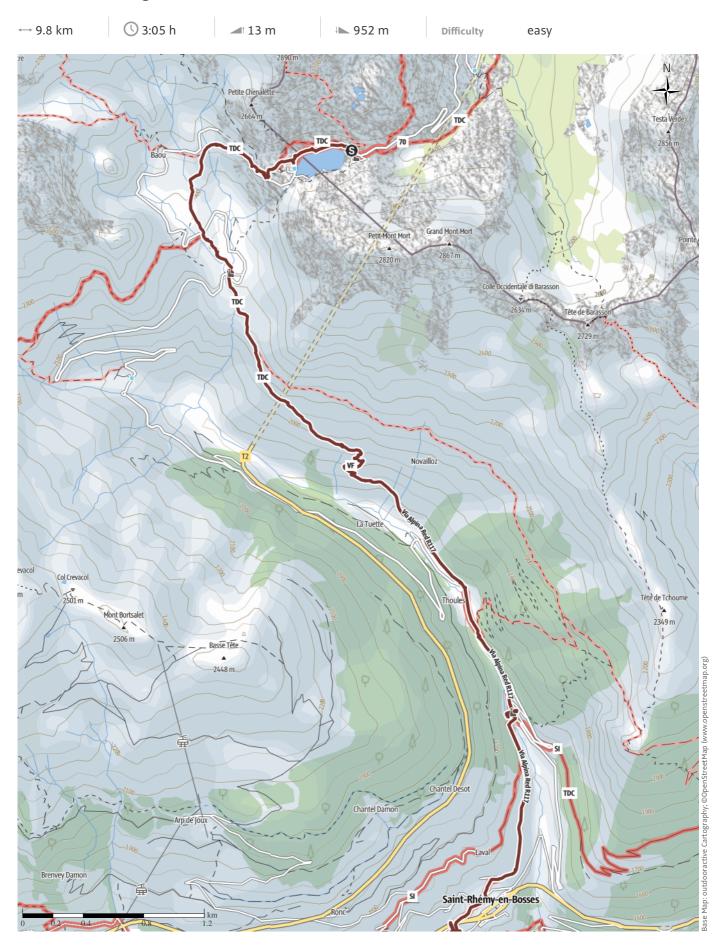
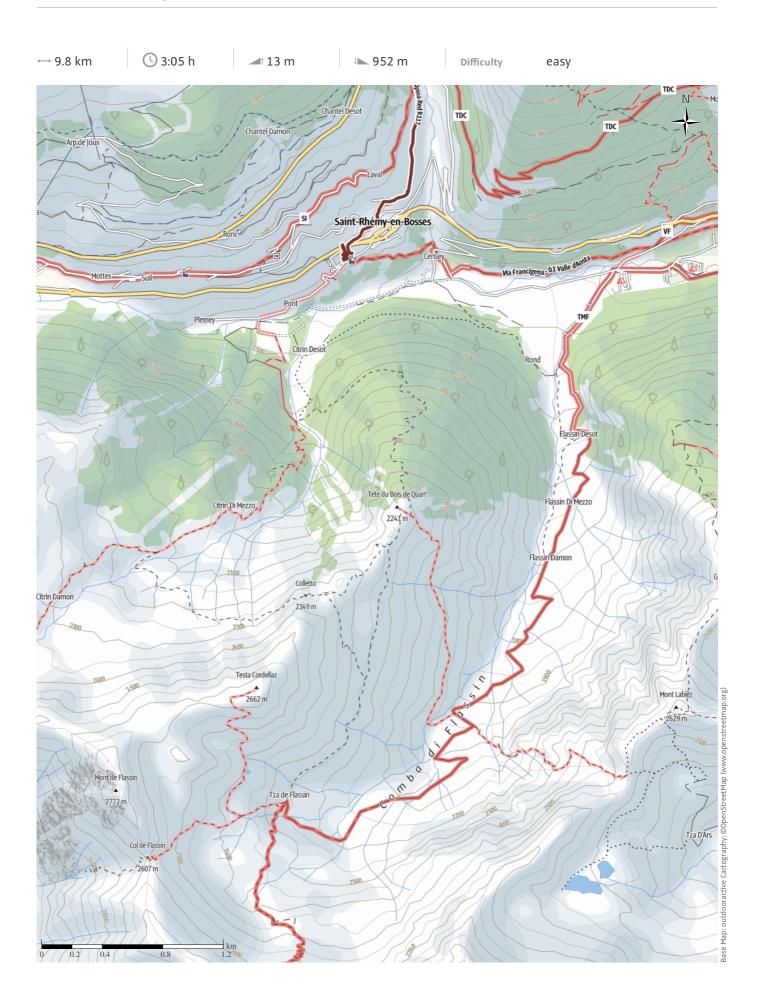
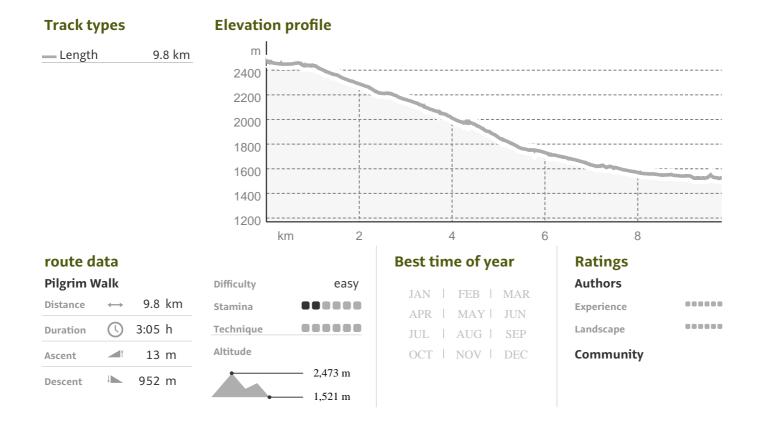
vf017 ViaFrancigena Great Saint Bernard to St.Leonard







More route data



Angus Carrick

Update: October 30, 2025

A pleasant walk down from the pass, through moorland and forests down to villages in the valley. After breakfast with the other guests, we had a closer look around and admired the church with its magnificent roof, the chapel in the crypt, and various other details in the stairwell. Setting out, we crossed the border to Italy, pausing at the Swiss border for a photo opportunity. The morning was crisp and clear, and the sky and lake were blue, and despite the cold a fish stuck its nose of the water to say hello. Everything was eerily quiet, with no sign of the hordes of tourists that no doubt are there in the summer, and after admiring the statue of Napoleon on his horse, we set

off by way of a steep short-cut rather than simply walking down the road. Meeting the road again, we crossed over to a long stone ramp leading down to an easier gradient across the moor land to the former hospice of Fonteinte. From there hillside paths led us downhill towards the tree line, with spectacular views of the road winding below us. After a lunch break at a stone construction seemingly to do with water collection, we continued down to the village of St-Rhémy at 1620m, having already come down about 800m! The village was deserted, with all the shops closed, including one with a sign promising a pilgrim stamp, but on the way back from the church, a friendly local pointed out a pilgrim stamp and Via Francigena information in a niche in the town square. We continued downhill on a pleasant track to the edge of St.Rhemy-en-Bosses, where we found a welcoming table for pilgrims with information and a stamp illustrating that we were 20km from Aosta and 1008

km from Rome; apparently this village is one of the starting points in Italy for the Via Francigena, with a bus stop on the bus route between Aosta and Martigny. We continued on a little way to the small village of St. Leonard, where we had reserved a room. Unfortunately the restaurant in the building was closed, but the friendly host's father ferried us 10 minutes by car to a restaurant in Etroubles, where we could celebrate Sue's birthday in style.

Takeaway route for iPhone and Android



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Website

https://out.ac/IdrKJx

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Photo: Angus Carrick, Community

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Railway station

Legend Topographic signs Topography Summit cross Wood, forest · A Elevation point Moor, swamp, marsh }{} Rock Heath ,√, Cave Residential area L Church Industrial area with single building Chapel ---+++ Cemetery Cemetery Palace/Castle Golf course # Abbey Sportsfield, stadium 3 Monument Stadium 闖 Ruin Open-air pool * Mine Vineyard ⊕ * Cairn SEP ST Petrograph (I) B Broadcasting tower Country border 1 Windwheel State border ♠ ¥ Water-/windmill District border 絲 Viewpoint 900 Contour line Special use area Nature reserve Road and track Lifts and railway Motorway Ropeway lift A7 —б— Highway Gondola lift B309 **--**∯--Chairlift Statal road L333 Ski-, draglift Road ___8A0 Main agricultural road Aerial ropeways Railway Agricultural road Suburban train Trail Subway Via Ferrata Tram

part of **outdooractive** 6/6