

To see, to discover

Racan

Racan, whose real name was Honorat de Bueil, lived in the region in the 17th century. A member of the celebrated Bueil family, Racan was destined, like his forefathers, to a military career. Meeting Malherbe, to whom he would remain a friend and student until the death of the great master, was to change everything for Racan. Swapping his sword for a quill, Racan became one of the best poets of the 17th century; he entered the Académie française, founded by Richelieu, in its inaugural year.

Collégiale de Bueil

This religious complex is composed of two attached sections: the collegiate church of St. Michel et Sts. Innocents dating from the 14th century and the parish church St Pierre-aux-Liens dating from the 15th century. Inside there are 4 magnificent recumbent statues of the Bueil family, a Virgin and Child dating from the 14th century that miraculously survived the destruction of the 18th century French Revolution, frescos and a carved wooden baptismery dating from 1521. Vierge à l'Enfant du XIV^e siècle, des fresques et un baptistère en bois sculpté de 1521.

Technical information

GPS DEPART N 47°64465 - E 0°55043

DÉNIVELÉ + 109m

Accommodation / Catering

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Holidays rental, Hotel at 6 km, Shops

Grocery (sells bread), Car park

Parking close to the collegiate church

Parking close to the town hall

Tourist office of Touraine Nature

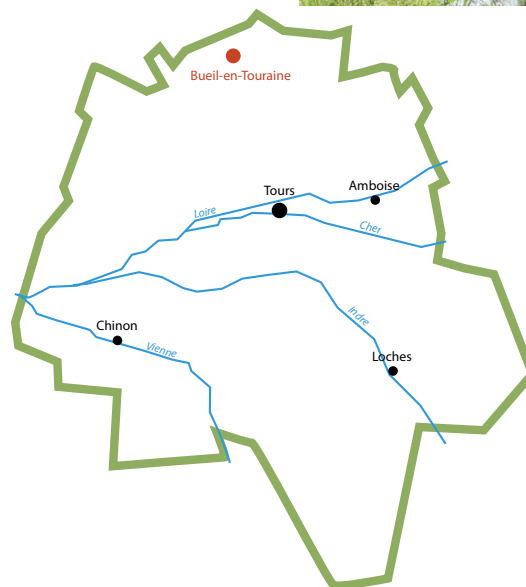
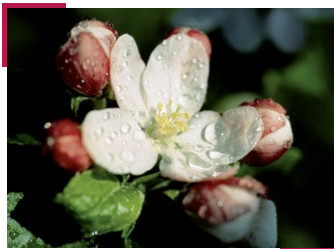
Place d'Armes

37330 Château-La-Vallière

Tél : 02 47 96 58 22

www.tourainenature.com

info@tourainenature.com



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

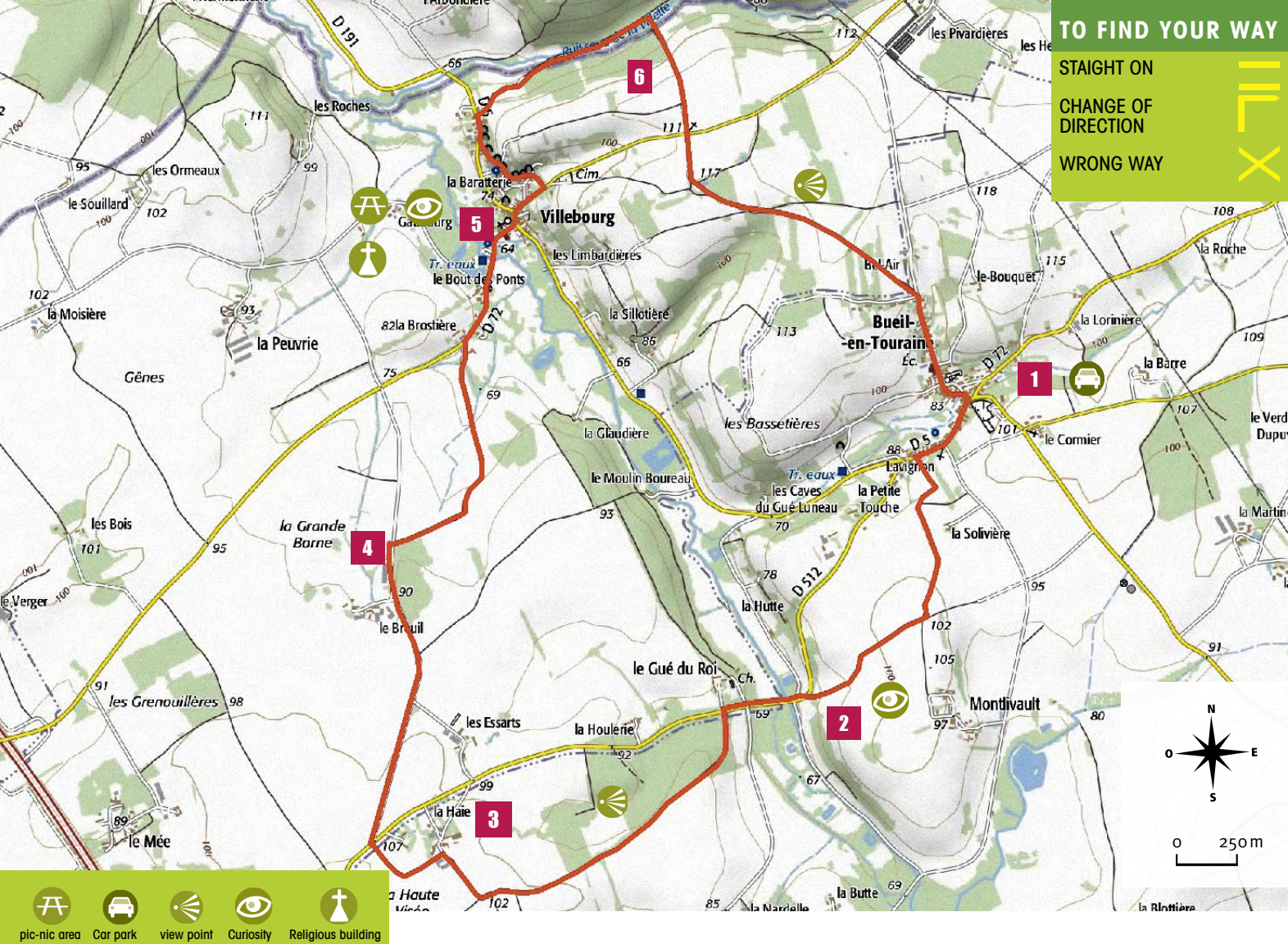


Hiking
NATURE - HERITAGE

Around the valley of
the Long river

Bueil-en-Touraine

2h30 - 10km - medium



TO FIND YOUR WAY

STRAIGHT ON

CHANGE OF DIRECTION

WRONG WAY

The path, ascending to the plateau, is dotted with underwood, pastures and cultivated fields. From the plateau you can admire **the beautiful panorama** that opens up before you. There is the lovely house «Les Essarts».

«Les Essarts», a common place name in the region, is a reminder of the large-scale land-clearing linked to population growth.

3

La Haie

Turn right in front of the stud farm, «**La Haie**», where you are sure to spot several horses galloping in the green pastures. At the crossroads, follow the marker and continue straight on. Reaching the plateau, you can see a former wine grower's lodge in the middle of the field, a reminder that vines once decorated the landscape. The clear views ahead give you a good glimpse of the Sarthe region.

4

Le Breuil farm

Cross the tarmac road and go straight on towards the «**Ferme du Breuil** » (farm), with a number of solar panels on the roofs of its barns. Next take the path to the right at the corner of the wood that goes to **Villebourg**. Leave this trail, turning right in the direction of «**Le Bois de la Rivière** ».

5

Villebourg

In Villebourg, cross a small bridge, passing in front of a washhouse with a footbridge and a picnic area. Go past the church in the square «**Saint-Martin** » and walk towards the sign «**Beaumont s/Dême**». Continue on this road which runs alongside **the cellars of tufa** (stone typical of the region). Turn left and follow the small street with a yellow marker. At the bottom of the street, turn right after 100 metres, then again to the right following the markers. Follow the path that opens up in front of you and leads to a small, wild-looking valley with grain fields and conifers.

6

La Vilette

Continue along «**La Vilette**», a small stream on your left. Cross it and continue along the wooded path. For a short time you will be in the department of La Sarthe, **in the Pays de Loire region**. Turn right following the markers and cross the same stream again. Ahead of you, a steep path will take you up the hill to the plateau overlooking the valley. From there you will find out how amply your efforts have been rewarded! Follow the path to the cross situated on the left. Cross the tarmac road and follow the marked path bordered by orchards (first straight ahead and then left). Go straight on and then right after the grove of trees. Here you are at the border between Villebourg and Bueil, since the two villages touch each other. When you come to the intersection, turn right towards the centre of Bueil. Your hike ends where it began. To find your car, go down the «**Rue de la Mairie** » to the «**Collégiale de Bueil** » car park. **The shadow on the sundial will have moved...**

Note: You can follow the route starting in Villebourg.

Between the beauty of the architecture and the variety of the landscape this hiking trail testifies to the love of the kings for the sweetness of life in Touraine.

1

Bueil Collegiate Church

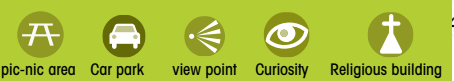
This 10 kilometre pastoral hike begins in the square «**Place Jean de Bueil** » located at the foot of the Collegiate church (founded in the 14th century by the Bueil family). Before leaving the square, you can check your departure time on the sundial set into the wall of the post office. To begin, turn left, then right in the direction of Villebourg following the yellow markers. Next turn right in the direction of the sign «**Le Lavoir**» (washhouse), and pass behind the washhouse. Take the path on the left and turn again left on

the footbridge. Cross the play area and car park situated behind a line of trees then turn left onto the road. After the crossroads follow the path to the right and continue straight on, then to the right. **You are now in Gâtine tourangelle**, the name of the territory covered by the Gâtine forest in the Middle Ages.

2

Gué du Roi

Walking down towards the valley, you can see the «**Gué du Roi**», a beautiful manor comprised of a dwelling, a farm and a mill, where long ago Agnès Sorel and Charles VII carried on their love affair. Today it is a private property. Pass in front of the manor on a small tarmac road. After a few metres, turn left to follow the grassy path.



pic-nic area Car park view point Curiosity Religious building