





Comme Antoine, choisissez et organisez votre randonnée itinérante en ligne avec GR @ccess.

Facilitez-vous la rando !

- Plus de 22 000 km de GR[®] décrits,
- Cartographie 1/25⁰⁰⁰,
- Plus de 150 suggestions de randonnée itinérante de 2 à 6 jours,
- Abonnement numérique, à partir de 12€.



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Stage 5 - GR[®] de Pays¹ HILLSIDES and vineyards along the Layon and the Loire



From MÛRS-ÉRIGNÉ to SAINT-AUBIN-DE-LUIGNÉ²

5:20 hrs

21.3 km

We gradually leave the banks of the Loire to reach the vineyards. We are entering the Layon hillsides, a geological and appellation area of renowned wines. Several charming villages offer a good opportunity for a rest and a visit.

LOCATION

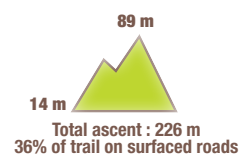
10 km south of Angers
46 km west of Saumur
55 km north of Cholet

PARKING AT STARTING POINT

Car park at the Centre Bouëssé in Mûrs-Érigné
N 47.40332 °, W 0.53197 °

PARKING AT END

Campsite car park : Camping du Layon in Saint-Aubin-de-Luigné (Val-du-Layon)
N 47.32763 °, W 0.67042 °



Trail Marking GRP[®] FFRandonnée

-  Right way
-  Change direction
-  Wrong way

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WHAT TO SEE ALONG THE WAY

- Mûrs-Érigné: Republican monument and panorama, *La Roche de Mûrs*; sand port, *Port Sablier*; blockhouse; church and old presbytery *Saint-Pierre d'Erigné*
- Denée: 18th century castle, *Mantelon*; Thai Pavillion
- Rochefort-sur-Loire: beaches along the Loire; town hall; castle, *Château de l'Eperonnière*
- Saint-Aubin-de-Luigné: tour of old 16th - 18th century residences; old canal, *Canal de Monsieur*; town hall
- The river Layon



WHAT TO SEE IN THE AREA

- Angers: numerous museums and monuments
- Béhuard island
- Bouchemaine, La Pointe: confluence of the Maine et Loire rivers
- Mûrs-Érigné: La Fontenelle quarter
- Savennières: village; its vineyard and its wine châteaux
- Typical « cavier » windmills
- Denée: typical traditional village
- Rochefort-sur-Loire canoeing on the Louet river; visitor centre, *Maison de la Vallée*; riverside cafe, *guingette*; island formerly inhabited by boatmen, *Les Lombardières*; racecourse, *Hippodrome Le Marais*; castle ruins, *Château de Saint-Offange*
- Saint-Aubin-de-Luigné : belvedere at windmill, *Moulin Guérin*
- Saint-Lambert-du-Lattay: wine museum, *Musée de la vigne et du vin d'Anjou*



Local hiking committee

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



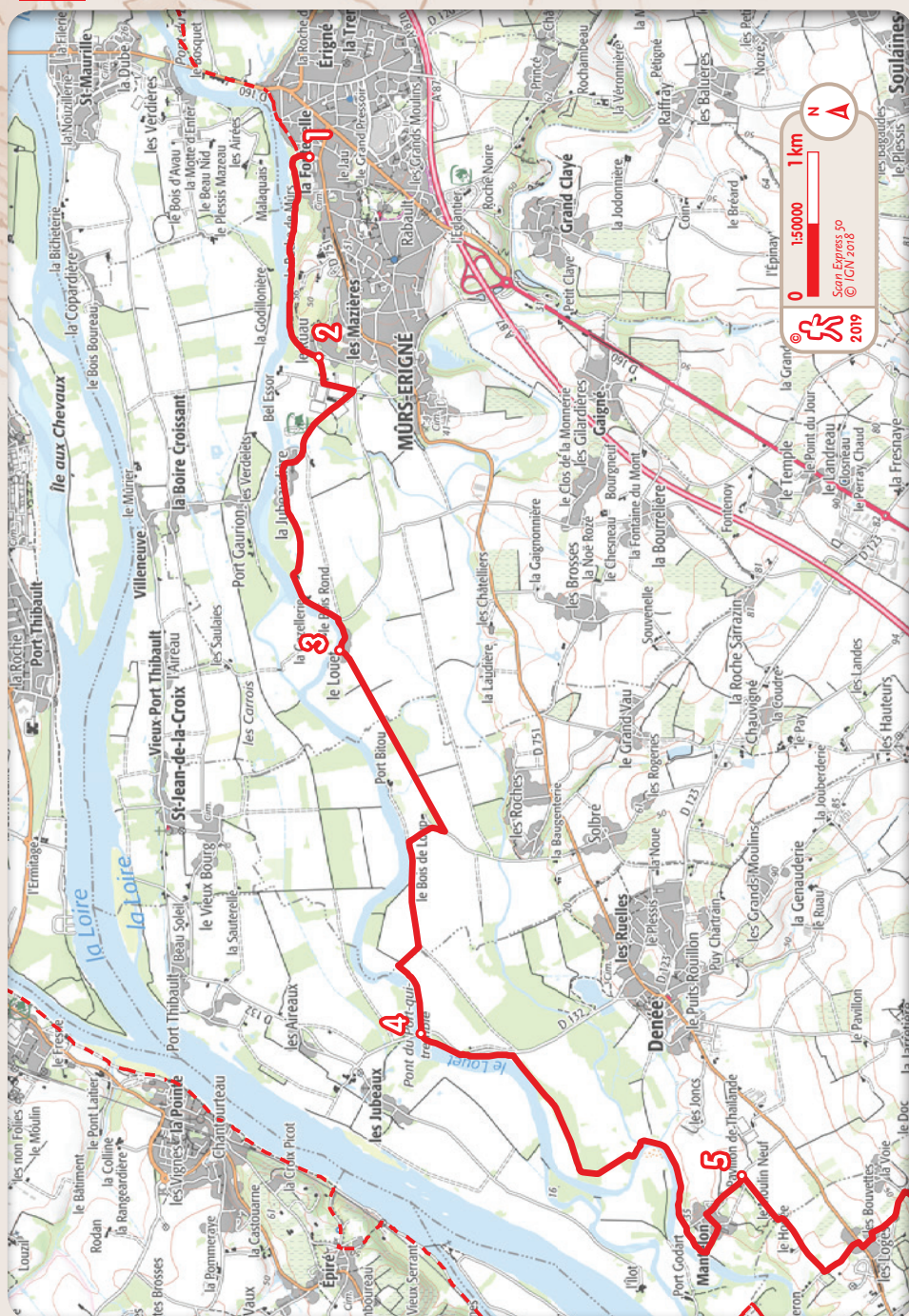
Tourist Office - Office de Tourisme

- Loire Layon Aubance : (+33) 241 782 621 loire-layon-aubance-tourisme.com
- Destination Angers: (+33) 241 235 000 destination-angers.com

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.

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Accommodation

Mûrs-Erigné (49610)

Bed and Breakfast - *Le Jau*:
 +33 241 577 013, le.jau@anjou-et-loire.com
 www.anjou-et-loire.com/jau

Holiday village, holiday cottage - *Bouëssé La Garenne*: +33 241 577 110

Campsite - *Les Varennes*: (+33) 241 578 215
 varennes49610@wanadoo.fr

Bed and Breakfast - *La Petite Boire*:
 +33 241 540 726, contact@lapetiteboire.fr
 lapetiteboire.fr

Savennières (49170)

Bed and Breakfast - *Logis Saint-Aubin*:
 +33 241 771 466, logissaintaubin.com

Béhuard (49170)

Bed and Breakfast, Holiday cottage -
Les Tonnelles: +33 241 191 448
 www.les-tonnelles-behuard.fr

Bed and Breakfast - *La Maison sur l'Île*:
 +33 241 731 077 ou +33 786 999 891
 contact@lamaisonsurlile.com
 lamaisonsurlile.com

Bed and Breakfast - *Maison Diocésaine*:
 +33 241 722 115
 behuard.maisonaccueil@wanadoo.fr

Rochefort-sur-Loire (49190)

Bed and Breakfast - *Roche fortaise en Anjou*:
 +33 241 446 273, www.rochefortaise.fr

Campsite - *Les Plages de Loire*:
 +33 241 685 591
 https://vacances-seasonova.com/fr/camping/
 camping-les-plages-de-loire/

Bed and Breakfast, Holiday cottage - *Clos du Moulin de Sainte-Catherine*: +33 241 783 369

Bed and Breakfast - *Le Moulin Géant*:
 +33 241 788 493, www.moulin-geant.com

Holiday cottage - *Château de la Guimonière*: +33
 241 912 837 ou +33 603 944 642
 www.chateaudelaguimoniere.com/fra

Holiday cottage - *Château de Suronde*:
 +33 241 786 637, chateaudesuronde@yahoo.fr

Holiday cottage - *Château de l'Éperonnière*:
 +33 241 783 350, mtijou@yahoo.fr
 chateau-eperonniere.com

Bed and Breakfast - *Le Rateau*:
 +33 675 053 892, le.rateau@orange.fr
 lerateau.com

Bed and Breakfast - *Les Treilles de Chaume*:
 +33 676 081 616, fleury_patrick@orange.fr
 www.chambresdhotels-anjou.com

Bed and Breakfast - *Château Piégué*:
 +33 241 974 352, chateau-piegue@wanadoo.fr

Holiday cottage - *F. Cesbron*: +33 241 788 754.

Saint-Aubin-de-Luigné (49190)

Holiday cottage *des Forges*:
 +33 241 457 886 ou +33 670 476 511
 r.branchereau@orange.fr, domainedesforges.net

Holiday cottage - *Logis du Layon*:
 +33 241 789 824, achardpatrice@wanadoo.fr
 domainedesbarres.com

Holiday cottage - *J-P Merlet*:
 +33 241 783 770, jpmerlet@orange.fr

Bed and Breakfast - *Le clos de la Haute Guerche*:
 +33 241 784 148, marie-boisson@orange.fr
 www.anjouhauteguerche.com

Holiday cottage - *La Poilane*:
 +33 241 786 745, marietta.ricou@laposte.net

Bed and Breakfast - *L'Aubinoise*:
 +33 253 578 368, www.laubinoise.com
 laubinoise.layon@gmail.com

Campsite *du Layon*: +33 241 783 328

Bed and Breakfast - *Château de la Fresnaye*:
 +33 241 786 178 ou +33 609 627 727
 www.bienvenueauchateau.com/chateau-de-la-fresnaye

Holiday cottage - *Le Logis Solidaire*:
 +33 952 747 780, logis-solidaire@laposte.net
 www.loc-gite49.fr

GEOGRAPHY, ENVIRONMENT

THE LOIRE, A RIVER WITH SEVERAL BRANCHES

This riverway with its complex network of intertwined branches brings to mind the idea of a plait. Temporary islands, of various sizes, composed of sediment stripped from the mountain sides, can be found between its various branches.

When a torrent emerges in a mountain range, which is relatively young from a geological point of view, the fluvial erosion is generally significant. In conjunction with steep slopes, it disturbs and transports materials of different sizes, from rocks to clay soil. Then when the torrent arrives abruptly in a region where the slope is gentler, the energy produced by the current will not enable it to transport most of the materials any further. So they will then be left in large quantities on the river bed. This is what forms the

numerous islands of pebbles and gravel, sandbanks, etc between the different branches of the river. The water is thus forced to circumvent islands and sandbanks.

These islands are not static, they are eroded, they grow, they change places in the riverbed, giving the river an ever-evolving aspect. The Loire is the last major river to have retained its braids along a part of its path.

In Anjou, certain branches are called «boires», or winterbournes. This regional French term refers to so-called dead branches of the Loire, often heavily silted or sanded up. In winter they fill again during a period of high water (e.g. the Boire de la Ciretterie, between Rochefort-sur-Loire and Chalonnes-sur-Loire).



© CHRISTELLE CHOINET

Branch of the Loire

From Mûrs-Érigné to Denée

7.4 km 1.55 hrs

In Mûrs-Érigné >

1 Go back down the road to the lodge La Garenne, turn left and follow > the Louet.
 > You can take the steps on the left to reach the Roche de Mûrs (panorama).
Carry straight on to the road.

2 At the end of the path, take the road on the right. Opposite the sports ground, turn left then right. Pass in front of the stadium then the campsite les Varennes. Carry on along this road, passing through the hamlets of La Jubeaudière, la Gazellerie to reach the Louet river.

3 At the wharf, follow the long straight path on the left, passing through meadows and fields. On reaching the road, turn right. Turn left on to the first path along the Louet to reach > the metal bridge at Port qui Tremble.

From Denée to Rochefort-sur-Loire

9 km 2.15 hrs

In Denée >

> Reach the centre of Denée following the yellow marking (path along the D 32)

4 Leaving the bridge on your right, cross the road. Take the path opposite, heading right along the Louet through meadows and poplar groves. Cross over two footbridges and through four chicanes in the pastures to reach > Mantelon.
Take a left turn and go round the hamlet, passing in front of > the castle and Thai pavillion (on the right).



© CLAUDE GRATON



5 Turn right. At Moulin-Neuf (windmill), head left, then right, following a hedge. Take the tarmac road on the left. Take the RD 751 on the right for 50 m, cross through Les Loges. At La Liaumerie, turn right through the vineyards to La Garde.

6 After the windmill, go down the small road and, just before La Poilannerie, turn left between a meadow and a vineyard. Walk down into the wood (**private pathway, authorised for walkers, do not leave the marked path** (⚠)), cross the stream la Besnarderie. Climb the slope to the Square des Poissons, which leads to a path through the middle of the vineyards, with cypresses and the cedar tree in the cemetery at Rochefort-sur-Loire as landmarks.

At the corner of the cemetery, turn left then right. Cross the D 106 and continue straight on.

From Rochefort-sur-Loire to Saint-Aubin-de-Luigné

4.8 km 1.15 hrs

In Rochefort-sur-Loire > 🏠🌳🛒🍷🚗+

7 Take the rue des écoles (school road) on the left then a right and again immediately a left turn. Carry on along the pathway to 👁 > le Moulin Géant (Giant Windmill) on the right. Carry straight on. Cross the stream Saint-Lézin and climb the path bordered with vines to reach the road, and continue left.

8 Opposite the Clos des Petites Brosses, carry on along the path on the left, passing in front of the castle 👁 > château de l'Éperonnière (panorama) ; take the grassy path on the right and reach the road leaving the hamlet La Plécière on your left. Cross the road and carry on through the vineyard along a grassy path till you reach Le Petit Beauvais. Take the path on the left, carrying on through the vineyard to the intersection of the GR® trails.

9 Carry straight on. At the bottom of the slope, turn right and reach the village centre at Saint-Aubin-de-Luigné. At the junction, take the right-hand path to la Mine. Before the houses, fork right then left to reach the church. Go down Jean de Pontoise road, pass 👁 > the town hall, to reach the campsite.

In Saint-Aubin-de-Luigné > 🏠🌳🛒🚗

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