

Certains marchent pour SE DÉPLACER, d'autres pour SE DÉPASSER



JUSQU'À -15 %
SUR LES PRODUITS
DE RANDONNÉE

La Rando avec un grand [G]R

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Stage 1 - GR® de Pays¹ Hillsides and vineyards along the Layon and the Loire

From THOUARCÉ
to LOURESSE-ROCHEMENIER²

6 hrs

23.7 km

From the summit of the hillsides, with their vines and windmills, to the depths of the subterranean levels, with their cave-dwellings, this stage of the GR® de Pays Hillsides and vineyards along the Layon and the Loire shows us two typical aspects of Anjou.

LOCATION

31 km south of Angers
39 km west of Saumur
43 km north of Cholet

PARKING AT STARTING POINT

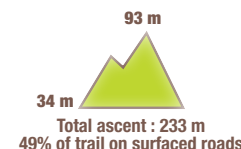
Place du Champ de foire in Thouarcé
(Bellevigne-en-Layon)
N 47.26745 °, W 0.50084 °

PARKING AT END

Car park, Rue du Musée in Rochemenier
N 47.23184 °, W 0.29241 °

Warning

- Market day on Tuesday mornings in the car park Place du Champ de foire in Thouarcé (Bellevigne-en-Layon)



Trail Marking GR® FFRandonnée

- Right way
- Change direction
- Wrong way

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WHAT TO SEE ALONG THE WAY

- Numerous vineyards
- Cave-dwellings
- Martigné Briand: castle
- Rochemenier: village – cave-dwelling museum, Village Troglodytique



WHAT TO SEE IN THE AREA

- Saint-Lambert-du-Lattay: wine museum, Musée de la vigne et du vin d'Anjou
- Thouarcé: vineyard of Bonnezeaux, distillery
- Rablay-sur-Layon: arts and crafts village, Villages d'Artistes
- Brissac-Quincé: castle
- Doué-la-Fontaine: geological and cave-dwelling museum, Le Mystère des Faluns; zoo, Bioparc; cave-dwellings, Troglodytes et Sarcophages; rose gardens, Chemin de la Rose



Tourist Office: Office de Tourisme

- Loire Layon Aubance: (+33) 241 782 621
accueil@anjou-vignoble-villages.com
loire-layon-aubance-tourisme.com

- Saumur Val de Loire: (+33) 241 402 060
www.ot-saumur.fr

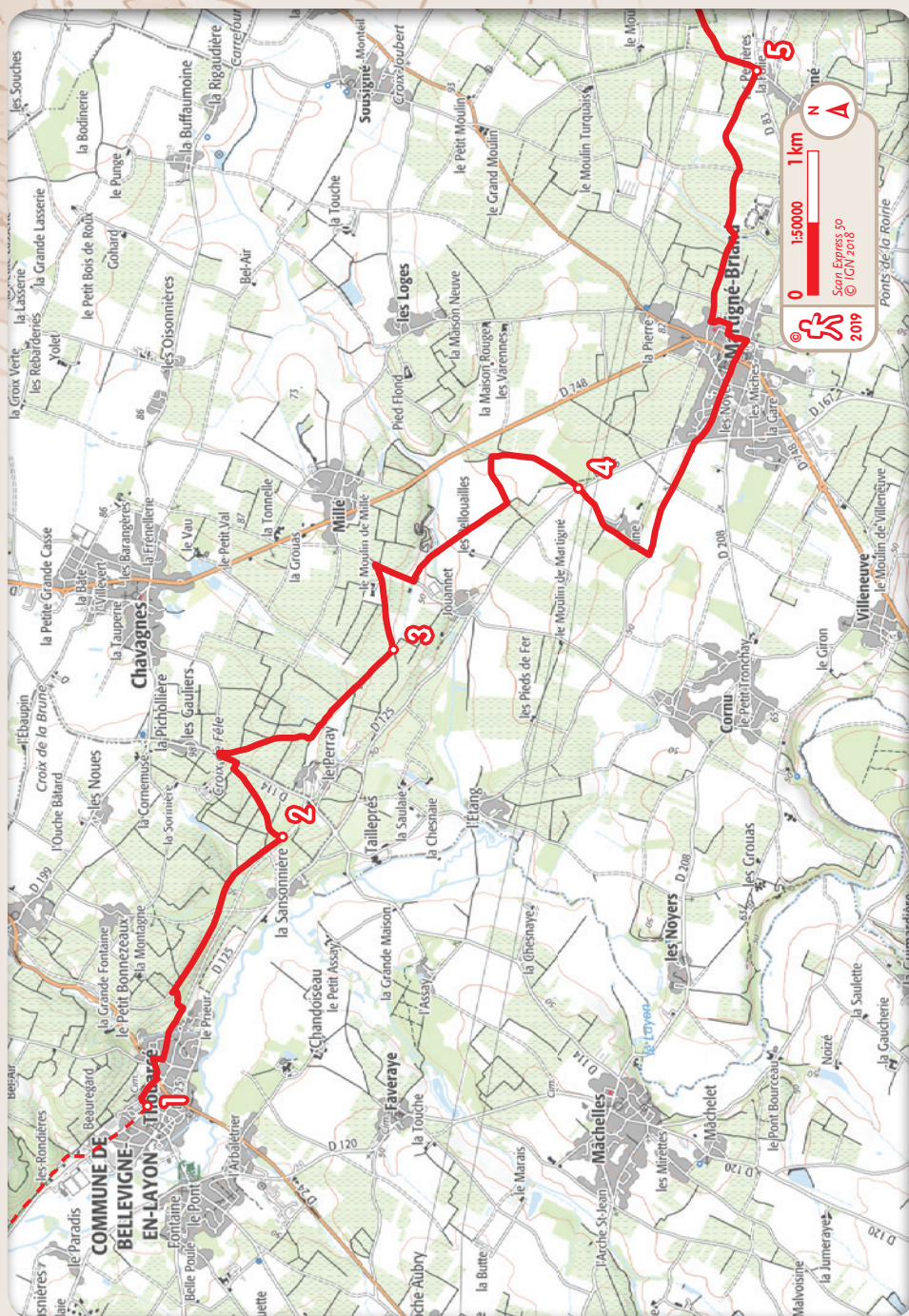


Local Hiking Committee

- Comité FFRandonnée de Maine-et-Loire:
maine-et-loire@ffrandonnee.fr
maine-et-loire.ffrandonnee.fr

¹Translator's note : GR® de Pays (Grandes Randonnées de Pays) are regional hiking trails.

²Translator's note : place names and proper nouns in general have been left in French for easy recognition.



Accommodation

Thouarcé (49380)

Bed and Breakfast, holiday cottage -

Le clos des 3 Rois:

+33 699 919 520 ou +33 241 663 404

infos@closdes3rois.fr, closdes3rois.fr

Holiday cottage - *Anjoué:* +33 644 757 897

gite.anjoue@gmail.com, www.gite-anjoue.fr

Holiday cottages - *L'Arcison:* +33 241 541 681

damien.reulier@wanadoo.fr, www.larcison.fr

Faye-d'Anjou (49380)

Bed and Breakfast, holiday cottage -

Château de Chanzé:

+33 638 225 332

info@chateauduchanze.com

www.chateauduchanze.com

Bed and Breakfast, holiday cottage -

Moulin de la Placette:

+33 635 212 826, soleilvert70@yahoo.fr

Holiday cottage - *Logis de la Brunetière:*

+33 607 256 041, franbille@aci49.fr

Bed and Breakfast - *Mrs Andrée Oriot:*

+33 241 543 571 ou +33 686 234 131

daniel.oriot49@orange.fr

Chavagnes-les-Eaux (49380)

Stopover lodge, Bed and Breakfast, Horse-

drawn caravan - *Domaine des Gauliers:*

+33 241 450 584

contact@domainedesgauliers.fr

www.domainedesgauliers.fr

Chavagnes-les-Eaux (49380)Bed and Breakfast - *L'Ancienne Boulangerie:*

+33 241 806 815, stephbouchet@hotmail.fr

www.ancienne-boulangerie.fr

Ambillou-Château (49700)Holiday cottage - *L'Angevine:*

+33 241 594 404, gite.angevine@free.fr

gite.angevine.free.fr

Holiday cottage - *Loire Anjou:*

+33 676 566 390, bansard.roland@orange.fr

www.gite-loire-anjou.fr

Louresse-Rochemenier (49700)Bed and Breakfast - *Château de Launay:*

+33 241 529 690, parc-de-launay.com

Hotel - *Rocaminori:* +33 241 500 312

contact@rocaminori-hotel.fr

www.rocaminori-hotel.fr

Bed and Breakfast - *Les Délices de la Roche:*

+33 241 501 526

accueil@delicesdelaroche.com

www.delicesdelaroche.com

Discover all the stages of the GR® de Pays Hillsides and vineyards along the Layon
and the Loire on maine-et-loire.ffrandonnee.fr



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TRADITIONS, GEOGRAPHY, GASTRONOMY SWEET WINES OF ANJOU-SAUMUR

The white wines of Anjou-Saumur come mainly from one grape variety: Chenin. The vines benefit from a micro-climate thanks to the proximity of these rivers, which bring mist in the morning and warmth in the daytime. These weather conditions favour the development of a fungus on the grapes : the botrytis cinerea, also called the « noble rot ». It makes the skin of the grapes softer, which enables water to evaporate more easily, thus raising the sugar level in the grapes. This explains how wine-growers are able to produce such superior sweet and liquorous wines such as the Coteaux-du-Layon, Coteaux-de-l'Aubance, Bonnezeaux, Quarts-de-Chaume... Anjou is one of the main regions in France for sweet wines. Such wines as these can be kept for several decades.

After the revocation of the Edit of Nantes in 1685, some French Huguenots, having first emigrated to Holland, found

refuge in South Africa and took this grape variety with them. Today, the surface area of the Chenin grape cultivated in South Africa is twice that of the Loire valley.



© Erwin MASTALER / Musée de la vigne et du vin d'Anjou

Bunch of botrytised Chenin grapes

From Thouarcé to Martigné-Briand

9.5 km 2.25hrs

In Thouarcé > 🏠 🚶 🛒 🚗 🚲 🚶 +

- 1 Take the alleyway on the left of the pharmacy, leading to allée des Coteaux, where 👁 > the old station has been renovated. Cross the D 24 road to reach the housing estate, go down rue de Courcelles and turn left on to allée des Acacias. At the end of this road you will find 👁 > the old railroad track. At the first junction, climb a short steep path, go round a plot of vines, then turn right on to the old railroad track for 1.3 km.
- 2 Branch off left, follow a path through the vineyard to reach the road. Turn left, then before the calvary cross, in a hairpin bend, take two right turns and follow the gravel track. Turn left at the road.
- 3 Take the path on the left and reach the road. Turn right and reach the old railway track on the left. Follow this track for 850 m, turn left and then right farther on before reaching the D 125 road.

From Martigné-Briand to Louresse-Rochemenier

11.8 km 3 hrs

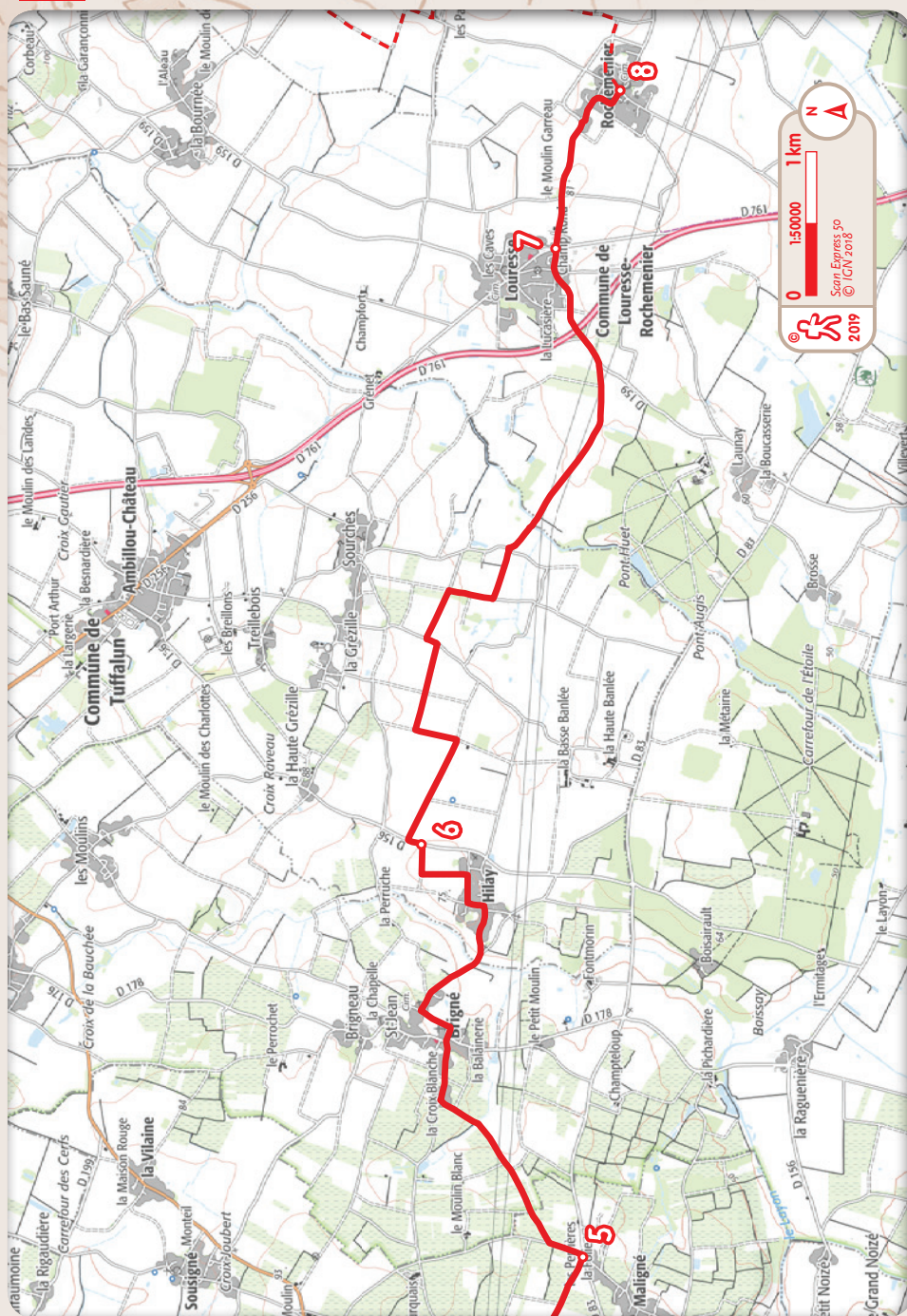
In Martigné-Briand > 🛒 🚶 🚲 🚶

- 4 Cross over the D 125 and carry on along the small lane opposite and then the track. Turn left and carry on to the D 125 (picnic area at the junction). Cross over at the crossroads, going straight ahead along rue Chanoine du Colonel Panaget then avenue du Château (👁 > Château de Martigné-Briand on the right). Turn left along rue du 8 mai, go round the cemetery on the right-hand side then turn left on to rue de la Gaubretière. Turn right after the last house. At the first junction, carry on straight ahead, pass a small bridge before going on through the vineyard to reach the road.



© YVES POSTEC

Château de Martigné-Briand



5 Turn left then right after 250m. Walk on through the heart of the vineyard. At La Croix Blanche (white cross) turn right and go into Brigné. At the church, turn left. At the edge of the village, opposite a calvary cross, take the road on the right to Hilay. On the left, take the rue des Moulins then rue des Caves on the right. Take the first path on your left (opposite the transformer at Casse Mahoux), which takes you across a vast agricultural plain, and reach the road.

6 Turn left and then straightaway take the path on the right for 800 m. At the junction, follow the path on the left then on the right. At the road, carry on left then on the first path on the right. Follow this path for 400 m. At the junction, take successively the path on the right then on the left and reach another junction. Take the track ahead, veering slightly right, to pass under the high-voltage lines and reach the D 159. Carry on left, take the bridge over the dual carriageway and reach Louresse.

7 Go straight on at the roundabout to reach Rochemenier. Follow rue du Musée to reach > the village cave-dwelling museum : Village Troglodytique Rochemenier.

In Louresse-Rochemenier >



Cave-dwellings in Rochemenier