

Chalet de l'Aigle and Pic Cassini, Trail #19.

Mont Lozère - Vialas



Pic cassini (© Mathilde Sagnes - Département Lozère)



Panoramic views over the Cévennes, ascent of Pic Cassini, a stroll through an enchanted forest... This is a flamboyant trail – 100% joy.

Useful information

Practice : Foot race

Duration : 1 h 45

Length : 15.5 km

Trek ascent : 493 m



Difficulty : Very easy

Type : Loop

Trek

Departure : Mas de la Barque

Arrival : Mas de la Barque

Markings :  Trail PPN Mt Lozère 
Yellow waymarks

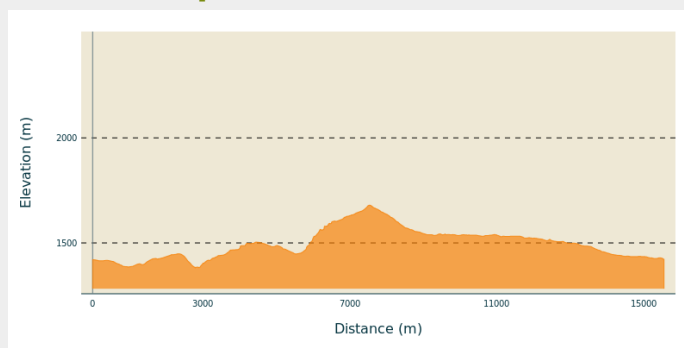
Cities : 1. Vialas

2. Pont de Montvert - Sud Mont Lozère

3. Concoules

4. Pourcharesses

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 1382 m Max elevation 1680 m

A pleasant wooded section to start off, to the Col du Pré de la Dame pass. Then 3 km of gentle climb on a pretty forestry track leads you to the Chalet de l'Aigle. Superb viewpoint over the Cévennes. A slightly steeper climb takes you to the top of Pic Cassini, at 1,680 metres the highest point on this trail. The route then goes gently downhill on magnificent paths. You finish on a trail in a fairy-tale forest.

Follow the waymarks for trail #19.

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:

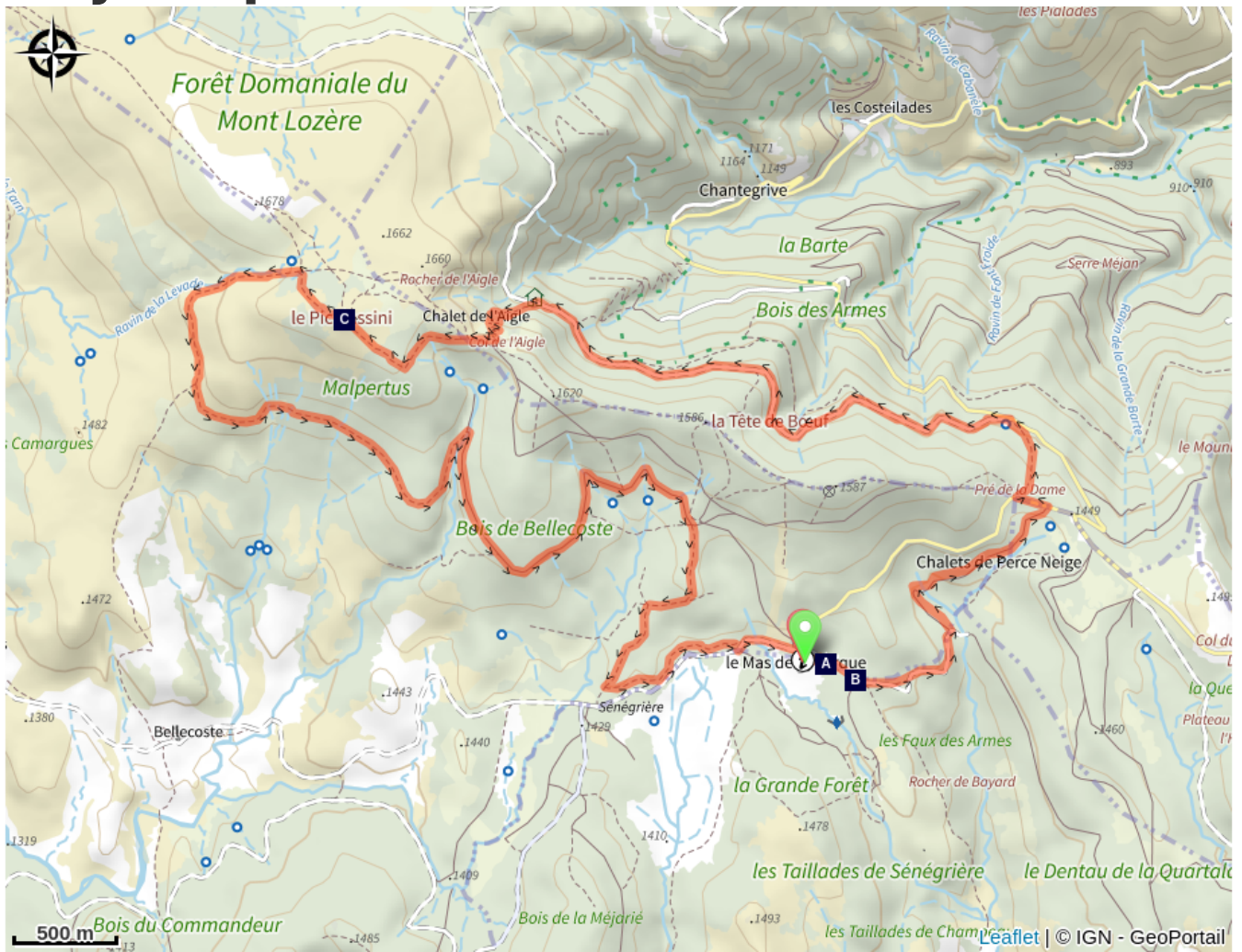
From "***Mas de La Barque***" head towards "***Les Écuries de Mas de La Barque***", "***Rochers de la Barque***", "***Gardione***" (2x), "***Sous la roche fendue***", "***La roche fendue***", "***Lous Felzillas***".

Then take "***Chalet de l'Aigle***", and "***Sous le chalet de l'Aigle***". Climb "***Pic Cassini***" via "***col de l'Aigle***".

At "***Pic Cassini***" go to "***Mas de La Barque***" via "***Ravin de la Levade***", "***Sous le pic de Cassini***", "***Malpertus***", "***Bois de Bellecoste***", "***Gardièze***", "***Martelet***", "***Mas de La Barque***".

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

On your path...



- ▲ Le Mas de La Barque (A)
- ▲ Cassini (C)

- 🚣 The mysterious boat (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

Caution: there may be patous (livestock guard dogs) around Pic Cassini! Seek advice on how to behave near these dogs from tourist offices and National Park information centres.

Before committing yourself to a circuit, ensure that it is suitable for your activity level and ability. Remember that the weather changes quickly in the mountains. Please close all gates and barriers behind you. Stay on the marked path.

How to come ?

Access

From Villefort, on the D 66.

From Génolhac, on the D 362 then the D 66.

Advised parking

Mas de La Barque

Information desks

Le Mas de la Barque outdoor centre

lemasdelabarque@france48.com

Tel : 04 66 46 92 72

<https://www.lemasdelabarque.com/>



Office de tourisme Des Cévennes au mont Lozère

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

info@cevennes-montlozere.com

Tel : 04 66 45 81 94

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



Tourism'house and national parc, Génolhac

Place du Colombier, 30450 Génolhac

contact@cevennes-tourisme.fr

Tel : 04 66 61 09 48

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



Tourism office Mont-Lozère, Villefort

43, Place du Bosquet, 48800 Villefort

contact@destination-montlozere.fr

Tel : 04 66 46 87 30

<https://www.destination-montlozere.fr/>



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...



Le Mas de La Barque (A)

Le Mas de La Barque was only a forester's house at the end of the 20th century. From the 1960s onwards, it was frequented by children's ski clubs and then by families from the Gard on the weekend. During the week, the association "Union pour l'Animation de la Grange" organised field trips, heritage classes and theme days open to all. A costly infrastructure was gradually built (buildings, ski lifts, snow canons), then partly demolished again. Today, as part of an overall programme of reclassifying the site, it has been developed for tourism (cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, dog-sledding, etc.) and is run by a semi-public company. The resort offers outdoor activities in summer as well as in winter.

Attribution : nathalie.thomas

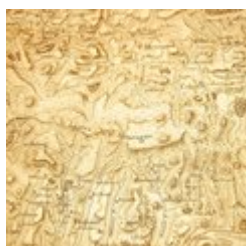


The mysterious boat (B)

Have you noticed the strange rock shaped like a boat (barque)? Is that what gave the hamlet its name? Alternatively, in the local patois, a berque is a gap in the mountain. So: Mas de la Barque or Mas de la Berque?

Mas de la Barque is part of the municipality of Vialas and borders the forest of Gourdouze. The estate of the Priory of Gourdouze, to which the forest once belonged, was declared government property during the French Revolution in 1789, before being sold to pay the state's debts.

Attribution : © Biotope



Cassini (C)

The first geometrical map of the Kingdom of France was realised, at a scale of 1:864,000, on the initiative of Louis XV. It is known as the Cassini Map. The Cassini family produced four generations of scholars. The first Cassini, an astronomer, began to apply a geodesic system that consisted of measuring the position of a point on Earth using bearings, namely the polar axis and the Equator. His descendants established a precise map of France (180 sheets) by triangulating a large number of bearings, such as Pic Cassini. It was used as a model for France's Ordnance Survey maps and today has practical applications in many fields (toponymy, phytosociology, etc.).

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