



Alpes Vaudoises.

Si proches de vous.

Near Lake Geneva, just 1 hour from Lausanne, 2 hours from Geneva and easily accessible by public transport, the Alpes vaudoises represent a unique destination in the heart of the Swiss Alps.

For a day, a weekend or an extended stay, take the time to discover the varied landscapes throughout the seasons, between vineyards, peaks, and glaciers.

Whether you are thirsty for adventure or you feel in need of relaxation, the Alpes vaudoises are full of activities that will meet your desires!

Cycling, hiking, via ferrata, whitewater activities: to exercise according to your needs.



Breathtaking panoramic views, natural parks and reserves, preserved fauna and flora: to be enthralled with.



HERITAGE

Villages and hamlets, castles, ancestral know-how, vineyards: to discover the hidden treasures of the region.



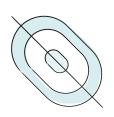
GASTRONOMY

Mountain restaurants, traditional dishes, local products: to bring your taste buds alive.



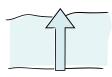
CULTURE

Land art, exhibitions, concerts, workshops: to combine nature and culture.



headquarters

of the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) in Aigle at Centre Mondial du Cyclisme (CMC)



450

meters

Height of the face of the Miroir d'Argentine



5 train lines

to reach the start of the loops more easily



of L'Etivaz AOP to observe in the maturing cellars



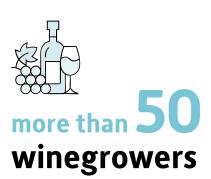
More than

275 km

of roads and trails adapted to the practice of gravel biking



Taveyanne, nestling in the heart of a nature reserve



in the Vaud Chablais





My favorite routes.

Hello cyclists!

Guide and photographer based in the Alpes vaudoises I'm rediscovering the region on a gravel bike. Here are 5 loops that I have created especially for you: they will take you on idyllic alpine roads, trails and some easy single tracks. All in the calm and beauty of our alpine landscapes.

See you soon in the Alpes vaudoises!



Le col de la Croix version gravel

The gravel biking version of the famous col de la Croix passing through the regions of Villars, Les Diablerets and Gryon.



Around the Ormonts Valley

From Leysin to Aigle, breathtaking views of the peaks of the Alpes vaudoises.



The tour of Chablais

A loop on the plain with some surprises in the Chablais vineyards!



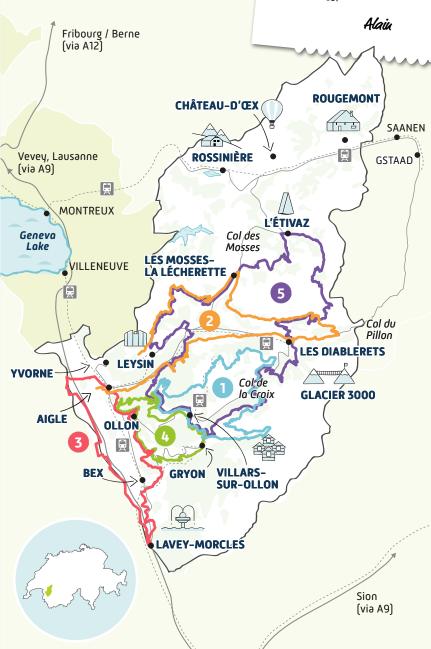
Between plain and mountains

To climb when the peaks are inaccessible.



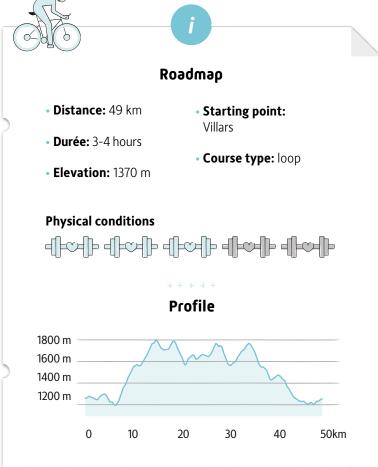
The Grand Tour

For adventurers, an XXL tour with technical passages and wonderful climbs





The gravel biking version of the famous col de la Croix passing through the regions of Villars, Les Diablerets and Gryon >>>









Alain's advice



By train

To save yourself the first long climb, take the train to Bretaye.

.....



Take a break (or two)

Many refreshment bars and restaurants welcome you on this loop. In Taveyanne, let yourself be tempted by the famous creamy cones.



Technical

Shortly after the Col de la Croix, a short single track awaits you at km 28. If that's not for you, stay on the road and take the next left to join the trail a bit further on.



From Leysin to Aigle, breathtaking views of the peaks of the Alpes vaudoises





Roadmap

• Distance: 56 km

Starting point: Aigle

• **Duration:** 3,5-5 hours

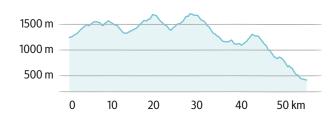
 Course type: loop (with public transport)

• **Elevation:** 1390+/2220-

Physical conditions



Profile









Alain's advice



Long live the train

To reach Leysin, take the Aigle-Leysin train line, operated by Transports Publics du Chablais. It is much more pleasant than the road, where the traffic is often dense.



Technical

To avoid the first technical sector, do not turn left at km 4 and stay on Chemin de Solepraz. You join the Pierre du Moëllé road and find the track at km 8.

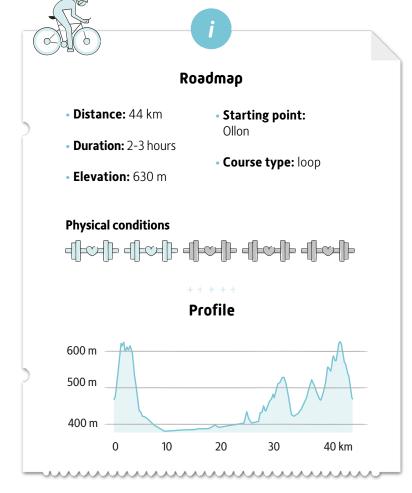


Lac Retaud

Shortly after halfway through the route, Lac Retaud is the ideal place to take a bucolic break by the waterside or on the restaurant terrace.



« A loop on the plain with some surprises in the Chablais vineyards »









Alain's advice



It looks like the south

The Provence trail does not lie: the vegetation is reminiscent of the south. And if you have to walk a few sectors, you will enjoy it all that much more!



Break at the World Cycling Centre

Take advantage of the terrace on the banks of the Rhône and admire the magnificent wooden velodrome inside the building.

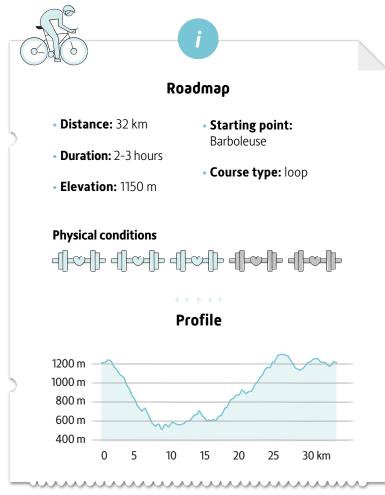


Ematic blocks

In the Dévens forest (km 37), there are several huge blocks of limestone that were carried by the glaciers. An information panel reveals the path of these rocks and the reflection of the scientists of the time on the mystery of these movements.



To climb when the peaks are inaccessible >>>









Alain's advice



History

Crossing Gryon (km 1), admire this authentic village with its church and historic chalets which are over 300 years old.



Ou your warks

The climb between Verschiez and Panex is part of the Challenge Strava des Alpes Vaudoises. Between 1 July and 30 September, time yourself and take part in this friendly challenge. Click here for all the info.



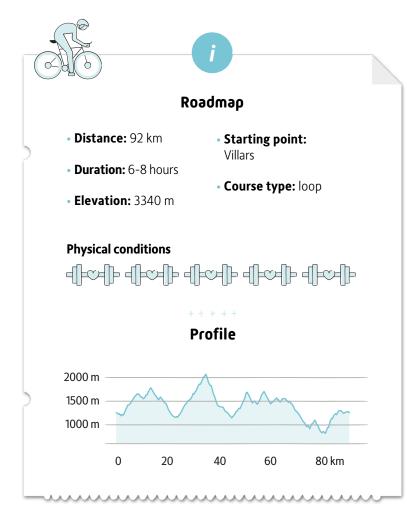
For gourwets

Several bakeries welcome you on this route, in Ollon, Villars and Barboleuse. Our favourite: pastries from Charlet in Barboleuse. That's good news as it's at the start and finish of the loop!



The Grand Tour.

For adventurers,
an XXL tour with
technical passages
and wonderful
climbs >>>









Alain's advice



Ou the move

After the summit of the Col d'Isenau, you have to walk downhill for 2km before finding a road suitable for cycling. Your reward: magnificent views of the surrounding peaks.



Equipment

Several climbs are steep, ensure you have the correct gear ratios fitted. You will also be more comfortable with 40-45mm tyres.



Say cheese

A stop at L'Etivaz (km 45) is a must. Because you are halfway there, but also to taste the eponymous cheese at the Maison de L'Etivaz.



-THE OPINION OF A PRO-

5 tips

for a safe gravel bike ride

Alain gives you some tips for going on a stress-free bike ride:



Study the route and make sure you have sufficiently trained. In the mountain, the elevation is more important than the kilometers.



A climb on gravel is more difficult than on tarmac: ensure you have the correct gear ratios fitted, like on a mountain bike.



The width of the tyres is essential to be comfortable as soon as you leave the asphalt roads. Minimum: 35mm, but 40 or 45 mm is even better.



Be careful on the descents, control your speed and always keep to the right.



Bring enough food and drink. You will find many drinking fountains on the road to fill your containers.

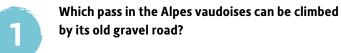


In the mountains, the weather can change quickly and you can get cold on the descents. Wear suitable clothing and take at least one windproof jacket with you, even if the weather is fine.

-QUIZZ-

Test

your knowledge



a. Col de la Croix b. Col des Mosses c. Col du Pillon

In which city is the World Cycling Centre located?

a. Aigle b. Lausanne c. Martigny

In which year did the UCI organise the first gravel world championship?

a. 1953 b. 2022 c. 2017

What is the name of the vineyard located at the foot of the Alpes vaudoises?

a. Lavaux b. Chablais c. Chianti

Which AOP cheese is produced in the Alpes vaudoises?

a. Emmental b. Camembert c. Etivaz







Share your best photos #alpesvaudoises

