

# Aigle shelter from Villar d'Arène (mountaineering)

Parc national des Ecrins - Villar-d'Arène



Refuge de l'Aigle (Thibaut Blais - PNE)



*This ascent to the refuge requires effort and commitment, with its elevatin gain of 2000 m and technical sections. But the view from the refuge is worth the detour!*

We're heading for l'Aigle, a hut perched on a rock at an altitude of 3450m, a hut that lives up to its name. L'Aigle is one of the legendary huts in the Écrins, and also the highest in the range, welcoming climbers who have come here to test their mettle on the many nearby ascents, including the Meije Orientale.

## Useful information

Practice : Mountaineering

Duration : 6 h

Length : 6.3 km

Trek ascent : 2001 m

Difficulty : Hard

Type : Stage

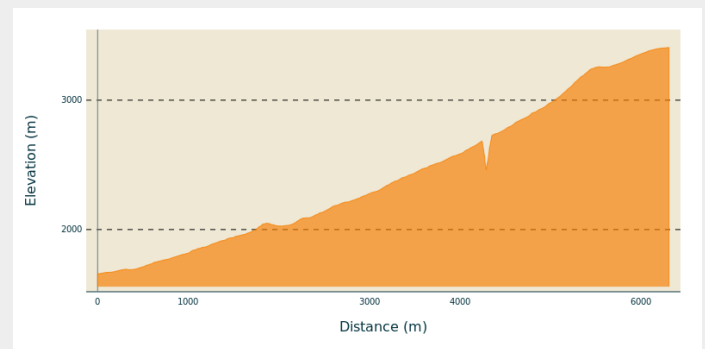
# Trek

**Departure** : Le Pont des brebis

**Arrival** : Aigle shelter

**Cities** : 1. Villar-d'Arêne  
2. La Grave

## Altimetric profile



Min elevation 1659 m Max elevation 3408 m

Immediately after crossing the Romanche, head right onto a well-made, well-worn trail (waymarked red) which winds steeply uphill.

1. From L'Âne point 2,375, the trail is less clearly visible but still waymarked and cairned. Crossing rocky slopes and the névés of the Bec glacier.
2. You come to the approach to the Col du Bec 3,065 m. Climb the north arête of the Bec de l'Homme on the left (red arrows, no grade II climbing), to the base of the Vire Amieux ledge (projecting shelf, 3,200 m, cairn), allowing descent via the right flank onto the Tabuchet glacier by a long traverse equipped with a wire.
3. Once set foot on the glacier (tricky depending on the conditions), ascend its right side (crevasses) until you reach the Rocher de l'Aigle and the shelter.

# On your path...



# All useful information



## Is in the midst of the park

The national park is an unrestricted natural area but subjected to regulations which must be known by all visitors.



## ! Advices

The climb to the Aigle refuge is long and the difference in altitude considerable. Start early to give yourself plenty of room and avoid suffering too much from the heat. Up to the Col du Bec, the route follows a well-marked path. Then it's into the realm of the high mountains, where you need to find the route and progress safely (crampons, ropes). After the Amieux cable, access to the glacier can be tricky in late summer when the mountain is dry. If you arrive late at the refuge, it is advisable to sleep there (booking essential). Without climbing one of the summits of the Meije, it is possible to do two short loops on the glacier before descending into the valley: the Tête des Corridors 3734m or the col du Serret du Savon 3571m.



## Gear

Standard equipment for snow and mixed itineraries: telescopic poles, crampons, ice axe, helmet, harness, 30m climbing rope, glacier safety kit, belaying and progress equipment, 30-litre bag, warm clothing.

## How to come ?

## Access

After Villar-d'Arène, take the Pied du Col road and turn right before the hamlet to Le Pont Vieux ou des Brebis 1,662 m. Park in the car park before the bridge.

## Advised parking

Pont Vieux or Pont des Brebis car park

# 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.

## Golden eagle

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

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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 !

Attention en zone cœur du Parc National des Écrins une réglementation spécifique aux sports de nature s'applique : <https://www.ecrins-parcnational.fr/thematique/sports-de-nature>

## Source



Parc national des Ecrins

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