8:00   Departure from Clermont (Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture)

9:45-10:45 Visit to Pêcher Lake in Chalinargues (Cantal)
The Pêcher Lake is an exceptional natural protected area thanks to its biodiversity and its history, in the heart of pine forest and altitude grazing. The history and the biodiversity of Pêcher Lake has made this place an exceptional natural protected area in the heart of pine forest and altitude grazing. It is also a place linked to traditional human activities – forestry and cattle breeding – and tourism activities – mostly hiking and environment exploration. To preserve the outstanding qualities of this natural site, the Community of Communes Hautes Terres has fitted the place out in an integrated way (wood materials, adapted signage system, observation points…) and has contributed, together with other authorities to the establishment of an ecolodge administrated by private providers.

11:00-12:00 Visit to the hamlet of Fortuniès, Dienne (Cantal)
In the very typical village Fortuniès, a young couple, Marie Julie and Samuel Houdemont has opened a B&B with many rooms – 8 to 20 people- very authentic in an ancient farm with local/domestic materials and innovations (green roof, Nordic bath…). They develop a slow tourism approach in/by raising tourist awareness to local heritage, included with a lot of open air activities (bicycle, snowshoeing, horse, paraglider, climbing…) thanks to an association of local providers (Fabrique Aventure). They also get supplies from local farmers for food.

12.30-14.30 Lunch – Ferme Auberge des Arbres (Riom-es-Montagnes, Cantal)
Christophe Duval and his family raise a local cattle farming breed (the Salers, so emblematic of Cantal landscapes) and has decided to enhance this product in a farmhouse inn at the heart of the farming that offers a meat of quality, directly from farmers to consumers.

15:00-17:00 Serre Peak, Puy Mary Great Site (Cantal)
Puy Mary, (a volcanic hill), the biggest extinct volcano in Europe, is the emblematic site of the Cantal Mounts. The classification 'Great Sites of France' has permitted to reduce and control the number of visitors that began to impact the territory during the peak season (soil erosion, rubbish, traffic jams). Discreet constructions, site homes in each valley, shuttle and bus, ‘slow’ sport activities, reception desk, all this has permitted to combine environment, mountain farming and tourism promotion.

17:30-19:00 Trip to Mende

Through a combination of visits to slow tourism projects and meetings with stakeholders living in a mountainous valley at the foot of one of the highest summits of the Cantal volcano, this field trip will aim to show how the fact of thinking with a long term perspective, and with the will to find time, can release creativity and incentives for resilience and collaboration whilst also encouraging self-government and citizen empowerment that generate a new economy of wealth, not centred on the dogma of growth.
Around the Puy Mary Mount: Slow Tourism as a Lever for Local Development in the Cantal Mountains