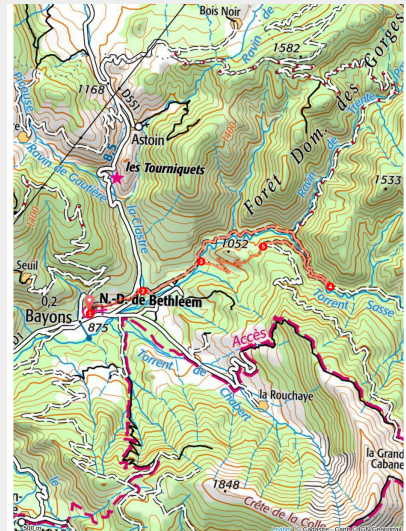


# Chemin de fer de la Combe by mountain bike

La Motte-du-Caire - Bayons



Vue panoramique (Office de Tourisme La Motte du Caire)



*The Haute Combe de la Sasse is an ideal route for families to discover mountain biking and this still-unspoiled part of the mountains. The Sasse offers a welcome respite from the heat on hot days. The railway tracks are still visible (foundations and embankment) in the second half of the ride.*

Follow the Mountain Bike Trail No. 11 (VTT N°11)

## Useful information

Practice : Mountain Bike

Duration : 1 h 30

Length : 10.8 km

Trek ascent : 304 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Loop

Themes : Geology, History and architecture, Lake, waterfall and river

# Trek

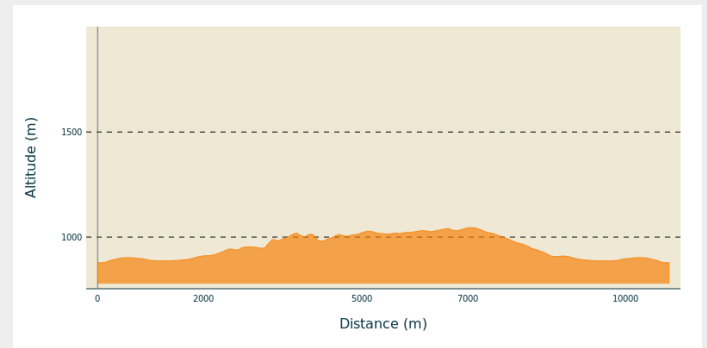
**Departure** : Village, Bayons

**Arrival** : Village, Bayons

**Markings** : 🚶 VTT

**Cities** : 1. Bayons

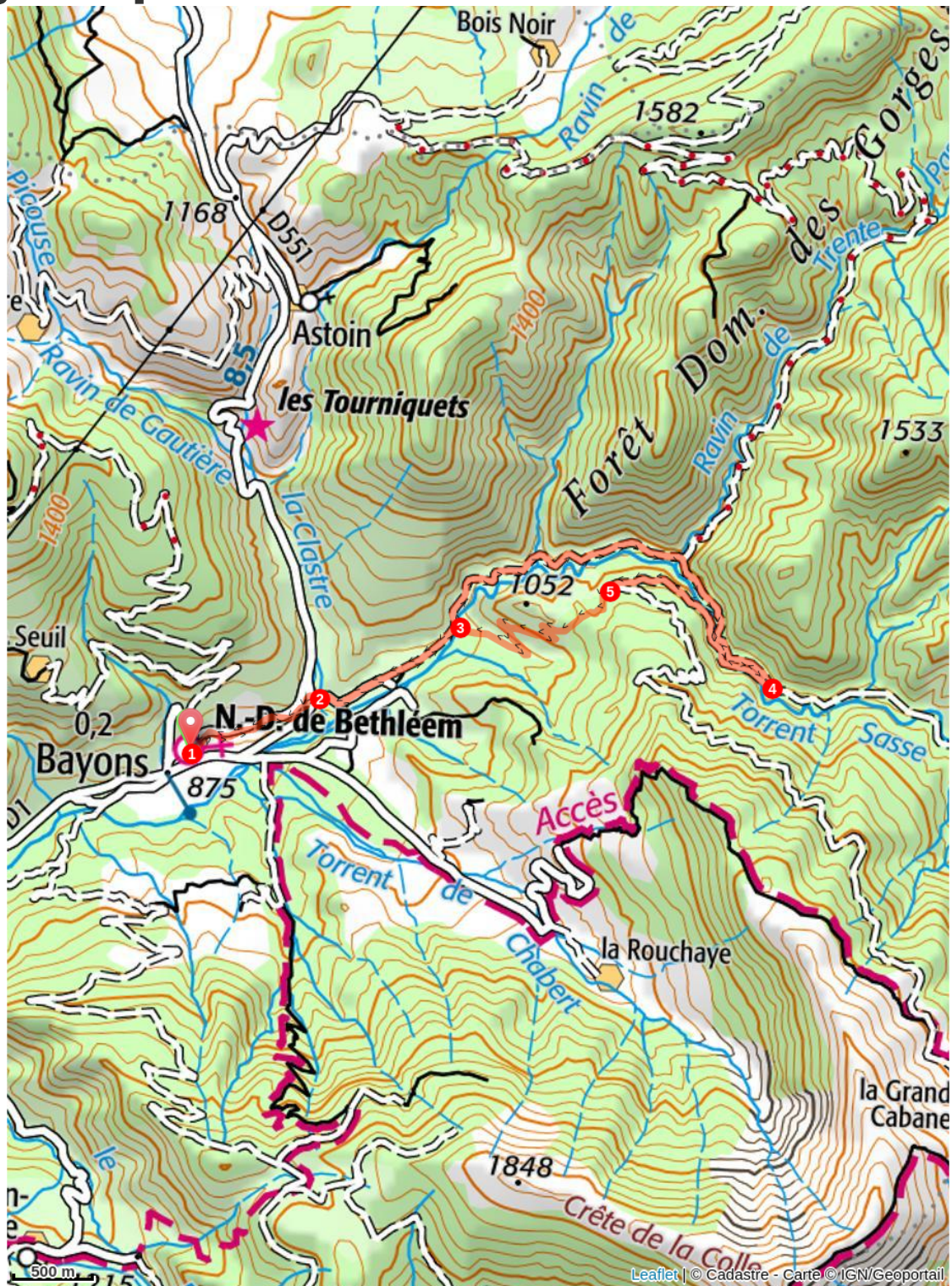
## Altimetric profile



Min elevation 878 m Max elevation 1045 m

1. Walk through the village of Bayons (875 m) toward Turriers until you reach the intersection with Route D 1 (1 km).
2. Cross Route D 1 by taking the small paved road directly across from it. Follow it for 500 m; it turns into a dirt track. Follow it to the ford.
3. At the Soubeyrache ford (900 m), take the trail on the left that heads into the upper Sasse Valley for 3.2 km.
4. On the Combe trail (1010 m), take the trail on the right that crosses the Sasse toward the “Grande Cabane” for 1.5 km.
5. At the trail junction (1,032 m), leave the “Grande Cabane” trail to your left and continue to the right. A section through black soil and a rocky descent along the old railroad tracks leads to the new bridge over the Sasse and the ascending trail. Then follow the directions in reverse to return to the starting point.

# On your path...



 La Combe Railroad (A)

# All useful information

## **Advices**

- Bike service station (bike wash, air pump, water fountain) in Clamensane (in front of City Hall).
- **Caution: there is a tricky section near the stream next to the Combe trail.**

## **How to come ?**

### Transports

Let's limit our trips and use public transportation and carpooling: <https://zou.maregionsud.fr>

### Access

From Sisteron (30 km), take the D 951, then the D 1 toward Bayons.

### Advised parking

Parking lot in Bayons

## **Information desks**

### **Bureau d'accueil des via ferrata**

[viaferratalecaire@sisteronais-buech.fr](mailto:viaferratalecaire@sisteronais-buech.fr)

Tel : 04 92 68 40 39



# On your path...

---



## La Combe Railroad (A)

No, you're not dreaming—a railroad track was actually built in the 1920s in this remote corner of the Provençal highlands. Back then, wood was used to shore up mine tunnels, erect telegraph poles, and make railroad ties. As a result, in this valley of La Combe, nestled between the headwaters of the Sasse River and the village of Bayons, a railway transported the timber harvested from its slopes. A small steam train handled the transport all the way down to the village, taking over from a cable car that served the valley floor, near the hamlet of La Combe. This hard labor was carried out mainly by Piedmontese lumberjacks and charcoal burners. It was certainly a difficult trade, but also a dangerous one, as some in the village recall or heard in their youth that, when this train first began operating, one of them perished under its wheels. Today, there are no more railcars, no more screeching brakes or wheels on the tracks, but a few walls or rusted remnants from that era (especially after crossing the Sasse and heading up the GR 6 near the ruins of L'Adret) remind us of this human adventure from the last century.

Attribution : Office de Tourisme La Motte du Caire