



## Donkey Trekking Stevenson

**A classic trek in a 'lighter' format and in perfect company**

### Fact File

- ☞ Hike in R. L. Stevenson's footsteps, with a donkey carrying your luggage.
- ☞ World's top Travel Adventure [Forbes Traveler], who recommend us as your hosts along with The Times broadsheet<sup>1</sup>.
- ☞ Flexible starting, any day from mid-April to mid-October.
- ☞ Five 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 of 2-star standard.

### 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. Champion the cause of eco-friendly adventure travel!



### 6-night Itinerary<sup>1</sup> (Timings, distances and elevations are approximate)

- 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 Goudet to Le Bouchet St Nicolas. [8.5 miles-12.5 kms, approx. 4½ hrs, +400 ms]  
Taxi transfer (30 kms) to Goudet for your donkey induction programme. Then climb through charming hamlets and across volcanic plateau, before arriving at Stevenson's first overnight stop.
- Day 3 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 4 Pradelles to Cheylard l'Eveque. [11 miles-18 kms, 6 hrs, +310 ms -320 ms]  
Descend to Langogne along the 18<sup>th</sup> C Regordane Way and into the land of the 'Beast of Gévaudan'; through forest and charming hamlet en route to the medieval village of Cheylard, with church and hill-top chapel.
- Day 5 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 south through linear settlements and alongside the Allier river.
- Day 6 La Bastide to Chasserades. [8 miles-12 kms, 4 hrs, +330 ms - 160 ms]  
Climb to the Chambonnet Plateau and through the Gardille forest en route to the charming hamlet of Chabalier. You cross paths again with the l'Allier before descending to charming Chasserades.
- Day 7 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

- 6-nights B&B in 2-star hotels, auberges or equivalent chambres d'hotels<sup>1</sup>.
- 5 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 donkey<sup>2</sup>.
- Overnight nourishment and accommodation for the donkey.
- 1:50,000 maps, excellent walking notes & dossier
- Telephone back-up & support for you and the donkey.



**Prices 2024: Per person based on two sharing: €1175.00 Euros or £995.00 Pounds Sterling**

### Notes:

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Please do not bring more unless you plan to carry it on your own backs. However, our donkey handler can store and deliver it to your final hotel.

## The Enlightened Traveller®

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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®.*

