



## Hiking Tarn Gorges trails

### The best trails along the mythical gorge

*Troglodyte  
heaven*

#### Tour Highlights

- ☞ Experience the contrast between limestone plateau and deeply incised gorge.
- ☞ Explore troglodyte ruins and lost villages.
- ☞ Stay in memorable over-night locations.
- ☞ Walk a fine mix of GR, GRP & PR trail designed to bring you the very best of Causses-Cevennes, with options to suit your preferences.



#### Fact File

- ✓ Self-guided, inn-to-inn tour along the Tarn Gorges.
- ✓ 4-night light-to-moderate or moderate tour to suite you.
- ✓ Start in picturesque Le Rozier, finish in sumptuous Ste-Enimie.
- ✓ Average 5 to 6 hours walking and 9 miles/15 kms a day.
- ✓ Convenient access from Millau or free parking available in Le Rozier.
- ✓ Departures any day from early-April to late October.
- ✓ Luggage transfers throughout.
- ✓ Good accommodation standard, including a chateau stay.

#### Theme

Hiking Tarn Gorges trails offers the perfect short-term total immersion experience into one of France's superlative walking experiences - the mythical banks, ridges and trails of the Tarn canyon. This essential insight takes you in a clock-wise direction from Le Rozier, on the confluence of the Jonte and Tarn gorges, to the honey-pot village of Ste-Enimie. In between you hike a series of fabulous ridges that are guaranteed to enamour the most spoilt of hikers, with overnight stops in Les Vignes and La Malene.

Hike One is a light-to-moderate hike along the edge of Causse Sauveterre that will acquaint you with some of the Gorge's finest architectural manifestations [deserted troglodyte ruins] as well as its finest avifauna: griffin vultures.

Hikes Two and Three provide a choice between leisurely walking along the ridges bordering the River Tarn, or more challenging [moderate] morning climbs up to the majestic Causse Mejean to enjoy the views, before an afternoon decent to your over-night watering hole. The choice is yours and you can make it on the day according to how to fitness and preferences.

You also have time to enjoy an optional one-hour trip through the narrowest section of the Gorge du Tarn on board a small raft in the safe company of the boatmen or "Bataliers" of La Malène - not to be missed! - and the accommodation comes in standard or superior formats, with the latter comprising a stay in a 17th century chateau with gourmet restaurant.





*The Gorge bottom*

This part of France was opened up to tourism by the construction of the D907 [bis] that runs from Ste-Enimie south west to Les Roziers along the right bank of The Tarn. The good news is that you can enjoy your perambulations in blissful isolation from the motoring and camping car community, and avoid the tarmac in the process. You may cross paths in a restaurant or hotel, but otherwise your experience and perambulations are very much distinct.

If you are looking for three days of sumptuous hiking of either a light or moderate challenge to suit you, then Hiking Tarn Gorges trails is the perfect trip.

## 4-night Itinerary<sup>1</sup>

### Day 1 Arrival Day in Le Rozier.

Check into your hotel, where the Tarn and the Jonte gorges converge.  
Night in Le Rozier-Peyreleau.

### Day 2 Le Rozier to Les Vignes.

[9 miles/14.25 kms, 5 hrs, +500 ms ascent, -90 ms descent]

You cross the Tarn and walk a narrow ridge to troglodyte ruins, the Cirque de St Marcellin and its eponymous chapel. Collection from St Rome and night in Les Vignes.



### Day 3 Les Vignes to La Malène.

- a) Light Route [7½ miles/12 kms, 4½ hrs, +135 ms ascent, - 100 ms descent]
- b) Moderate Route [8 miles/13½ kms, 6 hrs, +500 ms ascent, - 475 ms descent]

Choose the light or moderate option according to taste and either follow the riverside or climb back up to Causse Mejean. Then enjoy an optional one-hour boat trip in the company of the 'bataliers' or defer this till the 'morrow. Night in La Malène.

### Day 4 La Malène to Ste-Enimie.

- a) Light Route [9 miles/15 kms, 5 hrs, +180 ms, -120 ms.]
- b) Moderate Route [15 miles/24.25 kms, 8 hrs, +810 ms, - 650 ms - please ask re option to split this day into two, leaving you more time to enjoy Ste-Enimie.]

Two options again, with divergent challenges: the gentle and bucolic valley trail versus the Causse and more superb views from up high. All roads lead to an overnight stay to savour in Ste-Enimie. Night in Ste-Enimie.

### Day 5 End of Tour - Breakfast and onward journey by taxi. Bon retour et à la prochaine!





*The 'beach' at St Chely du Tarn*

## What's Included

- ✓ 4 nights in carefully-selected and comfortable accommodation
- ✓ 4 breakfasts, 3 picnic lunches and 3 evening meals.
- ✓ Industry-leading hiking notes, 1:25,000 maps and themed dossier
- ✓ Luggage transfers throughout <sup>2</sup>
- ✓ Transfer from St Rome to Les Vignes
- ✓ Telephone help-line service with 7/7 and 8 till 8 native English support.



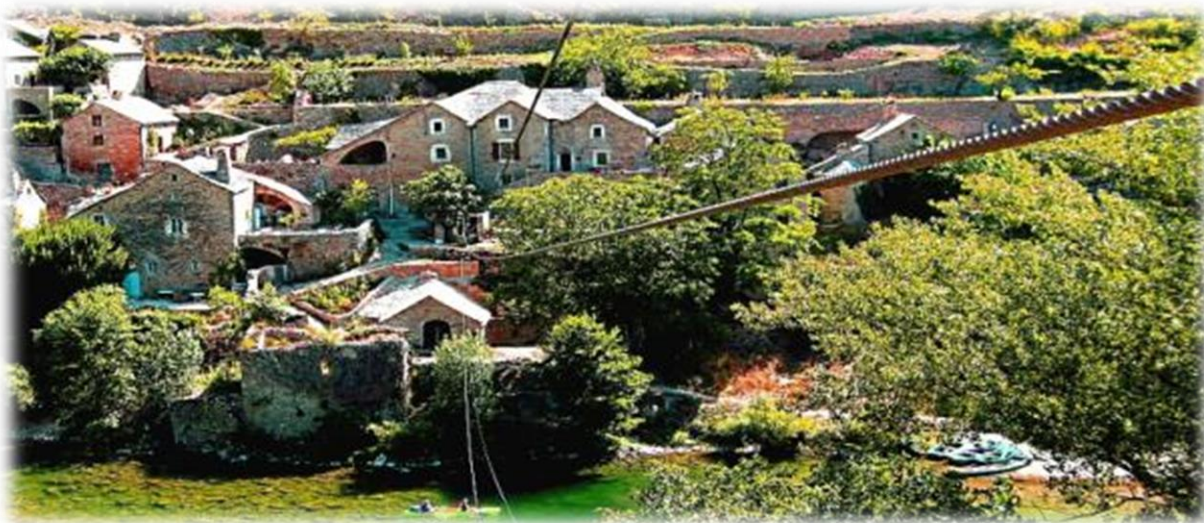
## Not included

- ⊗ Remaining meals and all drinks and extras - lunch options are listed in your dossier and 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.





*Hamlets lost on the  
other side*



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

**Comfort-  
able  
hotels,  
incl.  
Chateau  
stay**

As always, and subject to availability, our commitment is to offer the best accommodation in 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 facilities, location, service and welcome.

Accommodation comprises an exclusive riverside chateau, two 2-star standard hotels, plus a stay in a charming chambres d’hotes [guest house]. All offer a warm welcome.

Three evening meals and three packed lunches are included, leaving you to choose from the extensive menu available at the Chateau’s gourmet restaurant.





*The view from  
on high*



## Access & Departure

The Tarn Gorge is located in Lozere, France's most remote department. However, customers who opt for this tour consistently state that the extra effort is handsomely rewarded: the tour consistently gets the highest customer feedback ratings in our post-tour evaluations.

**Access is from Millau Gare SNCF or bus station [gare routiere].**

**From Millau to Le Rozier** - a regular bus service takes 35 minutes or a taxi approximately twenty minutes. Taxis are in plentiful supply at the Gare SNCF, which is next to the bus station.

**The best way of getting to Millau is from Montpellier by bus. Details are...**

**1. Buses** - you have two options:

*a. Bus no 381*, run by Herault transport. The 381 bus departs from 'Station Mosson' on the TaM Tramway. The bus stop is right next to the TaM Tramway stop.

This bus stops frequently and is a longer, less comfortable ride than the SNCF bus. Buy ticket as you board the bus - about €12.

*b. SNCF bus no 12*, a comfortable, direct service, but with limited departure times. Buy ticket from train station in Montpellier or Millau for about €20.

**2. TaM Tramway - Montpellier Trams**

To connect with Bus no 381, use the TaM Tramway connection between Montpellier St Roch SNCF station and Station Mosson.

Allow approx. twenty minutes for the journey and trams run frequently. Buy tickets from machine beside the tramway stop before boarding.

The nearest airports are i) Beziers, ii) Montpellier, iii) Rodez, or iv) Toulouse.

**Alternative ways to Millau:**

i) From Beziers - trains depart every day at 18:26, arriving in Millau at 20:21.

ii) From Rodez - a bus service links to Millau in under 2 hours.

iii) Toulouse - fast train to Beziers and change for Millau.

**By Car** - ask us about the free parking for your car for those who wish to drive to Le Rozier.







*Great views from the ridges*

## Ten reasons to book with The Enlightened Traveller®



- ① Best accommodation, better service and recommended by The Times
- ② Benefit from French-based expertise and our total focus on France
- ③ Buy direct from us, the tour provider, and get great value for money
- ④ Personalise your tour to suit your preferences on two days
- ⑤ Industry-leading walking notes make orientation easy
- ⑥ 1:25 000 full scale maps & insightful dossier
- ⑦ 7/7 and 8 till 8 telephone support in native English
- ⑧ 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 limited<sup>3</sup>.
- ⑨ 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.
- ⑩ Anglo-French family business that tries harder: We'll look after you like one of the family!

*St-Chely from above*





## Les Vignes



## 2024 prices:

Per person based on two sharing a room:  
£665.00 Pounds Sterling or €795.00 Euros

## Booking

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

### Notes

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

<sup>2</sup> This covers one piece of luggage per person up to 13 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.

Option to have extra luggage stored and delivered to your last hotel for onward travel.

### The Enlightened Traveller®

Walking Holidays in France Ltd.

12 Park Lane, Tilehurst,

READING, RG31 5DL

England

Tels:

UK: (0800) 4488 404

France: 06 95 04 12 63

E: [info@walking-holidays-france.com](mailto:info@walking-holidays-france.com)

I: <https://walking-holidays-france.com>

Skype: theenlightenedtraveller

Facebook.com/TheEnlightenedTraveller

Instagram.com/the.enlightened.traveller

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