

8 Hill Walks on the Cote d'Azur

(Walk no. refers to walks in ' Les Guides Randoxygene ' Pays Cotier and Moyen Pays)

Please check bus and train times on line.

Bus from Nice -- http://www.lignesdazur.com/horaires_ligne/?rub_code=6&lign_id=1083&part_id=%PARTNER%&thm_id=0

Bus from Menton -- <http://www.carfenbus.fr/lignes-et-horaires.html>

Italian trains -- <http://www.lefrecece.it/B2CWeb/search.do?parameter=initAdvanceSearch&ynFlexibleDates=off>

French trains -- <http://www.sncf.com/fr/itineraire/resultats#>

Walk no. 12: La Turbie, Length 6.8 km., Ascent: 220 m., Duration: 2 hours, 30 mins.

Bus 116 departs weekdays from Nice, Vauban @ 10.45

Return from La Turbie to Nice 15.35 and 18.00

This is a walk of great panoramic views of the coast.

From La Turbie Centre follow D 2564 direction Eze. After a builders yard watch out for a sign on the right for La Fornia. Follow signs for La Fornia and then for Fort de la Revere. This is a good spot for a picnic.

On the return follow the signs to the left for La Turbie, thus returning via a different route.

Walk no. 49: Cap Ferrat. Coastal walk around peninsula. Length: 5.9 kms., Ascent: 60 m., and Duration: 2 hours St Jean to bus stop on RD25. Beaulieu to Villefranche will take 3.5 hours.

No. 81 bus will bring you to St. Jean. Runs every 20 minutes

From the centre of St. Jean head up the commercial street and turn left into Ave. Cl. Vignon. Watch out for walking sign on your left. When you reach large gate follow through pedestrian gateway on left. Continue along here coming onto coastal path. This brings you right around peninsula giving great views first of the coast on the east towards Monaco and Italy, then on the west side views of Villefranche and Nice.

Having reached Plage Passable, climb steps and follow narrow road which takes you back to RD 25 where you can pick up bus no. 81. Alternatively follow RD25 to left which brings you to Point St. Jean. Follow road on left before crossing the railway and running parallel with it. This will bring you onto beach at Villefranche.

It's also possible to start this walk at Beaulieu, which brings you along the east side of the peninsula to the port of St. Jean, lovely in the mornings with the sun shining on that side.

Walk no. 16: Aspremont and Tour du Mont Chauve: This walk starting in the perched village of Aspremont takes you around a circuit of Mont Chauve with fabulous views of the Var Valley and the Cote d'Azur.

Bus 76 departs weekdays Place Fontaine du Temple (Tram stop Pont de Falicon) @ 8.50 and 10.55

Length: 8.4 kms. Ascent 469 m., Duration: 3 hours.

Tram, direction Las Planas to Pont de Falicon. When you get out at Pont de Falicon you will see a Piazza place, often with a little market going on. Cross over this piazza and you will see a narrow street to the left and the bus stop is there. It's just a mini-bus but there might be people standing around waiting for it. If in doubt ask.

From the bus terminus in Aspremont, retrace your route along a footpath parallel with the road you arrived on for about 200 metres. Cross over road to Nice and head up a signposted track, Chemin de Campoun and take little track to the right GR5, which brings you up onto a ridge overlooking the Var Valley.

This path takes you south to the foot of Mont Chauve (optional). Descend on a route to a barrier then turn left onto a route which brings you back to Aspremont via Baisse de Guigo.

Walk no. 25 Circular walk around Baou de St. Jeannet. Views over the coast and hills of Esterel to the east.

Length: 7.8 km. Ascent: 450 m. Duration: 4 hours. Baou de St Jeannet extra 45 min.

Bus 55 departs weekdays from near St Agustin rail station @ 9.30, 10.15, 11.00.

Take train to St. Augustin. Arriving in St. Augustin cross railway line and from the station head north along main street. Bus stop 100 m. on right. Bus no. 55 for St. Jeannet.

Arriving at bus Terminus in St. Jeannet walk up through village watching out for walking signs to the right for GR 51. After walking along the path which takes you up and along a valley for about 30 – 45 mins, watch out for sign for Baou de St. Jeannet. This is optional (130 m. climb), but well worth it for views and a great place for a picnic. Follow dotted line on map to bring you back onto route, affording beautiful views to west and taking in ruins of an old castle along the way. This path loops back around through woods to approach St. Jeannet from the west side.

Walks nos. 5, 6 and 7 are all walks around St. Agnes – a really great area for walking and well sign-posted. Take the train to Menton, the bus for St. Agnes.

Bus 10 departs from the Gare Routiere at 9.50. Bus returns from St. Agnes at 14.35 and 16.45

Walk no. 58 in Moyen Pays booklet, Linear walk from Airole to Breil sur Roya along the Roya Valley -

Another great walk, crossing over from Italy into France, through abandoned and other tiny villages eventually arriving at Breil. Ascent: 600 m. Duration 5 hours.

Take the 8.02 train from Villefranche arriving Ventimiglia 8.43

Take the 8.32 train from Villefranche arriving Ventimiglia 9.13

Take the 9.30 train from Ventimiglia arriving Airole 9.50

Or

Take the 9.32 train from Villefranche arriving Ventimiglia 10.13

Take the 10.02 train from Villefranche arriving Ventimiglia 10.43

Take the 10.32 train from Villefranche arriving Ventimiglia 11.13

Take the 11.30 train from Ventimiglia arriving Airole 11.50

(Best take the highlighted connection in case of delays)

From railway station in Airole walk up through old town, coffee in piazza if you have time. Take street to right of café walking to the outskirts of village (towards the Roya Valley). After the entrance to a church you will find a sign post for Fanghetto which you follow.

Leaving Fanghetto, going downhill keep to right at hairpin bend then watch out for yellow waymarks to the left.

On leaving village of Libre, keep to left of hairpin bend and watch out for walking sign which brings you to path on right, which brings you past house. On arrival in Breil, continue north through village and cross river, railway station is 300 m. on left.

Return by train to Nice Ville

Depart Breil 14.45, 17.53 and 19.04.

Web site for the Guides Randoxygene, Pays Cotier -- <http://asp.zone-secure.net/v2/index.jsp?id=105/99/12831>

A web site with walks in English --- <http://www.rivierarambling.fr/>