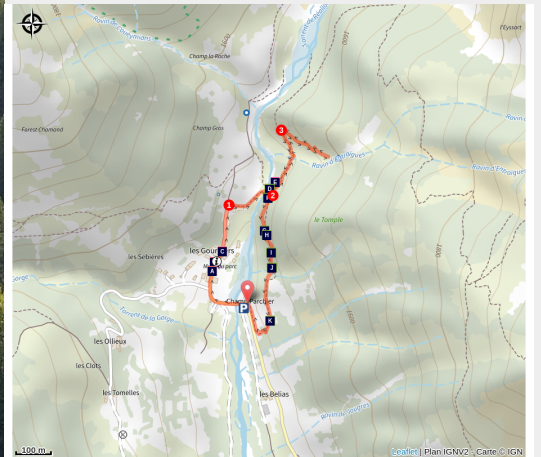


# The Pissarotte waterfall

Parc national des Ecrins - Réallon



La cascade de la Pissarotte vue de la rive droite du Réallon (Mireille Coulon - Parc national des Ecrins)



*After passing through the small hamlet of Les Gourniers, with its mountain architecture, a shady path leads to a platform from which you can admire this pretty waterfall, which flows all summer long.*

*"In the height of summer, the Pissarotte waterfall acts like a misting system... A special moment guaranteed! In the afternoon, when the sunlight diffracts on the mist, a rainbow appears at the foot of the waterfall."*

Mireille Coulon, park ranger.

## Useful information

Practice : By walk

Duration : 1 h 30

Length : 2.0 km

Trek ascent : 103 m

Difficulty : Very easy

Type : Loop

Themes : Flora

Accessibility : Family

# Trek

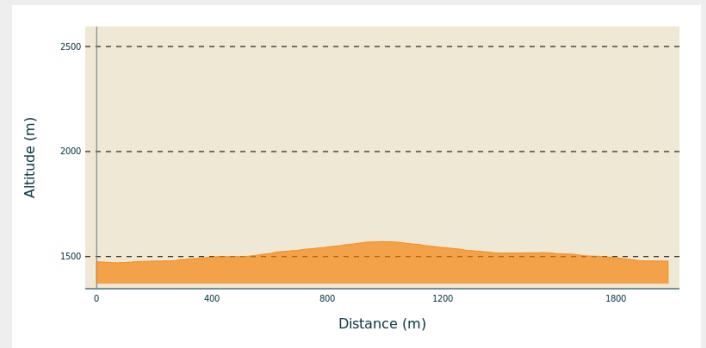
**Departure** : Les Gourniers, Réallon

**Arrival** : Les Gourniers, Réallon

**Markings** : — PR

**Cities** : 1. Réallon

## Altimetric profile



Min elevation 1472 m Max elevation 1573 m














Head towards the hamlet and cross it, following the signs to the waterfall.

1. Turn right after the last house, pass the marmite des géants and continue to the bridge over the Réallon stream.
2. From there, turn left and head up the path.
3. At the fork with signposts to the waterfall, take the path to the right and follow it to the overhanging platform.

Take the same path back to the bridge, then continue straight ahead on the left bank to reach the car park via the little woodland discovery trail.

# On your path...



- |   |                            |   |                             |
|---|----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
|  | Communal oven (A)          |  | Hamlet of Les Gourniers (B) |
|  | Chapel of the Nativity (C) |  | Brown trout (D)             |
|  | Giant's cauldron (E)       |  | Martagon lily (F)           |
|  | Meadow sage (G)            |  | Martagon lily (H)           |
|  | Cupid's dart (I)           |  | Burnt-tip orchid (J)        |
|  | Beech (K)                  |  | Yellow gentian (L)          |
|  | Carrion crow (M)           |   |                             |

# All useful information

## **Advices**

L'arrivée à la cascade se fait sur une plate-forme surplombante, attention en particulier avec des enfants au risque de chutes.

## **How to come ?**

### Access

From Savines-le-Lac, take the D41 to Réallon (village). Follow the D241 to the hamlet of Les Gourniers at the bottom of the valley.

### Advised parking

Parking at the hamlet of Gourniers

## **Accessibility**

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Family

## Information desks

### Information center "les Gourniers" (summer only)

Les Gourniers, 05160 Réallon

[embrunais@ecrins-parcnational.fr](mailto:embrunais@ecrins-parcnational.fr)

Tel : 04 92 44 30 36

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



### Maison du Parc de l'Embrunais

Place de l'Église, 05380 Châteauroux-les-Alpes

[embrunais@ecrins-parcnational.fr](mailto:embrunais@ecrins-parcnational.fr)

Tel : 04 92 43 23 31

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



### Tourist office Réallon Station

Pra Prunier, 05160 Réallon

[reallon@serreponcontourisme.com](mailto:reallon@serreponcontourisme.com)

Tel : 0492442567

<http://www.reallon-ski.com>



## Source



Parc national des Ecrins

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

# On your path...

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## Communal oven (A)

This is located in the basement of the former school (now the Park Information Centre). It is regularly used on the occasion of local festivals and events.

Attribution : Victor Zugmeyer - PNE

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## Hamlet of Les Gourniers (B)

The old houses of the hamlet are modest in appearance. They are built from stone and have sheet metal roofs. They used to be roofed with slate extracted from the nearby quarries

Attribution : PNE- Mireille Coulon

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## Chapel of the Nativity (C)

It is difficult to be sure of the chapel's date of construction, but it existed in 1700. The bell was installed in 1870, but the bell tower was built in 1956. In 2013, a new larch shingle roof replaced the old corrugated iron roof,

Attribution : Mireille Coulon

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## Brown trout (D)

This wild trout of the salmonid family is 25 to 100 cm long. Its streamlined body and well-developed fins make it a very efficient swimmer in fast-flowing water. The deepness of the colour on its back varies depending on the environment. Its back and sides are decorated with black dots outlined with pink.

Attribution : Jean-Philippe Telmon - PNE

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## Giant's cauldron (E)

The term 'Giant's cauldron' describes a cavity created by a current of water in a standing rock. Here, the waters and the pebbles of the Chargès torrent whirl around polishing the cavity and giving it its spectacular shape.

Attribution : PNE- Mireille Coulon

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### ✿ Martagon lily (F)

In the undergrowth at the start of the route, it is remarkable for its long, upright flowering stem. It has three to ten purplish-pink flowers dotted with purple, with long orange stamens. But admire it without breathing it in, because it's as smelly as it is beautiful!

Attribution : Marc Corail © Parc national des Ecrins

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### ✿ Meadow sage (G)

Also known as wild sage, it is the largest plant in the mint family. It boasts a highly specialised pollination mechanism. Insects that insert their proboscis into the flower to reach the nectar receptacle trigger the other end of the structure, causing it to tilt forward to touch the insect's back, enabling the plant to reproduce. It also has a host of medicinal properties, particularly in the fight against bronchitis, angina, flu etc...

Attribution : Thierry Maillet - PNE

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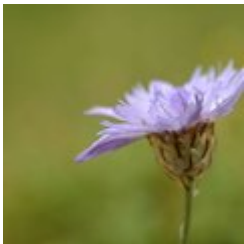


### ✿ Martagon lily (H)

The martagon lily is distinctive for its long upright flower spike. It bears 3 to 10 flowers which are violet-pink streaked with purple, out of which its long orangey stamens emerge. It's better to admire it from a distance because, beautiful as it is, it has an unpleasant smell!

Attribution : Mireille Coulon - PNE

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### ✿ Cupid's dart (I)

This 30 to 70 cm high plant has slender leaves, some linear with a few narrow side lobes. It is distinctive for its flower heads with parchment-like, translucent bracts and a broad russet median vein ending in a little point. The flowers are all ray-shaped and serrated at the tip. They are blue to purplish, darker at the base.

Attribution : Mireille Coulon - PNE

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### ✿ Burnt-tip orchid (J)

Its name comes from the deep purple colour at the end of the flower spike. 10 to 30 cm tall, this orchid grows in sunny meadows, in limey soil. The flowers are small and arranged into a tight spike.

Attribution : Bertrand Nicollet - PNE

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## Beech (K)

A majestic tree with a smooth, steel grey trunk. It has bright, shiny leaves which turn to russet in the autumn. The seeds, or beechnuts, are set into a small spiky woody shell. Here, the beech is growing at the limit of its distribution; they are at their highest in the Durance valley.

Attribution : Mireille Coulon - PNE

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## Yellow gentian (L)

It is easy to see why this perennial plant, with a strong, hollow stem and which can grow up to one metre tall, is commonly called the great gentian. At the end of the stem, it carries several tiers of yellow flowers grouped into whorls, supported by a pair of large opposing leaves. This species can be told apart from others in the genus not only by its colour but also because the corolla is made up of five or six petals.

Attribution : Dominique Vincent - PNE

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## Carrion crow (M)

The carrion crow is a medium-sized corvid, slightly larger than the rook. It is easy to avoid confusing them, as the latter has a narrower, straight beak with a whitish base. Its plumage creates green reflections. The males and females are identical in appearance when young.

Attribution : Damien Combrisson - PNE

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