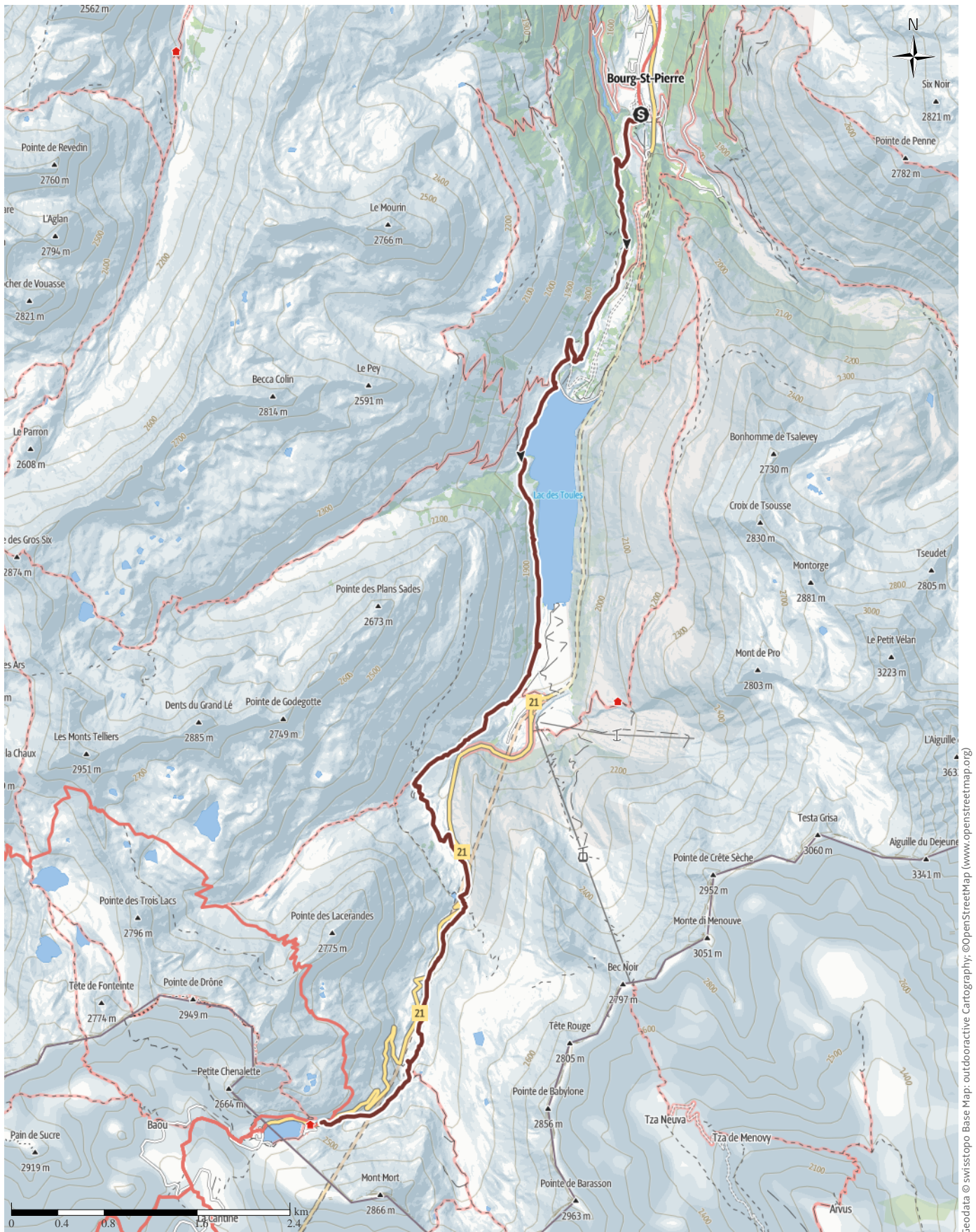


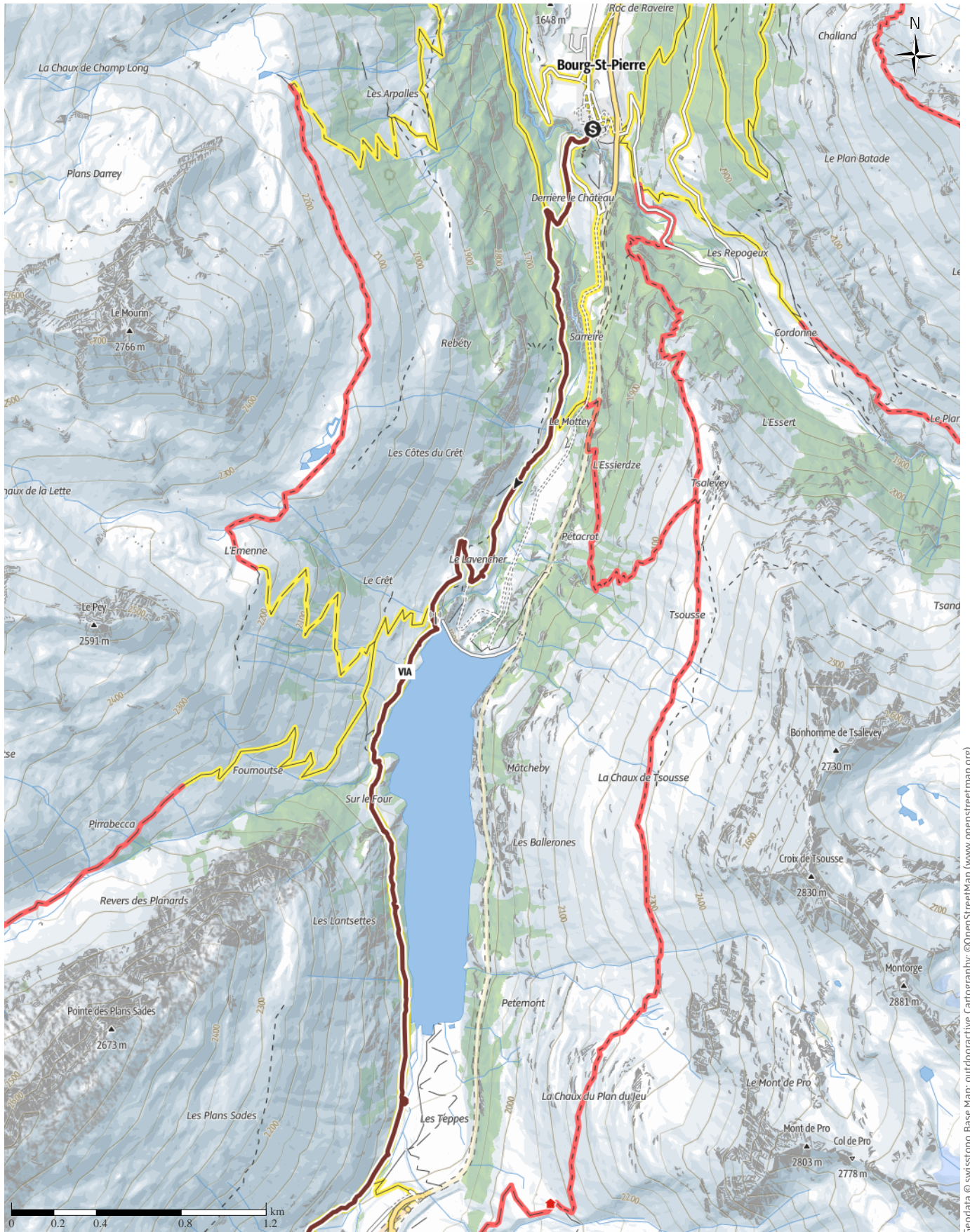
vf016 ViaFrancigena Bourg-Saint-Pierre to Great St Bernard Hospice

↔ 12.5 km | ⌚ 4:45 h | ▲ 969 m | ▼ 143 m | Difficulty difficult



vf016 ViaFrancigena Bourg Saint Pierre to Great ...

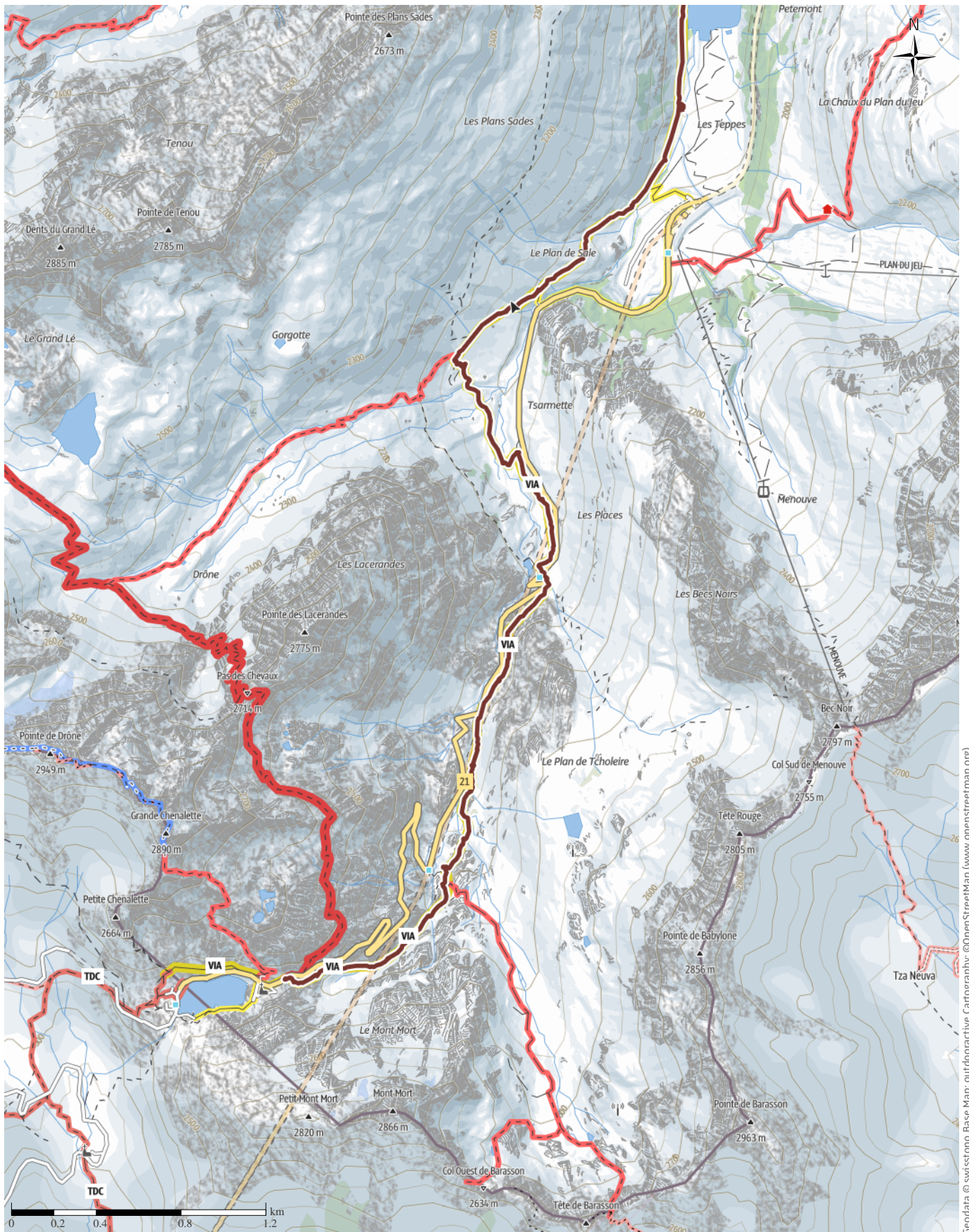
↔ 12.5 km | ⌚ 4:45 h | ▲ 969 m | ▼ 143 m | Difficulty difficult



Geodata © swisstopo Base Map: outdooractive Cartography: ©OpenStreetMap (www.openstreetmap.org)

vf016 ViaFrancigena Bourg Saint Pierre to Great ...

↔ 12.5 km | ⌚ 4:45 h | 🏔️ 969 m | 📏 143 m | Difficulty difficult

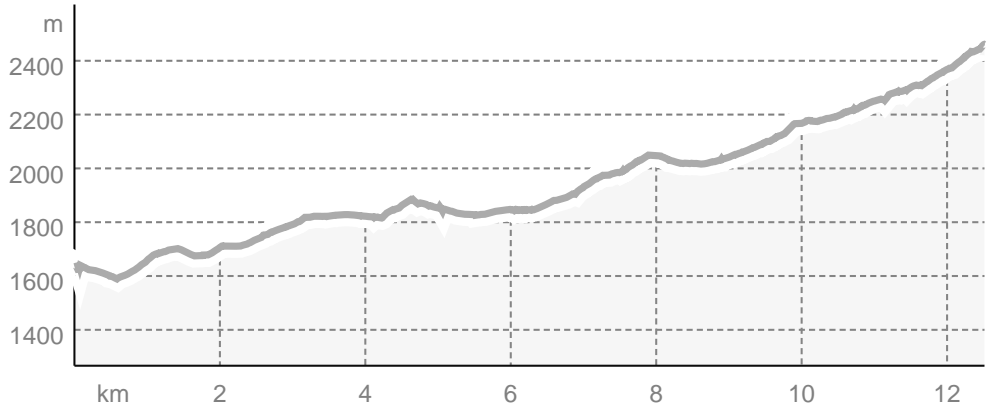


Geodata © swisstopo Base Map: outdooractive Cartography: ©OpenStreetMap (www.openstreetmap.org)

Track types

— Length 12.5 km

Elevation profile



route data

Pilgrim Walk

Distance ↔ 12.5 km

Duration ⌚ 4:45 h

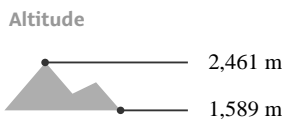
Ascent ▲ 969 m

Descent ▼ 143 m

Difficulty difficult

Stamina ●●●●●●

Technique ●●●●●●



Best time of year

JAN | FEB | MAR
 APR | MAY | JUN
 JUL | AUG | SEP
 OCT | NOV | DEC

Ratings

Authors

Experience ●●●●●

Landscape ●●●●●

Community

More route data



Angus Carrick

Update: October 25, 2025

The most symbolic part of the Via Francigena - a long haul up to the hospice at the Great Saint Bernard Pass. Today we woke up to see the full moon setting over the mountain, for what is probably the most symbolic stage of the Via Francigena, on a way that has been used by the whole of Europe for 2000 years. We left Bourg-St. Pierre, as once Hannibal and his elephants, the troops of the Roman Empire, Napoleon's soldiers, and millions of pilgrims and traders had also done, and set off for a short downhill section past the old village walls to the river before setting off up to the dam. After admiring the dam (as to be expected, the small cafe was closed), we followed the attractive path with blooming alpine flora along the reservoir to the solar plant. with the first floating solar plant in Switzerland at the far end. Due to the altitude and the thinner air, the sun's rays are particularly intense. and in addition

the sun is reflected by the water and snow, which is why the double-sided solar panels supply 50% more electricity than comparable systems in the lowlands. We found a clearing by the river for a lunch break, and then continued the long uphill walk along the Dranse, passing the entrance to the modern road tunnel and the ruins of some very old drystone farm buildings on the way. The path continues to meander on the way towards the Great St. Bernard pass, sometimes above, sometimes below and sometimes crossing the motor road over the pass. After some hours, we started to get tired, and paused for several breaks as we kept hoping the hospice would come into sight. In fact, we only once glimpsed the hospice in the distance, and it was not until the last difficult scramble up a steep slope that we suddenly arrived at the top next to the hospice. We were welcomed into the hospice, shown our rooms, and after mass enjoyed a meal with half a dozen other guests. St. Bernard founded the hospice, located at an altitude of 2,469m around 1050, and is the third highest pass in Switzerland.

For more information and photos see [Angus&Sue's website](#).

Protected areas 🌿

Wildlife protection area
Val Ferret/Combe de l'A
BAFU

Takeaway route for iPhone and Android



Scan QR code, save this route
offline, share with friends and
more...

Website

<https://out.ac/ldrjwE>




















Photo: Angus Carrick, Community

Legend









Topography

	Wood, forest
	Moor, swamp, marsh
	Heath
	Residential area with single building
	Industrial area with single building
	Cemetery
	Golf course
	Sportsfield, stadium
	Stadium
	Open-air pool
	Vineyard
	Petrograph
	Country border
	State border
	District border
	Contour line
	Special use area
	Nature reserve











Topographic signs

	Summit cross
	Elevation point
	Rock
	Cave
	Church
	Chapel
	Cemetery
	Palace/Castle
	Abbey
	Monument
	Ruin
	Mine
	Caim
	Broadcasting tower
	Windwheel
	Water-/windmill
	Viewpoint

Road and track

	Motorway
	Highway
	Statal road
	Road
	Main agricultural road
	Agricultural road
	Trail
	Via Ferrata

Lifts and railway

	Ropeway lift
	Gondola lift
	Chairlift
	Ski-, draglift
	Aerial ropeways
	Railway
	Suburban train
	Subway
	Tram
	Railway station