

Did you know ?

→ THE TWO CASTLES OF VILLENEUVE-LEMBRON

The castle of Villeneuve was built at the end of the 15th century on the initiative of Rigaud d'Aureille, lord then baron de Villeneuve. Completing the rapid social rise of his family, he becomes captain and headwaiter of the king, becomes a royal favourite and is in charge of diplomatic missions. He undertakes the construction of a new residence, away from the village and of the old family residence. This vast quadrilateral with a medieval appearance, flanked by large towers and surrounded by wide ditches, is also the expression of the Renaissance with its inner courtyard and its remarkable collection of painted decorations from the 16th and 17th centuries. Medieval fantasy and Renaissance inspiration nourished by ancient mythology unfold on the walls of the galleries, rooms and stables of the castle. State property classified as a historical monument since 1926, the castle welcomes the public all year round. The Hôtel d'Aureilhe, the old castle of Villeneuve, is a medieval fortified perimeter that

includes an 11thcentury Romanesque keep, the 15th-century residence itself, a wall and 16th century corps de logis.

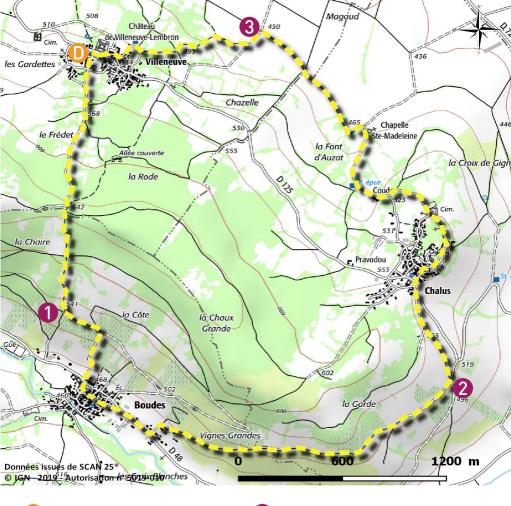
173

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Hiking guide Villeneuve, Boudes, Chalus Starting point : Villeneuve







- Starting point From the starting point (15th century church and Renaissance castle), walk along the church, go up on the left and continue along the Chemin de Mousteloux. After the second stone cross, continue straight up (leaving another PR on the right) to reach the pass (641 m) ignoring the side roads. Go down to Boudes, between woods and meadows, until you reach the first vineyards (view of Boudes, its ochre lands, the Dauphiné d'Auvergne).
- Go to the left above the vineyards, on the hillside, then go down the first path to Boudes. Take the D48 on the left for 10 m, then turn right into a small passage leading to the Place de la Mairie. Go along it, pass in front of the weighbridge and continue on rue du Coufin then on the D48. After 250 m, at the level of a hangar, go up a wide dirt road on the left until you reach a crossroads in view of the Château de Chalus (view of Nonette, Saint-Germain-Lembron, le Liuradois).
- 2 Go up on the left to reach Chalus. Cross the D125 and, on Place de la Fontaine, head towards the castle (castle and Sainte-Foy church). Go around it on the right, rue du Rabichou, then continue on the left by a path. At the cemetery (view of Uodable, Solignat, Uilleneuue, Le Lembron), continue down. Turn left, then right onto a small road (Chapelle Sainte-Madeleine). At the intersection, turn left onto a wide track at the bottom of the hillsides, until the second crossing.
- Go up on the left then, after about 70 m, turn right. At the crossroads of five paths, continue to climb up the widest. At the intersection, turn right between the stone wall and a trough catchment to reach the starting point.

