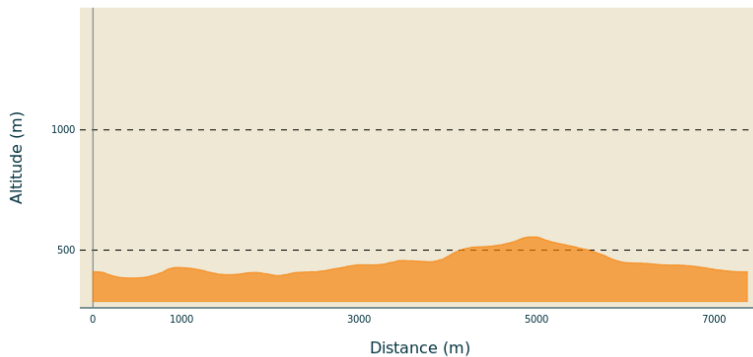


# Jaujac crater and its basalt flow

Ardèche des Sources et Volcans - JAUJAC

## Altimetric profile



Min elevation 384 m Max elevation 555 m

## Useful information

Practice : Hike

Duration : 3 h

Length : 7.4 km

Trek ascent : 220 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Loop

Themes : Géologie, Patrimoine bâti, Lac - Rivière - Cascade

## Trek

**Departure** : Jaujac, at the village square

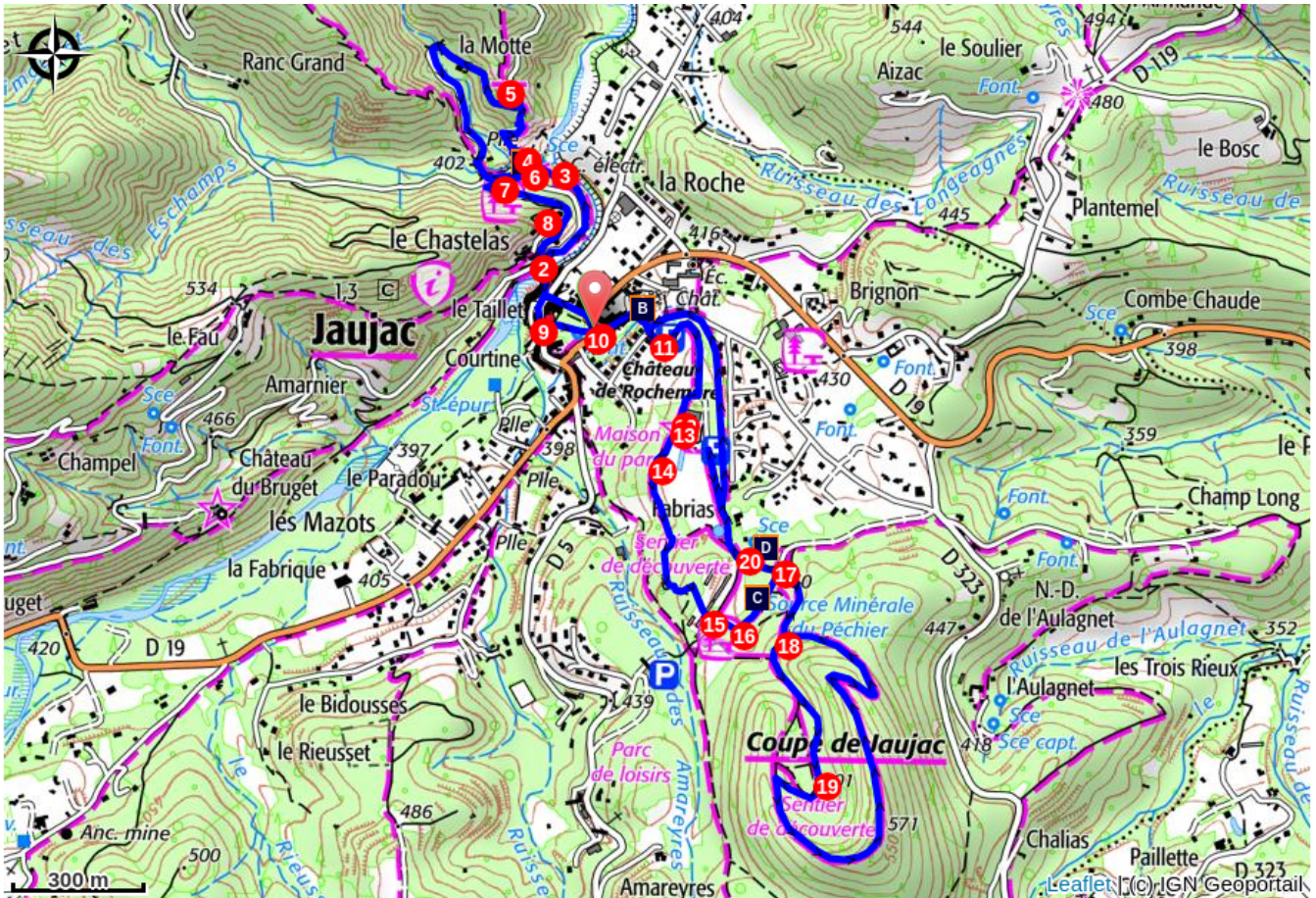
Cities : 1. JAUJAC

1. 1st part: the old village and the basalt flow. Take the rue de la Paillette (direction "le Chastelas, les coulées basaltiques, pont romain") and go down it up to Saint-Bonnet square. There, go downhill on your right towards le Chastelas. Cross the bridge, then turn right towards "les coulées, pont romain" above the river.
2. At the crossways, go downhill on your right. You will find a Geo totem pole in the old mill.
3. Once on the beach called "de la Turbine", go for a dip or continue on your left along the columns.
4. Cross the Roman bridge and start climbing in front of you (follow the trail markings). Just before this climb, if the brook has dried off, go out of your way, 20 m on your left, to see our tiny Chaussée des Géants (Giant's Causeway) in the brook's bed: you will be walking on the flow's prisms.
5. Once on the road, you will reach an interpretive board above it. Retrace your steps and start going downhill on the road. Continue up to the second bridge, then turn left for 100 m up to the belvedere.
6. Enjoy the view and the interpretive boards, then retrace your steps for 50 m.
7. Turn left on the cul-de-sac "chemin du Chastelas" that goes up to the village. Follow the tarmacked path leading to a belvedere.
8. Take the stairs just behind you to reach a second belvedere at the base of the Chastelas' ruined keep. Then go back down to the first belvedere and turn right. After 50 m, take the stairs going down on the left (green markings, trail Chaussée des Géants) Follow the markings in the village up to the Chastelas

bridge that you will cross again. Once on Saint-Bonnet square, carry on up to the fountain then take rue de la Molle.

9. At the *Office du Tourisme*, turn left. You are back on the village square and the first part of the walk ends here.
10. 2nd part : The climb up the volcano and the interpretive path called "la coulée vive". Take the rue du Tribble in front of you. At the church, turn right to reach the Rochemure estate.
11. Go up to the castle and skirt it on the right.
12. Take the stairs on your left and go to the scale model and the estate map. You are now on "la coulée vive, curious path of the Monts d'Ardèche. It will take you to the Jaujac volcano through 12 interpretive facilities. Follow the red markings and the numbers on them.
13. The path starts at the building in front of you, former farm shed that almost became a bottling factory at the beginning of the 20th century. Carry on through the garden then towards the pond and the small house on your right, la Clède.
14. Head past it and take the path along the meadow. You will reach a cluster of trees. Still follow the red markings.
15. At the belvedere, enjoy the view on the chipped crater's rim then retrace your steps for a few meters and take the straight path going down.
16. At the crossways, turn left and carry on following the red markings. At the crossways, take the path on the right towards the chesnut trees. Continue along the water catchment perimeter up to the Peschier spring below the path.
17. Go back on the path for a few meters and turn right to start the climb up the volcano. Go up the second path on your right.
18. At the crossways, carry on straight ahead. At the next crossways, you will be able to choose either to continue straight ahead towards the crater, or to turn right to walk around it on its rim. This further loop will take up 30 minutes more, with a steep climb at the beginning, but offers beautiful sights on the Ardèche Cévennes.
19. Once you reach the centre of the crater, retrace your steps and start going downhill, still following the red markings, or go around the crater. At the bottom of the forest, take the path straight ahead along the water catchment zone. Marking number 20 offers a stop at the Mare aux Libellules, or dragonflies pond

(return trip). Then continue back to the Park's house. There, take the track back to the Champ de Mars square, your starting point.



### ! **AdVICES**

L'itinéraire décrit un huit et propose de démarrer par la coulée pour ensuite grimper au volcan via le sentier d'interprétation de la coulée vive. Il est évidemment possible de faire l'inverse ou de ne réaliser qu'une seule partie de la boucle. Attention, la balade ne présente aucune difficulté particulière sauf l'ascension du volcan qui nécessite d'être bien chaussé.

### **How to come ?**

#### **Access**

From Aubenas, take the road N102 up to Lalevade d'Ardèche, then turn left on the road D19 up to Jaujac. From the East or North, take the road D5 after Neyrac from the main road.

#### **Advised parking**

A l'entrée du village et dans le village (école, poste), nombreux parkings