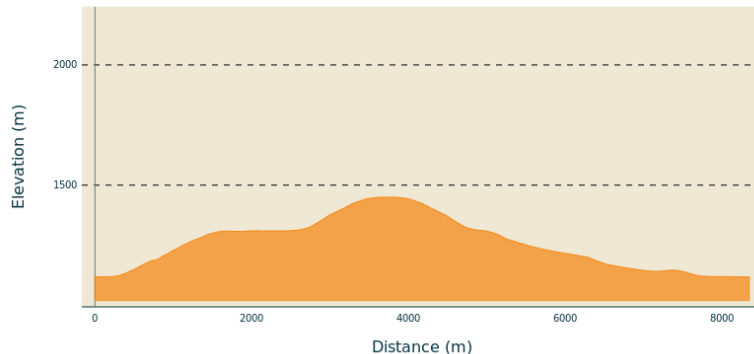


# Chemin du partage (Water Divide Path)

Montagne d'Ardèche - USCLADES-ET-RIEUTORD

## Altimetric profile



Min elevation 1118 m    Max elevation 1450 m

## Useful information

Practice : Hike

Duration : 3 h 30

Length : 8.3 km

Trek ascent : 339 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Loop

Themes : Fauna - Flora, Géologie, Sommet et points de vue

## Trek

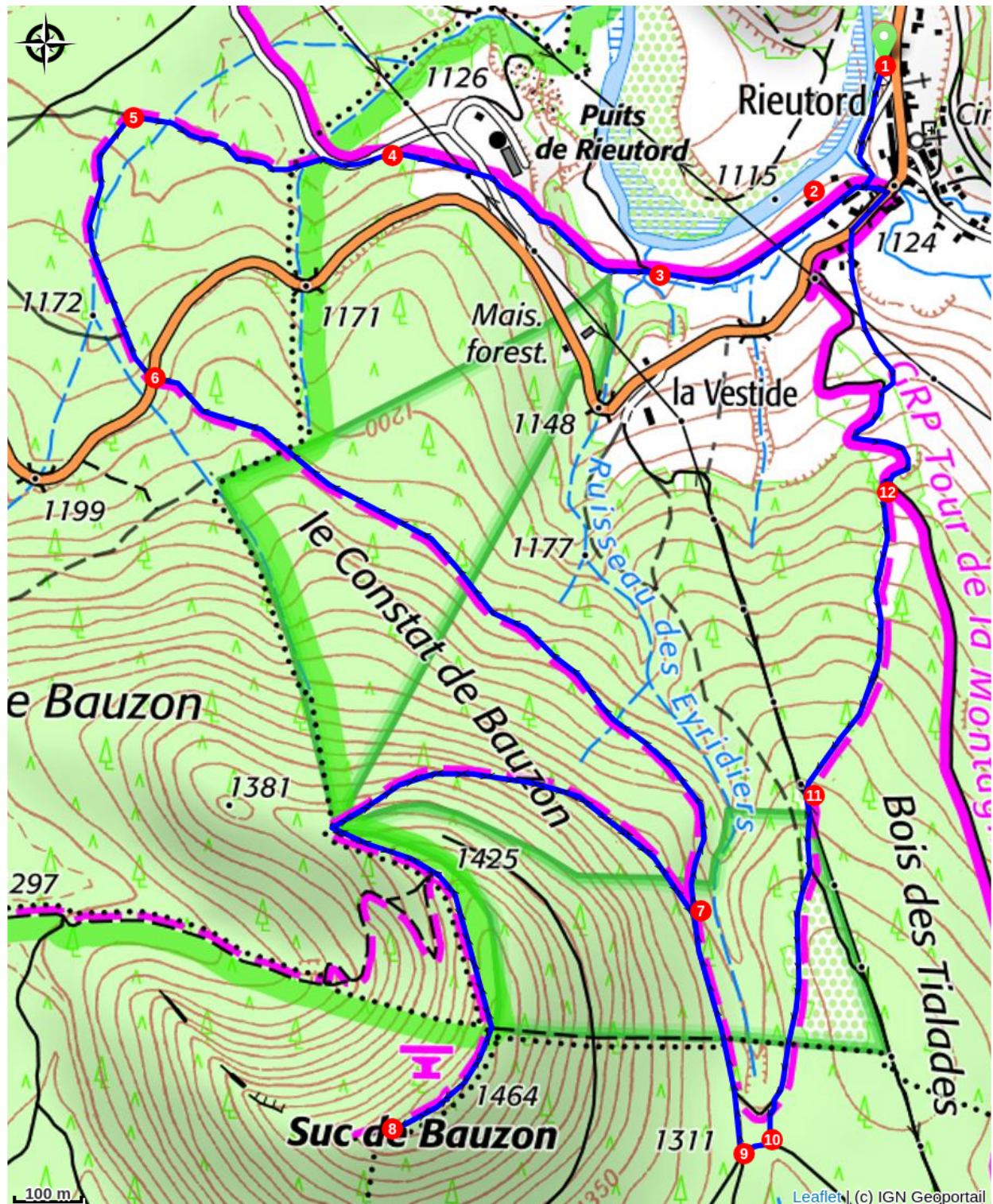
**Departure** : Booth "Sentier du Partage" with an information board about the hike, in Rieutord

**Arrival** : Abri «Sentier du partage», parking Rieutord

Cities : 1. USCLADES-ET-RIEUTORD 2. MONTPEZAT-SOUS-BAUZON 3. CROS-DE-GEORAND 4. SAINT-CIRGUES-EN-MONTAGNE

1. Take the path on the right of the shed. After about 150 m, cross the footbridge. You will reach a road.
2. Follow it on the right. The tarmac disappears and it becomes a track following the road above it. (Red and yellow GR (long-distance path) de pays markings).
3. After 400 m, the track splits up (board n°13: 100 m sous Terre). Take the narrow path on the left into the beech woods. After the woods, pass two gates that lead you to a secondary road. Take the goat track in front of you, under the beech tree.
4. On coming to another secondary road, follow it on your right for 50 m, then turn left at the pole marking (place called Cornillon) in the direction of "Rieutord, Suc de Bauzon, 3.3 km".
5. When the path splits up, take the larger one (yellow and white markings). After 500 m in the undergrowth, you will reach a road under big fir trees.
6. Take the path going steeply uphill in front of you and follow it, straight ahead, into the forest. When you come to board n°9 (la forêt sinistre), you will see a very big beech tree overlooking the path. Continue on this path, past board n° 11 (la forêt enchanteresse).
7. After 200 m, turn right on the path making a hairpin bend to reach the summit (40 mn for the return trip).
8. At the top, you will find a beautiful clearing (landscaping trees felling in the forest) and an interpretive board explaining the peculiar situation of this summit, shared by several villages. (accord au sommet,

- board n° 10). Back to the crossways (step 7) that took you to the summit, take the path on your right up to a large forest crossways.
9. Turn left on the GR7 (direction Rieutord, 1.6 km). Crash course in geography : a board explains the "ligne de partage des eaux".
  10. Follow the GR7 on the grassy track on your left. It continues straight ahead under the trees and leads to a large clearing. Go down along the power line towards the little summits in the distance.
  11. The track turns right under the power line and leads to an art installation, a throne made of volcanic stones (n°5 le roi des forêts). Continue on this path that goes downhill rather steeply up to the interpretive board n°4 (2 villages, 1 commune).
  12. At the pole marker, take the path that goes down to the village (on the left)... follow the road for 400 m, back to the narrow path underneath the road that will lead you to the parking lot.



### **Advices**

Privilégiez une progression dans le sens inverse des aiguilles d'une montre (comme ici décrit). La balade sera alors plus facile.

### **How to come ?**

#### **Access**

From Sainte-Eulalie, take the road D116 along the Loire River. At the intersection with the road D536, take the direction of Rieutord.

#### **Advised parking**

À l'entrée de Rieutord, parking à droite en venant de Sainte-Eulalie (au pied du relais électrique).