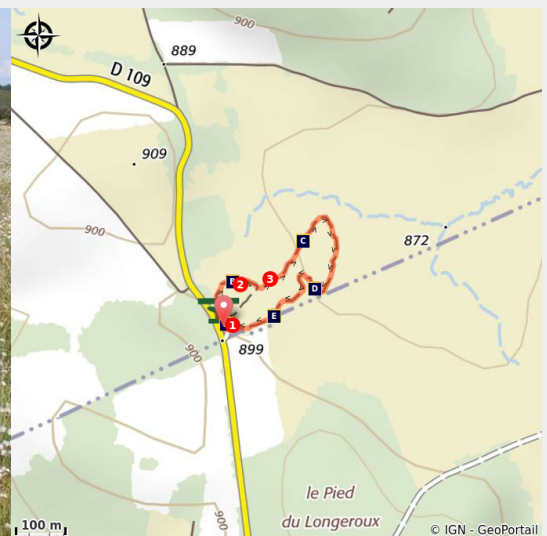


The cottongrass path

Plateau de Millevaches



Sur le sentier des linaigrettes (O.Nugueo - CC HCC)



Dive into the very heart of the bog to observe its formation, as well as its special flora and fauna.

The Longeyroux peat bog invites you to share its secrets. An interpretation trail has been built to immerse you in the heart of this very special site. With the help of the educational panels, you can learn how peat is formed as well as learning about its flora and fauna. Spend a few peaceful moments surrounded by an exceptional panoramic view of the bog and the extinct volcano cones nearby.

Useful information

Practice : Pedestrian

Duration : 30 min

Length : 0.9 km

Trek ascent : 24 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Loop

Themes : Fauna et flora, Lakes and rivers

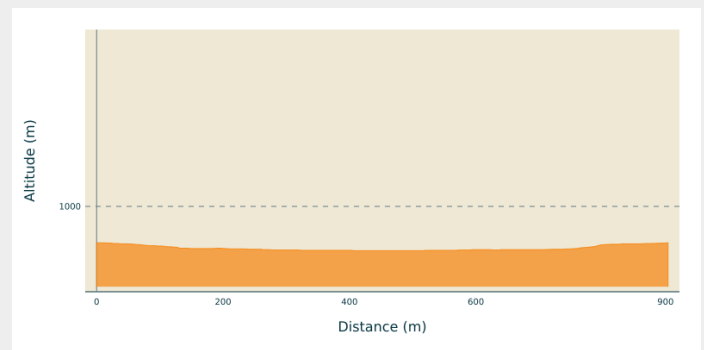
Trek

Departure : Reception area for Longeyroux, Saint-Merd-les-Oussines

Arrival : Reception area for Longeyroux, Saint-Merd-les-Oussines

Cities : 1. Saint-Merd-les-Oussines

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 877 m Max elevation 899 m

Markers: follow the carved granite stones representing the cottongrass (white flower) Leaving the reception area. Opposite the information panels, take the small path on the left located 10m further on.

1. At the landscape reading table, follow the small path to descend into the bog.
2. Take the small wooden bridge.
3. Find and follow the planked wooden path.








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On your path...



-  Panorama (A)
-  An adapted flora (C)
-  Grazing and callune (E)

-  Peat formation process (B)
-  Family peat cutting (D)



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All useful information

Advices

Waterproof shoes recommended

How to come ?

Access

From Meymac take the D 36, and then the D 979 towards Bugeat. Head towards the village of Le Celle. At the cemetery, take the road on the right towards the car park for the Longeyroux reception area

Advised parking

Reception area for Longeyroux, Saint-Merd-les-Oussines

Information desks

Bureau d'information touristique de Meymac

1 place de L'Hôtel de ville, 19250

Meymac

Tel : 05 19 60 00 30

<https://www.tourisme-hautecorreze.fr/>



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On your path...



Panorama (A)

Here you overlook the peat bogs spread out below. This place also offers you a panoramic view of the puy, or extinct volcano cones, that surround the peat bogs. On a clear day, you can admire one of the most iconic landscapes of the Millevaches plateau.

Attribution : O.Nugueo - CC HCC



Peat formation process (B)

Peat can only be formed in environments that are constantly saturated with water. They therefore need a positive water balance with inputs from multiple sources (rain, snow, fog, runoff, etc.). This balance must be equal to or greater than the losses (evaporation, transpiration, etc.). It takes about a century for between 1 and 2 centimetres of peat to form. The peat bogs of Longeyroux have a depth of 2 metres of peat.

Attribution : CC HCC



An adapted flora (C)

The development of conventional fauna and flora was complicated in peatlands. Many species adapted themselves to the constraints of this environment. For example, cottongrass, the trail's symbol, grows in ever thicker tufts, which allow it to escape from the water. The drosera feeds on small insects that it attracts to its leaves with droplets of a juice it produces.

Attribution : O.Nugueo - CC HCC



Family peat cutting (D)

Until the beginning of the last century, families on the plateau used peat as fuel to heat their homes, as the region was not very heavily wooded at the time. To do this, they dug ditches in an area of peat to drain the water from it. Then they would remove pieces of peat in the form of briquettes and let them dry. In bad weather, they put these briquettes on the fire as we would use wood today.

Attribution : O.Nugueo - CC HCC



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Grazing and callune (E)

In the past, the peat bogs were used to graze sheep; with the agricultural decline linked to the rural exodus, these areas have been abandoned. Today, the Conservatoire des Espaces Naturels du Limousin has reintroduced Limousin sheep on these plots in order to maintain the callunes. Callune is a perennial plant that measures between 20 and 50 cm in height. Despite its similarity to heather, these two plants are very different.

Attribution : O.Nugueo - CC HCC