THEMED PATH: The Serre-Duc Canal

Vue sur la vallée de la Durance (Office de tourisme Pays des Écrins)

A combination of water and tradition in the hamlet of Le Bathéoud…

Points of interest along the route:

Roam the lanes of Le Bathéoud to discover life in bygone times!

Discover the path of the Serre-Duc canal, the old irrigation canals; all features that highlight the importance of water management in the hot, sunny municipality of La Roche-de-Rame!

Useful information

Practice : By walk

Duration : 1 h 30

Length : 2.4 km

Trek ascent : 139 m

Difficulty : Easy

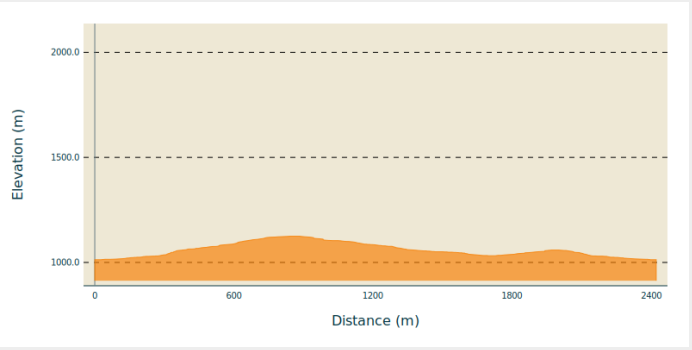
Type : Loop

Themes : History and architecture

Trek

Departure : Le Bathéoud, La Roche-de-Rame
Arrival : Le Bathéoud, La Roche-de-Rame
Markings : Sentier thématique
Cities : 1. La Roche-de-Rame

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 1013 m Max elevation 1125 m

Start the walk by heading towards the bridge over the Bouchouse mountain stream. Facing away from the bridge, take the road opposite.

1. Turn right, and skirt around the right-hand side of the house.
2. Head right and, after a short rise, continue until you come to the irrigation canals.
3. Turn left to continue the walk.
4. You reach the hamlet of Le Bathéoud by turning left.
5. At the intersection with the path, turn left. Then, at the intersection with the road, continue left.
6. Skirt around the right-hand side of the houses and then back to the starting point of the trail.

On your path...

The former local grocery (A)

The communal oven of Le Bathéoud du Haut (B)

The Serre-Duc canal (C)

The mouflon (D)

View over the Durance valley (E)

All useful information

⚠ Advices

Information panels are installed all along the path.

The app “Les écrins sentiers thématiques” provides information about the trail.

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

How to come ?

Transports

Public transport >> www.pacamobilite.fr

Consider car-sharing >> www.blablacar.fr

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

Access

6.7 km from L'Argentière-La Bessée, take the N94.

Advised parking

Le Bathéoud car park, La Roche-de-Rame

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 L'Argentière-La Bessée

23 Avenue de la République, 05120 L'Argentière-La Bessée

contact@paysdesecrins.com
Tel : +33(0)4 92 23 03 11
https://www.paysdesecrins.com/

Source

Pays des Ecrins

https://www.paysdesecrins.com

On your path...

The former local grocery (A)

There was once a grocery in the traditional hamlet of Le Bathéoud, specifically in the house standing here. Valued by the inhabitants of this small hamlet, it facilitated their everyday lives at a time when means of transport were not as well-developed as they are today. This small shop was a meeting place for local people when running their errands, a real community hub.

Attribution : juliette.primpier

The communal oven of Le Bathéoud du Haut (B)

Today, buying a loaf of bread is a commonplace, everyday occurrence. But, right up to the end of the Second World War, the people of the hamlet of Le Bathéoud made their own loaves in the communal oven. Bread baking day was a special day because it did not happen very often. Bread had to last for several months...

Attribution : Office de tourisme Pays des Écrins

The Serre-Duc canal (C)

The district of Serre-Duc lies between Le Bathéoud and the rocky slopes. The Serre-Duc irrigation canal allowed the circulation of water. It is now abandoned but its course can still be made out among the pine trees and lavender. Its water intake was situated upstream of the Coumbal de Satan and the canal was used to irrigate the entire district.

Attribution : Office de tourisme Pays des Écrins

The mouflon (D)

A small population of mouflons is established here. The Mediterranean mouflon, produced from cross-breeding between Corsican mouflons and other species of mouflon or modern sheep, was introduced several decades ago by hunting associations. It is not well-adapted for snow, and so it keeps to the south-facing slopes where the snow melts quickly. The male has long, curved horns. The females sometimes have short, small horns, if they have any at all.

Attribution : Cyril Coursier - Parc national des Écrins

View over the Durance valley (E)

Protected from Atlantic influences by the Massif du Pelvoux, the high Durance valley has a very dry climate with wide seasonal temperature fluctuations. It has grasslands very similar to the steppes of Central Europe which are rare in France. It is part of the Natura 2000 “Steppique durancien et queyrassien” (Durance and Queras valley steppes) site.

Attribution : Office de tourisme Pays des Écrins