

WALK & HIKES



2€

#montagnesurmer

Argelès
sur-mer
la naturelle

> INTRODUCTION

This guidebook covers five hikes and five walks that can be done in the Argelès-sur-Mer area. The departure point for the majority of routes is the Valmy Castle car park, where you can also view a map board. This brochure gives you suggestions so you can walk and hike in a safe, comfortable way. There are also tips for you to discover and understand the heritage of our local area.

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ARGELÈS: A PLACE OF DISCOVERY, HISTORY AND ENJOYMENT



Standing in front of the breathtaking panorama as you leave Valmy Castle, you realise how incredible the numerous marked paths are that you are about to take. Enjoy the Mediterranean landscapes that await you, whether you prefer to wander and daydream or go for a more strenuous hike. Argelès-sur-Mer, nicknamed 'la Naturelle', has a wide range of landscapes that take on the colours of the season, allowing for year-round hiking.



Love gaining some altitude? Head up towards the Argelès-sur-Mer landmark, the Massane Tower (794 m). Within a few hours, you'll be crossing the scrubland of the foothills, an area filled with the scents of flowers and the humus-rich undergrowth. Fancy going towards Collioure, the town that has inspired many artists? Follow the sandy and rocky coastline towards the hamlet of Le Racou and cross the pebbled coves of Portells — an area that is protected by the Conservatoire du Littoral, a coastal conservation institute.



Historically, farmers have always shaped the crests of these mountains with pastoralism; the foothills have been marked by vine growing, olive growing and the cork oak forest; and the nourishing lowlands have been characterised by tree growing, market gardening and pastures. To delight your taste buds, enjoy high-quality products — such as olive oil, wine, cheese, fruit and vegetables — that are produced by this landscape that has the typical feel of the Roussillon province.



HIKING SAFELY

MARKED ROUTES



Signposting from the Fédération Française de Randonnée Pédestre (French Hiking Federation)

PR : yellow paint indicates a walking and hiking route (Promenade Randonnée)

GR : white and red paint indicate an advanced hiking route (Grande Randonnée)

Piles of stones are also used to mark paths

Please use the IGN TOP 25 2549 OT Banyuls - Col du Perthus map

Directional signposts indicate distances in kilometres and the effective walking times for each location (without including breaks).

HIKING CODE OF CONDUCT

- Prepare and choose your route in accordance with your physical capabilities and the weather.
- Avoid going alone and give a friend or relative details about your route.
- You should take a rucksack with 1.5 litres of water per person, high-energy snacks, a mobile phone, suitable clothing for the season, a first aid kit and suitable footwear.
- Check the local weather conditions using the Météo France weather service.



SHARING SPACE

- **Respect the nature that surrounds you.**
- You will have to cross private property where the owners have given their consent for people to pass through.
- Share paths with cyclists.
- Do not approach groups of animals or lone animals.
- Respect any logging work, maintenance work or work on the trails that is taking place.

RISK OF FIRE

In summer, the Albera Massif is subject to a fire risk prevention plan.

In case of moderate risk : caution should be exercised.

In case of increased risk : motor vehicle traffic is forbidden on the entire network of tracks that cover the massif (except for landowners and those with access rights).

In case of exceptional risk : all persons are forbidden from accessing the entire network of tracks and paths that serve the massif in question, whether by motor vehicle, foot, horse or bicycle.

Stay safe and check for information on : prevention-incendie66.com

INFORMATION AND USEFUL NUMBERS

TOURIST OFFICE



Argelès beach : Place de l'Europe - Tél : +33 468 81 15 85

Email : infos@argeles-sur-mer.com

Open all year

Argelès village : 6 bis rue du 14 juillet

Open all year: Wednesday mornings and Saturday mornings

Sports and nature centre at Valmy Park : Close to the customer service office at the entrance to the park, you'll find all the information you need on the wide range of outdoor activities you can do in Argelès-sur-Mer. Whether you love the sea (kayaking, paddleboarding, diving), the lowlands (walking, jogging, cycling) or the mountains (hiking, trail running, mountain biking), you'll find something that makes you happy!

Open from Monday to Friday, 2pm until 5pm : +33 468 81 47 25



OTHER SERVICES

- **Pyénées Méditerranée intercommunal tourist office**

Free app : [rando.tourisme-pyrenees-mediterranee.fr](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=fr.rando.tourisme.pyrenees-mediterranee)

- **Pyénées-Orientales Local Committee for Hiking**

Tel : +33 468 61 48 85

Email : pyrenees-orientales-66-ffrandonnee.fr

- **Pyénées-Orientales Tourism Development Agency**

Website : [tourisme-pyreneesorientales.com](https://www.tourisme-pyreneesorientales.com)

- **Suricate online problem reporting platform**

Report problems that you may encounter when doing sport or outdoor activities.

Website : [sentinelles.sportsdenature.fr](https://www.sentinelles.sportsdenature.fr)

For urgent problems that require a rapid response from the emergency services or authorities, dial the following emergency numbers :

15 : emergency medical assistance / **17 :** emergency police assistance / **18 :** fire service / **112 :** European emergency number / Argelès local police station : **+33 468 81 03 96** / Argelès municipal police : **+33 468 81 16 31**



HIKE UP TO THE MASSANE TOWER



Please note :

No access from Laval to the Tour de la Massane all summer 2021.

Together let's preserve and protect the natural beauty that surrounds us.

PRACTICAL INFO :

Access: RD 914 - exit 12 - road to Valmy - car park

GPS : 31T 502318 E 4708957

Yellow route: Torre de la Maçana (Tour) PR® ARG1



14 km



5hr loop



±800m



Difficult

> HIKE UP TO THE MASSANE TOWER



Please note :

No access from
Lavall to the Tour
de la Massane all
summer 2021.

Together let's preserve
and protect the natural beauty
that surrounds us.

A CLASSIC HIKING ROUTE IN THE PYRÉNÉES-ORIENTALES REGION WITH A PANORAMIC VIEW OVER THE CANIGOU MASSIF, THE ROUSSILLON PLAIN AND THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA.

ROUTE AND PLACES TO SEE

From the Valmy Castle car park, retrace your steps back to the road and go down towards the Les Mimosas campsite. When you reach the ford crossing, take the DFCI-AL 42 track to the left and follow the signposting for the route PR® ARG1. After the Mas Peyrot farmhouse, you are overlooking Valmy Castle.

After 150 metres, turn right. The path rises and disappears into the cork oak forest in the direction of the 'La Cova de l'Alarb' dolmen (178 m). There are multiple paths available. Make sure to follow the yellow route marking. Cross the DFCI-AL 41 track. Follow the path towards the remains of the Collets de Cotliure dolmen (274 m).

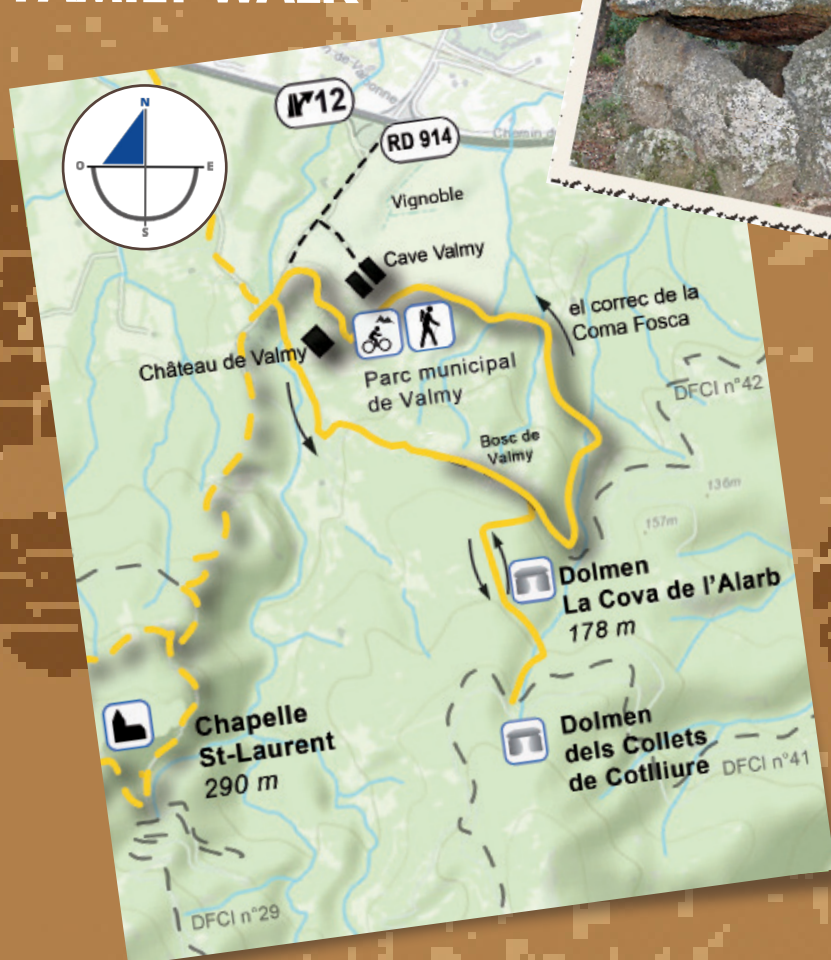
Continue uphill until you reach a crossroads of several DFCI tracks. At the concrete reservoir, take the path that goes uphill. You'll come out onto the DFCI-AL 41 Ter. track twice. The second time, take this track until it finishes at Roc del Corb (the rock of the raven). Follow the path that leads to the Coll de la Plaça d'Armes (677 m). You are at the edge of the Massane Forest Nature Reserve, which is marked by a sign.

Alternative via Font Andreu (steep and long climb).

On the right, the path goes uphill to Massane Tower (794 m). To head back, go north along the ridge until you reach Coll del Pomer and then Roc del Grill (547 m).

Go down to the right to reach the ruins of the Mas d'en Pardès farmhouse. St Laurent chapel is a few steps away. Take the first path on the right that goes down into the mimosa plants. At the chapel, opposite the metal gate, take the path that joins the DFCI-AL 39 track and head down towards Valmy Castle car park.

EASY, RECREATIONAL FAMILY WALK



PRACTICAL INFO :

Access: RD 914 - exit 12 - road to Valmy - car park

GPS : 31T 502318 E 4708957

Yellow route: La Cova de l'Alarb dolmen PR® ARG2 / Valmy via El Còrrec de la Coma Fosca



3.5 km



1h30



±100m



Easy

> FAMILY WALK TO THE COVA DE L'ALARB DOLMEN



THIS FAMILY WALK INVITES YOU TO STEP INTO OVER 5000 YEARS OF HISTORY BETWEEN THE COVA DE L'ALARB DOLMEN AND THE GROUNDS OF VALMY CASTLE.

ROUTE AND PLACES TO SEE

From the Valmy Castle car park, retrace your steps back to the road and go down towards the Les Mimosas campsite. At the ford crossing, take the DFCI-AL 42 track and follow the PR® ARG2 direction markers. After the Mas Peyrot farmhouse, you are overlooking Valmy Castle.

After 150 metres, turn right. The path rises and disappears into the cork oak forest in the direction of the 'La Cova de l'Alarb' dolmen (178 m). Retrace your steps and go back to the track on the right. Follow the wire fence for 150 metres. Look out for fastenings so you can open a section and go through and down the 'El Còrrec de la Coma Fosca' path. You can see the yellow markings on the trees. You will then reach another electric fence. Walk with it to your right for 50 metres. Use the fastenings to open a section and go through, then make sure to close them behind you.

Head back to the left of the vineyard and pass the wine cellars to reach the car park again.

TIPS

VALMY PARK (FREE)

To complete your stay in Argelès-sur-Mer, follow the informative trail that tells you about the history of local sites, the natural surroundings and vegetation of the Albera Massif, and local life and culture (open from the spring school holidays until the end of the autumn holidays).

BALUDIK APP (FREE) : [BALUDIK.FR](https://www.baludik.fr)

Trip around Valmy Park: become an epic hero as you walk around the park. You'll travel through 5000 years of history between Valmy Park and the Cova de l'Alarb dolmen. Discover the mysteries of the surrounding landscape at the foot of the Albera mountains. Your mission is to find traces of the legendary lost dolmen, a structure that bore witness to prehistoric life, before unravelling the mysteries of Valmy Castle.

ADVANCED HIKE



PRACTICAL INFO :

Access: RD 914 - exit 12 - road to Valmy - car park

GPS : 31T 502318 E 4708957

Yellow route: Tour de la Massane PR® ARG1 / Rimbau PR® ARG3/ GR10®



20 Km
round trip



6h30 in
total



±1000m



Difficult

> ADVANCED HIKE UP TO PIC DE SALLFORT



EXPLORE THE SCRUBLAND, THE FOREST, THE GR10 TRAIL, THE PEAKS, THE RIDGES AND THE TERRACES OF THE COLLIOURE/BANYULS VINEYARDS FOR AN INCREDIBLE 360° PANORAMIC VIEW OVER FRENCH CATALOGNE AND SPANISH CATALONIA.

ROUTE AND PLACES TO SEE

Follow the route description on page 7, Torre de la Maçana (Massane Tower) PR® ARG1.

When the DFCI-AL 41 Ter. track finishes at Roc del Corb (the rock of the raven), follow the path that leads to Coll de la Plaça d'Armes (678 m). You are entering the Massane Forest National Nature Reserve. This is a delicate ecosystem, so please read information signs carefully and respect your surroundings.

Take the Rimbau PR® ARG3 path on the left that rises and disappears into the beech forest and comes out at the Coll d'en Verderol (776 m). Follow the route by going past the water catchment basins at Font d'en Cassanyes (for safety reasons, route around the tunnel) and Font d'en Vergès.

At the point where the Rimbau PR® ARG3 and the GR10 trails cross, go in the direction of Pic Sallfort (978 m). There is an altitude gain of +500 m for a route that lasts 2 hours in total and covers 3 km as a round trip. The vegetation on the ridges is low, the wind blows with force and the ascent up the scree is steep. The panoramic view over both Catalogne and Catalonia is breathtaking.

Retrace your steps to return to Valmy.

TIPS



(FREE) APP - GEOTREK PYRÉNÉES MÉDITERRANÉE :

Visit the Pyrénées-Méditerranée region! With this mobile app, you can discover all the outdoor activities on offer and learn about the local heritage. Explore this exceptional area by foot, mountain bike, road bike, trail running or on horseback or head to the water for canoeing, kayaking, sailing and paddleboarding.



THE CHAPELLE ST LAURENT PATH



PRACTICAL INFO :

Access: RD 914 - exit 12 - road to Valmy - car park

GPS: 31T 502318 E 4708957

Yellow route: Chapelle St-Laurent (Sant Llorenç) PR® ARG4



6 km



2h30



±250m



Easy

> 'LISTEN TO SEE', THE PATH ABOUT THE HISTORY OF ALBERA



WITH FRIENDS OR FAMILY, DISCOVER THE FASCINATING HISTORY OF THESE MOUNTAINS AND THE TOWN AS YOU SEE THEM IN REAL LIFE.

ROUTE AND PLACES TO SEE

From Valmy Castle car park, retrace your steps until you reach the road. Go past the Les Mimosas campsite, head up towards the Mas Blanc farmhouse and then to the Mas St Laurent farmhouse where the DFCI-AI 39 trail begins.

Follow it uphill. You'll be able to follow the green 'Ecouter pour voir' (Listen to see) signs along your route. Where the paths cross, take the DFCI-AL 28 track to your right. Go past the green tank and, after the bend, take the path to the left that goes up into the forest. After a gentle climb lasting around 15 minutes, the signposting for Chapelle St-Laurent (Sant Llorenç) PR® ARG4 will lead you to the ruins of Mas Pardès, overlooking the foothills and the plain.

Look out for the path on the left that goes into the vegetation — primarily consisting of mimosa plants. Do not go towards the clearer path that heads up in a southerly direction towards the Massane Tower.

You'll arrive at the St Laurent du Mont chapel (290 m). Behind this historical building, heading down to the left, you will find a stone shepherd's hut on the right, a few steps away (follow the stone markers). Retrace your steps, head back onto the path that goes downhill, opposite the doors of the chapel, then follow the track downhill to reach Valmy again.

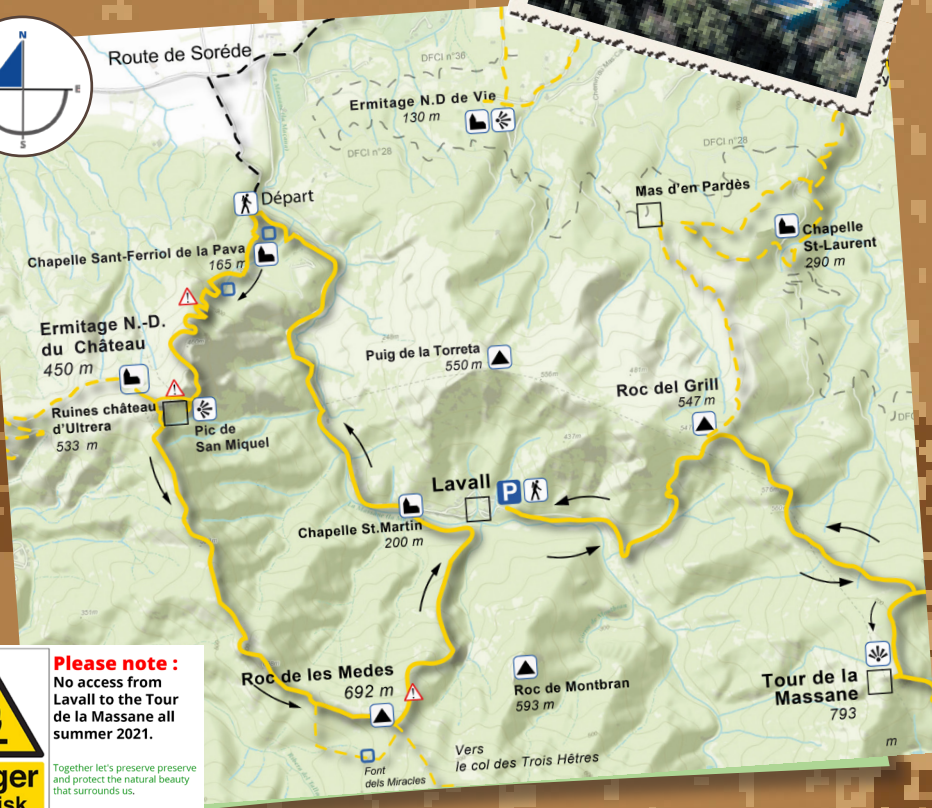
TIPS

AUDIO-GUIDED HIKE FROM VALMY TO ST LAURENT DU MONT CHAPEL, 'LISTEN TO SEE, THE PATH ABOUT THE HISTORY OF ALBERA'

There are 11 parts in which people from the local area (such as Louis Massot and Bernard Rieu) and spokespeople (such as Gérard Jacquet and Esteve Vaills) tell stories about the Albera Massif, the secrets of their elders and the lyrics of songwriters.

Free download : hike from Valmy to St Laurent du Mont chapel with an audio guide - download from our website www.argeles-sur-mer.com

HIKE TO THE NOTRE DAME DU CHÂTEAU HERMITAGE



Please note :
No access from
Lavall to the Tour
de la Massane all
summer 2021.

Together let's preserve preserve
and protect the natural beauty
that surrounds us.

PRACTICAL INFO :

Access: follow the D2 towards Sorède At the crossroads marked by a large single oak tree surrounded by vines, take the road towards Lavall. The starting point is the sign for the St Ferréol de la Pava chapel / GPS : 31 T 498903 E 4707668

Yellow route: Ermitage N.D. du Château PR° ARG5 / Roc de les Medes PR°SOR5 / Lavall PR°SOR5 Bis



10 km



4hrs



±600m



Difficult

> HIKE TO THE NOTRE DAME DU CHÂTEAU HERMITAGE



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summer 2021.

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and protect the natural beauty
that surrounds us.

THIS ROUND-TRIP HIKE ALLOWS YOU TO DISCOVER SEVERAL POINTS OF INTEREST WITH REGARD TO LOCAL HERITAGE, HISTORY AND NATURE (ROMAN CHAPELS, RUINS, GORGES OF THE MASSANE RIVER...).

ROUTE AND PLACES TO SEE

Follow the signposted path pointing to Ermitage N.D. du Château (Notre Dame du Château hermitage) PR® ARG5. You will soon reach the hamlet and the Sant Ferriol de la Pava chapel. Take the small signposted path that rises steeply into the scrubland. Cross the DFCI-AL 27 track. The opposite path goes past the source of the Bosc, which is often dried up. The way can be technical and steep, and finishes in a chaotic landscape of metamorphic rocks. At the peak of Sant Miquel, you have a panoramic view over the Roussillon plain. Head towards the chapel of the Hermitage of Notre Dame du Château (Mare de Déu del castell). In order to protect fragile archaeological heritage, please do not touch the excavation sites.

Before reaching the hermitage, go back up to join the Roc de les Medes PR®SOR5 trail. Look out for the concrete circle on the ground. This is the old base of the world's first solar oven, dating from 1900! (<http://himalaya.vefblog.net/>). Then take the signposted path that follows the clearly visible line of the ridges (be careful not to take paths that go off to the left or right).

The Roc de les Medes boulder can be walked around. A signposted junction points to the left towards a return to Lavall PR®SOR5 Bis. Then follow the very narrow path that goes down into the small valley and reaches the Massane river (be careful, this steep descent requires technical skills).

Cross the river at Chapelle St Martin then follow the road to the left until you reach the starting point.

TIPS

MASSANE TOWER VIA THE 'LA VALL PR® ARG6' TRAIL (ROUND TRIP)

At the end of the tarmac road in the hamlet of Lavall, take the DFCI AL 35 dirt track. Once you have reached the car park, follow the signposting for the 'La Vall PR® ARG6' trail, which goes up towards Massane Tower. Please make sure to close the gates behind you as cattle are grazing all year round. The path begins on the left and has a steep 300-metre climb towards Roc del Grill. When you reach the large stone marker, turn right under the cover of the holm oaks and you will reach Massane Tower.

Elevation gain : 560 m / Length: 2.5 hrs in total / Distance: 10 km round trip / Fairly difficult

THE CROSS-BORDER HIKE



PRACTICAL INFO :

Access: RD 914 - exit 12 - road to Valmy - car park

GPS: 31 T 502318 E 4708957

Yellow route: Chapelle St Laurent (Sant Llorenç) PR® ARG4 / Torre de la Maçana (Tower) PR® ARG1

Le Rimbau PR® ARG3 / GR®10 Puig dels Quatre Termes PR®SOR6 / Col des Trois Hêtres PR®SOR6

Roc de les Medes PR®SOR5 / Chapelle St Martin PR®SOR5 Bis / La Vall PR® ARG6

IGN map: TOP 25 2549 OT Banyuls - Col du Perthus (essential)



±28 km



8h00



+1 800m



Very
difficult

> THE CROSS-BORDER HIKE VIA THE GR10



DO YOU LOVE THE WILDERNESS WHEN THERE'S NOT A SOUND TO BE HEARD IN THE FOREST? ARE YOU ADDICTED TO CHALLENGING PEAKS WHERE THE PANORAMIC VIEWS ARE YOUR REWARD? THEN SET OUT TO CONQUER THIS INCREDIBLE ROUND-TRIP ADVANCED HIKE WITH A LENGTH OF OVER 33 KILOMETRES AND AN ELEVATION GAIN OF 1800 METRES.

ROUTE AND PLACE TO SEE

Follow the Chapelle St Laurent (Sant Llorenç) PR® ARG4 route. Go past the Les Mimosas campsite and the Mas Blanc farmhouse, then start your climb on the DFCI AL 39 trail. Where the two trails cross, take the DFCI AL 28 trail, go past the water tank and take the path on your left that goes up into the cork oak forest. A much wider path will lead you towards a clearing where the ruins of Mas Pardès are. Take the clear path on your left (south) that goes up towards Roc del Grill — the Torre de la Maçana (Tour) PR® ARG1 trail — and stay on this route until you reach Massane Tower. Climb down the scree to reach Coll de la Plaça d'Armes. Follow the Rimbau PR® ARG3 path, which disappears into the beech forest and comes out at the Coll d'en Verderol (776 m). Follow the route by going past the water catchment basins at Font d'en Cassanyes and Font d'en Vergès sources (go around the tunnel). Following the GR®10 and climbing the mountain ridges, you have an extraordinary 360° panoramic view over French Catalogne and Spanish Catalonia, provided the sky is clear (watch out for strong winds). You can admire the holly sculptures created by the Massane cows. Cross the peaks of Sallfort (978 m), la Carbassera (1000 m) and Quatres Termes (1158 m). La font de la Maçana: Altitude: 968 m / GPS coordinates = 31 T 500638 E 4701972

Once you have reached the 'Puig dels Quatres Termes' GR10 marker, go down towards the north to reach the Col des Trois Hêtres (Coll dels Tres Faigs). You are at a crossroads where the DFCI AL 18 trail finishes. Continue in a northerly direction, still heading downhill, to reach Coll de l'Aranyó and Roc de les Medes. Further down to the left, below the boulder, you'll find the La Font dels Miracles (a water source) at the foot of a big, tall beech tree. Get back on the path and start your (steep and sloping) descent towards the hamlet of Lavall.

When you have reached the Massane river, cross it at St Martin's chapel. Head towards the right at the end of the tarmac road that goes up into the hamlet, then take the DFCI-AL 35 dirt track. Once you have reached the car park, follow the signposting for the 'La Vall PR® ARG6' trail. Please make sure to close the gates behind you as cattle are grazing all year round. The path rises steeply towards Roc del Grill. This route then allows you to head back down towards Valmy.

TIPS

CROSS COUNTRY AND TRAIL RUNNING

Every year the Argelès Nature Trail association offers outdoor sports challenges (e.g. hiking, cross-country races, trail running) on the last weekend of April. This friendly event takes place in the Albera Massif and around the Valmy public park:

www.argelesnaturetrail.com (in French)



WALK TO THE NOTRE DAME DE VIE HERMITAGE



PRACTICAL INFO :

Access: RD 914 - exit 12 - road to Valmy - car park

GPS: 31 T 502318 E 4708957

Yellow route: PR® ARG8 + Ermitage Notre-Dame-de-Vie PR® ARG7



9 km



1.5-2 hrs



±100m



Easy

> WALK TO THE NOTRE DAME DE VIE HERMITAGE



THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WALKS IN THE AREA: A DELIGHT AT ALL TIMES THANKS TO THE WONDERFUL LANDSCAPES, THE GENTLE CLIMB UP TO THE NOTRE DAME DE VIE HERMITAGE AND THE ST JÉRÔME CHAPEL AND THE INCREDIBLE VIEW FROM THERE.

ROUTE AND PLACES TO SEE

From the car park, go down towards the Les Mimosas campsite and turn right. Follow the road for Massane and the signposting for PR® ARG8. Go along the RD 914 main road.

At the second bridge, turn left. Follow the road for the Notre Dame de Vie Hermitage PR® ARG7, which climbs gently into the young oak forest. Then go past the 'Ferme du bonheur' and several other farmhouses ('mas').

At the end of the tarmac road, a stone path will lead you to the hermitage and to the pre-Romanesque St Jérôme chapel. These sites are open and maintained all year, please respect them. Enjoy the view over the Canigou mountain range, the Roussillon plain, the Mediterranean Sea and villages.

Head back down and retrace your steps. Take the track to the left that is closed off by a green gate and goes downhill. You'll soon reach the small Faba Est road. This road crosses vineyards and boasts wonderful views of a section of the Albera Massif.

At the small bridge crossing, follow the route you already took to head back to Valmy.

TIPS

GUIDED NATURE WALK AROUND VALMY

'The riches of the Albera Massif foothills'

A guide will take you on a walk in the heart of nature, where the hidden scents of the scrubland mingle with those of the cork oak trees. You'll be shown the Cova de l'Alarb dolmen, the vineyards and the public park with the Roussillon plain and the sea providing a spectacular backdrop.

Wednesday mornings, between April and June **NEW**

Booking: Tourist Office +33 468 81 18 85

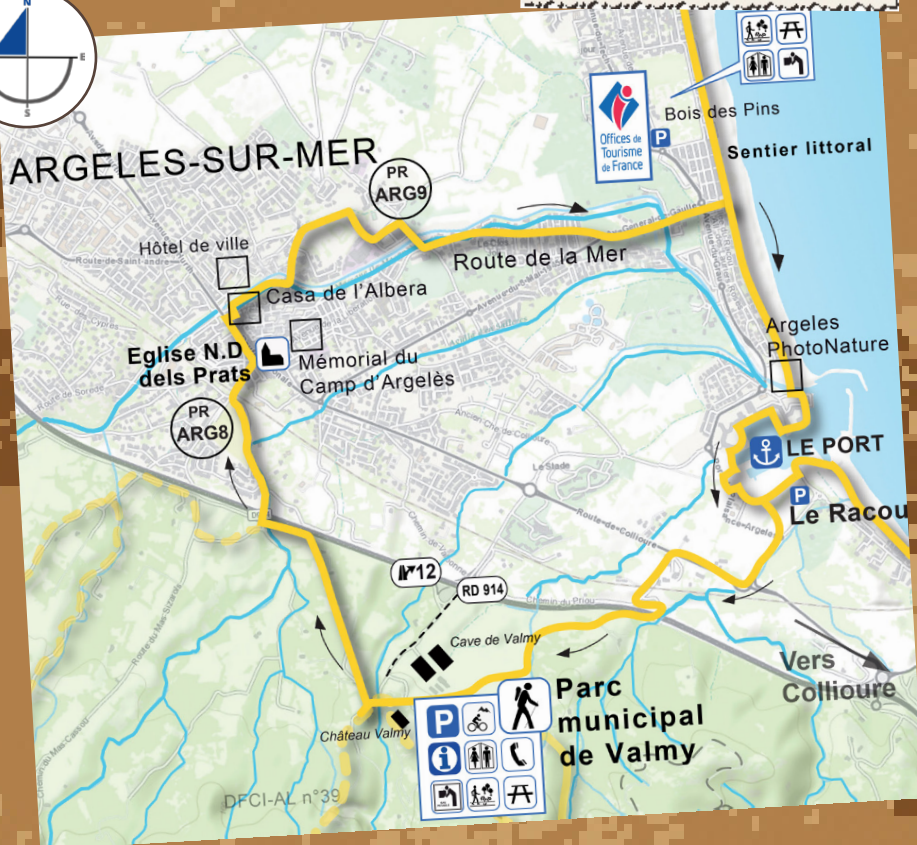
Departure point: Valmy park at the sports and nature office

Length of visit: 2.5 hrs

Price: €4 p.p. Free for children under 13 accompanied by their parents.



WALK AROUND ARGELES-SUR-MER



PRACTICAL INFO :

Access: RD 914 - exit 12 - road to Valmy - car park

GPS: 31 T 502318 E 4708957

Yellow route: follow PR ° ARG8, village streets / PR ° ARG9



10 km
round trip



2hr loop



+70m



Easy

> WALK AROUND ARGELÈS-SUR-MER



THIS IS A WALK WHERE THE LOCAL HISTORIC, CULTURAL, MEMORIAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE IS FULLY RENDERED — PARTICULARLY IN THE PARK AND IN THE VILLAGE THANKS TO AN INFORMATIVE TRAIL, 'LA CASA DE L'ALBERA' AND THE HERITAGE CENTRE, AND THE ARGELÈS CAMP MEMORIAL. ON THE SEAFRONT PROMENADE, THE ARGELÈS PHOTO NATURE EXHIBITION PRESENTS AROUND ONE HUNDRED HUGE PHOTOGRAPHS THAT DISPLAY THE WONDERS OF OUR PLANET.

ROUTE AND PLACES TO SEE

From the car park, go down towards the Les Mimosas campsite and turn right. Follow the road towards Massane and the signposting for PR® ARG8. Take the La Cerigue road under the RD914 bridge and head into the village by going underneath the railway bridge.

Follow the Rue du Repos until the village crossroads and go left onto the Route Nationale until you reach the post office (La Poste). Opposite you is the Palmarole passage. Go through here to reach the Place des Castellans and the Casa de l'Albera (heritage centre). Walk along Rue de Majorque then Rue de la Concorde and turn onto Rue de la République to reach the banks of the Massane river. To the right of the bridge, walk along the river banks towards the Rue du 14 Juillet and go over the metal footbridge towards the roundabout. On your right, a dirt path crosses the gardens.

At the end of this path, turn left (tennis courts) and walk along past the Lagon campsite. Cross the Massane river. Take the Route de la Mer to go towards the beach. Facing the sea, take the green path to the right. Don't forget to take some time to enjoy the Argelès Photo Nature exhibition (from April to October).

Cross the bridge heading towards the marina (Port du Plaisance) and walk along the quay towards the coastal path. Go through the port area and come out onto an open dirt area (Le Racou car park). At the roundabout, go towards Collioure and then stay on the cycle path at the crossing, which is protected by a traffic island. After 200 metres, carefully cross the RD114 road to join the Chemin du Priou and cross the railway line. To the left, the road goes underneath the RD914. Go in the direction of Mas Côte. The dirt track on your right will lead you to the vineyards. Keep the vines to your right until you reach the wine cellars, then head up towards the dirt car park.

TIPS

LA CASA DE L'ALBERA / HERITAGE CENTRE

Located in the heart of the village, the Casa de l'Albera aims to introduce you to the area of Argelès and the Albera Massif, informing you about history, culture and local know-how (open all year).

GUIDED VISITS

Booking required for Casa de l'Albera: +33 468 81 42 74

Price: €4 p.p. / free for children under 13 accompanied by their parents.

- Argelès village 'The old royal city'
- Argelès beach 'Tell me about the beach'

ARGELÈS-SUR-MER CAMP MEMORIAL

This space reflects on a significant event in European history: the exodus and internment on the beach of more than 200,000 Spanish republicans who had fled Francoism and the dictatorship in January and February 1939. It is located in the centre of the village, at 26 Avenue de la Libération.

Information: +33 468 95 85 03



WALKS ALONG THE COASTAL PATH



PRACTICAL INFO :

Access: depart from the Tourist Office

GPS: 31 T 503648 E 4711236

Yellow route: follow the coastal path



10 km
round trip



3 hrs



+50m



Easy

> WALKS ALONG THE COASTAL PATH



THE ARGELÈS-SUR-MER COASTLINE RUNS 10 KILOMETRES BETWEEN THE MAS LARRIEU NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE AND THE CALANQUE DE L'OUILLE. THE PATH IS SIGNPOSTED (YELLOW MARKINGS) AND STUDDED WITH 12 SIGNS THAT TELL YOU ABOUT EACH PLACE'S CULTURAL, HISTORIC AND NATURAL HERITAGE.

ROUTE AND PLACES TO SEE

A/ From the Argelès-sur-Mer Tourist Office to the Mas Larrieu nature reserve.

Head towards the pine tree park, behind the Notre Dame de la Mer chapel, and go towards the green walk. Go north, walking along the sand and with the house behind the pine trees.

Continuing in the same direction, go past the Roussillonnais campsite.

When you reach the Marendra car park, go towards the Soleil campsite. Before reaching the entrance to the campsite, a small path to the left weaves through a luscious green area and comes out behind the recreational area (bowling and go karting), on the road for the Equinoxe campsite. Go over the ford crossing to enter the Mas Larrieu National Nature Reserve.

Head towards the beach and recuperate your strength at the edge of the water, admiring the view of the Albera Massif plunging into the Mediterranean Sea.

You can head back either by retracing your steps or by heading south along the sand fences that protect the dunes until you reach the small sandy inlet of the Riberette river. There you can easily join the coastal path to head back to your starting point at Argelès beach.

TIPS

GUIDED WALK IN THE MAS LARRIEU NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE

« Towards an authentic, vibrant nature » :

This walk immerses you in the wild area along the Roussillon coast, which boasts diverse landscapes: you can find dunes, prairies and wetlands close to the Tech (a Mediterranean coastal river). Your guide will allow you to explore and appreciate this multi-faceted and fragile space, a symbol of escapism.

On Thursdays between April and September

Bookings: Tourist Office +33 468 81 18 85

Start: 9am at the Tourist Office - Length: 1.5 hrs / Distance: 2.6 km

Price: €4 p.p. Free for children under 13 accompanied by their parents.



> WALKS ALONG THE COASTAL PATH

THE COASTAL PATH GOES FROM ARGELÈS-SUR-MER TO CERBÈRE: 32 KILOMETRES OF SANDY BEACHES AND ROCKY COASTLINE. EXPLORE THE FIRST STRETCH THAT RUNS BETWEEN ARGELÈS-SUR-MER AND COLLIOURE.

ROUTE AND PLACES TO SEE



B / From Château de Valmy to the Château Royal de Collioure

From the car park at Valmy castle, go down towards the back of the wine cellars. Following the path, you will have the Valmy vineyards to your left and the scrubland to your right. Continue on this path for 300 metres, then you will reach a small tarmac road on your right, which goes under the RD914 road. Stay on the Chemin du Priou and turn right. You will cross the railway line and then the Route de Collioure (D114). Go right towards the hamlet of Le Racou. At the roundabout, you'll see a wooden footbridge on your right. Take this bridge and follow the path that crosses the Le Racou oak forest - a listed Conservatoire du Littoral site (coastal protection agency). You will be able to see a clearing looking out onto the Albera Massif. Continue further down for 100 metres to reach a hill and shale stairs. The path splits into two. On the right, you have a panoramic view

over the hamlet of Le Racou, Argelès-sur-Mer, the Roussillon plain and the Côte Radieuse (use the viewpoint indicator to guide you).

On the left, the coastal path goes down along the sea, following the rocky coastline, the coves and the Portails campsite. There are two ways to go down towards l'Ouille beach:

First, you can take the steep path opposite the beach (fairly difficult). Or you can go behind the restaurant 'L'imprévu' and take the small road that goes up to the La Girelle campsite, connecting Fort Rond and Fort Carré.

The two paths meet in the sports ground car park. You just need to head down the Pla de las Fourques road, then Avenue du Miradou. Then go past the Place du Général Leclerc. Take the Rue Camille Pelletan to your left that goes along the water. You'll reach Boramar bay, facing the famous bell tower of the Notre Dame des Anges church in Collioure.

To head back, we suggest going back through the narrow streets of this fishing village, which has become a hub of art and culture. You'll reach Fort Miradou and the French National Commando Training Centre. Follow the Avenue du Miradou to the left to retrace your steps. Then follow the same route back.

The coastal path continues beyond Collioure to Port-Vendres, Banyuls and Cerbère. You can return by bus for €1 (a Conseil Départemental service), by train, or by boat (the Argelès-Collioure shuttle).

TIPS

A GUIDED TOUR ALONG THE COASTAL PATH :

'Where the Albera Massif meets the Mediterranean': this old coastguard path, which follows the rocky coastline, is designed for hiking. It crosses the Le Racou natural area, listed as a Conservatoire du Littoral (coastal preservation) site, whose cliffs constitute the beginning of the Côte Vermeille. There you can appreciate the intense sunlight, the striking scents of the scrubland, and the always incredible sight of the cliffs plunging into the sea.

On Wednesdays between April and September

Bookings: Tourist Office +33 468 81 18 85

Start: 9am at the Tourist Office - Length: 2.5 hrs / Distance: 4 km

Price: €4 p.p. Free for children under 13 accompanied by their parents.

TOPOGRAPHICAL GUIDE AND APP

CYCLING AND MOUNTAIN BIKING ROUTE GUIDE FOR ALL LEVELS

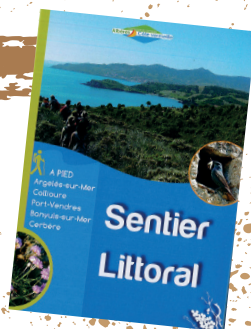
Whether you're just curious, a beginner, a nature lover, or an enthusiast: this topographical guide will help you to get to know our cycling and mountain biking trails. The ten routes outlined by the Vélo Club des Albères (Albera Cycling Club) are colour coded (green, blue, red and black) according to their difficulty and the appeal of the landscape (100 kilometres of signposted routes).



COASTAL PATH GUIDE

'From Argelès-sur-Mer to Cerbère'

More than 40 kilometres of coastline are covered in 15 routes, featuring outstanding views of the mountains and the sea. You'll be walking along with exceptional panoramic views, imbued with Catalan history and culture. Guaranteed escapism! For both locals and tourists, this path has become a special place for walking and bathing.



TOURIST OFFICE WEBSITE

www.argeles-sur-mer.com

Discover all the walking, hiking and cycling routes, as well as mountain biking trails.

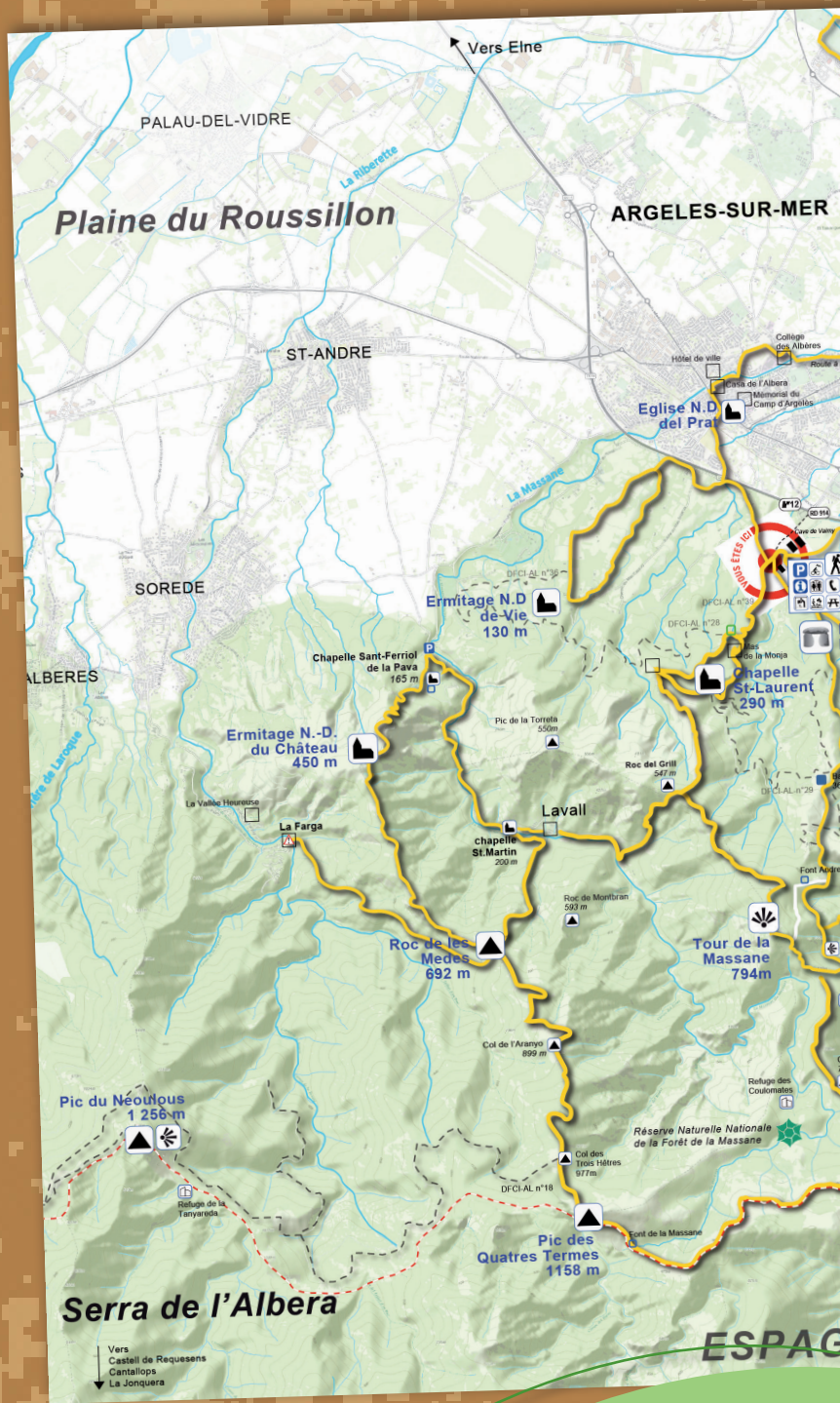
FREE APP - GEOTREK PYRÉNÉES MÉDITERRANÉE

Visit the Pyrénées-Méditerranée region! This mobile app allows you to discover all the outdoor activities on offer and learn about the local heritage. Explore this exceptional area by foot, mountain bike, road bike, trail running or on horseback or head to the water for canoeing, kayaking, sailing and paddleboarding.

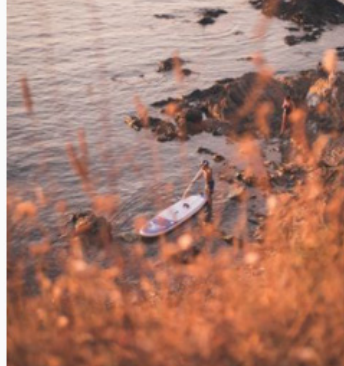
rando.tourisme-pyrenees-mediterranee.fr



OVERVIEW OF HIKING PATHS







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www.argeles-sur-mer.com

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