Trace des Falaises (3d stage)

Grande-Terre Nord

les falaises (PNG)

The last of the three stages of the Grande-Terre Northern Loop: Anse-Bertrand, from the Port d'Enfer to La Mahaudière, following the cliff 'trace'.

Take the Loop's hiking trails to explore the riches of North Grande-Terre ! Discovering the dry forest of the North Grande-Terre managed biological reserve.

Useful information

Practice : Walking

Duration : 5 h

Length : 11.7 km

Trek ascent : 168 m

Difficulty : Medium

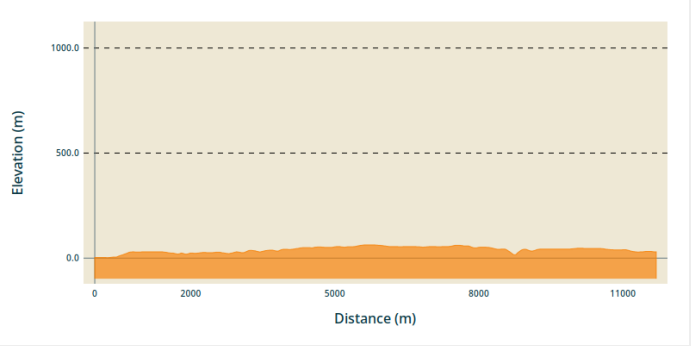
Type : Cross

Themes : Coastline and cliff, Geology, North Grande-Terre circular trail, The Slave Route

Trek

Departure : Anse-Bertrand, Porte d'Enfer beach.
Arrival : Anse-Bertrand, site of La Mahaudière.
Markings : Coastal trail MBT North Grande-Terre circular trail PR (short hike network)
Cities : 1. Anse-Bertrand
2. Petit-Canal

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 2 m Max elevation 63 m

Hiking trail colour : yellow.

Setting off from the site of the Porte d'Enfer, follow the cliff trace which meanders southwards (**the Senter des Douaniers then the Sentier du Souffleur**) then head west across country up to the old residence La Mahaudière, destination of this third stage.
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Source of information: Discours interprétatif de la Boucle du nord Grande-Terre - CANGT / AVPMC J.Barfleur, 2016.
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For more information on the Grande-Terre Northern Loop, go to:
http://www.randoguadeloupe.gp/informations/partenariats/

On your path...

- Trou du Souffleur (A)
- Trou a Man Koko (B)
- Porte d'Enfer (C)
- Pointe du Souffleur (D)
- Pointe "Tête à Boeuf" (E)
- Anse à la Barque (F)
- Route de l'Esclave : La Mahaudière. (G)

All useful information

⚠ Advices

Do not approach the edge of cliffs or the Trou du Souffleur: risk of collapse.

Be careful: there is a lot of sargasse (brown algae) in the lagoon at Porte d'Enfer.

How to come ?

Transports

En Guadeloupe, 2 applications pour le covoiturage :
Dépozé : https://depoze.fr
KAROS : https://www.karos.fr

Access

Starting point : Lat : 16,48607 N - Long : 61,442057 W..

At Anse-Bertrand, take the RD122 towards the site of the Porte d'Enfer.

Advised parking

Anse-Bertrand, park beside the Porte d'Enfer beach.

Accessibility

Educational panels in braille, at the viewpoint overlooking the Porte d’Enfer (RD122 road).

Information desks

Office de tourisme intercommunal "Le Nord Guadeloupe"
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Source

Rando Guadeloupe

https://www.randoguadeloupe.gp/

On your path...

Trou du Souffleur (A)

The Pointe de la Tortue and the Trou du Souffleur, spectacular sea-water blowholes in the coastal rock.
Be careful, do not go near the edge !

Attribution : PNG

Trou a Man Koko (B)

Madame Coco's blowhole is a mythical place linked to the legend of Madame Coco's pact with Lucifer.

Attribution : PNG

Porte d'Enfer (C)

The Porte d'Enfer lagoon, with its protected stretch of water, its landscaped picnic area, is the only single opening to the sea accessible, albeit difficult, on this coast.

Attribution : PNG

Pointe du Souffleur (D)

Pointe du Souffleur.

Attribution : PNG

Pointe "Tête à Boeuf" (E)

Pointe "Tête à Boeuf" is a shore fishing place well known to the cliff fishermen ; it also serves as a seamark to fishermen out to sea off the coast.

Attribution : PNG

Anse à la Barque (F)

L'Anse à la Barque: place-names and history. A network of trails, ponds and gullies.

Attribution : PNG

Route de l'Esclave : La Mahaudière. (G)

The oldest sources of information about this dwelling date back to 1732. At that time, it was not a sugar farm: around 1770, Etienne Douillard Mahaudière's property was more of a huge cotton estate, with a large number of 'cases' for the slaves but very few industrial buildings. At that time, there were many cotton estates in this part of Grande-Terre. The property grew progressively and turned to the production of sugar, until the Revolution, when it was sequestered. Two hundred people then worked on the 'Lahaut' residence, as it was known at the time. In 1828, 147 slaves were employed to maintain the 465 hectares of the property.
The owner was then Jean-Baptiste Douillard Mahaudière whose, name remains connected to a famous judicial matter.
In October 1840, he was taken to court for the abusive sequestration of his slave Lucile, a seamstress.
She was accused by her master of having poisoned his wife. Lucile was thrown into a cell measuring 5 square metres; it was only 1.20m high, so she could not stand upright. She was kept there for nearly two years in almost complete solitary confinement. Denounced to the law in an anonymous letter, Douillard Mahaudière had to answer for this crime before the Pointe-à-Pitre Assizes. The King's Prosecutor, himself a settler and owner in Guadeloupe, found himself torn between his role as magistrate and the interests of the community to which he belonged. Under pressure from the settlers, Douillard Mahaudière was declared not guilty and acquitted. The slave Lucile was sold.
In the years following the abolition of slavery, the house slowly fell into disrepair. At the end of the nineteenth century, the conversion of its facilities made it into a large steam-powered distillery. The activity continued on the site until the beginning of the 1950s.

Attribution : PNG