

# Walk in the devil's footsteps...

Gorges et plateaux de la Haute-Dordogne



Saint-Nazaire (J.Matthiaud - CC HCC)



The confluence of the Diège and Dordogne rivers is overlooked by one of the key sites of the Haute-Corrèze, St-Nazaire.

A promontory at the confluence of the Dordogne and the Diège rivers, the site of St-Nazaire has something spectacular for those who know how to look at it and listen to it... First of all, it is the breathtaking views of the Dordogne gorges that catch the eye. Returning from this spellbinding landscape, the wooden crosses that punctuate the path, the statue of St. Nazaire on its high pedestal and the devil's footprints inscribed in the rock invite the hiker to meditation for the rest of the walk...

## Useful information

Practice : Pedestrian

Duration : 3 h 45

Length : 11.0 km

Trek ascent : 251 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Loop

Themes : Viewpoint

# Trek

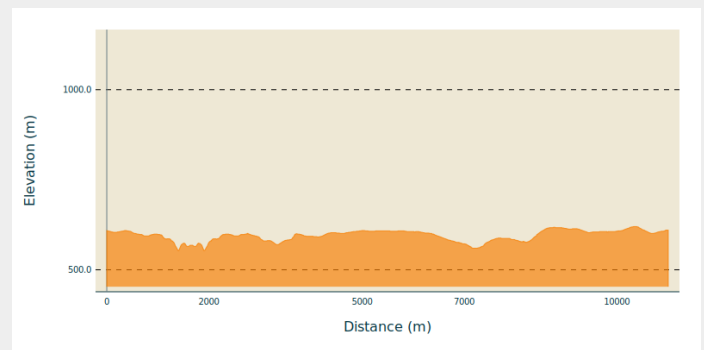
**Departure** : Town hall car park, Mairie, St-Julien

**Arrival** : Town hall car park, Mairie, St-Julien

**Markings** : — Yellow markers

**Cities** : 1. Sarroux - Saint Julien

## Altimetric profile



Min elevation 553 m Max elevation 620 m

Departure from in front of the town hall. Pass below the church and continue by road to the site of Saint-Nazaire and then retrace your steps.

1. After the first houses, turn right onto a path that becomes a small trail through the woods. Cross a stream and go back up into the woods. Join a track and then follow it on the left to Cronzat. Keep left in the village.
2. At the end of the village, follow the road for 600 m. At a crossroads where a cross stands, it is possible to take a short cut by following the path on the left. At the next crossroads, follow a small road to the left. 400 m after this, turn left onto a path bordered by a pond; then turn right onto a grassy path that joins the road.
3. Follow it to the right. At the fork, take the road on the left that leads to the buildings belonging to the Coup de Main association. Continue and then take a path on the left (the circuit describes a loop at this level). Continue straight on, passing a stream and then a small river. Go up to a road at the entrance to the village of Laborde.
4. Follow the road to the right. In the village of Chassagnac, take the road towards Bort-les-Orgues. 50 m further on, take the tarmac track on the right. This crosses a stream and then rises again. On the flat, leave the track to take a beautiful path on the right. This path joins the track you have already taken, and which you follow on the left.
5. At the crossroads, turn right: follow the road past the pavilions. At the next crossroads, turn left to reach the starting point.



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# On your path...



Saint-Julien (A)



Site of St-Nazaire (C)



Coup de Main Association (E)



The pendulum well (B)



Cantal Mountains (D)



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# All useful information

## **Advices**

ce circuit compte un raccourci de 6 km qui fait l'objet d'une fiche descriptive.

## **How to come ?**

### Access

From Bort-les-Orgues, take the D 979 towards Ussel. 6 km after Bort, turn left and head towards St-Julien on the D20 then the D127.

### Advised parking

Town hall car park, Mairie, St-Julien

## **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/>



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# On your path...

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## Saint-Julien (A)

Built on a promontory, the church dominates the village of the former commune of Saint-Julien-pré-Bort. We say former commune because, in 2017, the communes of Saint-Julien and Sarroux united and became the new commune of Sarroux-St-Julien. It now has a population of over 850.

Attribution : J.Matthiaud - CC HCC

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## The pendulum well (B)

The villages of Haute-Corrèze are all involved in agriculture. Walking through these hamlets always produces interesting discoveries during a hike: barns, mansions, crosses and monuments, traditional local architecture...

The pendulum well is based on the lever principle. It is supported in its centre on a pivot and carrying a container at one end and a counterweight at the other. Simply vary the weight of one of the arms to give it a rocking movement.

Attribution : G.Salat - CC HCC

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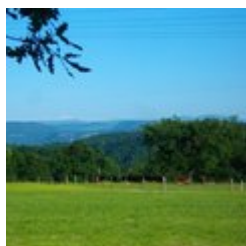


## Site of St-Nazaire (C)

St-Nazaire is an amazing viewpoint over the Dordogne and the Diège and offers one of the most beautiful views of the gorges. This place gets its name from a legend: Saint Nazaire is said to have chased the devil out of the place, and the devil left the print of a forked foot on a rock while running away in great long strides... The statue of the saint, erected in 1901, still stands guard over the site, and a pilgrimage in his honour has been organised there every year in September by the Way of the Cross which ends facing the abyss.

Attribution : J.Matthiaud - CC HCC

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## Cantal Mountains (D)

This hike offers a magnificent view of the Monts du Cantal. This massif is, in fact, the remnant of a stratovolcano born 13 million years ago, the largest in Europe, eroded by collapse and glacial erosion.

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## Coup de Main Association (E)

Created in 2000 to promote the St-Nazaire site, the association positions itself in the field of social and solidarity economy. It offers a path to integration for people furthest removed from employment based on experience in real work situations, training and individualised support.

By carrying out maintenance work on green spaces, market gardening, masonry and roofing, employees build their professional skills and abilities.

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