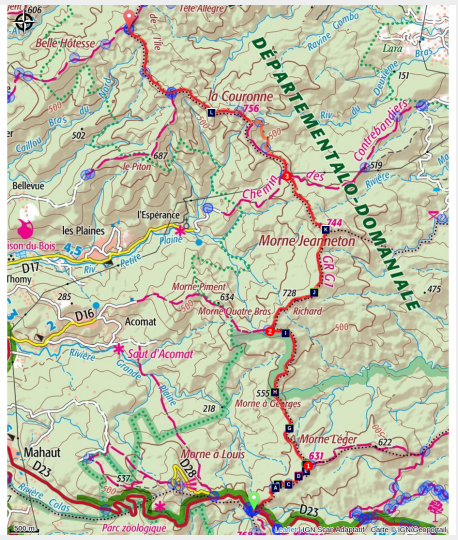
North Alizes trail

Basse-Terre Nord

refuge de Belle-Hotesse (arrivée) (PNG)



A chance to experience the thick rain forest in all its splendour. The trail is an immersion, a new experience, a change of scene and a personal challenge.

Useful information

Practice : Walking

Duration : 7 h

Length : 14.1 km

Trek ascent : 932 m

Difficulty : Difficult

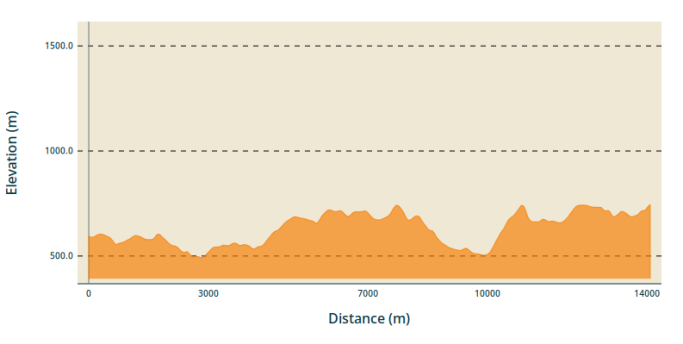
Type : Cross

Themes : Mountain shelter

Trek

Departure : Col des Mamelles, RD23 Route de la Traversée.
Arrival : Belle Hôtesse shelter, Pointe-Noire.
Markings : GR (long hike network)
Cities : 1. Petit-Bourg
2. Pointe-Noire
3. Lamentin
4. Sainte-Rose

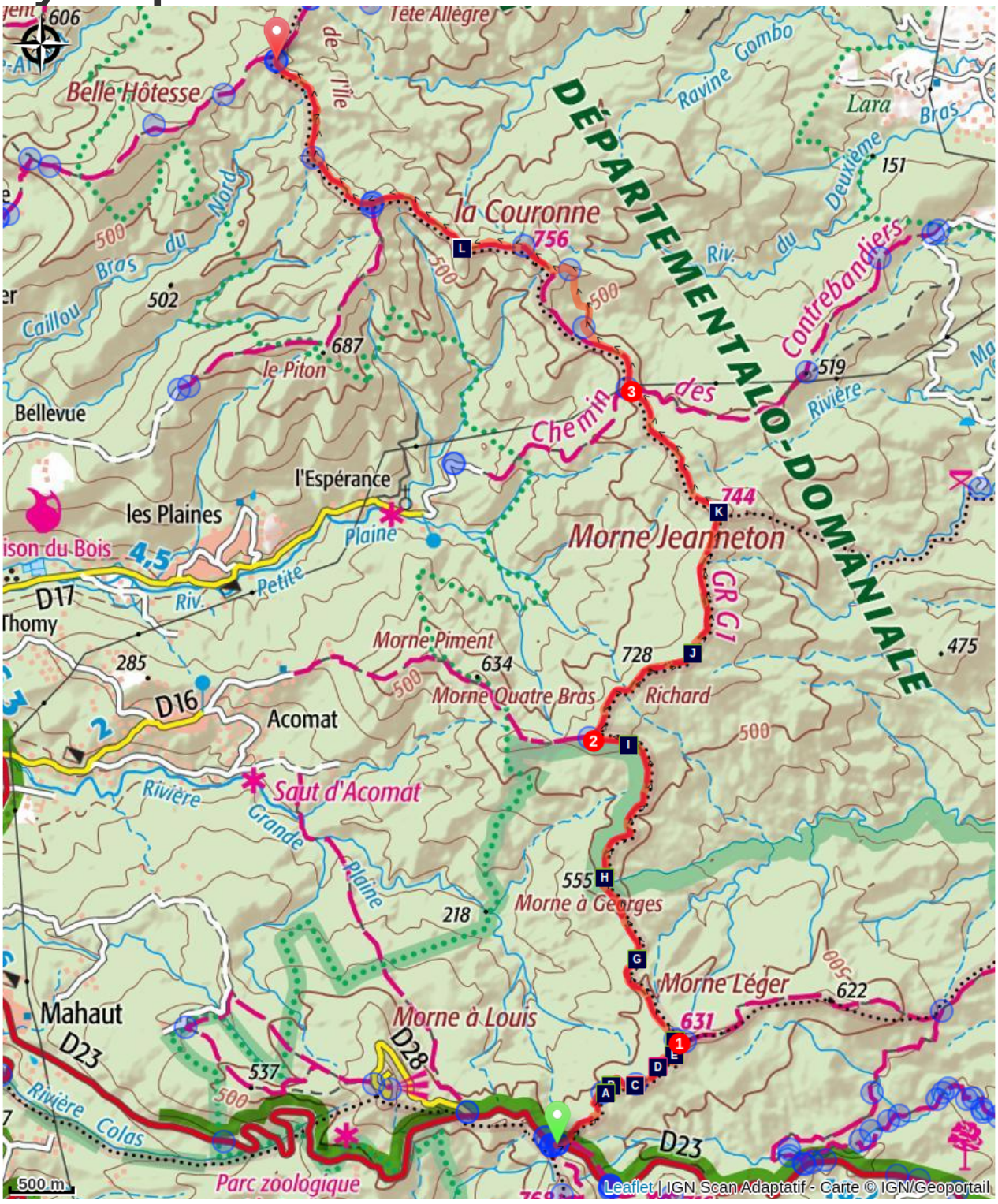
Altimetric profile



Min elevation 492 m Max elevation 744 m

Set off towards the Morne Léger shelter, following the markings. Go past the refuge.
At the "Morne Léger" intersection (point 1), turn left towards "Morne à Georges".
Then turn right at the "Fendre Fouque" intersection (point 2); go past "Richard", "Désirade" and "Morne Jeanneton", before arriving at the intersection with the Trace des Contrebandiers (high-voltage line and pylon; point 3). Continue north and go up "La Couronne"; follow the markings to the "Belle Hôtesse" refuge. It is possible to spend the night here.
You can then continue along other trails: either go down towards "Trou Caverne", Pointe Noire, to the west, if you have car ready to take you back; or continue north towards Morne Mazeau and the end of the Alizés GR trail to the Sainte-Rose coast.

On your path...



- "Ailes à mouches" (A)
- Glomeropitcairnia penduliflora (B)
- Morne Léger bivouac (C)
- Les Mamelles (D)
- Mapou baril (E)
- Amanoa caribeae (F)
- "Gratte kwi" (G)
- Bird's nest anthurium (H)
- Philodendron giganteum (I)
- "Aile à mouche" (lit. "Fly wing") (J)
- Morne Jeanneton (K)
- La Couronne (L)

All useful information

Is in the midst of the park

The national park is an unrestricted natural area but subjected to regulations which must be known by all visitors.

Advices

It is a good idea to be accompanied by a mountain guide (INFO).
Don't forget to take plenty of water and some food.
It is recommended to take a change of clothes with you, as the trail is often muddy.
Non-drinkable water only in the refuges.

In this natural setting, you should be particularly careful and alert, especially since Guadeloupe is subject to natural risks. It is vital to act in a responsible way, so that everyone can enjoy the hike!
Please note: unsupervised car park.

Gear

Morne Leger shelter : info.
Belle Hotesse shelter : info.

How to come ?

Transports

Le conseil régional assure le réseau de transport interurbain avec des lignes de bus qui desservent tout l'archipel, par secteur géographique.
Voir : https://www.regionguadeloupe.fr/les-actions-regionales/transport-interurbain/#
-> Pointe à Pitre / Baie-Mahault / Petit-Bourg / Pointe-Noire : ligne 115.

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

Access

GPS starting point: Lat: 16.18149°N - Long: 61.73601°W.

RD23 departmental road, Col des Mamelles.

Advised parking

Col des Mamelles car park, RD23 Route de la Traversée.

Information desks

Maison de la Forêt
RD 23 - Route de la Traversée, 97170 Petit-Bourg

info@randoguadeloupe.gp
http://www.guadeloupe-parcnational.fr/fr/des-decouvertes/ou-sinformer/maison-de-la-foret

Comité départemental Guadeloupe de randonnée pédestre (CDGRP)
au C.R.E.P.S. des Antilles Guyane ; Route des Abymes - BP 220, 97182 Les Abymes cedex

guadeloupe@ffrandonnee.fr
Tel : 0690 35 17 54
http://guadeloupe.ffrandonnee.fr/

Office du tourisme intercommunal du Nord Basse-Terre
le bourg, 97126 Deshaies

contact@nordbasseterre.fr
Tel : 05 90 21 41 09 / 0590 01 01 06
https://nordbasseterre.fr/

Source

Rando Guadeloupe

https://www.randoguadeloupe.gp/

On your path...

"Ailes à mouches" (A)

A member of the Cyclantaceae family, the French common name of *Asplundia rigida* translates literally as "fly wings" on account of its similarity with the insect. A typical plant of hygrophilous (moisture-loving) forest undergrowth, there are three species of Asplundia: two terrestrial and one epiphytic and lianescent (vines climbing from aerial routes).

Attribution : Fabien Salles / PNG

Glomeropitcairnia penduliflora (B)

Commonly known in Creole as "Zanana mawon", *Glomeropitcairnia penduliflora* is a member of the Bromeliaceae family. It is a tropical grass, epiphyte on tree branches, or terrestrial. It has straight, tough and thick leaves which, arranged in the format of rosettes, take in substantial levels of water and are even home to some frogs. It features a floral scape in the middle.

Attribution : Céline Lesponne / PNG

Morne Léger bivouac (C)

The Morne Léger bivouac (shelter) has room for around 10 people to sleep in the heart of the rainforest.
It is strongly recommended that you bring your own floor mat or hammock (plus fasteners), because there are only wooden bunks available on site.
N.B. The shelters have no running water or electricity available. They are not supervised and do not include a cleaning service. Please leave them clean and tidy !

Attribution : PNG

Les Mamelles (D)

View of Les Mamelles : La Mamelle de Pigeon to the west and La Mamelle de Petit-Bourg to the east.

Attribution : Emilie Savy / PNG

Mapou baril (E)

Sterculia caribea, known in Créole as Mapou baril, is endemic to the Lesser Antilles. The leaves of this plant can differ depending on its age. Its flowers appear in the form of a bunch of small yellow and pink bells. It produces quite distinctive fruits that cluster together in groups of four or five in woody follicles: they are lined on the inside with dark red urticating bristles.

Attribution : Emilie Savy / PNG

Amanoa caribeae (F)

Amanoa caribeae belongs to the Euphorbiaceae family. This species is endemic to the Lesser Antilles.
It is a large tree with a trunk that rests straight on its buttresses, depending on the terrain. The most distinctive features of this species are its reddish bark and roots at the foot of the trunk. Its leaves vary in shape: sometimes they are whole, sometimes pointed. Its flowers form small clusters. The hard wood of this tree was used as timber or in carpentry.

Attribution : Emilie Savy / PNG

"Gratte kwi" (G)

An animal named after the noise it makes with its hind legs, recalling the sound produced when calabash containers are made (kwi).

Attribution : AAMG

Bird's nest anthurium (H)

Anthurium hookeri is a member of the Araceae family.
It is often epiphytic, clinging to trees with its roots.

Attribution : AAMG

Philodendron giganteum (I)

It can grow both in trees and on the ground.
When it rains, it's a good idea to take shelter under its large leaves until the squall is over.

Attribution : PNG

"Aile à mouche" (lit. "Fly wing") (J)

Asplundia insignis, can be seen here with its flower and fruit (photo).

Attribution : AAMG

Morne Jeanneton (K)

Summit of Morne Jeanneton, altitude of 744 m.

La Couronne (L)

Summit of La Couronne, 683 m.