

The Ossau Valley

LEV
3

National Park



La cabane de Chérue

Nestled at the foot of the Pic de Chérue, the hut of the same name is the ideal little refuge that looks like something from a watercolour of a mountain. Topping off this dreamy setting, are the isards and marmots frolicking through flowery pastures, under the the majestic flight of griffon vultures. You will love it!



D Turn right just after the dam. Go to the end of the car park and head right into the forest. Climb steeply following the winding path.

1h20 | **711226 E - 4750203 N** Cross the stream and keep following the track

1h40 | **2 711383 E - 4749865 N** At the end of the forest, follow the track that climbs to the left.

1h55 | **3 711405 E - 4749731 N** Walk past a small rocky spur, the hut is in sight.

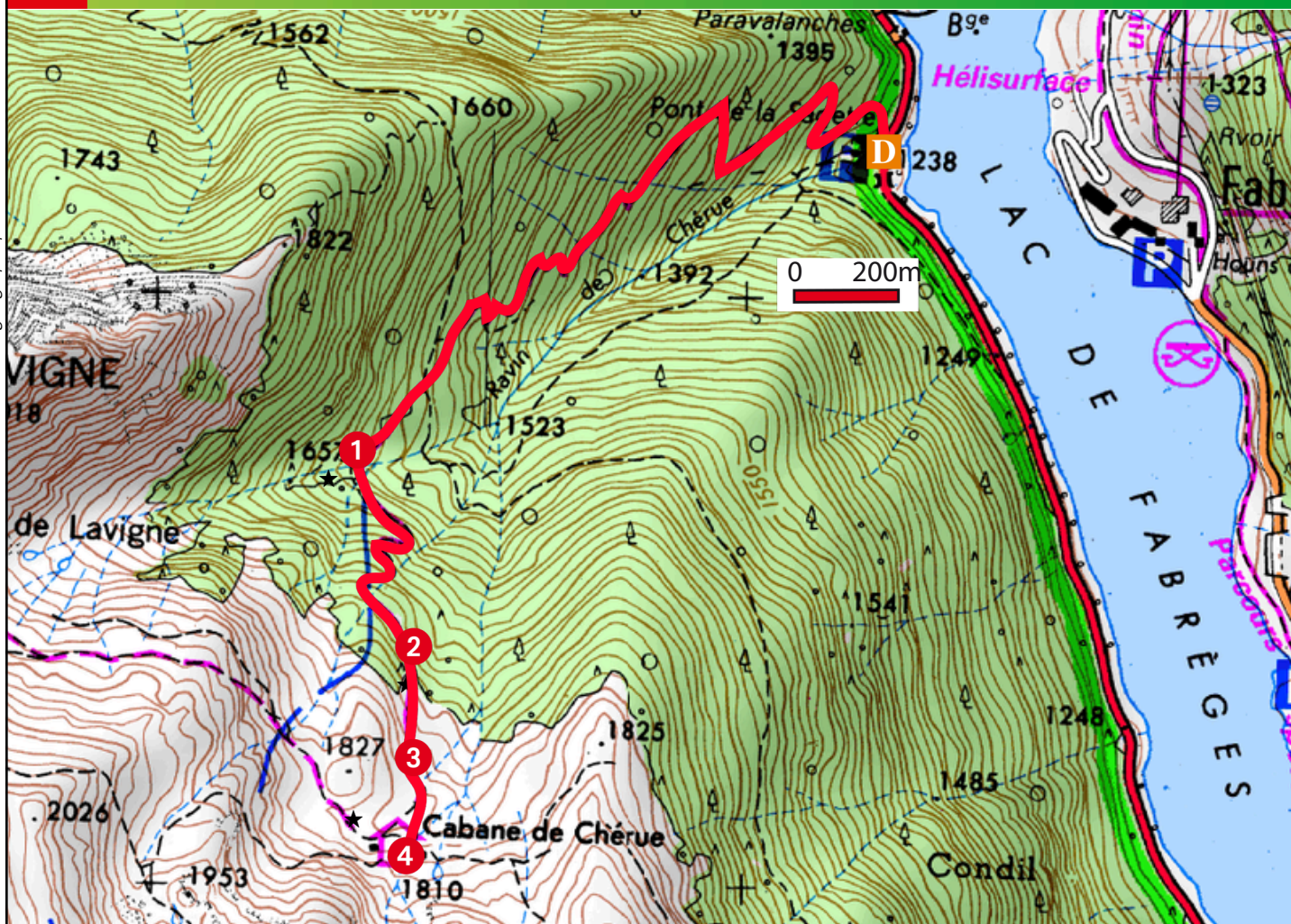
2h00 | **4 711310 E - 4749631 N** From the hut, go back down the same track.



Colchium



Chérue's cottage (refuge).



D D 934 - Parking on the right above the Fabrèges dam.

GPS WGS 84 UTM 30T
712121 E - 4750839 N

→ 3h

5,6km

560m

**Signs on yellow background
(no trail markers)**

★ Don't miss:

- Watching isards and marmots.
- The endemic flora of the Pyrenees (blue irises in July).
- Climbing the Pic de Chérue for experienced mountaineers

⚠ Note:

- National park, special regulations.
- Do not leave rubbish in the hut.
- The hut is occupied by shepherds in summer.

The Isard

During the Ice Age, a prehistoric chamois inhabited Europe.

As the glaciers retreated, the population was split in two, resulting in the chamois in the Alps and the isard in the Pyrenees and Cantabrian Mountains.

This ungulate, a cousin of the gazelle, is emblematic of Pyrenean heritage, and is wonderfully equipped for life at altitude.

Hollow hairs for maximum insulation, a slow pulse for running, hooves hard on the outside like ski edges, soft on the inside like climbing shoes, allow them to do great acrobatics on the snow, rocks and the steepest grassy slopes.



Made by:

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Information :

Ossau Valley Tourist Office, Pyrenees - Headquarters in Laruns - +33 (0)5 59 05 31 41
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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The Pyrenees National Park

The central area of the National Park is a natural territory, open to all, subject to regulations. The Pyrenees National Park, a territory with an exceptional heritage, has the mission of protecting nature and landscapes, ensuring biological diversity, and raising public awareness of behaviors that respect nature. Discover this extraordinary place that we must all respect and protect.



Dogs are not allowed, even on a leash.



Camping and overnight parking of motorhomes is not permitted in order to preserve the beauty of the sites and prevent pollution. Regulated camping is permitted more than an hour's walk from the park boundaries or road access, between 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m.



Dogs are not allowed, even on a leash.



Mountain biking is prohibited outside of authorized trails: cross-country ski trails in Brousset (Ossau Valley) and Somport (Aspe Valley).



No noise or disturbances to ensure peace and quiet for everyone.



Bring rubbish bags with you to take your waste away.



The use of 4x4 vehicles and motocross riding are prohibited.



Do not light fires, to prevent fires and damage to the ground.



There are no weapons here; all animals are protected.



Do not collect or gather. Animals, plants, minerals and fossils belong to the landscape.



Unpowered flight regulated to preserve the tranquility of wildlife.

These regulations apply to the 'central zone' of the national park. In the Ossau valley, it covers 8,000 hectares, located exclusively in the municipality of Laruns, between Gabas and the French-Spanish border.

Maison du parc national

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