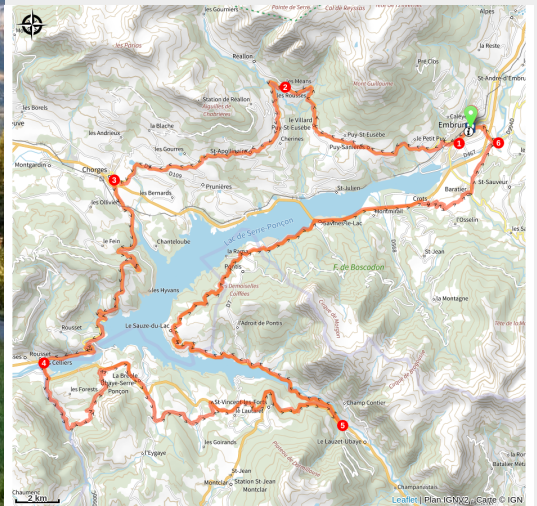


# Around Lake Serre-Ponçon

Embrunais - Embrun



(Clémence DEBENATH)



*A real sporting challenge, this route is aimed at all cycling enthusiasts looking for a personal challenge. A tour of France's largest man-made lake has to be earned!*

What a treat to travel along the roads that criss-cross the mountains around Lake Serre-Ponçon and its turquoise waters! A succession of ascents and descents of varying lengths will require all the energy you can muster to reach the end of this magnificent route, which has been designed for a sporting challenge. Enough to become a real classic!

## Useful information

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Practice : Cyclo

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Duration : 7 h

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Length : 109.4 km

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Trek ascent : 2911 m

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Difficulty : Hard

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Type : Loop

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Themes : Lake and glacier,  
Panorama

# Trek

**Departure** : Station car park, Embrun

**Arrival** : Station car park, Embrun

**Cities** : 1. Embrun

2. Puy-Sanières

3. Puy-Saint-Eusèbe

4. Réallon

5. Savines-le-Lac

6. Saint-Apollinaire

7. Prunières

8. Chorges

9. Rousset

10. Le Lauzet-Ubaye

11. Le Sauze-du-Lac

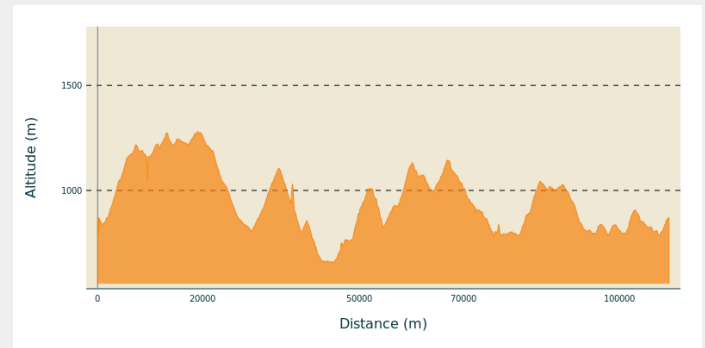
12. Pontis

13. Crots

14. Baratier

15. Saint-Sauveur

## Altimetric profile



Min elevation 657 m Max elevation 1281 m

1. From the station, head down towards Embrun town centre then, at the roundabout, turn right following the signs for "Hôpital -Urgences". Follow this avenue (Alexandre Didier) for 1 km and turn right at an imposing stone wall. Take the D9 towards Puy-Sanières and, after a short warm-up, things start to get serious with a 6km climb and an average gradient of 7%. This route offers beautiful views, while passing through wooded areas and grey marl landscapes.
2. Finally pass Puy-Sanières and now head towards Réallon, still on the D9. The view is unobstructed and offers a lovely vantage point over the Ecrins massif. Fairy chimneys, torrents and marl follow one another in an environment where deciduous and coniferous trees mingle. Then head past Les Méans and, at the next junction, turn left towards Savines-le-Lac (D9).
3. Pass Les Rousses and, at the roundabout, continue towards Chorges (D9) for a lovely, gentle descent to the village of Saint-Apollinaire. Take a short break at the lookout (great view of Lake Serre-Ponçon) before continuing on to Chorges (D9). Head downhill for 8 km, keeping an eye on your speed (it's easy to get carried away!) as far as the centre of Chorges and, when you come to a "no-go" sign, turn left towards Espinasses.
4. Tackle the Col Lebraut (D3) with its 7km ascent and, at the summit, make a short stop to enjoy a panoramic view of the lake. Begin a new descent towards the Durance valley. You'll have to go through a tunnel, so you'll need lighting for visibility. Drive past the Serre-Ponçon dam, admiring the quality of its construction, reach a roundabout and follow the signs for Barcelonnette (D900b).
5. Cross the Durance then turn right towards Selonnet (D900c). Enter the heart of the Gorges de la Blanche, a truly picturesque route nestled between the mountains. After 3km, turn left towards Les Eyrauds (C9) and take a small road. It climbs quite steeply to a pass, which offers some fine views. It descends through undergrowth until you reach the D900b. Turn right onto this

departmental road. Go through the centre of La Bréole and rejoin the D900b. Shortly afterwards, climb towards the Col des Fillys (D7) for 2 km, then turn left towards Les Laphonds. Continue downhill towards the D900b (fire station) and turn right. The landscape opens up even more, with panoramic views of the Serre-Ponçon lake, the Ubaye and its mountainous terrain. After a lookout point, you have just 5 km to go before turning left towards Savines (D954). Continue down to the valley and cross the Ubaye river.

6. Continue along this pleasant lakeside road then climb towards Le Sauze-du-Lac. The panorama is as splendid as ever. Continue on to Savines-le-Lac, still enjoying the beautiful views, then continue towards Briançon on the N94. At the village of Crots, turn right and take the narrow road that runs past the foot of the château of Picomtal. Climb up to Le Poët, through a series of bends, then follow the signs for Baratier on a short descent. Take the D40 for a short stretch before turning right towards Crévoux. Walk for almost 3 km, then cross the Durance on a metal bridge (wooden floor) towards the citadel of Embrun. Finally, take the last ascent back to the starting point.



# On your path...



 Addos mountain stream (A)

# All useful information

## **Advices**

- Respecter le sens de circulation des parcours.
- Respecter les autres usagers de la route.
- Le port du casque est obligatoire
- N'hésitez pas à consulter info route 05 avant de partir

## **Gear**

Use your lights so people can see you (section through a tunnel)

## **How to come ?**

### Transports

From **Gap**:

- Zou! network : Line 69 / Frequency : 5 times a day

From **Briançon**

- Zou! network : Line 69 / Frequency : Every 4 hours

For more information: <https://zou.maregionsud.fr>

NCF bus

More info: <https://www.sncf-connect.com>

### Access

Follow the N94 from Gap or Guillestre to Embrun.

### Advised parking

Station car park, Embrun

# 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 de 300m sol quand vous la survolez soit 1310m d'altitude !

## Information desks

### Tourist office Embrun

Place Général Dosse - BP 49, 05202  
Embrun

embrun@serreponcon-tourisme.com  
Tel : 0492437272  
<https://www.serreponcon-tourisme.com/>



## Source



Serre-Ponçon

<https://www.serreponcon.com>

# On your path...

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## Addos mountain stream (A)

The Addos mountain stream (torrent in French) is 4 kilometres long. A mountain stream is a natural water course located in the mountains. The flow regime is characterised by a steep gradient, with a very fast and therefore turbulent water flow producing significant erosion. It is also defined by a significant variation in flow rate depending on precipitation levels. In this mountain stream, as in many others, numerous small sills (small dams) have been created to slow down the water flow and limit the impact of floods.

Attribution : Amélie Vallier