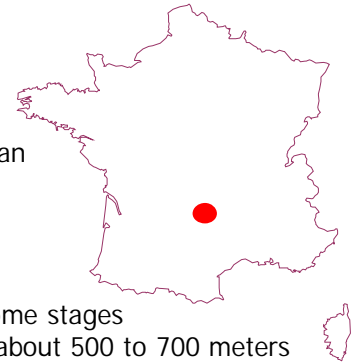


Season

From beginning of May to mid-October.

We recommend you to book this tour 3 or 4 months before the departure date if you plan to walk it in summer time. Great demand and few rooms!



Difficulty: grade 3

No major difficulty, you walk 6 to 8 hours a day. The grade 3 reflects the length of some stages (between 25 or 30 kilometers) and the nature of the terrain. The total altitude gain is about 500 to 700 meters a day, some ascents or descents could be steep. This walk requires a reasonable degree of walking experience and a current good state of fitness. The trail is well marked with red and white GR signs and yellow PR blazes.

Itinerary

8-day and 7-night self-guided circular walking holidays

Day 1 :Arrival at AUMONT-AUBRAC. The ancient fortified city located at the junction of the Via Agrippa (roman route linking Lyon to Toulouse) and the Via Podiensis (which leads to Santiago de Compostela) is home to a lovely church and the remains of an ancient Benedictine Priory - Half-board accommodation in a two-star hotel.

Day 2 : AUMONT – TERMES (20 km).This first stage passes through the foothills of the plateaus of Aubrac. You will leave Aumont, crossing through prairies and forests, to arrive in the village of Nozières, and then the Moulin de Jeannou (mill) on the banks of the Rimeize River. You will follow the river to Vareilles, then turn towards Fau de Peyre and Salèles. You will cross through a large wooded area, at times marshy, to arrive in the peaceful, and characteristic village of Termes - Half-board accommodation in a two-star hotel.

Day 3 : TERMES – NASBINALS (Pont de Gournier) (25 km). Crossing through the sylvan pine forest, you will slowly make your way to the high plateaus by way of Becus, the Moulin de la Bedaule, and the hamlets of Saint Laurent and La Védrinel. Above 1200 meters, the forest diminishes and you find yourself on the high plateaus : vast, isolated, and grassy. The path runs across the prairie towards the hamlets of Les Allatieux, Rieutort and Escudierettes, crosses over a few streams, and then follows the Bès to Le Pont de Gournier - Half-board accommodation in a two-star hotel.



Day 4 : PONT DE GOURNIER – LAGUIOLE (22 km). You will continue your hike along the heights of the plateaus, passing by the villages of Recoules d'Aubrac and Saint Urcize. The second is a tiny village built at the foot of a boulder, on which are situated the ruins of an ancient château which holds a church dating to the 13th and 14th centuries. You will then follow the path towards the Bois de Laguiole and the village of Laguiole, built on a basaltic piton around the Eglise du Fort (church). Laguiole is famous for its animal markets, its knives – the industry of which has taken on new life in the last few decades – and for its 3-star Michelin restaurant (under 30 in France) managed by Michel Bras, a native to the region - Half-board accommodation in a two-star hotel

Day 5 : LAGUIOLE – ST CHELY D' AUBRAC (23 km). You will leave Laguiole to sink into the forest and discover the ski resort of Laguiole, Le Bouyssou, built at the foot of the Puech du Roussillon and specialized in ski touring. You will continue this stage, walking through large forests and heading to the hamlet of Belvézet located by a volcano peak. Then you will follow the route to Santiago de Compostela to St Chély d'Aubrac. Half-board accommodation in a two-star hotel

Day 6 : ST CHELY D' AUBRAC – NASBINALS (25 km). From St Chely you will ascent to the high plateaus, making a detour via the hamlet of Les Enfrux and walking a former roman way through the forest and continuing to Aubrac through the meadows. The village of Aubrac was an important stop on the way of St James There, the Hospitallers

(knight-monks) once built a large abbey-hospital which used to receive pilgrims. This structure, which could receive more than a thousand people a day, was destroyed during the French Revolution. All that remains are the Tour des Anglais, a large, 15th century square tower, a very sober Romanesque church and the hospital, rebuilt during the 16th century (now a private residence). You will continue your walk to Nasbinals through the high plateaus. Half-board accommodation in a two-star hotel

Day 7 : NASBINALS - AUMONT AUBRAC (27 km). From Nasbinals you will head to the hamlet of Montgros, passing the the bridge over the Bès River. From this bridge, you will reach Rieutort, a small village characteristic of the Aubrac region, and continue your journey on the high plateaus, covered by grazing pastures and short stone walls. Once beyond the Moulin de la Folle (the Folle mill), the landscape changes and the forest returns to view. You are now in the Pays de Peyre (Peyre country), where you will pass in and out of shady and sunny stretches. You will cross Lasbros, pass in front of the Chapelle de Bastide (Bastide chapel), and cross through la Chaze-sur-Peyre to arrive in Aumont-Aubrac - Half-board accommodation in a two-star hotel

Day 8 : AUMONT AUBRAC. Tour ends after breakfast.

Access to and from

Outward journey to Aumont Aubrac

By train : Aumont-Aubrac is on the Paris-Clermont Ferrand-Beziers route. Daily Connections from Clermont by train or by bus to Aumont-Aubrac

By car : you reach Aumont-Aubrac following the A75 motorway "La Meridienne" and N9 road for entering the village

Where to park : unsupervised car park near the railway station in Aumont-Aubrac.



Accommodation

7 nights with accommodation in 2-star or family-run hotels on half-board basis

Accommodation is normally in large bed or twin-bedded rooms, with en-suite facilities (at least shower, washbasin and toilet) when available, which is 95% of the time. However, you can stay in remote spots or small villages where there is little or no choice of accommodations and where facilities may be limited. In this case, you will share a bathroom or shower room and toilets with some other people on the same storey.

Picnic lunches are not included in the tour but are available from the hotel on request the previous evening, alternatively picnic materials can be bought at the stop village or at each of the towns and villages along the route. We indicate in the route notes where there are suitable restaurants or cafés for lunch stops. We recommend you to carry food and drinks if there are none convenient to the trail.



Included

- Twin share accommodation with private facilities
- Baggage transfer between hotels (except for STD option)
- Route notes and maps
- 7 dinners
- Emergency phone number (8:00am to 7:00pm every day)

Not included

- Visa fees, transportation fees to and from the walk area
- Insurance (strongly recommended on all trips)
- Transfers except those mentioned above
- Drinks
- Additional meals
- Spending of personal nature e.g. laundry, souvenirs, phone calls...

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