



THE EXPERT FOR THE WAYS OF ST JAMES

THE STEVENSON WAY Chasseradès - St Jean Du Gard



This adventure through the Cévennes lasted 12 days for STEVENSON and Modestine his donkey, from Monastier sur Gazeille in Haute Loire to St Jean du Gard. The first section of the hike that we propose starts in Puy en Velay and ends in Chasseradès, for a duration of 6 days of walking.

"I had sought adventure all my life, a pure and dispassionate adventure, such as happened to the heroic travellers of the early days; and to find myself thus, in the morning, in a remote and wooded corner of Gévaudan, disoriented, as foreign to what surrounded me as the first man abandoned in the land, was to see, fulfilled, a part of my waking dreams. »

Robert Louis Stevenson



8 days, 7 nights and 6 hiking days.

DAY 1 : CHASSERADES

Arrival at the first accommodation at the end of the afternoon, in Chasseradès.

DAY 2 : CHASSERADES - LE BLEYMARD (alt : 1 069 m) *D + 610 m D - 690 m*

After the hamlet of l'Estampe, climb through the national forest of Le Goulet to a pass at 1413m. After the track that descends to the source of the Lot, we reach the Alpiers, then the Bleymard, a small village at the foot of Mont Lozère.

Walking time: ≈ 3-4h, 17 km.

DAY 3 : LE BLEYMARD - PONT DE MONTVERT (alt : 875 m) *D+ 820 m D- 1 015 m*

In the direction of the Col Santel (1200 m), climb to the Mont Lozère resort, then to the summit of Finiels (1699 m), the highest peak in the department, along high granite mountains (heaps of stones indicating the path, which R.L.Stevenson followed): magnificent views of the Cévennes if the weather permits!! Then descend to Pont de Montvert through broom and pastures, a village symbolic of the history of the Camisards!!

Walking time: ≈ 5h-6h, 19 km.

DAY 4: PONT DE MONTVERT - FLORAC (alt: 546 m) *D+690 m D-940 m*

The longest stage of the route, but one of the most beautiful! It will take us to the heart of the Cévennes. After the Col du Sapet located at 1080 m, you join a long track, and through the national forest of Ramponenche, you descend to Bedoues, then Florac, the capital of the Cévennes, a pretty town very lively in summer!!

Walking time: ≈ 8h, 28 km.

DAY 5 : FLORAC - CASSAGNAS (alt : 693 m) *D+340 m D-180 m*

Relatively short stage where you follow the old railway line which has become a very pretty grassy path after St Julien d'Arpaon (610 m). You then overlook the Mimente gorges, as far as the old Cassagnas station.

Note: in Cassagnas, it is often complicated to find availability because it is a "funnel" village on the way and the capacity is very limited... Thus, it is possible that we will be forced to book 2 consecutive nights in Florac (or the night in St Julien d'Arpaon) with



organized transfers. In this case, you will be asked for an additional fee and invoiced. Another alternative is to stop off the GR70, but via the GR 43 at Barre des Cévennes.

Walking time: ≈ 4h, 19 km.

DAY 6 : CASSAGNAS - ST ETIENNE VALLEE FRANCAISE (alt : 489 m) D+350 m D-450 m

Through beautiful chestnut forests, we head towards the Col de la Pierre Plantée at 891 m, before descending to St Etienne. This village is located on a schist land crossed by one of the Gardons where chestnut trees were grown and silkworms were educated, where pelardons are produced and houses with Lauzes roofs and schist walls. You will be able to contemplate the parish church of Saint-Étienne dating from the fourteenth century.

Walking time: ≈ 6h, 26 km.

DAY 7 : ST ETIENNE VALLEE FRANCAISE - ST JEAN DU GARD (alt : 189 m) D+480 m D-600 m

This is the last step that leads to where R. L. STEVENSON ended his journey and sold his donkey Modestine. Crossing the village of St Etienne in the French Valley in the land of the Camisards (255 m), passing the Col de St Pierre (596 m), then arriving in St Jean du Gard, a small southern town, land of vines and mulberry trees!

Walking time: ≈ 3h, 12.5 km.

DAY 8 : ST JEAN DU GARD

End of stay after breakfast.

Notes :

1 - It will not be possible for us to change your accommodation or the order of the stages, for obvious organizational reasons. Once the tour has started, you must follow the program as it has been confirmed to you, except for exceptional reasons (safety problems related to particular weather conditions for example...). 2 - In case you want to shorten the steps, you will have to notify and pay for taxis on the spot.

> DATES

From April 1st to October 19th, on dates of your convenience and according to hotel availability. Supplement requested for any stay from mid-October related to luggage transfers/shuttle. (contact us)



Please indicate on the booking form the other dates that would also suit you (e.g. possibility of postponing the hike by one or two days before or after...); This is in case one or more accommodations are not available on the chosen dates.

We also ask that you book **as early as possible**. We do not have reserved places in the accommodations and some of them are fully booked, sometimes several months in advance.

> PRICE COVERS

- The half-board
- The luggage transfer between each stage of walk
- The topoguide
- Tourist tax.

> PRICE DOES NOT COVER


- the midday picnic
- insurance
- drinks and personal expenses
- transfers from your home to the meeting point and dispersal, shuttles or taxis to pick up your car and to shorten certain stages
- parking fees
- station-hotel or airport-hotel transfers on arrival and departure.
- registration fees (+€15 per person)
- shipping costs abroad (+€20 per person)
- priority processing fees for any registration on D-15 (+€45 per file).

> ARRIVAL / DEPARTURE

Pick-up takes place at the first hotel, the day before your first day of walking. For those who come by car, it is possible to leave your vehicle without any problem.

Your stay ends the morning after your last day of hiking, after breakfast.

> LEVEL

 **Level 3** On average, walk 6 hours per day on paths or trails that can have a cumulative positive difference in altitude of +600 to +800m. Some walking



days in our programs may have little difference in altitude but the stages are sometimes long (25 / 30 km).

> ACCOMMODATION

1* and 2** hotels, gîtes and guest rooms. The accommodations along the Stevenson Way are heterogeneous and can vary in terms of range and service provision. In some localities, the choice of accommodation may be very limited. The shower and toilet may be on the landing or upstairs in some accommodations.

ATTENTION: When 2 accommodations are full, we are forced to make you spend 2 nights at the same accommodation and to organize a transfer (which does not change the content of your hike); These details will be indicated to you on your registration confirmation if the case occurs. You may be asked for an additional fee.

> MEALS

Breakfasts are traditional (sometimes in buffet form) and are served around 8 a.m. If you wish to have breakfast earlier, check with the hotelier the day before if this is possible.

Dinners are generally served from 7:30 p.m.; Most of the time they are composed of the daily menu. No menu choice in the majority of accommodations except with a supplement.

> LUNCH

Packed lunches are not included in the price.

You can order them directly the day before from the hotelier (to be paid on site, from €7 to €15 per person depending on the establishment) not all accommodation offers this service, or buy them in the villages, from existing shops.

Here are also some places where you can find some shops which allows you to buy your own packed lunch.



> LUGGAGE TRANSPORT

Your luggage will be transported by a transport company between each steps at the end of the morning or during the afternoon.

Delivery of your luggage by 6 p.m.

Possible additional price for luggage transport from October.

ATTENTION :

We ask you to leave your luggage in the lobby of each accommodation in the morning at 8 a.m. and to IMPERATIVELY only bring 1 BAGGAGE PER PERSON NOT EXCEEDING 13KG; beyond this number (1 bag) and this weight (13 kg), the carrier may charge you a supplement at the end of the hike or categorically refuse to transport your luggage if it is too bulky.

Rigid suitcase not permitted, we decline all responsibility for damage to this type of luggage.

We invite you to bring a small backpack to carry your personal belongings for the day.

If you are part of a group, we ask you to indicate on your suitcase labels the NAME of the person responsible for this group (person who booked the hike).

> ACCESS



*GO : CHASSERADES SNCF station

*RETURN : ALES SNCF station

*GO :



*Chasseradès is located in Lozère.

*RETURN :

You can book the return shuttle .

It is imperative to book this transfer as soon as possible (we advise you to do so as soon as you register or at our booking confirmation because the requests are high and there are few places); This transfer is not included in the price of the hike.



> TRAVEL FILE

To do this hike, we will send you, when the balance is paid, a travel file including the list of accommodation and the guidebook LE CHEMIN DE STEVENSON, GR 70, Le Puy – Alès (**1 guidebook per room booked**). If you want an additional travel file, you will be charged + 20€ / file.

> TAKEOUT LIST

- A small rucksack for your packed lunch and anything else needed for the day's walk
- Basic first aid – eg plasters, antiseptic fluid, alcohol for feet etc
- A good pair of walking boots or shoes, suitable for hill walking. Beware of new boots – test them or break them in first.
- Sun-glasses, sun-cream and sun-hat
- Waterproof garments
- Light shoes for the evening
- Water bottle; it is important to drink 1.5 to 2 litres per day
- A knife
- Torch (optional)
- Binoculars (if desired)
- Paper handkerchiefs
- Needle, thread, safety pins.

MORE DETAILS AT THE SUBSCRIPTION

