

Le Col de l'Ullat

Rated: Medium. Climb: 800 m. Duration: 4h30 without stops.

Follow Route No. 9.

Points of interest: **Le Col de l'Ullat** has a good climate all year round. It rarely has snow and is pleasantly fresh in summer. There are groups of Laricio pines and the scenery is continually changing.

Depart from the Church and continue to the small reservoir with the first signpost. Here, take the left path, passing a blue and white coloured wooden boundary post. The path has yellow markers and climbs slowly uphill to an intersection. There is a stone with yellow writing; take the path straight ahead. You go through a narrow passage between two rocks, where, many years before, the shepherds used this to count their animals. The way continues due South and keeps climbing. Going around a cliff face you have an excellent view of Laroque.

The path then crosses a first ravine and then a river (Correc de les Teixoneres) and continues upwards twisting and turning.

It continues along a well built stone wall, to the left, then you reach a signpost marked "**PISTE**". Continue straight ahead alongside this wall. Further on you come to a sign indicating a snow pit – "**Puits à Glace**" which is a few metres below.

Continue on the path until you come to a river: cross it and 50 m further on you come to a signpost. Take the right hand path which leads you to a forest track. Take this track to the right for about fifteen metres where you come off the track and take a path to the left.

There is a yellow arrow marker; the path goes straight up through the beech woods and at the next intersection with a large track, on the left you rejoin the forest path. Stay on the path which goes straight ahead and which turns through many bends and continues to climb. The pathway leads to a track that it joins on a hairpin bend. Take the track that leaves opposite, on the bend and it continues up the hillside among rocks.

At a fork in the path, take the left one which climbs sharply and brings you to a forest track. Cross it and take the path opposite you which also climbs steeply ahead. You reach another forest track. Cross over it and follow the path which climbs more regularly and is still marked in yellow.

You come to a small ravine which you have to cross; this slowly climbs through the pines. You will reach a spring - "**Fontaine Reina de las Fonts**". It is just below you by a tarred road with a picnic area. Follow the road to the right to reach the "**Col de l'Ullat**". There is a refuge hut here and the area is well known for barbeques and relaxation.

Return by the same route to Laroque.
