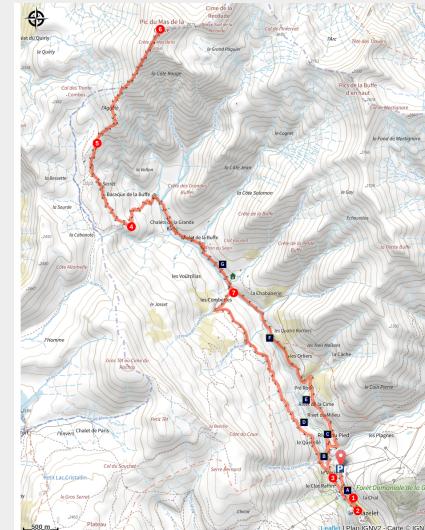


# Le Pic du Mas de La Grave

Briançonnais - La Grave



Depuis le Pic du Mas de la Grave (Thibaut Blais - Parc national des Ecrins)



*Objectif incontournable pour les randonneurs chevronnés qui séjournent dans la vallée, le Pic du Mas de la Grave (3020 m) s'offre à eux après avoir remonté le vallon de la Buffe.*

Faisant face à La Meije, le Pic du Mas de La Grave impose sa présence dans le paysage. Son allure altière et ses 3020 m viennent barrer la longue vallée de la Buffe. À sa gauche, le col des Trente Combes ouvre les portes de la Savoie. Il n'est jamais aussi beau et majestueux qu'au coucher du soleil.

## Useful information

Practice : By walk

Duration : 9 h

Length : 24.3 km

Trek ascent : 1405 m

Difficulty : Hard

Type : Return trip

Themes : Hut, Top

# Trek

**Departure :** Station du Chazelet

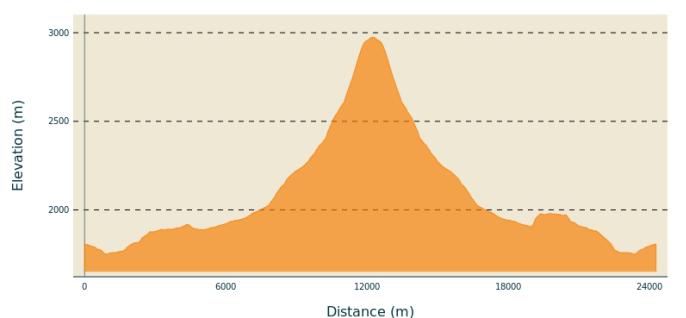
**Arrival :** Station du Chazelet

**Markings :** — PR

**Cities :** 1. La Grave

2. Besse

## Altimetric profile



Min elevation 1752 m Max elevation 2975 m

Du parking, descendre en direction du village le long du parking.

1. Au premier embranchement, ne pas monter dans le village mais prendre en épingle à droite en direction du pied des remontées mécaniques.
2. Prendre le GR 54 à droite. A l'embranchement suivant laisser le GR, rester à flanc (ne pas descendre vers le torrent). Continuer la large piste.
3. A l'embranchement suivant, prendre à droite en direction des trois hameaux des Rivets. Les traverser et atteindre la Croix de Tuf (1879 m). Continuer la bonne piste qui suit la vallée pour rejoindre tout au fond la baraque de la Buffe (2005 m) située au pied du Pic du Mas de La Grave (Il est possible de passer la nuit au refuge pour couper la longue ascension vers le Pic). Franchir sur la gauche le petit torrent puis remonter le sentier.
4. Passer une petite barre rocheuse et juste après, ne pas bifurquer à gauche mais continuer vers le Nord le sentier qui conduit à un immense cairn (2351 m).
5. De ce point, le sentier s'amenuise, longe un ravin schisteux et traverse des prairies rases pour rejoindre des éboulis. Franchir quelques petits ressauts rocheux pour atteindre la crête (2979 m). La suivre (aérien) jusqu'au sommet (3020 m).
6. Le retour s'effectue par le même chemin jusqu'à un Gué à l'aval du refuge du Pic du Mas de La Grave.
7. Tourner à droite, monter puis revenir par le chemin en rive droite jusqu'à la station, puis rejoindre le parking.

# On your path...



- Chazelet Cattle Fair (A)
- Altitude hayfields (C)
- Common quail (E)
- A "plague" of voles (G)

- Campanula thyrsoide (B)
- Viviparous lizard (D)
- Small Apollo (F)

# All useful information

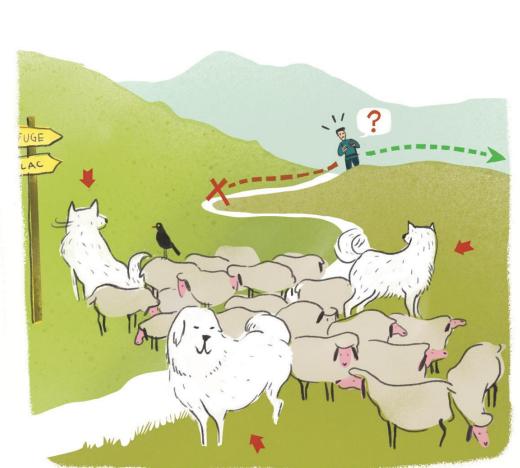
## Herd protection dogs

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](#).



## Advices

A partir du gros cairn la dernière partie de l'ascension du Pic est très raide et sur un terrain schisteux qui peut être glissant par temps humide. Pour les moins aguerris, il est possible de faire demi-tour au cairn.

## How to come ?

### Transports

Bus Grenoble gare routière/SNCF - La Grave / Villar d'Arène - Briançon (LER 35 - Transisère). Réservation sur : <https://zou.maregionsud.fr/>

Pensez au covoiturage : <https://www.blablacar.fr/>

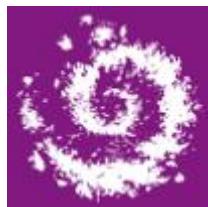
### Access

De Bourg-d'Oisans, suivre la D1091 et traverser La Grave. A la sortie du tunnel, emprunter à droite la D33 et suivre la direction du Chazelet.

### Advised parking

Parking au dessus du Chazelet

## Source



Parc national des Ecrins

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

## On your path...

---



### ☛ Chazelet Cattle Fair (A)

This is an old market that still exists and gives local farmers the opportunity to sell young "Abondance" or "Tarine" cows, that are needed to make Beaufort and Reblochon cheeses, to farmers from Savoie, Haute Savoie and Italy. The traders, who are easy to identify with their hats and black cloaks, and the worried-looking breeders barter, whilst stalls of bells and other objects lend a festive feel to the event.

Attribution : Gérald Lucas



### ✿ Campanula thyrsoide (B)

This flower is an emblem of the area of La Grave and is recognisable among all others thanks to its yellow flowers that form a compact flower head also known as "thyrse". It is edible in a cheese-topped bake and is one of the rare biennial alpine plants. The seeds are scattered in the autumn and in the first year grow into big long leaves that form a rosette. Blossoming only occurs in the second year, when after ensuring reproduction, the plant dies.

Attribution : Bernard Nicollet - PNE



### ✿ Altitude hayfields (C)

Natural hayfields are of great biological variety and are home to associations of plants that blossom freely. From this botanical variety come a multitude of insects and more particularly butterflies that find an ideal environment for their development. Maintaining the balance of these zones is essential, even more so at this altitude and in such a valley.

Attribution : Mireille Coulon - PNE



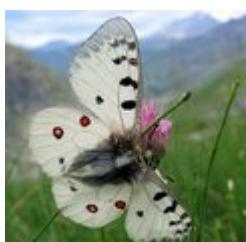
## ☒ Viviparous lizard (D)

The viviparous or common lizard is present in the north of the park where it lives in cool, damp zones (moors, alpine and subalpine meadows, or at the edge of streams). It has this name as the females, in certain populations, keep the eggs in their abdomen until they hatch. Affected by any development that leads to the destruction of wet zones, it is a protected species all over France and considered vulnerable on a regional level.

Attribution : Damien Combrisson - PNE

## ☒ Common quail (E)

Generally present in fields of cereal crops, the common quail also occupies the mountain meadows up to 2000 m or more. In the long grass, it pecks at insects and later on at the seeds as they reach maturity. A very discreet bird, it nests in the ground in a little dip, where it can lay twice to replace eggs in the case of destruction. Its song, that can be heard night and day, often gives it away: "pay your debts" is the male's song to keep its rivals at bay.



## ☒ Small Apollo (F)

Very common in this valley, the small Apollo is a rare and protected butterfly. Its antennae are finely black-and-white striped. A tiny red spot decorates the edge of each forewing. With a wingspan of 60 to 80 cm, it reigns supreme among the orangey-yellow swathes of yellow mountain saxifrage, which provides protection and food for its caterpillars.

Attribution : Christophe Albert - PNE



## ☒ A "plague" of voles (G)

The European water vole, also called the rat taupier (mole-like rat) in French, is one of the biggest species of voles. Its breeding cycle is such that the species can undergo phases of infestation. Although the causes are not fully understood, this cyclic problem started a few years ago in the valley of La Grave, at an altitude of 2,000 metres. Although the first signs of the presence of voles in a meadow are undoubtedly the "molehills" they create, when they constitute a plague, they can completely overturn the earth, which could be mistaken for ploughed land.

Attribution : Damien Combrisson