

Avérole refuge via the hamlet



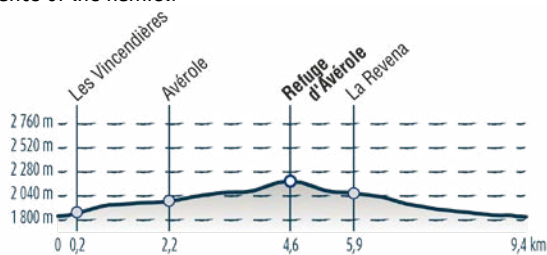
Access to start point

Bessans, Les Vincendières

At the exit of Bessans, take the road towards Vincendières. Parking at the entrance of the hamlet.



Scan and follow the route with your favourite app



On the peddlers' trail



On the trail of the ancient peddlers, enter the lush green valley of Avérole. On your way to the refuge amid timeless picture-perfect scenery, you'll discover the setting where many scenes from the film "Belle and Sebastian" were shot.



Along the way

The trail winds through this wild and secluded valley, following the Avérole torrent. The sound of water flowing through this fold in the mountains accompanies you throughout your hike, just as it once accompanied the peddlers selling their goods door to door as they travelled to Italy. Once upon a time, this valley was not so sparsely populated. Look around you, there are traces of the former bustling agricultural life everywhere! Who built this dry stone wall that safeguarded the path between hamlets? Who prayed at these oratories and chapels dotted along the route? Who lived in these houses with stone roofs built in the traditional mountain village style? There were many people living here in bygone days and they've left their footprints.

Follow these footprints to the refuge, a cosy nest where you'll be welcomed by Virginie, the guardian.

Feast your eyes on the majestic Charbonnel peak, rising to 3,752 metres, dwarfing its neighbours that still reach 3,000 metres!

Life around here

Corinne, former guardian of the Avérole refuge, tells us about daily life in this profession-passion.

"Meeting basic needs is a whole different ball game when you're perched up on those heights. Having a roof over your head for shelter, food, and warmth. The mission is also to provide a warm welcome in complete harmony with nature".

The warmth with which you meet others there, the connection between you, is unforgettable.