

GR[®] 10

NIV
3

AVERAGE

COL DES VEAUX - BIDARRAY



This short and very beautiful walk crosses rounded crests and takes you to the summit of Artzamendi, with its impressive views. Afterwards it plunges brusquely towards Bidarray and the valley of Bastan. This path can be difficult, but it holds the essence of the Pyrenean mountains.

Getting to the start:

From Bayonne and exit 5 of the A 63, take the D 932. After the crossing at Cambo, continue on the D 918 towards St Jean Pied de Port; go past Itxassou, and soon afterwards turn left on the D 349 following signs for 'pas de Roland' until you arrive at the hamlet of Laxia. Here, turn right on a steep little track that climbs up to the left bank of the dale. You pass the Artzamendi road on your left as you arrive at the col des Veaux (car park to the left).

D From the col des Veaux, take the little track that begins to the left of the car park. It turns into a footpath. Soon afterwards **1** (558m - 627510 4791841) at the right of a hedge, take a steeper footpath. It opens out further on, having turned to the left on the road **2** (640m - 627739 4791964). Turn right on the road which, after a plane section, opens into the col de Méhatzé **3** (716m - 628545 4792300). (The nearby summit of Artzamendi can be reached in a one-hour return journey). Take a horizontal track on the right that leads to large grassy knolls and which you follow easily along little ups and downs. 50m before the sheepfold of Zelhaiburu is the col de d'Espatza **4** (630m - 629965 4791709). Go right down the side. The steep, narrow footpath descends quickly.

This section may be difficult for inexperienced walkers or those carrying heavy rucksacks. In that case, it may be better, from the col de Méhatzé, to take the smugglers' path that begins just above the col and also leads to Bidarray (orange signposts). The path remains narrow but becomes less steep. Pass by

the foot of the grotte d'Harpekosendoa (shrine). You join the road **5** (263m - 631134 4791350), which you should follow to the left. This road crosses the Bastan and runs along the right bank. Before the descent to the 'bridge of hell' begins, turn right on a steeply rising little tarmac road **6** (135m - 632742 4791281).

At the first right bend, take a path on the left. It is narrow to begin with but becomes gradually wider as it leads you to a little road and then to the village of Bidarray.



**NIV
3****AVERAGE****COL DES VEAUX - BIDARRAY****Col des veaux** (627172 4791695)**3h30****9,9 km****103 m** mini
731 m maxi**Cumulative ascent:** 300 m**Type of terrain:**

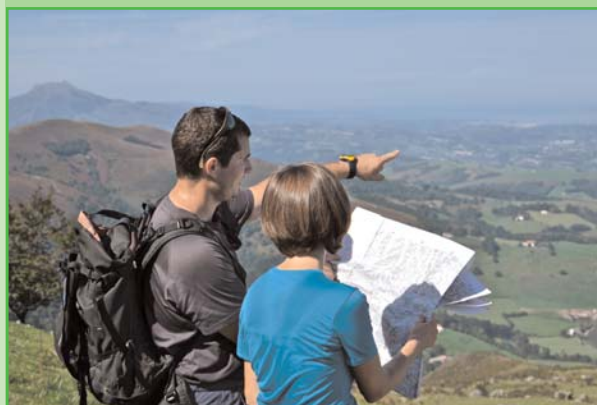
5m of paths; 4,8m of roads.

Signposting:

The entire route is consistently signposted in red and white .

Cartographie : IGN au 25 000***GPS (WGS84 – UTM-30T)**Téléchargez la trace GPS sur www.rando64.fr**Not to be missed:**

- The view from the top of Artzamendi
- The crests before the descent to Bidarray
- The banks of the Bastan



For additional informations contact:



**Saint – Jean – Pied – de – Port /
Saint – Etienne – de – Baigorry**
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www.pyrenees-basques.com

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www.rando64.com

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



Remerciements à l'O.N.F.



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.

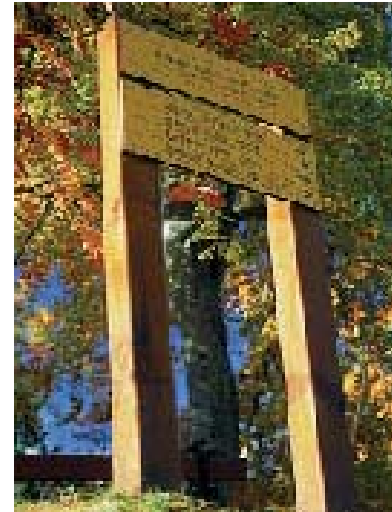
Very easy less than 2 hours of walking. Ideal for families, on well marked-off paths.

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.com

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