

La vallée de la Salindrenque - Escapades à vélo

Gard



La Coste (Béatrice Galzin)



Best done in the morning !

Make a little detour to the village of Soudorgues and enjoy the cool waters of the Salindrenque river before you return to Lasalle.

This shady circuit is on pleasant small roads through Mediterranean-style forests : umbrella pines, sweet chestnuts, holm oaks. At Soudorgues, the hardest part is over ! Celebrate by having a drink or a coffee in the café in the village centre.

Useful information

Practice : Cycling

Duration : 1 h 45

Length : 20.3 km

Trek ascent : 646 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Boucle

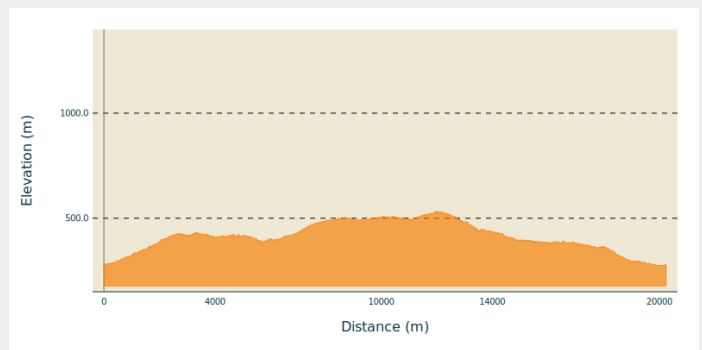
Trek

Departure : Lasalle

Arrival : Lasalle

Cities : 1. Lasalle
2. Soudorgues

Altimetric profile



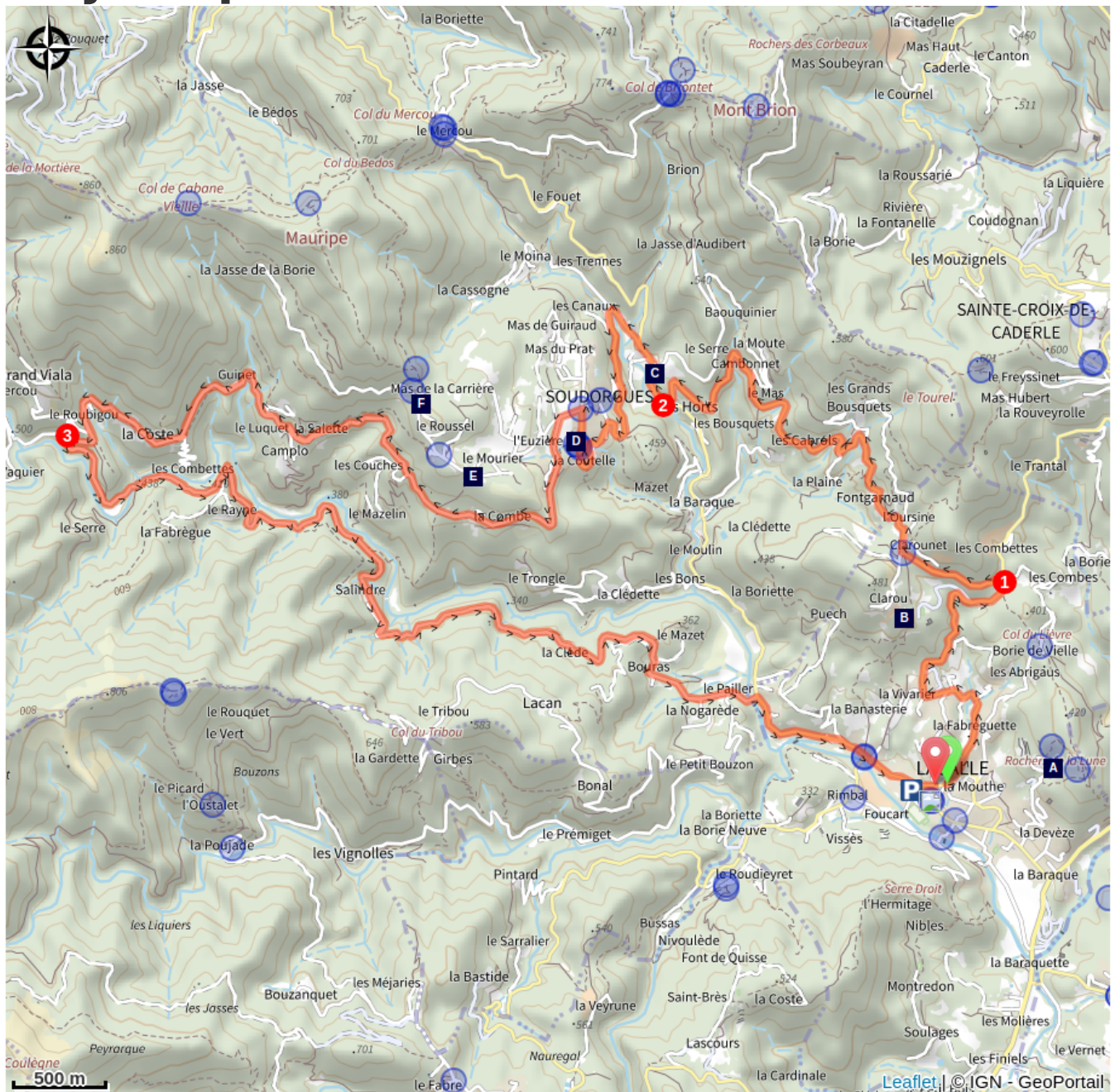
Min elevation 276 m Max elevation 534 m

From Lasalle, take the D153 towards St-Jean du Gard/Ste-Croix de Caderle for about 2 km.

1. Turn left on to the D153d, towards Les Cabrols, Les Horts.
2. At Les Horts, turn right onto the D39, then quickly turn left onto the D271 to Soudorgues, La Coste. Continue to the Pont de la Laine bridge.
3. Return to the village of Lasalle on the D341a and the D39.

Possibility to start from Soudorgues.

On your path...



Rocher de la Lune (A)
 Les Horts hamlet (C)
 Cemetery history (E)

Solier Castle (B)
 The stone or umbrella pine (D)
 Lime kiln (F)

All useful information

Advices

Before committing yourself to a circuit, ensure that it is suitable for your activity level and ability. Respect traffic laws and other road users; stay in control of your speed and trajectory. Make sure to be seen and travel in single file when in a group. Remember that the weather changes quickly in the mountains. Take enough water. Safe trip !

How to come ?

Access

From St-Jean du Gard, take the D907 towards Anduze; at the bridge by the Salindrenque spinning-mill, turn to Lasalle on the D57.

Advised parking

Car park in the village

Information desks

Tourism & national parc'house

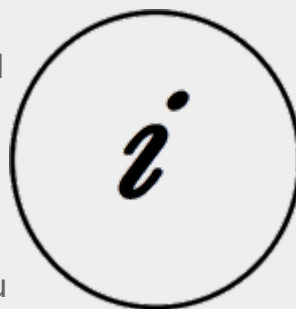
Col de la Serreyrède, 30570 Val d'Aigoual

maisondeilaigoual@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 Causses Cévennes, Lassale

Centre Viala, rue de la Place, 30460

Lasalle

lasalle@sudcevennes.com

Tel : 04 66 85 27 27

<https://www.sudcevennes.com>



Source

On your path...



Rocher de la Lune (A)

The Rocher de la Lune (“moon rock”) is a granite block that is typical of the blockfields which are scattered throughout the vale, from the riverbed to the top of the ridges. This granite block is split in two and used to reflect the moon’s silvery rays before it was covered by vegetation. Oral memory reports that the rock was once painted but that might be a local joke...

Attribution : Béatrice Galzin



Solier Castle (B)

The downhill section to Lasalle goes past Solier Castle, built in the late 19th century. It has a large machicolated keep with an embrasure for a cannon, mullioned windows and gemel bays. The castles at Algues, Calviac, Cornély, Prades and Soulages are older, having been built from the 15th to the 18th centuries.

Attribution : Nathalie Thomas



Les Horts hamlet (C)

The hamlet got its name from the Latin hortus, meaning garden. The presence of many springs and waterways contributed to the expansion of dry-stone terraces for growing crops (bancels or faïsses). Les Horts had a watermill.

Attribution : Nathalie Thomas



The stone or umbrella pine (D)

In the distance in the Lasalle valley there is dense, dark green vegetation. The stone or umbrella pine has a very characteristic opened-out shape, which resembles an umbrella from a distance. This conifer is at home especially in the Mediterranean basin. It prefers dry, deep and cool soils. Its bark is reddish and cracked. Its fruit, the pine nut, is often used in pastry cooking.

Attribution : Béatrice Galzin



Cemetery history (E)

The walk leads you past the village cemetery, which was in fact the Protestant cemetery. Soudorgues also has a Catholic cemetery, another particularity brought about by the turbulent history of the Reformation. Catholic cemeteries did not accept “non-Christians” or “heretic Christians”. There were countless exhumations of Protestant bodies in the 16th century. To put an end to this injustice, the Edict of Nantes ordered that “convenient” cemeteries be built for those who followed the so-called reformed religion. When the Edict was revoked, the order was also dropped. Huguenots had to renounce their religion to be buried in ‘family’ cemeteries in the countryside. Today, only the owners of these on-site cemeteries still have the right to be buried in them.

Attribution : © Nathalie Thomas

Lime kiln (F)

The process of burning limestone to make lime has been used since the Bronze Age. The lime was mixed with sand to make mortar for building houses. Concrete was not known until the early 19th century. Lime is also a powerful antiseptic and was used to disinfect buildings, especially sheepfolds. The kiln operator had to maintain the kiln temperature at 800 to 1,000°C. Plaster was made from gypsum deposits using the same principle.