

CAVAILLON

Between the city and Colline de Saint-Jacques (hill)

0,9 KM

- Very easy walk
- Easy walk**
- Moderate walk
- Hard walk

Starting point : City centre, Montée César de Bus (steps) on the right of the Tourist Office

Where to park : In front of the Tourist Office

Waymarking : PR (short hiking trail) 

Height difference : 70 m

Type : Loop & Return

Time : 40 minutes



DESTINATION
LUBERON
CŒUR DE PROVENCE

Caution : Slippery stairs in rainy weather: fairly smooth surface stones due to wear and tear.



Description

From the Tourist Office,

Take the 16th century steps on the right of the tourist office (Montée César de Bus). Follow the yellow waymarks. Walk along a garden of olive trees, passing under the nettle trees (typical of Provence) and continue the gradual climb to the top of the hill.

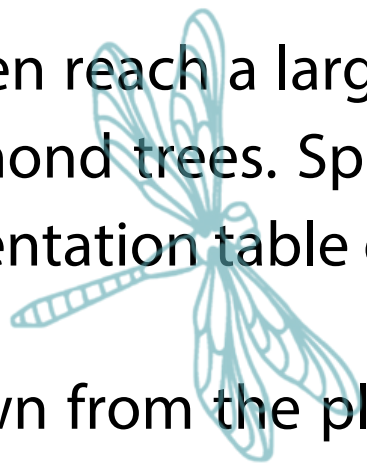
As you go along, you can enjoy an extensive view of the town with the Cathedral of St Véran emerging from it. In the background, the mountainous Petit Luberon Occidental rises from the plain. On the ascent, on the left, acanthus grows everywhere along the rocks in the summer. (The acanthus leaf is an ornamental motif much used in classical Greek and Roman architecture).

After passing a poem by Frédéric Mistral, a natural limestone terrace offers a breathtaking view of the Cavaillon plain, the Luberon and the Montagne des Crêtes. On the next terrace, you will find another view of the Ventoux and the Monts de Vaucluse. (Take the time to observe the natural local plant life, like thyme, Mediterranean spurge and white rockrose.)

As you continue climbing, the shrubs become more abundant: laurustinus, mastic trees, holm oaks and kermes oaks provide a little shade in this hot scrubland. Flurries of rock swallows and alpine swifts fly around the beautiful cliffs of St Jacques in season.

You then reach a large cross on the plateau. Continue to the right towards the 14th century chapel between the almond trees. Splendid view of Cavaillon. Walk around the chapel and go straight ahead (due south) to the orientation table giving a picture of the landscape. View of the Basse Vallée de Durance and the Alpilles.

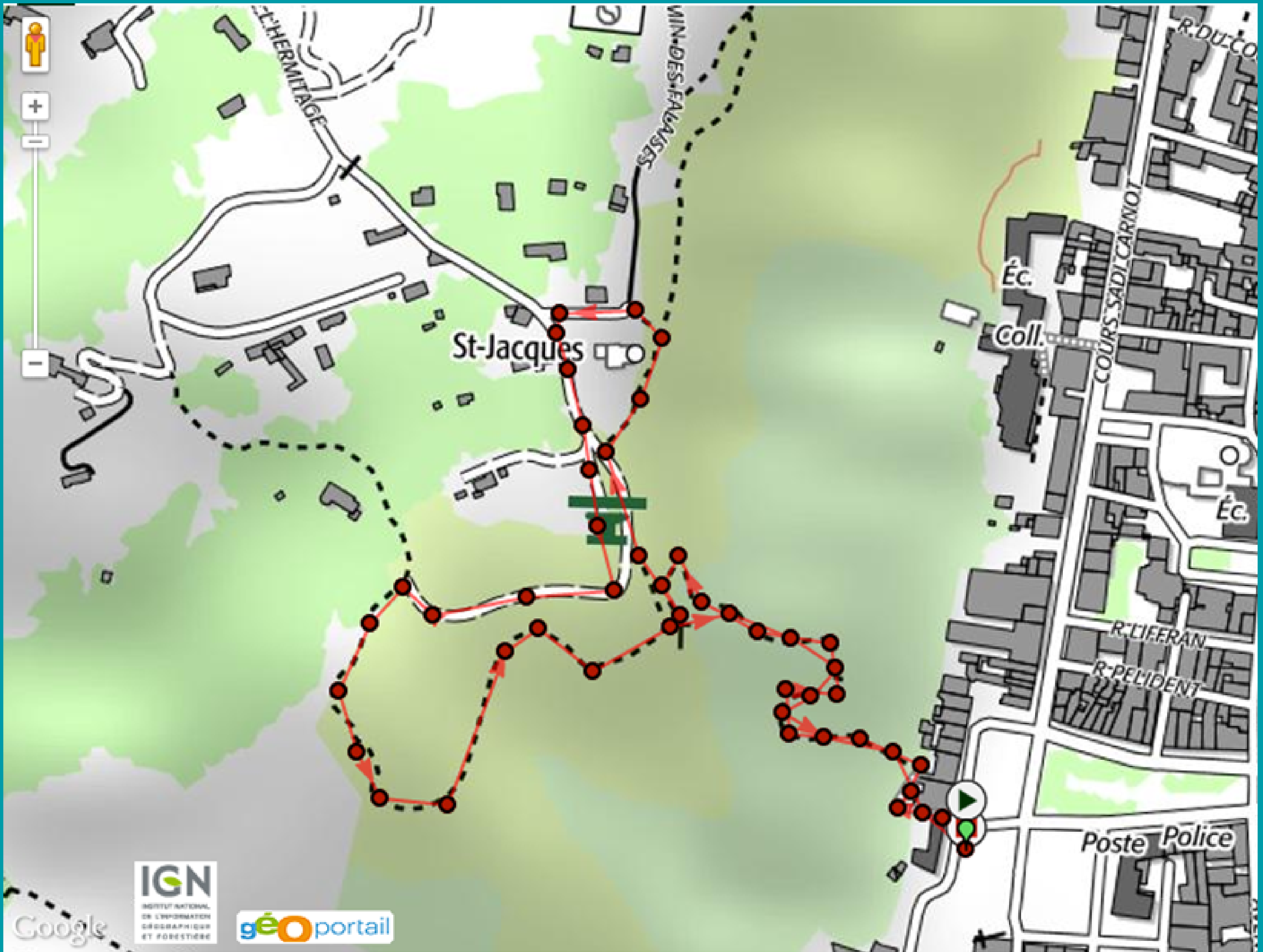
Go down from the platform and join a path that goes to the right and loops back in front of the cross. Take the path down to the town centre.



Before leaving :

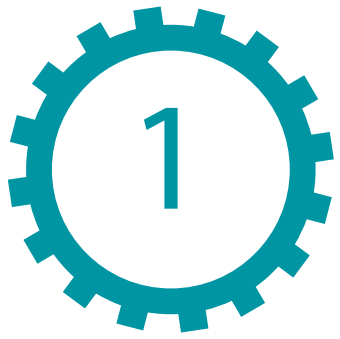
- In summer, check the risk of bush fire and the opening of the trails by calling 00 33 (0)4 28 31 77 11 or the Tourist Office.
- Take plenty of water and a hat.
- Wear comfortable walking shoes.







The hiker's charter



Treat protected areas with respect. In France, many outstanding natural sites (national parks, nature reserves, etc.) are protected by regulations.



Don't throw away rubbish; bring it back with you. Nature will be all the better for it!



Stay on the waymarked paths.



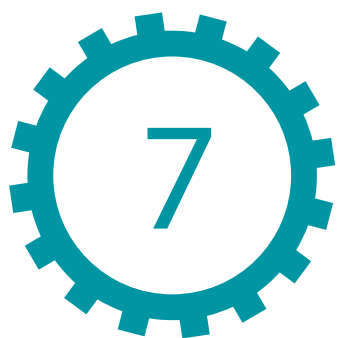
Respect the trees, admire the plants and observe the animals, but don't mutilate or cut plants or disturb wildlife, and be careful during nesting periods.



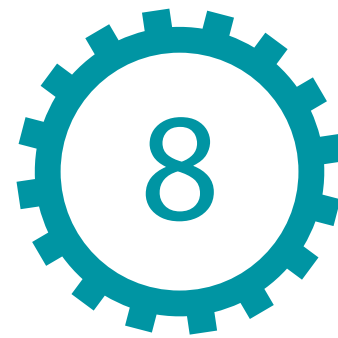
Comply with regulations: do not enter the massifs in vehicles off the roads open to public traffic.



Respect winegrowers and farmers, and do not pick their products.



Do not make fires. Fire is a danger for hikers and nature. Do not go into the forest in drought periods or in strong winds.



Follow instructions, and if you see a fire, call 18 or 112.



Information

DESTINATION
LUBERON
CŒUR DE PROVENCE



Destination Luberon Coeur de Provence Tourist Office

Head office in Cavillon

Place François Tourel / BP 70027

84301 Cavillon Cedex

00 33 (0)4 90 71 32 01

contact@luberoncoeurdeprovence.com

Find other walks in Destination Luberon

Coeur de Provence on

www.luberoncoeurdeprovence.com



Information points

Gordes : Le Château / 00 33 (0)4 90 72 02 75

Lourmarin : Place H. Barthélémy / 00 33 (0)4 90 68 10 77