

The Ossau Valley

LEV
3

CIRCUIT N° 25

Le Pic d'Escurets



There are very few hikes that are as accessible as this one and offer such beautiful panoramic views at the top. The 360° view from here is breathtaking, from the Basque Country to the farthest reaches of the Bigorre region, including Pau, Lourdes and as far as the Spanish border.

Some say that on a clear day you can even see the ocean!

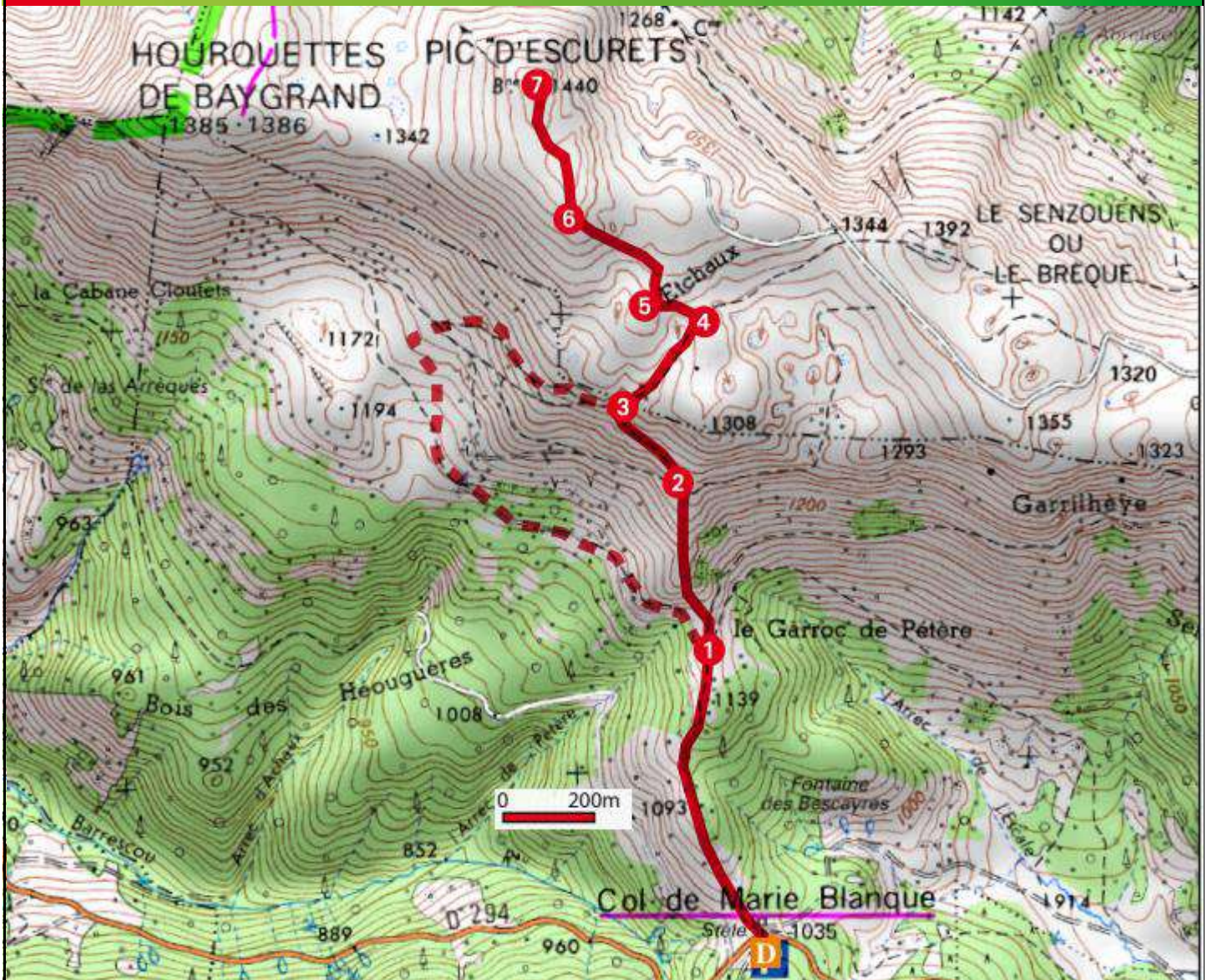
D

Take the path to the right of the stele. Walk straight up and then take the track on the left.

- 0h15 ① 702748E - 4772327N Turn right off the track and follow a path up a hillside.
- 0h35 ② 702743E - 4772639N After a short steep passage, turn left and follow the path along the hill.
- 0h45 ③ 702585E - 4772788N At a low pass, turn right up a valley below rocks on either side.
- 0h55 ④ 702753E - 4773004N Go left at the top of the valley, cross and then go over a small ridge.
- 1h00 ⑤ 702657E - 4773038N Climb to the right and then to the left towards the summit.
- 1h15 ⑥ 702462E - 4773278N At the lower peak, head down to the left and then climb up between rocks to reach the summit you can see on the right.
- 1h30 ⑦ 702386E - 4773496 N From the summit, take the same path down to the Col de Marie Blanche. In good weather, from point ③, you can follow the animal path to the right to reach a small plateau dotted with hawthorns. From there, turn left.

and follow the track from a water trough to the Col de Marie Blanche (about 1.6km dotted on the map and not physically marked).





D Col de Marie Blanche

GPS WGS 84 UTM 30T
702940 E - 4771644 N

3h / 3h30

5km / 6,6km

380m

Don't miss:

- The panoramic

Note:

- Do not attempt this route in foggy weather

Yellow markers

Geodesists

Because of its geographical location, on the edge of the mountain range, the Pic des Escurets was used in the 19th century as a geodetic point during the campaign to map the Pyrenees. The geodesists, French military officers in charge of carrying out topographic surveys, built metal pyramids on these "flagship" peaks from which they made triangulations that enabled cartographers to draw the new official national maps. The most famous of them, Peytier and Hossard, gave their names to the high peaks they climbed, such as Palas and Balaitous, performing true mountaineering feats.

Information :

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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:

- NIV 1** Very easy, less than 2 hours walking. Ideal for families, on well-marked tracks.
- NIV 2** Easy, less than 3 hours walking. Suitable for families, on tracks with sometimes more difficult passages.
- NIV 3** Difficult, less than 4 hours walking. For hikers used to walking, with some quite intense sections or steep slopes.
- NIV 4** 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).

 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