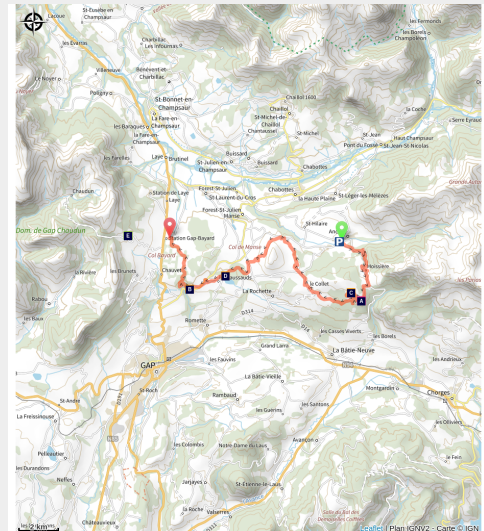


# Stage 1: Ancelle - Col Bayard Oxygenation Centre

Champsaur - Ancelle



Pic de Bure Chapeau de Gendarme Depuis Faudon Ancelle Champsaur (Marc Corail - PNE)



*This is an ideal stage to begin the adventure: smooth going, without physical and technical difficulties. From Ancelle, the route runs around the mountains from the Col de Moissière to Col de Manse and as far as the Col Bayard.*

When you get to the Col de Moissière and its fine view over the Gapençais, which can be enjoyed by cyclists all day long, the route runs between Col de Manse and Col Bayard. Many traces of the past can be seen along the way, such as the disused railway line and the Gap Canal.

## Useful information

Practice : Mountain bike

Duration : 4 h

Length : 25.9 km

Trek ascent : 612 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Stage

Themes : History and architecture, Panorama, Pass

# Trek

**Departure** : Ancelle

**Arrival** : Col Bayard

**Markings** : ➡ VTT

**Cities** : 1. Ancelle

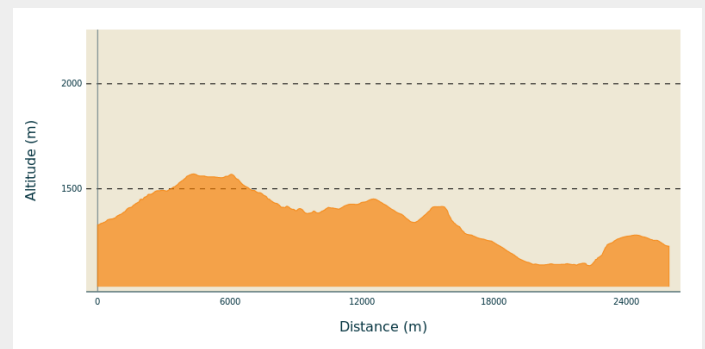
2. La Bâtie-Neuve

3. Forest-Saint-Julien

4. La Rochette

5. Gap

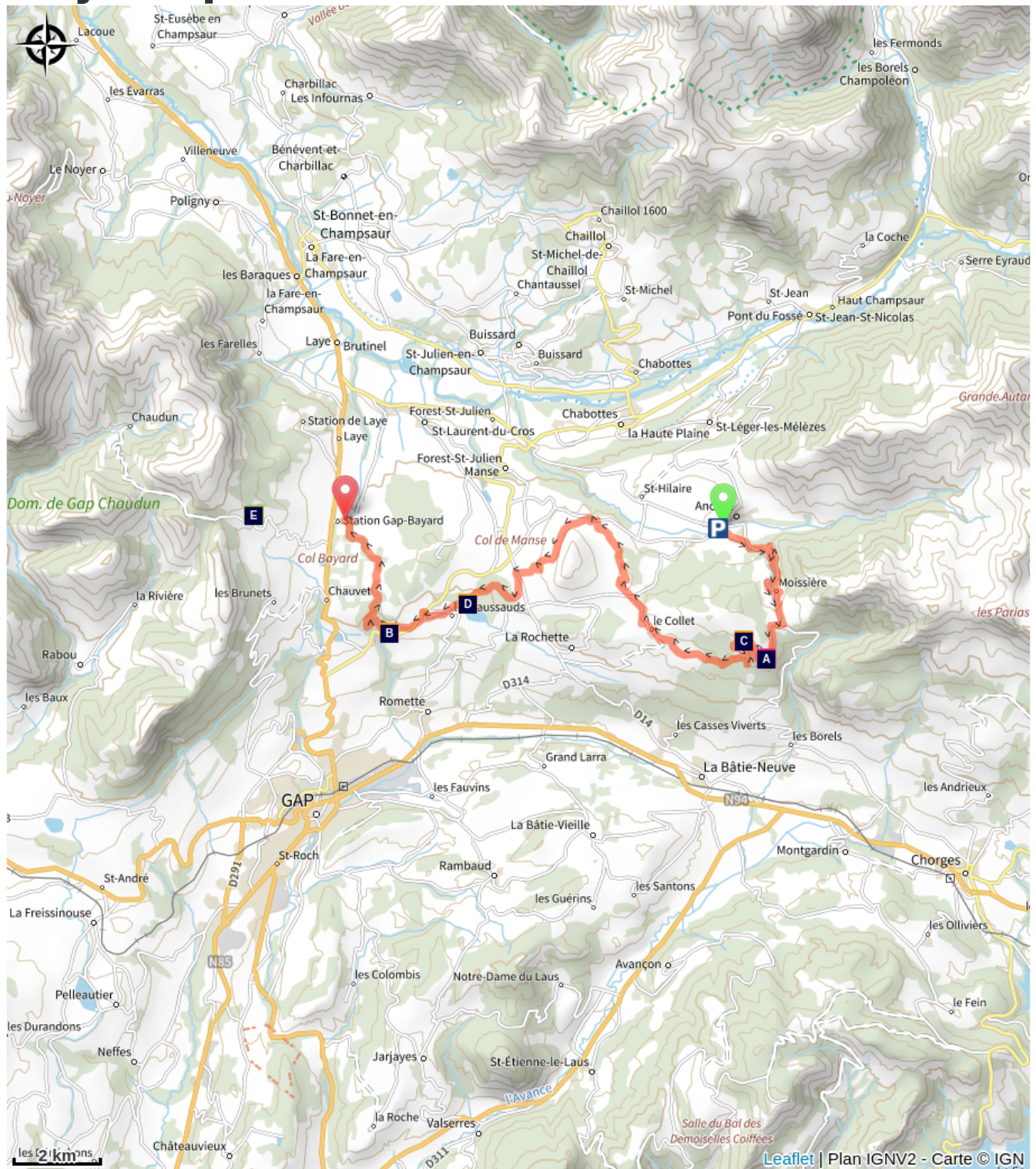
## Altimetric profile



Min elevation 1135 m Max elevation 1572 m

You start off on a quiet road before tackling an ascent for a few kilometres as far as the Col de Moissière, south of Ancelle. A mountainside track with a great view over the Gapençais awaits you in Le Collet and the Ouragnatte picnic area. The route goes northwards around the Puy de Manse, on the Champsaur side. You then cross a surprising, little, low-lying Alpine pasture (watch out for the marmots)! Following a short technical descent /!\, you cross the D14 and arrive at the locality of Les Chameaux (near the Col de Manse) and the disused Champsaur railway line that makes its way down towards Gap. After the Lac des Jaussauds, cut across the D944 and follow the peaceful Gap Canal for a few kilometres. When you arrive at a hairpin bend, turn right onto a track going up to the Col Bayard golf course. One last track takes you to the Col Bayard Oxygenation Centre. Watch out for the golf greens and stray golf balls!

# On your path...



View over Gap (A)



Archaeological site of Faudon (C)



Mouflon (E)



Canal de Gap (B)



Old Champsaur railway line (D)



# All useful information

## **Advices**

Le parcours commence par une montée de quelques kilomètres, attention à l'échauffement. La piste sous le Collet peut être très grasse par temps de pluie.

## **How to come ?**

Advised parking

Parking à la station d'Ancelle

# 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.

## Short-toed snake eagle

Sensitivity period: March, April, May, June, July, August, September

Contact: Parc National des Écrins  
Julien Charron  
[julien.charron@ecrins-parcnational.fr](mailto:julien.charron@ecrins-parcnational.fr)

Nidification du Circaète-Jean-le-Blanc

Les pratiques qui peuvent avoir une interaction avec le Circaète-Jean-le-Blanc en période de nidification sont principalement les pratiques aériennes comme le vol libre ou le vol motorisé.

Merci d'essayer d'éviter la zone ou de rester à une distance minimale de 300m sol quand vous la survolez soit 1520m d'altitude !

## Source

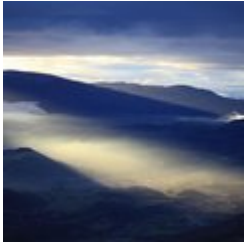


Parc national des Ecrins

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

# On your path...

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## View over Gap (A)

To the south of Champsaur, the town of Gap is the administrative centre of Hautes-Alpes, with a little over 40,000 inhabitants. It stands at an altitude of 700 m on a major communications route between Provence and the Alps, and enjoys generous rates of sunshine with large natural areas in the vicinity. In 2013, L'Equipe newspaper voted the town of Gap as France's most sports-oriented town of over 20,000 inhabitants.

Attribution : Marc Corail - PNE

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## Canal de Gap (B)

Work began on the canal in 1864 and was completed in 1880. The canal is 28 km long, and takes its water from the River Drac, upstream of Pont du Fossé, before channelling it into the Gap basin. In today's money, it cost some 2 billion euros to build! The man in charge of the project, Maurice Garnier, a local member of parliament and contractor, went bankrupt and died in poverty, but managed to improve the life of local farmers.

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## Archaeological site of Faudon (C)

A quick ride takes you past the Croix Saint-Philippe to the remains of the Gallo-Roman village of Faudon, meaning mountain of fayards or beech trees) Settled during the Bronze Age by the Tricorians with a population of up to 400, in the Middle Ages this village became a stronghold for the local nobles before being abandoned in the seventeenth century.

Attribution : Marc Corail - PNE

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## Old Champsaur railway line (D)

1912 saw the start of the Champsaur rail works, an old project for a line between Grenoble and Gap which was intended to pass through Champsaur. In service from 1932 onwards, the Mure to Corps section was an undoubted success. From Corps to Gap, the earthworks and engineering works were almost totally complete. However, the onset of the War, a lack of resources and the development of cars all brought the project to an end in 1941. Today, numerous structures along the route bear witness to this past endeavour.

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## Mouflon (E)

If you make a detour to the Col de Gleize, you may well see some mouflons. An ancestor of the sheep with ammonite horns, it was introduced from 1949 into the Alps from herds in Corsica and central Europe, and seems well settled in the Chaudun area. Even though the European Union recommends strict protection of the mouflon, it is still hunted during the hunting season. Its populations are ill-adapted to extreme Alpine conditions and can fluctuate according to the winter weather.