

Neouvielle lakes loop

Two days and one night among the lakes of the Néouvielle: from Orédon to the Bastan lakes and back over Col d'Aumar.

DAYS

2

DISTANCE

26.2 km

ASCENT

about 1,520 m

DESCENT

about 1,485 m

DAY 1

**10.8 km, about
+870 m**

DAY 2

**15.5 km, about
+650 m**

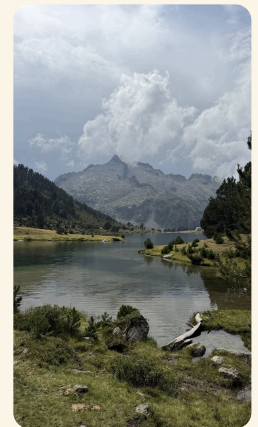
HIGH POINT

**2,470 m
(unnamed ridge)**

BEST SEASON

**late June to late
September (we
went mid-August)**

Col d'Estoudou, day 1

Lac d'Orédon,
Estoudou climbAfternoon at the
Lunch lakeOur camp, upper
Bastan lakeDay 2, the coffee-
stop lake

The Lunch lake, km 8.4

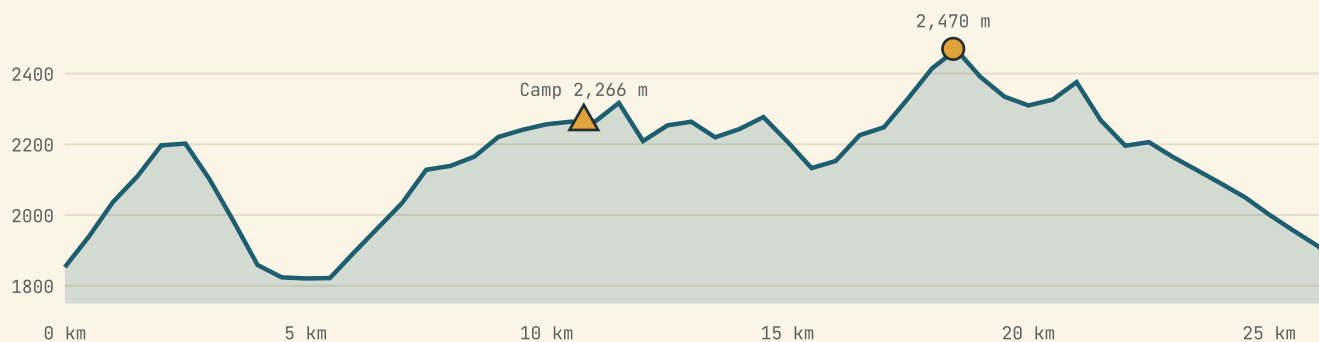


Morning at the camp lake

Walked by Dmitrii and Kristina, 15–16 August 2026. What we did, not what a brochure says. Réserve naturelle nationale du Néouvielle, Hautes-Pyrénées, France.

The route

Drawn from our own GPS track. On the trail use the GPX file and an offline map.



Dashed line: the Aubert car park, the bail-out by summer shuttle. It is not a way back to your car.

	DAY 1	DAY 2	TOTAL
Distance	10.8 km	15.5 km	26.2 km
Ascent	+870 m	+650 m	+1,520 m
Descent	-460 m	-1,025 m	-1,485 m
Walking time	5-7 h	6-7 h	11-14 h

Day 1 • Orédon to the upper Bastan lake

10.8 KM • +870 M • -460 M • 5 TO 7 HOURS

Straight from the car park the trail climbs 400 m through pines to Col d'Estoudou and the first big view. A long descent follows to Lac de l'Oule, the low point: rest here, the climb to camp comes next. Up the Bastan valley past the shepherds' hut, lunch by the small lake at km 8.4. The Refuge de Bastan is closed, do not count on it. We slept at the upper lake, 2,266 m: that was our camp, not a recommendation. Whether the spot lies inside the reserve is unconfirmed; the legal bivouac areas are on page 5.

0.0	Orédon car park, start	1,853 m
2.2	Col d'Estoudou	2,260 m
4.3	Lac de l'Oule, low point	1,811 m
6.5	Cabane du Bastan	
8.4	Lunch by the lake	2,155 m
9.1	Refuge de Bastan (closed)	
10.7	Our camp, upper Bastan lake	2,266 m



Our camp at the upper Bastan lake, dusk.

Day 2 • Over the ridge and Col d'Aumar back to Orédon

15.5 KM • +650 M • -1,025 M • 6 TO 7 HOURS

Goats visited our camp at dawn: admire them, do not feed them. We left at nine; the hardest climb is today: past Cabane de Port-Bielh and Lac de Gourguet, then a steep rocky slope to the 2,470 m ridge. At the junction keep on to Col d'Aumar. The Aubert car park below is not a shortcut to your car. Long descent to Orédon, with a coffee stop by the lake 3 km before the end.

13.0	Cabane de Port-Bielh	
16.0	Lac de Gourguet	
18.4	High point, unnamed ridge	2,470 m
20.3	Col d'Aumar	2,380 m
23.2	Coffee stop by the lake	
26.2	Orédon car park, finish	1,889 m



The goats of the Bastan valley.



Afternoon cloud over the lakes: be off the ridges by 14:00.

The weekend by the clock

From Barcelona, with a calm Friday evening. Shift it to your start; the fixed point is the storm rule on day 2.

Friday

13:00 Leave Barcelona: 340 km, about 4 h 15 driving via Lleida and the Bielsa tunnel; 5 h with a stop.

18:00 Chalet du lac d'Orédon. Check in, lodge dinner 19:00 to 20:00, early night.

NOTE We arrived near midnight. Not recommended: be there by evening, rest, sleep well.

Saturday • Day 1

08:00 Lodge breakfast, check-out by 09:00.

09:00 Start at the Orédon car park.

13:00 Lunch by the lake at km 8.4.

17:00 We reached the upper Bastan lake and slept there: our camp, see page 5. In the reserve a tent is allowed only in the marked areas, 19:00 to 09:00, stove only.

Sunday • Day 2

07:30 Coffee, pack; we left at 09:00.

12:00 Ridge and Col d'Aumar. Be over the col by 14:00: storms build after.

16:00 Car park: pay EUR 10 at the machine, home via Bielsa.

Places we link to

We only link. You book directly and we earn nothing from it.

PLACE	OUR NOTE	PRICE	LINK
Chalet du lac d'Orédon	Lodge at the start, 1,850 m. Open June to September. Visited.	beds from EUR 20	chalet-hotel-oredon.fr
Orédon car park	Ticket at the barrier, pay by card. No sleeping in cars. Visited.	EUR 10 for both days	
Carrefour Montagne, Saint-Lary-Soulan	Closest big supermarket. We shopped in Spain instead.		carrefour.fr
Abadía Samitier, Samitier (Huesca)	Optional: dinner on a vine terrace an hour before the border, if you still reach the lodge by evening. Visited.	about EUR 40 a menu	abadiasamitier.com
Bodega SOMMOS, Barbastro	Striking winery on the N-240; a tasting on the way back. Not visited.		bodegasommos.com

Sleeping in the reserve

- Tents only in the two marked bivouac areas, Orédon and Aubert, from 19:00 to 09:00.
- No fires: gas stove only. No dogs, drones or swimming.
- Do not feed the goats. Take all rubbish home.
- Our camp at the upper Bastan lake is where we slept, not a recommendation: whether it lies inside the reserve is not confirmed yet. Until the park answers, the only legal bivouac is in the marked areas at Orédon and Aubert.
- Rules change every year: check with the Parc national des Pyrénées.

Safety

- Storms build after 14:00: be below the ridges by then. Forecast: meteofrance.com.
- Bail-out from the ridge or Col d'Aumar: down to the Aubert car park, summer shuttle to Orédon every 30 min, 09:30 to 18:00 (2026 Orédon site brochure, checked 18.10.2026).
- Emergency number 112 in France and Spain. Agree a meeting point and never split the group.
- Honest note: this was a group trip and we camped closer than planned. The guide describes what we walked.

Checklists

Backpack, per person

- ☐ Tent, mat and sleeping bag
- ☐ Stove, gas and lighter
- ☐ Food for two days plus a spare meal
- ☐ Water filter or tablets
- ☐ Rain jacket and pack cover
- ☐ Warm layer for the night
- ☐ Map, offline GPX and a power bank
- ☐ First aid kit and whistle
- ☐ Headlamp
- ☐ Hat, sunscreen, sunglasses

Every route

- ☐ Check the forecast the evening before
- ☐ Tell someone your route and return time
- ☐ 112 works in France and Spain
- ☐ Offline map downloaded
- ☐ Agree a meeting point and never split the group
- ☐ Take all rubbish home

Food, two days

- ☐ Day 1 lunch: bocadillos, fruit
- ☐ Camp dinner: pasta or soup, tea
- ☐ Day 2: flask coffee, bars, nuts
- ☐ One spare meal
- ☐ 3 l of water each to start; filter for the lakes

Navigate it with Organic Maps

A free, open-source map app that works fully offline. Our bookmarks and the track import in one tap.

1 • Install

Organic Maps for Android or iPhone, or from organicmaps.app. No Windows Phone version exists.

Android

play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=app.organicmaps

iPhone and iPad

apps.apple.com/app/organic-maps/id1567437057

2 • Maps at home

On Wi-Fi: Menu → Download maps → France, Hautes-Pyrénées and Spain, Aragón. There is no signal in the valley.

3 • Our files

Open the links on your phone and choose Open with Organic Maps. They appear under Bookmarks & Tracks.

Bookmarks and track (KML) 13 places plus the loop
weekendpeaks.com/guides/neouvielle-lakes-loop.kml

GPS track (GPX) also for Garmin, Strava, Komoot
weekendpeaks.com/guides/neouvielle-lakes-loop.gpx

4 • On the trail

Flight mode, keep the blue dot on the line, carry a power bank. Save this PDF too.

We do not take bookings; we link to places and you book directly. Camp rules and shuttle hours were checked in 2026; confirm before you go.