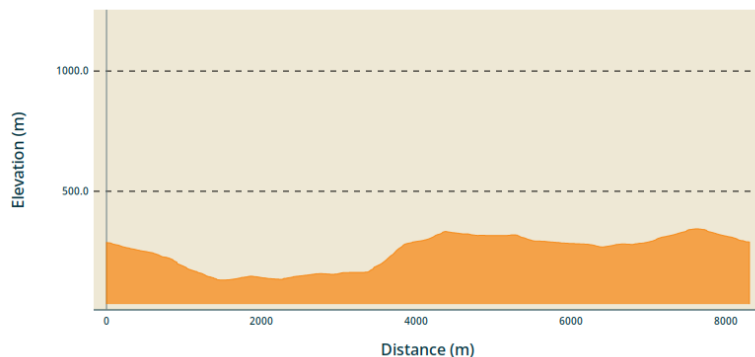


Sampzon: around the Rock

Gorges de l'Ardèche

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 131 m Max elevation 344 m

Useful information

Practice : Hike

Duration : 2 h 30

Length : 8.3 km

Trek ascent : 300 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Loop

Themes : Fauna - Flora, Geology, Summit and viewpoints

Trek

Departure : Hiking information board in the car park at the foot of the Rocher de Sampzon

Arrival : Hiking information board in the car park at the foot of the Rocher de Sampzon

Markings :  PR

Cities : 1. SAMPZON

Start at the Info Rando sign in the Rocher de Sampzon car park (below the orientation tables). Leave the car park, cross the road and take a dirt track (follow the  markings). This track, which overlooks the terraces of former olive groves, leads to a path that winds its way down.

1. At the "La Bastide" signpost, follow the sign for "Sampzon 3.8 km": Head up the road and, at the first junction, leave the road and turn right onto a tarmac track that descends and crosses the Vallier stream. Continue along a track suitable for vehicles
2. At the signpost marked 'L'Aiguille', follow the sign for 'Le Pérérol 2.8 km – Sampzon 4.5 km' to the right. The path leads into the woodland, then, near the cirque, comes to an abrupt end. Continue along a footpath. At the next junction, a path on the right leads to the Aiguille and back (500 m). Return to the path, which climbs steeply.
3. At the 'Bertras' signpost, follow the signs for 'Le Pérérol 1.2 km – Sampzon 2.9 km'. Carry straight on along a wide, carriageable track, following the signposts.
4. At the signpost marked 'Les Agrenasses', follow the sign for 'Le Pérérol 0.3 km – Sampzon 2 km' (the second path on the right). Continue to follow the signposts
5. At the "Le Pérérol" signpost, follow the sign for "Sampzon 1.7 km" straight ahead and rejoin the marked route. After 200 m, leave the track and take a path on the right which offers a superb view of the River Ardèche. The path rejoins the track.
6. At the "Richard" signpost, follow the sign for "Sampzon 0.9 km" and continue along the path, more or less straight ahead. *Please note, there's a short detour you shouldn't miss: in the 'Serre de la Cour' neighbourhood, take a path to the right and then to the left to reach the Belou fountain. This communal well served the entire population of the upper part of Sampzon, for whom the cisterns were insufficient during periods of drought.* Return to the road and head uphill.
7. Au poteau "Sampzon", suivre "Info Rando 0.1 km"
Take the road on the right up to the top of the Rock. Head back down the same way and, after the two bends

following the junction towards the church on the left, carry on straight ahead to return to the car park where you started (you can take a short detour to the orientation boards on the left).



! Advices

Follow the signposted paths. The southern Ardèche is home to an exceptional and fragile ecosystem: help to protect it by staying on the paths, taking your rubbish away with you and closing any gates behind you.

Before setting off, make sure you have a good pair of walking shoes, take enough water and something to eat, check the weather forecast and let a friend or family member know if you're hiking alone.

Emergency services: 112

Gear

Clothing suitable for walking and the weather. A water bottle or hydration pack.

How to come ?

Access

From the D579 between Ruoms and Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, cross the bridge over the Ardèche and follow the D161, which climbs up to the foot of the rock. Take the Route de la Bastide below the church to reach the car park.

Advised parking

130 Route de la Bastide (below the church)

Environmental sensitive areas

Along your trek, you will go through sensitive areas related to the presence of a specific species or environment. In these areas, an appropriate behaviour allows to contribute to their preservation. For detailed information, specific forms are accessible for each area.

Natura2000 Natura 2000 Marais des Agusas, montagnes de la Serre et d'Uzège

Sensitivity period:



Information desks

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