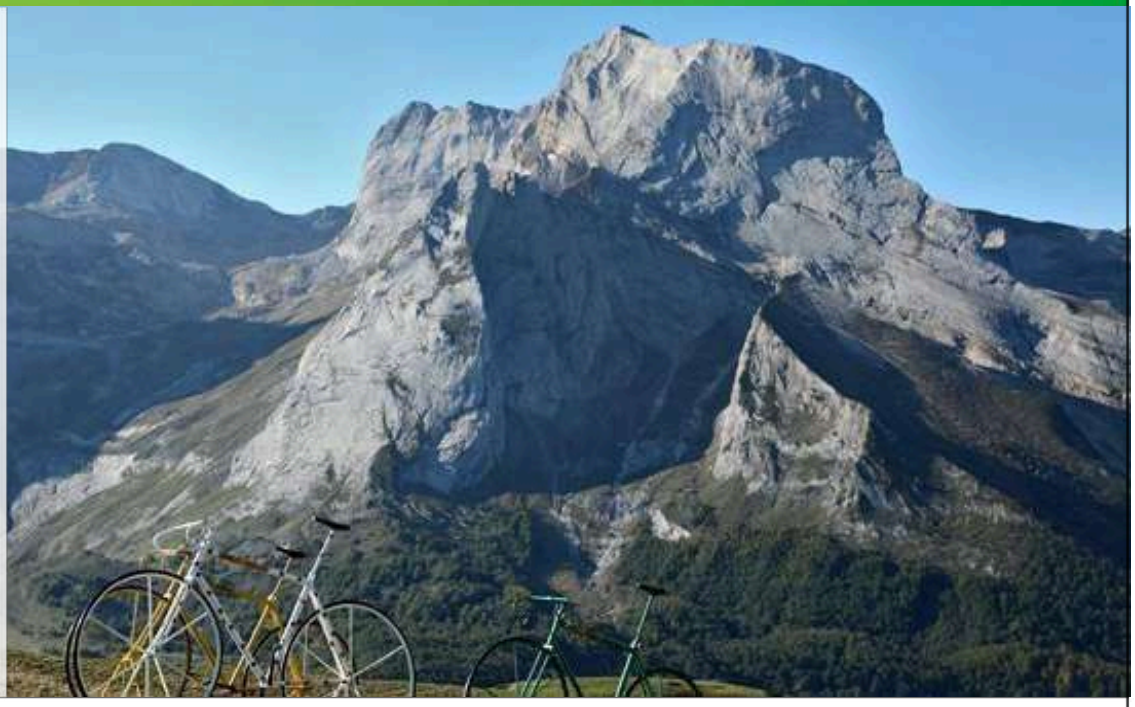
The Ossau Valley

NIV 4

GRP® Tour de laVallée d'Ossau

Col d'Aubisque / Gourette / Eaux-Bonnes

This stage, which runs from the Col d'Aubisque to Gourette and finishes at Eaux-Bonnes, links three key locations in the valley's tourism development. The setting is magnificent, dominated by the Pic de Ger massif.



D From the car park, take the track on the right just before heading down towards Soulor. Below the radio relay station, turn right onto a path running along the hillside. Reach the ridge and follow it, keeping to the right. Pass the Casteix Pass and continue along the ridge.

0h30 1 ***71791 E - 4760694 N*** Turn left, leaving the ridge to follow a path that runs along the hillside.

1h00 2 ***718660 E - 4760549 N*** At the Arbaze Pass, head down into a valley. When you reach a flat stretch, head down to the right.

1h20 3 ***719202 E - 4760473 N*** On the right, take the path that leads uphill. Go over a ridge, go downhill, then turn right. Join the GR®10 and head uphill..

2h00 4 ***718765 E - 4759777 N*** At the Tortes Pass, head down the path.

2h30 5 ***718049 E - 4759898 N*** On the left, take the flat path. Then head downhill along the winding path.

2h40 6 ***717881 E - 4759719 N*** Prendre la piste à droite puis descendre en lacets jusqu'à un grand parking. Descendre la rue à droite puis au deuxième virage, la quitter à gauche. À hauteur de la maison de Gourette, head back up towards the ski area, crossing Place Sarrière. Take the track that passes in front of 'La boule de neige'. Climb for about 700 metres.

3h20 7 ***716844 E - 4759687 N*** At the first hairpin bend, turn right then left, and climb to the top of the Bois Noir. Head downhill and, when you reach a pond, turn right onto the ski run, which you leave again 100 metres further on. Follow the path uphill to the right until you reach another ski run, near the mountain restaurant.

4h20 8 ***716980 E - 4758837 N*** Turn right and walk over the retention basin. Then head up towards the mast. Walk 200 metres along the track.

4h30 9 ***716392 E - 4759091 N*** On the right, take a path that heads off across the slope. Cross an avalanche couloir and follow the path to the Bouy plateau, which you go round to the left, keeping at the same level.

5h00 10 ***715355 E - 4759347 N*** At the pass, head down into the woods. Join a track and follow it downhill. On the road, continue downhill to the Darralde Garden in the centre of Eaux-Bonnes.

A ***712655 E - 4761063 N*** Arrival in Eaux-Bonnes.

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Extrait de Carte 1 :25 000 Institut géographique National

D Aubisque Pass

GPS *WGS 84 UTM 30T*

716927 E - 4761635 N

6h30

15,6km

620m

Yellow and red markers

Don't miss:

- The views from the three passes.
- Bouy's hut.

Note:

- Do not follow this route in fog.
- Set off with an IGN Top 25 map of the area

The history of skiing in Gourette

It began in 1903 when a 22-year-old man from Pau discovered the existence of skiing through the adventure story of the explorer Nansen, who crossed Greenland on skis in 1888. He then ordered his first pair of skis and went to try them out with a friend on the Benou plateau and then in Gourette. Henri Sallenave and Louis Falisse were hooked and inspired others to follow suit. Thanks to these two intrepid men from Béarn, the history of winter sports in the Pyrenees began. In the 1930s, tarmac arrived in Gourette and hotels were built, but it was not until the 1960s that the sport became a major economic force. 'White gold' would lead to the development, with varying degrees of success, of the infrastructure we know today.

Made by:
Communauté de Communes de la Vallée d'Ossau
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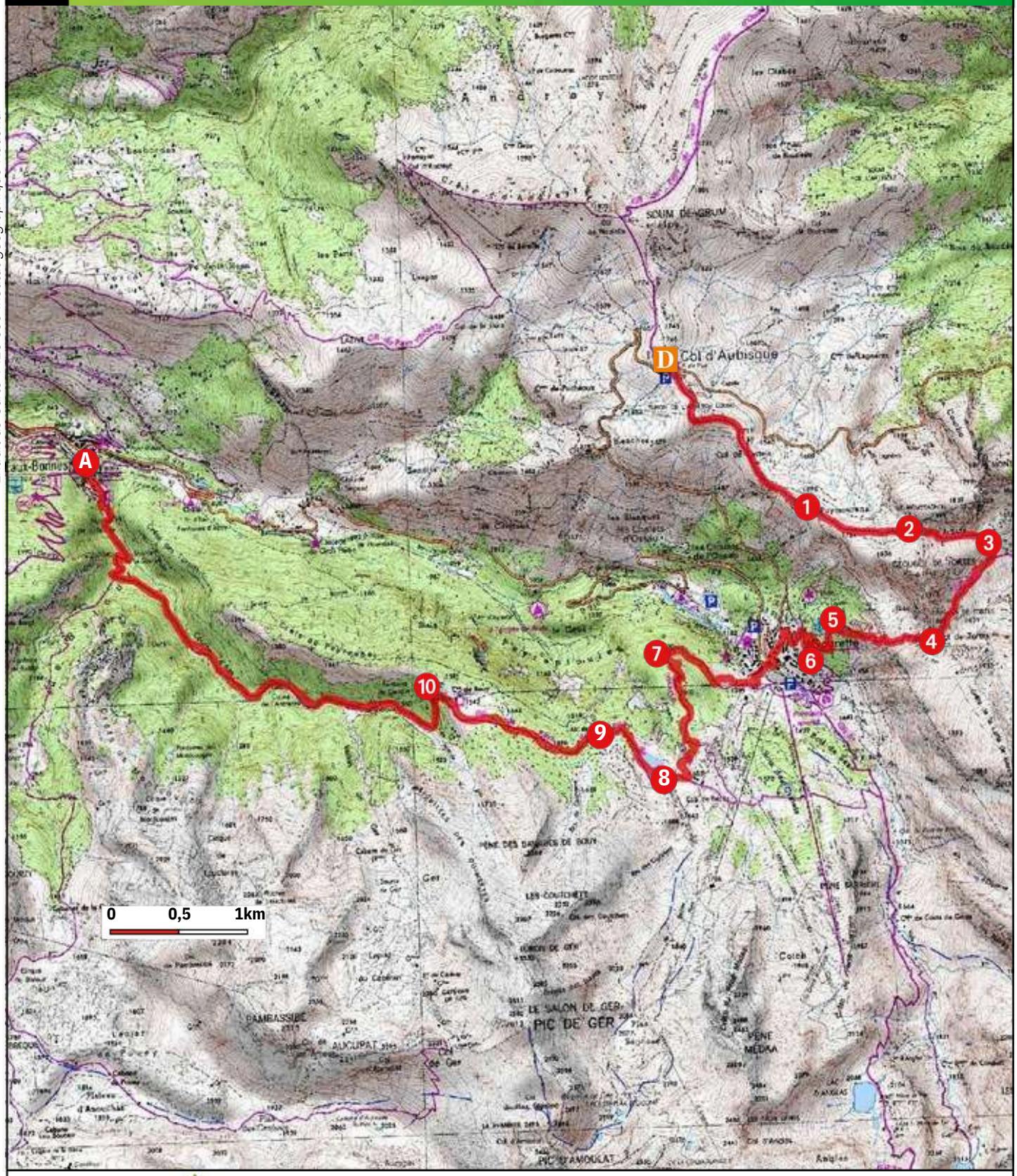
Information :
Ossau Valley Tourist Office, Pyrenees - Headquarters in Laruns - +33 (0)5 59 05 31 41
www.valleedossau.com

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

NIV
4

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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).

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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