

Weekend in Champsaur

Champsaur



Au pas (Parc national Ecrins - Thibaut Blais)



Proposed as a two-day tour, this route alternates between the water's edge and vertiginous balconies, offering contemplation of forest, river and hedgerow landscapes and an appreciation of the heritage riches of Champsaur.

After a panoramic ascent taking you up above the Gap area, you are under tree cover until you reach Notre-Dame de Bois-Vert. The route then runs along the banks of the Drac before rising uphill to the Lac de L'Aulagnier. Very easy to negotiate, it runs into the tapestry of fields and hedgerows of Champsaur and returns along the Gap canal side. It then leads through the Bois de Saint-Laurant wood before returning to the Bayard plateau.

Useful information

Practice : Horse

Duration : 2 days

Length : 54.9 km

Trek ascent : 1476 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Multi-day trekking

Themes : Flora, History and architecture, Top

Trek

Departure : Gap Bayard

Arrival : Le Domaine

Markings :  Piste équestre

Cities : 1. Gap

2. Laye

3. La Fare-en-Champsaur

4. Saint-Bonnet-en-Champsaur

5. Saint-Julien-en-Champsaur

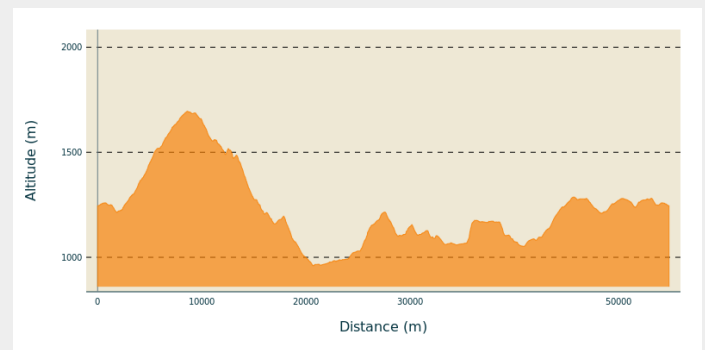
6. Buissard

7. Chabottes

8. Forest-Saint-Julien

9. Saint-Laurent-du-Cros

Altimetric profile



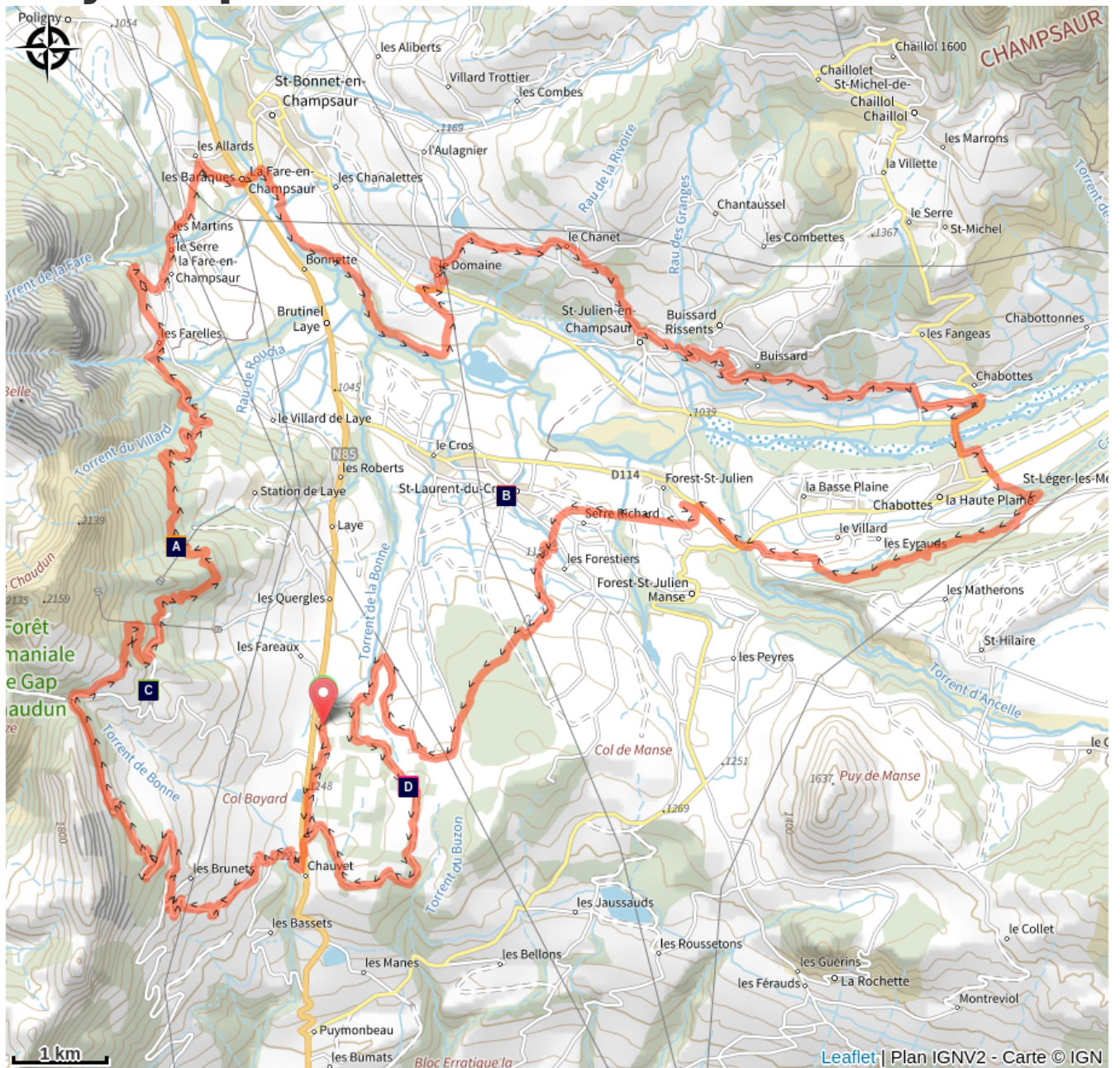
Min elevation 961 m Max elevation 1696 m

From Bayard, head uphill to the Col de Gleize, taking the time to enjoy beautiful views over the Gap region. The route carries on through woods until you come to Notre-Dame de Bois-Vert. From here, head downhill until you reach Les Barraques. After the bridge, the Pont de Saint-Bonnet, follow the banks of the Drac and climb uphill to the Lac de L'Aulagnier. Pass through landscapes of fields and hedgerows until you come to a watermill, the Moulin de Chabottes, and then follow the Gap canal until you reach "La Ligne", a former railway line, and Serre Richard. Finally, go through the Bois de St-Laurent and across the Bayard plateau.

Stages :

1. From Gap Bayard to Le Domaine
25.8 km / 736 m D+ / 6 h 30
2. From Le Domaine to Gap Bayard
29.1 km / 735 m D+ / 5 h

On your path...



 ONF (A)

 Mouflon (C)

 Protestant Church of Saint-Laurent du Cros (B)

 Bayar golf course (D)

All useful information

Advices

Take care when driving along the N85, at the Barraques roundabout and the bridge over the Drac (road traffic).

How to come ?

Advised parking

Gap Bayard car park (golf course, petrol station, oxygenation centre)

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 une distance minimale 300m sol quand vous la survolez soit 1520m d'altitude !

Short-toed snake eagle

Sensitivity period: March, April, May, June, July, August, September

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Merci d'essayer d'éviter la zone ou de rester à une distance minimale 300m sol quand vous survolez la zone soit 1650m d'altitude pour cette zone.

Golden eagle

Sensitivity period: January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August

Contact: Parc National des Écrins
Julien Charron
julien.charron@ecrins-parcnational.fr

Nidification de l'Aigle royal

Les pratiques qui peuvent avoir une interaction avec l'Aigle royal en période de nidification sont principalement le vol libre et les pratiques verticales ou en falaise, comme l'escalade ou l'alpinisme. Merci d'éviter cette zone et de privilégier un survol de la zone à une distance de survol de 300m sol soit à une altitude minimale de 2100m.

Peregrine falcon

Sensitivity period: February, March, April, May, June

Contact: Parc National des Écrins
Julien Charron
julien.charron@ecrins-parcnational.fr

Nidification du Faucon pèlerin.

Les pratiques qui peuvent avoir une interaction avec le Faucon pèlerin en période de nidification sont principalement le vol libre et les pratiques verticales ou en falaise, comme l'escalade ou l'alpinisme. Merci d'éviter cette zone !

En cas de survol merci de rester au-dessus de 2080m d'altitude à une distance de 300m sol.

Source



Parc national des Ecrins

<https://www.ecrins-parcnational.fr>

On your path...

ONF (A)

The work of the Office National des Forêts (National Forestry Office) is not limited to the forests. After buying a large amount of land following the rural exodus (public land), the state delegated to the Water and Forestry agency the difficult task of preserving the natural heritage of a large number of areas (restoration of land and building, maintenance of paths, etc.)

Protestant Church of Saint-Laurent du Cros (B)

This is the only Protestant church in the Champsaur and it witnessed the dark period that followed the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685. Today, with the religious wars firmly in the past, this building is a place of worship and assembly for the valley's Protestants.

Prior to 1685, there were three Protestant churches in the territory, in Saint-Bonnet, Orcières and Ancelle. At that time, when the Duke of Lesdiguières, Jean-François de Bonne, was extending his rule over the Champsaur, Protestants represented a significant proportion of the population. Since this major figure was also the leader of the Protestants, forced conversions were common. But when Louis XIV decided to revoke the Edict of Nantes, all over France pastors were hanged, shot and sometimes sent to the galleys, and Protestant churches were destroyed. In 1789, freedom of religious practice was finally restored.

In the valley, it was not until 1834 - and a ministerial order allocating the sum of one thousand francs for this purpose - that a new church for adherents of the Reformed Church was constructed. But by 1880 the building had become too small and a new church, inaugurated on 26 May 1886, was constructed on its present site, provided by Mr Victor Cesmat.

In 2003 significant restoration work was carried out by the municipality on the entire building.

Mouflon (C)

If you make a detour to the Col de Gleize, you may well see some mouflons. An ancestor of the sheep with ammonite horns, it was introduced from 1949 into the Alps from herds in Corsica and central Europe, and seems well settled in the Chaudun area. Even though the European Union recommends strict protection of the mouflon, it is still hunted during the hunting season. Its populations are ill-adapted to extreme Alpine conditions and can fluctuate according to the winter weather.

Bayar golf course (D)

The Gap-Bayar golf course is located at an altitude of 1,250m. In the view of specialists, it is one of the finest golf courses in the south of France. The 18-hole course is surrounded with forests filled with wild fruit, mushrooms and wild animals. Near the pastures, where the cows graze, there is a clear view over the Champsaur, the Ecrins and the town of Gap.