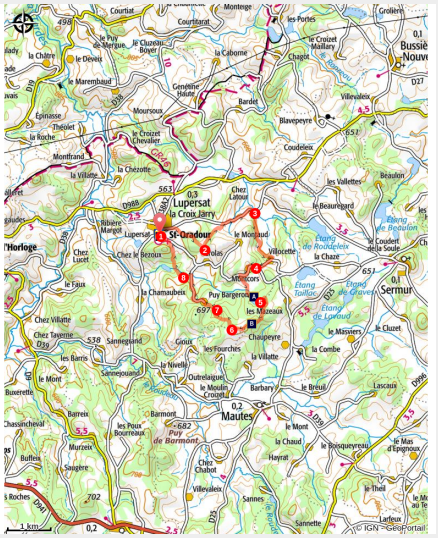
The Customs Officers' Path

Sud Creuse – Aubusson – lac de Vassivière - Lupersat

Lupersat-Eglise St Oradoux (Commune de LUPERSAT)



Part of this hike is along ridge paths with an added bonus: a view over the volcanoes of the Auvergne

Car park at Place de l’église, LupersatThis hike in the foothills of the Auvergne mountains leads you to discover the ancient routes used by salt smugglers to pass from Felletin en Creuse to the Auvergne without being seen.

Useful information

Practice : Pedestrian

Duration : 3 h 30

Length : 11.5 km

Trek ascent : 307 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Loop

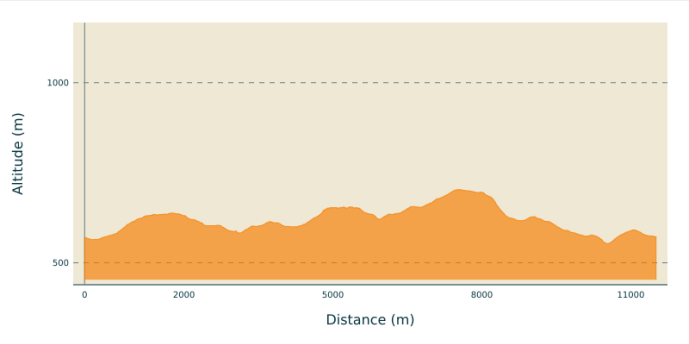
Themes : Heritage site and architecture, Lakes and rivers, Viewpoint

Accessibility : VTT

Trek

Departure : Car park at Place de l’église, Lupersat
Arrival : Car park at Place de l’église, Lupersat
Markings : Yellow markers
Cities : 1. Lupersat
2. Sermur
3. Mautes

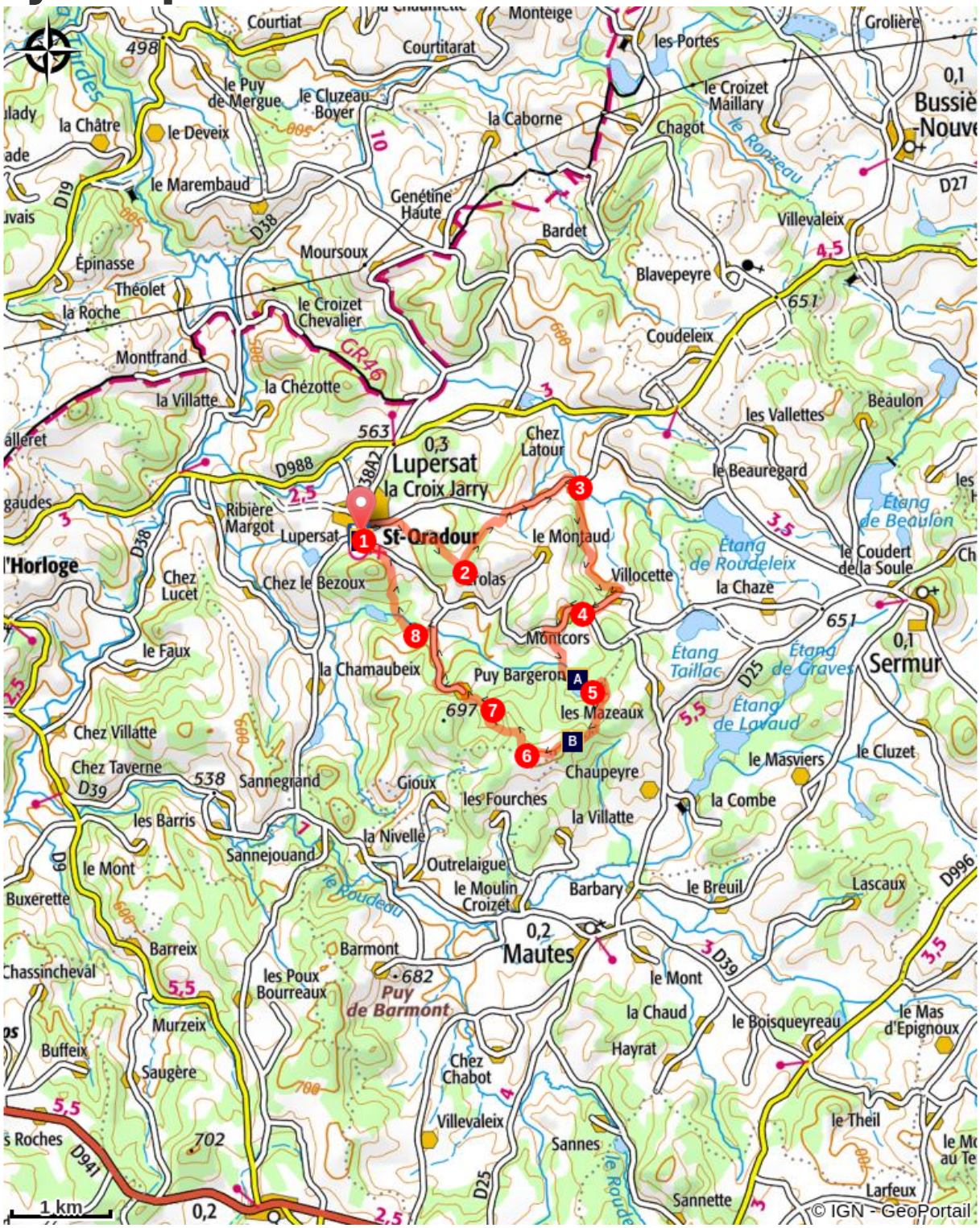
Altimetric profile



Min elevation 553 m Max elevation 703 m

1. Go down the main street and turn right onto the road to Ronnet for 450 m. At La Vierge, take and follow the path on the right for 900 m.
2. Take the path on the left. Go down the road to the left at Les Barrières, then follow the road to the right and pass Solignat.
3. Turn right onto the path that runs alongside the lake and continue until you reach Villocette. Go through the hamlet to the right and continue uphill. Take the road to the right. Leave Montcors on the right and continue by road until you reach Goumont.
4. Go past the road to Montcors on the right, enter the property on the left and immediately take the path on the right. This runs along the road first, and then goes down into the valley and up again. Go around to the left of the lake.
5. At the crossroads, turn left. Take the path to the right, then the path to the right again. At the crossroads, continue straight ahead along the path lined with low stone walls and climb the ridge, leaving the paths to the side.
6. Take the track on the right and follow it to the end. Leave the car park on the right to get onto the path.
7. Where the path branches go left. Pass between the two ponds and go up the hill to the houses in Puy-Bargeron. Continue along the road, go past Eroulletas and continue towards Erolas. At the crossroads, take the road on the left towards La Vergne.
8. After the lake, follow the path to the right. Continue straight on to Lupersat.

On your path...



Etang de Goumont (A)

Panoramic view of the volcanoes of Auvergne (B)

Church of Saint Oradoux (C)

All useful information

How to come ?

Access

From Chénérailles, head in the direction of Aubusson as far as Issoudun Létrieix. Turn left towards Champagnat, then go towards Bellegarde en Marche. In Bellegarde en Marche turn onto the D988 to Lupersat.

Advised parking

Car park at Place de l’église, Lupersat

Accessibility

VTT

Information desks

Communauté de communes Marche et Combrailles en Aquitaine
Rue de l'Etang, 23700 Auzances
Tel : 05 55 67 04 99

On your path...

Etang de Goumont (A)

Human activities have increased the presence of water in the landscape:

- ponds and lakes of all sizes were dug and developed in the Middle Ages for fish farming or water power,

- farmers created retention ponds to allow crop irrigation.

Attribution : Commune de LUPERSAT

Panoramic view of the volcanoes of Auvergne (B)

At the Puy de la Croix, the customs officers' path offers a panoramic view of the chain of volcanoes at Sancy (south) and Toulx-Sainte-Croix (north).

Attribution : Commune de LUPERSAT

Church of Saint Oradoux (C)

Despite being destroyed several times, the building has kept its original Limousin Romanesque form. Dedicated to St Oradoux, it features sculpted capitals with realistic scenes, sometimes quite crude. Note that it is fairly richly furnished (an 18th-century altarpiece including an altar, statue-reliquaries, a tabernacle and so on).

Attribution : Mathieu Tijeras - Murielle Villejoubert