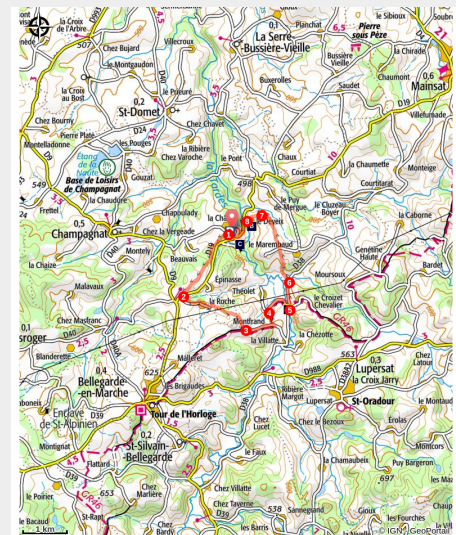


# The Path of Jean Guitten

Sud Creuse – Aubusson – lac de Vassivière – Champagnat



Champagnat- La Chapelle Jean Guitten (MCEA)



*This walk follows the paths once travelled by Jean Guitten during his holidays in Creuse, at the Château de Fournoux.*

"My youth was spent in the Château de Fournoux, my grandfather's home [...] I bought a cottage opposite Fournoux, where I find a little bliss. I think I've come full circle, crossing that slow brown river that separates my past from my present, the thoughtful "Tardes"." Jean Guitten

## Useful information

Practice : Pedestrian

Duration : 2 h 30

Length : 10.6 km

Trek ascent : 268 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Loop

Themes : Heritage site and architecture

Accessibility : VTT

# Trek

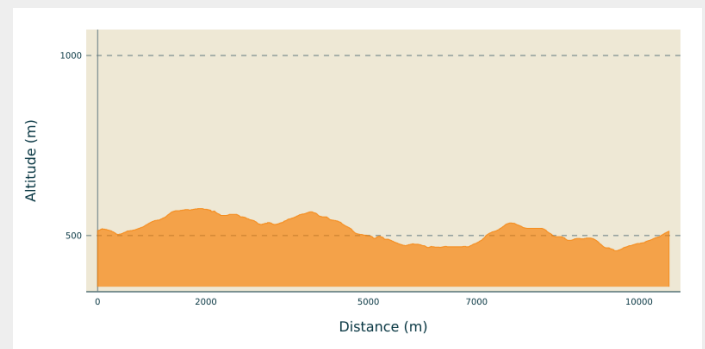
**Departure** : Hamlet of La Châtre,  
Champagnat

**Arrival** : Hamlet of La Châtre,  
Champagnat

**Markings** : — Balisage vert

**Cities** : 1. Champagnat  
2. Lupersat

## Altimetric profile



Min elevation 458 m Max elevation 575 m

1. Go up the walled road for 20 m. and take the small sunken path on the left. Continue straight on for about 2 km until you reach the D19.
2. Take the road on the left and then immediately turn right towards La Roche. Go through La Roche, keeping left, and follow the green signs to the hamlet of Montfrand.
3. Go down the road on the left (the route follows the GR 46 marked in red and white).
4. Before the village of Théolet, take a right turn after a small tarmac road for about 700 m to reach the D28.
5. Cross the bridge on the left. Leave the major road and continue on the departmental road for about 500 m.
6. Turn onto a sunken path below you to the left. Cross a stream and go straight on up. You'll reach a small asphalt road: go across it. Continue to follow the path until you reach the road.
7. Fork left towards Le Deveix, go through the hamlet and go down to the valley of the Tardes (the viewpoint overlooking the Château de Fournoux).
8. At the D19, turn left and cross the bridge. Continue for 300 m and turn right to reach the hamlet of La Châtre.

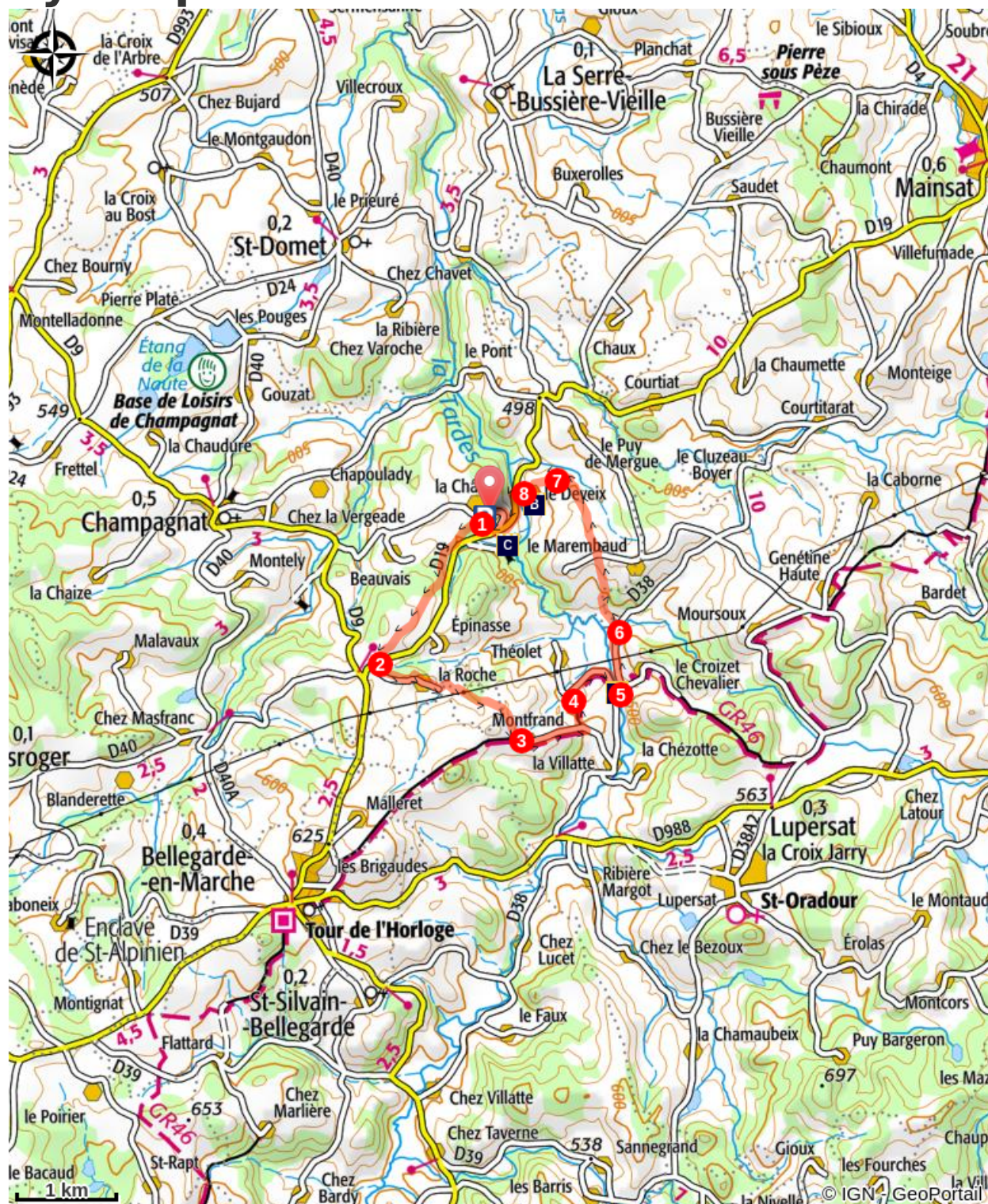


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# On your path...



~~~~~ The Tardes valley (A)

La Chaumière (private property) (B)

Château de Fournoux (private property) (C)



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# All useful information

## **Advices**

Take care: The Chaumière de Jean Guitton and the Château du Fournoux are private properties.

## **How to come ?**

### Access

From Champagnat, take the D9 towards Bellegarde then the D19 towards Mainsat.

### Advised parking

Hamlet of La Châtre

## **Accessibility**

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## **Information desks**

### **Communauté de communes Marche et Combrailles en Aquitaine**

Rue de l'Etang, 23700 Auzances  
Tel : 05 55 67 04 99



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# On your path...

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## ~~~~~ The Tardes valley (A)

The Tardes has its source in the commune of Basville. It is a popular river for fishermen, especially for brown trout. Its valley is gradually deepening and from Chambon/Voueize to its confluence with the Cher, the river is classified as a ZNIEFF (Zone Naturelle d'Intérêt Ecologique Faunistique et Floristique).

Attribution : Creuse Tourisme

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## 🏠 La Chaumière (private property) (B)

After the Second World War, Jean Guitton bought this building, from which he built a chapel named "La Pensée", in reference to Blaise Pascal, and which he inaugurated on July 16, 1971, in the presence of the bishop and the academician Maurice Druon.

Attribution : MCEA

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## 🏰 Château de Fournoux (private property) (C)

Jean Guitton spent his childhood holidays in this house belonging to his grandfather Henri Bertrand. He wrote, "Fournoux is perfection...an improbable meeting of a river in a gorge, a vast canopy of woodland and human habitation, dominant and dominated."

Attribution : MCEA



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