



# Hike

## 9 Dolmen de la Siureda

### MAUREILLAS-LAS-ILLAS

One town but three villages with Las Illas and Riunoguès, each with its character and riches of all kinds: an exceptional heritage and nature leisure activities characterize the three villages. Maureillas, built in the Middle Ages around a «Cellera» and the Church of Saint Etienne. Las Illas, near the border with Catalonia, nestled at the bottom of the wild valleys. Riunoguès, in the middle of the Subéraies, ideally placed on the «Voie Verte» (cycle lane) between Maureillas and Le Perthus.

### DOLMEN DE LA SIUREDA

Siureda translates from Catalan as Suberaie (a forest of cork trees). From 1986 to 1988 excavations were undertaken by a group of archaeologists from the Vallespir and Aspres, they found that this site had been vandalised. Some of the artifacts discovered date back to the Bronze Age and include pieces of a vase and bone fragments. Judging by its shape, its location and its name, La tour de Bel Oeil was a watch tower overlooking the village of Maureillas from the Middle Ages. Located 308m above sea level it has a beautiful 360 ° panorama. The use of these towers was to transmit signals and to announce the arrival of the enemy.

### TO DISCOVER

The Dolmen Siureda.

The Tower of Bel-Oeil and its views on the plain of Roussillon.

Visit the Cork Museum of Maureillas.

Visit to the Heritage House in Céret. (results of the Dolmen excavations)

### ONLINE MAP



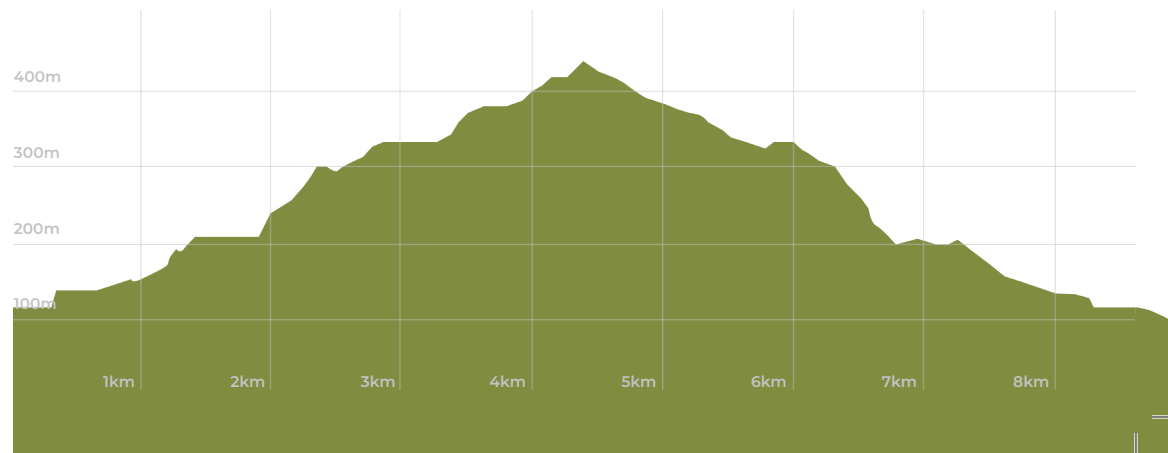
### MAUREILLAS

320m d+



DIFFICULTY

3h - 9 km





**Departure : At the entrance of Maureillas when arriving from Céret, into car park 'Prat de la Fargue'.**

**0 min :** Go back up to the bridge. Cross the bridge, as if going to Céret, and at the end, take the path going downwards on your left. Walk along the left side of the equestrian centre. When you reach a fork in the path just before a patch of undergrowth, take the left path. You will then arrive at a housing estate. Turn left and continue for 100m.

**10 min :** Ignoring the Mas d'en Boch, turn left immediately onto a path which runs the length of the houses. At the end of this path, continue straight on until you reach an iron gate.

**1 15 min :** On the left of the gate, you will see a fork. Take the right-hand path. At the next fork, take the narrow path on the left. At the following fork, take the stony upward path the furthest on the right.

**25 min :** Follow the path along the length of the fence. When you can see Mount Canigó, continue to follow the fence. Ignore the wide path on the right, and a narrow path also on the right, taking instead the third path on the right, a rocky path going upwards.

**2 40 min :** Take the upward path on the right (signposted in yellow).

**50 min :** Follow the right-hand path. On the left is the path that leads to 'La Tour de Bel Oeil' with a panoramic view over the plain of Roussillon.

**1h05 :** At the crossroads take the left path going upwards.

**3 1h15 :** After the gate, continue straight ahead on the tarmac road which rises up and through the Cork Oak forest (La Suberaie).

**1h30 :** On reaching the end of the walk, you will see the Dolmen de la Sureida on your left. Take the same route to return.

