

## CONFLENT-CANIGÓ WALKS

### THUÈS-entre-VALLS: the path to MAS BARET

*This is a fine walk which starts at the large car park at the entrance to the Carança Gorge. There are excellent views and places of historical interest along the way. Part of the route follows a former donkey track which climbs to the former farmstead of Mas Baret (shown on the current IGN map as 'Mas d'Albaret'). From there you have a magnificent view over an area called Haut-Conflemt.*

*Duration:* 3h30 (plus stops)

*Distance:* 6 km

*Waymarks:* yellow

*Difference in altitude between highest and lowest points:* 560 metres

*You climb in total:* 590 metres

*Level of difficulty:* Moderately difficult, with quite a long steep climb. In places the path is rocky or has loose stones.

#### ROUTE DESCRIPTION

**Start: Thuès-entre-Valls, the entrance to the Carança Gorge, where there is a large car park - altitude 838m.**

*The village of Thuès-entre-Valls is located on the N116 main road between Mont-Louis and Olette (the latter lies 6.5 km to the east of Thuès). Once in the village, follow signs to the car park. Cars must be parked here. Parking charges apply.*

*There is also a railway station at Thuès, near the start of this walk, on the line of the "Yellow Train", which runs between Villefranche-de-Conflemt and Mont-Louis.*

**1** From the car park, cross the Carança river by a footbridge which is close to a snack bar. The path climbs quite steeply. You cross a bridge which spans the railway line. Higher up you pass close to a large pipeline which goes down the mountainside (this, and other constructions along the way, are part of the Têt valley hydro-electricity network.)

**2** On reaching a path with a building opposite, go to the right (the path to the left goes into the Carança Gorge). Your route is signed for "Baret".

#### Mountain code of conduct

- Check the weather forecast
- Go well equipped: with walking shoes or boots, a sunhat and some drinking water
- Keep to waymarked routes
- Respect fauna and flora
- Carry out all your litter
- Act in accordance with signs and notices
- Leave gates and fences as you find them
- Make no unnecessary noise
- Don't light fires

The path traverses the mountainside in woodland. Later, it descends a little, to the left, and it passes under an enclosed canal. The path crosses a stream bed (probably dry), then it bends to the right.

**3** Path fork, soon after the stream bed crossing. The path going straight ahead leads to Fontpédrouse. Leave that and take the path going up on the left (it is again signed for "Baret").

You now have a steep, steady climb. It is not much more than one kilometre in distance, but it could easily take over one hour.

**4** Mas Baret. The buildings of this former farmstead were abandoned several years ago. Parts of them have since been restored by the local council of Thuès, with help from volunteers of a local footpath society called Camivern.

Take care to keep away from any of the buildings which are still in ruins.

- Emergency telephone numbers: 112 (or 18 - the *pompiers* fire and emergency service)
- Map: IGN 2250 ET Bourg-Madame Mont-Louis, or 2249 ET Font Romeu

Follow the yellow waymarks beyond a wooden barrier, and climb the semi-open slope above Mas Baret.

**5** You reach an almost flat, open grazing area. Notice here a fine *orri* (a drystone cabin formerly used by shepherds).

There are extensive views over the Haut-Conflemt area, with Fontpédrouse down below in the Têt valley.

Return to the start of the walk by the same route.

*A road up the Têt valley, the Via Confluentana, was created by the Romans. It connected the coastal plain and Cerdagne. Centuries later, as attested by a document of 952 AD, several hamlets were established in and above the valley. They were possessions of the Saint Michel de Cuxa abbey. These included a hamlet at "Mas Albaret", where several families were based. However, the settlement had ceased to exist as a hamlet by the thirteenth century.*

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(Translation 2019 by A.M.)

# Adresses et informations utiles

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**Les Balises** 

	GR® GR®T	GR®P	PR 	PR
Bonne Direction Continuité				
Changement de Direction Tourne à Gauche				
Changement de Direction Tourne à Droite				
Mauvaise Direction				

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- Se renseigner sur les conditions atmosphériques
- Être bien équipé : chaussures, chapeau, eau...
- Rester sur les sentiers balisés
- Respecter la Faune et la Flore
- Ramener ses déchets
- Respecter la réglementation affichée
- Ne pas oublier de refermer les barrières
- Rester silencieux et discret
- **- Ne pas faire de feu**

Météo : 08 99 71 02 66  
Urgences : 112 ou 15  
Pompiers : 18

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## Thuès-entre-Valls



## Le Mas Baret

Distance : 6 km

Temps : 3h30 (Hors arrêts)

Dénivelé Positif : 560 m

Dénivelé Positif Cumulé : 590 m

Difficulté :  Difficile

Balissage : Jaune 

## Panoramas et Patrimoine

Sentier rocailleux, montée engagée.

Un bel itinéraire au départ du parking des Gorges de la Carança, suivant l'ancien chemin muletier qui mène jusqu'au Mas Baret, et offre une magnifique vue sur le Haut-Conflent.

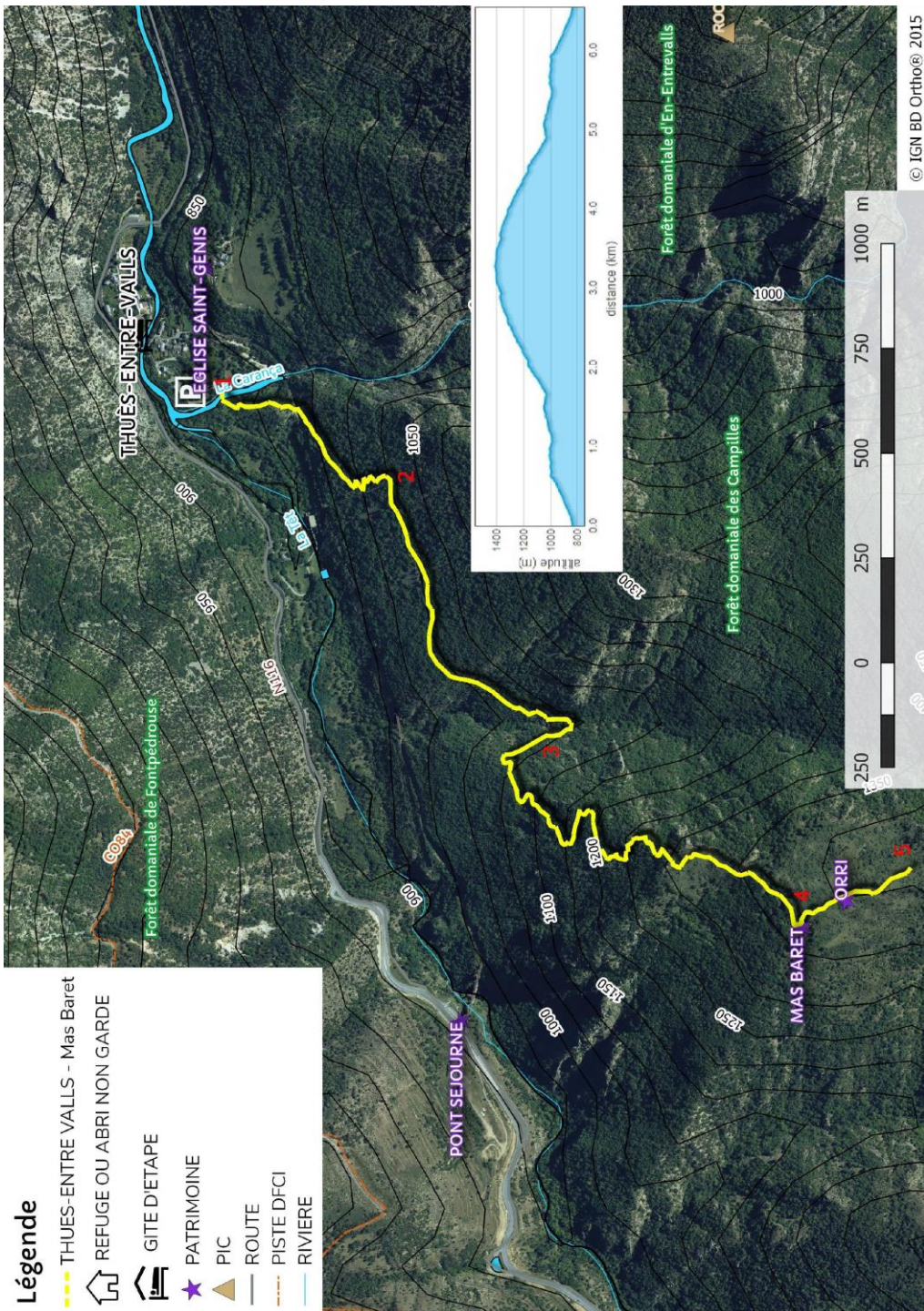


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**Départ Parking des Gorges de la Carança. - altitude 838 m. -**

*Accès : depuis la N116, sortie à Thuès-entre-Valls, traverser le village, parking.*

*Attention, parking obligatoire payant.*

- 1** Du parking, traverser le pont sur la Carança au niveau de la guinguette et se diriger vers la corniche. Le sentier monte, traverse la voie ferrée, puis rejoint la chambre d'eau.
- 2** Au niveau du bâtiment, laisser le sentier des Gorges de la Carança et prendre à droite le sentier qui file vers le Mas Baret. Passer sous une conduite d'eau.
- 3** Bifurcation. Laisser le sentier qui part en face et rejoint Fontpédrouse, et emprunter le sentier qui s'élève main gauche. Le chemin s'élève alors assez fortement pendant 1 km.
- 4** Mas Baret. Ancien mas abandonné, en cours de réhabilitation par la municipalité et l'association Camivern. Belle vue sur le Haut-Conflent. Attention, ne pas s'approcher des bâtiments ruinés. Passer les barrières tout en continuant sur le sentier.
- 5** Rejoindre un replat herbeux et remarquer un bel orri (cabane de berger en pierres sèches).

*Le retour s'effectue par le même itinéraire.*

*En lien avec l'Abbaye Saint-Michel-de-Cuxa s'érigent plusieurs hameaux dans la vallée de la Têt et en bordure de la Via Confluentana, notamment Saint-Romain, Thuès, Trèsballs et le mas de l'Albaret. Un document datant de 952 atteste ces lieux comme étant possessions de l'Abbaye Saint-Michel-de-Cuxa.*

*Le mas d'Albaret, regroupant plusieurs familles dans la forêt de Campilles plus loin dans la vallée de la Carança, disparaît assez rapidement au cours du XII<sup>e</sup> ou XIII<sup>e</sup> siècle.*

