

## Did you know ?

## $\rightarrow$ SAURIER

The origin of the village seems to be a religious foundation cited in the 10th century. The seigniory then depends from the Dauphins d'Auvergne who sold it in the 15th century to Thomas Bohier, a wealthy knighted bourgeois. We undoubtedly owe him the construction of the maison du Louvelier and the noble house located at the entrance to the village. The layout of an enclosure with a fortified gate is clearly legible. A small canal or bief supplied the mill, the fountain and the wash-house. The church of Sainte-Radegonde is composed of a Romanesque nave and a Gothic polygonal choir. The 15th century bridge evokes an ancient map of the road leading from the Ual d'Allier to the mountains. One of its arches carries a small protective oratory, dedicated to the virgin. Saurier was also a stagecoach relay on the road to Besse. Natural promontory whose silhouette is extended by the chapel emerging from the beam of basaltic

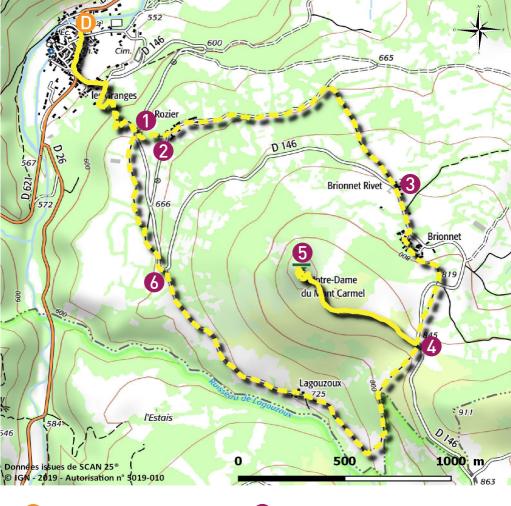
## $\rightarrow$ LE PIC DE BRIONNET

organs, the Brionnet peak was converted in the Middle Ages into a fortress anterior to the main village. Its footprint is faint, but the hold of a clod and a ditch can be spotted. At the beginning of the ascent, you will guess from both sides and the remains of a village, abandoned for an indefinite period of time. Rebuilt in the 17th century, the chapel dedicated to Our Lady of Mount Carmel is the subject of an annual pilgrimage (outdoor altar, virgin and child). The view from the top is breathtaking.

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> > Height Difference : 380 m

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Starting point - From the starting sign located in front of the Town Hall, go up the main street to the Place de la Porte Neuve (gate of the old fortified town). Turn left on the D146 towards Brionnet. At the exit of Saurier, in the bend, go up the path to the right until the road.

- Cross it and continue on the road opposite until you reach the hamlet of Rozier.
- 2 Turn left, cross the hamlet (view of the Couze Pauin valley, the village of Creste and its ruined castle). After 800 m, take the first road on the right until you reach a paved road that leads to the road.
- Go up this road, then in the uillage of Brionnet take the first asphalt road on the right. At the top of the hamlet turn right into the sunken path and go to the road. Cross this road and take the courier that joins this same road. Continue to climb up to the pass.

- Turn right and follow the path then the trail to the top of the Pic du Brionnet (Notre-Dame du Mont Carmel chapel built on basalt columns, 360° panorama orientation table).
- 5 Return to the pass (point 4), go down the hollow path to the right. Walk past the Lagouzoux farm (view of the Sancy massif). Continue up to the road (hairpin bend).
- 6 Go down this one for 80 m. Take the first track on the left below and then turn left again 80 m further on. Join the road and go down the path on the left to continue the itinerary of the outward journey in the opposite direction until the starting point.

