

The tumulus of L'Elzière

CEVENNES



Le Chambon (Nathalie Thomas)



Explore typical villages, beautiful views over Sénéchas, Aujac and the foothills of Mont Lozère, and especially the most impressive tumulus (burial mound) in the Cévennes, which is 20 m in diameter !

Useful information

Practice : Pédestre

Duration : 3 h 39

Length : 8.9 km

Trek ascent : 438 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Boucle

Themes : Histoire et culture

Trek

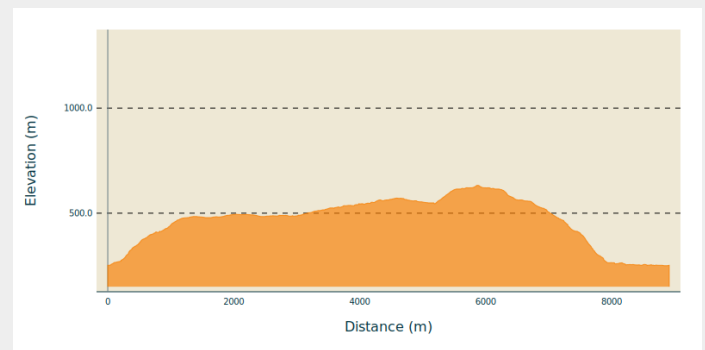
Departure : Le Chambon

Arrival : Le Chambon

Markings :  Balisage jaune et mobilier signalétique

Cities : 1. Chambon
2. Sénéchas

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 252 m Max elevation 623 m

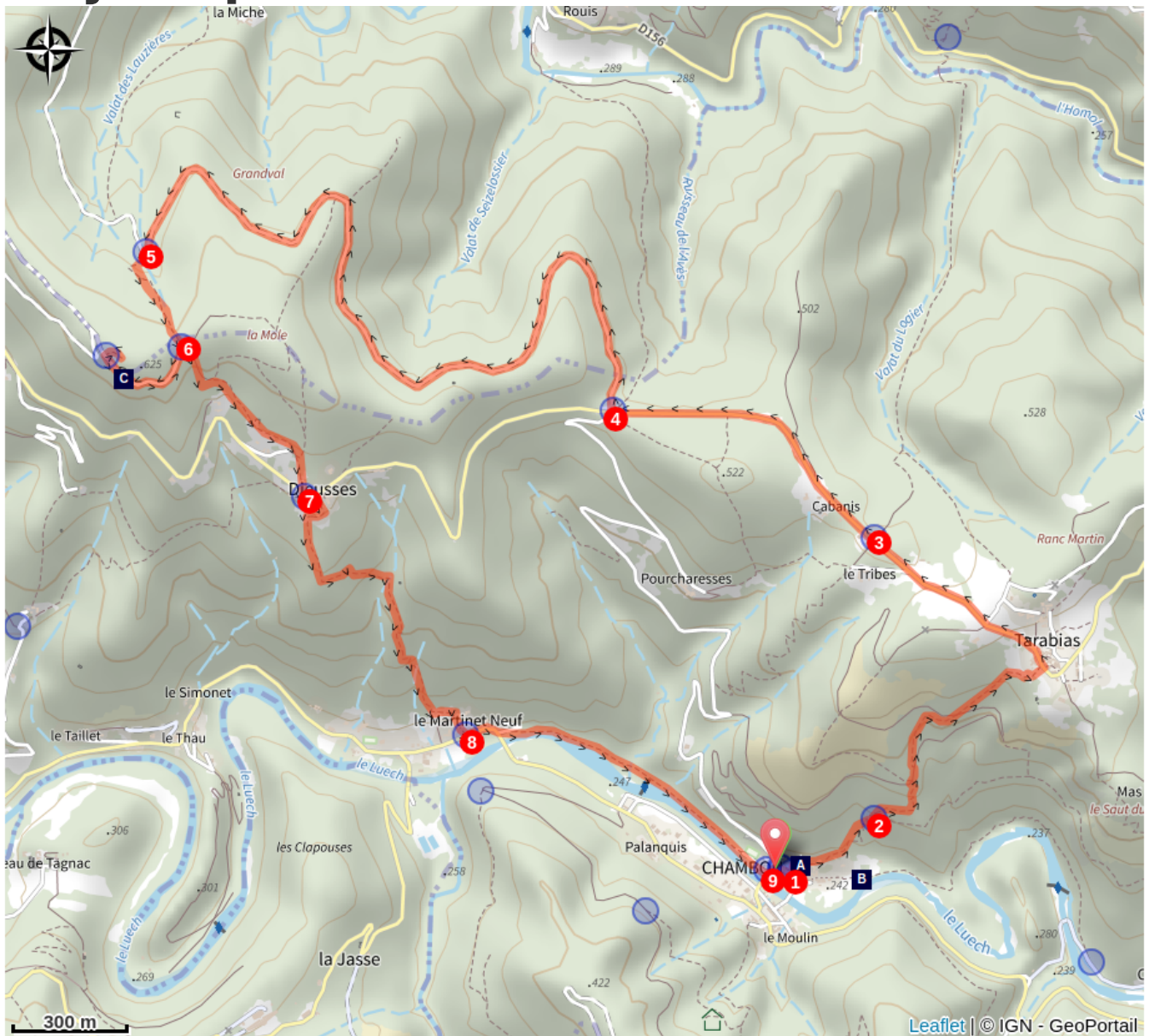
Signposts will guide you all along this route. In the description below, the signposted place names and/or directions are given in **bold italics** between quotation marks :

Start at the village car park "**Le Chambon-parking**" go to :

1. "**Chambon-Eglise**", continue to "**Sénéchas**" via :
2. "**Le Recul**"
3. "**Le Tribes**". At "**Le Tribes**", walk to "**Tumulus de l'Elzière**" via :
4. "**Le Claud**",
5. "**Les Boissonnades**"
6. "**La Mole**". From the signpost "**La Mole**", head to the "**Tumulus**" and then return to "**La Mole**" before going downhill to :
7. "**Dieusses**" to return to "**Le Chambon**" via :
8. "**Le Martinet Neuf**"
9. "**Pont sur Luech**". Return to the parking.

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

On your path...



Le Chambo (A)
The tumulus of L'Elzière (C)

Stone bridges over the Vildou. (B)

All useful information

Advices

Some sections are rocky and close to the cliff edge: supervise your children !

Make sure your equipment is appropriate for the day's weather conditions. Remember that the weather changes quickly in the mountains. Take enough water, wear sturdy shoes and put on a hat. Please close any gates and barriers behind you.

How to come ?

Access

From Génolhac, take the D906 to Chamborigaud, then the D29 to Le Chambon

Advised parking

In the village centre.

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'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 Chambon (A)

The history of Le Chambon is turbulent and set to the rhythm of its successive owners: feudal lords, the parish, the school authorities and the village council.

The oldest parchment dates to 17 April 1295. It refers to the sale of the fiefdom of Le Chambon to the Lord of Portes, whose property it remained until the 17th century, when it was bought by Mr Roussel. It later became part of Sénéchas. Le Chambon did not become its own municipality until 1839, when it had around 800 inhabitants.

After endless debates about how far away the surrounding churches were, le Chambon built its own in 1889. At the time, its lanes were animated by two schools, six cafés, many artisans and miners. When the coal mines closed in the 1950s, the village began to empty. Today, green tourism is reviving it.

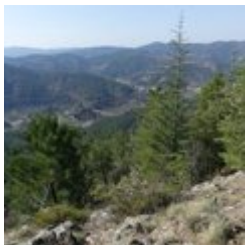
Attribution : Nathalie Thomas



Stone bridges over the Vildou. (B)

The small stone bridges have long replaced the wooden footbridges, which the floods invariably carried off every year. Mostly built in the 18th century, these modest but astonishingly resistant structures are true artistic and technical masterpieces. Inspired by a Roman model, they consist of a single arch that straddles the waterway and sits on bedrock at each end. No central pillar blocks the flow of the river.

Attribution : Nathalie Thomas



The tumulus of L'Elzière (C)

This monument dating from the late Bronze Age was reused in the Iron Age and Middle Ages. The burial mound (heap of stones) is circular, with a diameter of 20 m and a height of 4 m. Remarkably, it is built in tiers. The grave, located centrally, consists of a caisson. In it were discovered pottery shards that may have contained drinks and meat as well as a decorated razor blade and a flint arrowhead. These grave goods are preserved at the Musée du Colombier in Alès, in an 18th century former château.

Attribution : Nathalie Thomas