



Chaîne des Puys Limagne fait

UNESCO World Heritage



© Denis Pouchet

Discover

the first natural site
in mainland France to be inscribed
on the World Heritage List

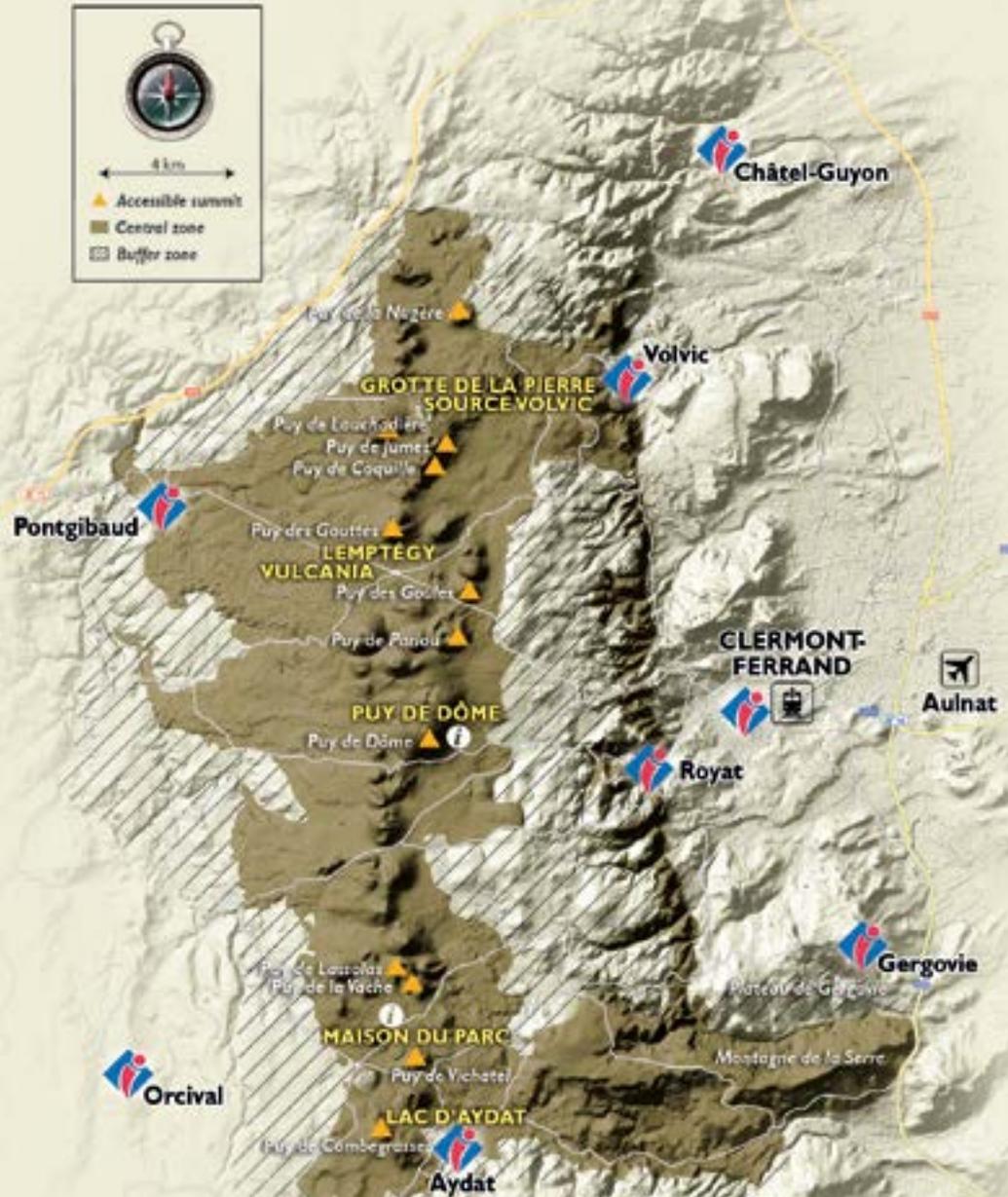


PUY-DE-DÔME
LE DÉPARTEMENT

The Chaîne des Puy-Limagne Fault assemblage – emblematic landscape of the Auvergne volcanoes with its eighty volcanoes of varied forms – provides an exceptional arena of the geological phenomena which have forged our planet.

Inscribed onto UNESCO's World Heritage List in July 2018, this well-preserved territory in the heart of the Massif Central is a wonderful area to explore and discover as a family, to enjoy outdoor activities, and to relax in the magnificent natural surroundings.

“
No other place on Earth
so clearly illustrates the major
geological phenomena linked
to continental break-up
”



1 Plateau des Dômes

former mountains flattened by erosion
350 million years

2 Limagne fault

Fracturing of the continental crust
35 million years

3 Montagne de la Serre

inverted relief (old lava flows)
3 million years

4 Chaîne des Puys

80 monogenetic volcanoes
from 95 000 years to 8 400 years for the most recent ones

Tourist sites dedicated to discovery

Visit the interior of a volcano, see the different types of eruption, discover the traditional methods of extracting volcanic stone, or the origin of Volvic water – there is no shortage of visits and activities to find out more about volcanic phenomena and their influence on human activity up to the present day.



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A VOYAGE INTO THE HISTORY OF THE EARTH

The Chaîne des Puys - Limagne Fault provides an exceptional example of **continental rifting**, which might have led, 35 Million years ago, to the separation of continental Europe into two and the creation of a new ocean.

This major phenomenon in the history of the Earth comprises three main stages which are excellently illustrated by the Chaîne des Puys-Limagne Fault:

- ▶ Stretching and thinning of the continental crust leading to **fracturing**, perfectly illustrated by the **2 Limagne Fault**, which extends 32 km in length, and 700 m in height, and marks the boundary between the downthrown rift basin and the ancient basement of the **1 plateau des Dômes**.
- ▶ This upheaval at depth led to magma rising upwards and **intense volcanic activity** over a period of more than 30 Million years. The outstanding alignment of the 80 volcanoes of the **4 Chaîne des Puys** is the most recent manifestation of this activity (from 95 000 to 8 400 years ago).
- ▶ **Large-scale uplift** of the basement rocks led to major erosion of the sedimentary cover, exposing older lava flows, such as the **3 Montagne de la Serre**, as well as the well-known Gergovie Plateau just beside it.

WALKING

IN THE CHAÎNE DES PUYS

Walkers of all ages will enjoy walking amidst the spectacular volcanoes. The routes are easily accessible and well-marked, and both short and long hikes reveal hidden delights in this magnificent and well-preserved countryside. So remember to bring your rucksack and walking boots!



Something for everyone, from family walks to hikes covering several days:

For routes and information see <https://volcan.puy-de-dome.fr>

Free hiking guides and geotourism maps available at most visitor sites and tourist offices*.

* subject to availability.



*A fragile site to preserve
Pick up the code of good practice in all tourist centres*

© David Probert



The Chaîne des Puys is part of the Auvergne Volcanoes Regional Nature Park, an area which has been protected for more than 40 years.

The largest Park in France, it includes not only the emblematic Chaîne des Puys, but also the Sancy, the Cantal mountains, the Cézalier and the Artense, and offers a unique variety of scenery and volcanic landscapes.

The Maison du Parc is open from April to October, hosting exhibitions, a shop with ecological and local produce, an information centre, a picnic room (on reservation), and accommodation.

www.parcdesvolcans.fr/découvrir

Straight to the volcanoes!

From April to November **shuttle busses** run from Clermont-Ferrand town centre to three start points for hikes in the heart of the Chaîne des Puys (train station at the Puy de Dôme 'Panoramique des Dômes', the car park by the Puy des Goules, and Vulcania).

<https://volcan.puy-de-dome.fr/infos-pratiques/acces-au-site>

© Lucie Way



© Gérard Fajet

THE PUY DE DÔME, CLASSIFIED AS A GRAND SITE DE FRANCE, AND ITS RACK-RAILWAY THE PANORAMIQUE DES DÔMES

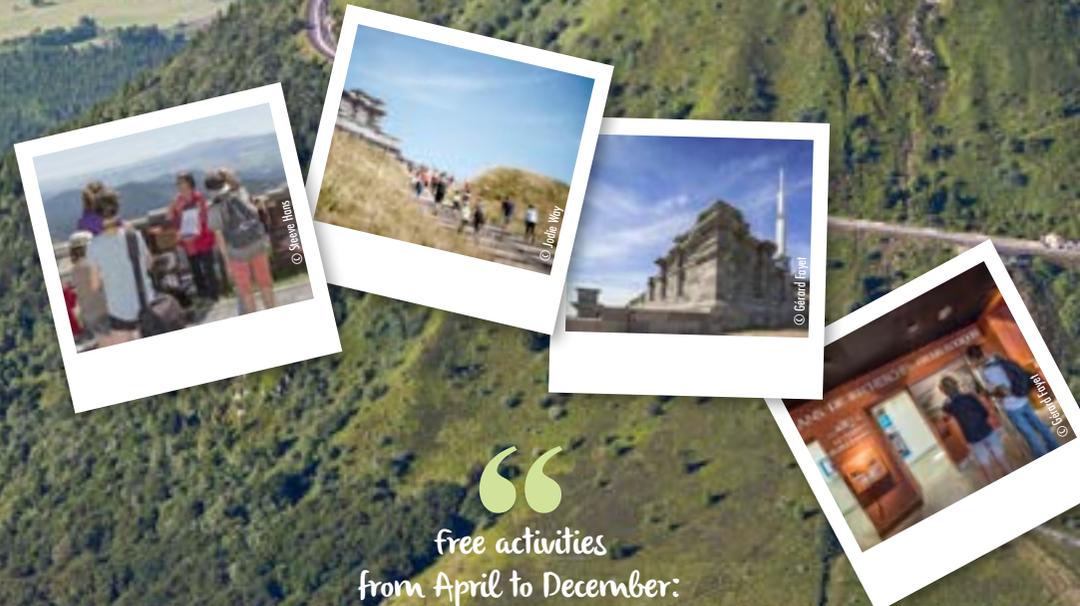
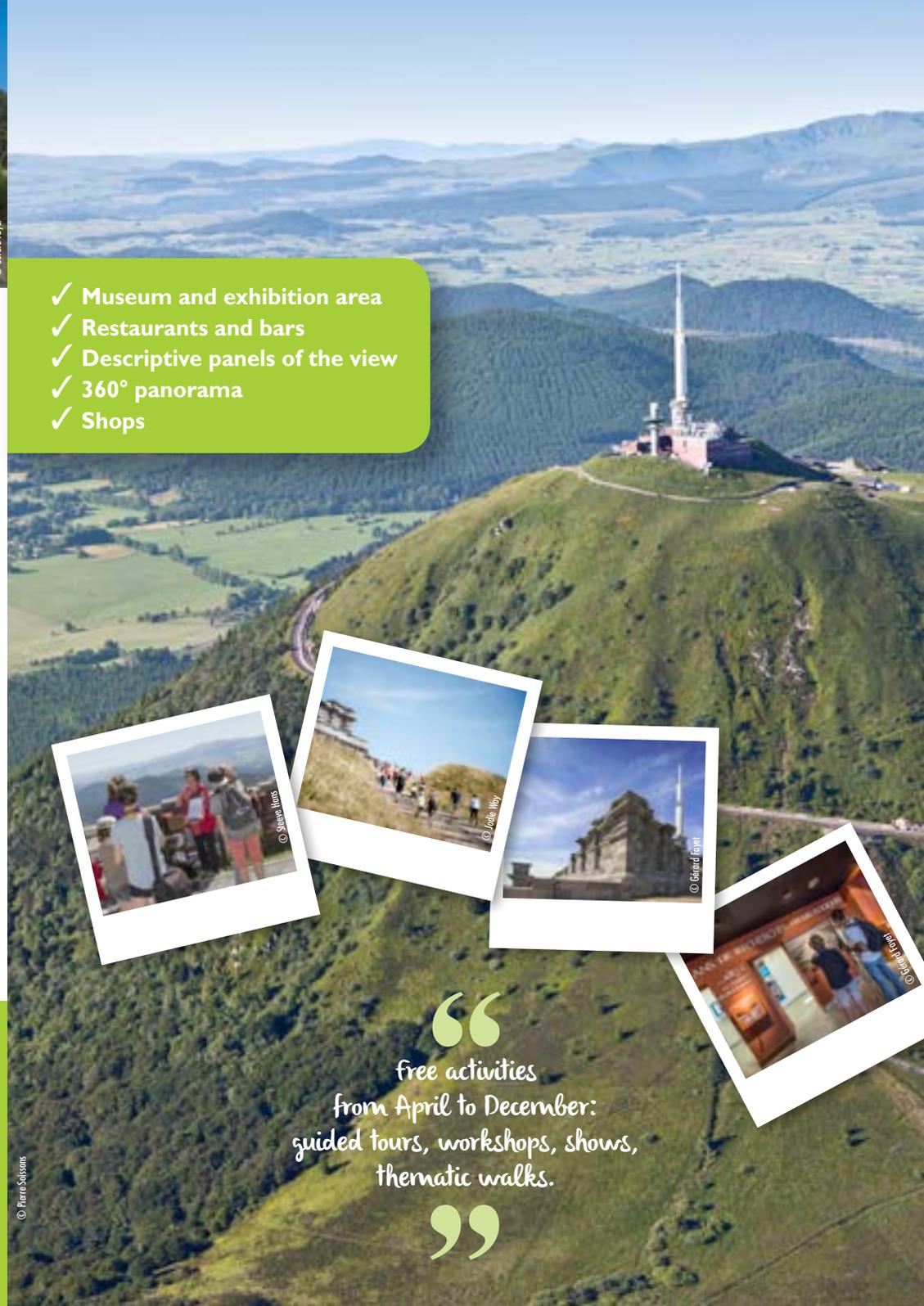
The Puy de Dôme, emblematic volcano of the Chaîne des Puys, is accessible all year round on foot via the Mule Trail (Chemin des Muletiers) or by electric rack-railway, the Panoramique des Dômes.

The Puy de Dôme, classed as a GRAND SITE DE FRANCE since 2008, and a major green tourist site in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region, provides a unique panorama of the Chaîne des Puys and the Limagne Fault.

Rich in history, this “giant of the Dômes volcanoes” has always fascinated humans who have climbed and appropriated it from the dawn of time. From the Temple of Mercury, the largest mountain temple of the Gallo-Roman era, to scientific experiments carried out by Blaise Pascal, in addition to all sorts of sporting exploits: come and discover its incredible history !



- ✓ Museum and exhibition area
- ✓ Restaurants and bars
- ✓ Descriptive panels of the view
- ✓ 360° panorama
- ✓ Shops



“ Free activities from April to December: guided tours, workshops, shows, thematic walks. ”

Tourist information, walks, activities:
+33 (0)4 73 62 21 46 - accueilPDD@puy-de-dome.fr - volcan.puy-de-dome.fr

Opening times and fees, group rates, catering:
+33 (0)826 399 615 (0.18€/min) - contact@panoramiquedesdomes.fr
www.panoramiquedesdomes.fr

Accès
Maison de Site - Chemin du Couleyras
Lieu-dit La Font de l'Arbre - 63870 Orcines

© Pierre Sébass



© Christophe Camus

VULCANIA

DISCOVER ALL ABOUT VOLCANOES AND PLANET EARTH

Are you curious about the Earth, its mysteries and its beauty? Visit Vulcania, in the heart of the Chaîne des Puys and enjoy this fun and spectacular experience.

Vulcania is the only themed attraction park in Europe focussing on volcanoes and natural phenomena on Earth. It combines scientific discovery with adrenalin in an exceptional adventure undertaken in the company of Professor Yapadrisk, the Explorer, and Pitoufeu.

More than 20 activities – Daytime and evening shows on certain days in the summer - Free parking - Daily shuttle between Vulcania and Clermont-Ferrand in July and August, and on reservation during the spring and autumn school holidays.



Average length of time for visit around one day | 15km from Clermont-Ferrand
For tickets and accommodations (park + hotels + other tourist activities)
visit <http://sejours.vulcania.com>
Route de Mazayes - 63230 Saint-Ours-les-Roches
+33 (0)4 73 19 70 00 - www.vulcania.com



© gaudin - Prodiges - Olivier Chouveau

VOLCAN DE LEMPTÉGY

GET READY FOR AN UNUSUAL JOURNEY INTO A VOLCANO

What if you could explore inside the heart of an actual volcano? See a real volcanic neck, touch enormous volcanic bombs, pick up solidified lava? Let yourself be drawn into this fascinating universe by one of our guides. Set out on foot or by train on this fun and educational journey.

Round off your exploration with a dynamic 4D film, a voyage through time to discover the origin and history of Lemptégy volcano: keep your eyes wide open and hold on tight!

And your mission would not be 100% successful without a trip on board the famous Volcan'Express, our new attraction, open from April 2019! This train will transport you into the heart of the Chaîne des Puys. But what if the fault were to reactivate? Will you be able to arrive safely at your destination...?



Length of visit: 2h30 | 15km from Clermont Ferrand
On-line reservation recommended for train tours
31 route des Puys - Les Maisons rouges - 63230 Saint-Ours-les-Roches
+33 (0)4 73 62 23 25 - www.auvergne-volcan.com

& ACCESS & TOURIST INFO

Chaîne des Puy - Limagne Fault,
World Heritage site, 10 km from Clermont-Ferrand

By plane

Clermont-Ferrand Auvergne international airport
www.clermont-aeroport.com
+33 (0)4 73 62 71 00

By train

Clermont-Ferrand train station
46 avenue de l'Union Soviétique
63000 Clermont-Ferrand

By car

2h from Lyon
4h20 from Paris
3h40 from Bordeaux, Toulouse, Montpellier
5h from Nantes



PREPARE YOUR STAY TOURIST OFFICES IN THE PUY-DE-DÔME

Clermont Auvergne Tourisme

+33 (0)4 73 98 65 00
www.clermontauvergnetourisme.com

Mond'arverne Tourisme - Aydat

+33 (0)4 73 79 37 69
www.mondarverne.com

Auvergne VolcanSancy

+33 (0)4 73 21 79 78 (La Tour-d'Auvergne)
www.auvergnevolcansancy.com

Pays d'Issoire

+33 (0)4 73 89 15 90
www.issoire-tourisme.com

Terra Volcana – Pays de Volvic

+33 (0)4 73 38 59 45
www.terravolcana.com

Destination Combrailles

+33 (0)4 73 85 80 94 (Saint-Gervais d'Auvergne)
www.tourisme-combrailles.fr

Massif du Sancy

+33 (0)4 73 65 20 21
www.sancy.com

Maison du Tourisme du Livradois-Forez

+33 (0)4 73 95 57 57
www.vacances-livradois-forez.com