



Center Based activities in Provence

Mercantour national park in
France





Stay all inclusive in Provence/Mercantour

Duration : 7 days and 6 nights. 5 to 6 days of walking. Can be adapted on a shorter version on request.

Type of holidays : Hiking, outdoor sleeping + two days of itinerancy (baggage carried by car or donkey).

Suitable for : families with young children, couples looking for a romantic getaway.

Season : from June to end of September

Level : easy, trails clearly marked

Rates 2023 : € 710 / Adult , € 610 / Child from 3 to 12 years old in full board, 200€ / child under 3 years old.

Accommodation : 3 nights in our new Ecolodge, with en suite bathroom. 1 night in a local hostel, 2 nights in a yurt with sky dome : home comforts in the wilderness!

Climate : due to the proximity of the Mediterranean Sea, the weather is warm and sunny, ideal for summer hiking.



The stay

Our other treks tend to be filled with long, adventurous hikes. This package is tailored to those who feel like less is more. This is the right option if you are looking for an enjoyable, relaxing, and easy-going experience.

Take the time to relax properly

This package is tailored to those who feel they've earned the right to take it slow during their holidays. It's all about lying down in the mountain pastures and watching the butterflies flutter by.

Get away from it all

This is an extraordinary commune with nature. Enjoy the fantastic sights we have to offer, like the breathtaking red Alpine gorges just below us.

Come stay in our brand new Ecolodge, painted in a unique and incredible golden-brown lime-based color scheme. Let the donkeys greet your arrival as they peek their head through the third story window. Come lose yourself here! Come relive simpler times!

Our strengths

Charming and unique accommodations.

Exceptionally soothing surroundings: an ideal place to recharge your batteries.



Day-by-day programme

Day 1 : Welcome in the afternoon

Meet the masters of the house... or should we say masters of the kitchen, as cooking is what is closest to their hearts! Come enjoy some of the finest French cuisine in a place you might not have expected! Night at the ecolodge.

Day 2 : Walk to “le belvédère des gorges rouges”

Total climb: 525 meters. Total downhill: 525 meters.

Distance: 10km. Duration: 4hrs 30.

A walk to the breathtaking Alpine red gorges along a wide panoramic vista. This day renting a donkey is an option, not included in the price of the stay and payable directly on site: €70.

Night at the ecolodge.

Day 3 : Free day

Our guides will help you choose your adventure according to the season and the weather. For those who enjoy kayaking and canyoning, this is an ideal starting point, right above the famous Clue d’Amen (not including on the price of the tour). Please note you will need to drive to the starting point. Activities not included in the price of the stay and payable directly at your guide.

For hikers, exceptionally clear signage gives you the opportunity to explore the upper valley. This day renting a donkey is an option, not included in the price of the stay and payable directly on site: €70.

You can also enjoy a day off.

Night at the ecolodge.



Day 4 :

Part 1 of a two-day hike : Sauze by the Cante mountain stream

Total climb : 670 meters. Total downhill : 600 meters.

Distance : 8,2km.

Time : 4hrs.

This day's trek will introduce you to the distinctive feature which creates the charm of the southern French Alps; The sheer diversity of the landscapes, between the fresh, woody ubac (north-facing slope) typical of the northern French Alps, and the strong Provençal overtone of the adret (southern-facing slope). You can choose to walk with a donkey to carry your luggages or choose the luggages transportation by car (both options including on the price).

Night stay in a traditional inn in Sauze.

Day 5 : Return to Villeplane, via Villetalle.

Total climb : 370 meters. Total downhill : 430 meters.

Distance : 6km.

Time : 3hrs30.

Hike down amongst the lavender and thyme bushes. Take a dip in the mountain pools of the Cante, then climb back up the shaded woods to arrive at the two yurts of Villeplane. Nestled in the greenery, these yurts are an unforgettable opportunity to live close to nature.

Night in a yurt.



Day 6 : Around « Le collet de la Cime» (the Collet Peak)

Total Climb : 300 meters. Total downhill : 300 meters.

Distance : 6km. Time : 2hrs 30.

The comfortable yurts tend to make travelers want to sleep in, so on day 6, we offer a lovely, relaxing half-day hike, far from everything. The top of the Collet peak offers a 360 degree vista of all the peaks of the valley. A shaded picnic amongst the larch trees and a pit-stop along a mountain stream, which allows for some fun splashing around, usually motivates slower groups to keep moving. This day renting a donkey is an option, not included in the price of the stay and payable directly on site: €70.

Night in a yurt.

Day 7 : The Allos Lake or Entrevaux

Total Climb : 410 meters. Total downhill : 970 meters.

Distance : 10 km. Time : 4 hrs.

Morning departure by car (1hr drive) to go exploring the lakeside and drive up the valley. Your weeks trek rounds off in a climax with an enchanted tour around the glacial lakes of Allos, Garrets and la petite Cayolle. You will lose yourself on this journey through nature, where the blue sky is reflected in the clear waters of the lakes and the endemic flora strewn with alpine pastures.

For those arriving by train or bus in Villeplane there is no possibility of going around the lakes (too far from Villeplane). We offer instead a visit to the very beautiful fortified village of Entrevaux and its citadel.

End of the stay late afternoon.

How to reach us

By Plane : To *Nice* airport or train station.

Airport Bus Services : (depart from terminal 1)

For the Train station 'Gare SNCF'

By Mountain Train : from *Nice* to *Entrevaux*

From the mountain train station 'Gare des chemins de fer de Provence' (not the 'Gare SNCF') There are 2 appropriate Micheline trains a day:

Please notify us if you are arriving at *Entrevaux* by the mountain train and we will arrange your 45 mins transfer to *Villeplane* (60€ per group).

By Coach : from *Nice* to *Guillaumes*

From « *Nice Grand Arénas* », bus station in *Nice* centre. (N.B. : There is one bus a day, do not miss it!). The bus station is not at the same place .

You must check time table before to book.

Times : Leaving *Nice* at

- From Monday to Saturday : 16.30
- Sunday : 08.00 and 16.30

Duration : 2 hrs

Please notify us if you are arriving at *Guillaumes* by coach, and we will arrange your 30 mins transfer to *Villeplane* (30€ per group).

By Car :

From Nice : Less than 2 hrs drive following directions for '*Digne*' (right) up through the stunning *Gorges de Daluis*.

From Digne-les-bains : 95 km drive, heading southeast to *Barreme*, then east to *St. André les Alpes* and *Les Scafarels*. 7 km east of *Annot*, head north again up the *Gorges de Daluis*.

From Barcelonnette : Come over *Col de Cayolle* (2326 m) and down past *Entraunes*.





Contact

Itinérance Trekking
"I-Trek"
Villeplane
06470 Guillaumes
FRANCE

info@itinerance.net
www.itinerance.net

tel : 00 33 (0) 4 93 05 56 01

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