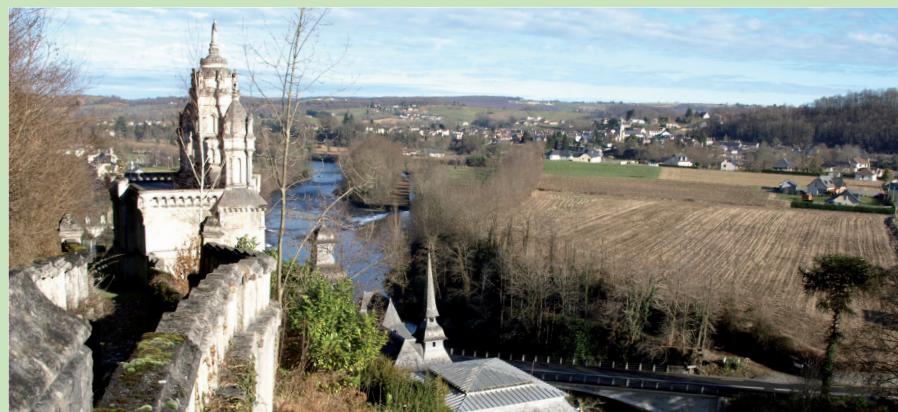


# GR 78® Voie de Piémont

LEV  
**4**

DIFFICULT

FROM SAINT-PÉ-DE BIGORRE TO BRUGES



In the past, pilgrims coming from southeast France used the Voie de Piémont to get to Saint-Jean-Pied-de Port via the foothills of the Pyrenees. In this leg of the trail, hikers enjoy a magnificent panoramic view of the foothills and tops of the Pyrenees, whilst crossing through remarkable sites of historic or natural interest.

## Getting to the departure point:

From Pau, follow signs to Lourdes via Lestelle-Bétharram (D938 and 937) until you get to Saint-Pé-de-Bigorre (33 km). From Lourdes, Follow signs to Pau via Lestelle-Bétharram (D937) until you get to Saint-Pé-de-Bigorre (10 km). Coaches managed by the Hautes-Pyrénées Departmental Council run to Saint-Pé-de Bigorre. For information, call 0800 65 65 00 (toll-free number). SNCF train station to Pau and Lourdes: call 3635 for information.

For your return: Scheduled coaches managed by the Pyrénées-Atlantiques Departmental Council run from Bruges. For information, call 05 59 40 36 60 or visit [www.transports.cg64.fr](http://www.transports.cg64.fr).

**D** (731162 4776242) Take the secondary road toward Pau for 80 m and turn left on Rue Jacques Bronzon. Then take the first street on your right and turn left onto an alley across from La Poste. Further down, veer right to reach Allée des Terrasses. Follow along alongside the railway. Turn left to cross a bridge over a stream, go straight and turn right onto a small road heading toward Grottes de Bétharram. Cross in front of the grottoes' entrance (here you change départements: the GR® 78 enters Pyrénées-Atlantiques) ① (728504 4776286). Continue heading in the same direction and, after the Le Vieux Logis restaurant, follow along straight ahead until you reach the

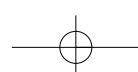
**0h50** Bétharram sanctuary ② (727197 4778258). Climb the hill, following the Chemin de Croix lined with chapels. When you arrive at the top, you will discover a three-cross Calvary. Turn left (west) toward the Résurrection chapel. On its left, take a path that gradually meets up with the D226 and leads to the Croix des Hauteurs junction. Take a small road on your right (west). After 600 m (at a transformer), take the road on your right downhill until you reach a junction, turn left and keep going until you get to Monrepos. At the junction, take Chemin de Lirou across the way. It climbs up a butte and then

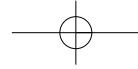
**1h30** continues down toward Pont Latapie ③ (723940 4778003). **2h45**

Do not cross the bridge, but turn completely right, taking the wide Chemin de Baburet that runs along the right bank of the Ouzom and leads to a road bridge after 2.3 km. Cross this bridge to enter Asson and go to the church by turning right at the village's central junction ④ (723215 4780130). Continue on the D 126 (northwest) and, immediately after passing the town hall, take a path on your left (south). At the following junction, cross (be careful!) the D 35 and turn right (southwest) onto a small road ("Chemin fermé" sign). Across from a professional building, turn left and, after 100 m, follow a downhill path that leads to a small road. Turn right (fish farm) and continue along until you reach the junction with the D 35

**3h30** ⑤ (721491 4779007). Do not take the D 35, but rather turn left (southwest) on the D 335 for 900 m (Careful! Frequent traffic). At the next junction, turn right (toward Cibis) then, after 50 m, turn right (Chemin de Latrau) and cross an old bridge marked "passage privé". Continue straight ahead via Chemin de Hourtane and turn right immediately after the first farm onto a downward path. Walk around a large restored farm until you come to a road that leads to Bruges. At the village's entrance, veer to the right and walk to the church and then

**4h55** Bruges' central square (bastide). ⑥ (719317 4778423).



LEV  
**4**

DIFFICULT

**FROM SAINT-PÉ-DE BIGORRE TO BRUGES**

**D** Saint-Pé-de-Bigorre, Place des Arcades in the village centre (731162 4776242).  
 5h    19,3 km    425 m

IGN 1/25,000 no. 1646ET and 1546ET

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.

**THE BÉTHARRAM GROTTOS**

The Bétharram grottos lie under the border between the Hautes-Pyrénées and the Pyrénées-Atlantiques départements. The 2.8 km tourist trail in the grotto takes visitors to caves and large rooms that showcase impressive formations shaped by nature

and highlighted by the lighting: calcites, helictites, draperies, stalactites, stalagmites, potholes, etc. Visitors exit on a small boat that crosses an underground river and ride a small electric train up the tunnel. For information, call 05 62 41 80 04.

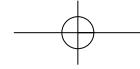
**Don't miss:**

- **Saint-Pé-de-Bigorre:** 11th and 12th century classified church, 14th century polychrome virgin, old houses, pastoral museum;
- **Bétharram grottos:** five stories of underground galleries where you can admire the draperies, helictites, stalactites and stalagmites sculpted by limestone deposits;
- **Bétharram sanctuary:** 17th century chapel (painted wood vaults, paintings, organ and altarpieces), museum, fountain, 1687 bridge;
- **Asson:** high Gothic church (Saint-James chapel), oppidum 1.5 km away off the GR®;
- **Bruges:** bastide founded in 1357, church with a 16th century bell tower and a gothic portal, old bridge over the Landistou.



For additional information, contact:  
**Office de tourisme communautaire de la plaine de Nay**  
Tel : 05 59 13 94 99  
[www.tourismeplainedenay.fr](http://www.tourismeplainedenay.fr)

**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.

