



Trekking the Stevenson Trail: Part One

The first half of the Scot's seminal hike – The Massif Central.

Fact File

- ☞ **Literary trail rated a World's top Travel Adventure by Forbes Traveler; and who recommend The Enlightened Traveller as your hosts – see website for details.**
- ☞ **Flexible starting, any day from April to late October.**
- ☞ **Seven fine days of walking that pose a moderate challenge.**
- ☞ **Starting in Le Puy-en-Velay, with best access from Lyon and St Etienne.**
- ☞ **The best accommodation mix on the RLS, with welcoming auberges and hotels.**

Theme

Trekking the Robert Louis Stevenson trail Part One retraces the steps taken by The Scot from Le Monastier to La Bastide Puy-Laurent across the volcanic Massif Central - a journey of 93 kilometres or around 58 miles.

Stevenson loved his creature comforts and wrote of his experience, "to come down off this feather-bed of civilisation, and find the globe granite underfoot and strewn with cutting flints. Alas, as we get up in life, and are more preoccupied with our affairs, even a holiday is a thing that must be worked for."

Stevenson often slept out under trees in a prototype sleeping bag; whereas you will enjoy good food in comfortable hotels en route as part of this memorable inn-to-inn hiking tour across Auvergne and Lozere.



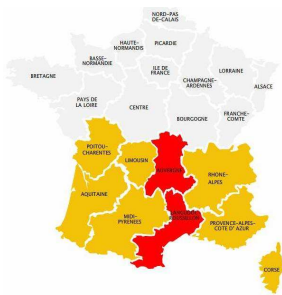
Model 7-night Programme¹

- Day 1** **Le Puy.**
Arrival and hotel check-in. A visit to Le Puy merits a day's stay in itself, so get there early!
- Day 2** **Le Monastier to Goudet.** [6.5 miles-9.5 kms, approx. 3 hrs, +190 ms -325 ms]
Taxi transfer (20 kms) to Le Monastier, where RLS started his trek. Take a look around for yourself before commencing your descent into the Upper Loire Valley.
- Day 3** **Goudet to Le Bouchet St Nicolas.** [8.5 miles-12.5 kms, approx. 4 hrs, +400 ms]
You climb through charming hamlets and across volcanic plateau, before arriving at Stevenson's next overnight stop.
- Day 4** **Le Bouchet St Nicolas to Pradelles.** [12½ miles-19 kms, approx. 5 hrs, +285 ms -375 ms]
Very few climbs or descents today as you enjoy the views from the volcanic plateau en route to the 'City of High Prairies'.
- Day 5** **Pradelles to Langogne.** [3.5 miles-5.5 kms, 1½ hrs, -200 ms, plus 3 kms round trip to the lake.]
Enjoy a walk around this impressive historic village before you continue the short walk down to Langogne. Our lunch spot is on the banks of Lake Naussac.
- Day 6** **Langogne to Cheylard l'Eveque.** [11 miles-16 kms, approx. 4 hrs, +320 ms -150 ms]
You walk the volcanic plateau to the medieval village of Cheylard, replete with church, chapel and abbey.
- Day 7** **Cheylard l'Eveque to La Bastide.** [12.5 miles-19 kms, approx. 5 hrs, +240 ms -380 ms]
Descend to your lakeside lunch-spot and onwards to Luc castle. Then head south through linear settlements and across the Allier.
- Day 8** **End of Tour.**
Breakfast and onward journey by mountain railway. We hope you will return to take Part Two of this exciting walking tour.



Accommodation and What's Included

- 7 nights B & B in four 2-star and one 1-star hotel, plus two fine auberges².
- 5 picnic lunches and 6 evening meals, leaving you free to choose food options in Le Puy.
- All luggage transfers from Le Puy to La Bastide³.
- Comprehensive walking dossier, 1.25,000 maps & Hiking Insight Notes™.
- Holiday taxes.
- Emergency phone support.
- Loan of mobile phone where required⁴.



Prices:

Per person based on two sharing: **£665.00 or €785.00** ⁵

Single person rate:

£845.00 or €940.00



¹ We reserve the right to alter parts of the above programme for the benefit of group safety and the quality of the overall experience.

² Accommodation provided may vary slightly depending on availability at time of booking, although the general standard will be maintained.

³ This allows you to take one piece of luggage per person up to a limit of 16 kgs. Supplements apply for extra or overweight luggage.

⁴ For non-European customers only and subject to availability.

⁵ Your holiday takes place in the Euro zone and all costs are incurred in France. Sterling rates are subject to change according to currency fluctuations. Please see the website to check for the latest price and all prices are confirmed at the time of booking.

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Ask us to phone you!

The Enlightened Traveller

Milstar, Hambledon Road, Denmead, Hants
PO7 6PS England

Tel/Fax: +44 870 020 99 00

Email: info@enlightened-traveller.co.uk

Internet: www.enlightened-traveller.co.uk

Skype: theenlightenedtraveller

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