

Bourg-Argental / Annonay

Via Fluvia

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Départ
Bourg-Argental**Arrivée**
Annonay**Durée**
1 h 27 min**Distance**
14,39 Km**Niveau**
I cycle often**Thématique**
Nature & small heritage

The Via Fluvia cycle route leaves the Monts du Pilat to enter the county of Ardèche. A provisional route takes you along quiet roads to Saint-Marcel-lès-Annonay, via Saint-Julien-Molin-Molette, while awaiting the transformation of the former railway line on the border of the county of La Loire. Riding on beside the Deûme River, a lovely greenway leads gently to the town of Annonay. This area saw the birth of many revolutionary inventions in the 18th and 19th centuries – hot-air balloons, tubular boilers (precursors of locomotives) and suspension bridges – still in use today. At Davézieux, visit the Musée des Papeteries Canson et Montgolfier, set in the birthplace of the Montgolfier brothers, who invented hot-air balloons, hence why these early flying machines are known as montgolfières in French.

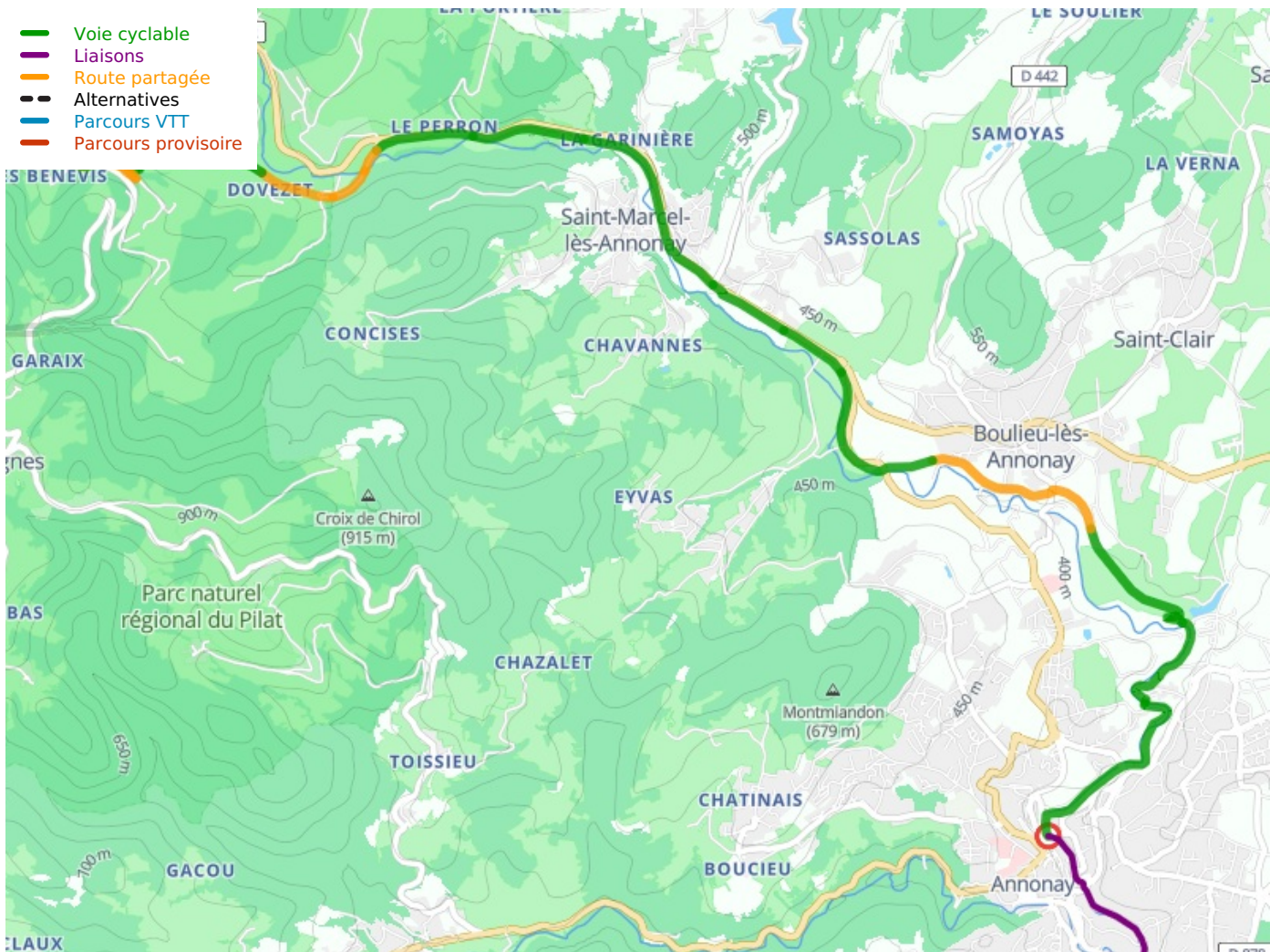
Via Fluvia from Bourg-Argental to Annonay

Provisional route - not signposted

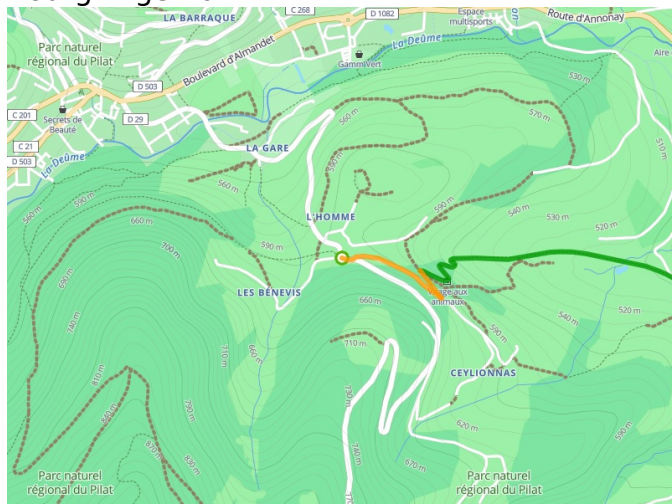
From Bourg-Argental to Saint-Marcel-lès-Annonay, a provisional stretch of route that isn't signposted leads you along two county roads, the D503 et D306. You cross Saint-Julien-Molin-Molette (with its shops, restaurants and accommodation). The provisional cycle route then runs along Le Ternay Dam, to Saint-Marcel-lès-Annonay. From here, rejoin a portion of the Via Fluvia that is laid out and signposted, the surface smooth and accessible to wheelchairs, prams, rollerbladers and scooters, plus there's a stretch on road up to Boulieu-lès-Annonay, but with little traffic. Before arriving at Vidalon and the Musée des Papeteries Canson et Montgolfier, there's a 200m descent. The stretch along the Deûme towards Annonay is shaded.

Don't miss

- **Saint-Marcel-lès-Annonay** : Barrage du Ternay, a dam, with a lovely path, some 4km in length, called the Chemin de Ronde, lined with cedars of Lebanon and some sequoias
- **Boulieu-lès-Annonay**: a medieval village, once fully fortified, at the foot of the small mountain, Le Colombier
- **Annonay**: the Espace du Parchemin et du Cuir, on leather- and parchment-making, listed since 2011 on the French inventory of Métiers d'Art Rare (Rare Crafts) – the Parcheminerie Dumas is one of just three parchment-makers left in France
- **Davézieux**: [Musée des Papeteries Canson Montgolfier](#), set in the house where the Montgolfier brothers were born, the museum bringing to life how paper has been manufactured here between the 17th and 21st centuries.



Départ Bourg-Argental



Arrivée Annonay

