

The Prapacot and Combafort mountain pastures: snowshoeing in Combloux



CC Pays du Mont-Blanc - Combloux



Bec Croisé (@JeanParis)



Easy hike with little altitudinal variation
Discover the secrets of nature conservation and protection

Useful information

Practice : Winter Hike

Duration : 2 h

Length : 3.9 km

Trek ascent : 237 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Boucle

Themes : Fauna, Flora

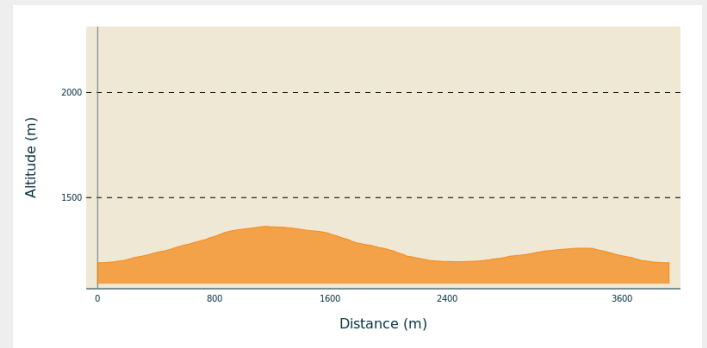
Trek

Departure : Les Intages

Arrival : Les Intages

Cities : 1. Combloux
2. Demi-Quartier

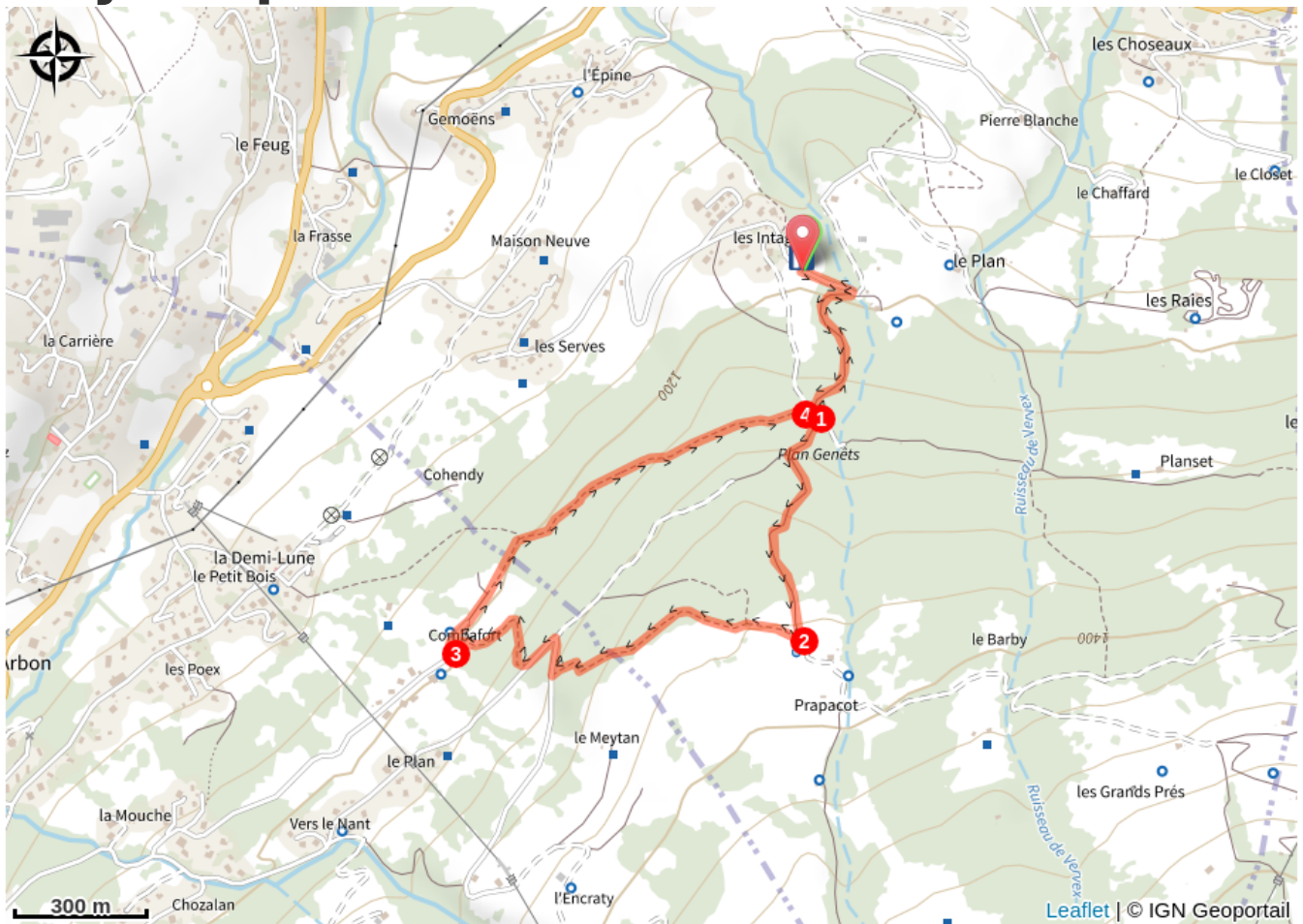
Altimetric profile



Min elevation 1190 m Max elevation 1363 m

From the Intages hamlet, follow the snowshoe signposts to the south toward the Prapacot loop (la Boucle de Prapacot). Reach the Plan Genêts crossroads. Turn right to the direct route towards Prapacot and reach a fork just below the mountain pasture of the same name. Follow the snowshoe signposts on the left-hand path. Cross the woods and approach the 'Princesse' slopes, then join Combafort. Take the track to the right to return to the crossroads at the start of the route. Turn left to reach the car park

On your path...



🐾 Why don't conifer trees lose their needles in winter? (A)

🐾 Status of a species: protected or threatened? (C)

🐾 Amphibians in winter (B)

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 cannot be held responsible for any accident or inconvenience that may occur on this route. Check the weather conditions before setting off. Mountain Rescue contact details: call 112

How to come ?

Transports

Consultez : <https://sedeplacer.ccpmb.fr/>

Advised parking

des Intages' parking area

On your path...



👉 Why don't conifer trees lose their needles in winter? (A)

Two families of trees exist: broad-leaved and coniferous. Broad-leaved trees have deciduous leaves, which turn yellow and fall off in autumn. Conifers (or softwoods) have evergreen foliage and keep their needles throughout the year. These are made up of a layer of wax and a hard epidermis, offering protection against frost and drought. In autumn, deciduous trees lose their leaves, but so do conifers.... in a less obvious way. A conifer tree is covered with several generations of needles! The exception is the larch, which is one of the only conifers in Europe (along with the bald cypress) to shed its needles completely!

Attribution : @julietteBuret



👉 Amphibians in winter (B)

Amphibians are sensitive to frost and avoid the cold as much as lizardly possible. In autumn, they look for places protected from frost, either in the ground or in the water. If they choose water, they have to make sure to be able to find a source of oxygen to breathe even when they are under ice, which does happen sometimes! Did you know that while frogs jump, toads take a leisurely stroll to their winter shelters? Several natural zones of ecological, faunistic and floristic interest (ZNIEFF), particularly wetlands and low marshes, have been classified in the municipality for their outstanding characteristics.

Attribution : @frankMiramand

📖 Status of a species: protected or threatened? (C)



The Red List, compiled by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), provides a worldwide overview of the state of biodiversity. The red list assesses the risk of extinction of threatened species using criteria based on its population size and spread, as well as animal and plant population trends. However, there is a difference between this classification and the legal protection of the species. A protected species is not necessarily rare, like the red squirrel, for example, which is fairly common in French forests. This status means that it cannot be hunted or captured, just like hedgehogs, bats, lynxes, etc. Furthermore, some protected species can still be hunted, for example the black grouse. To find out the protection status of a species, visit the INPN (National Inventory of Natural Heritage) website.

Attribution : UICN