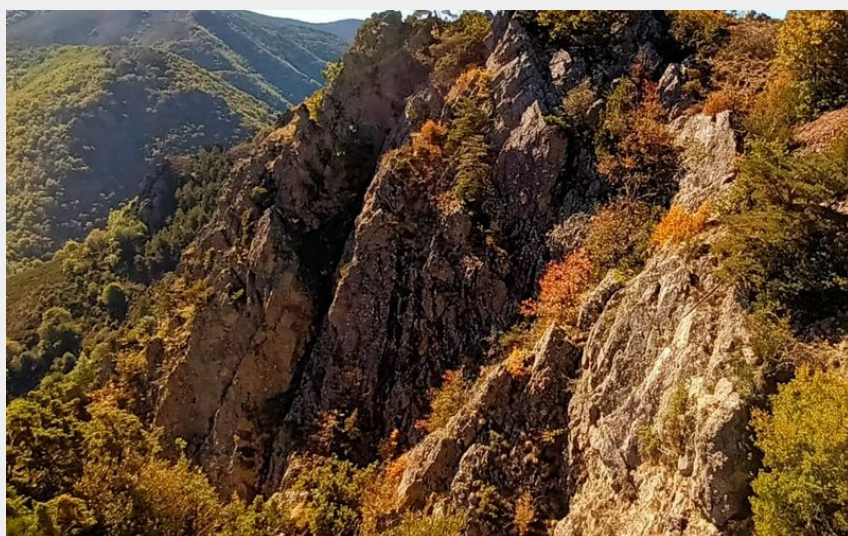
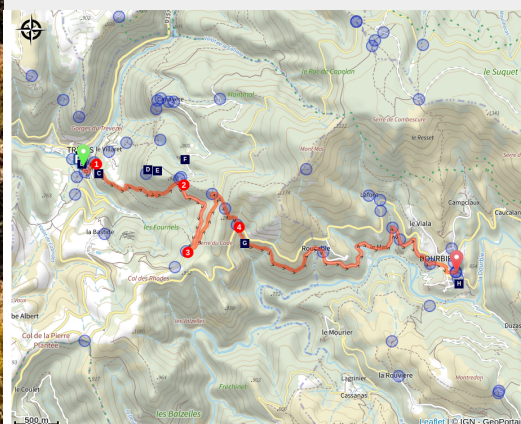


One foot in the Dourbie valley, the other in the Trévezel (day 1)

Gard



Rocher au dessus de la Dourbie (Béatrice Galzin)



The path uses the former road to the village and overlooks the beautiful Dourbie river valley with the summit of St-Guiral opposite.

As you leave the peaceful village of Trèves, you start the steep climb to Le Pas du Coulet. Here, mines were dug all around you for minerals such as galena (silver-bearing lead). This industrial exploitation was ephemeral but it provided a living for foreign and local families for several years.

Useful information

Practice : Pédestre

Duration : 4 h 30

Length : 8.8 km

Trek ascent : 613 m

Difficulty : Medium

Themes : Architecture et village, Histoire et culture, Faune et flore

Trek

Departure : Trèves

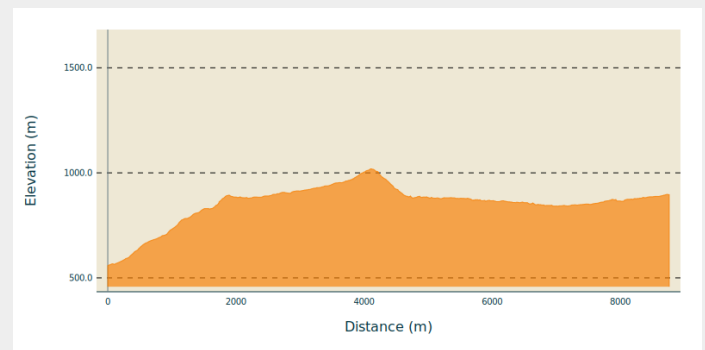
Arrival : Dourbies

Markings : — Balisage jaune et mobilier signalétique

Cities : 1. Trèves

2. Dourbies

Altimetric profile



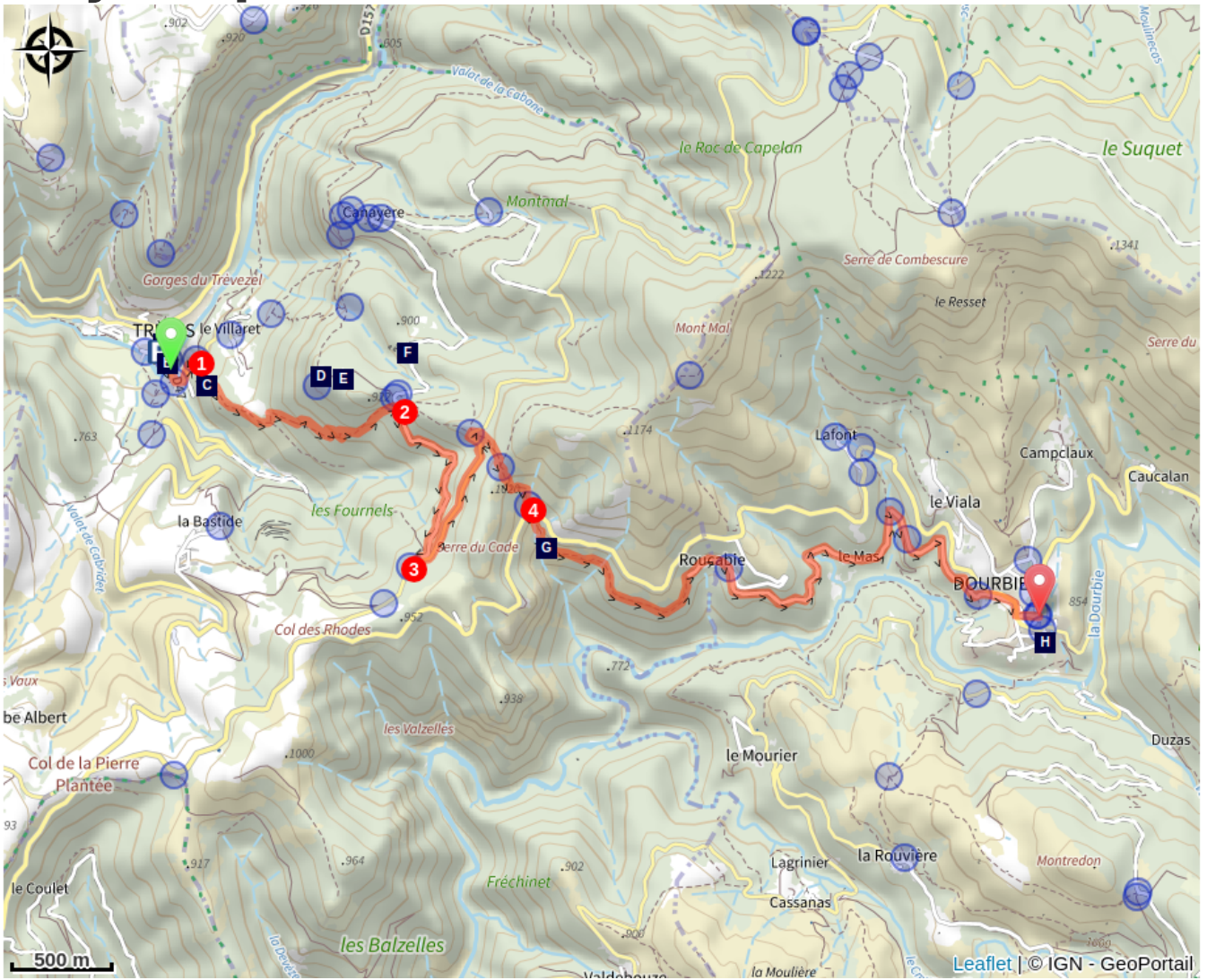
Min elevation 560 m Max elevation 1016 m

Starting from “**Trèves**”, take the path on the left after the bridge to “**La Vierge**”.

1. Take the path on the right to “**Pas du Coulet**”.
2. At “**Pas du Coulet**”, follow the track on your right to “**Sous le Col des Rhodes**”.
3. Then take on your left the D710 road for 900 m, then the path on the right to “**Serre de Cade**”, then to “**Combe étroite**”.
4. Go downhill to “**Dourbies**” via “**Roucable**”, “**La Bourelle**”, “**Las Costes**”, “**La Combe**”.

Explore the village, which is part of the “characterful village” network.

On your path...



Trèves (A)

Box (Buxus) (C)

Typical grasslands on limestone soil
(E)

The Dourbies gorge (G)

Treves (B)

Open-sky geology (D)

The hamlet of Espruniers (F)

Fourbies (H)

All useful information

Advices

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 Nant take the D341, then the D151 to the village of Dourbies.

From Meyrueis take the D986, then the D157 through the Trévezet gorge and Trèves, then the D151 to the village of Dourbies.

Advised parking

Car park in the village

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

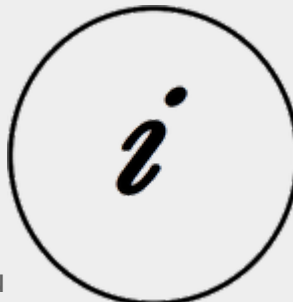
Col de la Serreyrède, 30570 Val d'Aigoual

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)



Source

On your path...



Trèves (A)

From Tabrî, meaning “village close to the water” in the Chasséen culture (Baume Lairoux, La Verrière, etc.), which lay on the trade route between the Gabali tribe, the coast and the Arecomici tribe. It was given a wooden bridge by the Romans, occupied first by Arian Visigoths and then by Nicene Christian Franks, and destroyed by Muslims around 730. It was revived in the Carolingian period with its Romanesque bridge, and was loyal to the Kings of France, who granted it a consuls’ charter in the 14th century and the bell on top of the church, which had remained Catholic. In the 17th century, Trèves had hemp fields, whose hempen cloth was used in the draperies in Lodève. Its blue sheep’s cheese, its galena mine and its terraces of almond trees and lentils belong to the past. Only the Pétassou (local pagan character and festival) remains (M.MOULINIER, historian).

Attribution : Béatrice Galzin



Treves (B)

In Antiquity, the village square was a cemetery. The name Trèves is believed to derive from the Gaulish trebo – meaning 'village' according to some sources or the Celtic water goddess according to others – or perhaps from trivium, crossroads... The track going over the Roman bridge at Le Trévezet, restored in the 18th century, was in fact an important road in Antiquity. There is another hypothesis if you consult Boissier de Sauvages' 1820 dictionary, in whose opinion Treva or Trebo are Occitan words referring to phantoms or spirits. You might well be tempted by this version once you know the history of the Pas de Joulié cave described below! (B. Mathieu)

Attribution : nathalie.thomas



Box (Buxus) (C)

Boxwood and humans: a long relationship! When livestock farming increased, the primeval oak forest opened up and box – which is too hard for sheep's teeth – took hold everywhere. Humans discovered one of its major qualities: broken up and scattered over the ground as a litter, it protects vegetable seedlings from drought and frost. Its leaves can make up for a lack of straw for fertilising arable land. In 1818, a decree issued by the prefect of the Gard department worried about the excessive clearing of box groves and the messy manner in which they were being uprooted, without adequate tools. Until about 1910, you might see mules laden with enormous bundles of box; then chemistry took over. (B. Mathieu)

Attribution : nathalie.thomas



Open-sky geology (D)

The granite and schist (slate) that constitute the bedrock of the Cévennes and Causses were created in the Paleozoic. The bedrock was then flattened by erosion and covered by the sea, leading to limestone deposits. On the reliefs, erosion has eliminated the sedimentary top layer while in zones of subsidence, such as the Causses, the limestone deposits remained in place. Since then, waterways have cut ever deeper into the limestone, and continue to do so today.

Attribution : © Valère Marsaudon



🌿 Typical grasslands on limestone soil (E)

This small area of grassland is one of the rare open spaces on the Causse de Canayère. It is of interest for the preservation of certain flower species, especially the pasqueflower and several varieties of orchid. To counteract the natural progression towards more closed environments, this site is maintained by regular mowing.

Attribution : © Olivier Prohin



The hamlet of Espruniers (F)

This hamlet, which consisted of a sizeable grouping of houses, was inhabited until about 1930. You have stopped on what was probably the threshing floor for grains.

Attribution : © Fonds Flahault



The Dourbies gorge (G)

The path comes out on the Dourbie gorge. Opposite you, the western part of the high granite plateau of the Lingas joins up on its right with the limestone plateau called Causse de Larzac. On your right, you can see the granite dome of Saint-Guiral. Closer to you, in the vales that converge on the Dourbie, are the former crop terraces, pastureland, the village built on the riverbank at the valley's widest point and finally the chestnut orchard. You are seeing the upper limit of its range, which corresponds to its maximum altitude in this zone (800 m).

Attribution : nathalie.thomas



Dourbies (H)

The village of Dourbies was built on a ridge to maximise the flatter soils for cultivation. Farming having declined in the valley, fields that were once cultivated have now been urbanised, and broom heath is invading more and more land.

Attribution : nathalie.thomas