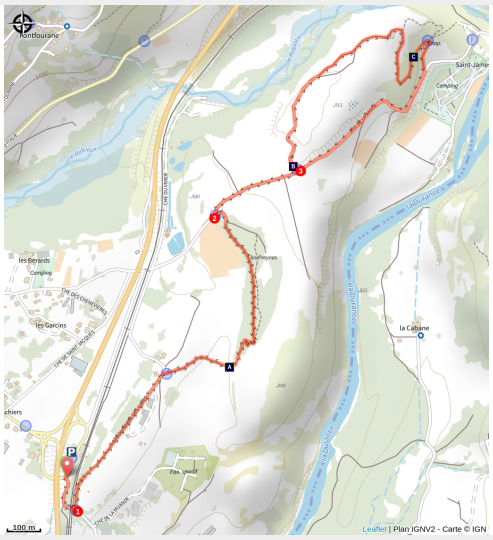
Chemin de la Durance

Parc national des Ecrins

En bordure des champs de blé (amelie.vallier)



The variety of new discoveries is what makes this short walk so rich. So many curiosities to be discovered with the family!

You are plunged into nature from your very first steps along the path, passing close to agricultural fields offering unobstructed views of the landscape. The highlight of this trail is the Herbonne plateau, also known as the glacial rock. Your explorations continue as you make your way to the Chapelle St-James and the Durance.

Useful information

Practice : By walk

Duration : 1 h 30

Length : 5.6 km

Trek ascent : 126 m

Difficulty : Very easy

Type : Return trip

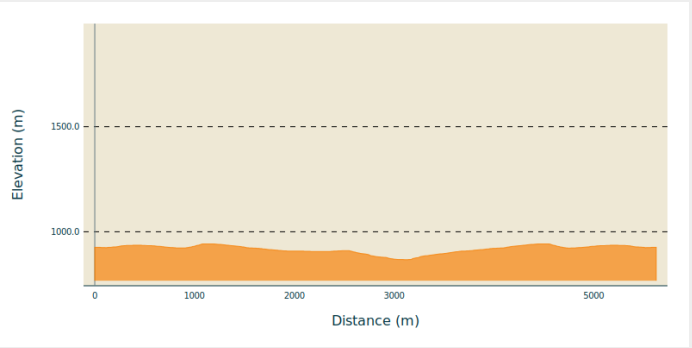
Themes : Fauna, Geology

Accessibility : Family, Joelette

Trek

Departure : Former SNCF railway station, Châteauroux-les-Alpes
Arrival : Former SNCF railway station, Châteauroux-les-Alpes
Markings : PR
Cities : 1. Châteauroux-les-Alpes

Altimetric profile

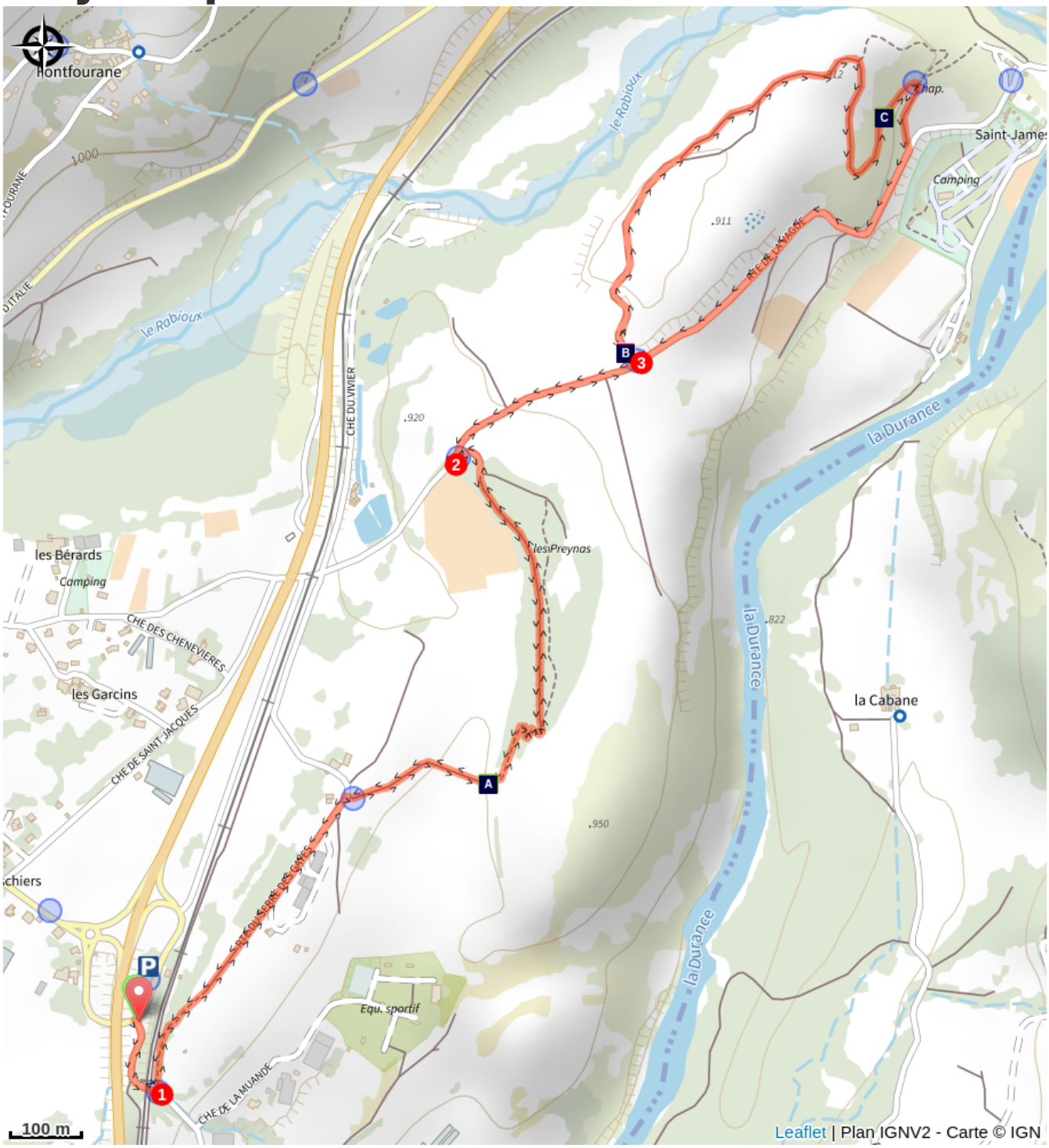


Min elevation 867 m Max elevation 942 m

From the car park, turn right. Follow the road-side and turn left towards Les Baumes.

1. Go under the Les Eygas bridge, and then follow the path on the left heading towards Rabioux. From the path, join a track and continue past the houses. At the next crossroads at « Serre des Gayes », go right towards « Le Rabioux ». When you reach the fields lower down, follow the path leading uphill. Continue to head towards Rabioux and go past the interpretation trail ("sentier d'interprétation"). As you emerge from the forest, where the track reaches the fields turn left at the intersection.
2. After a few metres, take the road on the right. From here, head towards Le Rabioux.
3. Go along the road-side and then, at the Herbonne plateau, take the track on the left and carry on towards the chapel of Saint James. Just before this, follow the path running downhill to the left towards Le Rabioux. For the return stretch, go across the Pont de Eygas.

On your path...



The honey bee (A)

The Herbonne plateau (B)

Red kite (C)

All useful information

⚠ Advices

De la chapelle possibilité de rejoindre le bord de la Durance pour observer la fameuse vague du Rabioux.

How to come ?

Transports

Public transport: www.pacamobilite.fr
Consider car-sharing: www.blablacar.fr

Access

From Embrun, on the D94 main road, take the "Chateauroux-les-Alpes - Les Écrins" exit and park outside the former SNCF train station, at « Les Peschiers ».

Advised parking

Former SNCF railway station car park, Châteauroux

Accessibility

Family Joelette

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

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 un distance minimale de 300m sol quand vous la survolez soit 1410m d'altitude !

Information desks

Maison du Parc de l'Embrunais
102 rue Saint-Irénée, 05380
Châteauroux-les-Alpes

embrunais@ecrins-parcnational.fr
Tel : 04 92 43 23 31
https://www.ecrins-parcnational.fr

Source

Serre-Ponçon

https://www.serreponcon.com

On your path...

The honey bee (A)

The honey bee is also known as the mouche à miel, or honey fly. It lives in colonies formed by a complex structure of social castes. There is a queen and workers which collect pollen on the hairy receptacles located on the back of their hind legs, forming a sort of pollen «basket». It is through this work that the honey bee is able to make honey, which is its food. Vital for plant pollination, the bee is capable of visiting up to 250 flowers in one hour.

Attribution : Corail Marc - PNE

The Herbonne plateau (B)

This plateau is representative of glaciofluvial terraces. They form a tabular promontory, bounded by vertical walls formed in the cemented glaciofluvial materials, at the foot of which the Le Rabioux mountain stream flows on one side and the Durance on the other. This glacial rock is a typical formation of the Haute-Durance valley, similar to the Roc d'Embrun or that of Mont-Dauphine. Its formation dates back to one of the last ice ages (100,000 years ago). At that time, the Durance glacier occupied the entire valley. Today, on its sedimentary rock base, the Roc is covered by vegetation which is highly characteristic of steppe grasslands.

Attribution : Pascal Saulay - PNE

Red kite (C)

The red kite is a medium-sized bird of prey with a wingspan of up to 1.6 metres. In flight, the red kite can easily be recognised by its slender silhouette and its deeply forked tail. It has contrasting russet-brown and white plumage. Its diet is a relatively eclectic, made up of rodents, reptiles and invertebrates. It is also a willing scavenger. It is for this reason that red kites can sometimes be seen in large number near landfill sites, and often in the company of black kites.

Attribution : Mireille Coulon - PNE