



## Did you know ?

## ightarrow VEGETATION WITH THE SCENT OF THE SOUTH

Along the Couze Chambon a sub-Mediterranean vegetation grows. Pines and pubescent oaks populate the slopes of the Bourgeassou, and leave room for a grassy lawn on the Puy des Plattes. Rare plants are found there, such as Apennine helianthus and Cantabrian bindweed, whose name is reminiscent of the sunny destinations.

## → LA ROCHE LONGUE

In May 1859, George Sand surveyed part of the Auvergne and discovered the dyke of the Long Rock. From this trip, the author brought back a notebook to work on her novel Jean de la Roche. This relief of volcanic origin and its spectacular rock are described by the famous writer as follows: «...gleaming like iron liquefied and frozen in the furnace, mouths gaping on all sides in the rock, and a colour sometimes black like coal, sometimes red with white dots, like a still burning ember, where you would think the ash flutters if touching it did not prove to you that it is adherent and glazed.»

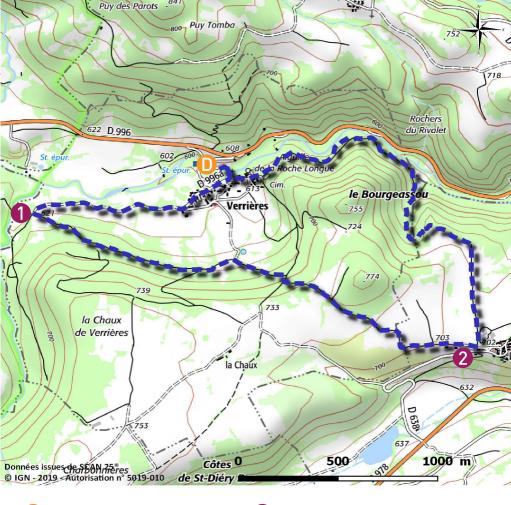
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**Hiking guide** 157 Le puy des Plattes et le Bourgeassou Starting point : Verrières









- Starting point From the starting sign, cross the bridge over the Couze-Chambon and turn right into rue de Charbonnière. At the end of the uillage continue straight ahead. Leave paths to the right and left, continue until you reach a crossroads.
- Go up the grassy path on the left, ignoring two paths on the right. At the asphalt road go up to the right. In the bend take the 2nd track to the left. After the wood (view of the Sancy massif), stay on the main path until you reach the big farm at the entrance of the village of Fontenille.
- Turn left, pass in front of a stable and go down to the woods. Continue along a steep path to Couze-Chambon, then follow it on a wide path to Verrières. At the first houses, turn right and reach the starting point.

