

# The Mystery of the Black Pond (short cut)

Gorges et plateaux de la Haute-Dordogne - Saint-Victour



(J. Matthiaud - CC HCC)



## *Le patrimoine de Saint-Victour et ses mystères*

Water is the primary element in the landscape on this hike. But the woodland and undergrowth with its delicious freshness will reveal the charm of this route well before you reach the Etang Noir. Bird song, a few stone walls and an old bread oven will guide you to the banks of the pond. Peaceful and green, l'étang Noir, the Black Pond is an invitation to rest and daydream, for those who would like to imagine themselves walking on this mysterious island...

## Useful information

Practice : Pedestrian

Duration : 2 h

Length : 6.7 km

Trek ascent : 166 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Loop

Themes : Lakes and rivers

# Trek

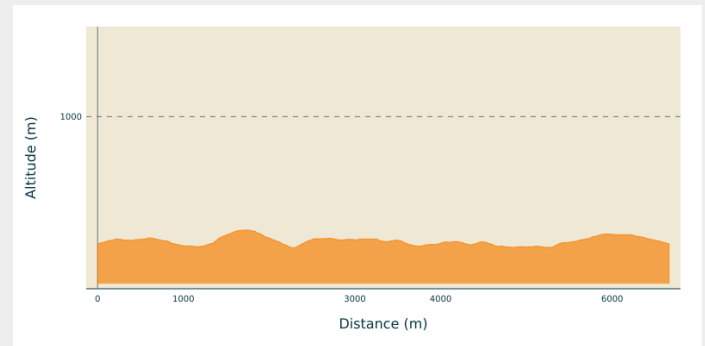
**Departure** : In front of the church, Saint-Victour

**Arrival** : In front of the church, Saint-Victour

**Markings** : — Yellow markers

**Cities** : 1. Saint-Victour

## Altimetric profile



Min elevation 636 m Max elevation 685 m

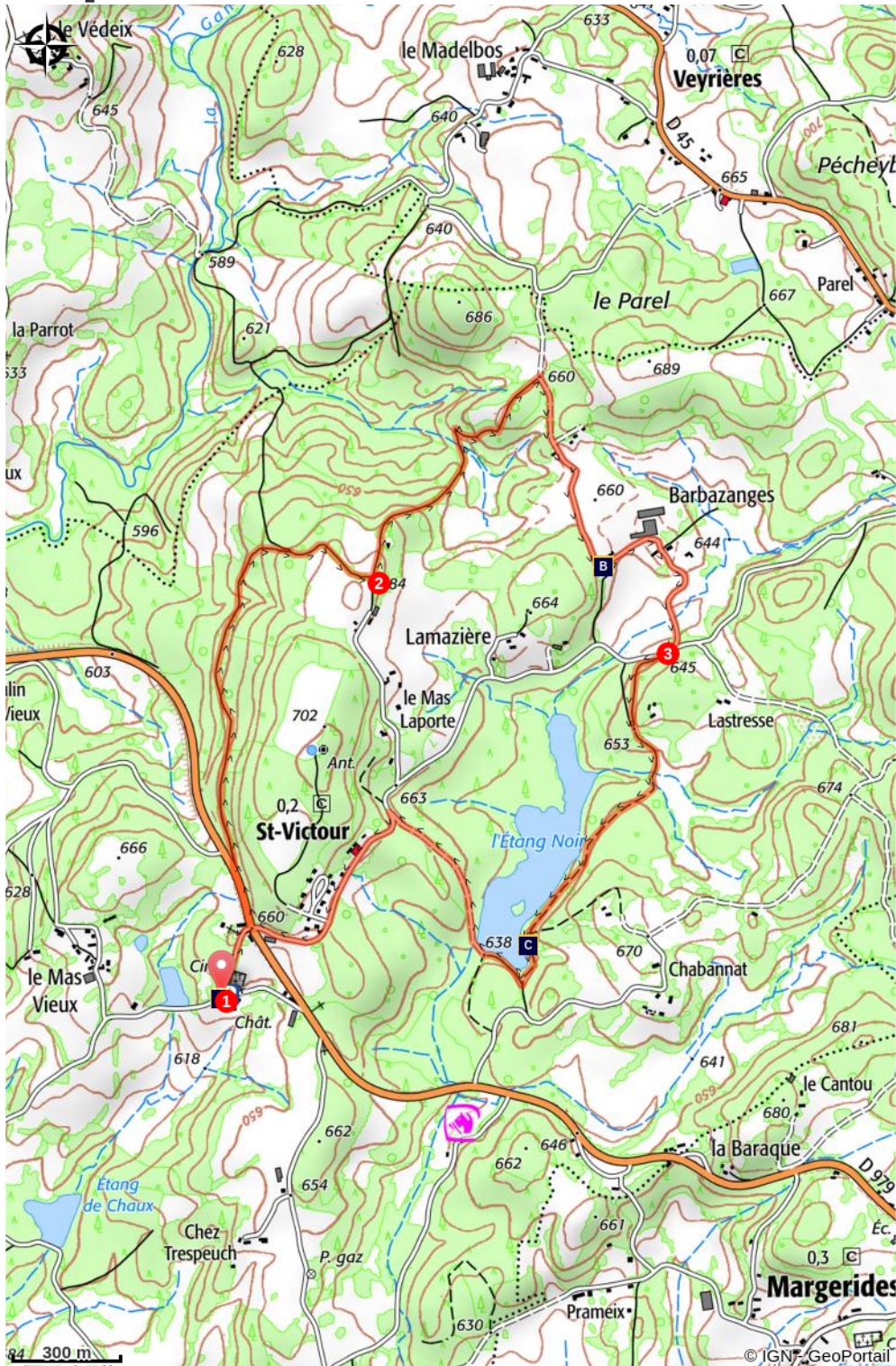
1. Departure from in front of the church. Go back to the D 979. At the crossroads, turn left and drive along the departmental road. 200 metres further on, turn right onto a slightly sloping path. A few metres further on, at the Y-junction, go straight on, ignoring a path on your right. Having crisscrossed the undergrowth, the route leads to a trail lined with dry stone walls.
2. At the crossroads, turn left, leaving a farmhouse on the right. The path goes down into a valley then skirts the edge of a wood. At the intersection, turn right and go through the village of Barbazanges.
3. At the crossroads, take the path opposite, which slopes to the right to reach the banks of the Etang Noir. Go around to the left of the lake. Cross the dike. Continue as far as the road and turn left to return to the D 979 passing in front of the town hall of Saint-Victour. Cross the departmental road and go down to the church.



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# On your path...



 Church and Château of Saint-Victour (A)

 Barbazanges (B)

 Etang Noir (C)



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# All useful information

## **Advices**

This hike has a shorter route (8 km) which is described in a fact sheet.

## **How to come ?**

### Access

Arriving at Saint-Victour from Ussel, via the D 979, take the first road on the right at the entrance to the village, towards the church.

### Advised parking

In front of the church, Saint-Victour

## **Information desks**

### **Bureau d'information touristique de Bort-les-Orgues**

287 Place Marmontel, 19110 Bort-les-  
Orgues

Tel : 05 19 60 00 30

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



Parc  
naturel  
régional  
de Millevaches  
en Limousin

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# On your path...

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## Church and Château of Saint-Victour (A)

As can be seen from the choir covered by a cul-de-four (half-dome), the church of Saint-Victour is of Romanesque origin. However, it was reworked several times, in the 13th, 14th and 15th centuries.

The château, the oldest parts of which seem to date back to the 15th century, comprises two main buildings built at right angles. The north building was flanked by two circular towers, which were demolished during the Revolution. The second dwelling to the west was also flanked by a large tower.

Attribution : V.Mendras

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## Barbazanges (B)

Once you arrive in this hamlet, you will see an old traditional bread oven. A few steps further on, a sweeping panorama reveals a wetland, under which the sources of the Étang Noir are hidden.

Attribution : V.Mendras

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## Etang Noir (C)

Water is the commune's principal resource. Omnipresent, it was used for fish farming and as a source of energy (Saint-Victour had many mills). Then between 1925 and 1927, the Chaumettes dam was built.

Attribution : V.Mendras

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