

The Béal Neuf: from mountain stream to canal

Parc national des Écrins - Vallouise-Pelvoux



Vue sur la station de Pelvoux (Office de tourisme Pays des Écrins)



A themed path running gently along the canal.

This trail is a little gem, with its canal-hugging path along the water's edge. The high point is the point at which the canal splits from the Eychauda mountain stream. Highly enlightening information panels will capture the interest of young and old alike.

Useful information

Practice : By walk

Duration : 1 h

Length : 1.9 km

Trek ascent : 48 m

Difficulty : Very easy

Type : Return trip

Themes : Fauna, Flora

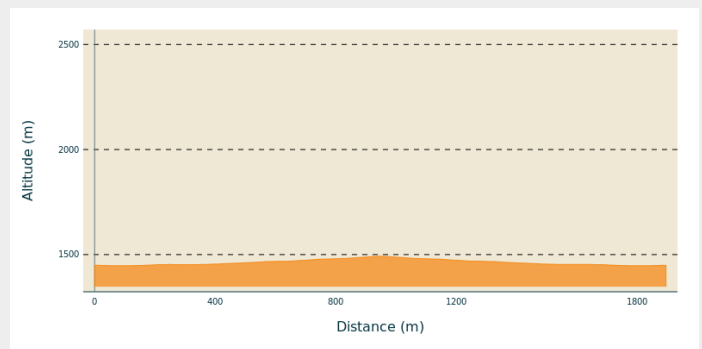
Trek

Departure : Route de Chambran

Arrival : Route de Chambran

Cities : 1. Vallouise-Pelvoux

Altimetric profile





Min elevation 1448 m Max elevation 1493 m



A sign indicates the there-and-back path leading to the canal intake.

1. At the canal intake, turn back on yourself and return to your starting point by following the outward route in reverse. Where the paths intersect, be sure to keep to the left-hand path which soon runs along the canal side again.

On your path...



-  ASA of Béal Neuf (A)
-  Water in the mountains (C)

-  The aspen (B)
-  The L'Eychauda mountain stream (D)

All useful information

Advices

Access to the canal is prohibited for herds or flocks of animals and all vehicles (motorised or otherwise).

There is a second section along the Béal Neuf canal: “Les canaux et les hommes, une histoire emblématique”(Canals and mankind, an iconic history). The starting point is 1 kilometre down from the starting point of the first path, where the canal leaves the road at the winding section.

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

14.5 km from L'Argentière-La Bessée, take the D994E and then the D421T.

Advised parking

Route de Chambran car park, picnic table

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...



ASA of Béal Neuf (A)

The ASA (authorised water user association) of Béal Neuf is the owner of the canal. The association manages, maintains and develops the Béal Neuf canal which carries water to the entire network of irrigation canals.

Attribution : Office de tourisme Pays des Écrins



The aspen (B)

The path runs through a small aspen wood. This tree with a smooth, greenish trunk and rounded, crenelated leaves takes on magnificent autumn colours. 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. It grows in places where the soil is quite damp.

Attribution : Mireille Coulon - Parc national des Écrins



Water in the mountains (C)

Since the Middle Ages, canals have been dug to carry water to the crops. The water is diverted by the canals: through the action of gravity, the water flows down the mountain sides. Use of the water is regulated and for any draw-off, the volume is measured.

Attribution : Office de tourisme Pays des Écrins



The L'Eychauda mountain stream (D)

Despite its name, the L'Eychauda mountain stream does not flow from the Lac de l'Eychauda, lying at an altitude of 2,514 metres, but is fed by waters from the Dôme de Montier (3,400 m). The mountain stream is also thought to be fed by several underground water courses.

Attribution : Office de tourisme Pays des Écrins