



Did you know ?

→ CHAYNAT COMMANDERY

In the Middle Ages, the religious and military orders were very present in Auvergne, where from the 12th century onwards they weave a network of commanderies along the of the main lines of communication. These establishments located in the centre of land estates were also intended to train future knights and to generate agricultural income in order to finance the Order's work in the Holy Land. Chaynat was thus a dependency of the Templar commandery of Olloix, whose assets passed at the beginning of the 14th century to the Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem after the dissolution of the Order of the Temple. In the 17th century, the commanders of the Order of Malta settled in Chaynat and converted the church into a residence and fortress. In the commander's home remains a 15th century wall decoration representing a stag and wild boar hunt (Penitents Room), classified as a historical monument in 1973.

CONTACT

04 73 89 15 90

Hiking guide

Le Puy de Gourdon

Starting point : Ludesse

353

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



Distance : 10 km



Hiking Time : 3 h



Difficulty : Medium

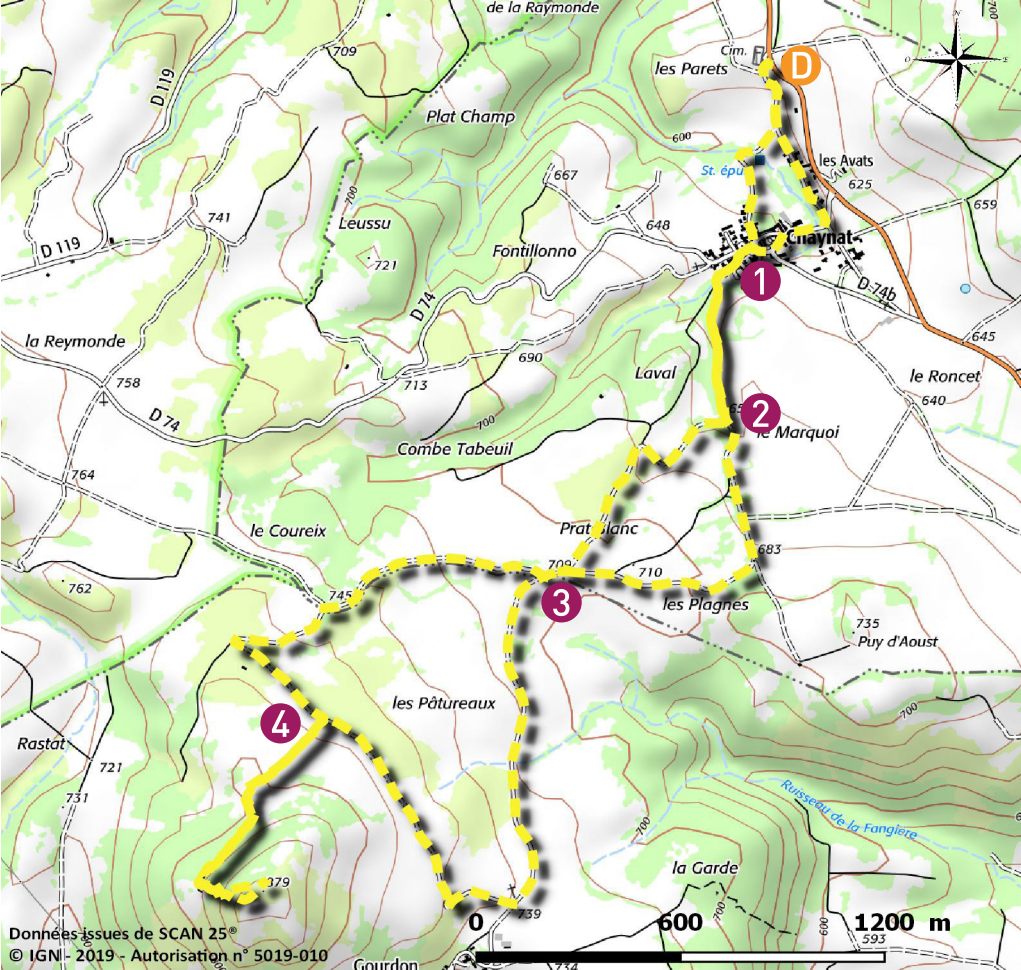


Marking Out : Yellow



Height Difference : 280 m





- D** Starting point - From the starting sign, go down towards the village of Chaynat. At the first fork, continue to the right. On the village square, turn right towards the rue du Four à pain until you reach the fountain.
- 1** Turn left onto Chemin de Gourdon and continue up about 500 m to an intersection.
- 2** Take the right track. At the T-junction, turn left. At a new T-junction on the flat, turn right and continue for 50 m (menhir des Deux territoires), until you reach a fork.
- 3** Turn right. At the next road, turn left for 300 m, turn left again and continue until a crossing 300 m further on.
- 4** Go up to the right on the wide grassy path for a round trip to the top of the Puy de Gourdon (from the top, distant circular view). Back to point 4, continue the path to the right. On the descent, the oblique path to the left before reaching a T-junction, near an agricultural building. Turn left and follow this main road back to point 3, continue to the right and keep east-west for 500 m. The path then turns largely to the left. Continue straight ahead, reach point 2 and continue until you reach the fountain in Chaynat. Follow the road on the right (D74, route de Ludesse) to pass below the church (church and commandery, 15th century). Stay on the road towards Saint-Saturnin. At the end of the village, turn left into rue des Avats, which runs alongside the castle park before going straight up to the starting point of the circuit.

