

Lake Aiguebelette (Visitor Centre)

A43 junction - Altitude 375 m - 8 circuits - Total 154 km

2 3 Circuits around Nances 2: length 4.5 km, height gain + 50 m

3: length 8 km, height gain + 180 m 2: An easy circuit for all the family. After an initial section along the banks of the River Leysse, the route goes through the flowerlined hamlet of Les Gollets and across the lower slopes of the Nances forest. Return via the lakeshore.

Circuit **3** climbs higher up the hillside along the flower-lined road through Nances and finishes with a fun descent through the forest.



4 Villas Doria

Length 12 km, height gain + 400 m A route that will delight descenders. After heading up minor roads towards the Col de l'Epine, the route goes past the ruins at Villas Doria to descend single-track trails with some very sharp hairpins. The circuit is graded red because it demands good bikehandling skills.

Not recommended in wet conditions.



5 Col de la Crusille

Length 27 km, height gain + 650 m A "country" circuit around Novalaise. A technically straightforward circuit combining an easy climb with a slightly more technical descent to the village of Ayn. The section through the forest between the Col de la Crusille (572 m) and the Col du Banchet (590 m) is particularly pretty.

6 Château Richard

Length 26 km, height gain + 1150 m This circuit starts with the climb to the Col de l'Epine (987 m) and finishes with the superb descent through the forest from Château Richard to Lake Aiguebelette. A strenuous itinerary with short technical sections on the descent. Once back at the road (after La Rossière), it is well worth going up to Villas Doria (1 km) in order to finish the ride with the wonderful descent through the Nances Forest



7 The Sarde Way

Length 35 km, height gain + 1100 m A difficult circuit along the Montagne de l'Epine. Go up the road to the Col de l'Epine, then follow the undulating trail along the crest of the ridge (915 m) to the Col St-Michel (903 m). Only expert mountain bikers will be able to ride down the very technical descent from just before the col.

You can then enjoy a long descent, first on single track and then on the Sarde Way, to Lake Aiguebelette. The return leg from the southern end of the lake goes through La Combe, Aiguebelette port and village, Lépindu-Lac and St-Alban-de-Montbel.



The Chevelu lakes

Leisure area - Altitude 305 m - 3 circuits - Total 49 km

15 Mont de Lierre

Length 12 km, height gain + 440 m In the shadow of the rugged peaks of the Dent du Chat and the Montagne de la Charvaz. These mountains form a cirque containing two tiny lakes, the Lacs de Chevelu. Mont de Lierre, just west of the lakes, provides a lovely little climb and traverse through oak forest (short sections not rideable) before a final technical descent and, why not, a swim in the lake.

16 The Chevelu Lakes

Length 7 km, height gain + 220 m Although quite short, this route is not without difficulties. Along the trail through vineyards and forests you will see the Château de Bergin and an oratory. The return leg to the Lacs de Chevelu includes several superb viewpoints overlooking the valley. NB: The final descent through the Lierre Woods is difficult.



GPS coordinates 45.57437, 5.800218

8 On the road to the Chartreuse

Length 50 km, height gain + 1650 m A long tour of the lake for fit and accomplished riders. The straightforward climb through Nances and Novalaise to the Col de la Crusille leads to a lovely traverse through the forest around Le Banchet. After a slightly technical descent to La Bridoire, the route goes up the GR9 through Le Gruat and into the Chartreuse Regional Park. It then follows the road along the foot of Mont Grêle to La Pissoire. A long and difficult climb is followed by an easier-angled forest track and a final descent to Aiguebelette-le-Lac. The return leg goes through Lépin-le-Lac and along the western shore of the lake.

9 Banchet circuit

Length 29 km, height gain + 750 m This circuit round the "gentle" side of the lake basin follows minor roads and tracks to the Col de la Crusille and then traverses through the forest above Le Banchet to the "Grand Bec viewpoint. After a technically easy descent through Dullin to the Rondelet stream, the route follows the western shore of the lake to St-Alban-de-Montbel.





GPS coordinates 45.692706, 5.825522

17 Vineyards circuit

Length 29 km, height gain + 630 m This itinerary combines circuits 14 and 15 to give a very hilly, 30-km ride through wonderfully varied and beautiful countryside. Including lakes, vineyards, rivers and forests, it has a little bit of everything. Even fit riders will require a good half-day to complete the circuit

mountain-biking Alter



Community hall car park - Altitude 230 m - 6 circuits - Total 90 km

11 Lagneux circuit

Length 11 km, height gain + 30 m A very easy itinerary that allows the whole family to explore the flood plains of the Rhone. Half on road, half off road, this route between the River Rhone and the vineyards provides a varied circuit round the Lagneux marshes.



12 Chateaux circuit

Length 15 km, height gain + 350 m After an initial climb onto the St-Paul-sur-Yenne plateau, this hilly ride goes past several chateaux and fortified houses, including the birthplace of Charles Dullin, and finishes with a sustained descent to the hamlet of Ameysin.





Saint-Genix-sur-Guiers (Louis Mandrin's lair)

Community hall - Altitude 225 m - 5 circuits - Total 102 km

21 Between Rhône and Guiers river Length 9 km, height gain + 20 m

A family circuit across the plains around the confluence between the Rhone and the Guiers. This route, half on road, half off road, goes through the lowest point in Savoie



22 Tour of Mont de Cordon

Length 19 km, height gain + 120 m A tour of an island between two branches of the Rhône, at the foot of Mont de Cordon. This easy circuit along the banks of the Rhone and the Guiers crosses 3 bridges, goes through 3 "départements" and follows a section of the ViaRhôna cycle route. A great introduction to mountain biking Balisage en automne 2013.



13 The Rhône Belvedere

Length 15 km, height gain + 520 m A loop with superb views across the Rhône Valley, the Pierre-Châtel narrows and the town of Yenne. You will also have the time to explore the bucolic countryside around Yenne. A short but quite strenuous circuit, with some technical sections.



14 Saint-Romain circuit

Length 19 km, height gain + 260 m The climb to the chapel at Saint-Romain leads to a viewpoint that provides a180° panorama of the Rhône Valley, Yenne and the slopes of the Dent du Chat. The circuit then goes through the vineyards of Jongieux before an easy return leg beside the untamed Rhône.

23 The Rochefort hill

Length 20 km, height gain + 500 m After climbing the hill behind Rochefort to Ste-Marie d'Alvey, this moderately difficult circuit explores the different facets of the countryside around Val Guiers.



24 The Truison Valley

Length 25 km, height gain + 600 m A difficult circuit linking the villages of the Truison Valley. The trail through "Les Envers" to Ste-Marie d'Alvey is followed by a scenic climb along the GR9 to the St-Maurice plateau and a wonderful descent to Grésin and Champagneux. The final leg is much gentler, along cycleways and tracks beside the Rhone and the Guiers.



18 St-Paul/Traize grand circuit

GPS coordinates 45.704604, 5.758657

Length 26 km, height gain + 840 m Itinerary combining circuits **12** and **13** at the hamlet of Ameysin. The route is graded difficult because of its length but there are no sections that are unrideable. See descriptions of circuits 12 and 13.





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 Image: Constant and Cons

25 The cliffs of Rochefort

Length 29 km, height gain + 800 m This long and strenuous ride climbs up on to the Montagne du Banchet before traversing the beautiful forests between the Col de la Crusille and the Col du Banchet. After a fast and difficult descent from the Col du Banchet (unrideable for 10m), the return leg follows the foot of the cliffs to go through Rochefort and over the hill at Bachelin.



EI St-Maurice-de-Rotherens

Centre of the village - Altitude 650 m - 3 circuits - Total 55 km

26 Petit Mont Tournier

Length 11 km, height gain + 320 m Although this tour of the St-Maurice plateau is quite short, it offers superb views of the Rhone and Guiers Valleys. The circuit is quite strenuous and short sections are reasonably technical but it also includes some wonderful easy trails and great descents.

27 Lattaz circuit

Length 16 km, height gain + 500 m Extend the tour of the St-Maurice plateau (n°26) by adding the short climb to the top of The scenic climb to the top of the mountain Mont Tournier and the traverse through the is followed by a great descent through the Gerbaix forest. A superb shady and slightly technical descent leads back to the GR9 and an undulating return leg to St-Maurice.

St-Béron

Roundabout, centre of the village - Altitude 315 m - 4 circuits - Total 59 km

29 Raclet circuit

Length 5 km, height gain + 70 m A very gentle and easy circuit. The route begins along a wide track and then crosses the D1006 to return via the old Sarde Way, now a minor road with very little traffic.



Length 9 km, height gain + 160 m Short pastoral circuit around the Grand Bois hill. This short and varied circuit is technically easy but it includes a short climb. A good way of learning basic MTB skills.



OUVERT DU LUNDI AU SAMEDI de 8 h 30 à 20 h

CYCLOS YENNOIS Quelque soit votre niveau, un circuit adapté vous sera proposé. N'hésitez pas à venir avec nous. cvclosvennois.free.



From Culoz to St-Pierre d'Entremont: Length 117 km, height gain + 4000 m

The Grand Traverse of the Alps The Grand Traverse of the Alps: From high du Soleil" is one of France's five greatest long-distance MTB trails.

This magnificent route from Thonon to Nice traverses the pre-Alps from north to south, following a route designed by and for "pure" mountain bikers. One of the most beautiful stages runs along the foot of the Mont du Chat to Lake Aiguebelette before heading into plateaux to fields of lavender, the "Chemins the Chartreuse Regional Park. www.cheminsdusoleil.com



Length 14 km, height gain + 400 m A wonderfully varied circuit at the gateway to the Chartreuse. Although the route is not very long and does not contain any sections that cannot be ridden, it is graded red to climb past the Col du Banchet to the Grand take into account the hilly terrain. A short, Bec viewpoint. The descent through Dullin strenuous ride requiring care on the final descent.

31 Roches circuit





• I am careful when overtaking walkers and horse riders,
who always have right of way
 I respect the countryside and private property
• I only ride on signposted trails open to the public
• I avoid riding through young forest and regeneration areas
• I let someone know where I am going and I never ride
alone
 I always carry a repair kit, a first-aid kit and a detailed map of my route
 I check the difficulty and length of the route before setting
off and I never take unnecessary risks
 I check the weather forecast before setting off
 I always follow the Highway Code
 I always wear a helmet

GPS coordinates 45.615854, 5.699994

28 Tour of Mont Tournier

Length 28 km, height gain + 950 m A superb MTB circuit round Mont Tournier. Glaize woods. The route then goes back up the Chemins du Soleil to the shady upper slopes of Mont Tournier. From the Col du Mont Tournier an easy traverse leads to the Col de la Lattaz and a lovely descent through the Gerbaix forest. The undulating return leg provides a fitting finale to this varied circuit.





32 Around the River Thiers

Length 31 km, height gain + 850 m This novel way of linking 5 villages follows several little-known trails. There are few respites on a very hilly circuit that includes the to La Bridoire is followed by a gentle climb back to St-Béron.



C Lake Aiguebelette 2 Circuits around Nances (4.5 km, 50 D+) **3** Circuits around Nances (8 km, 180 D+) 4 Villas Doria (12 km, 400 D+) 5 Col de la Crusille (27 km, 650 D+) 6 Château Richard (25 km, 1150 D+) **7** The Sarde Way (35 km, 1100 D+)

- 8 On the road to the Chartreuse (50 km, 1650 D+)
- 9 Banchet circuit (29 km, 750 D+)

Col du Chat - 638 m Dent du Chat - 1390 m

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16 The Chevelu Lakes (7 km, 220 D+) 17 Vineyards circuit (29 km, 630 D)+ COLUMN IN A Yenne **11** Lagneux circuit (11 km, 30 D+)

12 Chateau circuit (15 km, 350 D+) 13 The Rhône Belvedere (15 km, 520 D+) 14 Saint-Romain Circuit (19 km, 260 D+) **18** St-Paul/Traize grand circuit (26 km, 840 D+)

AIX-LES-BAINS

LAKE BOURGET

11417



2728

Recorba

Signposting

Directional and difficulty markers for the circuit(s)

Wrong way.

26 27

Key

A Start point

Extra care required

Food and drink

MTB rental

Tourist office

Viewpoint

Wash station

Railway station

MTB shop, repairs

Bus stop

0 Very easy

0 Moderate 0 Difficult **0** Very difficult

Safety

The circuits described may present dangers that riders must be able to evaluate and take into account For your safety, choose circuits suited to your technical ability and fitness.

Emergency numbers European emergency number: 112 Emergency medical assistance: 15 Emergency and rescue service: **18** Emergency doctor: **04 79 69 46 46** Police: 17



GPX files on ttp://basevtt-pays-lac-aiguebelette.ffct.org

4 cm = approximately 2 km

