



The 4 valleys circuit - Stura - Maira - Haute Tinée - Ubaye - Stage 5

Vallée haute Tinée - Saint-Étienne-de-Tinée



Randonnée Lacs de Vens. Vue plongeante sur les lacs de Vens depuis le Collet de Tortisse au mois d'août. (Anthony Turpaud - PNM)

Useful information

Practice : Hiking

Duration : 4 h 30

Length : 12.7 km

Trek ascent : 351 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Walking breaks

Trek

Departure : Vens refuge

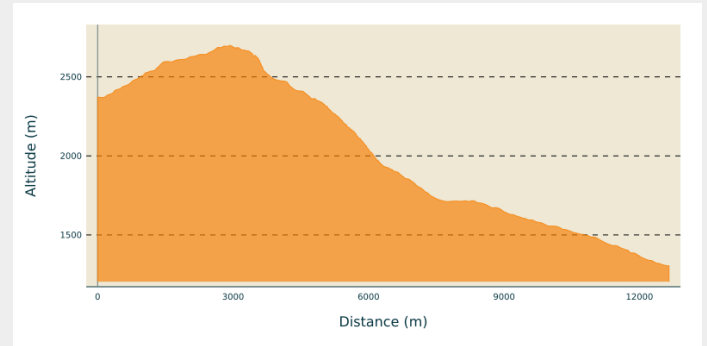
Arrival : Pontebernardo

Cities : 1. Saint-Étienne-de-Tinée

2. Argentera

3. Pietraporzio

Altimetric profile

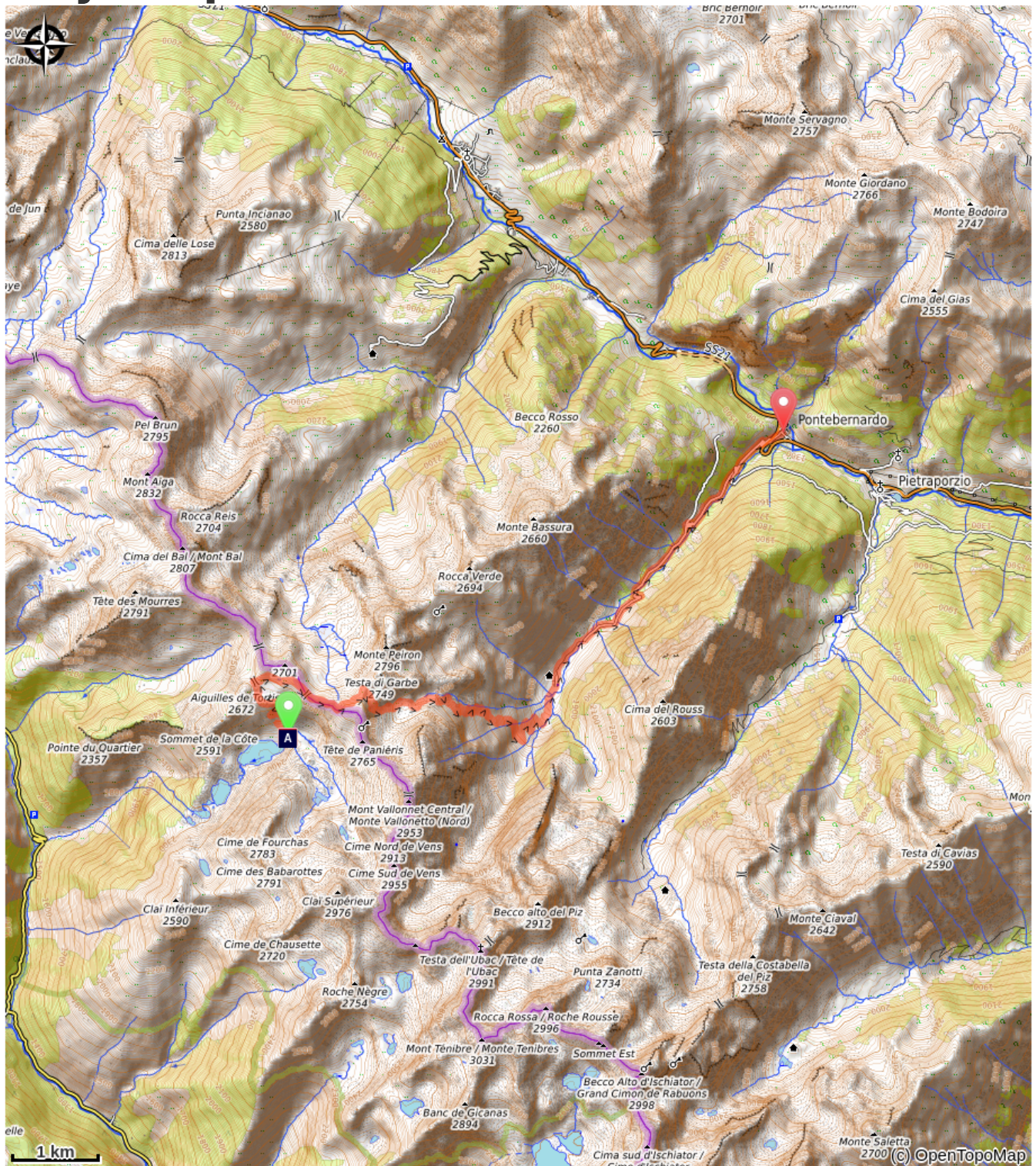



Min elevation 1304 m Max elevation 2699 m

From the Vens refuge, head past markers 25 and 24 as you go towards the secondary summit of Tortisse 2591m and its characteristic arch marker 35a. Take a right fork to follow a path through the through the shale and stones until Pas de la Blanche, which is on the border ridge and has a magnificent view over the Vens lakes far below.

The path runs along the ridge, leading you to Col di Panieris at 2683m altitude. A signpost indicates the way to: Vallon de Pontebernardo – Refuge Talarico Longue and there is a descent via a series of hairpins across screes to reach the hamlet of Prati del Vallone and the Talarico refuge. From the carpark as you leave the hamlet, take the track for the Pontebernardo valley; the track becomes a road as you draw near to the village.

On your path...



 Lac de Vens and refuge (A)

All useful information

On your path...



Lac de Vens and refuge (A)

The Vens refuge only has a warden during the summer months. In winter, only one room is open to allow hikers to shelter. The Vens refuge overlooks a series of lakes of the same name. These lakes are of glacial origin, they are the result of a long erosion process by glaciers. The lake below the refuge (the biggest) is 31 metres deep. Ibex, chamois, mouflons and golden eagles can often be seen at the site. Very close to the refuge, you can see the endemic plant which was for a long time the symbol of the Mercantour National Park: *Saxifraga florulenta*.

Club Alpin Français: Capacity: 45 in summer and 30 in winter (no warden)

Reservations only by e-mail in summer: <http://refugedevens.ffcam.fr/reservation.html>

No shower, meal included

Attribution : CAF / DR