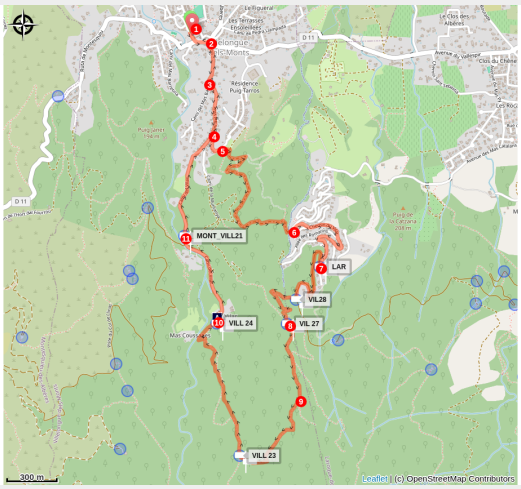
The Santa-Maria-del-Vilar Priory through the Mas Catalan

Albères



Prieuré Santa Maria del Vilar (OTI)



The discovery of a village in the Albères and its priory nestled in the massif. A brief detour through the peaceful district of the Mas Catalan in Laroque-des-Albères, overlooking the plain.

This dynamic route allows you to discover the village of Villelongue dels Monts, the Mas Catalans of Laroque nestled in the mountains, and after a forest stroll, to admire the Santa Maria del Vilar Priory.

Useful information

Practice : Hiking

Duration : 3 h 30

Length : 8.5 km

Trek ascent : 481 m

Difficulty : Medium

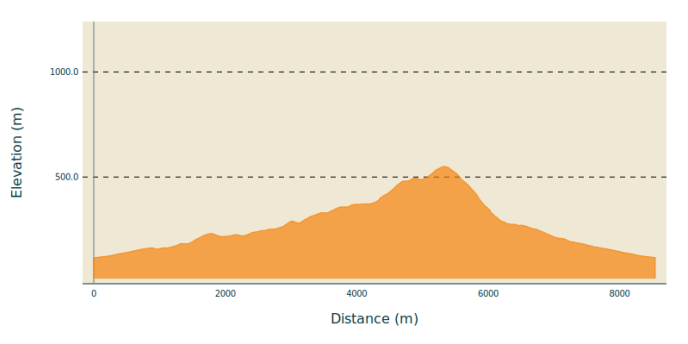
Type : Boucle

Themes : Histoire, Montagne, Patrimoine

Trek

Departure : The festivities area of Villelongue-dels-Monts
Arrival : The festivities area of Villelongue-dels-Monts
Cities : 1. VILLELONGUE DELS MONTS 2. LAROQUE DES ALBERES

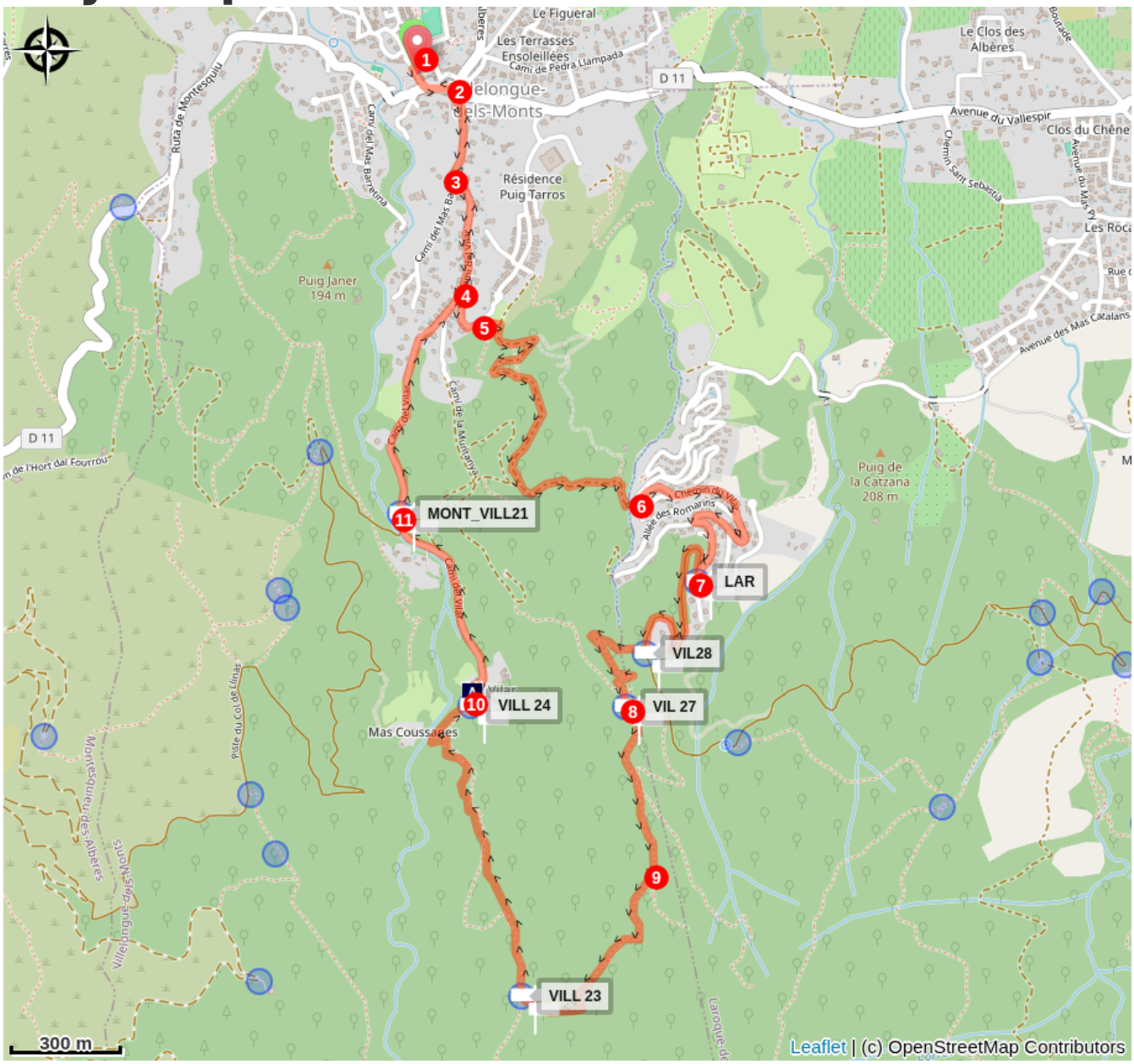
Altimetric profile



Min elevation 116 m Max elevation 550 m

1. Starting from the festivities area, head left, then straight ahead, passing in front of the church.
2. At the end of the street, turn left and continue straight on Cami del Vilar.
3. Keep left on Cami del Vilar.
4. Turn left onto the paved path that goes downhill.
5. Take the dirt track in front. The path ascends towards the Catalan farmhouses of Laroque-des-Albères.
6. Arrive at the Mas Catalans at a dirt parking area with a cistern and a spring, then take the street that goes uphill (Chemin du Vilar) and follow it to the end.
7. Turn left onto the dirt track that climbs into the Albères massif.
8. You will reach a flat trail at a crossroads of tracks; take the one on the left following the yellow markings, heading towards Prieuré Santa Maria del Vilar.
9. Continue to follow the markings. Do not go left. There is a fairly steep descent into the forest.
10. Upon reaching the priory, you can visit it (only in the afternoons).
11. Afterward, descend on Cami del Vilar back to the village center.

On your path...



Priory Santa Maria del Vilar (A)

All useful information

⚠ Advices

Bring water, a hat or cap, and a windbreaker. Check the weather before departure. Respect nature and carry out your waste.

How to come ?

Transports

Find all the €2 bus lines

Access

D618, D61a, D11

Advised parking

The town hall parking.

On your path...



Priory Santa Maria del Vilar (A)

Nestled in the heart of Albères, priory Santa Maria del Vilar crosses the ages. Founded in 1083, monks transformed the building from the Carolingian era into a hospitable pilgrim for Compostela and added a church. In 1802, the place changes completely function since it is sold to a farmer who transforms the church into a stable. Abandoned in 1942, it disappears gradually under the vegetation but has now been restored and hosts opera concerts.

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