

## Key dates in the history of Candé.

**1499-1504**

François Briçonnet, mayor of Tours and King Louis XII's state treasurer, has a hunting lodge built at Candé.

**1853-1871**

Santiago Drake del Castillo, a rich Parisian aristocrat, transforms Candé into a modern estate.

**1927-1972**

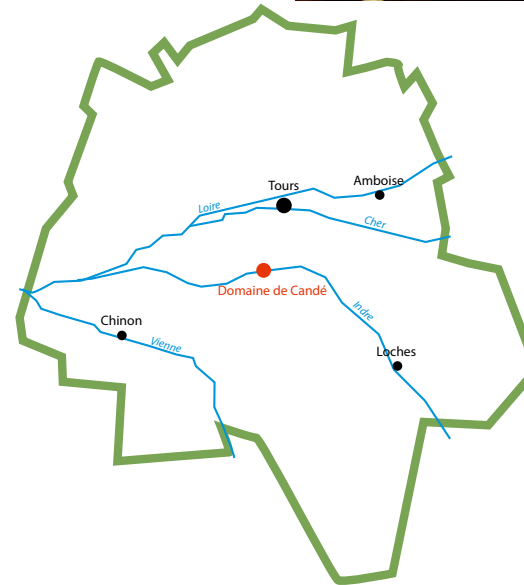
Charles and Fern Bedaux, Franco-American millionaires, renovate the château in the style of Louis XII.

**1937**

King Edward VIII of England abdicates and becomes Duke of Windsor.

**1974**

Candé becomes the property of the General Council of Indre-et-Loire.



### 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 [sentinellesportsdenature.fr](mailto:sentinellesportsdenature.fr)

LABEL BALADE  
EN TOURAINE



Hiking  
**NATURE AND HERITAGE**

Following in the footsteps of  
Santiago Drake del Castillo

**Domaine de  
Candé - Monts**

**1 h - 3 km - easy**


**TO FIND YOUR WAY**


STRAIGHT ON 


CHANGE OF DIRECTION 


WRONG WAY 




 picnic area

 Car Park

 panorama

 toilets - water supply

 castle

*This leafy three-kilometre route, deep within an estate classified as an 'Espace naturel sensible' (protected nature site), invites you to explore a romantic location developed around 1855 by Santiago Drake del Castillo.*

**1 Orangery**  
In front of the former orangery, now a gift shop, stretch the grounds of the chateau. Redwoods, cedars, red beeches, lime trees, plane trees and chestnut trees enhance the headland which dominates the Indre valley. To the left is the water tower which fed a pond that in turn cascaded down the hillside. Head to the chateau made up of two parts: on the left is the François Briçonnet pavilion with its tall spiral staircase; on the right is the wing built in 1855 by Santiago Drake del Castillo. Feast your eyes on a stunning view of

- 2 The dog cemetery**  
From the height of the tennis court, turn left to reach the dog cemetery (Slipper, Wallis Simpson's dog, is buried here)
- 3 The Washhouse**  
At the crossroads, turn right and go past the wash-house. The two dams meant that there was clear running water. Washerwomen beat the laundry, which was washed with ash and soap.
- 4 Pond**  
Take the footbridge over the pond. Cross over the dyke, then turn right. Perhaps you will be lucky and see a fishing heron or a moorhen with its chick?



- 5 La Mauclergerie**  
Turn left onto a fairly steep wooded rise. At the top, you will reach an avenue lined with centuries-old oak trees. Turn left via an avenue of lime trees, towards the hunting lodge of La Mauclergerie (18th century). These avenues of old hollow trees are home to large numbers of insects (great capricorn beetles, stag beetles, etc) and birds (woodpeckers, nuthatches, owls, etc).
- 6 Stone cross**  
Take the winding path bordered by yew trees. The trees and branches lying on the ground provide homes for animals. Go past a beautiful stone cross. Two springs feed into the « Piole brook », which you cross by the bridge known as the « pont de Sainte-Hélène ». This name was chosen by Santiago Drake del Castillo as a tribute to his wife Claire's father, one of Napoleon's generals. Now follow the course of the brook and water meadows, with their wealth of local flora, including hemp-leaved boneset and comfrey.
- 7 Red windmill**  
The red windmill is a pump house which provided water to the chateau, the kitchen garden and the orchard. The mechanism is made of cast iron and steel and was installed in 1855 by Brault and Fontaine. It is made up of an overshot wheel (cisterns), which actions a pump. After crossing the dyke bordered by majestic plane trees, turn right. From the height of the 'miroir' (pool), the chateau can be seen on the left, through a gap in the forest. To the right, in the distance, the school, chapel and almshouse founded by Claire Dra del Castillo can be glimpsed.
- 8 Old forge**  
Upon reaching the gate, go back up the avenue to your left. During the spring orchids sprinkle the hillside, in particular monkey orchids, with their primate-shaped flower. To the right stand metal relief portraits of Wallis Simpson and the Duke of Windsor, completed in 2007 by Michel Audiard, a Tours-based sculptor. Further on, the old forge, constructed in 1861, would have included a steam pestle hammer.
- 9 Vegetable garden**  
Return to the chateau and continue your walk with a visit to the organic kitchen garden and conservation orchard. Its heritage fruit varieties bear poetic names such as « pommes patte de loup » (wolf paw apples), « poires doyenne du paradis » (heavenly doyenne pears), « pêche téton de Vénus » (breasts of Venus peaches), and « prunes Damas » (Damascus plums) de Tours.