<https://sudcevennes.com/>



Source



CC du Pays Viganais

<http://www.cc-paysviganais.fr/>



Parc national des Cévennes

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

On your path...



The municipality of Bréau-Salagosse (A)

The municipality of Bréau-Salagosse consists of two distinct villages. The older one of the two is Salagosse. Bréau was not founded until the 7th century when part of the population of Salagosse, feeling hemmed in, decided to settle on a sunny slope lower down in the valley. Separated in 1669, the two parishes reunited in 1818. The name of Salagosse probably comes from Feragus, the nickname of a local man-at-arms, meaning “sharp iron”. Its inhabitants are known as salabousards.

Attribution : N Thomas



Altitudinal vegetation zones (B)

The path ranges from 700 to 1,250m in altitude and clearly shows the changes in vegetation as you climb. Vegetation zones have been defined based on altitude; they are given the name of the predominant plant species.

The first, the holm oak zone, stops at around 500m. It occurs mainly on schist or limestone. From 500 to 900m is the zone of deciduous oaks and sweet chestnut. From 1000m to 1500m is the beech zone; here you are in the Aigoual state forest. The final vegetation zone, above 1500m, is treeless and only concerns a small circle around the Aigoual summit.

Attribution : N Thomas



Foresters' houses (C)

When you arrive at the forest road, you turn left onto it. On the right used to be Le Minier forester's house. Many foresters' houses were scattered throughout the mountains where the forest rangers lived with their families. But living in such isolation was difficult, and school age children had to board. Gradually, these isolated houses were abandoned; the rangers now live in the villages.

Attribution : N Thomas



A wild zone rich in game (D)

On the downhill section, the path goes through a wild area rich in game, which, in the Middle Ages, belonged to the Baron d'Hierle. On 2 March 1361, the municipality of Bréau persuaded him to make concessions for Le Minier mountain range : “the men-at-arms, burghers and villagers will have the right to freely hunt bears and wild boar, to graze their livestock, to seed and cut the wood necessary for domestic use. In exchange for which, the Baron will receive the profits of easements, tax income and right to delegate” (designate consuls...).

Attribution : N Thomas