27

→MEDIUM

ROUND WALK THROUGH MONTEILS

→ SITUATION : Marcilhac sur Célé, 14 kms north-west of Cajarc via the D17

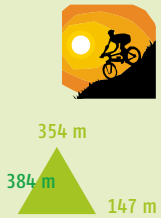
→ START POINT : Car park outside the Mairie in Marcilhac sur Célé

GPS Coordinates : N 44.553549° E 1.771208°

DURATION : 3hrs. 30 mins.

LENGTH : 12.5 kms

WAYMARKING : Yellow



"This walk from valley to causse provides many fine views over the Célé, its cliffs, its Mediterranean vegetation, its meadows and cultivated fields down in the valley."

D From the place de Platanes, go down towards the Célé. At the river, go right along the Allée H.Martinet. At the bridge, go left towards St. Chels-Cajarc. After the bridge, go left. Go up on the side of the road to a large bend. Take the path on the right which goes up through box bushes. Walk in single file.

1 Come off the path to the right. Pick it up again, continue going uphill.

2 At the top, continue to the left. This woodland track surfaced with crushed limestone goes downhill then back up again.

3 Turn right on the path indicated by a large stone. Lower down, at a T junction, turn right.

4 When you get to the road, turn right. Go down the side of the road for just over 50 m, then take the track which goes back uphill on the left, after a pretty resurgent spring. Continue along the track, go through a hamlet, then along the crushed limestone track. Come to the road, turn left. Take the road for 50m, then turn right on to the path going downhill.

5 At the hamlet of Barbes Sud, opposite a metal cross, take the track on the right. Go to the next crossroads, second metal cross on the right, go straight across. Go along beside the fencing for 200m then take the track on the left between the two enclosures. Then follow the woodland track. On the right, the hamlet of Mas de Pagès.

6 At the crossroads, cross over the road. Take the track opposite. Walk in single file.

7 Come to Monteils. Go down and cross the bridge over the Célé. Turn right, go along beside the road for 100m then take the little tarmac road which goes up to the left. Continue on the path. Walk along at the base of the cliffs, in single file.

8 At the D41, go left. Follow the road for 300m, then pick up the path on the right going down amongst the box bushes. Follow the Célé to get back to the village.

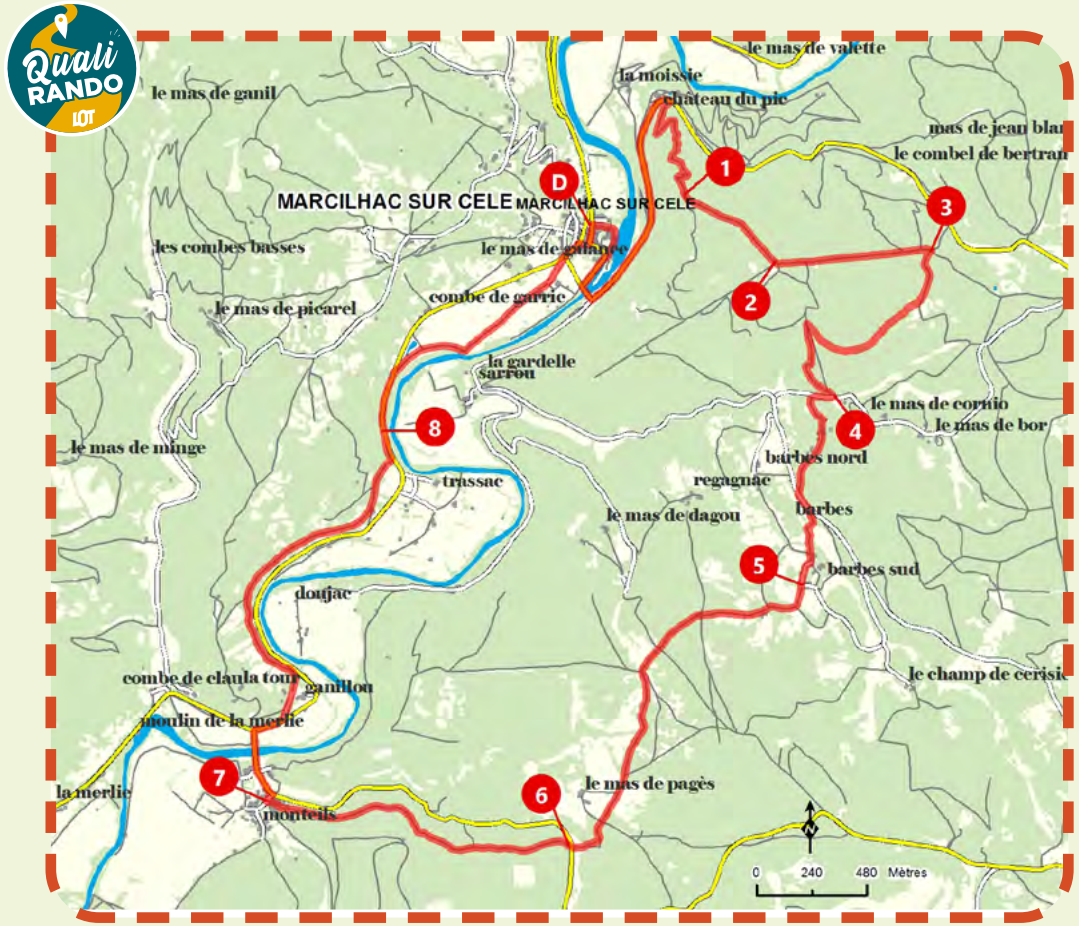
TO SEE IN THE AREA...

- St. Sulpice : an old, semi-troglodytic village• The Célé Valley
- Espagnac Ste. Eulalie : Priory
- Figeac : Town of Art and History

→ FOOD SHOPS/ RESTAURANTS ETC
Marcilhac-sur-Célé

→ INFORMATION
Grand Figeac
Lot and Célé Valley
Tourist Office
05 65 34 06 25
www.tourisme-figeac.com

LEDGES AND CLIFFSIDES

Of all the parts of the Causse, the ledges above the south-facing slopes are by far the warmest, enabling a number of Mediterranean plants to grow here in Quercy. For example, it is here that you can find wild (or yellow) jasmine, a little bush with straight stems, easily recognisable thanks to its yellow flowers, and the terebinth or turpentine tree with discreet flowers but bright red berries.

The sheer, high cliffs themselves provide perfect nesting sites for several rock-dwelling birds : crag martins, ravens, jackdaws and peregrin falcons.