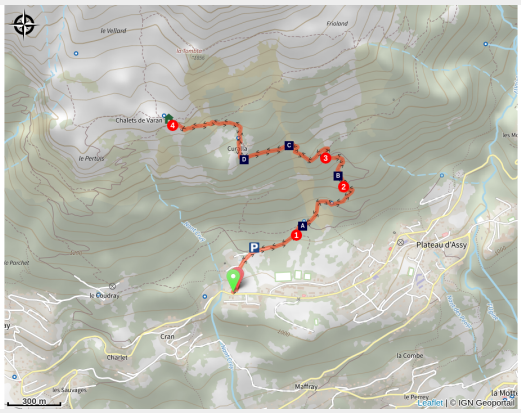
Going to the Chalets de Varan via the Plateau d'Assy

CC Pays du Mont-Blanc - Passy

Aiguille de Varan (@JulietteBuret)



At the foot of the majestic Aiguilles de Varan, come and enjoy a unique panoramic view of Mont Blanc.

On this family hike starting from the Plateau d'Assy, you will enjoy several educational stops in the heart of nature, focusing on the geology and flora of the mountains.

Useful information

Practice : Summer hike

Duration : 3 h

Length : 5.6 km

Trek ascent : 567 m

Difficulty : Medium

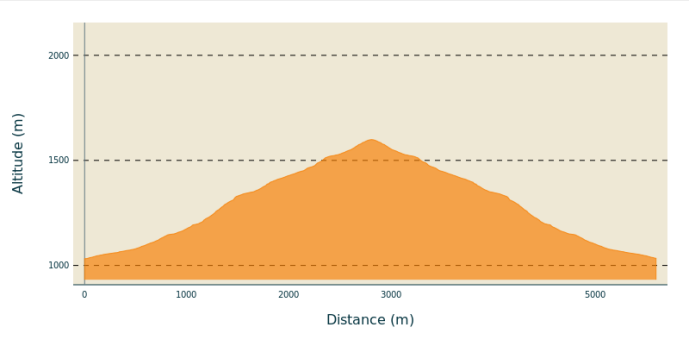
Type : Aller-retour

Themes : Fauna, Point de vue, Géologie, Sommet, Archéologie et histoire, Montagne sans voiture

Trek

Departure : Via ferrata parking area, Curalla
Arrival : Via ferrata parking area, Curalla
Cities : 1. Passy

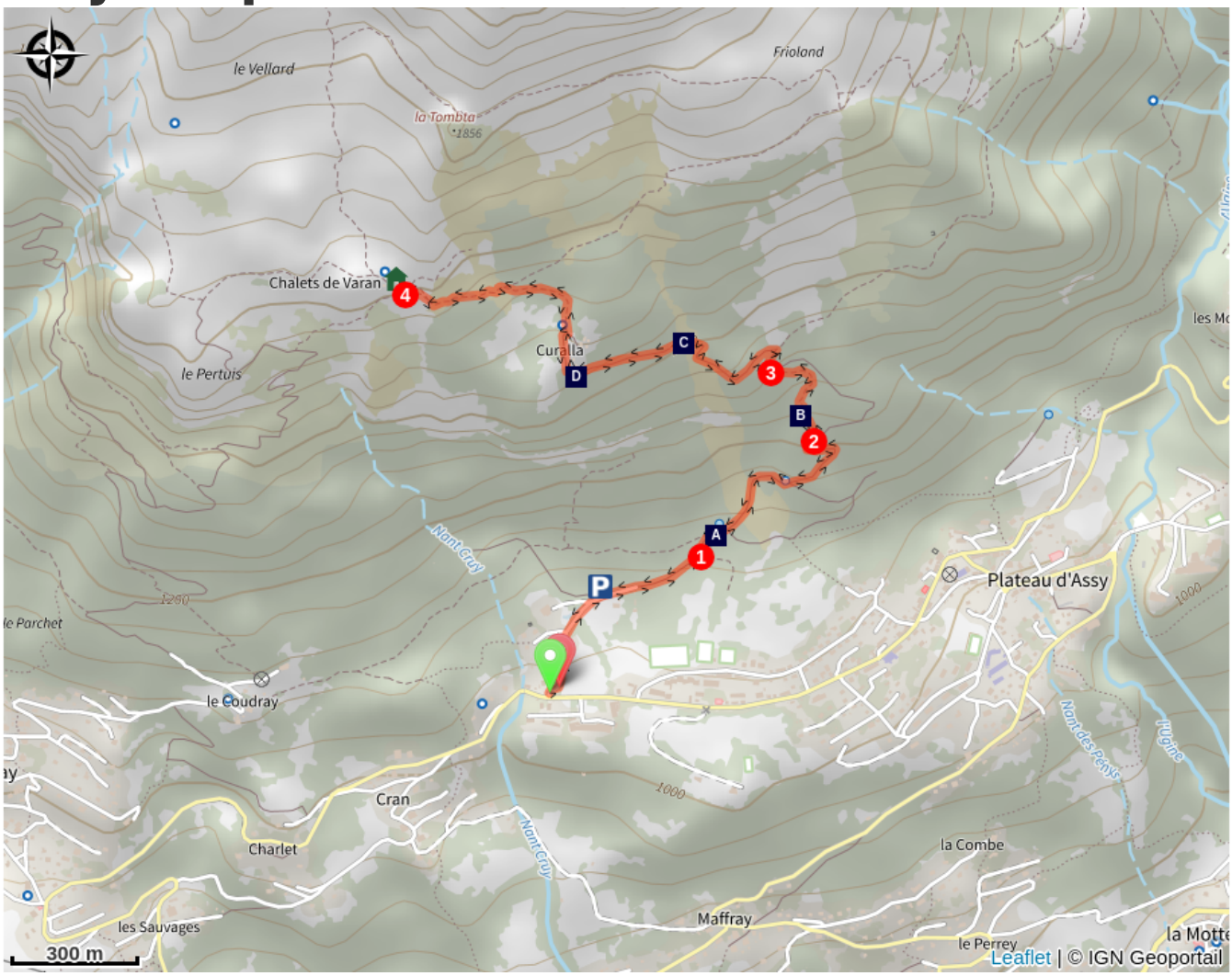
Altimetric profile



Min elevation 1032 m Max elevation 1599 m

From the Plateau d'Assy, take the vehicular road to the Chalets de Curalla and Chalets de Varan. A pretty climb through the Pennys state forest. Take the small footpath on the left, which allows you to avoid a part of the 4X4 track. Keep walking up to the left towards the Curalla chalets. You'll be rewarded with a breathtaking view of the Mont-Blanc Massif, the Aravis Massif, the Pointe de Platé and the Pointe d'Anterne, with the Aiguille de Varan rising high above the plateau. Return by the same way.

On your path...



Getting on well with the wild animals (A)

Apollo butterfly (C)

Don’t leave the rubbish on its own! (B)

Toponymy: the names of summits (D)

All useful information

Animaux acceptés

Votre chien est autorisé dans cette zone d'espace naturel. Il est conseillé de le tenir en laisse. À l'approche d'un troupeau, il est obligatoire de lui mettre une laisse. Par sa présence, son odeur et ses déjections, votre chien peut perturber la biodiversité. Sa divagation dans la nature peut avoir des conséquences lourdes pour la faune sauvage et les troupeaux (transmission de germes, stress de la faune sauvage, destruction des couvées au sol). Les chiens sont interdits en cœur de parcs nationaux et dans la plupart des réserves naturelles.

Advices

Always be careful and plan ahead when hiking. Asters, CEN 74 can not be held responsible for the occurrence of any accident or incident on this trail.

How to come ?

Transports

Y85 Sallanches - Le Fayet - Marlioz - Chedde - Passy - Plateau d'Assy - Guébriant - Plaine Joux https://borini.com/region/

Access

At the entrance to the Plateau d'Assy, turn left towards the Via ferrata car park: 392 Chem. de Curalla, 74480 Passy.

Advised parking

Via ferrata de Curalla parking area

On your path...

Getting on well with the wild animals (A)

According to a 2020 WWF report, the earth has lost 68% of its wild fauna (vertebrate animals, i.e. birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and fish) in less than 50 years. To help you get on well with wild animals during your hike, here are a few tips to follow:- Safeguard your food and take away your rubbish. Keep a low profile: noise, sudden movements or getting too close cause animals to flee, leading to stress, illness, sometimes even vital energy consumption and the abandonment of a brood or nest, or failure to reproduce. Avoid any behaviour that could be construed as a threat from predators: it's their territory, they live there, while we’re just visitors here, seeking respite and enjoyment.

Attribution : @CharlieHebdo-JUIN

Don’t leave the rubbish on its own! (B)

Tissues, plastic wrappings, apple cores, plastic bags, cigarette butts... All this litter is still being found on the footpaths. Not only does this cause visual pollution but it is also having a major impact on biodiversity. Wildlife can eat it, and micro-organisms can be affected by the chemical compounds it contains, all during the many years that rubbish takes to decompose. While apple cores are certainly biodegradable (they take 5 months to biodegrade), they are still an unfamiliar food source for wild animals, causing disease and imbalances in their diets. If we want to stop polluting our countryside with our rubbish, let's adopt certain habits: - take as little packaging with you as possible - all waste (even biodegradable waste) should be taken away with you in your bag - pick up any rubbish you come across

Apollo butterfly (C)

An Alpine species, found in damp locations between 1300 and 2800m, the Mountain Apollo is in its butterfly stage between May and August/September. The Apollo caterpillar is black and has red spots on the side as it develops. It remains in the caterpillar stage for two years. A protected and red-listed insect, its decline in Europe is essentially due to two factors: global warming is leading to a reduction of the winter snow cover that seems necessary for the survival of young caterpillars, and their habitats are also being affected by environmental closures (reforestation).

Attribution : @JulietteBuret

Toponymy: the names of summits (D)

The Aiguilles de Warens, commonly known as the Aiguilles de Varan, belong to the beautiful rocky massif of Les Fiz, located on the right bank of the Sallanches valley. The first of these summits is the Aiguille Grise, at 2544m, which boasts a magnificent cavity as a result of landslides in 1992 and 2000. Then there is the higher, more slender Aiguille Rouge at 2636 m. These peaks are towered over by the tête du Colonney at 2692 m.

Attribution : @JulietteBuret