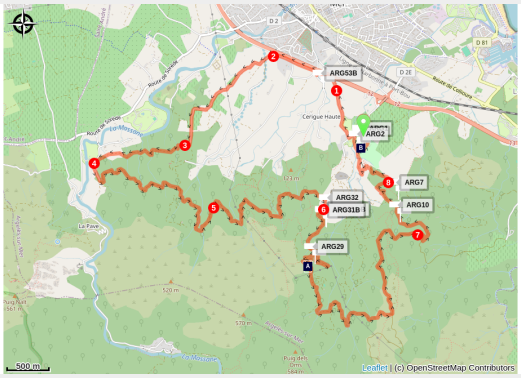
The way of cork (VTT)

Albères





For the most sportsmen (Red color signs « VTT » (mountain bike) n°4)

This path will please you with its landscapes. You'll cross paths of vineyards and cork oaks and finally a technical descent in the undergrowth

Useful information

Practice : Mountain Bike

Duration : 2 h 30

Length : 20.1 km

Trek ascent : 738 m

Difficulty : Hard

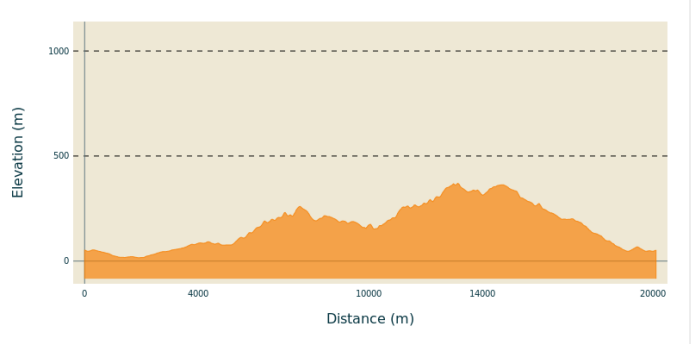
Type : Boucle

Themes : Flora, Point de vue

Trek

Departure : Valmy carpark (base VTT)
Arrival : Valmy carpark (base VTT)
Cities : 1. ARGELES SUR MER

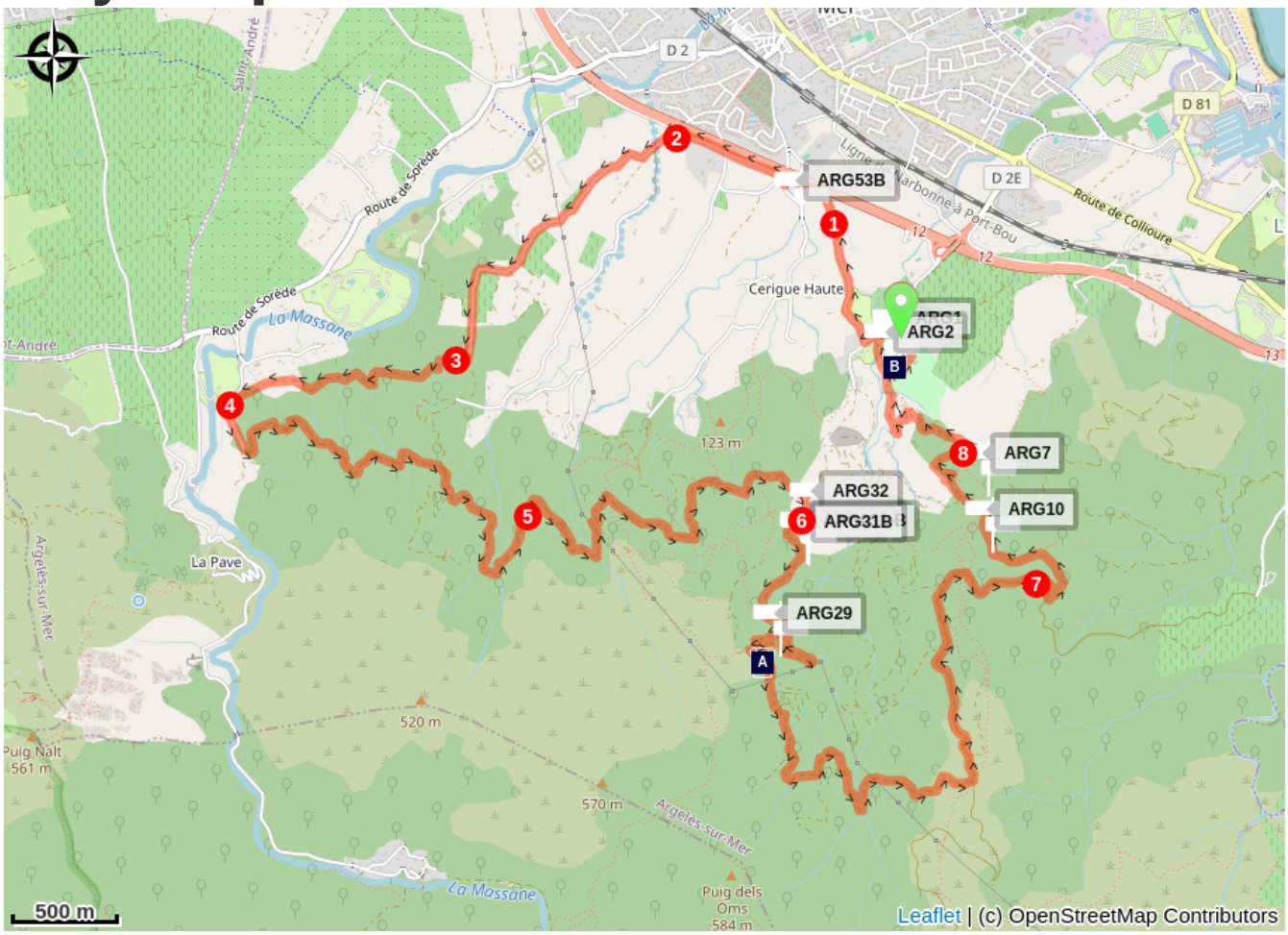
Altimetric profile



Min elevation 16 m Max elevation 370 m

1. Go down toward the campsite « Les Mimosas » to take the route de la Massane on the right. The fast lane is on the rignt, after 150m**.** Be careful **.** Don’t turn under the bridge.
2. At the next crossing on the left take the road Notre-Dame de Vie et du Faba . This little road crosses the vineyards and serves small and large farmhouses. It offers an exceptional view of « le Massif des Albères” from where we can cleary see the Ermitage Notre-Dame de Vie and Saint Julien Chapel.
3. Take the path DFCI n°36 which climbs slightly, then cross the forest of cork oaks and the meadows of Mas Torrenaps.
4. At the intersection, leave the rancho campsite on your right and turn left onto the paved road. Be careful, for a few meters it’s a very hard steep slope. Then take the path on the left**,** ~~the path~~ DFCI n°28 to climb progressivly in the massif.
5. Several plateaus in the massif allow you to catch your breath and enjoy an exceptional pânorama of the Canigou and the whole plain of Roussillon. Stay on the DFCI path in the shadow of the oak forest .
6. At the level of the tank n°372, go up towards the St-Laurent Chapel then pass in front of the ruins of Mas Sant Llorenç. Continue towards the Mas d'en Calet d'Amunt, Pacareu, Piquemal and finaly the de l'Ours to reach the basin. Start the descent on the DFCI -AL path n°41. Caution in this area, control your speed.
7. Don’t miss the milestone showing the descent to the Mas d'en Jordi (massive portal). From this point, the descent become technical, gullied and crossed by several hiking trails . Be careful !!
8. While crossing the undergrowth , you will come out on the path DFCI AL n°42. Take a left on the path to join the base of VTT mountain bike of Valmy

On your path...



Stèle of airmen (A)

Château de Valmy (B)

All useful information

⚠ Advices

Follow the red color signs « VTT » (mountain bike) n°4

How to come ?

Transports

Bus à 1€

Access

D 914, sortie 12, Château de Valmy

Advised parking

Valmy carpark (base VTT)

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.

Zone Natura 2000 Directive Habitat

Sensitivity period:

Zone Natura 2000 Directive Oiseaux



Zone Natura 2000 Directive Oiseaux

Sensitivity period:

Zone Natura 2000 Directive oiseaux

On your path...



Stèle of airmen (A)

This place of memory pays tribute to the airmen who disappeared in the plane crash of June 6, 1957. That day, at dawn, a banal exercise mission ended in drama when the plane hit the flank of the mountain. With the shock the plane caught fire, burning the mountain “l’ Albèra” at the same time. Six men perished in the flames. The restoration of this monument in June 2017 prevents this place to being forgotten and to continue to live in collective memory.

Attribution : Stephane Ferrer



Château de Valmy (B)

An amazing space leaning against the Albères, embracing the vineyards and the Mediterranean: welcome to the Château de Valmy. Art Nouveau style, it is the work of the Danish architect Viggo Petersen. It is Pierre Bardou, a Peruvian industrialist creator of the brand JOB, who controls this castle for his daughter Jeanne from 1888 to 1900. His descendants are still owners of the castle. They relaunched the wine business and created guest rooms at the Château. Go check it out !

Attribution : CCACVI