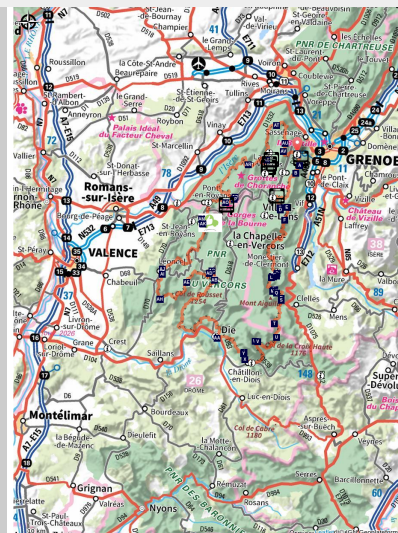
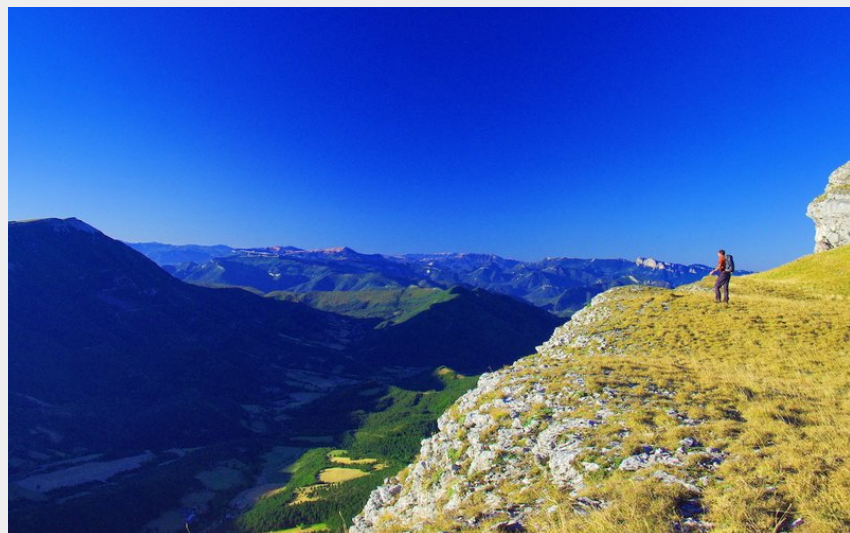


The Great Crossing of the Vercors (GTV) by foot

4 Montagnes - Saint-Nizier-du-Moucherotte

GTV



(s_fayollat)

The GTV (for Grand Tour du Vercors) is the opposite to the very high speed TGV!

No high speed here, but one of the many hiking itineraries in the massif, to be enjoyed at a leisurely walking pace, taking in each landscape, mountain and viewpoint.

Note, the 23 day duration to complete the Great Crossing of the Vercors by foot is given as an indication, and may be varied according to your hiking level and speed.

Which other massif can bring together edelweiss (the emblematic mountain symbol) and

Useful information

Practice : Itinerant hike

Duration : 23 days

Length : 328.6 km

Trek ascent : 18740 m

Difficulty : Très Difficile

Type : Boucle

Themes : Agriculture et Savoir faire, Energie, Faune, Flore, Géologie, Histoire et patrimoine, Pastoralisme, Point de vue, Résistance, Accessible en transport en commun

Mediterranean thyme fragrances?
Abrupt limestone cliffs and gentle vineyards?
The massif with the six 6 big cloven hoofed
beasts of France (chamois, ibex, stag, roe-deer,
mouflon and wild boar), along with numerous
sheep, horses, and cattle that come for the
summer to feast in the flowery alpine pastures?
The Vercors, of course!
An unmissable region for hiking all year round.
The climatic border between the Northern Alps
and Provence, the massif dazzled by the
strength and diversity of its landscapes.
The GTV itinerary is the "link" ensuring your
recipe for success from these exceptional
ingredients.
So what are you waiting for? Enjoy the
sensations!

Trek

Departure : Saint-Nizier-du-Moucherotte

Arrival : Saint-Nizier-du-Moucherotte

Markings :  GTV à pied

The Great Crossing explores the trails of the Vercors Regional Natural Park. Created in 1970, the Park extends from 180 to 2,341 metres in altitude, culminating in the Grand Veymont and the Rocher Rond.

The region brings together seven geographical sectors: the Quatre-Montagnes, the Coulmes, the Drome Vercors, the Royans, the Diois, the Trièves and the Gervanne.

Alongside the Isère, we find the cool Northern Alps, whilst in the Drôme, the Mediterranean climate and fragrant vegetation perfume the paths. To the north and south, the massif is covered by a thick layer of limestone, which, through erosion, has created the spectacular landscapes: gorges, needles, cliffs, lapiaz...

And when we say an exceptional environment, we also find amazing flora and fauna. But the Vercors is also a place where people live:

54,000 inhabitants are spread across the region, with the old "Vertacomiciens" mixing with new residents attracted by the exceptional quality of life.

The itinerary goes through numerous villages amongst the 84 in the park, ideal to visit and restock on supplies. After a magnificent day of hiking, who can resist the delicious "vercouline", a local speciality based on Vercors-Sassenage blue cheese?

A variant to the main tour is a 60 kilometre trail going through the High Plateaux at the heart of the Nature Reserve. Created in 1985, the reserve nestles at the heart of the Vercors Park, in its highest and wildest area. No roads, no villages.

The scarcity of surface water has prevented a permanent human presence. The only

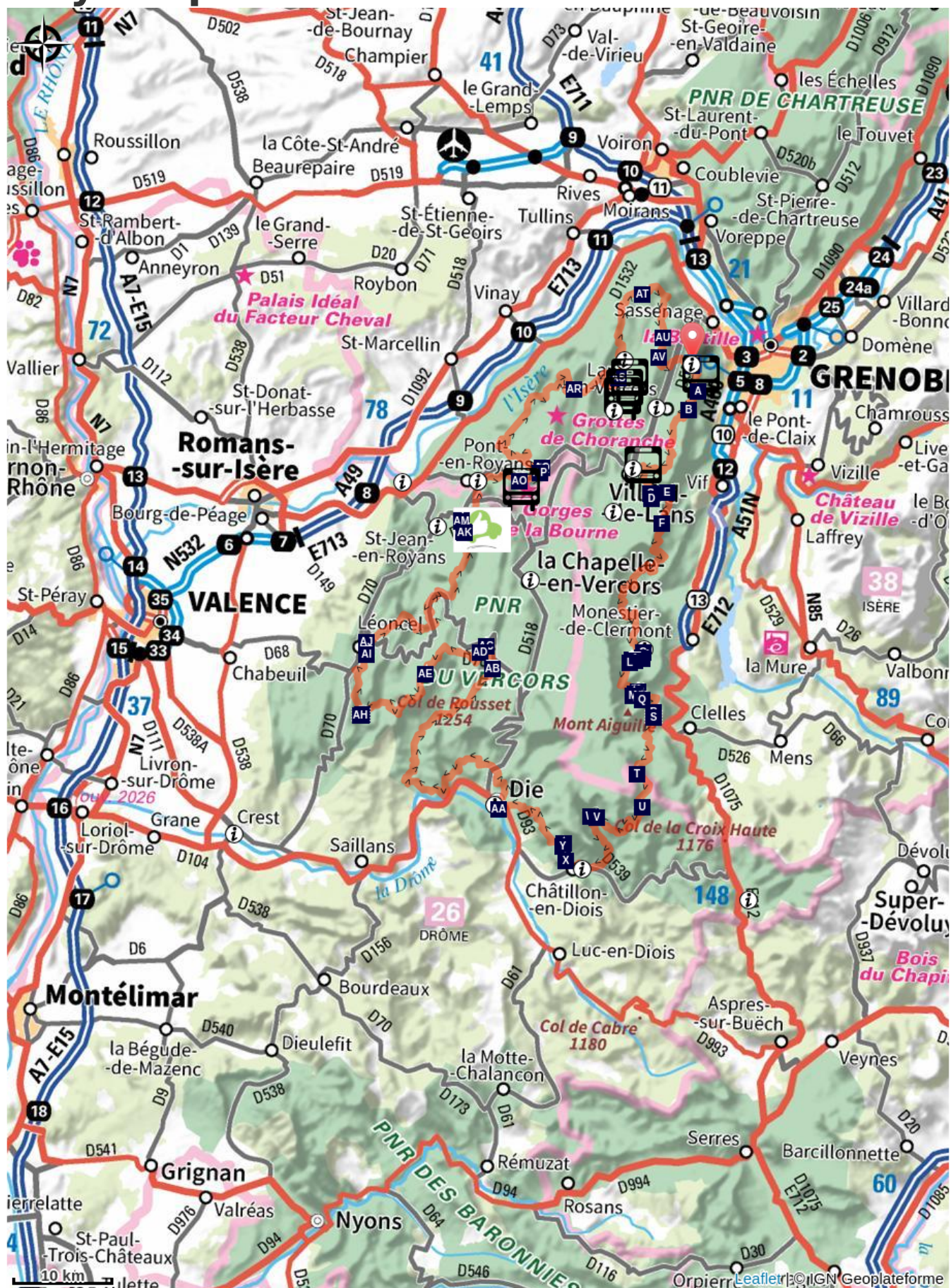
activities are grazing, which is still alive, and forestry. Its main task is to preserve and study nature. For this, the six reserve rangers conduct observations of the fauna and flora. Another specificity of this region: very little itinerary signposting, no real refuges, but instead unmanned cabins and shelters. These conditions may seem restrictive at first sight, but they provide the guarantee of total immersion in this rich, preserved natural environment.


From the "Grand Tour" itinerary, you can also take a trip to the Vercors Haut-Plateaux at any time. Invent your own "GTV"!

Stages :

- 1.** Saint-Nizier-du-Moucherotte / Villard-de-Lans (stage 1)
20.8 km / 1146 m D+ / 7 h
- 2.** Villard-de-Lans / Arzelier pass (stage 2)
17.1 km / 953 m D+ / 6 h
- 3.** Arzelier pass / Saint-Andéol (stage 3)
12.1 km / 783 m D+ / 5 h
- 4.** Saint-Andéol / Gresse-en-Vercors (stage 4)
15.0 km / 1100 m D+ / 5 h 30
- 5.** Gresse-en-Vercors / Chichilianne (stage 5)
21.1 km / 1153 m D+ / 7 h
- 6.** Chichilianne / Les Nonières (stage 6)
13.2 km / 880 m D+ / 5 h
- 7.** Les Nonières / Chatillon-en-Diois (stage 7)
17.5 km / 1137 m D+ / 6 h
- 8.** Châtillon-en-Diois / Die (stage 8)
20.3 km / 1311 m D+ / 7 h
- 9.** Die / Sainte-Croix (stage 9)
21.8 km / 1310 m D+ / 7 h
- 10.** Sainte-Croix / Saint-Julien-en-Quint (stage 10)
14.3 km / 544 m D+ / 4 h
- 11.** Saint-Julien-en-Quint / Vassieux-en-Vercors (stage 11)
12.4 km / 932 m D+ / 4 h 30
- 12.** Vassieux-en-Vercors / Font d'Urle (stage 12)
6.9 km / 510 m D+ / 2 h 30
- 13.** Font d'Urle / Omblèze (stage 13)
15.9 km / 0 m D+ / 5 h
- 14.** Omblèze / Léoncel (stage 14)
13.8 km / 799 m D+ / 4 h 30
- 15.** Léoncel / Lente (stage 15)
22.7 km / 0 m D+ / 7 h 30
- 16.** Lente / Saint-Jean-en-Royans (stage 16)
15.3 km / 0 m D+ / 4 h
- 17.** Saint-Jean-en-Royans / Pont-en-Royans (stage 17)
12.8 km / 465 m D+ / 3 h 30
- 18.** Pont-en-Royans / Presles (stage 18)
17.5 km / 1330 m D+ / 6 h
- 19.** Presles / Col de Romeyère (stage 19)
20.8 km / 1233 m D+ / 7 h
- 20.** Col de Romeyère / Autrans (stage 20)
9.9 km / 419 m D+ / 3 h 30
- 21.** Autrans / Gève (Le Refuge) (stage 21)
12.4 km / 667 m D+ / 4 h
- 22.** Gève (Le Refuge) / La Molière (stage 22)
11.5 km / 797 m D+ / 3 h 30
- 23.** La Molière / Saint-Nizier-du-Moucherotte (stage 23)
9.8 km / 469 m D+ / 3 h 30

On your path...



Summit of Moucherotte (A)
 Athlete training (C)
Col Vert (E)
Gresse-en-Vercors (G)
Murgers (I)
Ski resort of Gresse-en-Vercors (K)
Mont Aiguille (M)

The plateau of Ramées (B)
Shelter of the Fauge (D)
Arêtes du Gerbier (F)
Grand-Veymont (H)
Stone of Remembrance (J)
Life in the rock (L)
La Bâtie (N)

All useful information

⚠️ **Advices**

Before setting off:

Avoid going alone.

Check accommodation availability.

Pack warm, waterproof clothing and suitable shoes.

Water is rare, so plan accordingly. Treat or filter the water that you drink.

Do not hesitate to call upon the services of a trained, competent professional.

In the mountains:

Use the installed passages to cross fences, close gates and barriers.

Stay on the marked trails and respect private property.

The trails can be slippery in rainy conditions!

Do not cross hay meadows or cultivated fields.

Ensure that the fauna is not scared by your presence.

Respect sheep farms, refuges and cabin shelters.

Collect your waste, think nature.

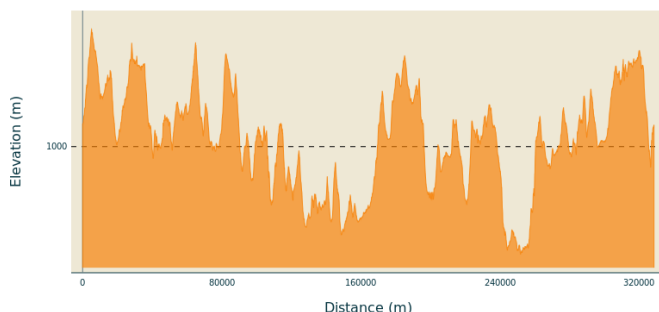
You are in summer pastures, and may meet herd protection and guard dogs (patous). Always ensure that you go a long way round the animals, calmly so that the dog can identify you, do not pat or threaten them.

Warning: during the summer period which may extend from May to October, dogs are PROHIBITED by municipal order in certain alpine zones, EVEN IF THEY ARE ON LEADS!

Emergency:

112 (valid throughout Europe). Warning: there are some "white areas" in the region!

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 217 m

Max elevation 1855 m

Transports

By train :

GTV tour has been made to be easily

Access

- From the North of France (Paris: 6h)

Autoroutes A6, A48, then exit Villard-de-

accessible by train. In fact, 7 connection trails allows you to reach main GTV track.

Train stations are :

For Isère department : Grenoble, Monestier-de-Clermont, Clelles, Vinay

- Fro Drôme department : Die, Crest, Saint-Nazaire-en-Royans, Romans et Valence.

By bus :

The OÙRA multimodal route planner provides information about all the connections between regional trains, urban transport and departmental bus lines: <https://www.oura.com/>

By hitch hiking : You can get there / get back by hitching a lift with the Rezo Pouce network (you can find all the stops in the Vercors on www.rezopouce.fr).

Carpooling :

Offer your services or book your carpooling on the regional [Mov'ici](#) platform.

Lans by the RN 532 towards "Vercors".

- From the South of France (Marseille: 3h)

Autoroutes A7 (to Valence Sud), A49, then exit La Baume d'Hostun towards Villard-de-Lans. At Saint-Nazaire-en-Royans, take the RD 531 towards Villard-de-Lans.

Advised parking

Car park in the village of Saint-Nizier-du-Moucherotte or car park in the lieu-dit "Les Pucelles"

Information desks

Office de tourisme de Villard-de-Lans
101 place Mure-Ravaud, 38250
Villard-de-Lans
Tel : 04 76 95 10 38
<http://www.villarddelans-correnconenvercors.com>

OTI 4M - Bureau d'information de
Saint-Nizier-du-Moucherotte
Place du Village, 38250 Saint-Nizier-
du-Moucherotte
info.stnizierdumoucherotte@otivercors.com
Tel : 04 76 53 40 60
<https://www.vercors-experience.com/>

OTI 4M - Bureau d'information de
Lans-en-Vercors
246 avenue Léopold Fabre, 38250
Lans-en-Vercors
info.lansenvercors@otivercors.com
Tel : 04 76 95 42 62
<https://www.vercors-experience.com/>

Office de tourisme de Corrençon-en-
Vercors
Le village, 38250 Corrençon-en-
Vercors
Tel : 04 76 95 81 75
<http://www.villarddelans-correnconenvercors.com>

Office de tourisme de Lus-la-Croix-
Haute
10 Place des Lucioles, 26620 Lus-la-
Croix-Haute
luslacroixhaute@diois-tourisme.com
Tel : 04 92 58 51 85
<http://www.diois-tourisme.com>

Office de tourisme du Pays du Diois
Rue des Jardins, 26150 Die
contact@diois-tourisme.com
Tel : 04 75 22 03 03
<http://www.diois-tourisme.com/>

Office de tourisme de Pont-en-Royans
Grande rue, 38680 Pont-en-Royans

ot.pontenroyans@gmail.com
Tel : 04 76 36 09 10
<http://vercors-pontenroyans.com/>

Association des Grandes Traversées
du Vercors
<https://montourenvercors.com/>

Office de tourisme du Trièves, Gresse-
en-Vercors
43, route du Grand-Veymont, 38650
Gresse-en-Vercors
tourisme@gresse-en-vercors.fr
Tel : 04 82 62 63 50
<http://www.trieves-vercors.fr/>

Office de tourisme de Châtillon-en-
Diois
Square Jean Giono, 26410 Châtillon-
en-Diois
chatillonendiois@diois-tourisme.com
Tel : 04 75 21 10 07
<http://www.chatillonendiois-tourisme.com/>

OTI Vercors Drôme - Bureau St Jean-
en-Royans
13 Place de l'Eglise, 26190 Saint-Jean-
en-Royans
info@vercors-drome.com
Tel : 04 75 48 61 39
<http://www.vercors-drome.com/>

OTI 4M - Bureau d'information
d'Autrans
49 route du Vercors, 38880 Autrans-
Méaudre-en Vercors
info.autrans@otivercors.com
Tel : 04 76 95 30 70
<https://www.vercors-experience.com/>

OTI Vercors-Drôme - Bureau La
Chapelle-en-Vercors
Place Pietri, 26 420 La Chapelle-en-
Vercors
info@vercors-drome.com
Tel : 04 75 48 22 54
<http://www.vercors-drome.com/>

Office de tourisme Saint-Marcellin-
Vercors-Isère, bureau d'information de
Pont-en-Royans
48 Grande Rue, 38680 Pont-en-Royans
tourisme@saintmarcellin-vercors-
isere.fr
Tel : 04 76 385 385
<http://tourisme.saintmarcellin-vercors-isere.fr/>

Office de tourisme du Pays de Crest
Saillans
Place du Général de Gaulle, 26400
Crest
accueil@coeurdedrome.com
Tel : 04 75 25 11 38
<https://www.valleedeladrome-tourisme.com/>

OTI Vercors Drôme - Bureau
d'information de Saint-Nazaire-en-
Royans
Parvis de l'Aqueduc, 26190 Saint-
Nazaire-en-Royans
info@vercors-drome.com
Tel : 04 75 48 49 80
<http://www.vercors-drome.com/>

OTI 4M - Bureau d'information de
Méaudre
Place Locmaria, 38 112 Autrans-
Méaudre-en Vercors
info.meaudre@otivercors.com
Tel : 04 76 95 20 68
<https://www.vercors-experience.com/>

On your path...



Summit of Moucherotte (A)

From its 1,901 meters, this summit offers a breathtaking view of the Alps and the valley of Grenoble. To better locate you in the surrounding massifs, an orientation table is at your disposal on the trail. You will also find on your way a radar of Météo-France. Installed in 2014, it can measure precipitation and wind within a radius of 50 kilometers. Until 2001, the Hotel Ermitage could also be seen standing on the Moucherotte, a luxury establishment that welcomed Brigitte Bardot, Dalida and Charles Aznavour. Abandoned since 1974 for lack of profitability, the hotel was connected to Saint-Nizier by a cable car. Only one pylon remains, which is now used by the village adventure trail.

Attribution : V. Giry



The plateau of Ramées (B)

This vast, flowery alpine pasture is occupied in summer by village cows, an ancient breed of the Vercors, very adapted to its environment and restored to the taste by some local breeders. The plateau of Ramées, through its alternating wooded areas and alpine pastures, is an environment conducive to the black grouse. You can enter them cooing, but do not try to see them and especially stay on the paths, because this remarkable species is very sensitive to disturbance.

Attribution : M. Rocheblave



Athlete training (C)

The Fauge valley is regularly used for training by Vercors athletes. "We often have long training sessions during the long, hot summer days, when biathletes do most of their annual training volume. The aim is not to look for performance but to get your body working for a long time at low intensity to develop your capillary network and multiply your mitochondria, etc... To combine these training days with shooting, I sometimes ask a coach to take my equipment to the shooting range in Corrençon, and meet him there after a training run". Marie Dorin-Habert



Shelter of the Fauge (D)

The Fauge Shelter is a large, unguarded hut. With a fireplace, it can accommodate 20 people. It is named after the valley of the Fauge.

Attribution : PNRV



Col Vert (E)

Between the Roc Cornafion (2049 m) to the north and the Gerbier ridges (2019 m) in the south, the Col Vert is a breach at 1766 m of altitude allowing to join the Trièves. Formerly, this passage was taken by the Trièvois who would buy in the spring and autumn their cows of the city race at the fairs of Quatre Montagnes, while Du Trièves, Claix and Varcès rose from the brandy and wine for the inhabitants of the Vercors. The ruin resting on the rock of the Vert Pass testifies to a place of arrest for these exchanges.

Attribution : S.M Booth



Arêtes du Gerbier (F)

The Arêtes du Gerbier culminate at 2109 m, and form impressive 400 m high cliffs. It is a popular place for mountaineering. It is here that the famous mountaineer Lionel Terray made a fatal fall with his friend Marc Martinetti, on September 19, 1965.

Attribution : m_rocheblave



Gresse-en-Vercors (G)

Gresse-en-Vercors is a small ski resort of 400 inhabitants, nestled between the eastern border of the Vercors and the Serpaton mountain pasture. The village church was built in the traditional style of the old mountain chapels. It is the oldest monument in the Gothic style of the region. Its construction goes back to the 13th century for its lower part. A great quantity of its very beautiful stones were carved on the high plateaux of the Vercors at about 1800 meters of altitude.

Attribution : PNRV



Grand-Veymont (H)

Gresse-en-Vercors is dominated to the south by the Grand Veymont, located in the Hautes-Plateaux reserve of Vercors, it is with its 2341 m the climax of the massif. The Pas de la Ville to the north of the Grand Veymont allows to reach the High Plateaux. It is one of the few passages that connects Gresse-en-Vercors to the heart of the massif.

Attribution : PNRV



Murgers (I)

The name would come from a Burgundian word. It is true that from Bourgogne to the Ardèche, the stones grow well in limestone fields! These piles of pebbles at the edge of the field are the result of the stoning patient, over time, realized by generations of obstinate peasants to gain arable land. Sometimes, they are mounted in low walls to delimit enclosures and plots. It is also a beautiful refuge for rampant wildlife in search of shelter.

Attribution : PNRV



Stone of Remembrance (J)

After the Allied landings on June 6, 1944, growing numbers of Resistance fighters climbed the south-eastern edge of the Vercors to join the Maquis who had gathered in the mountains, which was now a very attractive proposition for them. But few men were on hand to guard these high, narrow passages when the 157th Alpine Reserve Division launched a widespread attack on July 21, 1944. Under the command of General Pflaum, the aim of the Germans was to crush the Vercors Maquis. In spite of the courage and bravery they showed during the fighting, the watchmen were quickly overcome by an enemy with superior numbers and weapons. The order to disperse was received on July 23, leaving military victory to the Germans. Resistance fighters from inside the plateau were also cut down when they tried to exfiltrate through the passes. This stone, placed symbolically at the foot of the Pas de la Ville, serves as a reminder of them.

Attribution : B. Brun-Cosme



Ski resort of Gresse-en-Vercors (K)

Since 1965, Gresse-en-Vercors has hosted a small 24-lane ski resort, located between 1250 m and 1750 m altitude. Nordic skiing is also present, with 50 km of groomed trails.

Attribution : V.Viargues



Life in the rock (L)

In scree slopes, life conditions are difficult for plants, and the fallen rock debris can become unstable and migrate slowly downslope by solifluxion. Many different strategies can be adopted by plants to survive.

Studies conducted in the Pyrenees have shown there are two strategies:

- 1/ Immigrant lithophilic plants can anchor and extend their roots even while the rockslides are moving,
- 2/ Some trees such as hook pine are able to stretch their trunks while remaining anchored far upslope.

Attribution : Jean Andrieux



Mont Aiguille (M)

The Mont Aiguille, from its 2087 meters, is a mound of the eastern barrier of the Vercors. Indeed, the Mount is composed of the same materials as the rest of the plateau (limestones and marls deposited by the sea before the rising of the Alps) to which it was formerly attached. The most tender limestones and the presence of numerous faults facilitated the dissolution of the limestone over time, leading to the isolation of Mount.

Attribution : S&M Booth



La Bâtie (N)

The hamlet of La Bâtie between Mont Aiguille and Grand Veymont is lodged at an altitude of over 1,100 m. Only a handful of residents lived here all year round, grouped together around the chapel. Until 1858, when it was attached to Gresse-en-Vercors, La Bâtie was a parish in its own right. The hamlet was home to 22 families – around 100 inhabitants – in the 17th century. The chapel, which was rebuilt in the late 1800s, faces south-east. With its thick walls, half-buried porch and small openings, it is a typical example of a mountain chapel.

Attribution : m_manche