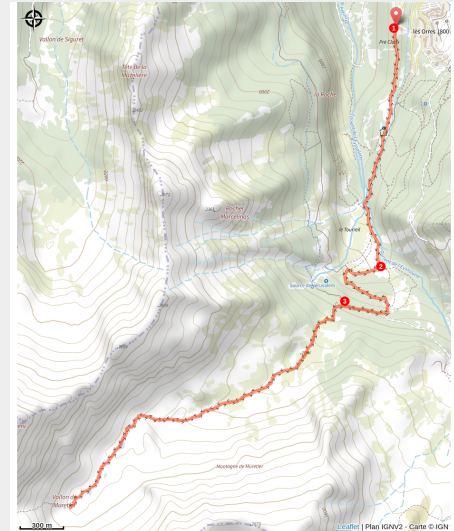


# Vallon de Muretier

Les Orres



Le vallon de Muretier (florimont.tilliere)



*Well off the beaten track, come and discover a wild valley where wildlife is everywhere.*

A hike that takes you through a wild valley surrounded by a crown of snow-capped peaks until early summer. Only the whistling of the marmots breaks the silence and reminds you that you are guests in the home of wildlife. The chamois, for their part, seem to defy gravity and gaze down at you from the slopes of Pouzenc or Pic Silhourais.

## Useful information

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Practice : By walk

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Duration : 4 h 30

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Length : 11.4 km

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Trek ascent : 695 m

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Difficulty : Medium

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Type : Return trip

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Themes : Fauna

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Accessibility : Family

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# Trek

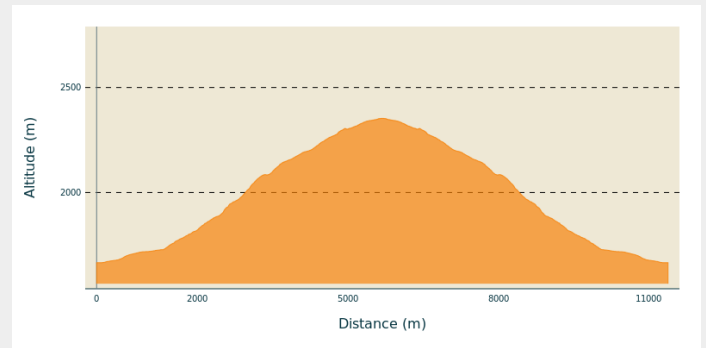
**Departure** : Pré Claux, Les Orres 1800

**Arrival** : Pré Claux, Les Orres 1800

**Markings** : — PR

**Cities** : 1. Les Orres

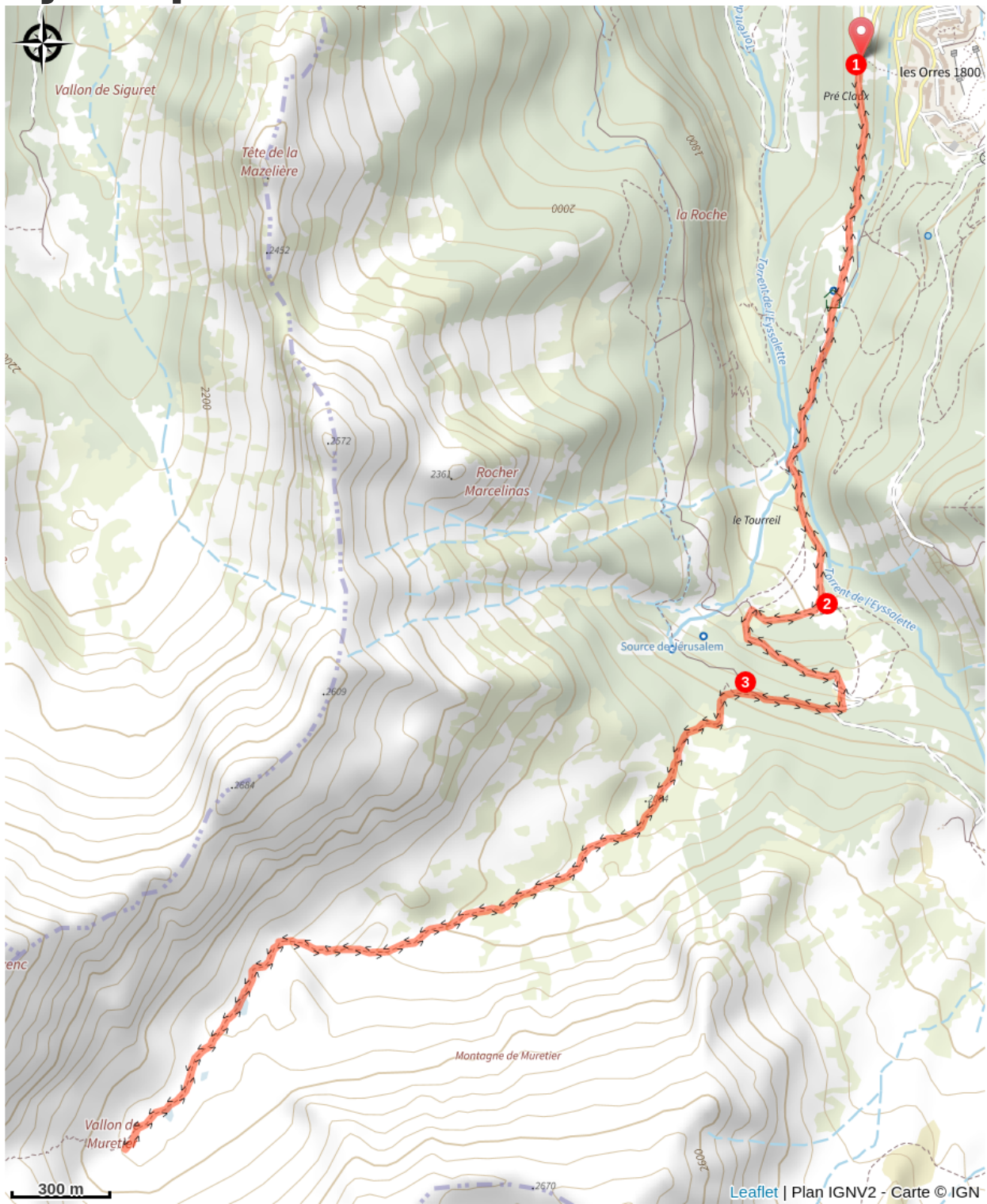
## Altimetric profile







Min elevation 1667 m Max elevation 2354 m

1. Start from Pra Paisset car park. Follow the forest track at the end of the car park. Continue straight ahead past the Gautier sheepfold, then cross the stream. Go straight on at the via ferrata sign after 1.8km.
2. Take the path at the end of the right level with the flat ground of Pré Lapierre. Here the slope starts to steepen. Turn left at the Cime de Lapierre sign after 2.6 km. Continue straight ahead at the Rocher Long sign, staying on a wide, fairly steep path shaded by larch trees.
3. Go left 150m after the Jerusalem sign to follow a narrower, sloping path. (You can make a diversion via the Jerusalem springs by turning right). Follow a narrow path that winds through the forest. The slope becomes gentler once you reach the valley. Then follow the track at the bottom of the valley through various scree slopes. Make a U-turn under the Col du Pouzenc when the slope steepens considerably. Finally, return by the same route.

# On your path...



-  Red squirrel (A)
-  Marmot (C)

-  Gautier Sheepfold (B)
-  The chamois (D)

# All useful information

## **Advices**

Un petit aller-retour (environ 500m) par les sources de Jérusalem mérite le détour.

## **How to come ?**

### Transports

Public transport : [ccserreponcon.com](https://www.ccserreponcon.com)

### Access

Take the N94 from Briançon or Gap and follow the D40 past Embrun towards the resort of Les Orres.

### Advised parking

Pra Paisset car park, les Orres 1800

## **Accessibility**

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Family

## **Information desks**

**Office de Tourisme des Orres**  
1 place des étoiles, 05200 Les Orres  
[ot.acceuil@lesorres.com](mailto:ot.acceuil@lesorres.com)  
Tel : 0492440161  
<https://www.lesorres.com/>



## **Source**



Serre-Ponçon  
<https://www.serreponcon.com>

# On your path...

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## Red squirrel (A)

The red squirrel or Eurasian squirrel is an arboreal, diurnal rodent. As its name suggests, it can be found over much of the Eurasian continent, but is nonetheless one of the key species in French coniferous and mixed forests. It weighs an average of 600 grams and measures 18 to 20 cm plus a tail of 16 to 20 cm. Its colour varies from reddish to brownish-black, but its belly is always white. It spends much of its life stocking up on food, seeds or acorns, in preparation for winter. In fact, it does not hibernate and only slows down during this period. Squirrels lead solitary lives and only meet other squirrels when they are breeding. The threat of the grey squirrel, which was imported from North America, is better adapted to deciduous forests and carries a deadly virus for its cousin, is worsening in Europe and could soon spread to the Alps.



## Gautier Sheepfold (B)

This centuries-old sheepfold was first restored in 1755 during Jean Francois Gautier's term as mayor of Les Orres, after whom it was named, and once again in 2009 after withstanding more than two centuries of weathering. The floor of the sheepfold was laid using the traditional "standing timber" technique. Small, debarked trunks 12 cm high are held vertically by crushed gravel between the trunks.

Attribution : florimont.tilliere

## Marmot (C)

Around the refuge of Les Bans, the marmot observes visitors as much as they observe it! Its main strategy in the face of predators (golden eagle, fox, etc.) is to seek refuge in its burrow. It lives in a family, made up of a pair of dominant adults and subordinates from successive litters. Grooming, games and fights ensure group cohesion and respect for hierarchy. Everyone helps to mark out the territory by depositing faeces or urine at the borders and rubbing their cheeks against the rocks to leave their scent. The marmot is a wild, herbivorous animal. Feeding it causes it to adopt behaviours that run counter to the instinctive reactions that usually protect it.

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## The chamois (D)

In summer, chamois can be seen grazing in the cool of the day. When the sun heats up the valley, they prefer to lie in the shade of the green alders, unless they stay on the snowfields in the cooler areas. Very curved horns: this is a male, a billy goat. Open horns: a female goat. The horns do not extend beyond the ears: this is an Eterlou or Eterle, young in its second year. Horns barely pointing: it's a kid.

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