

The Ossau Valley

LEV
2

La fontaine d'Esteret



Walking up to the fountain is a great way to gain height and to enjoy a splendid view of the village of Gère, the valley, the Vulture Cliff and the Pic de Ger. In spring, the path is like a garden, with a succession of pink geraniums, bellflowers and blue flowers.

D Leave the square and walk up to the top of the village.

0h10 I 709463 E - 4766866 N Take the road on the right, going up. 100 metres further on, turn left onto a path that starts in the grass. It winds its way up above the village to the Esteret fountain.

1h00 2 708747 E - 4766773 N On the left, go down among the hazel trees. The path joins a pastoral track.

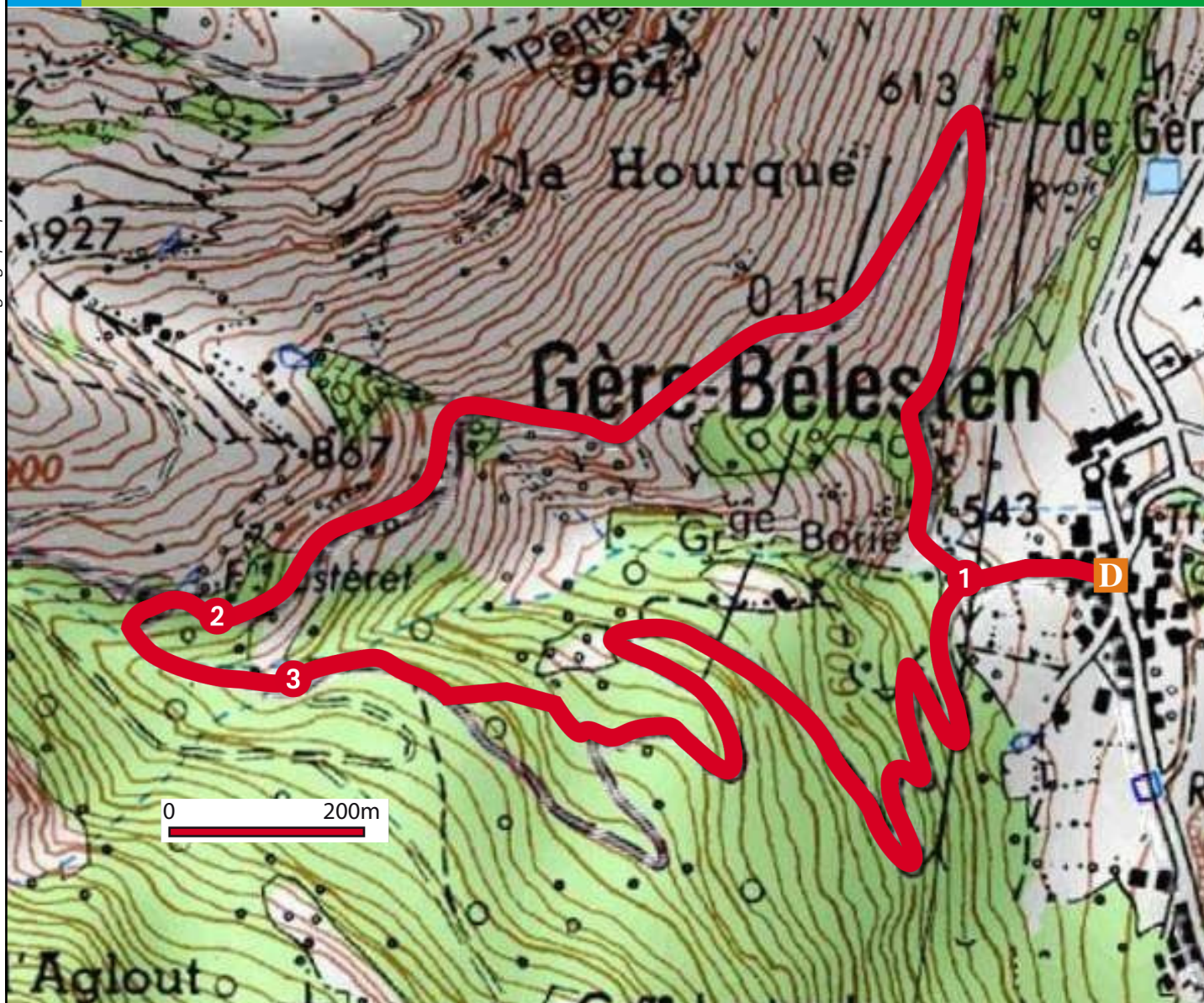


Gère village house

1h05 3 708859 E - 4766699 N Take the track on the left, heading down, before leaving it 150m further down for a nice paved path that cuts across the zig-zags (on wet days, avoid this very slippery passage and continue on the track). Back on the track, continue down to the village and the starting point.



Green lizard



D Village of Gère, on the square above the church.

GPS WGS 84 UTM 30T
709668E - 4766833N

→ 2h

3,8km

310m

★ Don't miss:

- The view over the valley.
- The flowers from May to July as you climb up.

⚠ Note:

- Avoid taking the paved path that cuts through the trail during and after rainy days.

Yellow markers

Vultures

Three species are present in the Pyrenees; they are the garbage collectors of our mountains. The orange and black bearded vulture is the largest bird of prey in Europe, with a wingspan of almost three metres. It feeds on bones, after its cousins the "fauves" vultures have passed over a carcass. The "Percnoptère" Egyptian vulture is like a mountain gull with its white and black plumage. It returns to the Pyrenees to lay eggs and raise its young after a winter in Africa. All three nest on the sunny cliffs of the valley. The Béon Vulture Cliff is home to the largest colony of griffon vultures in France.



Made by:

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Information :

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www.valleedossau.com

All outdoor sports activities are available on the Vallée d'Ossau Pyrénées mobile app...
and on the website terredaventures.valleedossau.com

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).

GPS Coordinates

GPS 30T 710703O - 4776694N

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

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