



## Did you know ?

### → THE WINE-GROWING VILLAGES

Wine growing has long been omnipresent in the Lembronnais area, as in the rest of the region of Puy-de-Dôme, which was once one of France's main wine-growing departments, with more than 40,000 hectares of vines. The Phylloxera crisis in the 1890s caused a drastic drop in the number of cultivated plots. In Boudes and the surrounding villages, passionate winegrowers have revived the vineyard and today produce a wine of high quality. The villages of Madriat and Bard are witnesses of this wine-growing past and are still characterised by their typical appearance. The habitat is tight there, the wine growers' houses are built in heights, according to an immutable plan. The cellar is underground and topped by a «cuvage» on the ground floor, a room that houses the vinification and storage vats. Upstairs, the accommodation floor has one or two small rooms. It is accessible by an outside staircase at the top of which a covered balcony provides a pleasant space in summer. The top floor, under the rafters, is used as an attic or dryer. Some houses have an additional adjoining room topped by a dovecote. The local grey, yellow and ochre stones, used for construction, testify to the geological richness of the place, whose wonders are expressed in the nearby Vallée des Saints.

#### CONTACT

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## Hiking guide

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### Bard et Letz

Starting point : Madriat

**Auvergne  
Pays  
d'Issoire**  
*Ressentez-Vibrez-Savourez*



Distance : 10 km



Hiking Time : 3 h



Difficulty : Medium

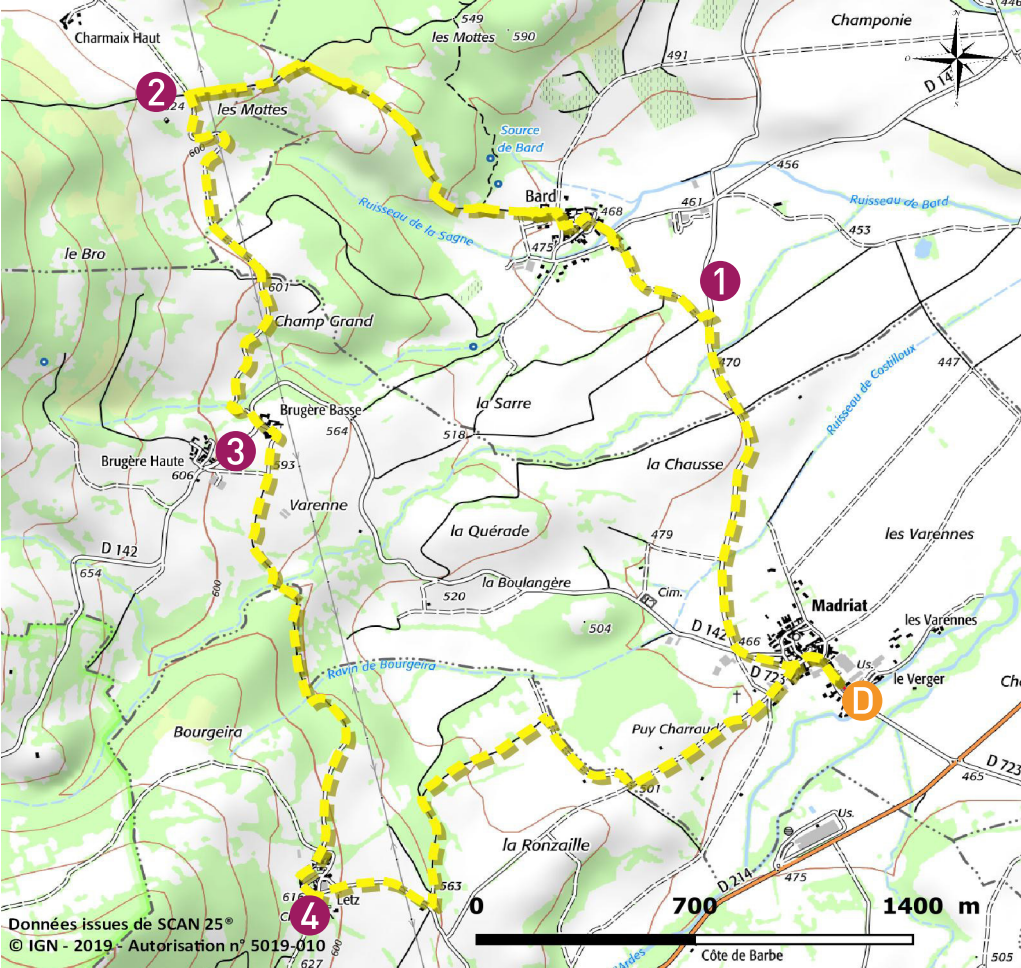


Marking Out : Yellow



Height Difference : 265 m





- D** Departure: Madriat - Start sign in the town hall car park. Follow the D723, leave the communal oven to the right. At the crossroads, at the exit of Madriat, take the D142 direction Boudes for 1.5 km (at the top of the coast, view of Nonette, the mountains of the Livradois and the hillsides of Boudes). After a small bridge continue for 150m to a path on the left.
- 1** Take it and head immediately right to join the village of Bard. Cross the bridge and continue to the communal oven; go around it and up on the left rue de la Fontaine. At the T-junction, turn right and then immediately to the left. At the exit of the village, go up a large path opposite. (Off road, right, roundtrip of 5 min, at the Roman spring of Bard). At the crossroads, continue the left ascent to a motorable track.
- 2** Turn left (view on the Lembron, the Livradois, the top of the Forez, the Pic de l'Avoiron, Pic de Montcelet). Continue to the crossroads at the entrance to the hamlet of Brugère- Basse
- 3** Go to the right, then, take a left immediately (fortified and remarkably built farmhouse), Go around the last house and continue straight ahead on a wide path. Crossing a rivulet and and keep to the right until Letz. Cross the road, take the passage between the houses opposite. At the T-junction, turn right. The path turns left at a drinking trough. Continue straight ahead to the communal oven (castle).
- 4** Go down the road to the left, then immediately to the right. After 400 m, leave the road to take the left road to Soullouzes. Go down ignoring the paths on the left. At the first T-junction, turn right, and, at the second, turn left to the village of Madriat to reach the point of departure.