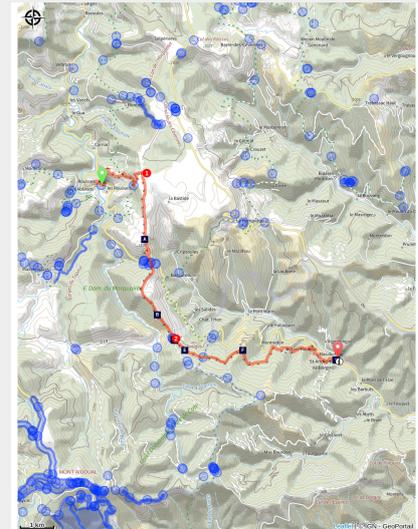


# D'une vallée à l'autre - entre Gardon et Tarnon (Jour 1)

Aigoual



GR près du col Salidès (B Galzin)



La montée sur la Cam de l'Hospitalet ouvre la vue sur des paysages grandioses. Ensuite, le chemin de crête suit la ligne de partage des eaux.

Lorsqu'il pleut, la goutte d'eau qui ruisselle le long de la roche, peut s'en aller vers la Méditerranée ou vers l'Atlantique. Profitez du panorama au col de Salidès, puis commencez la descente sur l'ancienne route de St- André à Meyrueis. Au détour du chemin se dessinent des châteaux - Le Folhaquier, le pan de mur du château de la Fare, au loin le château du Poujo, avant l'arrivée dans le petit bourg de St-André...

## Useful information

Practice : Hiking on foot

Duration : 6 h

Length : 16.9 km

Trek ascent : 573 m

Difficulty : Difficult

Type : Roaming

Themes : Agriculture and livestock farming, Architecture and village, Water and geology

# Trek

**Departure** : Rousses

**Arrival** : St-André de Valborgne

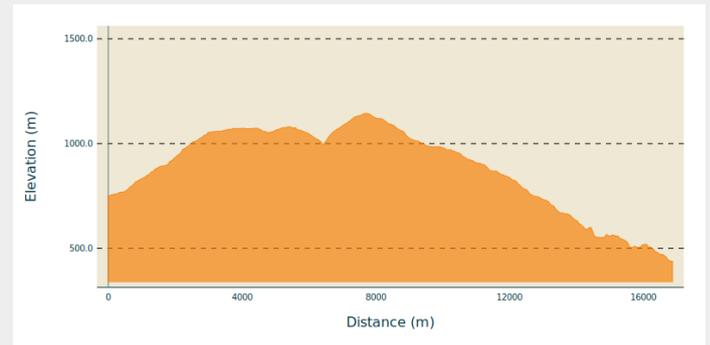
**Markings** :  GR (long-distance hiking path)  Yellow waymarks

**Cities** : 1. Rousses

2. Bassurels

3. Saint-André-de-Valborgne

## Altimetric profile

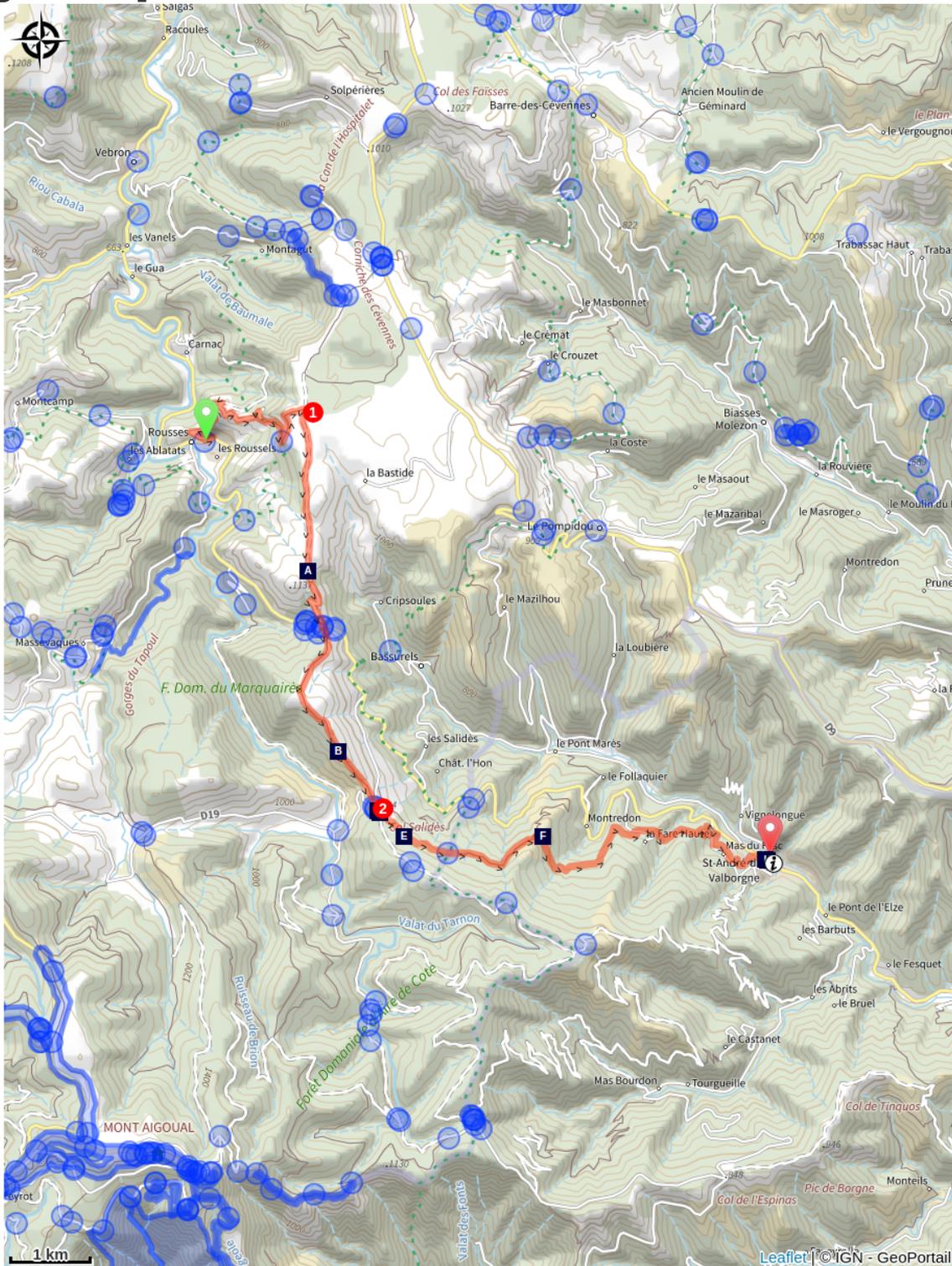


Min elevation 438 m Max elevation 1144 m

Au départ de « Rousses », prendre le chemin au-dessus du village, et rejoindre le GR®7 sur les crêtes de la can de l'Hospitalet.

1. Prendre à droite le GR®7, direction le « **Col du Solidès** », en passant par le tunnel du Marquaires.
2. Au « **Col du Solidès** », quitter le GR®7, pour prendre à gauche un chemin en direction « **St-André de Valborgne** » en passant par le « **Mézariès** » (balisage jaune).

# On your path...



Mont Aigoual (A)

Summer pastures (C)

 The forest of L'Hom (E)

One spring, five fountains (G)

The Margeride draille (drovers' road) (B)

The transhumant shepherd of the Col de Salidès (D)

Château du Folhaquier (F)

The village of St André de Valborgne (H)

# 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

Adaptez votre équipement aux conditions météo du jour. N'oubliez pas que le temps change vite en montagne. Pensez à emporter de l'eau en quantité suffisante, de bonnes chaussures et un chapeau. Bien refermer les clôtures et les portillons.

**Attention aux chiens patous** qui gardent les brebis transhumantes au col du Salidès, de juin à septembre : suivez les conseils quant aux comportements à adopter.

## How to come ?

### Access

Florac par la D 907 - St-Jean du Gard par la D 907 / Rousses

### Advised parking

Parking au-dessus du café de pays « la Ruche »

## **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 & national parc'house**

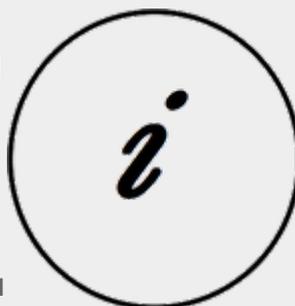
Col de la Serreyrède, 30570 Val d'Aigoual

maisonde-laigoual@sudcevennes.com

Tel : 04 67 82 64 67

<https://www.sudcevennes.com>

Accessibility : Accessible aux personnes à mobilité réduite sur les trois niveaux du bâtiment (ascenseur)



### **Tourism office Mont Aigoual Causse Cévennes, Saint-André-de-Valborgne**

les quais, 30940 Saint-André-de-Valborgne

standredevalborgne@sudcevennes.com

Tel : 04 66 60 32 11

<https://www.sudcevennes.com>



## **Source**



CC Causse Aigoual Cévennes Terres Solidaires

<http://www.causseaigoualcevennes.fr/>

# On your path...

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## Mont Aigoual (A)

A beautiful view onto Mont Aigoual (1,567 m) – a mountain of winds, fog, snow and rain. Banks of clouds coming from the Mediterranean rub against its slopes and can cause violent precipitation (also called Cévenol episodes). This temperamental mountain is home to the last mountain weather-station in France.

Attribution : © Olivier Prohin

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## The Margeride draille (drovers' road) (B)

The draille follows the ridge and crosses the Can de l'Hospitalet plateau. This transhumant trail enables the sheep flocks of the plains (of the southern Cévennes and the Crau) to move up to northern Gévaudan (Aubrac, Margeride, Mont Lozère). This draille is only one branch of a larger network along which transhumant livestock still travel.

Attribution : © Michelle Sabatier

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## Summer pastures (C)

Since time immemorial, animals have naturally migrated from the plains into the mountains in summer. The Salidès pass has summer pastures for sheep. The shepherd's house is just below you on the Mediterranean side. The shepherd stays several months with about 800 sheep and a few dogs. Careful: patous, the big and handsome white dogs, are there to supervise and defend the herd!

It is important for the herd to graze here. The animals fertilise the soil and maintain the open spaces.

Attribution : Michel Monnot

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## The transhumant shepherd of the Col de Salidès (D)

From the end of spring onwards, the Col de Salidès livens up. The transhumant shepherd moves up for the three months of summer grazing in this magical spot with almost 1,000 sheep. In all weather, the shepherd takes the animals outside so they can graze new grass. He has to both manage his pasture land and look after the sheep.

At the end of summer, each livestock farmer comes to recover his animals. Be careful around the dogs that watch over the flock!

Attribution : Office de tourisme OTMACC

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## 🌿 The forest of L'Hom (E)

From the 19th century, the forest of L'Hom was the “reserve” of a private estate of over 700 hectares. Its animal stocks were protected and used as a “savings account” in the event of unforeseen financial needs. This situation in part explains the diversity of the forest, which stretches from 600 to 1,1000 m in altitude and contains many species: native (holm oak, sweet chestnut, beech, birch, wild cherry, rowan, pine, spruce, etc.) as well as exotic ones, which were introduced by the new owners (northern red oak, red maple, giant redwood, larch hybrids, etc.). This private forest has a management plan based on the prosylva principles (forestry close to nature), which was approved by the body in charge of forest management and the Cévennes National Park. There is abundant game, and you may spot a deer or stag on your walk.

Attribution : Béatrice Galzin

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## Château du Folhaquier (F)

The Château du Folhaquier is outlined on this small ridge, which was a strategic site in the Middle Ages, overlooking the Gardon de Saint-Jean river and the Château de La Fare opposite. It is separated from the hamlet by a ditch cut into the schist bedrock, and a square tower can still be seen that was built in the 16th century on 12th century ramparts, as well as the vestiges of a round tower at the other end. The foundations of the castle chapel are easy to distinguish, and the Romanesque church of Notre-Dame du Folhaquier, which remains in an excellent state, has withstood the elements for almost a millennium.

Attribution : Béatrice Galzin

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## One spring, five fountains (G)

This fountain is one of Saint-André's five public fountains, all of which are supplied by the same spring (its water is thus the same as in the Fontaine du Griffon). Before houses were connected to mains water, there were many more fountains on this side of the quay.

Attribution : © Béatrice Galzin

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## The village of St André de Valborgne (H)

As you stroll along the quay above the river, you can still see the handsome bourgeois houses dating from the silk boom. If you look around, former spinning mills and industrial buildings dedicated to silk farming can still be seen in the landscape. A little lower down, opposite the 16th century château, you can listen to

Bernadette Lafont on the Camisard saga in and after 1702. As you reach the square again, quench your thirst at the fountain and have a look inside the Romanesque church (12th century).

Attribution : © Béatrice Galzin