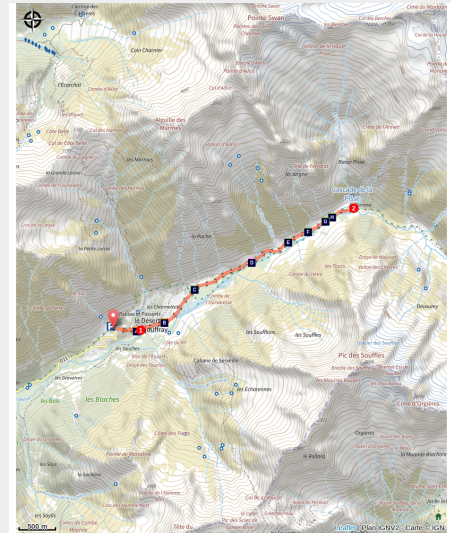


The Pisse waterfall

Valbonnais - Valjouffrey



Cascade de la Pisse (Xavier_and_Caroline - Parc national des Ecrins)



This family trail is a chance to admire the untamed mountains in complete safety and to feel all the force of the natural elements.

After crossing the village and the meadows surrounded with rocks, the route is adorned with unruly waterfalls. The valley dug out of the crystalline mountains (granite and gneiss) forms the "U" shape characterising landscapes shaped by glaciers.

Useful information

Practice : By walk

Duration : 3 h

Length : 8.1 km

Trek ascent : 230 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Return trip

Themes : Fauna, Flora

Accessibility : Joelette, Wheelchair

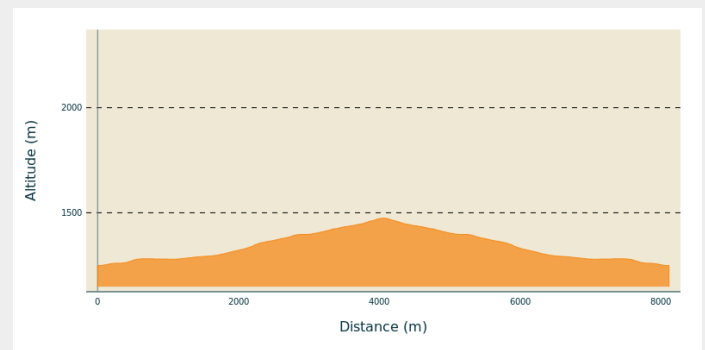
Trek

Departure : Le-Désert-en-Valjouffrey,
Valjouffrey

Arrival : Le-Désert-en-Valjouffrey,
Valjouffrey

Cities : 1. Valjouffrey

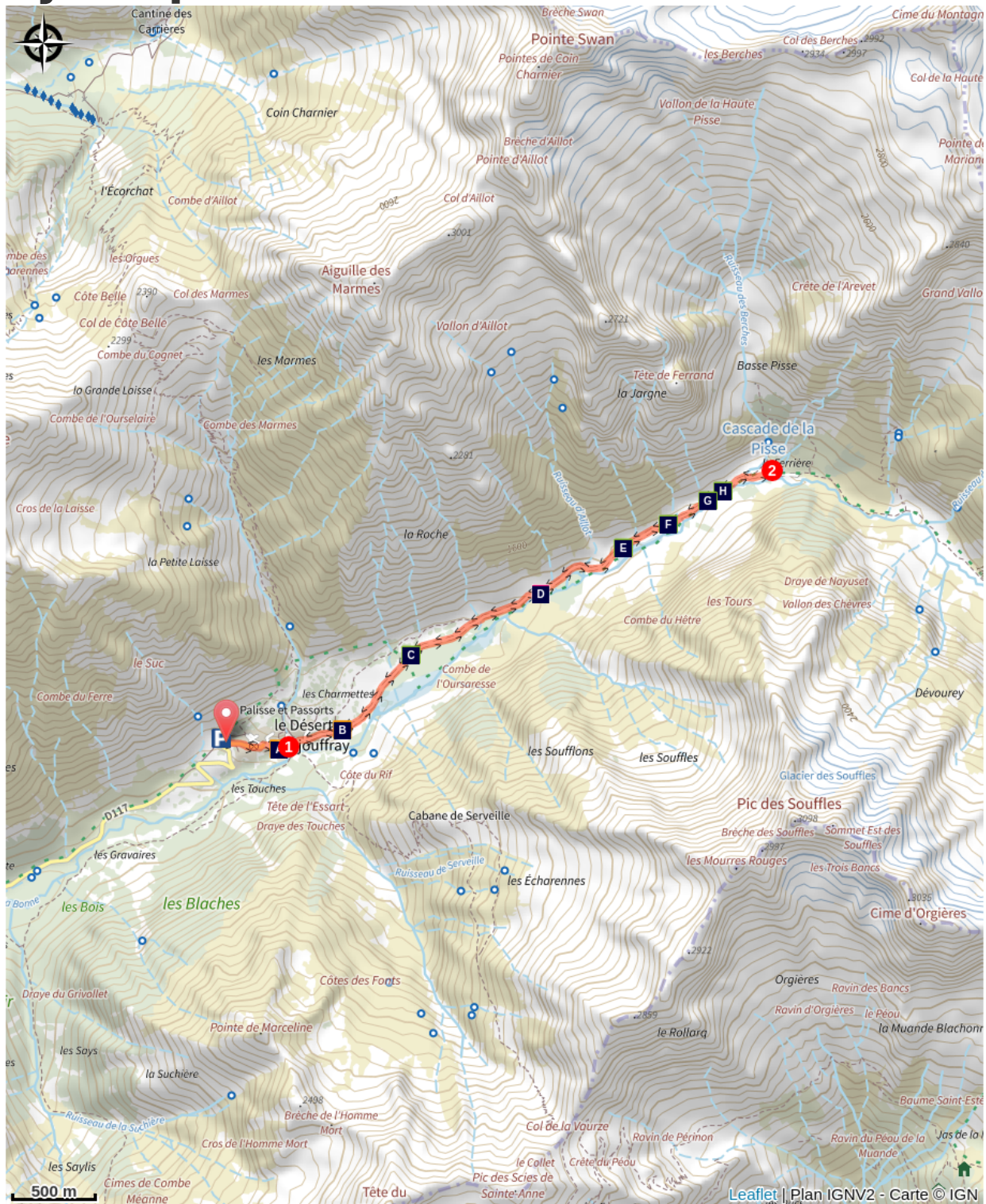
Altimetric profile



Min elevation 1249 m Max elevation 1475 m

From the car park at the entrance of Le Désert-en-Valjouffrey, cross the village, heading east. Cut across the GR 54, by crossing the stream of La Laisse - it leads to the left to Côte Belle and to the right to Col de la Vaurze. Follow the wide path alongside the meadow and along the right bank of La Bonne, leading you to the entrance of the Ecrins National Park (information panel). When you arrive at the Pisse waterfall, come back along the same route. To continue, take a look at the route to the Font Turbat refuge.

On your path...



-  The Désert-en-Valjouffrey (A)
-  Common Chiffchaff (C)
-  Cob web House Leek (E)
-  Apollo (G)

-  Hay Fields (B)
-  Glacial valley (D)
-  Rhododendron (F)
-  White-throated Dipper (H)

All useful information

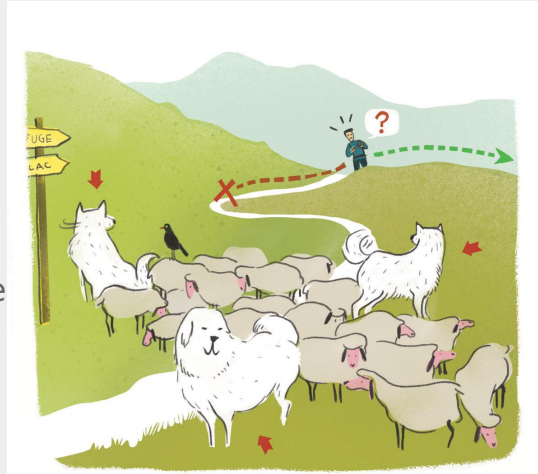
Herd protection dogs

In mountain pastures, protection dogs are there to protect the herds from predators (wolves, etc.).

When I hike I adapt my behavior by going around the herd and pausing for the dog to identify me.

Find out more about the actions to adopt with the article ["Protection dogs: a context and actions to adopt"](#).

Tell us about your meeting by answering this [survey](#).



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

In summer, it can get very hot on the path (sunscreen, hats and water are essential, especially for children)

How to come ?

Transports

No transport services to the start of the trail.

Access

From Entraigues, take the D117 to the village of Le Désert-en-Valjouffrey

Advised parking

Entrance to the village of Le Désert-en-Valjouffrey

Accessibility

Obstacles :

Plusieurs passages en montée très caillouteux.

Le passage à gué du torrent d'Aillot n'est pas forcément sec, il existe une passerelle étroite sans rambarde et peu accessible.

Passerelle de la cascade de la pisse : marche haute.

Parking :

Parking à l'entrée du village (pas de stationnement possible dans et après le village).

Sanitaires :

Pas de sanitaires sur le site. Commerces dans le village du Désert-en-Valjouffrey



Joelette



Wheelchair

Accessibility level : Experimented

Slope

Un tronçon à 10% dans le village, qui peut être évité si au lieu de suivre le balisage au niveau du pont en bois, on emprunte la rue qui part à gauche puis dans le virage en repartant à droite.

Tout au long de l'itinéraire, alternance de parties plates et de montées de 4% à 6%. Les montées sont souvent très caillouteuses.

Width

Large route forestière (2,50m à 3m)

Signage

Balisage en traits jaunes discrets

Covering

Début du parcours sur route goudronnée. Puis piste forestière, parfois herbeuse, parfois très caillouteuse.

Variante plus difficile : A la descente après la barrière pour le bétail, possibilité de prendre une sente en single sur la droite (cairns) qui suit un ancien canal d'irrigation (pour attelage confirmé uniquement, passage sur une digue étroite avec pierrier en contrebas, un passage à gué).

Exposure

Exposition Est / Ouest tout au long du parcours. Quelques portions ombragées, mais globalement l'itinéraire se déroule à découvert.

Advice

Pour joëlettes ou fauteuils tout-terrain

Environmental sensitive areas

Along your trek, you will go through sensitive areas related to the presence of a specific species or environment. In these areas, an appropriate behaviour allows to contribute to their preservation. For detailed information, specific forms are accessible for each area.

Alpine ibex

Sensitivity period: June, July, August, September

Contact: Parc National des Écrins
Julien Charron
julien.charron@ecrins-parcnational.fr

Zone de présence du Bouquetin des Alpes

En période de mise bas et d'élevage des jeunes (juin à septembre) les bouquetins peuvent être très sensibles au dérangement notamment en cas de survol à basse altitude. Dans leur fuite les risques d'accidents sont multipliés. Merci de rester à bonne distance et d'éviter le survol de la zone.

Attention en zone cœur du Parc National des Écrins une réglementation spécifique aux sports de nature s'applique : <https://www.ecrins-parcnational.fr/thematique/sports-de-nature>

Information desks

Maison du Parc du Valbonnais
Place du Docteur Eyraud, 38740
Entraigues
valbonnais@ecrins-parcnational.fr
Tel : 04 76 30 20 61
<http://www.ecrins-parcnational.fr/>



Source



Parc national des Ecrins

<https://www.ecrins-parcnational.fr>

On your path...



The Désert-en-Valjouffrey (A)

No sand or barren lands, the name of Desert comes from the word "essarter" which means to clear the land of forest in order to produce a clearing. Forest clearing was necessary for the implementation and the development of agriculture in the mountains... Nowadays, the Desert is one of the only hamlets at altitude which is inhabited all year round in spite of the harsh mountain climate.

Attribution : PNE - Collection Tron Lucien

Hay Fields (B)

The hayfields where the grass is mown have been improved over the generations by the extraction of stones which have then been stacked in piles which are known locally as "clapiers". These piles of stones mark the boundaries between the crops and the flocks.



Common Chiffchaff (C)

A bird that you hear but do not see, the Common Chiffchaff nicknamed the "écu counter". Its song, which is very easy to identify, evokes the sound of gold coins falling one by one in to the cash register as they are counted. Green-brown and greyish on top, its feathers are off white underneath, beige on the chest with a barely visible pale brow.

Attribution : PNE - Saulay Pascal



Glacial valley (D)

The high valley of Bonne, or Font Turbat, is a typical glacial valley in the form of a trough with morainic bars marking the stages of the retreat of the glacier. The lower shelves or glacial shoulders are suspended above the trough 500 to 600 m in size of which the steep sides dominate the layers of scree and the alluvial fans (mass of debris transported by the water). It finishes upstream by a vast cirque at the imposing foot of the rocky wall of the Olan (3 564 m), hemmed in at its foot by the Maye black glacier. At the time of the last glaciation of Würm, 10 000 years ago, the two glaciers of Font Turbat and Maye joined together and fed into a powerful glacial tongue in the Bonne valley. It formed the valley in the shape of a basin by scraping and polishing rocky walls in the granite. The lowest moraines, masses of rocky debris transported by the glaciers are situated around Châtellerat cabin.

Attribution : PNE - Nicollet Bernard



Cob web House Leek (E)

Thick leaves organized in tight rosettes shoot up towards the sky, twisted with white hairs which are quite similar to the traps woven by certain spiders. Not less competitive than the rhododendrons, the Cobweb House Leek is adapted to resist drought. The main rosette and the smaller shoots well grouped together; make a real water reserve which is then marvelously stocked by the fleshy leaves... It also develops many kinds of hairs that collect the dew.

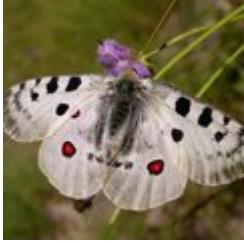
Attribution : PNE - Warluzelle Olivier



Rhododendron (F)

Nicknamed the rose of the devil, the rhododendron ferrugineum has the capacity of placing itself between the rocks and boulders where the soil is rare. It keeps its stiff leaves which are dark green and shiny and rust coloured underneath right through the winter. It gets its name from this rust colour. Every year, between the end of July and the beginning of August its branches are crowned with bouquets of flowers coloured rose and purple.

Attribution : PNE - Vincent Dominique



Apollo (G)

A big white butterfly with black and red markings is not shy; the Apollo is easy to see between the middle of June until the end of July... It lays its eggs on the White Stonecrop, a perennial plant with white flowers living on scree and gravel... The male Apollo is born before the female and waits patiently to procreate. It is to be noted that it benefits from national protection; its transport and destruction are forbidden.

Attribution : PNE - Combrisson Damien



White-throated Dipper (H)

Easier to observe than the Common Chiffchaff, the White-throated Dipper lives beside rivers and mountain torrents... A little red and grey bird, with a short tail, it has a fine beak, a white mark on the chin and on the chest. This astonishing sparrow has the particularity of being able to walk under the water against the current in search of food. It flattens itself down and grips on to the bottom with its claws, opens its eyes, which are protected from the flow by a fine membrane and spots worms, larvae, little crustaceans and fish.

Attribution : PNE - Chevalier Robert