

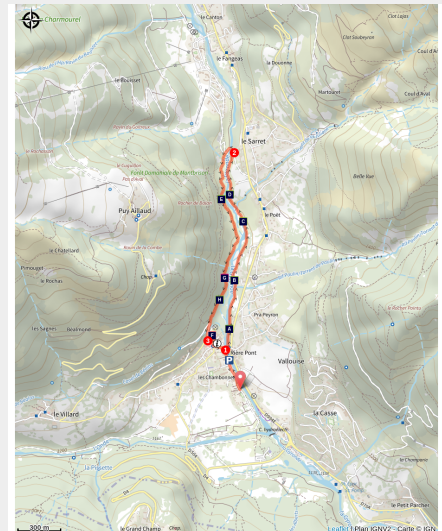
# The Balade du Pêcheur - Fisherman's Trail (trail route no. 17)



Parc national des Ecrins - Vallouise-Pelvoux



sentier le long du Gyr (Office de tourisme Pays des Écrins)



*A refreshing and varied trail, following the Gyr on the outward stretch and along a balcony path overlooking this mountain stream on the return stretch.*

“This route is simple and short, but running or walking along the water's edge definitely has calming virtues. You follow the path with the sound of the mountain stream close by, to hear a pebble roll or the metallic cry of a dipper.”  
Marie-Geneviève Nicolas, park ranger at the Parc National des Écrins

## Useful information

Practice : Trail

Duration : 1 h

Length : 4.0 km

Trek ascent : 76 m

Difficulty : Very easy

Type : Loop

Themes : Fauna, Flora

# Trek

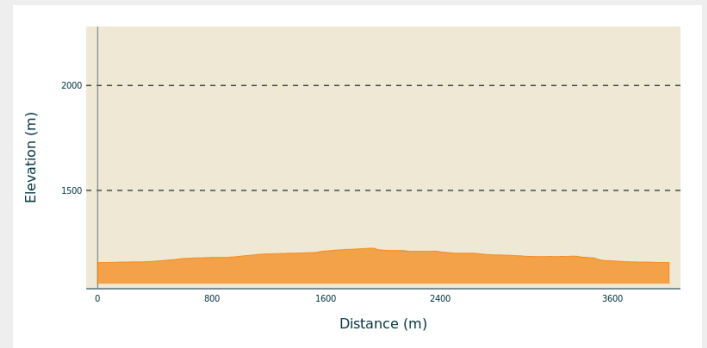
**Departure** : Camping Huttopia, Vallouise

**Arrival** : Camping Huttopia, Vallouise

**Markings** :  Trail

**Cities** : 1. Vallouise-Pelvoux

## Altimetric profile

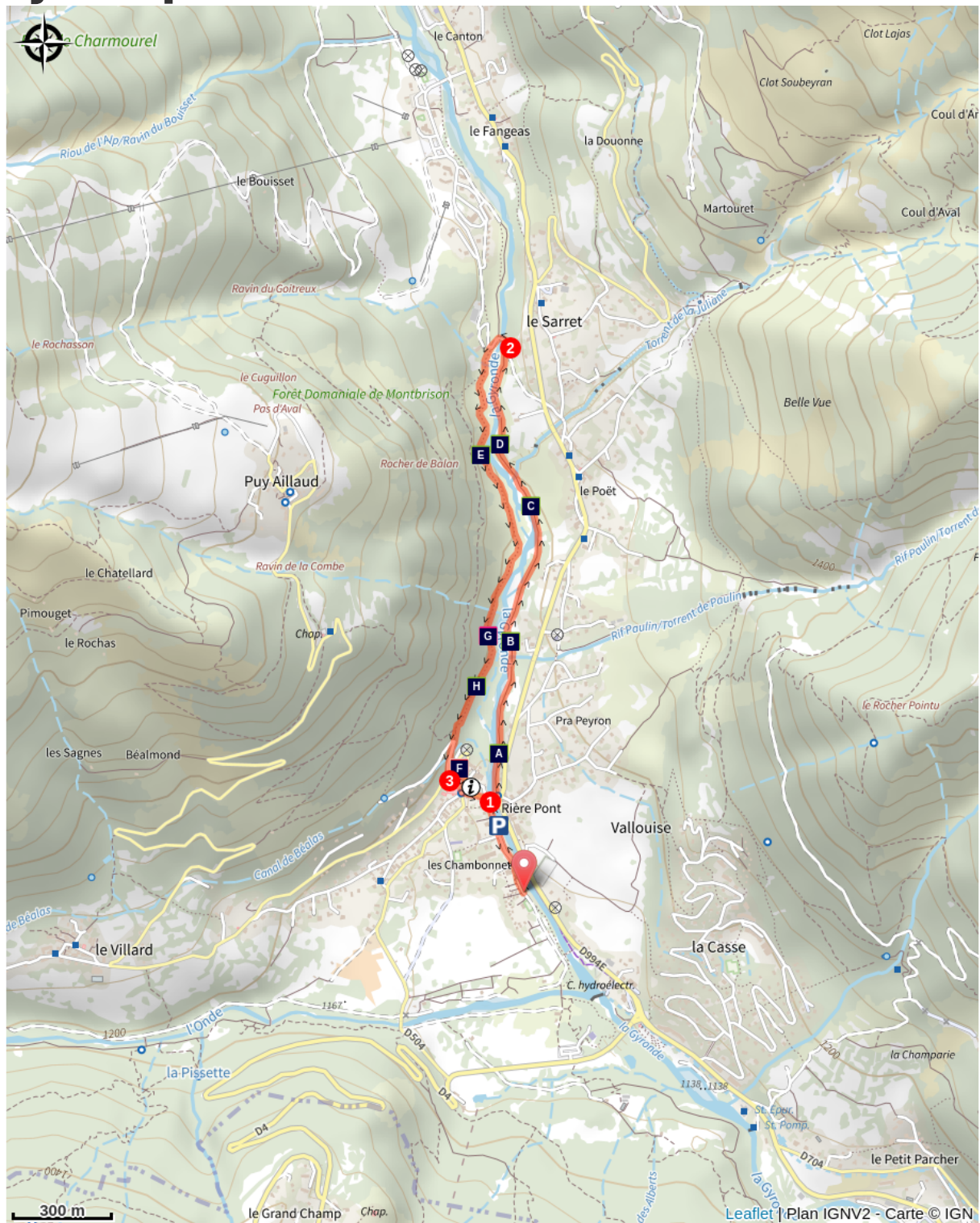










Min elevation 1157 m Max elevation 1226 m

The route starts outside the Camping Huttopia de Vallouise. Take the track leading up the left-hand bank of the Gyr towards Pelvoux.

1. At the bridge, the Pont de Vallouise, continue right and cross the Gyr and then go left as you exit the bridge.
2. Cross a wide footbridge and, on the hairpin bend in the track, take a path running below a stable and shortly after this take the path on the left for Vallouise.
3. On the road above the church, you come back to your starting point.

# On your path...



- |   |   |
|---|---|
|  The trout (A)                 |  Forest on the water's edge (B)        |
|  The white-throated dipper (C) |  The aspen (D)                         |
|  Forest of pine and oak (E)    |  Saint-Étienne de Vallouise Church (F) |
|  The Montbrison massif (G)     |  The narrow-leaved lavender (H)        |

# All useful information

## **Advices**

Before setting off, it is very important to check the opening periods for this route on the website: <https://stationdetrail.com/fr/stations/le-pays-des-ecrins/parcours>

Share your photographs on social networks with #stationdetrailecrins

Check weather conditions before setting off.

Rescue services contact details: Secours Montagne (Mountain Rescue): +33 (0)4 92 22 22 22 or 112

Show consideration for the work of farmers, livestock keepers and owners

Close all gates behind you

Take your litter home

Do not take shortcuts across pastureland

The trail routes are also suitable for walking

## **How to come ?**

### Transports

Public transport >> [www.pacamobilite.fr](http://www.pacamobilite.fr)

Consider car-sharing >> [www.blablacar.fr](http://www.blablacar.fr)

For more information, ask at the Tourist Information Office nearest to the trail starting point.

### Access

10 km from L'Argentière-La Bessée, take the D994E.

### Advised parking

Camping Huttopia car park, Vallouise



## Information desks

### Vallouise Park house

vallouise@ecrins-parcnational.fr  
Tel : 04 92 23 58 08  
<http://www.ecrins-parcnational.fr/>



### Bureau d'Information Touristique de Vallouise

Place de l'Eglise, 05340 Vallouise  
contact@paysdesecrins.com  
Tel : +33(0)4 92 23 36 12  
<https://www.paysdesecrins.com/>



## Source



Pays des Ecrins

<https://www.paysdesecrins.com>

# On your path...

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## The trout (A)

But what's the angler angling for? The brown trout of course! This is the mountain fish par excellence, with a streamlined body to withstand the current more efficiently and light brown skin speckled with black and red. It lives in cold, oxygen-rich waters.

Attribution : Parc national des Écrins

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## Forest on the water's edge (B)

This small wood is a fragment of the riparian forest: natural forest growing adjacent to a body of water. Reduced everywhere due to urbanisation, this type of forest is made up of alder, willow and oak, and also poplar, birch and aspen, among others

Attribution : Office de tourisme Pays des Écrins

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## The white-throated dipper (C)

Perched on a rock in the middle of the river, a squat bird with a short tail, brown with a large white bib, bobs up and down with his tail in the air. He then dives and only reappears a few moments later. This is how this bird hunts, diving into the water and then walking against the current along the river bed searching for aquatic insect larvae, small crustaceans or small fish, lifting pebbles with its beak to dislodge them.

Attribution : Mireille Coulon - Parc national des Écrins

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## The aspen (D)

On the right, a stand of aspens with smooth, greenish trunks and rounded, crenelated leaves take on magnificent colours in autumn. The stem, or petiole, of aspen leaves is flat and twisted, so it can be caught by the slightest breeze making the foliage «quake» hence its common name, the quaking aspen.

Attribution : Bernard Nicollet - Parc national des Écrins

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## 🌲 Forest of pine and oak (E)

The path now alternates between cleared areas and forested areas. This forest contains Scots pine (recognisable by its orangey coloured trunk, especially at the top), downy oak (its young branches and leaf undersides covered with a fine down), and larch. The Scots pine and downy oak are very drought-tolerant (it is very limey soil here) and can also withstand low temperatures, and they are typical of the montane zone in this part of the Alps.

Attribution : Parc national des Écrins



## 🏠 Saint-Étienne de Vallouise Church (F)

Listed and protected as an historic monument since 22 October 1913, the church dedicated to Saint Stephen is one of the most beautiful religious edifices in Hautes-Alpes. It is typical of the Romanesque churches in the Briançon region built in the second half of the 15th century, although its exact construction date is still uncertain.

Attribution : Thierry Maillat - PNE



## 📍 The Montbrison massif (G)

The path offers a beautiful overall view of the limestone massif of Montbrison, overlooking the hamlets of Pelvoux with the peaks of the Cime de la Condamine, the Tête des Lauzières, the Pic de Montbrison and the Tête d'Amont.

Attribution : Office de tourisme Pays des Écrins



## 🌸 The narrow-leaved lavender (H)

The path crosses some limestone screes. It is a dry environment. The narrow-leaved lavender grows in sunny areas, a reminder that the Pays de Écrins is in the Southern Alps after all! Not to be confused with the lavandin, this plant naturally grows on rocky slopes in the mountains of the Midi.

Attribution : Jean-Pierre Nicollet - Parc national des Écrins