

The Ossau Valley

LEV
1 CIRCUIT N° 15 - Heritage

Les mines de Baburet (Les Eschartès)



This loop takes you back to the time when iron ore was mined in Eschartès, a neighbourhood of the Louvie-Soubiron municipality located 6 hours' walk from the village!

A journey full of fascinating information about the history of this mine, which was shut down in 1962.

D Cross the bridge in front of the church in Ferrières. On the left bank of the Gave l'Ouzom, you are already in the Eschartès area, in the town of Louvie-Soubiron. Turn left onto the road that climbs to the Eschartès cemetery and then to the place called "Panorama du chêne". Enjoy the view.

0h15 **1** 722692 E - 4765463 N Take the path on the left and then at the next hairpin turn right and climb to a new heritage information sign dedicated to the miners. At the nearby signpost, walk up the left-hand side of the grassy path to the "Galerie Royale 685".

0h35 **2** 722662 E - 4765723 N Go back down the same path and then take the path on the left. After a barn, take a short diversion to the second gallery, known as the "La poudrière". Continue along the path for about 100 metres.

0h50 **3** 722792 E - 4765723 N At the signpost, go down to the right and back on a fairly steep path that leads to Gallery 620. Once you have come back up, take the path to the right. It gradually descends to a small road.

1h15 **4** 723204 E - 4766017 N Turn right and walk down the road back to the village. Stop at the last Gallery (556) before returning to the starting point.





D Village of Ferrières (between Arthez Asson and the Col du Solor), on the church square.

1h30

2,9km

190m

GPS WGS 84 UTM 30T
722945 E - 4765595 N

Yellow markers

★ Don't miss:

- The entrances to the mine galleries are all marked with information panels.



The mines

The circuit is dotted with panels devoted to the iron mines and the themes associated with them: the miners, the forests, the galleries (closed to the public but you can look at the entrance), their former uses and...their current habitat (they are home to colonies of bats) or the railway line which enabled the ore to be transported to the station at Coarraze-Nay.

Take the time to read through these extremely informative panels! They will help you to understand how this small area developed around a deposit that was mined out over 50 years ago.

Information :

Laruns/Artouste Tourist Information Office : +33 (0)5 59 05 31 41
Eaux-Bonnes/Gourette Tourist Information Office : +33 (0)5 59 05 33 08
Arudy Tourist Information Office : +33 (0)5 59 05 77 11



Made by:

Communauté de Communes de la Vallée d'Ossau
1 avenue des Pyrénées - 64260 Arudy : +33 (0)5 59 05 66 77



Choose your hike

For each route, you will find technical and practical information to help you choose your hike

Levels of difficulty

The hikes are classified by order of difficulty defined by a colour code following the recommendations of the French Hiking Federation:



Very easy, less than 2 hours walking. Ideal for families, on well-marked tracks.



Easy, less than 3 hours walking. Suitable for families, on tracks with sometimes more difficult passages.



Difficult, less than 4 hours walking. For hikers used to walking, with some quite intense sections or steep slopes.



Very difficult, more than 4 hours of walking. For experienced and fit hikers. The itinerary can be long and technical (strong elevation gain, tricky passages).

GPS 30T 710703O - 4776694N

GPS coordinates

D Start



Walking time, given in hours. This estimated time takes into account the length of the hike, the elevation gain and the possible difficulties.



Elevation gain, expressed in metres. For each circuit, the value corresponds to the cumulative elevation gain.



Distance, the value expressed in kilometres corresponds to the total length of the route.

Markers

Direction	Local routes and PR®	GRP®	GR®
Right way			
Turn left			
Turn right			
Wrong way			



GR®, GRP® and PR® are registered trademarks of the French Hiking Federation. Some routes have been selected by the French Hiking Federation according to quality criteria. They are PR® certified.

Recommendations

Before you leave

Check your equipment, the difficulty of the circuit and the weather conditions

If you are going alone, communicate your itinerary to friends and family

See the map of controlled fires

In the mountains / pastoral areas

Follow the marked paths and close gates after passing through

Respect nature and bring waste back

If accompanied by a dog, make sure that it is allowed on the chosen route and keep it on a lead

During the hunting season, avoid hunting areas or turn back

Go around herds and do not approach farm dogs (do not feed them or pet them)

National Park

The heart of the National Park is a natural territory and is open to all, but is subject to a code of conduct. Dogs are not allowed, even on a lead. No fires, no mountain bikes, no wild camping, only bivouacs are allowed - a small tent can be set up for the night from 7 pm and taken down in the morning before 9 am. It must be set up more than an hour's walk from any motorised access.

European emergency call : 112