

# Circuit of the Lac de Faux

Sud Creuse – Aubusson – lac de Vassivière – Faux-la-Montagne



Lac de Faux (Le Lac de Vassivière)



*Landscapes of moors, grasslands and wetlands have given way to 45 hectares of water for electricity production.*

Come and discover this dam built between 1947 and 1951. Its elegant form, where the simplicity, refinement and minimalism of the construction are sufficient to fulfil the functions assigned to them, has lines which are still fully in harmony with the landscape. There are only two examples of this work of art in Europe.

## Useful information

Practice : Pedestrian

Duration : 2 h

Length : 6.2 km

Trek ascent : 85 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Loop

Themes : Heritage site and architecture, Lakes and rivers

Accessibility : VTT

# Trek

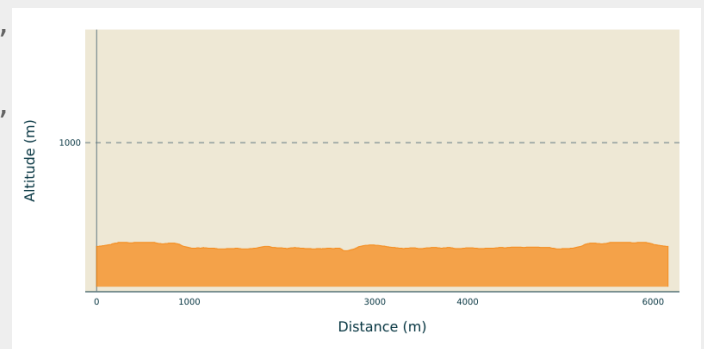
**Departure** : Square in front of the church, Faux-la-Montagne

**Arrival** : The square in front of the church, Faux-la-Montagne

**Markings** : — Yellow markers

**Cities** : 1. Faux-la-Montagne

## Altimetric profile



Min elevation 700 m Max elevation 723 m

1. From the Place de Faux-la-Montagne, opposite the 12th-century church, with the covered laundry on the right below, follow the road to Gentioux (D992) for 300 m until you reach the fountain at the edge of the village.
2. Take the "Chemin de la Fontaine-Pouilleuse" on the left of the fountain, leave the ascending path on the left and carry on to the Traluamont crossroads near Lake Faux.
3. Turn left onto the path that runs alongside the lake in a hardwood forest. About 700 m further on, go up the path on the left: it leads away from the lake and reaches a crossroads.
4. Go down to the right on the trail, until you reach a clearing with lots of broom and find the shore of the lake.
5. At the intersection, go down to the right behind the Dorat dam. This multi-arch dam is of a type rare in France. Go back up then continue to the right on the trail beside the lake until you reach a path under the trees. Turn right and take it, cross the bridge over the La Maulde River and continue until you reach a crossroads.
6. Continue straight ahead until you reach a new intersection.
7. Turn right and take the path that goes down through the undergrowth towards the lake. Go along it until you reach the D992.
8. Follow the D992 on the right (in the direction of Faux-la-Montagne), cross the dam (viewpoint on both sides) and fork right just after it to find the trail to follow.
9. Then turn left to reach Faux-la-Montagne.



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# On your path...



 The laundries of Faux-la-Montagne (A)

 Faux-la-Montagne (B)

 The church of Faux-la-Montagne (C)

 The arched dam (D)



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# All useful information

## How to come ?

### Transports

Public transport >> [www.aubusson-felletin-tourisme.com](http://www.aubusson-felletin-tourisme.com)

### Access

35 km from Felletin, take the D992.

### Advised parking

Square in front of the church, Faux-la-Montagne

## Accessibility

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VTT

## Information desks

### Bureau d'information de Felletin

Place Quinault, 23500 Felletin

[tourisme.aubusson@gmail.com](mailto:tourisme.aubusson@gmail.com)

Tel : 05 55 66 32 12

<http://www.aubusson-felletin-tourisme.com>

### Bureau d'information du Lac de Vassivière

[tourisme@lелacdevassiviere.com](mailto:tourisme@lелacdevassiviere.com)

Tel : 05 55 64 75 11

<http://www.lелacdevassiviere.com>



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# On your path...

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## The laundries of Faux-la-Montagne (A)

Appearing in the 19th century through concern for public health and personal hygiene, public laundries were sociable places in villages, reserved for women, who gathered there out of common need and where everyone had their place. The men only came to maintain them, thus avoiding the jibes of the women doing the washing, who had the reputation of having very sharp tongues. Covered laundries were still frequently used until the 1950s.

Attribution : OT Aubusson Felletin Tourisme

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## Faux-la-Montagne (B)

Faux-la-Montagne owes its name to its high altitude (more than 700 m above sea level) on the western edge of the Millevaches plateau. Although the region was not always wooded, many beech plantations (or fayards) must have existed in the Middle Ages on the outskirts of the village. Indeed "Faux", from the Latin fagus, means beech in Old French; In the 15th century, the village was called Faguo (an Occitan variation of the Latin fagus). Today, around Lake Faux, beech and oak mingle with coniferous trees, occupying what was still heathland grazed by sheep in the 19th century.

Attribution : OT Aubusson Felletin Tourisme

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## The church of Faux-la-Montagne (C)

This church, dedicated to Saint-Etienne, the first Christian martyr, was built in the 13th century and was listed as a historic monument in 1963. Its restoration in 2010 revealed its pink granite masonry, eight centuries after its construction.

Attribution : B. Biache

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## The arched dam (D)

The multi-arch dam is 8 cm thick, 16.5 m high and 130 m wide.

Attribution : Le Lac de Vassivière

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