



The hardest col in the Basque country, both for its length and its percentages: 15km at 8.4% with a record over 4km: a 12% average! All this in a bucolic landscape of villages, farms, thick forest and mountain meadows under the pic d'Orhy.

### Getting to the start:

● From the A64 Pau-Bayonne motorway, take exit n°7 for Salies, follow the D430 and the D933 via Sauveterre-de-Béarn then the D23 and the D11 to arrive at Mauléon. Continue on the D918 towards Tardets and 1km after the village, turn right on the D26 towards Larrau. After 8km, head right and follow the D26, and after 6km, find the Logibar car park on the left, the starting point for this climb (water point ok when the gite is open).

**D** From the car park, go left on the almost flat Larrau road (make the most of it because it won't last).

① Cross the bridge and attack the steep climb over 2 km at 11%. Arrive in the pretty village of Larrau, following the main street towards the right with a slight descent!

② The slope is gentle until you reach the crossroads at the exit of the village (km 3).

③ Turn left and begin a tough climb over 700 m at 12%, then enjoy a false flat in a forest before a moderate slope of 6% with a nice open bend to the left. The slope steepens again (1km at 11 and then 13%) then flattens out; and it's a good idea to take advantage of this last respite at a beautiful bend to the left with a clear horizon on the right (km 6).

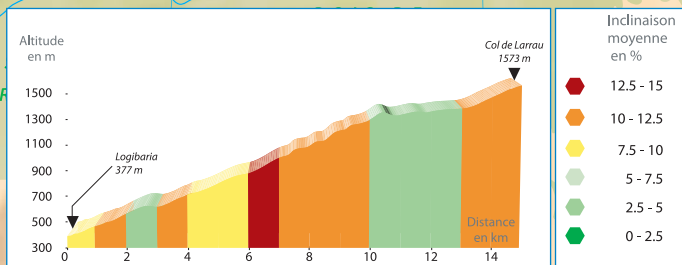
④ This is the steepest part of the col: going back into thick undergrowth, and despite some very tight bends which you might expect to cut the natural slope, here is the famous 4km at an average of practically 12% on a fairly regular slope that eases off very slightly (400 m at 7%) 1

km before the passage to the col d'Erroymendi (1362m; km 10; meadows and very open views).

⑤ After the col, a brief descent allows you to recover before the last uphill: the following 3km amid meadows are marked by a succession of climbs at 6 or 7% alternated with a few hundred metres of relaxation, such as a pretty balcony under the pic d'Orhy in the middle of sheep and horses and with a very open view towards the East.

⑥ One last big push is necessary to climb the final 3 bends leading to the border col of port de Larrau (1.6km at 10% average).





The gite at Logibaria.  
Parking: car park near the gite.



Record time: 0h48  
author's time: **1h10**



Distance: **14.6km**



Min/max altitude: **377m - 1573m**

Cumulative ascent: **1230m**

Average percentage: **8.42%**; over 10km: **10.35%**;  
over 7km: **11.14%**; over 4km: **12%**

Maximum slope: **15% over 300m**

Recommended gear ratio: **38X26**  
corresponding to a climbing time of 1h20

Motor traffic: **light**

Road surface: **good**

IGN map at 1/25000: 1346 ET and 1446 ET

### Strong points:

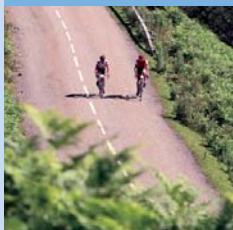
the variety of landscapes; the chance to climb THE toughest col; the mountain **village of Larrau**.

### Nearby:

the footbridge at **Holzarté**, the forest of **Iratty**, the climb to **Ahusquy**, and the col de **Bagargui**.

### Other side:

only one, from Spain, easier and very wooded, from the typical village of **Ochagavia** (19km and 900m in height).



### Difficulties/tips:

no reliable water point after the village of Larrau (km 2.5); no service at the summit.



Renseignements complémentaires auprès de l'office de tourisme de :



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