

# The wheel and kettle hike

Terre Valserine



Attribution : L'ancienne scierie (PNRHJ - F. Jeanparis)



From the village of Saint-Germain-de-Joux, this short hike will take you to the gorges dug out by the Semine to discover some interesting geological formations. In this natural environment where man has demonstrated his know-how in using hydropower, the river is still in power and continues its wild passage.

## Useful information

Category : Laid-out site

Type : Nature spot

Themes : History & heritage,  
Lakes, rivers and waterfalls

# Description

From the **bowling parking lot** (signpost marking the departure point for the circuit) a stony trail (yellow waymarking) heads down into the forest to a bridge bordered by old buildings: the old Thévenin sawmill.

After exploring the sawmill, make a round trip to the **Giant's Kettles**.

On returning to the sawmill, continue along the road back to the village by following the **return (RETOUR) signs for the wheel and kettle hike**.

When you reach "**rue de la Gare**", walk up the road to head back to the **bowling parking lot**.

During this short trip, five interpretive signs provide explanations on this natural environment and on man's hydraulic additions:

- The old Thévenin sawmill
- The concrete penstock
- The Wheel's features
- The Giant's Kettles
- Log arrivals

# Geographical location



# All useful information

## Practical info

**Recommendations:** During rainy weather, the trail down to the Semine may be slippery, we strongly advise against climbing onto the rocks.

**Road access:** 10km away at the crossroads between Nantua, Oyonnax and Bellegarde, Saint-Germain-de-Joux is accessible via the A40, the D 1084 and the D 55.

**Suggested parking:** bowling parking lot, or parking areas around the church

**Departure point:** the bowling parking lot, rue de la Gare.

## Contact

Office de Tourisme Terre Valserine 13  
rue de la République, 01200 Bellegarde-  
sur-Valserine Tel : +33 (0)4 50 48 48 68  
<http://www.terrevalserine.fr/>  
[http://www.meteociel.fr/previsions/324/  
saint\\_germain\\_de\\_joux.htm](http://www.meteociel.fr/previsions/324/saint_germain_de_joux.htm)