ANDENNE promengates

Thon-Samson - One of the most beautiful villages of Wallonia

The Trou Perdu trail

Length of the walk: 7 kilometres Walking time: from 1.30 hr to 2 hrs

Kind of paths: earth, metalled and tarmacked

Accessibility: pedestrians with ankle boots and mountain bikes

Not accessible to pushchairs and horses Trail markers to follow: blue crosses

■ The Village of Thon-Samson

The village of Thon-Samson, partly perched on the hilltop, is planted in the verdant setting of the meadows and copses of the Samson valley. The village is replete with both modest and prestigious items that reflect its heritage and their architectural, urban, tourist or affective values add a little something special. The centre of the hamlet, with its limestone buildings. has totally preserved its charm of vesteryear. As the visitor passes through the winding streets, this village of almost 800 inhabitants does indeed reveal an intact architectural heritage perfectly complemented by the natural riches of the Samson. The church of Saint-Remi (1780) and the castle farm (17th) seem to protect the village. The rocks, over 100 metres high, offer

a magnificent panorama and form a tremendous limestone wall. Listed since 1944, this rocky spur is surmounted by the ruins of the former fortified castle. Broad stretches of farmland located on the village heights also propose a magnificent viewpoint over the superb valley landscapes.

■ Detailed explanations of the trail

The trail starts in front of the church of Saint-Remi. Go up the street and turn right and take the Rue des Sarrasins: Trail marker. Follow the path for 1 kilometre. At the chapel of Notre-Dame de Bon Secours, turn left: Trail marker. Follow the path for 1 kilometre. At the second road on the left, turn left and take the Rue du Chaufour: Trail marker. After 300 metres,

take the second road on the left: Trail marker. The road continues along an earth track. Pass in front of a shrine on the right-hand side. Continue straight on your way until you reach the intersection and go right: Trail marker. After 500 metres, turn left: Trail marker. Next, pass alongside the woods: Trail marker. At the Y-junction, take the road on the right which becomes a path running alongside the field: Trail marker. When you reach the road, turn left: Trail marker. Next, turn into the Rue de Mosseroux on the right: Trail marker. At the following crossroads, turn left and go down the steep path on the left: Trail marker. At the end of the path, turn right and go down the Rue de Thon for a few metres and then turn left into a little path: Trail marker. Then straight left and go up the path until you reach the junction with the Rue du Try: Trail marker. Cross the road and continue along the path. Pass alongside the farm and turn left when you reach the road: Trail marker. Go back to the start of the trail.

