

East-West crossing of the Vercors on the GR®93 - Stage 5



Trièves - Gresse-en-Vercors





(J.Andrieux)

This stage will immerse you in the wonders of the Hauts Plateaux du Vercors National Nature Reserve.

Keep a low profile to increase your chances of spotting the wildlife.

Useful information

Practice: Itinerant hike

Duration: 5 h 30

Length: 16.2 km

Trek ascent: 674 m

Difficulty: Difficile

Type: Traversée

Themes : Faune, Flore, Pastoralisme, Point de vue,

espaces naturels

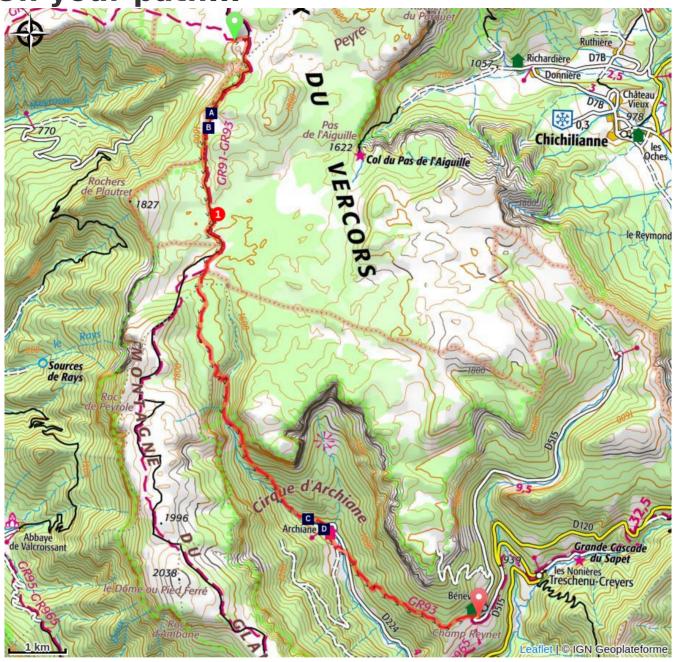
Trek

Departure : Pré-Peyret

Arrival : Bénevise

From Cabane de **Pré-Peyret**, carry on to the **Carrefour de Pré-Peyret**, and then **Le Pison** before reaching **Les Quatres-Chemins de la Ville**, followed by **L'Aubaise**, **Archiane**, **Les Vallons** and **Bénevise**.

On your path...



The Vulture Ball (A)

The reintroduction of Vultures (C)

The Nature reserve of the Hauts-Plateaux of Vercors (B) The circus of Archiane (D)

All useful information



A Advices

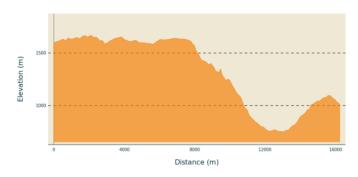
Use the installed passages to cross fences, close gates and barriers. Stay on the marked trails and respect private property. The trails can be slippery in rainy conditions! Do not cross hay meadows or cultivated fields.

Stay alert in spring: snowfields can last late into the season! (Check with the tourist office before setting out).

Important: when the weather is hot in summer, make sure you take ample water with you as well as adequate sun protection, including sunscreen, a hat or other essentials.

Parts of the route are at high altitude and may be covered in snow in winter. These sections may be impassable depending on your mode of transport.

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 752 m Max elevation 1667 m



Information desks

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On your path...



The Vulture Ball (A)

At the dawn of the 2000s, the Regional Natural Park of Vercors participated in an operation to reintroduce vultures fawn on the scale of the Pre-Alps. These birds had disappeared from our mountains in the 19th century. By relying on the population of the Grands Causses, the idea was to exchange (birds, and therefore genes) with the Pyrenean populations. A vast population occupies a space that goes from the Spanish Pyrenees to the Vercors, which the birds traverse freely (the observation of the banded birds proves it to us). The Col de Rousset and the circus of Archiane are two sites of rest and nesting for these great gliders (almost 3m of wingspan). They use the ascending currents along the cliffs to transit from one to the other. A large shadow on the ground, raise your head, a vulture passes over you ...

Attribution: S&M Booth



The Nature reserve of the Hauts-Plateaux of Vercors (B)

Unique by its size of 17,000 hectares, the Réserve des Hauts-Plateaux extends over 10% of the territory of the Regional Natural Park of Vercors. Today it is the largest terrestrial reserve in metropolitan France. Between 1050 m and 2341 m of altitude (with the Grand Veymont in climax), it undergoes very contrasted climatic influences, at the hinge between the northern and southern pre-Alps. The strong seasonal human presence has shaped it since prehistoric times. Pastoralism has been practiced there for over a thousand years. Now marked by an alternation of mountain pastures and forests, the Reserve has the largest forest of hooked pines in the limestone Alps and a rich flora of 738 species. Animal life is discreet but abundant. Attribution: S.M Booth



The reintroduction of Vultures (C)

Discover the story of a reintroduction, the stages, the social value of the Vulture, the conditions to "apply" as a home site, the working method. A long-running adventure that is now managed in a network throughout Europe.

Attribution : B Berthemy



The circus of Archiane (D)

The impressive limestone cliffs of the circus of Archiane dominate the hamlet of the same name of more than 1000 m. More than 100 million years ago, we were here under an ocean, this one deposited the sediments that now form the plateau of the Vercors. Then, the uprising of the Alps, as well as erosion gave its current form to the site. It is a place where the fauna (Bouquetin, Chamois, Gypaète Barbu, Griffon Vulture ...) and the flora are rich there. Outdoor activities are also very present with hiking and climbing.

Attribution: PNRV