

The Bisses of Valais.

The canton of Valais has a number of walks that are truly special treats among the vast variety of hiking routes on offer. These follow the course of the 'Bisses', water channels dating back many centuries that are also known by their German name, 'Suonen', in Upper Valais. The bisses draw their water from the glaciers and carry it into the rain-starved valleys. In their heyday towards the end of the 19th Century, the 1,800 km-long network of these structures supplied the Valais with precious water so that agriculture could flourish. Nowadays this historic heritage is maintained by many municipalities, restored where necessary and refilled with water. On this map, we have assembled a selection of walks along the bisses, from fairly short routes to extended full-day tours. In addition, most of them are not very steep and are therefore not particularly difficult. This is thanks to their builders, who were careful to ensure that each bisse sloped as little as possible between its water catchment area and the place where the water would be used. Some do however require a minimum of effort and you may find yourself perspiring as you follow the paths leading to them! Nonetheless it is definitely worth it as they lead to the heart of some of the most beautiful places in Valais.



Key.

- 1 22 Bisse trail
- ★ The Valais Bisses Museum
- Catering facilities
- Cable Car
- Train
- Bus
- Shop for local products

Recommended Season

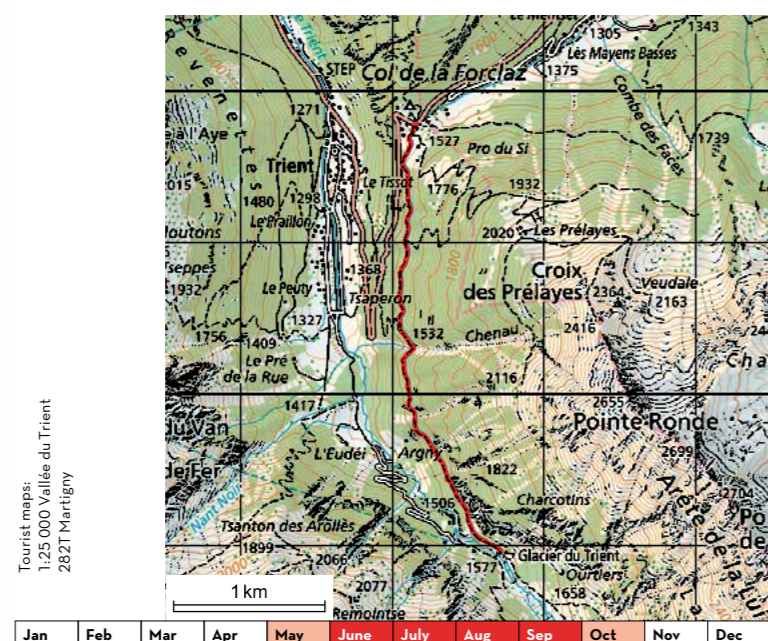
unavailable possible optimal



ENGRAVED ON MY HEART.



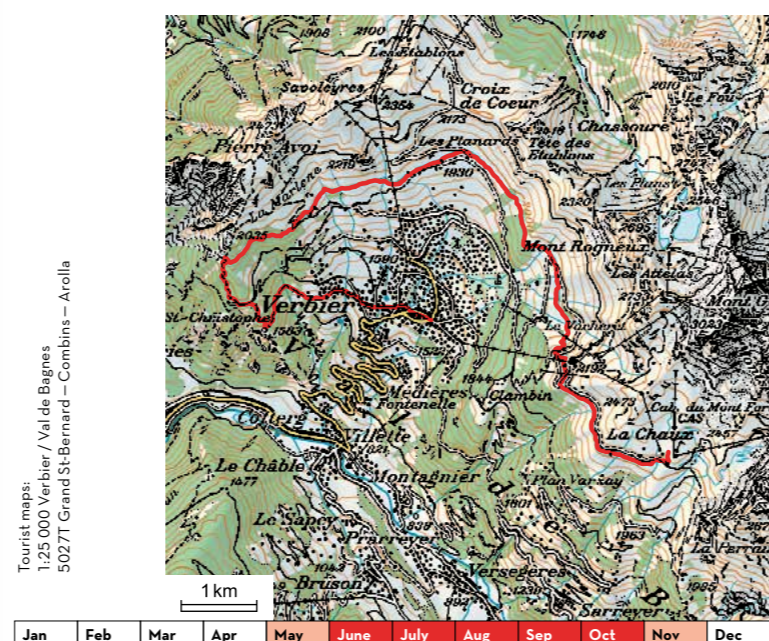
1 Bisse du Trient.



Route
Col de la Forclaz – Châlet du Glacier – Col de la Forclaz

Difficulty	Ascent	Restaurants and public transport
↔ 6.6 km ⌚ 1:45 h round trip ⚠ vertigo	↗ 115 m ↘ 115 m	Col de la Forclaz Châlet du Glacier

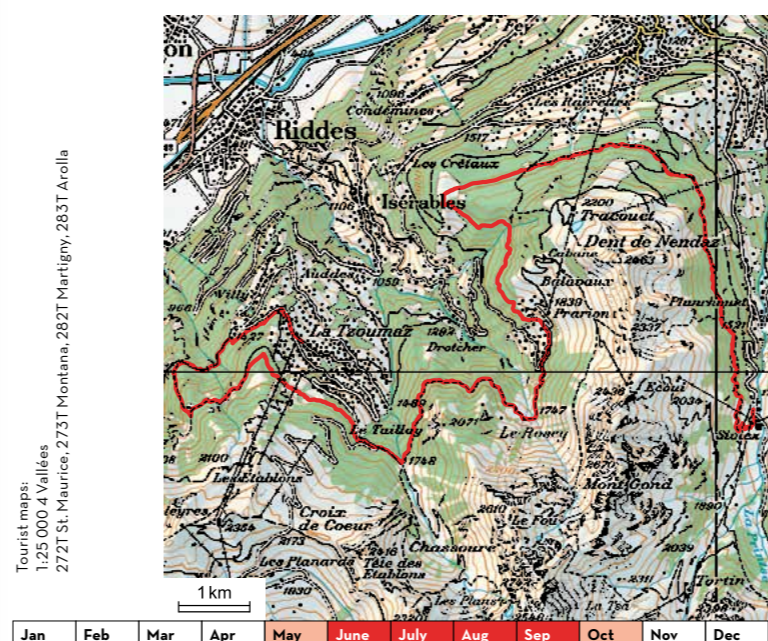
2 Bisse du Levron.



Route
La Chaux – Les Ruinettes – Les Planards – Chute de Bisse – Le Château – Périn – Verbier

Difficulty	Ascent	Restaurants and public transport
↔ 14.6 km ⌚ 4 h	↗ 60 m ↘ 830 m	La Chaux Les Ruinettes Verbier

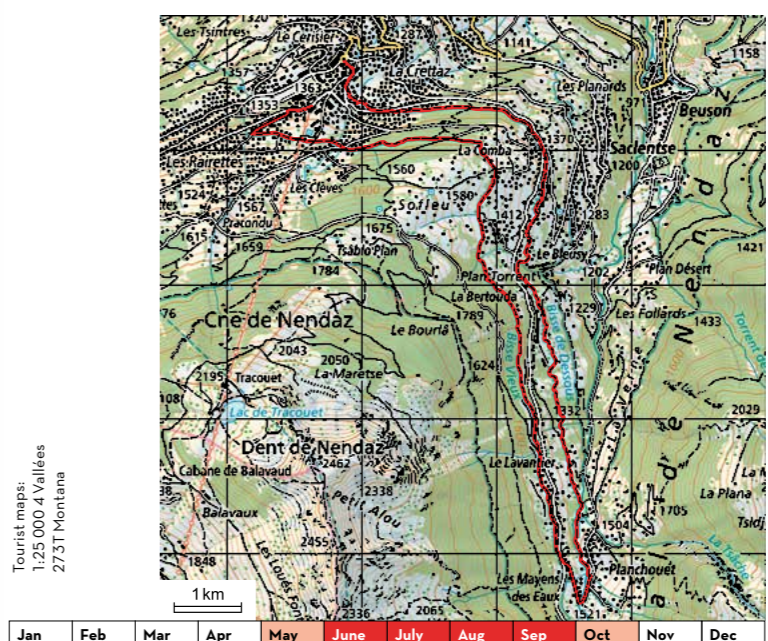
3 Bisse de Saxon.



Route
La Tzoumaz – L'Ecoteau – Crête du Seu – Les Chablots – Tailly – Les Pontets – La Rosey – La Dzora – Prarion – Pra da Dzeu – Tsaiblo Plan – Le Bourli – Siviez (Nendaz)

Difficulty	Ascent	Restaurants and public transport
↔ 25 km ⌚ 6:40 h	↗ 580 m ↘ 360 m	La Tzoumaz Prarion Siviez (Nendaz)

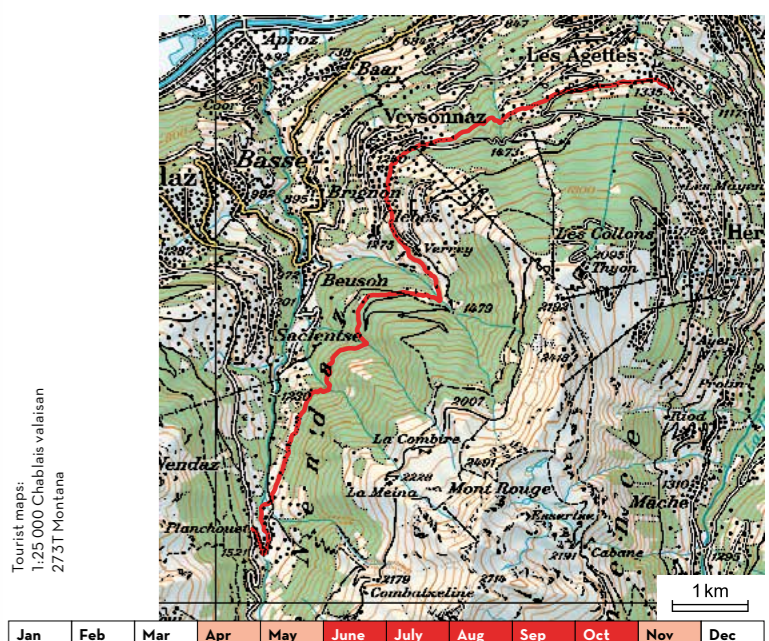
4 Bisse Vieux and Bisse du Milieu.



Route
Haute-Nendaz (gondola) – Lavantier – Planchoyet – Le Bleusy – Haute-Nendaz (gondola)

Difficulty	Ascent	Restaurants and public transport
↔ 11.9 km ⌚ 3 h	↗ 270 m ↘ 320 m	Haute-Nendaz (gondola) Lavantier Planchoyet Le Bleusy

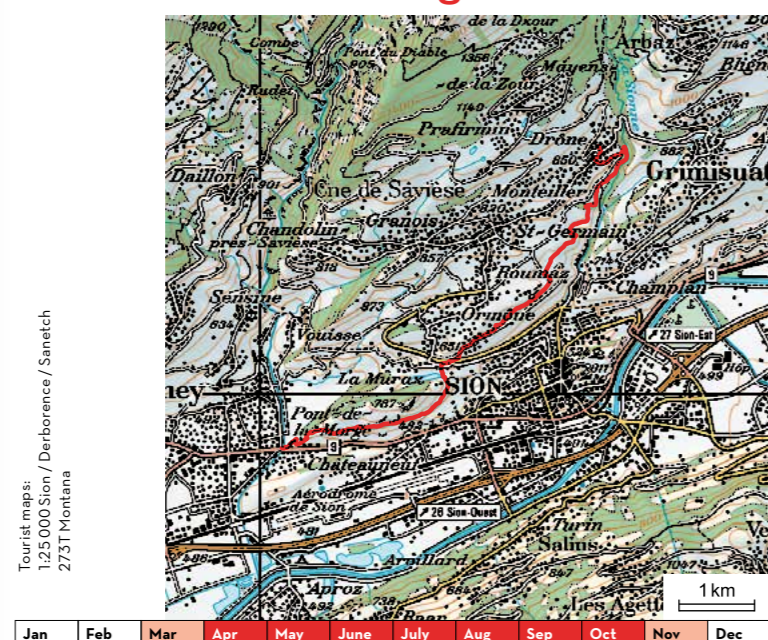
5 Grand Bisse de Vex.



Route
Mayens-de-Sion – Veysonnaz – Planchoyet – Lavantier

Difficulty	Ascent	Restaurants and public transport
↔ 12.1 km ⌚ 3:15 h	↗ 260 m ↘ 35 m	Mayens-de-Sion Veysonnaz Planchoyet Lavantier

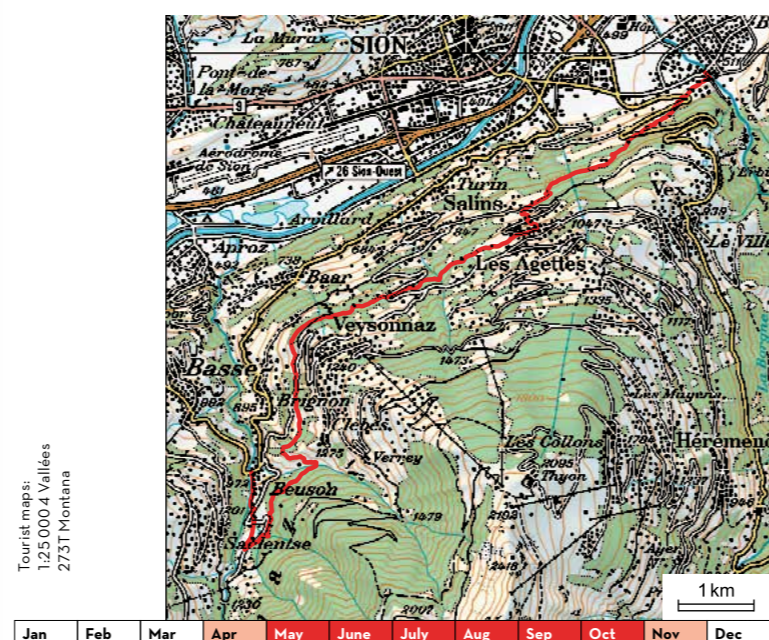
6 Bisse de Lentine and Bisse de Mont d'Orge.



Route
Drène – La Muraz – Lac du Mont d'Orge – Pont-de-la-Morge

Difficulty	Ascent	Restaurants and public transport
↔ 8.3 km ⌚ 2 h	↗ 35 m ↘ 400 m	Drène La Muraz Pont-de-la-Morge

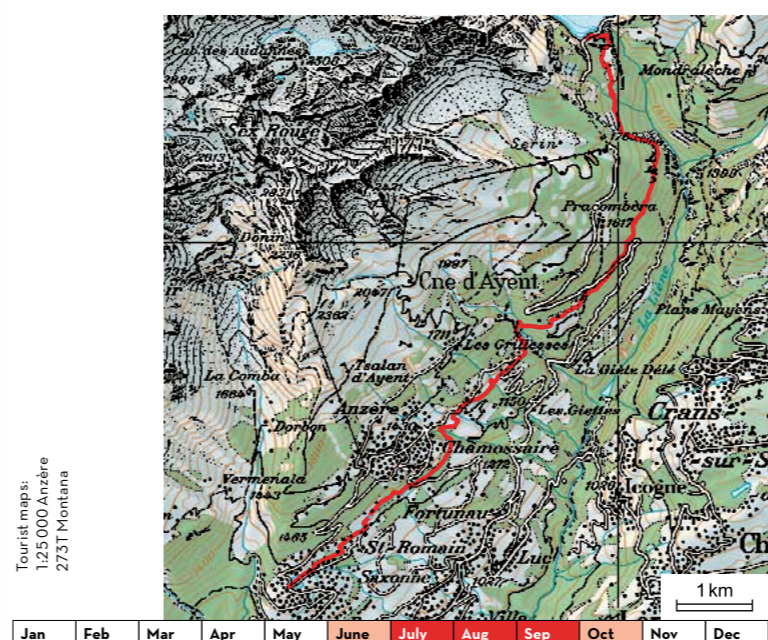
7 Bisse de Salins.



Route
Beuson (Nendaz) – La Vernaz – Crête à l'Œil – La Crête – Bramois

Difficulty	Ascent	Restaurants and public transport
↔ 12.6 km ⌚ 3:30 h	↗ 195 m ↘ 600 m	Beuson (Nendaz) La Vernaz Crête à l'Œil La Crête Bramois

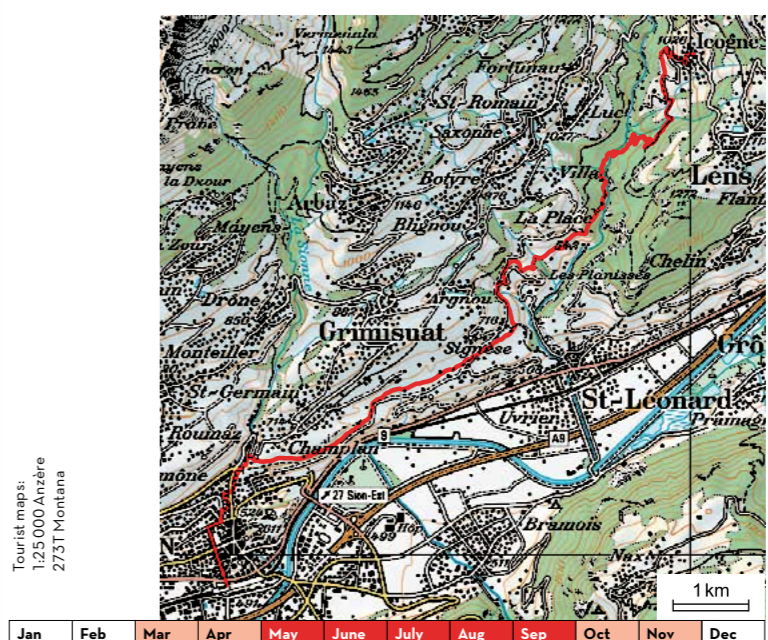
8 Grand Bisse d'Ayent.



Route
Tseuzier (dam) – Le Samarin – Torrent-Croix Chêneaux – Le Partset – Forini – Perou – Étang-Long (Mayens d'Arbaz)

Difficulty	Ascent	Restaurants and public transport
↔ 11.7 km ⌚ 3:15 h ⚠ vertigo	↗ 150 m ↘ 610 m	Tseuzier (dam) Le Samarin Crête à l'Œil Étang-Long (Mayens d'Arbaz)

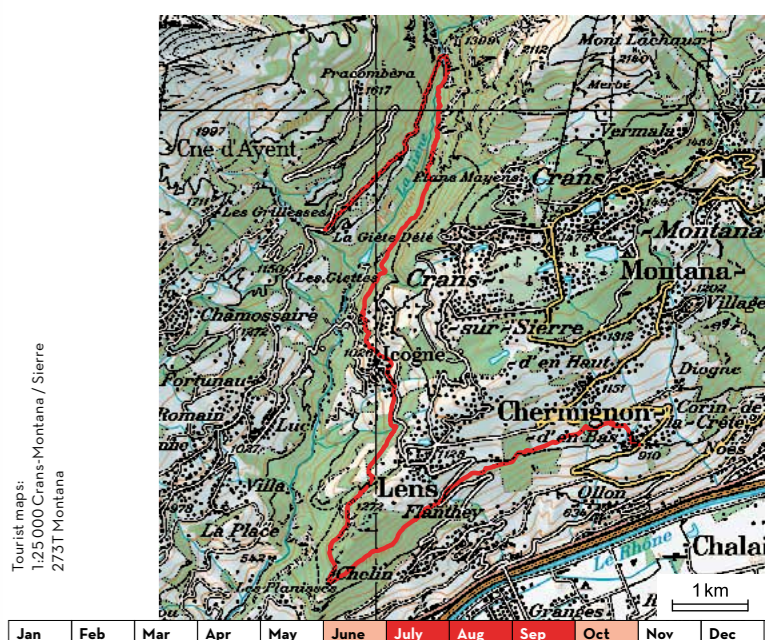
9 Bisse de Clavau.



Route
Icogne – Les Combes – Tsamon – Sion

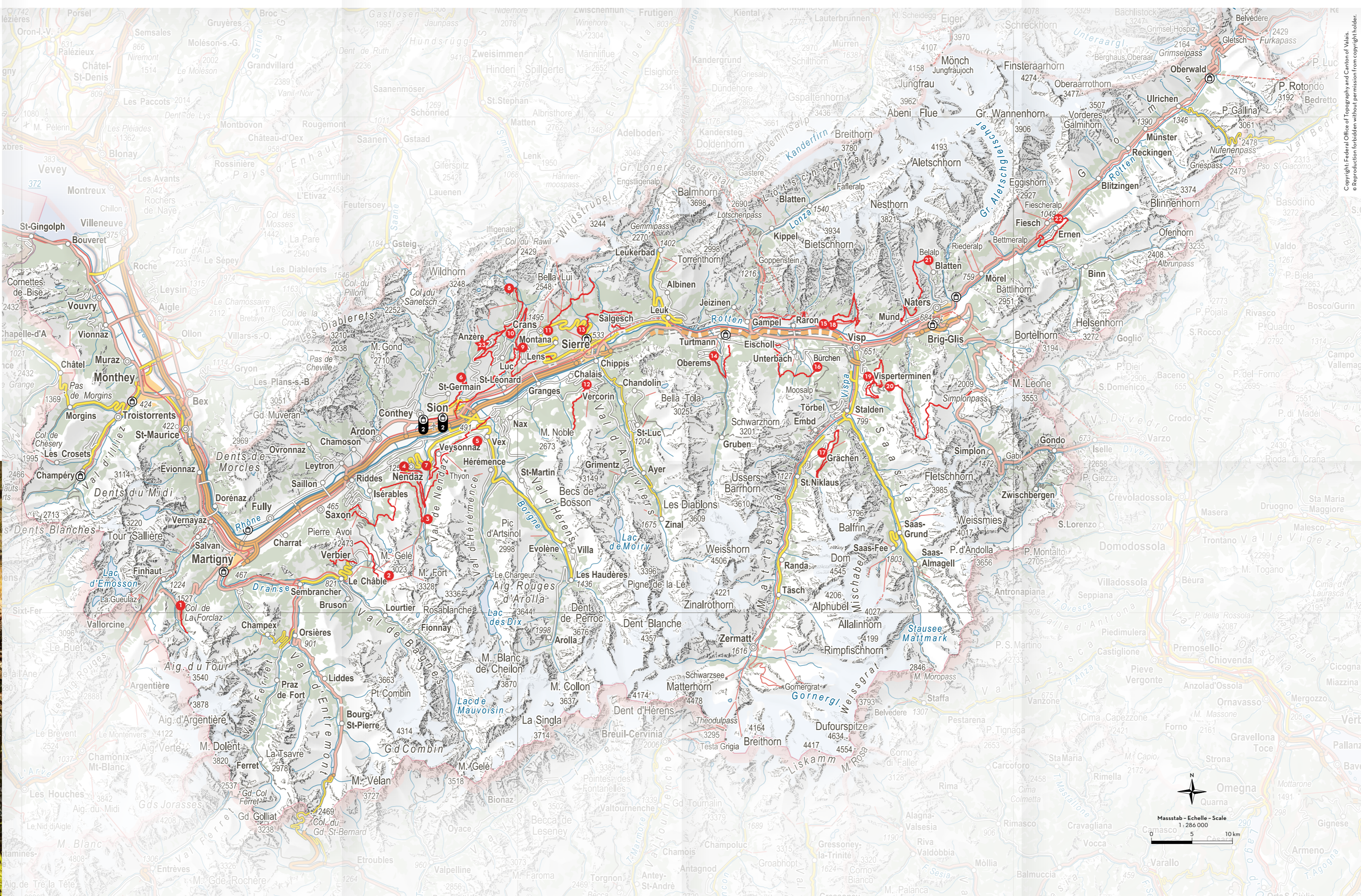
Difficulty	Ascent	Restaurants and public transport
↔ 14 km ⌚ 3:30 h	↗ 120 m ↘ 665 m	Icogne Sion

10 Grand Bisse de Lens.

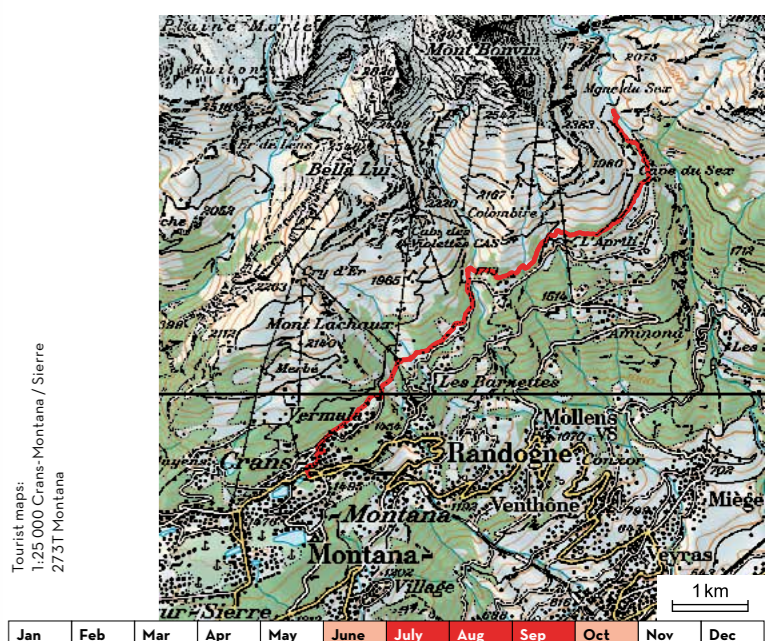


Route
Torrent-Croix – Icogne – Chermignon d'en Bas

Difficulty	Ascent	Restaurants and public transport
↔ 16.4 km ⌚ 4:15 h ⚠ vertigo	↗ 130 m ↘ 380 m	Torrent-Croix Icogne Chermignon d'en Bas



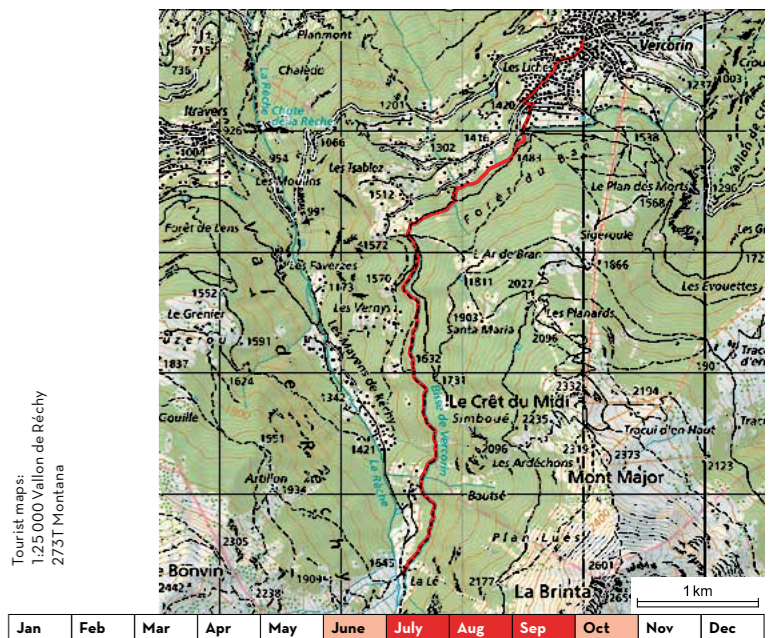
11 Bisse du Tsittoret.



Route
Montana – Vermala – Les Marolires – Courtoy – Cave de Colombyre – Courtoy – Les Marolires – Vermala – Montana

Difficulty	Ascent	Restaurants and public transport
↔ 17.5 km ⌚ 5:15 h round trip	↗ 650 m ↘ 650 m	Montana Vermala Les Marolires Cave de Colombyre Cave du Scex

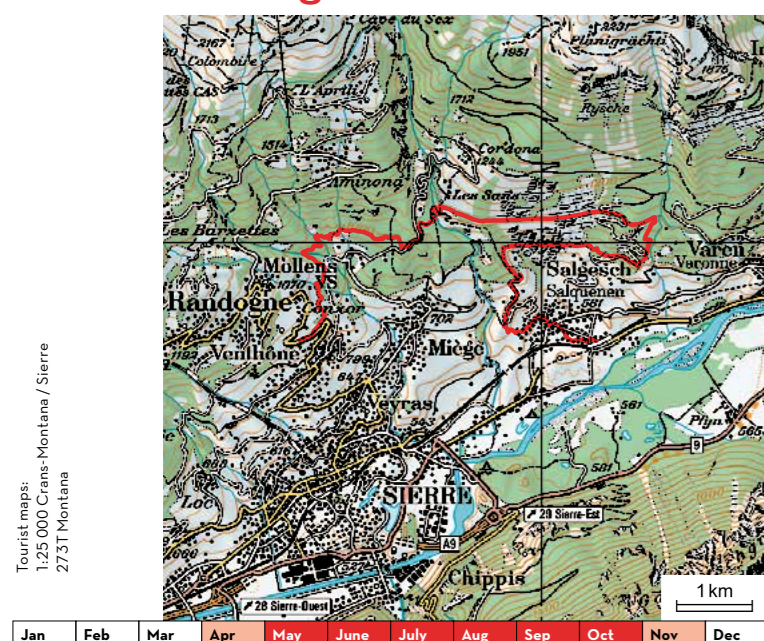
12 Bisse de Savannes Bellecrête and Bisse de Vercorin.



Route
Vercorin – Refuge du Bisse – La Lé – Refuge du Bisse – Vercorin

Difficulty	Ascent	Restaurants and public transport
↔ 11.7 km ⌚ 3:30 h round trip	↗ 430 m ↘ 430 m	Vercorin La Lé

13 Bisse du Benou – Varnersuon – Mengis.



Route
Venthône – La Propria – Salgesch

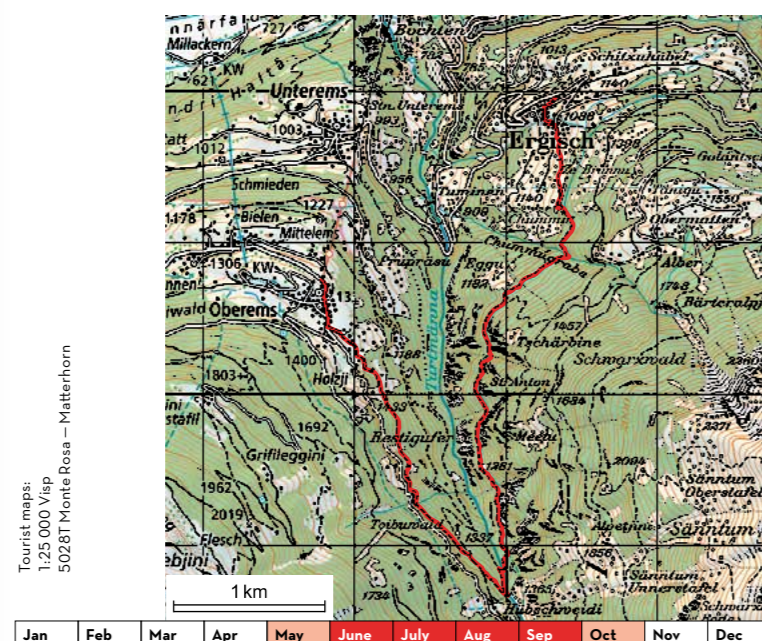
Difficulty
↔ 13,6 km
⌚ 3,45 h

Ascent
↗ 250 m

Restaurants and public transport
☺☺☺ Venthône (Rétauna)
☺☺☺ Salgesch

Descent
↘ 580 m

14 Ergischsuon.



Route
Oberems – Ergisch

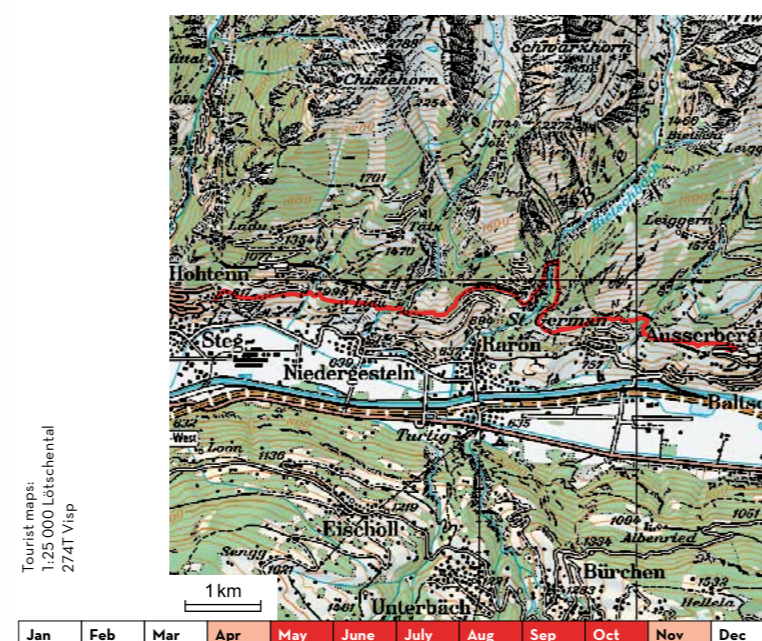
Difficulty
↔ 6,8 km
⌚ 2,15 h
⚠ vertigo

Ascent
↗ 215 m

Restaurants and public transport
☺☺☺ Oberems
☺☺☺ Ergisch

Descent
↘ 455 m

15 Manera – Stägäru – Lügjeru.



Route
Ausserberg (station) – Riedgarto – Rarnerchumma – Joli-Hängebrücke – Hochtenn

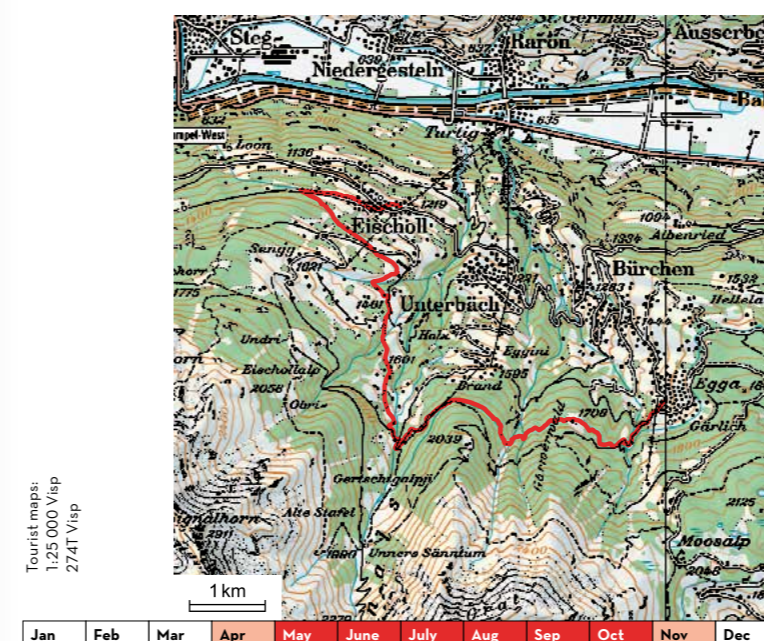
Difficulty
↔ 10 km
⌚ 3 h
⚠ vertigo

Ascent
↗ 300 m

Restaurants and public transport
☺☺☺ Ausserberg
☺☺☺ Rarnerchumma
☺☺☺ Hochtenn

Descent
↘ 415 m

16 Alte Suon – Alte Eischler Suon – Habersuon.



Route
Bürchen – Breite Stäg – Breitmattu – Habere – Eischoll

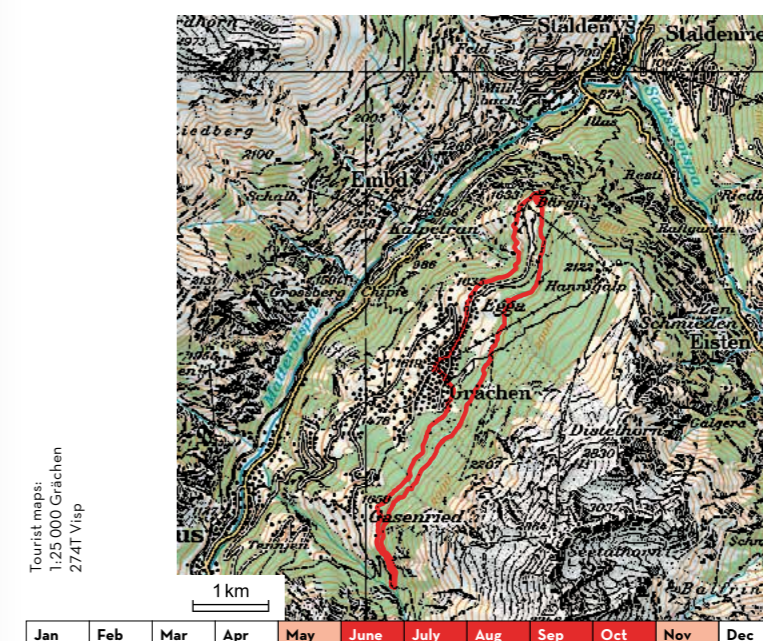
Difficulty
↔ 11,2 km
⌚ 3,15 h

Ascent
↗ 270 m

Restaurants and public transport
☺☺☺ Bürchen
☺☺☺ Eischoll

Descent
↘ 635 m

17 Chilcheri – Eggeri.



Route
Grächen – Riedbach – Äbnet – Hochtshugge – Grächen

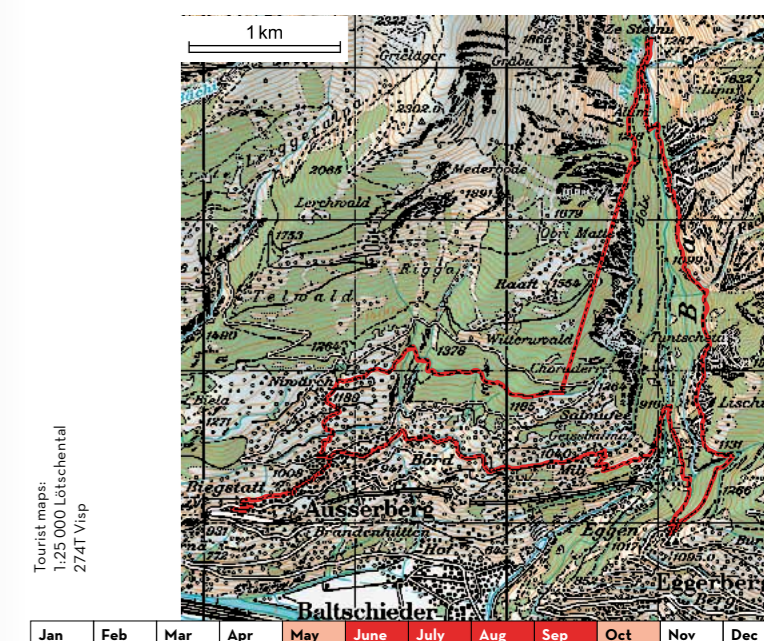
Difficulty
↔ 13,9 km
⌚ 4 h

Ascent
↗ 490 m

Restaurants and public transport
☺☺☺ Grächen
☺☺☺ Hochtshugge

Descent
↘ 490 m

18 Niwärch – Gorperi – Undra.



Route
Ausserberg (station) – Niwärch – Ze Steinu – Eggen – Ausserberg (station)

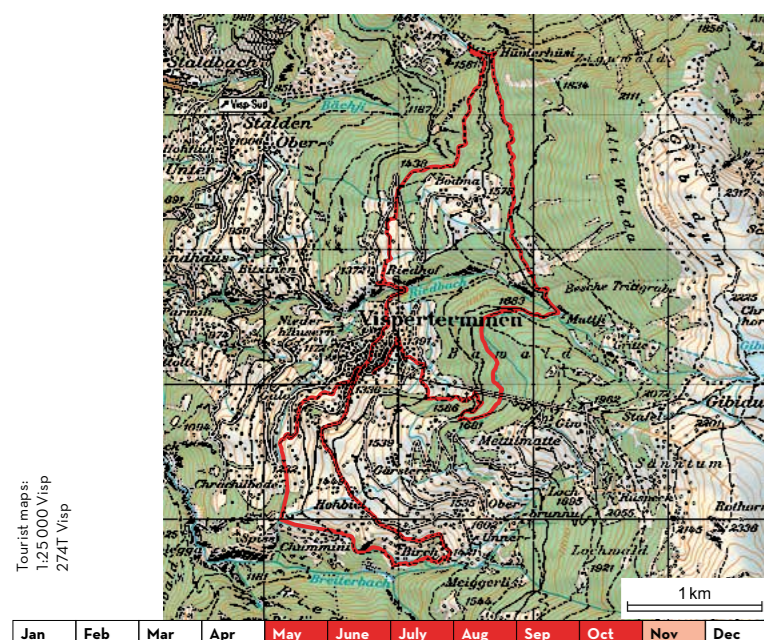
Difficulty
↔ 15,6 km
⌚ 4,45 h
⚠ vertigo

Ascent
↗ 580 m

Restaurants and public transport
☺☺☺ Ausserberg
☺☺☺ Eggen

Descent
↘ 580 m

19 Bodmeri – Beitra.



Route
Visperterminen – Mulji – Hüeterhüsi – Visperterminen – Chummini – Birch – Visperterminen

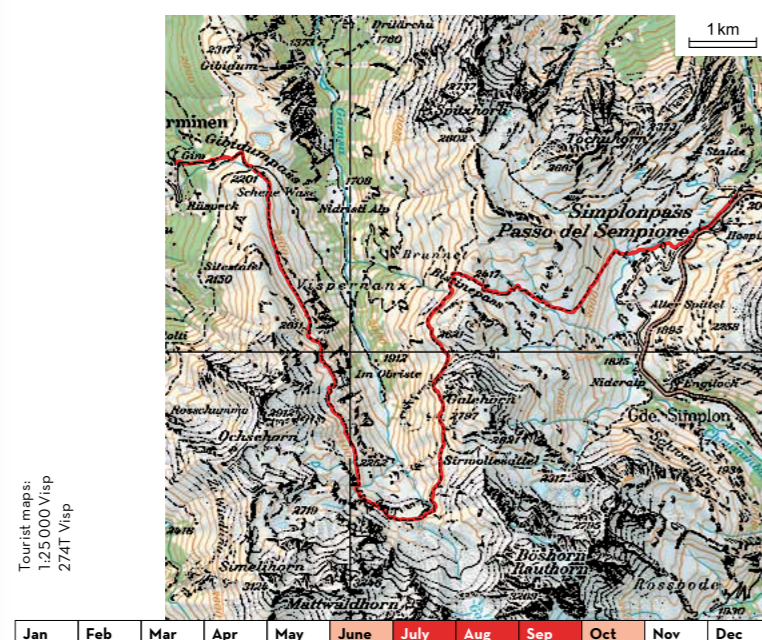
Difficulty
↔ 14,9 km
⌚ 4,45 h

Ascent
↗ 620 m

Restaurants and public transport
☺☺☺ Visperterminen

Descent
↘ 635 m

20 Heido.



Route
Giw – Gibidumpass – Obers Fulmoos – Bistinepass – Simplonpass

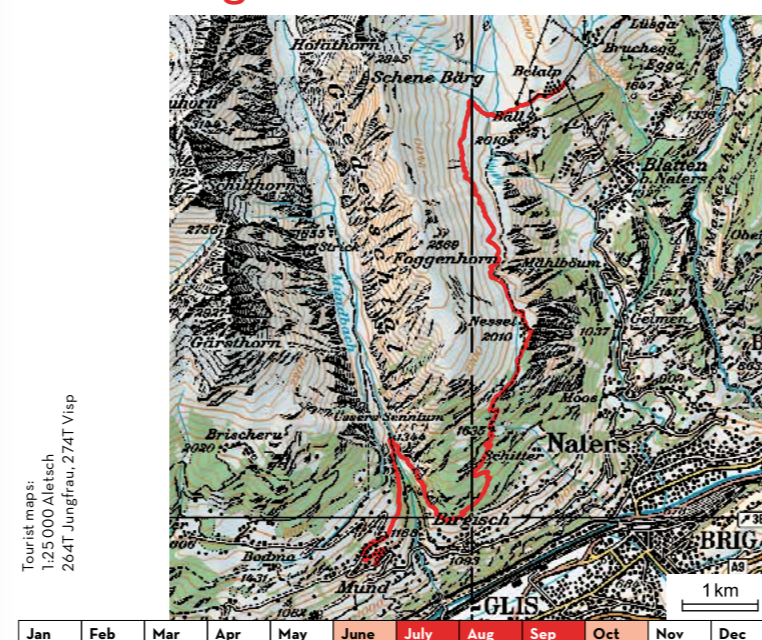
Difficulty
↔ 18,4 km
⌚ 5,45 h
⚠ vertigo

Ascent
↗ 825 m

Restaurants and public transport
☺☺☺ Giw
☺☺☺ Simplonpass

Descent
↘ 785 m

21 Nessjeri – Obersta – Stigwasser.



Route
Belalp – Nessel – Gredetschtal – Mund

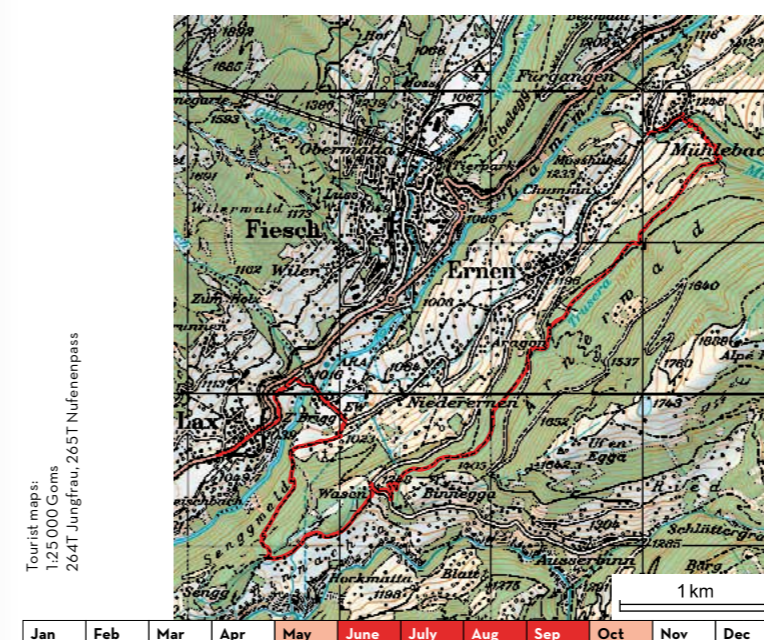
Difficulty
↔ 13,6 km
⌚ 4 h
⚠ vertigo

Ascent
↗ 220 m

Restaurants and public transport
☺☺☺ Belalp
☺☺☺ Mund

Descent
↘ 1130 m

22 Trusera.



Route
Mühlebach – Wasen – Lax

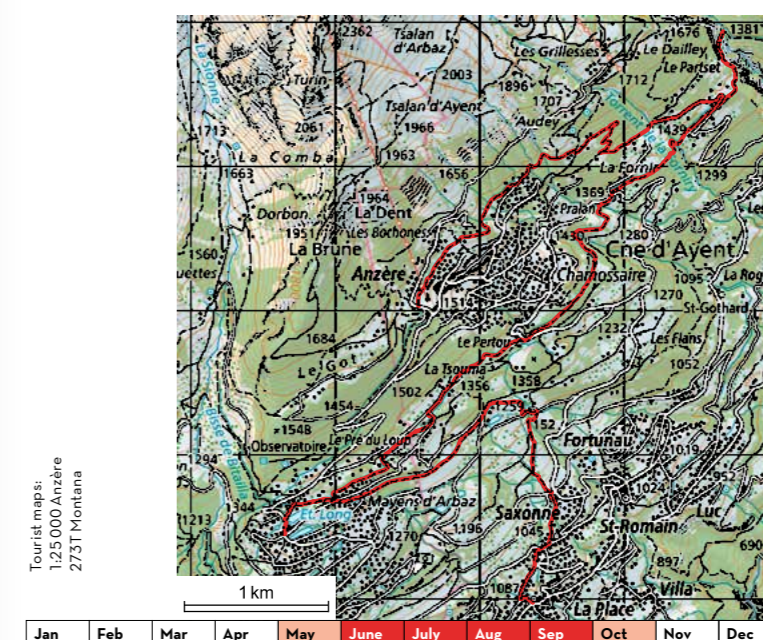
Difficulty
↔ 8,2 km
⌚ 3 h
⚠ vertigo

Ascent
↗ 395 m

Restaurants and public transport
☺☺☺ Mühlebach
☺☺☺ Lax

Descent
↘ 545 m

★ The Valais Bisses Museum.



Route
Anzère (gondola) – Torrent de Forniri – Le Partset – Torrent-Croix (Chêneaux) – Le Partset – Forini – Pertou – Étang-Long (Meyens d'Arbaz) – Lombardon – Saxonne – Botyre (Ayent)

Difficulty
↔ 13,9 km
⌚ 3,30 h

Ascent
↗ 105 m

Restaurants and public transport
☺☺☺ Anzère (gondola)
☺☺☺ Étang-Long (Meyens d'Arbaz)
☺☺☺ Botyre (Ayent)

Descent
↘ 675 m

The Valais Bisses Museum.

Give a new dimension to your walks along the bisses by getting to know them. At the Valais Bisses Museum, you will learn about the history, construction and socio-cultural significance of these old aqueducts, or head for the museum garden to try your hand at operating a bisse made of "bazots and tretschebord" – a wooden channel and a special type of wall. You could combine your visit to the museum with a stroll on a magnificent marked footpath alongside three bisses where you'll discover the wooden channels of Torrent-Croix and the Bitaila distributors.

musee-des-bisses.ch

