

# The disappearance of the Valserine trail

Terre Valserine - Valserhone



Pertes de la Valserine (GTJ / Alain Perrier)

*From the heart of Bellegarde, this hike leads to the bowels of the Valserine, an affluent of the Rhône.*

In these wild gorges, men had the tenacity to build constructions to exploit the driving force of the water. At its peak, where the waters of the Valserine disappear into the canyon, the Pont des Oulles bridge offers a view of a very strange geological phenomenon.

## Useful information

Practice : Nature trail

Duration : 2 h

Length : 5.1 km

Trek ascent : 181 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Linear out-and-back

Themes : History & heritage,  
Lakes, rivers and waterfalls

# Trek

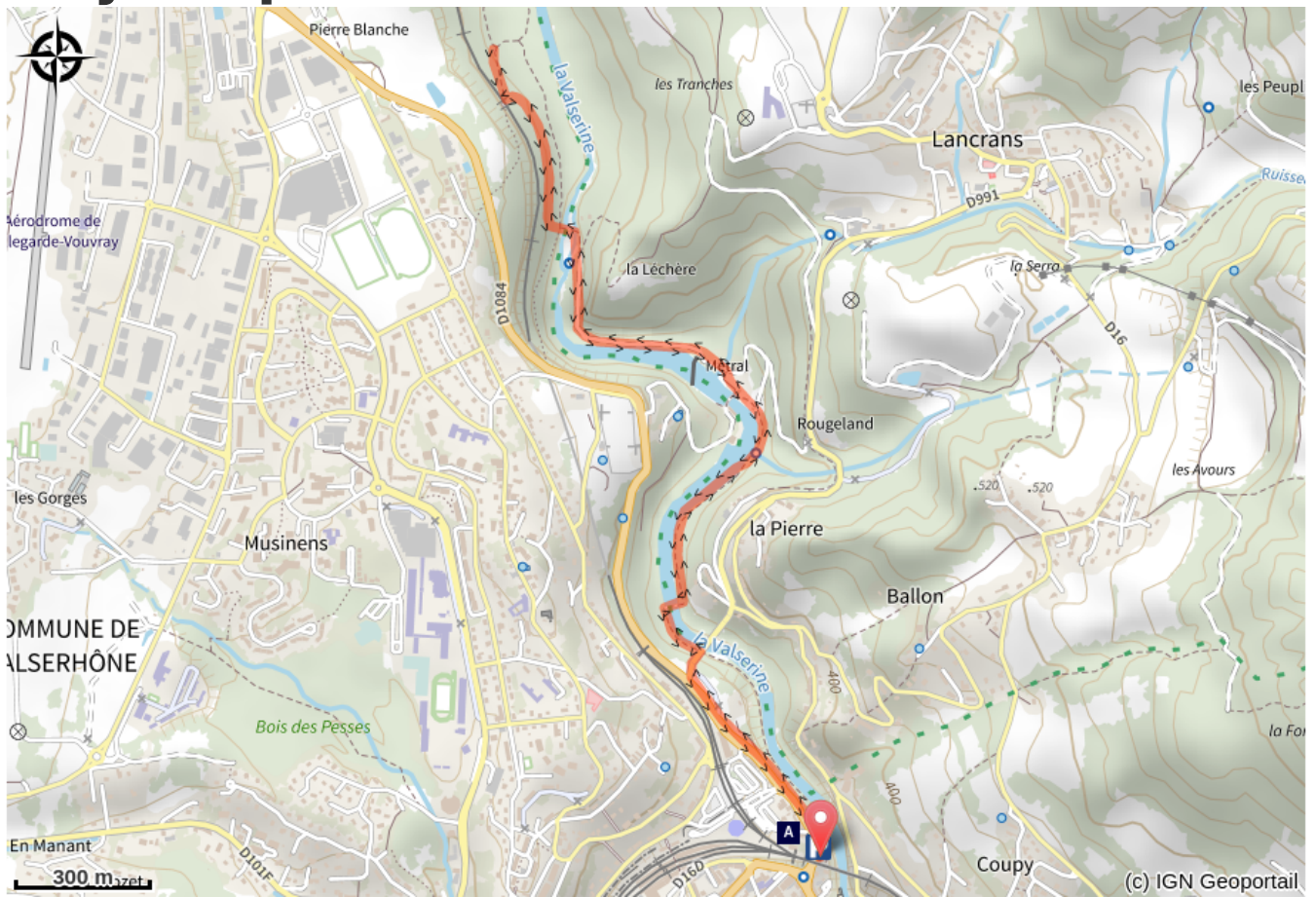
Departure : Railway viaduct, Bellegarde-sur-Valserine

Arrival : Railway viaduct, Bellegarde-sur-Valserine

This trail includes several walkways, allowing to either walk along or cross the river, as well as a picnic area. In less than 2 hrs - there and back -, equipped with the fold-out provided by the Tourist Office, you will discover no less than half a dozen curiosities and remnants, both natural and man-made, attesting to the town's industrial culture:

- A hydroelectric plant and an old biscuit factory
- A customs guardhouse
- A telemechanic pillar
- The tram bridge
- The Métral dam
- The Pont des Oules bridge

# On your path...



12- PLM pavilion (A)

# All useful information

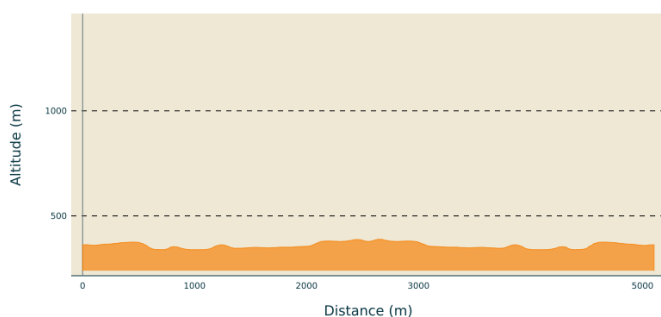
## **Advices**

Closed in the winter, this trail can be taken from 20 May to 30 November.

When following the Valserine into its gorges, it is strongly recommended that you remain on the waymarked path and its walkways. Beware, the large stone slabs can be slippery in some areas. Wear appropriate footwear!

Wild flowers are beautiful, they may be rare and protected and often wilt quickly. Do not pick them! They will delight the next hikers.

## **Altimetric profile**



Min elevation 339 m  
Max elevation 388 m

## **Transports**

TGV station of Bellegarde-sur-Valserine. To visit and get about in the High-Jura, visit [www.reshaut-jura.fr](http://www.reshaut-jura.fr), the eco-mobility portal listing all means of transport within the Park.

## **Access**

Depart from the SNCF viaduct in Bellegarde, or 2 km away via the D1084 towards Chatillon-en-Michaille.

## **Advised parking**

Near to each departure point

## **Information desks**

Tourist information centre - Terre Valserine  
71 rue de la République, 01200 Valserhône  
Tel : +33 (0)4 50 48 48 68  
<https://www.terrevalserhone-tourisme.fr>



# On your path...

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## 12- PLM pavilion (A)

In the very hierarchical and social world of the *Compagnie de chemin de fer PLM*, some railway workers and their families were housed based on their responsibilities and qualifications within the Compagnie. These individual houses were usually built according to standard blueprints, as were the watch houses and some technical buildings (PNRHJ - *Un tour en ville, "A tour of the town"*).

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