

# GR® 78 Voie de Piémont

**LEV  
4**
**DIFFICULT**
**FROM MAULÉON TO SAINT-JUST-IBARRE**


**W**hen we leave Mauléon-Licharre, this next-to-last leg of the GR® 78 “Voie du Piémont” takes us a bit further into the heart of Basque Country. First climbing high up after Garindein, it takes us back downhill toward the magnificent stopping place of Ordiarp and then climbs upward on the Pic d’Elaudy. At the end of a somewhat steep descent, we enjoy the pleasant and relaxing Bidouze valley before we arrive in Saint-Just-Ibarre.

### Getting to the departure point:

From Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port, follow signs to Orthez (D 933) until Larceveau (16 km), where you turn right via the D 918. You will arrive in Mauléon after 24 km.

From Oloron-Sainte-Marie, follow signs to Navarrenx or Sauveterre-de-Béarn (D 936) until you reach the fork toward L’Hôpital-Saint-Blaise (12 km), where you turn left via the D 25. You will arrive in Mauléon after 18 km.

A line of coaches managed by the Departmental Council also runs to Mauléon-Licharre (for information, call 05 59 40 36 60 or visit [www.transports.cg64.fr](http://www.transports.cg64.fr)).

**For your return:** For a list of taxis, call the Mauléon-Licharre tourist office at 05 59 28 02 37.

**D** (657807 4784049). From the bridge on the Le Saison river, cross the roundabout and keep going straight ahead (Rue du Jeu de Paume), walk along the fronton, then turn right, and left, at the fountain (Rue Jaureguiberry). At Place de Licharre, veer left, and at the roundabout, go straight ahead. At the fork in the road, go left, continue for 530 m and turn onto the path on your left. At the end of this path (50 m), pass through the gate on your right and follow the path at the edge. Cross through another gate and enter the uphill (winding) path across the way. When you get to a farm (close the gates behind you), continue along its path, toward the right. At the crossroads, keep walking downhill toward the village of Garindein and the D 918 **1** (670173 4786172). Turn right and, right after the church, turn right again. At the junction, go right again, toward the Eyhartxia neighbourhood. Cross under the high-voltage line and, after the farm, continue straight on the path (gate). At the first fork, go right (uphill), at the second, go left (virtually flat) and at the third (large tree), walk downhill to the left to reach a small pass (metal fence). Veer right, walking down along a hedge, until you reach the Sorthereborda farm. Continue on the road across the way and at the junction (calvary), turn left. Then, 300 m further along, turn right onto a downhill path. Cross over a footbridge. At Idiartéa (calvary), continue on the path opposite. Take the small road toward the right and

**3h30**

at the T-shaped junction, turn left. On the D 918, walk left for 70 m then turn right to reach the Ordiarp church **2** (667031 4783566). Pass by the bridge behind the fronton and take a gravel road on your right. At the junction, go uphill on your left and, after 500 m, take the right on your right. After another 40 m, turn left onto a gravel path (southwest). At the small road (calvary), go right and walk uphill until you reach a fork after a leftward bend. Enter a dirt path across the way (west). At the junction, continue walking uphill opposite (northwest) **3** (664279 4782731). The path winds upward on the hillside (general direction west). At the fork, stay on the lower road. The path keeps on the side of the mountain to reach the Ehutza pass (source 250 m before the pass) **4** (662462 4782435). Continue on the trail that is on your right (west then northwest), and walk along a watering place until you reach another small pass (cattle fences and gates). Take the trail that runs downhill on your left (southwest). After 90 m, turn left onto a sunken lane (gate). The trail winds down the hill (general direction southwest) all the way to the torrent. Cross over the footbridge and take the trail along the torrent until you come to a junction (small house in ruins) **5** (659380 4782614). Turn left, direction Source de la Bidouze, and then turn right. Continue along the left bank to the D 68 (transformer) at the entrance to Saint-Just-Ibarre **6** (657807 4784049).

**4h10**
**2h45**
**4h55**
**0h45**

LEV  
4

DIFFICULT

# DE MAULÉON A SAINT-JUST-IBARRE



**D** **Mauléon**  
(657807 4784049).

**6h25** **22,6 km** **910 m**

IGN 1/25,000 no. 1445E, 1445O, 1446ET and 1346ET

GPS (WGS84 – UTM-30T)  
Download the GPS track at [www.rando64.fr](http://www.rando64.fr)

**Marking:**   
GR®, GRP® and corresponding marking signs (white/red and yellow/red) are trademarks of the French Federation of Hiking.

**Don't miss:**

- **Mauléon:** fortified castle that overlooks the village, the Andurain de Maytie castle (Renaissance), Place des Allées.
- **Ordiarp**
- Panoramas of the Pyrenees.



**ORDIARP, A STOPPING PLACE ON THE VOIE DU PIÉMONT**

In Ordiarp, as far back as at least the 12th century, the monks at the Roncevaux abbey had set up a "commandery", i.e. a "hospital", to house pilgrims on their way to Santiago de Compostela via the Voie du Piémont, a variant of the Voie d'Arles. This type of establishment was not intended for medical care, but was rather a hostel, or a home for pilgrims. The word "hospital" should be understood in the sense of "hospitality". There were many hospitals on the Way of Saint James, as can be seen in place names: Hôpital-Saint-Blaise,

Hôpital d'Orion, etc. The only remaining vestiges from this era are the house that bears the name of "Hospitaletua" on the site of the former hospital and the Saint-Michel church that was the commandery's chapel. This church dates back to the Romanesque age. It has been superbly restored, and overlooks a majestic landscaped site along the Arangorena. It stands out thanks to its original bell tower: a bell wall is topped with a square bell turret surrounded by four small towers.



For additional information, contact:  
**Office de tourisme de Soule**  
Tel.: 05 59 28 02 37  
[www.valleedesoule.com](http://www.valleedesoule.com)

**www.rando64.fr**

on foot, mountain bike or horseback, discover Béarn and Basque country!

# CHOOSING THE RIGHT HIKE FOR YOU

**The elevation** indicated on the sheets represents the total distance climbed. Stops are not included in hiking times.

**Hikes are classified by difficulty** and distinguished by colours on each route's practical sheet. We adhere to the recommendations of the French Federation of Hiking.

**Very easy:** less than 2 hours of walking. Ideal for families, on well marked-off paths.

**Easy:** less than 3 hours of walking. Suitable for families. On paths, occasionally with more.

**Medium:** less than 4 hours of walking. For hikers who are used to walking. With occasional challenging sections or slopes.

**Difficult:** more than 4 hours of walking. For experienced and athletic hikers. The itinerary is long and/or difficult (slopes, difficult sections).

**Duration of the hike:** The duration of each route is indicated for information only. It is calculated based on the length of the hike, slopes and possible difficulties.



Trail sign

## Marking

Follow the markers to stay on the right path

Trail markers	Sentiers de Pays and PR®	GRP®	GR®	Mountain biking	Horseback riding
Right direction					
Turn left					
Turn right					
Wrong direction					

## Your opinion of our trails

The utmost attention has been paid to our various itineraries. We are interested in your impressions and observations concerning the state of our trails so we may keep them in good condition. To send us your comments, please contact CRDP 64: 05.59.14.18.80.

Or download an "Ecoville" observation sheet at: [www.rando64.fr](http://www.rando64.fr)

## Useful recommendations

Weather 08 92 68 02 64  
European emergency number 112

When discovering Béarn and Basque Country trails, you are asked to adopt behaviour that respects nature and the men and women who work to bring this territory to life.

There are a few rules that you need to follow.

### Preserve nature

Bring a bag for your trash  
Respect the fauna and flora  
Stay on the marked trails

### Protect yourself

Do not leave without the necessary materials  
Do not hike alone  
Do not drink stream water  
Check the weather forecasts in advance

### Respect activities and humans

Remember to close fences  
Fires are prohibited  
Respect the private properties that line our itineraries

### Please note!

The Basque and Béarn mountains are pastoral areas. If possible, do not bring your dog along. In all cases, keep it on a leash. Thanks!

## Hiking labels

### PR® labelled itineraries

With this label, the French Federation of Hiking certifies a certain number of hiking routes based on quality criteria. It makes its selection according to pleasure, technical, tourist and environmental criteria (For more info, visit [www.ffrandonnee.fr](http://www.ffrandonnee.fr))

### Horseback riding



This logo guarantees an itinerary that has been labelled by the Departmental Committee of Equestrian Tourism based on specific specifications.

(For more info, visit [www.cheval64.org](http://www.cheval64.org))

### Mountain biking:

- wide and easy trail, elevation less than 300 m.
- fairly easy trail, elevation less than 300 m.
- technical trail, elevation less than 800 m.
- very difficult trail, elevation from 300 to 800 m.

[www.rando64.fr](http://www.rando64.fr)

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