CHAPELS IN HILLTOP VILLAGES

ROUTE 4



This route takes you on a journey through both space and time!

This is a journey through space! It starts with a chapel, ***Notre-Dame-des-Grâces,*** and the first fortified village, **Séguret**; it continues along a balcony above the **Sablet** vineyard and its knoll which gradually come into view. The path winds down to the bottom of the hill to ***Saint-Roch Chapel and Saint-Nazaire*** Chapel, before climbing back up to explore the ancient **Prébayon Monastery** and its deep, dark and mysterious ravine. Feast your eyes on views of the Saint-Amand ridge and Pas de l'Aigle along the way. The route takes you from the depths of the ravine back up into the bright sunshine shining on the Dentelles de Montmirail vineyards, with fabulous views of Mont Ventoux and the Baronnies mountains as you reach **Le Crestet**, the last fortified village.

This is a journey through time! The route tells the story of the sights you see along the way: the Merovingian dynasty at the monastery and the High Middle Ages in the surrounding hilltop villages, which shielded themselves with ramparts to fend off wars and looters.



Start: *Car park on the way into Séguret from Vaison-la-Romaine.*

1 Visit ***Notre-Dame-des-Grâces Chapel*** before heading up to the village through the rampart archway and along Rue des Poternes. Make your way down Rue Serge Laurens after you come out of the second archway. Follow the yellow/red waymarkers for the GR de Pays Dentelles de Montmirail trail: at the junction after the bridge over the Vallat, bear left onto a wide hillside path for 1.1km.

2 At the signpost, leave the GR de Pays trail and take a right down the narrow Chemin de la Jacquette. Turn left onto Chemin de Carpentras then turn right onto Chemin des Combes. Walk straight to the junction between the D7 and ***Saint-Roch Chapel*** **in Sablet.** Turn left onto the D7 until you reach ***Saint-Nazaire Chapel***, then left onto Chemin de Saint-Nazaire and right onto Chemin de Carpentras.

3 Before reaching the D7, turn left onto Chemin du Château d'Eau, then Chemin des Briguières, which winds its way up the hill. Turn left at the next two junctions to get onto Chemin de la Fontaine des Fées.

4 Turn right onto the narrow road to the Côte 305 elevation sign, where GR4 waymarkers reappear to guide you to **Le Crestet.**

5 A little further up, take the path heading right towards **Prébayon** at the the "Côte Chaude" sign.

6 At the **Prébayon Monastery ruins**, continue along the waymarked GR4 trail on a steep ascent, turn right onto a wide track to La Verrière, then walk along a narrow road towards **Le Crestet**, as far as the Côte 488 elevation sign (picnic benches).

7 At the Côte 488 elevation sign, the GR4 trail branches off to the right (fantastic views) and takes you to **Le Crestet** and ***L'Annonciade Chapel.***

8 Go down the path on the left to the bottom of the village and the cemetery, halfway down the slope, and the ancient ***Saint-Etienne Chapel, renamed Marie-Immaculée,*** hidden among the cypress and olive trees.