



The Wolf Trail - Argentera & Mercantour - Stage 3

Vallée haute Vésubie - Saint-Martin-Vésubie



Randonnée au lac de Trécolpas en été, (2150 m). (Guigo Franck - PNM)



Useful information

Practice : Hiking

Duration : 5 h

Length : 11.4 km

Trek ascent : 575 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Walking breaks

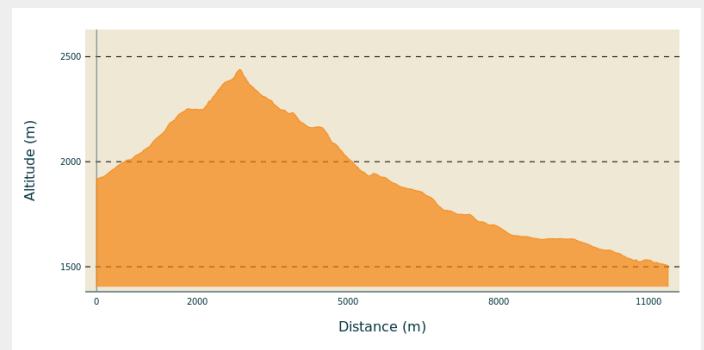
Trek

Departure : Madone de Fenestre refuge

Arrival : Boréon

Cities : 1. Saint-Martin-Vésubie

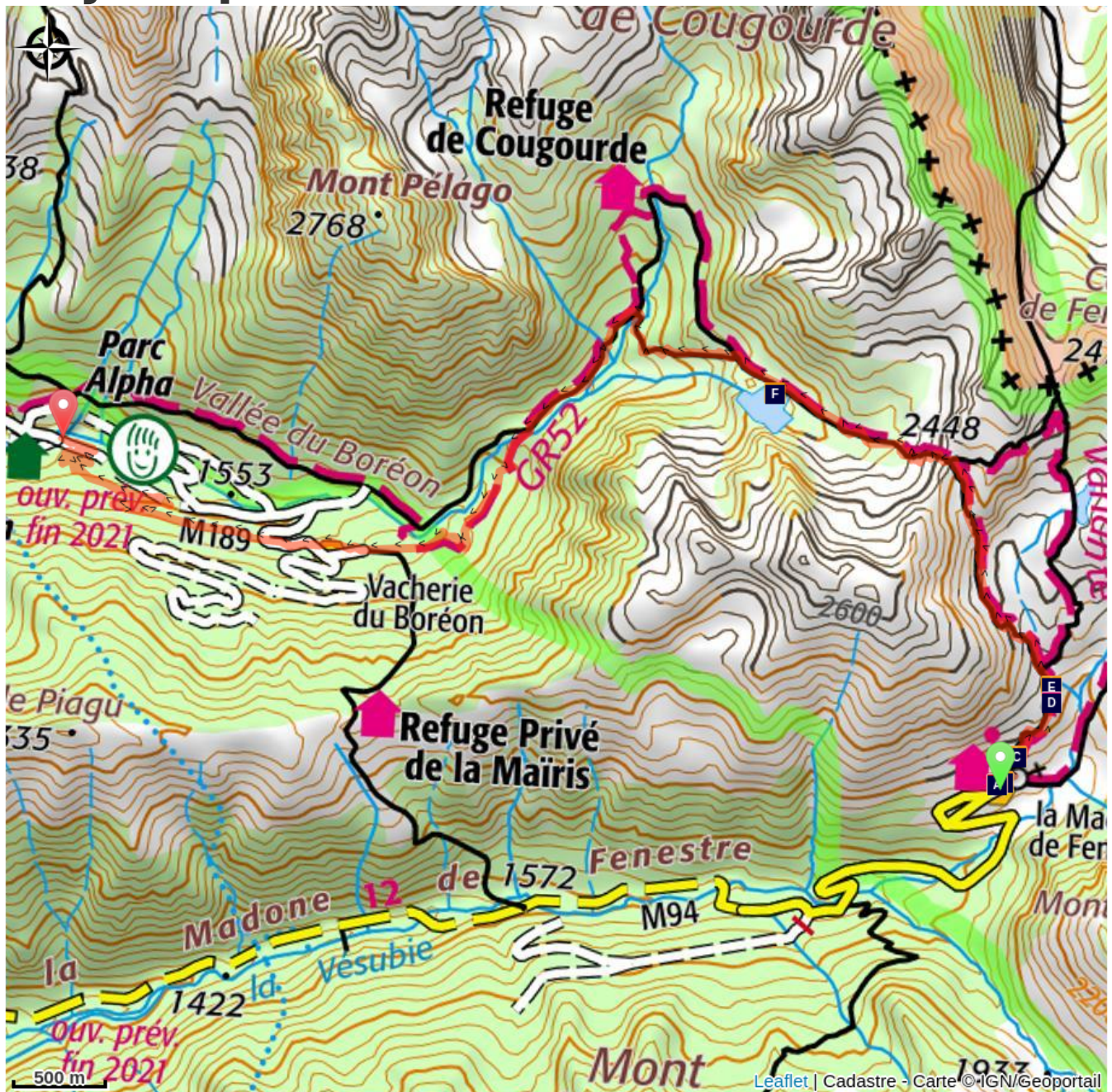
Altimetric profile









Min elevation 1505 m Max elevation 2439 m

From the refuge head uphill along the GR52 path (marker 357 and marker 368) until you reach Pas des Ladres (2448m – marker 428). Go downhill along hairpin bends on the path until you reach Lac de Trécolpas (2150m). Shortly after the spillway (marker 427) take the path on the left heading downhill and you will come to marker 425 at 1936m. Follow GR52 until marker 423, cross the bridge and as you head downhill you will reach the Boréon cow barns (marker 419). Follow the small road to Boréon. Visit the Alpha centre.

On your path...



-  La Madone de Fenestre refuge (A)
-  Col de Fenestre mule track (C)
-  Terre de cour (E)
-  La Madone de Fenestre sanctuary (B)
-  The scars of erosion (D)
-  Mountain climbing in the Mercantour (F)

All useful information

Is in the midst of the park

The national park is an unrestricted natural area but subjected to regulations which must be known by all visitors.

On your path...



La Madone de Fenestre refuge (A)

Club Alpin Français

Capacity: 62 Possibility of eating and having a shower

Warden: Mid-June to late-September + school holidays and weekends in winter

Tel. 04 93 02 83 19

Out of season upon reservation: Patrick Miraillet: 04 93 03 91 02

Online reservations: <http://chaletmadonedefenestre.ffcam.fr/>

Useful numbers:

St-Martin-Vésubie Tourism Office: 04 93 03 21 28

Park House: 04 93 03 23 15

Attribution : CAF / DR



La Madone de Fenestre sanctuary (B)

In the 8th century, a modest refuge already, providing accommodation for travellers. This sanctuary with its imposing forms was built by the Benedictines of Borgo San Dalmaso and destroyed by the Saracens in the 10th century. The Templars restored it in the 13th century shortly after the Virgin Mary appeared at the Grand Caire window. Subsequently, the sanctuary was devastated by fire several times and then rebuilt. Today it belongs to the diocese of Nice.

Attribution : LEBOUTEILLER Eric



Col de Fenestre mule track (C)

This track has been used for a thousand years and was regularly maintained to allow mules transporting salt to pass with ease. The technique used to make and maintain these tracks involved self-locking stones. Identically sized slabs were arranged vertically in close lines. Fine materials were then used to hold it all in place. Gutters provided a run-off area for rainwater.

Attribution : LOMBART Guy



The scars of erosion (D)

When they converge, runoff streams of water leave the ground bare, breaking a fragile equilibrium. In addition, footfall due to tourism damages the ground and raises the question of preservation of natural environments. Plant cover has to be maintained as it protects the ground from erosion and guarantees its stability. Restoration work has been carried out to guide and direct the hundreds of hikers who love these wild areas.

Attribution : GUIGO Franck



Terre de cour (E)

The black rock marks one of the borders of the Terre de Cour, formerly a domain of the Count of Provence, before it was returned to the House of Savoy in the 14th century. Two inscriptions on the black rock provide a reminder of the past: "B" for Belvédère, "SM" for Saint-Martin-Vésubie. Terre de Cour was located exclusively in these two communes but they have to share the ancient rights to pasture and wood with Lantosque and Roquebillière.

Attribution : RICHAUD Philippe



Mountain climbing in the Mercantour (F)

At the start of the 20th century, for the first mountain climbers, the Mercantour was a taste of adventure. Little by little, the summits of the chain were conquered, initially via the normal routes and then, with the arrival of modern mountain climbing, along the most difficult routes. From Victor de Cessole to Patrick Bérhault, the greatest names have been involved in climbing in the Mercantour. Today, whether they are snowy, icy or rocky, the reputation of certain routes is well established.

Attribution : GUIGO Franck