



Hillwalking in Cévennes France's finest hill-walking

Highlights

- ☞ Enjoy a fabulous walk along the mountain crest en route to St Jean du Gard
- ☞ Hike an infamous Cevenol trail used by Camisards to attack the King's garrison during the Huguenots Uprising
- ☞ Opportunity to enjoy a steam train ride to Anduze and back*
- ☞ Visit the Museum of the Desert in Mialet [in memory of the Protestants persecuted in Cevennes] and the Museum of Cevenol Life*
- ☞ Walk the final section of the classic Stevenson Trail

Fact File

- ✓ 6-night independent, moderate walking tour, with two flexible days.
- ✓ Multi-thematic and Multi-centre tour, staying 2 nights in three different locations.
- ✓ Commence any day from March to mid-October.
- ✓ Start in Alès and finish in St Jean du Gard.
- ✓ Enjoy a short train ride on 'Le Cevenol.'
- ✓ We transport your luggage, you carry a day pack
- ✓ Enjoy the comforts of one 2-star and two 3-star hotels, incl. 2 out-door heated pools.



Theme

Hillwalking in Cevennes is a fascinating journey from The Middle Ages to modernity, depicting man's enduring capacity to overcome whatever obstacles are thrown in his way. Discover an enigmatic 'region' of extraordinary beauty and cultural diversity. Topographically characterised by wave after wave of rolling hill and incised valley, it is a paradise for walkers who like great scenery and isolation without the demands and storms that epitomise walking in The Alps and The Pyrenees.

Hillwalking in Cevennes explores a multitude of themes that have marked the history of France, and influenced the wider world, since the dawn of Modern Times: Cevennes as 'terre de refuge et de tolerance' for Huguenots, Spanish Republicans, Jew, Maquis fighters, hippies and more currently, gays; the rise and fall of political economies, the 'Idea of Progress,' countryside exodus and current tentative efforts to re-settle, preserve ancient crafts and explore alternative, green futures; and man's struggle to strike a balance between structuring and protecting his environment.

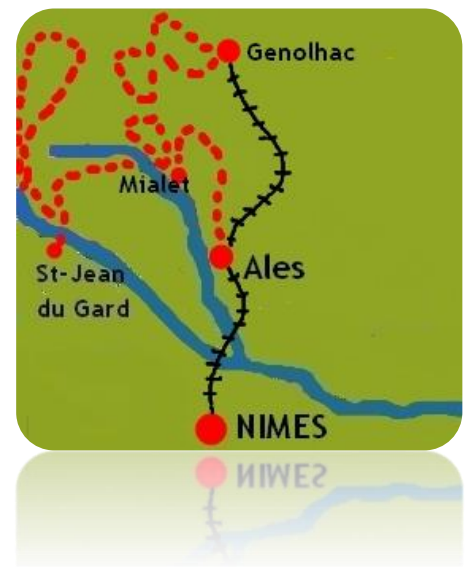
Experience a common heritage in microcosm and an oasis of over-looked and under-explored life. Causse & Cevennes has just gained the much sought-after 'poisoned chalice' of Unesco World Heritage site, so walk it now before the car parks and visitor centres are constructed in the name of 'tourisme verte'!





6-night tour itinerary¹

- Day 1** **Alès.**
 Arrive at the Gateway to the Cevennes and enjoy an evening in this interesting market town.
 Night in Alès.
- Day 2** **Montclar Pass.**
 [10 miles-15kms, with shorter option, + 750ms, - 750ms for full option.]
 Short train ride to Génolhac and a figure-eight hike in the heart of Huguénot country. Zig-zag up an ancient drovers' trail to a picturesque plateau and pass. Then walk the second loop down to two Cevenol villages or search for the ruins of Chastellas.
 Second night in Alès.
- Day 3** **Cevennes Panorama.**
 [12 miles-18 kms, +520ms, -565ms.]
 The day starts with a taxi transfer to the start of the trail. You walk to Mialet across the mountain crest with outstanding views eastwards over the entire Garrigue as far as Mont Ventoux in Provence and beyond to the Alps; northwards to Mont Lozere, south-westwards to Mont Aigoual and southwards to Pic St Loup and the Mediterranean. You can also visit The Protestant Museum en route.
 Night near Anduze.
- Day 4** **La Fage.**
 [9.5 miles-14.5 kms, + 495ms, - 485ms.]
 Short transfer after breakfast. The hill-crest walking continues, with spectacular views west to Mount Aigoule. Then descend into the valley and onto the Grotte and the Pont des Camisards.
 Second night near Anduze.
- Day 5** **Mialet to St Jean du Gard.**
 [light option: 6 miles-9.5 kms, + 160ms, - 155ms; or moderate option: 11.5 miles -18 km, + 315ms, - 310ms.]
 Today you have two walk choices: walk only the morning, along the Gardon Valley and follow the GR 61 to St Jean, or head south along hill crest and past dolmen and grotto. There's plenty to do in the afternoon: steam train to nearby Anduze, museum of Cevennes culture, castle, cafes and restaurants...not to mention the heated out-door swimming pool.
 Night in St Jean du Gard.
- Day 6** **Corniche des Cevennes.**
 [10 miles-15kms, +/- 485ms.]
 The grand finale of the week: climb an ancient drovers' trail, walked by Robert Louis Stevenson in 1878, to a memorable 360 degree panorama.
 Second night in St Jean du Gard.
- Day 7** **End of Tour.** Breakfast and departure. Ask us about onward journey options.





Accommodation and What's Included

- 6 nights Bed & Breakfast & hotel taxes] in 2 and 3-star hotels
- 2 picnic lunches and 2 evening meals in Mialet - enjoy an abundance of choice in Alès and St Jean
- Luggage transfers and morning transfers relevant to tour.
- Return train tickets from Ales to Genolhac
- We carry your luggage from hotel to hotel, with no weight limits ².
- Walking dossier, walking Insight Notes™ and 1:25,000 scale maps.
- Emergency phone support with local native English-speaking back up.



Prices 2017:

**Per person based on two sharing a double or twin-bedded room:
£620.00 Pounds Sterling# or €695.00 Euros**

Our Guarantee

In accordance with "The Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992" all passengers are fully protected for the initial deposit and subsequently the balance of all monies paid to us, arising from cancellation or curtailment of your holiday arrangements due to insolvency, irrespective of method of payment.

¹ We reserve the right to alter parts of the above programme for the benefit of safety and the quality of the overall experience.

² This allows you to take more than one piece of luggage per person, but no valuables or sensitive equipment such as computers or business equipment.

Please contact us to check for the latest Sterling prices. Sterling prices are confirmed at the time of booking.

* Optional activities at extra cost



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