

To see, to discover

Rillé Lake

The only ornithological reserve in Touraine (200 species of bird spotted). There are countless trips available by bike, horseback... or in an old steam train.

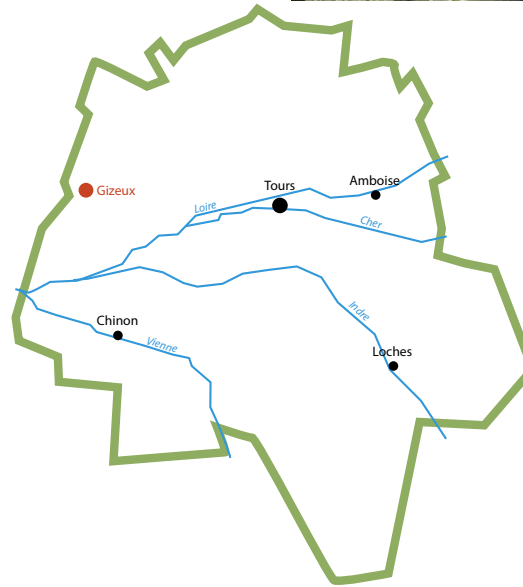
The Du Bellay family tomb

It is inside the Gizeux church, built in 1630 by the Du Bellays, that you can admire the family's tomb, resting on splendid white marble orants, the work of the sculptor Guillain de Cambrai.

Château de Gizeux

It is the largest (furnished and inhabited) residence in western Touraine. The chateau dates from the 14th and 16th centuries. You can admire a gallery of 400 m² covered with Renaissance style painting, dated from the 17th century.

The servants' quarters are from the 17th century. The Du Bellay family lived here for almost 350 years.



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



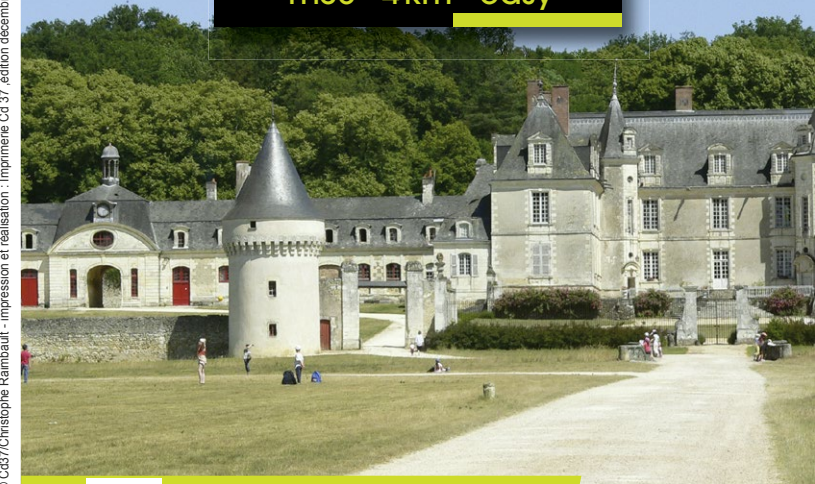
Hiking
NATURE AND HERITAGE

The tree,
from roots to top

Gizeux

1h30 - 4 km - easy

IMPRIM'VERT*
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UN LABEL DU CONSEIL DÉPARTEMENTAL
D'INDRE-ET-LOIRE



TO FIND YOUR WAY

Follow the wooden information boards you will see along the path.



4

Long hedge

Notice a long hedge, comprised of a dozen different shrubs (including buckthorn, cornus, blackthorn, sweet briar, spindle, willow, elder and privet) which is a hiding place for birds. The information board n° 4 tells us about the important role of these hedges which offer animals somewhere to sleep, shelter and relax.

5

Age of trees

Did you know that the age of a tree is counted by its rings? Go to the information board n° 5 to find out how...

6

Tree bark

The information board n° 6 tells you all about tree bark. Thick protective casings for trunks and branches, they are either quite smooth or rather rough, according to their nature.

7

Volume of wood

After walking alongside a football field you will come to the information board n° 7. You will learn that the units used to measure the volume of wood (cubic metres, stere, ton) differ according to the region and the use of the wood.

8

Château de Gizeux

Next head towards the majestic **château de Gizeux** which was the Du Bellay family's main fief for 350 years. If you have time, the chateau is well worth a visit. The information board n° 8 tells you a bit about this monument. Next walk along the chateau's avenue lined with plane trees which are over 180 years old.

9

Woodpeckers

The information board n° 9 tells you about the black, green and great spotted woodpecker which can all be spotted here.

10

Plane trees

At the end of the chateau's sandy avenue, the information board n° 10, naturally, is dedicated to the plane trees. Go back to the car park, the final stop on the walk. Thank you for your visit !

To know everything there is to know about trees, from the roots to the top, follow this original path guided by educational and interactive boards.

S

Mairie square

Start from the town hall square (**place de la Mairie**) where, before embarking on the walk, you can enjoy the beautiful Angevin architecture of the 18th century building which houses the town hall (Mairie). Here you have everything you need to start your walk, information boards, a car park and toilets.

Pass the town hall (Mairie); you will see, on the pavement opposite, the first wooden information board with a red hand drawn on it indicating the direction to take. Continue to the petite chapelle (little chapel) which was rebuilt in 1779 and leave to the left in the direction of Prateaux.

1

Arboretum

Surrounded by greenery and a varied landscape, the paths on this route are easy and pleasant to explore on foot. First of all, you walk through the arboretum, which has a rich variety of trees and shrubs. Look out on your left for the information board n° 1 about trees and nature.

2

Soil

A few metres further on, the information board n° 2 asks you if you know why the soil (that you can see on the verges) is black?

3

Poplar trees

At the information board n° 3, the question is about poplar trees. Did you know that they can only grow in a humid climate and that the wood is used, among other things, to make boxes for cheese?

