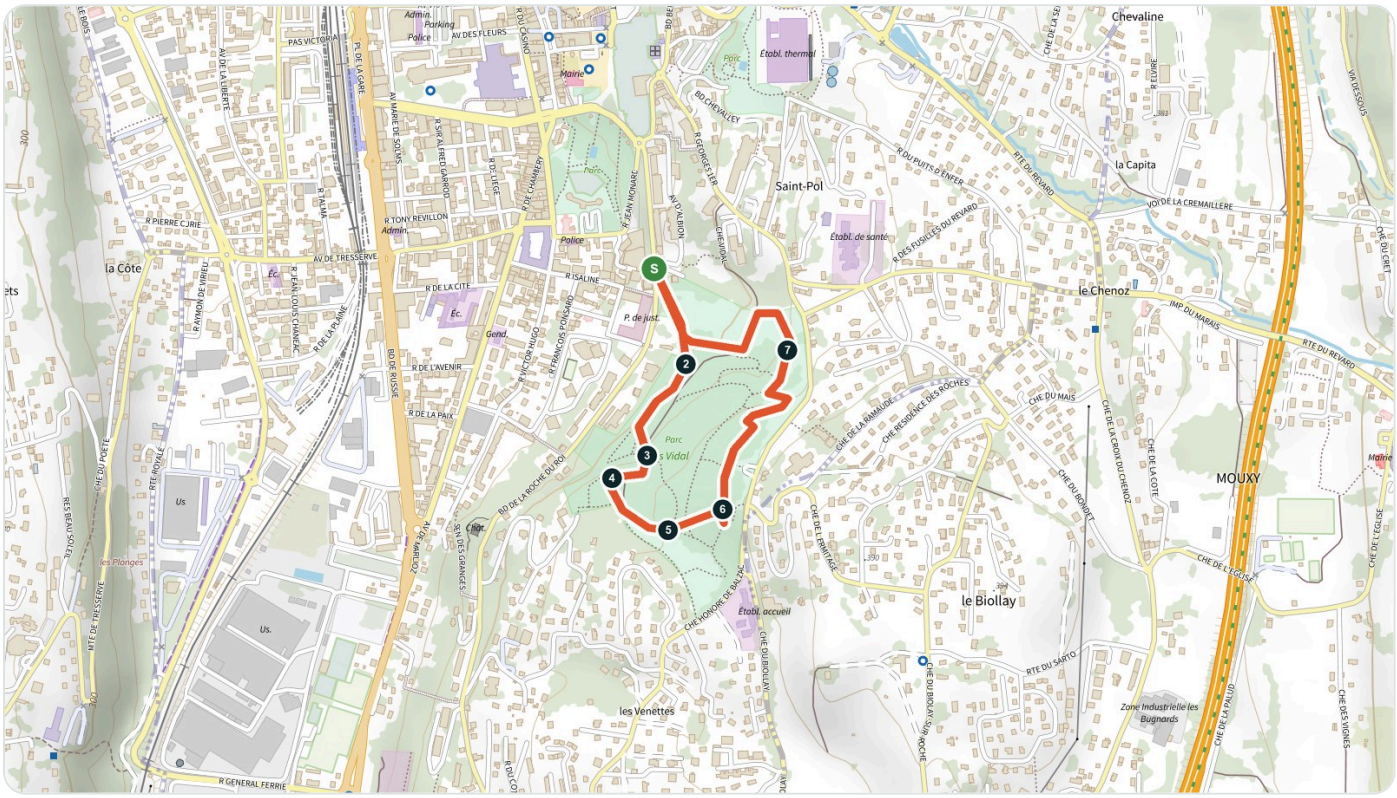
Le Patio
4-star holiday apartment · Aix-les-Bains

EASY WALK

Bois Vidal

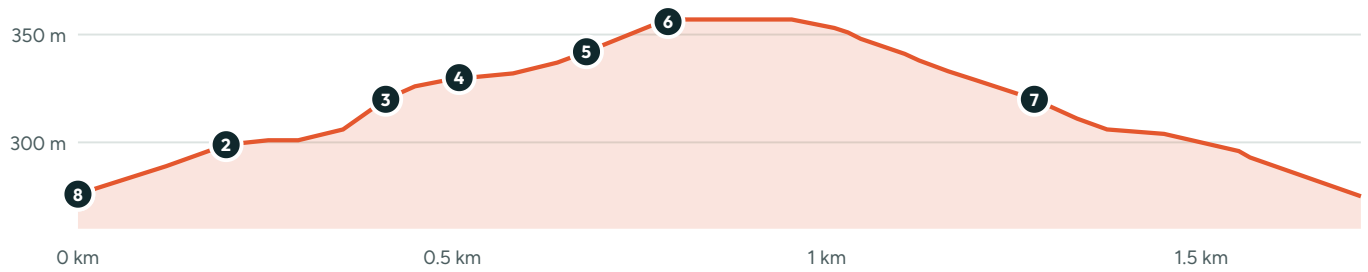
A twenty-minute walk from Le Patio, the Bois Vidal is a 15-hectare wooded park perched above the town centre. A 1.7 km loop leads to its viewpoint, which looks out over the rooftops of Aix-les-Bains, the north of Lake Bourget, the Dent du Chat and the Grand Colombier. Deckchairs, meadows and a playground make it an easy outing…

1.7 km	+80 m	45 min	Easy difficulty
loop	total climb	walking time, without breaks	



S: start 1, 2, 3: steps route

Elevation profile



Why we love it

- The viewpoint: a 180° view over Aix-les-Bains, the north of Lake Bourget, the Dent du Chat and the Grand Colombier
- Deckchairs, a giant table and a natural playground
- A 15-hectare wooded park right in town, a 20-minute walk from Le Patio
- Free access, bus line 2 at the entrance

Bois Vidal

1.7 km · +80 m · 45 min · Easy

STEP BY STEP

1. **From Le Patio to the Bois Vidal entrance** km 0
From Le Patio, allow 20 minutes (1.4 km). Make your way to the square Alfred-Boucher, follow the rue de Genève, pedestrianised and lined with shops, then the rue Albert-Ier to the place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville.

2. **The Rocher du Roi path** km 0.2
The path, tarmac at first, climbs under oaks and maples. At the first big junction, after 200 m, bear right towards the viewpoint: the path climbs through the woods to the south-west.

3. **The open-air stage and the deckchairs** km 0.4
You come out into a clearing with an open-air stage surrounded by benches, where classes and outdoor events are held. Close by, deckchairs and sun loungers invite you to take a break, some of them facing the Dent du Chat.

4. **The viewpoint** km 0.5
About a hundred metres further on, the viewpoint platform, edged with a railing, looks down on the town from the edge of the rock, at about 330 m above sea level. The view opens out almost 180°: the rooftops of Aix-les-Bains, the north of Lake Bourget, the Dent du Chat and the Grand Colombier.

5. **The meadows in the south of the park** km 0.7
Set off again south-east through the meadows, passing close to the picnic tables. The slope gets steeper up to the high point of the loop.

6. **The top of the park, chemin Honoré de Balzac side** km 0.8
This is the highest point of the walk, at about 357 m, near the welcome sign and the car park on the chemin Honoré de Balzac, the park's other entrance. Turn left to follow the top of the wood northwards.

7. **Down the east side** km 1.3
The paths drop back down under the trees along the eastern edge of the wood. They are steep in places: hold children by the hand and keep a firm grip on the pushchair.

8. **Back to the boulevard** km 0
Where you meet the wide path of the chemin Vidal, turn left, then right onto the sentier du Rocher du Roi, which takes you back down to the boulevard. Le Patio is a 20-minute walk away, or 5 minutes on bus line 2 to the "Près Riants" stop.

Practical information

Start	Bois Vidal entrance, boulevard de la Roche du Roi (276 m)
From Le Patio	20 min walk from Le Patio
Without a car	Ondéa line 2 (towards Hexapôle or Drumettaz Centre Commercial), from the "Près Riants" stop, a 7-minute walk from Le Patio, to the "Bois Vidal" stop, right outside the entrance: a 5-minute ride.
Parking	Bois Vidal car park at 58 chemin Honoré de Balzac, at the top of the park (address given by the tourist office), which you reach at the loop's high point.
Season	All year, every day, free of charge. The tourist office gives opening hours of 8:00 to 17:00 and says access depends on the weather.
Waymarking	Welcome map displayed at the entrance on the chemin Honoré de Balzac side.
Water	No drinking water point reported by the official sources: bring a water bottle.
With children	Ideal from the very youngest: a natural playground with a zip wire and wooden huts, big meadows and a giant table for picnics.
Dogs	Allowed, on a lead shorter than 2.50 m (tourist office listing updated in October 2026).
In your bag	Comfortable shoes, a water bottle, a picnic or a book for the deckchairs.

Before you go

- Steep climbs and descents in places: 80 m of climb on the loop.
- Earth paths, slippery after rain or under fallen leaves in autumn.
- Open from 8:00 to 17:00 according to the tourist office, weather permitting.
- There is not a bin on every corner: the tourist office asks you to take your litter home.

Our tip

Walk up to the viewpoint mid-afternoon, settle into a deckchair facing the Dent du Chat, then head back down via the rue de Genève to return to Le Patio.

In an emergency

Call 112, the European emergency number, which works even without your own network.

Interactive map and GPX

Follow your position on the route, on your phone.

Le Patio, in central Aix-les-Bains

Air-conditioned apartment with a terrace, for 4.

Concierge: +33 6 16 86 04 34.

Information checked on 22 October 2026 against official sources. Indicative route (OpenStreetMap contributors, ODbL), IGN RGE ALTI elevations, IGN base map: always follow the waymarks and check the weather before you set off. https://lepatio-aixlesbains.fr/en/hiking-aix-les-bains/bois-vidal/