

To see, to discover

Tours city
«The Loire by Bike» bike tourism route
Saint-Cosme Priory - Ronsard's House
Saint-Martin Summer Path
Perraudière Park in Saint-Cyr-sur-Loire
Lavary Priory in Fondettes



Technical information

GPS START CHARCENAY MILL :

47°40'53.9" N - 0°6'41.8" E

ELEVATION SOUTH HIKING TRAIL + 40 m

ELEVATION NORTH HIKING TRAIL + 60 m

Useful information

Public transport available to the Loire banks
and Fondettes train station

Part of the route is disabled-friendly

Welcome and picnic area

Educational trail

Approved fishing route

Tours tourism office

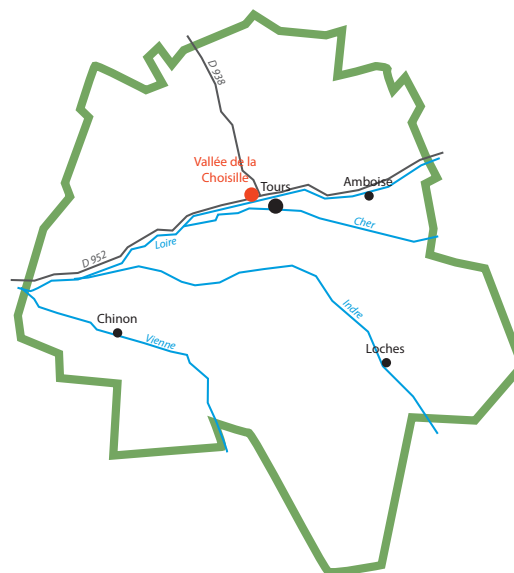
78-82 Rue Bernard Palissy

37000 Tours

Tél : 02 47 70 37 37

<http://www.tours-tourisme.fr>

info@tours-tourisme.fr



Walking charter

Cherish and respect nature. Listen to it, do not spoil it and do not harm it. Stay on the trail and be discreet. Do not damage plants or undergrowth. Do not smoke in the forest or do not light fires. Do not scare animals. Do not neglect human contact. Respect and get to know this rural world that welcomes you.

This material is funded by the Indre-et-Loire Council as part of the Footpath and Hiking Trail Regional Plan.

If you encounter any problem during the process of your walk,
please inform us at sentinelles.sportsdenature.fr



LABEL BALADE
EN TOURAINE



Hiking
NATURE

Val de Choisille
From the river
to the coteaux

Saint-Cyr-sur-Loire
Fondettes
La Membrolle-sur-Choisille

■ North hiking trail
2h - 7 km - easy

■ South hiking trail
1h - 3,2 km - easy

■ North link - 2,5 km

■ South link - 800 m

photo © Cd37/Christophe Rambaut - impression et réalisation : Imprimerie Cd 37, édition Avril 2020. Extrait du Scan 25 convention IGN/4000970 - n°112



UN LABEL DU CONSEIL DÉPARTEMENTAL
D'INDRE-ET-LOIRE

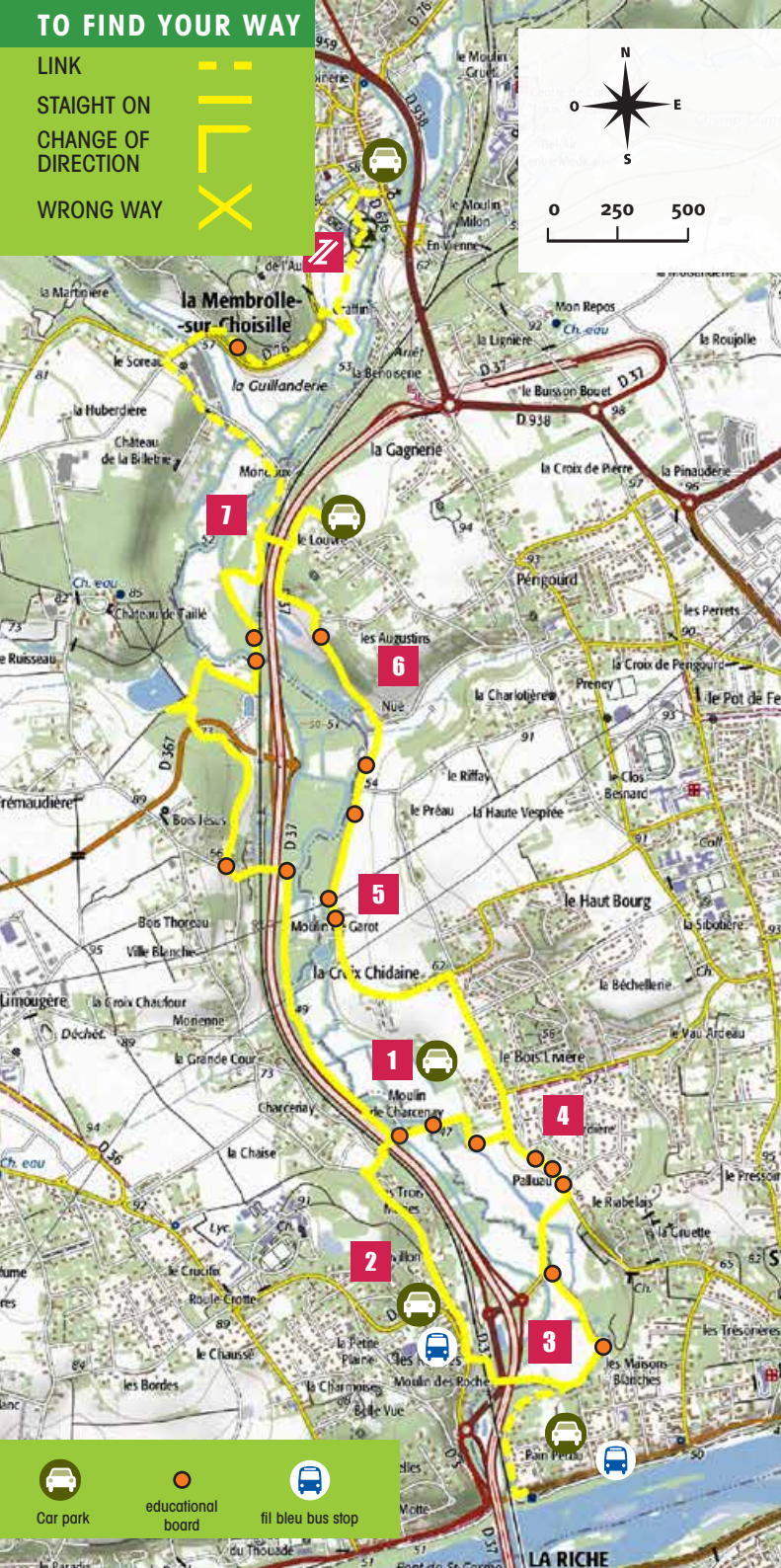


TO FIND YOUR WAY

LINK

STRAIGHT ON
CHANGE OF
DIRECTION

WRONG WAY



This natural area nestled in the heart of the Touraine region is packed with amazing biodiversity that you can experience on 2 footpaths.

Outside Tours amid the meadows, marshes and forest, be sure to stop on your way in front of the fun-filled educational fixtures along the path (orange dots on the map).

There are five entrances to this site but we recommend you use this path from the Charcenay welcome area in the heart of the site.

1 Charcenay hydraulic ram

This original structure in the Fondettes area used the force generated by a waterfall alone to supply water to the Château de la Plaine located 50m further up. The agricultural college is now based in the château. How this simple yet ingenious system works is detailed and presented on-site.

2 Les Trois Maries (trail variation at the bottom of the valley)

On the other side of the ringroad and railway line you go through a residential area towards Fondettes train station. Rue des Trois Maries runs between signature Touraine habitats and leafy areas.

3 Vermicellerie

To tend these damp meadows at the bottom of the valley, an extensive sheep pasture has been put in place by Fondettes agricultural college. To protect the water resources, fertilisers and plant protection products are no longer used on any plots devoted to breeding.

4 Palluau marsh

This damp area is a temporary home for countless migratory birds that you can see in autumn or spring during migrations. Herons, ducks and passerines flock here in summer to feed and breed.

5 Garot Mill

There are six mills on the upstream part of the Choissille between La Membrolle-sur-Choissille and the confluence with the Loire. These former water mills bear witness to the valley's extensive industrial heritage that lasted until the mid-19th century. Countless mill runs diverting the main waterway were dug out and snake through the valley to supply the mills.

6 The Augustines

On the way up the Saint-Cyr-sur-Loire hillside from Nué Mill (or Neuil), the slopes give a glimpse of the limestone substrate which countless plants grow on and are typical of the Mediterranean climate. In spring you can see several species of orchid. Insects such as crickets, grasshoppers, preying mantes and butterflies take over these natural grasslands in summer.

7 Moisandière

These damp meadows dotted with ponds are essential to protect water resources and for expansion fields during rises in water level. Beavers are regulars here as you can see from the tracks they leave (young trees carved into «whistles», large cut down trees stripped of bark etc.).

8 Link to La Membrolle-sur-Choissille

This path gives you views over Choissille Valley. The source of this 26km river is at an altitude of 149m in the Nouzilly area and it runs into the Loire near Saint-Cosme bridge in Saint-Cyr-sur-Loire. The category 2 river is teeming with fish including brown trout.



Gallo-roman bridge of Mondoux ford



Sensitive Nature Areas in Indre-et-Loire

The Regional Council does its utmost to protect and showcase our natural heritage. Its biodiversity and landscape projects are conducted with countless partners (communities and associations) and contribute to the set-up of sites and expanding outdoor sports such as hiking, cycling, orientation courses and guided nature excursions.

View the region's Sensitive Nature Areas: espacesnaturels.touraine.fr.

« Being near the Tours area makes this site a prime spot for relaxing, walking and enjoying outdoor sports. But it is still a protected natural setting with remarkable ecological wealth. »

« Keep to the paths and trails and follow the rules displayed throughout the site. »

