

GR® 78 Voie de Piémont

LEV
4

DIFFICULT

FROM OLORON-SAINTE-MARIE
TO L'HÔPITAL-SAINT-BLAISE



The GR® 78 “Voie de Piémont” continues along westward, crossing through plains and woody hillsides with a view of the ever-present mountains. We are invited to discover numerous villages, real mini-pearls of architecture and history, such as Moumour, Aren and L'Hôpital-Saint-Blaise, a key site on the Way of Saint James.

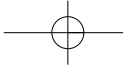
Getting to the departure point:

By car, Oloron-Sainte-Marie is 32 km from Pau on the N134. It is also served by the SNCF (for information, call 3635) and by a line of coaches managed by the Departmental Council (for information, call 05 59 40 36 60 or visit www.transports.cg64.fr).

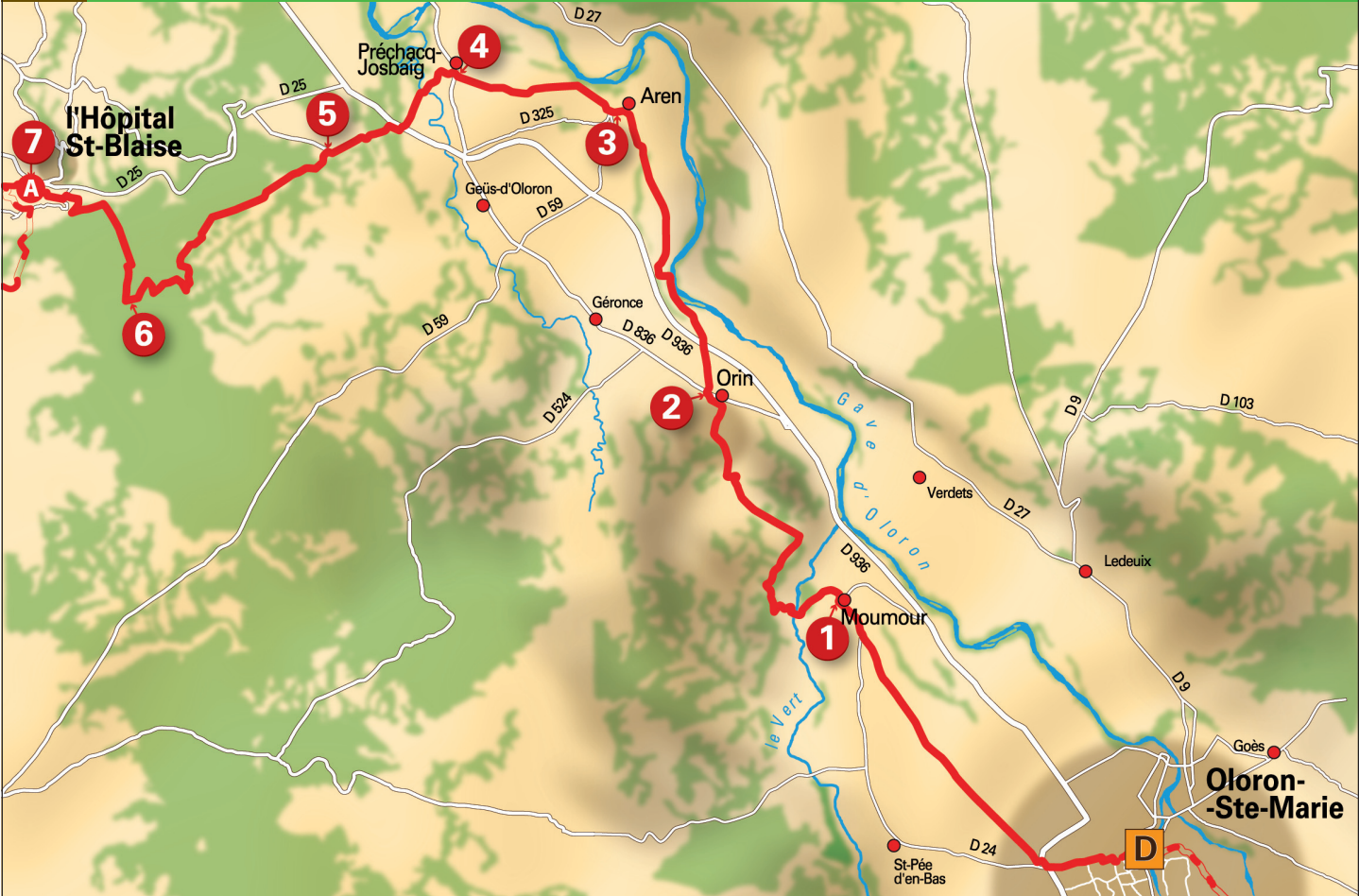
For your return: For a list of taxis, call the Oloron Foothills Tourist Office: 05 59 39 98 00.

D (693744 4784409). From the parvis of the Sainte-Marie cathedral (your back to the portal), turn right onto Rue Saint-Grat. Cross a roundabout and continue straight ahead on Avenue Tristan Derème. At the end of this avenue, bear right toward the Tibet Libre roundabout. Cross it to reach the Pondeilh neighbourhood (Bd Henri Laclau). Cross through the housing development and continue on a small road that leads to Moumour. Take Rue **1h10** Longue to get to the church **1** (690530 4787132). Take the downhill road, turning left (La Hargouette hill). Cross the bridge on the canal, turn left toward the gym, cross the picnic area, then go right on Pont de César on the Vert. Bear right toward Quartier Pétrot, then left, staying on the uphill winding road. Turn right at house no. 10. At the top of the hill, take the path on your right (northeast). Pass by a path on your left then, at the first T junction, bear left. At the 2nd T junction, turn left onto the gravel path. Then take the small road on your right which leads to Orin. At the junction, continue along the uphill road on your right. Take Rue Bourdieu and on your left, take Rue des **2h15** Marronniers which leads to the D836 **2** (688899 4789287). Turn left on this secondary road and veer right on Chemin du Moulin. Continue along this path until you end in Aren. At the junction featuring a large plane tree, turn left and walk until you reach a small square (church and castle) **3** (687596 4792367). At the castle, turn right and stay on the asphalt road until **3h15** Préchacq-Josbaigt **4** (685755 4792699). At the stop sign, go right, **3h45**

then turn left in front of town hall. At the roundabout, turn left, pass a road on your right and walk down toward the river. Cross the bridge, continue to the right and, at the fork (iron cross), take the left-hand road that leads to the D936. Walk under it and turn right. Go 900 m from the bridge on this small asphalt road and, 20 m after a right-angle bend to the right, take the path on your left **5** (684397 4791730). Walk down into the wood, pass under a high-voltage line and walk back up on the right (west). The path continues on the edge of the plateau. When it forms a right-angle bend to the left, continue straight ahead. After the ringdove-hunting site (pay attention!), continue straight ahead. The path runs along the left of a hunting site, then crosses a prairie. Continue going forward until you reach a fork that you take to the right. Continue and walk down the winding path toward a small river (general direction southwest). Cross the footbridge **6** (682271 4789949). Take the path that turns toward the north. At the fork, go right. At the T junction, go right and, after 20 m, go left. Walk uphill toward the hillside until you reach a forest road. Keep going straight and cross a recent plantation (direction northwest) then walk downhill on a forest trail (same direction). At the bottom, turn left and you will reach a sloping footbridge. Cross it and immediately turn right. The trail will take you to a road. Turn left on this road and walk for around 100 m. On the right, take a forest trail that leads to the footbridge that provides access to the L'Hôpital-Saint-Blaise church **7** (681033 4791131). **5h05** **5h45**



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D Oloron-Sainte-Marie, parvis of the **Sainte-Marie cathedral**
(693744 4784409) car park nearby.

5h45 **22,5 km** **316 m**

Mapping: IGN 1/25,000 no. 15460T, 15450 and 1445E

GPS (WGS84 - UTM-30T)
Download the GPS track at 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:**
- **Oloron-Sainte-Marie:** Sainte-Croix church (sculpted capitals, dome), Sainte-Marie cathedral, UNESCO World Heritage (sculpted portal).
 - **Moumour:** at the church, a lovely terrace and view of the valley.
 - **Aren:** a beautiful 15th-century castle and church.
 - **L'Hôpital-Saint-Blaise:** Hispano-Moorish style church (portal sculptures, dome on the crossing, windows adorned with stone screens).

OLORON-SAINTE-MARIE

Geography and history are in the limelight as you discover the development of Oloron-Sainte-Marie. Firstly the geography, with a remarkable location at the confluence of two streams - the Ossau and Aspe streams - which, when they come together, take on the name of Gave d'Oloron, and a strategic location on a hill 70 m above the confluence, so that crossings

to Somport may be monitored. And history secondly, thanks to which we can discover vestiges dating from the iron age, then traces of the town of Iluro (future Oloron) in administrative documents from the Late Empire and numerous vestiges from the Roman era. Oloron warrants a visit of its old neighbourhoods and



bridges on the Gave d'Aspe, the Sainte-Marie cathedral with its portal and its sculpture friezes showing the elders of the apocalypse playing the vièle.



For additional information, contact:
Office de tourisme de Oloron Ste Marie
Tel.: 05 59 39 98 00
www.tourisme-oloron.com

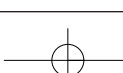
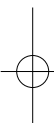
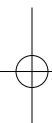
Office de tourisme de Soule
Tel.: 05 59 28 02 37
www.valleedesoule.com

www.rando64.fr

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

Thanks to the author, Patrice Bellanger from CDRP 64.

Conception et réalisation : CDT Béarn - Pays Basque. Les fiches Rando 64 ne peuvent être vendues (0,50 €) que dans le réseau des Offices de Tourisme du Béarn et en Pays Basque.



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

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)

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)

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

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