

HAUT QUEYRAS self-guided

The most perched villages in Europe



Sometimes called little Switzerland, the Queyras region is famous for its high villages rich of a traditional architecture, its mountain pastures and high valleys.


On the border with Italy, the Queyras mountains are rising on both sides of the Guil torrent which starts at the foot of Mont Viso and flows into the Durance at Mont-Dauphin. In the mountain freshness and under the southern Alps blue sky, that's the place of the most high villages in Europe.

The wide valleys are rising to the passes and summits, panoramic viewpoints on Mont Viso (3841m high, second highest summit in Italy). Here the nature is wild and preserved by the local national park: larch forests, pine and spruce; pastures crossed by torrents and waterfalls that are coming from the multiple altitude lakes; abundant flora and rare species, rich fauna (marmots, chamois, eagles, hares). The inhabitants of these lands have kept their traditions, their wood fountains, their decorated sundials and their warm welcome.

 7 Days

 Self-guided / without guide

 With or without luggage transportation

 Accommodation : Classic or comfort

 Level : ***

 From : 450€

You will like

- The discovery of an authentic country, sometimes called "Little Switzerland", with its mountain pastures, typical wooden architecture and large heritage of sundials
- A very beautiful walk over high passes on good paths
- With 300 days of sun per year, the pleasant climate of the Southern Alps ensures sun and light
- A short break in Italy, at the foot of the iconic Mont Viso

The route

Day 1

VILLE-VIEILLE - CEILLAC

Meet at Ville-Vieille (commune of Château-Ville-Vieille), the historic and geographical gateway to the Queyras valleys, dominated by Fort Queyras, which we recommend you visit on your return from your tour. Leave your bags at the Hôtel Le Guilazur before 9am.

Following a splendid route through the forest and pastoral massif of the Bûcher summit, you will reach the Fromage pass (2300 m) and then the lively village of Ceillac (1640 m), nestling in the heart of the Cristillan valley.

5 hour walk / Elevation : +1090 m; -870 m

Day 2

CEILLAC - SAINT-VÉРАН

The Col des Estronques (2651 m), a major crossing point between the Cristillan valley and the Aigue Blanche valley, is the gateway to the "haut Queyras", which you will discover over the coming days, as well as the famous village of Saint-Véran (2040 m), proudly overlooking the Aigue Blanche valley.

6.5 hour walk / Elevation : +990 m; -800 m

Day 3

SAINT-VÉРАН - REFUGE AGNEL

From Saint-Véran, climb up to the upper Clausis valley (2350 m) to take in the sumptuous panoramic views from the Italian border ridge. The programme includes the Blanchet massif and lakes, the Col de Saint-Véran (2850 m), the Pic de Caramantran (3000 m, option) and the Col de Chamoussière (2880 m). A beautiful day at the bottom of this cirque dominated by the Tête des Toillies, with the added bonus of the marmots that have colonised the site.

(If you have taken the option of staying in a double room, the accommodation will be in Chianale, Italy, in a B&B. There will be a 10-minute transfer the next day to reach the Col Agnel, and a longer descent).

5 hour walk / Elevation : +935 m; - 370 m

Day 4

REFUGE AGNEL - LE HAUT GUIL

Refuge Agnel - Guil valley via Pain de Sucre (3200 m, optional), Col Vieux (2850 m) then down the valley of lakes Foréant and Egourgéou (recently classified as a nature reserve) which takes you from the gateway to the high mountains to the hay meadows of the Haut Guil valley (1700 m).

5.5 hour walk / Elevation : +300 m; -1200 m

Day 5

LE HAUT GUIL - ABRIÈS

Via the Peyra Plata ridges (2500 m). One of the most beautiful ridge walks in the Queyras and a chance to discover the traditional hamlet of Valprévèyre. You'll also appreciate the unique flora of the Colette de Gilly. Descent to the lively village of Abriès.

5.5 hour walk / Elevation : +700 m; -900 m

Day 6

ABRIÈS - LACS MALRIFS - REFUGE DES FONTS DE CERVIERES

This day allows you to discover the wonderful Fonts de Cervières valley in the Briançonnais region, crossing the Malrif massif (2550 to 2900m). This will also be the most challenging stage of your tour, allowing you to approach the Malrif

lakes with their magnificent view of Mont Viso. The effort will be amply rewarded!

6 hour walk / Elevation : + 1250 m; -770 m

Day 7

LES FONTS - COL DE PÉAS - COL DE LA CRÊCHE - VILLE VIELLE

You'll leave the charming hamlet of Les Fonts, where pastoral grazing is still very much alive, to begin your final stage of the Queyras tour.

Dominated by the imposing Rochebrune, one of the four pillars of the massif, the Col de Péas (2600m) will be the high point of your day. This vast valley offers a number of interesting views of the peaks to the south of the massif.

Return to Ville-Vieille via the canal and then the Col de la Crêche. The final stretch via Meyrès and the Astragales path is a truly beautiful experience.

6 hour walk / Elevation: + 570 m; -1250 m

ITINERARY IF YOU CHOOSE THE 6 DAYS VERSION

Day 1 : Ville-Vieille - Ceillac

Day 2 : Ceillac - Saint-Véran

Day 3 : Saint-Véran - Refuge Agnel

Day 4 : Refuge Agnel - Vallée des lacs - Abriès

Day 5 : Abriès - Lacs Malriès - Refuge des Fonts de Cervières

Day 6 : Les Fonts - Col de Péas - Col de la Crêche - Ville Vielle

The programme has been drawn up on the basis of the latest information available at the time of writing; unforeseen circumstances are always possible and situations beyond our control may alter the programme.

The trip

LEVEL ***

Elevation: + 800m average per day.

Walking time: 5 - 7 hours average per day.

Type of trek: mountain route with no technical difficulty.

You have to be in a general good fitness level. Please practice a cardio sport such as hiking, running, cycling, from 3 to 4 hours a week. Your physical preparation will enable you to enjoy your trek to the maximum.

Please find the description of the levels by clicking here: [levels of difficulty](#)

The roadbook provides sufficient information on the itinerary of your hike. However, it is essential to be able to read an IGN 1:25,000 map and to be sufficiently autonomous in the mountains to be able to tackle the itinerary with confidence, whatever the weather (fog, snow, etc.). Guiding is not included in the self-guided package. You will be crossing areas with no telephone network. For your own safety, you may wish to bring along a radio of the latest generation telephone with satellite connection.

Please note: some névés will be present on the paths until mid-June, in particular on the North slopes. High mountain boots, gaiters and walking poles are essential. Be prepared!

This trip is organised in collaboration with our local partners, who share our commitment to offering you an authentic holiday.

ROAD BOOK

Your road book will be sent to you by post on receipt of payment of the balance of your stay. It includes:

- A route book,
- A set of IGN maps,
- A itinerary sheet with a list of accommodation,
- Luggage tags, if you have booked this option,
- Access to the digital application downloadable onto your smartphone.

For all bookings made less than 3 weeks before departure, paper travel documents cannot be sent. Only the digital version will be made available.

ACCOMMODATION

Depending on the chosen option:

CLASSIC in a gîte: shared room for 4 to 12 people, bed linen and towels are not provided (liner required), bathroom facilities are on the landing.

COMFORT in a gîte: double room or room with 2 beds according to your choice and availability, sheets and towels are not provided (liner required), bathroom facilities are on the landing.

HOTEL SERVICES: Private room, private bathroom, bed linen and towels provided.

INTERNAL TRANSFERS

For the 7-day version, no transfers.

For the 6-day version: 5-minute transfer between l'Echalp and Abriès.

MEALS

Breakfasts and dinners are provided in each accommodation (except dinner in Ceillac on the versions in gîte) .

Picnics are not included. Picnics can be booked at the accommodation (option to be added). Picnics can also be booked with the accommodation providers on arrival for the following day. There are small shops in the villages where you can buy supplies.

Please inform us about your food allergies and special diets **at the time of booking**.

We do our best to accommodate special diets (gluten-free, vegetarian, etc.). However, we encourage you to bring some additional products for your own picnics.

N.B.: for the stay in Ceillac, bookings at the Gîte des Baladins are on bed and breakfast. For bookings in other accommodation in the village, dinner will automatically be added at a supplement of €28 per person.

MAPS

IGN Top 25 - 3637 OT MONT VISO et 3537 ET GUILLESTRE

Practical information

DEPARTURE

Start of the hike in Ville-Vieille.

ACCESS TO DEPARTURE POINT

BY TRAIN

Please consult the [SNCF](#) when you register.

Montdauphin-Guillestre station, Briançon line (Hautes-Alpes).

For Montdauphin/Château-Queyras shuttle bus timetables, contact "[05 voyageurs](#)" on 04.92.502.505 or online.

BY CAR

To help you plan your journey, we recommend that you obtain information about your itinerary from the various websites:

www.viamichelin.fr or www.mappy.fr

Free, unguarded parking in Château-Queyras, close to the residential area.

End of the hike in Ville-Vieille where you will find your luggage at the Hotel Guilazur from 4pm.

INSURANCE

In accordance with regulations, we are covered by Professional Liability Insurance. Under no circumstances, we can replace your personal civil liability.

The repatriation insurance EUROP ASSISTANCE that we offer is dedicated to French speaking people living in Europe. If it is not your case, we advise you to subscribe to another travel insurance which will cover you in case of injury and repatriation during your trek.

If you chose to take out repatriation insurance with EUROP ASSISTANCE whom we propose, Altitude Mont Blanc will only serve as an intermediary between the client and the insurer. We cannot influence either party. We adhere to strict conditions of sale. You are responsible for compliance with the reporting procedures of any incident.

Before making any decision, contact EUROP ASSISTANCE.

CONTACT US

If you are late please contact the agency as soon as possible on: **+33 (0)4 50 79 09 16** or **+33 (0)6 42 49 76 07**

Dates & prices

DEPARTURE AND PRICE

Departures possible every day from 1st June to 25th Septembre 2025

Version 7 days and 6 nights without luggage transport:

€540 per person in classic accommodation

€660 per person in gîte in a room for 2 people

€730 per person in a room with private bathroom in hotel

Single person supplement without luggage transport, in standard accommodation: €55

Version in 6 days and 5 nights without luggage transport:

€450 per person in classic accommodation

€550 per person in gîte in a room for 2 people

€610 per person in a room with private bathroom in hotel

Single person supplement without luggage transport, in standard accommodation: €55

Supplement luggage transport (min. 2 pax):

7-day version: €80 per person

6-day version: €70 per person

Optional extras:

6 picnics: €80 per person

5 picnics: €70 per person

Additional nights before or after your stay, on a half-board basis:

Shared room in a gîte: 68€ per person

Room for 2 in a hotel: 104€ per person

Single room in hotel: 115€ per person

Optional transfers :

Transfer by private taxi to or from Guillestre station to Ville-Vieille: €80 per journey (2 to 4 people)

Transfer from Chianale to Agnel if stay without luggage transport: €50€ per person (up to 8 participants)

THE PRICE

The price includes :

- Accommodation on a half-board basis (dinner, overnight stay and breakfast), except in Ceillac in a B&B. The evening meal can be taken in one of the many restaurants in the village;
- Road book: description and IGN maps (1 complete road book per group);
- Luggage transport between accommodations, if you have chosen this option;
- Tourist taxes;
- Organisation and booking fees.

The price does not include:

- Picnic lunches;
- Dinner in Ceillac;
- Drinks, visits and other personal expenses;
- Transfers by taxi or bus;
- Guiding: you are responsible for your own safety ;
- Cancellation assistance insurance (4.2% of the total cost of the stay).

The price includes everything from the meeting point to the dispersal point.

Equipment and luggage

EQUIPMENT LIST

Clothing

- Walking trousers
- Shorts (Bikini/swimsuit, just in case!)
- Breathable or merino wool t-shirts
- Breathable or merino wool leggings
- Fleece or jumper
- Lightweight down jacket
- Wind stopper or Goretex jacket
- Waterproof poncho + gaiters or Goretex trousers + waterproof rucksack cover
- Pair of gloves and a warm hat
- Sun hat or baseball cap
- Walking socks (1 pair per day)
- Sturdy walking boots with a good sole, already broken in
- 1 change of clothes for the evening
- A pair of comfortable shoes for the evening

Other Equipment

- Toilet bag
- Quick drying towel
- Sunglasses and sun cream
- Water bottle or Camelback (1.5 litre minimum)
- Knife, fork and spoon
- Plastic lunch box/plate for your picnic lunches (0,4 to 0,5L)
- Plastic cup for coffee
- Small First Aid kit (antihistamine, ibuprofen, Compeed type blister pads...)
- Survival blanket
- Head torch or hand torch
- Sleeping bag liner sheet and pillowcase (blankets provided at accommodation)
- Two adjustable walking poles (highly recommended)
- Identity card or passport

BACKPACK

Bring a comfortable backpack of 30 to 40 litres for your personal belongings for the day (warm clothes, waterproofs, water, plate and cutlery for your picnic, sunscreen and your identity papers) and please keep a little room to carry a picnic and snacks.

BAGGAGE TRANSPORT

Your baggage will be transported daily between accommodation by our logistics vehicle. You are allowed **1 soft, sports type bag with all your possessions inside, no heavier than 12kg**. Your bag has to be carried everyday by the the driver to refuges, which access is not always easy! **Luggage which is too big and too heavy won't be accepted by the drivers!**

HOW TO REGISTER

- Online: <http://www.altitude-montblanc.com>

- By telephone: +33 (0)4 50 79 09 16

- By post: Please provide your details

- Surname, First Name, Date of birth
- Address
- Email
- Telephone
- Mobile

If you wish to register by post, please complete the form below and return it to:

Altitude Mont-Blanc
62 Passage du nant Devant
74110 MONTRIOND
FRANCE

Please specify whether you wish to take out an optional cancellation insurance (4.2% of the tour price).

On receipt of your registration we will email an invoice (per couple) with a request for a deposit of 30% in association with your account details at Altitude Mont-Blanc ('My Account'). Payment can be made by credit card, bank transfer or by cheque. On receipt of your deposit you will receive a registration confirmation.

The balance must be paid one month before departure without a reminder from us.

For self-guided tours, we will then send your tour pack (includes maps, descriptive book etc.)

Our terms and conditions of sale can be found on our website.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.



Registration by mail form

Last name:

First name:

Date of birth:

Address:

Phone number:

Mobile phone number:

Email address:

Requested tour:

Number of days:

Insurance:

Price:

x 30% =

Deposit

Locality where signed:

Date

Signature:

Return with your deposit to:

Altitude Mont-Blanc, 62 Passage du Nant Devant, 74110 Montriond, FRANCE