



Red route N°9 - Le Pré des Saix



Course characteristics: Hiking

Distance: 18.5 km / Uphill climb: 840 m / Downhill climb: 840 m / Min. altitude: 1599 m

Max altitude: 2109 m / Time (according to speed): 5h / Signposting: yes.



Route description:

From the Grandes Platières cable car departure station (Flaine forum), follow signs for «les Grands Vans». At «Balacha» (Flaine Forêt), head for the “Col de Pierre Carrée”. At the col, follow signs for “Vernant”. At the Vernant car park, follow signs for “l’Airon”. As you leave the woods, enjoy a beautiful view of the Aravis mountains and the Arve valley. The path winds through dwarf willows (the forest's way of adapting to the harsh weather conditions and avalanches). Before reaching the chalet at l'Airon, you will cross the marshy bottom of the depression that was covered with ice during the last ice age (Little Ice Age = Middle Ages). From the Lac de l'Airon, take the forest road up to the Pointe de Cupoire, from where you can look out over Les Carroz d'Arâches and the Arve valley. From the summit, follow signs for “Tête du Pré des Saix”, where stunning panoramic views await you at altitudes of 2,114 metres. From the Tête du Pré des Saix (Bérard cross), go back down to the Col de Vernant and then the Lac de Vernant. Once you reach the Vernant car park, go back to Flaine the same way you came.

Viewpoints to discover:

From the Lac de l'Airon, there is beautiful view of Pointe Percée (2,752 metres), the highest point in the Aravis range, which rises like an immense wall above the river Arve (2,200 metres). From the Croix de Bérard (Tête des Saix), enjoy beautiful views of the surrounding mountains.

Guidelines :

Remember:

- Check the weather forecast just before you set off.
- Tell someone close to you where you are going and when you should be back.
- Find out if the route is in good condition and its difficulty level.

Advice:

- Respect the environment; please take your rubbish with you.
- Follow the marked routes; do not take private trails.
- **Emergency numbers: 112.**

Circuit du Pré des Saix (n°9 Flaine)

18.5 km 840 m 840 m

Rando



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> 10% > 20% > 30%

