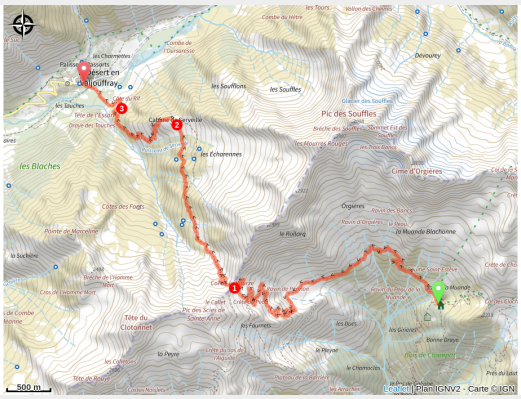
From Les Souffles to Le Désert-en-Valjouffrey (stage of the GR 54)

Valgaudemar

Du refuge des Souffles au col de la Vaurze (Pascal Saulay - PNE)



From Valgaudemar to Valjouffrey, the GR passes through two untamed valleys with steep landscapes, linked together by the impressive Col de la Vaurze.

We set off for a dizzying journey beneath the Pic des Souffles. With the help of rungs and handrails, we reach Col de la Vaurze, the entry point for the wild Valjouffrey mountain valley. On today's programme is a plunging vista and our final goal at the bottom of the valley: the peaceful village of Le Désert-en-Valjouffrey and its brand new gîte.

Useful information

Practice : By walk

Duration : 5 h 30

Length : 11.0 km

Trek ascent : 639 m

Difficulty : Hard

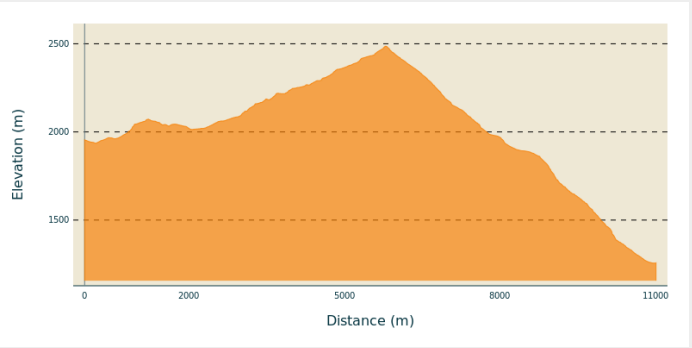
Type : Stage

Themes : Fauna, Flora

Trek

Departure : Les Souffles, Villar Loubière
Arrival : Le Désert-en-Valjouffrey
Markings : GR
Cities : 1. Villar-Loubière
2. Valjouffrey

Altimetric profile

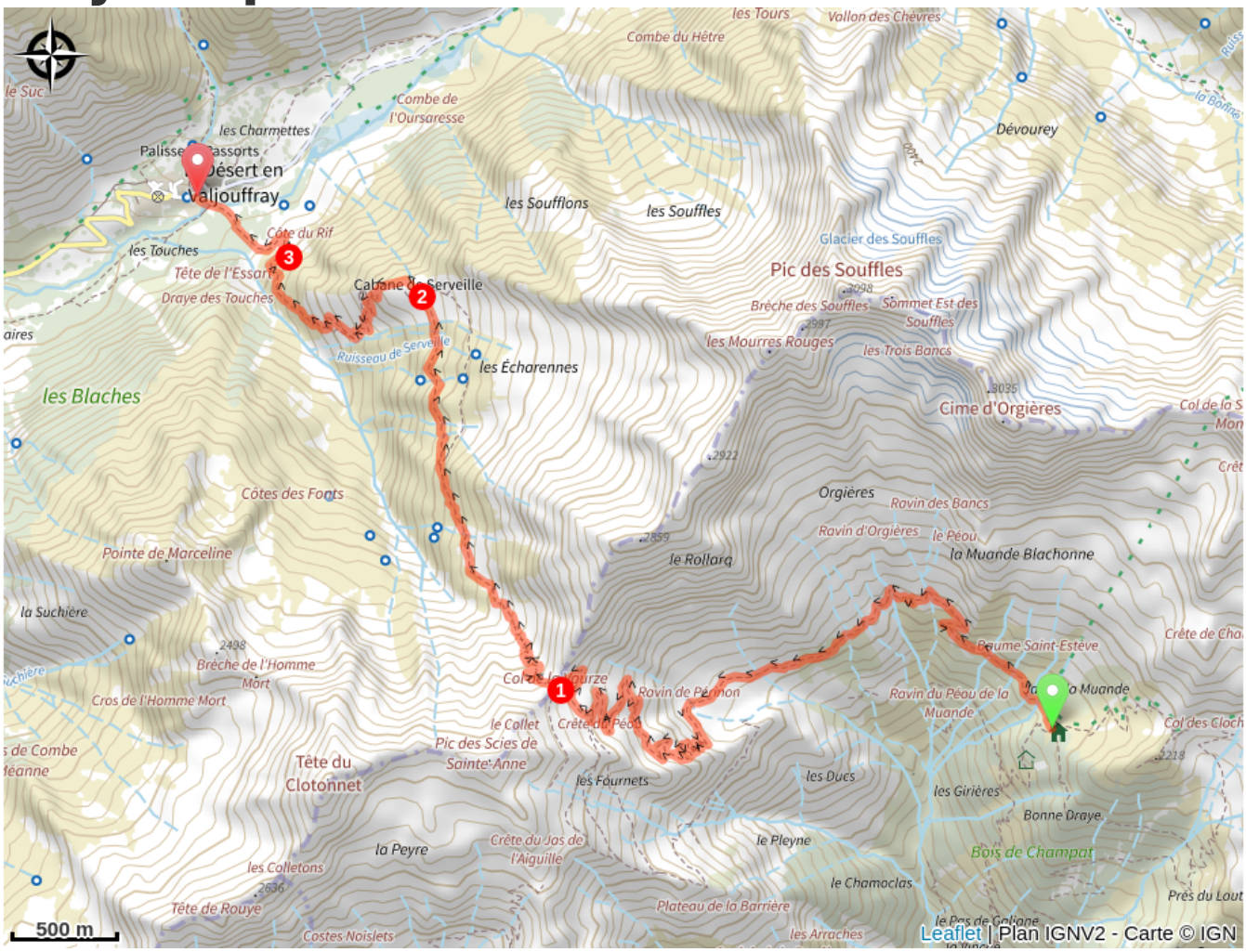


Min elevation 1257 m Max elevation 2487 m

From the refuge, follow the right-hand footpath across the Muande mountain stream and then the Péou de la Muande ravine. Follow a long path across the glacier cirque, under the Orgières, with its twists and turns, as far as a hanging plateau. Cross the meadow along the path’s big twists and turns, then walk across the scree to reach Col de la Vaurze (2 490 m).

1. The descent across the scree (and sometimes the late névé) is steep and should be treated with caution. A lengthy crossing, then a passage beneath a rock cliff lead to the berm at the disused Serveille cabin (1 885 m).
2. Go round the rock cliff on your right and follow the winding path as far as the rocky escarpment of the Tête de l'Essart.
3. After the scree, you will return to the prairies and the Bonne bridge, entering the small village of Le Désert-en-Valjouffrey (1 260 m).

On your path...


les Tours
Vallon des Chèvres
Combe du Hêtre
Combe de l'Oursaresse
les Charmettes
Dévourey
Désert en Valjouffray
les Soufflons
les Souffles
Côte du Rif
les Touches
Tête de l'Essart
Draye des Touches
Cabane de Serveille
Glacier des Souffles
Pic des Souffles
Brèche des Souffles
Sommet Est des Souffles
les Mourres Rouges
les Trois Bancs
Ruisseau de Serveille
les Échorennes
les Blaches
Cime d'Orgières
Côtes des Fonts
Orgières
Ravin des Bancs
Ravin d'Orgières
le Péou
la Muande Blachonne
Pointe de Marceline
le Rollard
la Suchière
Brèche de l'Homme Mort
Baume Saint-Estève
Cros de l'Homme Mort
Ravin de Pérmon
Ravin du Péou de la Muande
le Collet
Pic des Scies de Sainte-Anne
Tête du Clotonnet
les Fournets
les Ducs
les Girières
Bonne Draye
la Peyre
Crête du Jas de l'Aiguille
le Pleyne
Bois de Champat
les Colletons
le Chamoclas
Tête de Rouye
Plateau de la Barrière
Costes Noislets
les Arraches
Près du Lout
500 m
Leaflet | Plan IGNV2 - Carte © IGN

All useful information

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

Care is needed descending Col de la Vaurze early in the season. Névé is still present on the northern face late on.

Source

Parc national des Ecrins

https://www.ecrins-parcnational.fr