



Medieval cross

Best of the Régordane Way

Hike a thousand years of French history

Tour Highlights

- ☞ Discover France's quintessential historical trail.
- ☞ Explore Gaul's earliest north-south trading route.
- ☞ Follow in the tracks of Kings, Archbishops and pilgrims.
- ☞ Hike the path taken by The Reformation.
- ☞ Marvel at the ruts engraved by medieval mule drivers, with its distinctive village architecture.
- ☞ Visit medieval villages, The Chassezac Gorge and enjoy two nights on the banks of Lake Villefort and a ride on the Cevenol Mountain Railway .



Fact File

- ✓ Self-guided, inn-to-inn tour following a geological fault
- ✓ line on the confluence of three regions: Auvergne, Rhone-Alpes and Languedoc-Roussillon.
- ✓ 4-night moderate tour from Pradelles to Genolhac.
- ✓ Average 6 hours and 13 miles/20 kms a day.
- ✓ Convenient access from Clarmont-Ferrand or Nimes.
- ✓ Start any day from mid-April to late-October.
- ✓ Luggage transfers throughout.
- ✓ '2-star standard' hotels plus 4-star guest house.



Theme

The Regordane Way is arguably France's most important historical route. The middle section of the much longer St Giles Way, you walk a 39-mile/60-kilometre section of medieval Christendom's fourth-most-important pilgrimage trail. The main historical trading route to Lower Languedoc, it was the line of least resistance along which the ideas of the Reformation flowed with such devastating effect into Cevennes.

Whilst most of the original surface has long been destroyed, some of it still remains to be enjoyed. The fascinating villages that punctuated its length still remain, some in an advanced state of decay, others in historical 'suspended animation'. However, the impressive scenery has changed little over the centuries, but for the construction of Le Cevenol mountain railway in the mid-nineteenth century.

Some of the highlights along the trail include the medieval granite cités of Pradelles and Garde-Guerin on the Chassezac Gorge; the ancient sections of the trail both before and after Lake Villefort; and the appreciation of one thousand years of French history that makes this trails such an important part of Gallic heritage.





The view from l'Estrade

The Best of the Regordane Way poses a moderate physical challenge and is there to be enjoyed from April to October thanks to our carefully-selected and welcoming mix of accommodation bolstered by luggage transfers. Assess and departure is convenient, either from Nîmes via Alès, or Paris via Clermont-Ferrand, in both cases by the impressive tracks of the Cevenol mountain railway line on which you get to ride back for your second and final night on the banks of Lake Villefort.

The Best of the Regordane Way takes you over the Gevaudan Plateau and down the schist slopes of the eastern Cevennes, and accurately retraces the path that French kings, Simon de Montfort, pilgrims, medieval traders, armies and pastors followed south to 'Alaïs' and The Mediterranean.

Note: this 'best of' format showcases the highlights of the trail that has thereafter largely been destroyed over the years as you approach Alès, the Gateway to Cevennes. We have thus decided to omit it from our Regordane tour format. Nonetheless, for those who are determined to walk the trail in its entirety, as per the pilgrims that continue to walk from Le Puy-en-Velay to St Gilles-du-Gard, we do offer options for you to do so upon demand. Please ask us for details or see website for St Giles Way Parts One and Two.

North of Mont Lozere





4-night Itinerary¹

Day 1 Arrival in Langogne by train by 18.00 hrs.

Transfer on arrival at the SNCF station to the medieval granite 'cité' of Pradelles. Get there early as there is plenty to see! Night in Pradelles.

Day 2 Pradelles to La Bastide.

[15½ miles/25 kms, +185 ms, -525 ms, approx. 7 hrs walking time]

You depart from Pradelles via the original and sacred medieval route [not the recently-launched GR700 tourist trail] and enjoy the historic path taken by pilgrims and tradesmen, as you cross from the region of Auvergne into Rhone-Alpes and finally into Languedoc-Roussillon. Visit Luc castle before meandering through charming linear settlements to your overnight coaching inn. Night in La Bastide.

Day 3 La Bastide to Villefort.

[12½ miles/20 kms, +215 ms, -590 ms, approx. 6½ hrs walking time]

An unforgettable walk through French history, along hill crest and volcanic plateau to a medieval village on the Chaussezac gorge and then onto Lake Villefort.

Night in Villefort.

Day 4 Villefort to Genolhac.

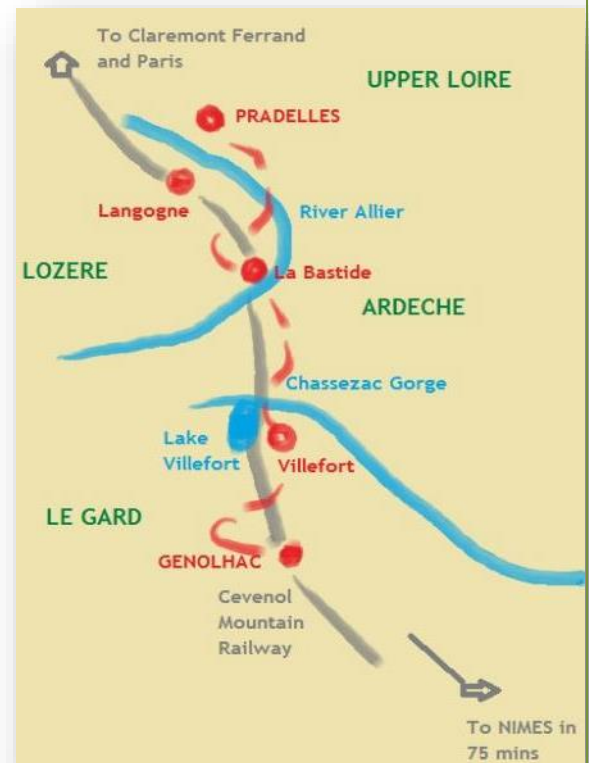
[11 miles-15 kms, approx. 5 hrs, +280 ms -400 ms]

Visit a cliff top chapel, subject of its own pilgrimage, before you enter the Gard via a fine trail through the villages at the foot of Mont Lozere, with their unique Roman churches, before arriving in charming Genolhac.

Night in Genolhac.

Day 5 Departure Day.

Breakfast and transfer to Villefort station for onward train to Nimes or Paris via Claremont-Ferrand. Au revoir, bon retour et à bientôt!



*Bridge over the
Chassezac River*



What's Included

- ✓ 4 nights in carefully-selected and comfortable accommodation.
- ✓ 4 breakfasts and evening meals.
- ✓ Industry-leading hiking notes, 1:25,000 maps and themed dossier
- ✓ Luggage & people transfers relevant to the tour ²
- ✓ Telephone help-line service with 7/7 and 8 till late native English support



Not included

- ⊗ Remaining meals and all drinks and extras - lunch options are listed in your dossier and walking notes
- ⊗ Personal expenses
- ⊗ Entrances into any optional cultural visits and venues
- ⊗ Hiking, personal and travel insurances
- ⊗ Single rooms - unless booked at the single-person rate
- ⊗ Travel to and from the tour start and finish points.



The commanding view from Pradelles



The
medieval
cit  of
Garde-
Guerin



2-star
standard
Hotels
plus a
four-star
Chmbres
d'hotes
du
charme

“Carefully-selected accommodation based on knowing our partners well.”

As always, and subject to availability, our commitment is to offer the best accommodation at every stage along the trail. You stay in comfortable accommodation of a good standard, with private rooms and en suite facilities throughout, that has been carefully selected on the basis of superior cuisine, facilities, location, service and welcome.

Accommodation comprises a range of ‘2-star standard’ hotels plus a fine 4-star guest house for a big finish - all with evening meals included.

The contents of packed lunches can be purchased before you commence each day’s walking or from your hosts. Relevant details are in the tour dossier and walking notes.



La Molette





Cobbled causeway near Villefort

Access & Departure

Access

- **By air:** to Lyon, Nimes or Paris, with Marseille and Montpellier as next-best alternatives.
- **By rail:**
 - i. From UK, Eurostar to Lille and change for Nimes. Then change again for Langogne [TER].
 - ii. From Paris, to Claremont-Ferrand and onward train to Langogne.

Departure

- **By rail:** via Alès [TER] to Nimes in 90 minutes [please ask us for details] and onward train to Lyon [90 mins], Paris CG airport [3½ hours] or Lille [4½ hours].
- **Departure by air:** from Lyon, Paris, Montpellier, or Nimes to Luton via RyanAir.

Our customers recommend www.RailEurope.com for research and ticketing.

Ten reasons to book with The Enlightened Traveller®



- ❶ Best accommodation, better service and recommended by The Times
- ❷ Benefit from French-based expertise and our total focus on France
- ❸ Buy direct from us, the tour provider, and get great value for money
- ❹ Personalise your trip to suit your needs
- ❺ Industry-leading walking notes make orientation easy
- ❻ 1:25 000 full scale maps & insightful dossier
- ❼ 7/7 and 8 till late telephone support in native English
- ❽ We transport your luggage from hotel to hotel. Option to travel along with your luggage if you need a rest day: subject to availability, places are limited³.
- ❾ Peace of mind: your money is safe when booking with us - all passengers are fully insured for the initial deposit and balance, irrespective of the means of payment, in the unlikely event of insolvency.
- ❿ Anglo-French family business that tries harder: We'll look after you like one of the family!

Lake Villefort



Per person in double or
twin-bedded room:

**2024
prices:**

**£660.00 Pounds Sterling or
€760.00 Euros**

Booking

Email, phone or Skype us and we
will email you everything you need
to reserve your tour.

Notes

- 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 covers one piece of luggage per person up to 15 kgs in weight. Supplements apply for overweight luggage and we accept no responsibility for lost valuables. We advise you not to bring computers and business-related equipment.



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Our Guarantee

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