Arrival : L’Argentière-La-Bessée - white water stadium

Parc national des Ecrins

Gyronde P2 Débarquement 1 (Claude Margaux)

Useful information

Practice : Canoe-kayak

Type : Arrivée (débarquement)

Description

Disembark when reaching the end of the stadium, on the right bank, following the signs.

Geographical location

The Fournel (A)
The white water stadium (B)
The southern swallowtail (C)

All useful information

Source

Pays des Ecrins

https://www.paysdesecrins.com

On your path...

The Fournel (A)

The source of the Fournel rises in the Fournel valley, in the heart of the Parc National des Écrins, and flows into the Durance near the white water stadium. It is known as a high alpine canyon offering lots of sport and leisure possibilities, and is the most popular in the Haut Val Durance. It is ideal for an introduction to vertical activities, in particular thanks to the presence of several jumps, toboggan runs and rappel sites. Access is authorised from April to October and is regulated because it is located upstream from an EDF water intake, which presents a real hazard.

Attribution : Office de tourisme du Pays des Écrins

The white water stadium (B)

As part of its restructuring after the closure of the industrial site, the town of L'Argentière-la-Bessée opted for sports tourism, exploiting the natural elements present on the site, that is to say, water. Standing at the beginning of the longest navigable section of the Durance river, in 1993 the municipality decided to establish itself as a major white water centre by creating this stadium which covers a 400-metre stretch. So thanks to its reputation and its ideal situation, every year this stadium hosts several elite competitions at national and international level.

Attribution : Office de tourisme du Pays des Écrins

The southern swallowtail (C)

This very beautiful but rare butterfly is similar to - and can easily be mistaken for - other more common butterflies, the scarce swallowtail (common despite its name) and the common yellow swallowtail. It lives on hot, limestone hillsides. Although protected, it is threatened by the disappearance of its habitat, due in particular to urbanisation and its capture and trade (both illegal) for collectors.

Attribution : Mireille Coulon - Parc national des Écrins