

## Ballaigues to Col du Mollendruz

Dimanche – Sunday 17 July 2022 - Moyen – A Jura Hike

Ascent: 1000m, Descent: 695

Length: 18km, Hiking Time: 5+hrs with stops to enjoy the views.







From Ballaigues, the route crosses to the Lac du Day dam which stores water from the river Orbe. The path takes us past Le Day Viaduct, a fine stone arch bridge dating from 1925. Since the Middle Ages, Vallorbe's deposits of iron ore and reserves of firewood have helped it to develop into a major centre of the iron industry.

Hemmed in between the Dent de Vaulion and the Mont d'Or, the path leads to the venerable railway station building at Vallorbe. However, the size of this railway station is not due to the town's population: it was needed because the routes between Lausanne, Yverdon and France were historically important. The border with France also lent the town in the Vaud Jura strategic importance and made it a transport hub. Our route out of the centre of Vallorbe leads across the river Orbe. Following up through the forest, along a steepish path just before La Mâche we will come to the beautiful view of the neighbouring mountains. Passing over meadows and a short ridge section, the trail reaches the Dent de Vaulion, the region's highest peak, where we have the whole of western Switzerland at our feet. On a clear day, there are no fewer than eight lakes to admire, most notably the Lac de Joux and Lac de Brenet in the Vallée de Joux. Crossing another meadow, we hike downhill to a restaurant (another nice break) before heading down to the Col du Mollendruz. Hike is limited to 16 people.

Hike Leader: Marilyn Blaeser

Inscription: by email: mblaeser@gmail.com

## I need to know:

- Your full name
- An email address you read on weekends
- Your mobile phone number

- If I don't know you, what is your walking/hiking experience?
- Are you a SCIG member?

By registering, you agree that you are fit for this level of hike and/or that you have previously participated in a hike with SCIG. By registering, you confirm that you carry insurance against accidents and mountain rescue, in particular helicopter rescue operations. (See REGA: <a href="https://www.rega.ch/en/home.aspx">https://www.rega.ch/en/home.aspx</a>) Check with your employer to see if you are properly insured. The Hike Leader and SCIG disclaim any and all liability for accidents related to this hike.

<u>Meeting Point and Transport:</u> By TRAIN. **Depart: 07:20 Platform 6.** We will take a coffee in Vallorbe Gare before catching the bus to Ballaigues. **Arrive: 09:27, RETURN: Bus** from Col du Mollendruz (depending upon our arrival. Departure Times: 17:47 or 18:10.

<u>Costs:</u> CHF 36.20 demi-tariff. **SCIG Price: CHF 5** club tax. (**CHF 15** for non-members). You can get a membership online at <u>www.scig.ch</u> (CHF 50/year)

**Cancellation:** In the event of bad weather and rain, or insufficient participants, the hike will be cancelled. All participants will be notified by GO/NO GO decision by email, Friday (15 July), early evening (18:00).

Withdrawl: In case of withdrawal, please inform the hike leader no later than Friday evening, 17:00.

**To Bring:** Appropriate clothing, good boots, sun hat, picnic lunch, water, spare warm layer, waterproof rain gear, sunscreen, sunglasses. Walking poles (if you use them). Swiss francs & identification papers.

Marilyn Blaeser 079 502 3237

