



Donkey Trekking Stevenson

A classic trek in a lighter format in perfect company

Fact File

- ☞ Hike in R. L. Stevenson's footsteps, with a donkey carrying your luggage, along a World's top Travel Adventure [Forbes Traveler], who recommend us as your hosts¹.
- ☞ Flexible starting, any day from mid-April to mid-October.
- ☞ Six days of self-guided walking that pose a light-to-moderate challenge.
- ☞ Start in Le Puy-en-Velay, finish in La Bastide, with best access from Lyon.
- ☞ Welcoming auberges and hotels.

Theme

Donkey trekking Stevenson is quintessentially animal-friendly, green, modern and yet retro: enjoy a classic hike, at a leisurely pace, across 85 kilometres/56 miles of ancient Velay and Gévaudan in the company of a trusted and long-eared travel companion.

Your holiday commences with a short training session in asinine handling and negotiating skills, Your companion carries your luggage and is fed and housed by your hosts en route. You'll learn much that will prove invaluable both during and after your 'guided' walking adventure. Life changing? Champion the cause of modern-day, eco-friendly adventure travel!



7-night Itinerary¹

- Day 1** Le Puy.
Arrival and hotel check-in. A visit to Le Puy merits a day's stay in itself, so get there early!
- Day 2** Le Monastier to Goudet. [6.5 miles-9.5 kms, approx. 3½ hrs, +190 ms -325 ms]
Taxi transfer (20 kms) to Le Monastier, where RLS started his trek. Enjoy your short induction before commencing your descent into the Upper Loire Valley.
- Day 3** Goudet to Le Bouchet St Nicolas. [8.5 miles-12.5 kms, approx. 4½ hrs, +400 ms]
You climb through charming hamlets and across volcanic plateau, before arriving at Stevenson's next overnight stop.
- Day 4** Le Bouchet St Nicolas to Pradelles. [12½ miles-19 kms, approx. 5½ hrs, +285 ms -375 ms]
Enjoy the Arquejol viaduct and views from the volcanic plateau en route to the 'City of High Prairies'.
- Day 5** Pradelles to Langogne. [3.5 miles-5.5 kms, 2½ hrs, -200 ms, plus 5 kms round trip to the lake at 2½ hrs.]
Follow a 19th century variant of the Regordane to Langogne. Lunch is on the banks of Lake Naussac, before you continue the short walk down to Langogne for a tour of its historic 'circulade.'
- Day 6** Langogne to Cheylard l'Eveque. [11 miles-16 kms, approx. 4½ hrs hrs, +320 ms -150 ms]
Traverse the land of the 'Beast of Gevaudan', through forest and charming hamlet en route to the medieval Cheylard, with its hill-top chapel.
- Day 7** Cheylard l'Eveque to La Bastide. [12.5 miles-19 kms. approx. 5½ hrs, +240 ms -380 ms]
Descend to your lakeside lunch-spot and onwards to Luc castle. Then head south through linear settlements and across the Allier.
- Day 8** End of Tour.
Breakfast and onward journey by mountain railway. Au revoir and see you soon for Part Two of the trail.



Accommodation and What's Included

- 7-nights B&B in 2-star hotels, auberges or equivalent chambres d'hotels¹.
- 6 evening meals - leaving you free to choose where to eat dinner in le Puy and buy packed lunches en route - options are documented in the dossier & notes.
- Taxi transfer at the start and finish of the tour; donkey collection at the end.
- Donkey hire and induction session in donkey handling.
- Up to 30 kgs of luggage transported by your donkey².
- Overnight nourishment and accommodation for the donkey.
- 1:50,000 maps, excellent walking notes & dossier
- Emergency telephone back-up & support for you and the donkey.



Prices 2018: Per person based on two sharing: £895.00# or €995.00 Euros

Notes:

¹ see website tour page for details. We reserve the right to alter parts of the above programme for the benefit of group safety and the quality of the overall experience. Accommodation provided may vary slightly depending on availability at time of booking, although the general standard will be maintained.

² Please do not bring more unless you plan to carry it on your own backs. However, we can also transfer your luggage for a supplement. Please ask for details.

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

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Our Guarantee

In accordance with "The Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992" all passengers booking with The Enlightened Traveller® are fully protected for the initial deposit and subsequently the balance of all monies paid to us, including repatriation if required, arising from cancellation or curtailment of your travel arrangements due to the insolvency of The Enlightened Traveller®.

