

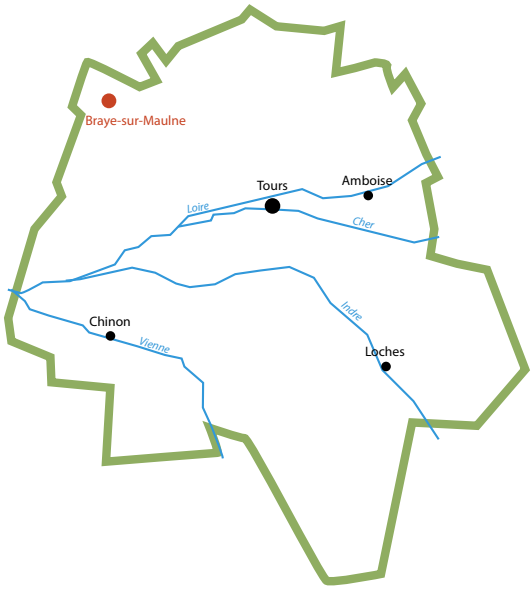
To see, to discover

Val Joyeux Lake in Château-la-Vallière

There are countless outdoor activities available at this 35 hectare leisure area: swimming, pedalos, children’s games, beach volleyball, fishing and more.

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



Walking charter

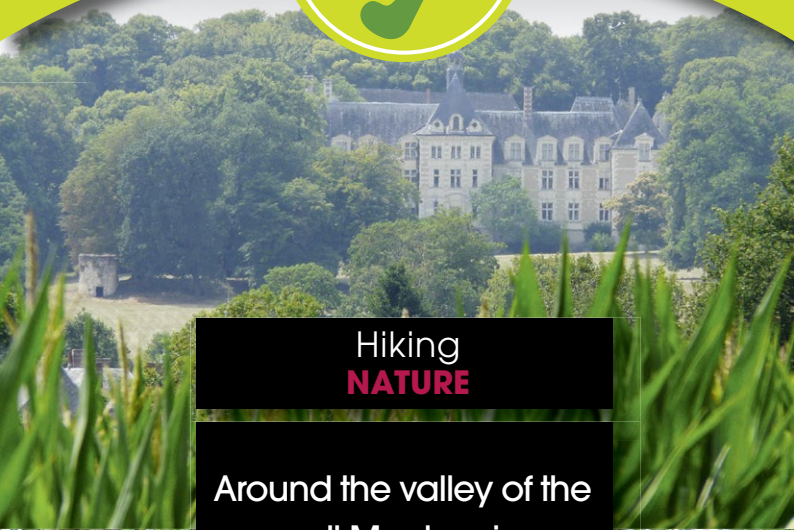
Cherish and respect nature. Listen to it, do not spoil it and do not harm it. Stay on the trail and be discreet. Do not damage plants or undergrowth. Do not smoke in the forest or do not light fires. Do not scare animals. Do not neglect human contact. Respect and get to know this rural world that welcomes 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



LABEL BALADE
EN TOURAINE



Hiking
NATURE

Around the valley of the
small Maulne river

Marcilly et Braye-
sur- Maulnes

2 h45 - 11km - Medium

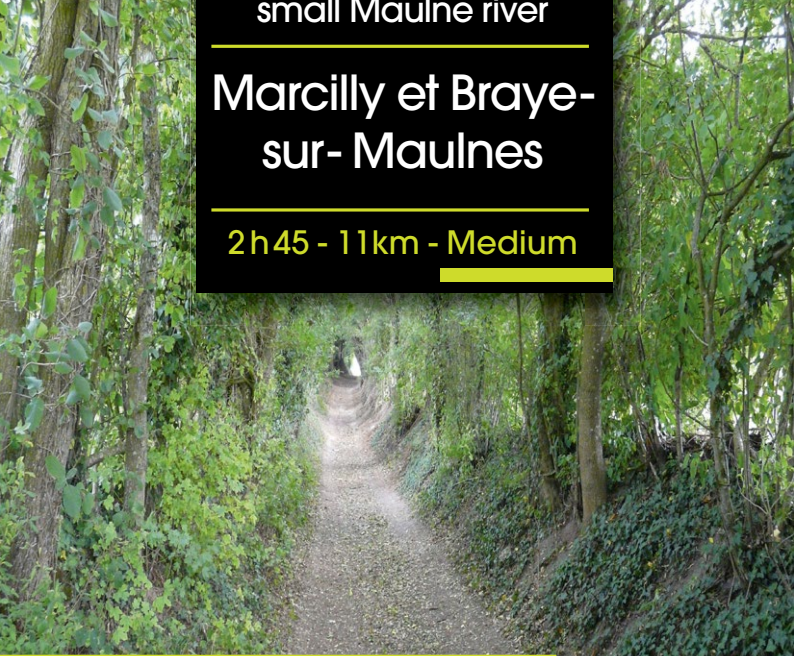


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UN LABEL DU CONSEIL DÉPARTEMENTAL
D'INDRE-ET-LOIRE



TO FIND YOUR WAY

STRAIGHT ON

CHANGE OF DIRECTION

WRONG WAY



Formerly located in the province of Anjou, the villages of Marcilly-sur-Maulne and Braye-sur-Maulne, today in the heart of Gâtine Tourangelle, offer a pleasant environment for a ramble. The villages' rich ecological heritage, embodied by the Maulne valley and its charming salmon river, favours ecological tourism.

1 Marcilly-s/Maulne

It is underneath the porch of the Halle (covered market) on the Place de la Mairie in Marcilly-sur-Maulne that ramblers and families gather before setting out on this nice walk, a little over 11 kilometres in length, signposted with yellow markers.

Right at the beginning, you go past the magnificent **Saint-Saturnin** church, built in the 12th century and extended in the 15th century by two south chapels and a larger northern one. The steeple is a tower crowned with a timber spire dating from the 15th century.

2

Washhouse

Walk down the « rue de l'Ecole », take « la rue des ponts » on your right (D 124) and you will see the **old wash house**, which has been restored, fed directly by the Maulne river, where the women did their washing in the 19th century. There are covered picnic tables that allow walkers to have something to eat in the shade.

Next turn right after the bridge, then immediately left onto the sandy path. Carry on down this path. As you walk, you will have a wonderful view of the village of Braye-sur-Maulne.

3

Maulne Valley

You should then cross a public road that carries very little traffic. Next take the shady dirt track. At the top of the path, you will reach a tarred road (cul-de-sac) leading to a house. A few metres further on you will have a fine **panoramic view of the Maulne** valley that stretches out before you.

4

Fields and thickets

Next take the dirt path lined with vines, cornfields, wild copses and shrubs. Then, the landscape changes : as you walk down the pleasant dirt track, notice on your right the ÔbocageÔ, farmland criss-crossed. Go as far as the D 124 then continue down this road for about 150 metres.

5

Braye woods

Turn left after « La Maison Neuve » and follow the path, then the little tarred road, alongside the « Bois du Braye » farm (on your left). The term braye comes from the celtic word meaning damp land. Cross a public road and 200 metres after this, turn left towards « the Epopins ». 400 metres further on, you'll see the Maulne valley again and a very beautiful tree that stands all alone on the landscape. Finally, turn right and go down the road for 150 metres or so.

6

Heritage vineyards

Take the left fork towards « **La Vallée** ». If you would like to shorten your ramble (variation marked with a dotted line on the map) follow the sign marked « **PR Braye** », otherwise continue straight ahead. Paths through the underwood and well-kept dirt tracks enhance your route.

7

Château de Marcilly

Cross a public road carrying little traffic, you can see once again the Maulne valley panorama and **look down on the magnificent château de Marcilly**, built by François Laval in the 15th century, extended with six corner pavilions by Charles Fouquet in 1608. This chateau owns a fine collection of 15th century outbuildings, which were restored at the beginning of the 17th century.

8

Saint-Blaise

Go through a gate. The route next takes the paths running alongside fields of different crops as far as the « Morelière » estate. Turn left and take the public road for 900 metres. At « Saint-Blaise », take the dirt track on the right that runs alongside cultivated fields. It is important to note that the clay soil has also contributed to the development of many orchards and apple trees. There are many livestock farms and mixed farming dominates the region.

9

Boule de fort ball game

At the end of the track, turn left onto the departmental road towards Braye-sur-Maulne. If you wish, go and watch a game of « **Boules de Fort** », a traditional local bowling game.

10

Braye-s/Maulne

To end this route with a flourish, walk up to the **Saint-Pierre church in Braye-sur-Maulne** the nave and belfry date from the 19th century and the southern chapels from the 16th century. Go past the « randonnée » (hiking) signpost (situated in a little square) and take the road to the right for about 250 metres then the path on your right to get back to Marcilly-sur-Maulne, where you started (and end) your walk.