

## To see, to discover

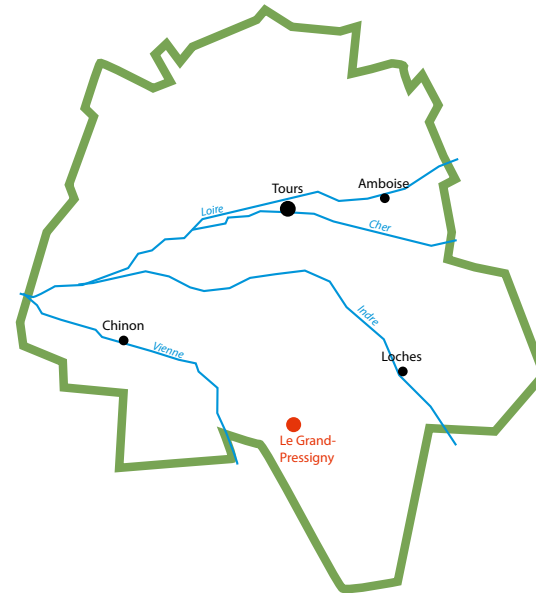
### The Museum of Prehistory

Main monument of Southern Touraine, the chateau of Le Grand-Pressigny comprises a keep and fortress erected in the 12<sup>th</sup> century and a Renaissance castle built in the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

As the result of an initiative by the Conseil départemental d'Indre-et-Loire, owner of the property, the parts of the castle which house the archaeology museum have recently undergone extensive restoration work. A new building, connected to the castle, provides a space for exhibiting the collections and the expertise of the stone-cutters who made the large blades here at the end of the third millennium BC.

### The bergauderie stables - Le Grand-Pressigny

Rides, lessons, carriage driving, trick riding... everything you need to have a good time - on horse back of course.



## 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)

## Technical information

GPS COORDINATES N 46°92061 - E 0°80331

ELEVATION + 115 m

## Accommodation / Catering

Restaurant

Holidays rental, Hotel

Some shops available

Toilets on the banks of the Claise

Car park

Tourist-office of Loches

Touraine Châteaux de la Loire

Tél : 02 47 94 96 82

[www.loches-valdeloire.com](http://www.loches-valdeloire.com)

[info@grandpressigny-valdeloire.com](mailto:info@grandpressigny-valdeloire.com)

Musée de la Préhistoire

Ouvert toute l'année

Tél. : 02 47 94 90 20

[www.prehistoiregrandpressigny.fr](http://www.prehistoiregrandpressigny.fr)



Hiking  
**NATURE AND HERITAGE**

Between meadows  
and history

**Le Grand-  
Pressigny**

2h30 - 9km - easy

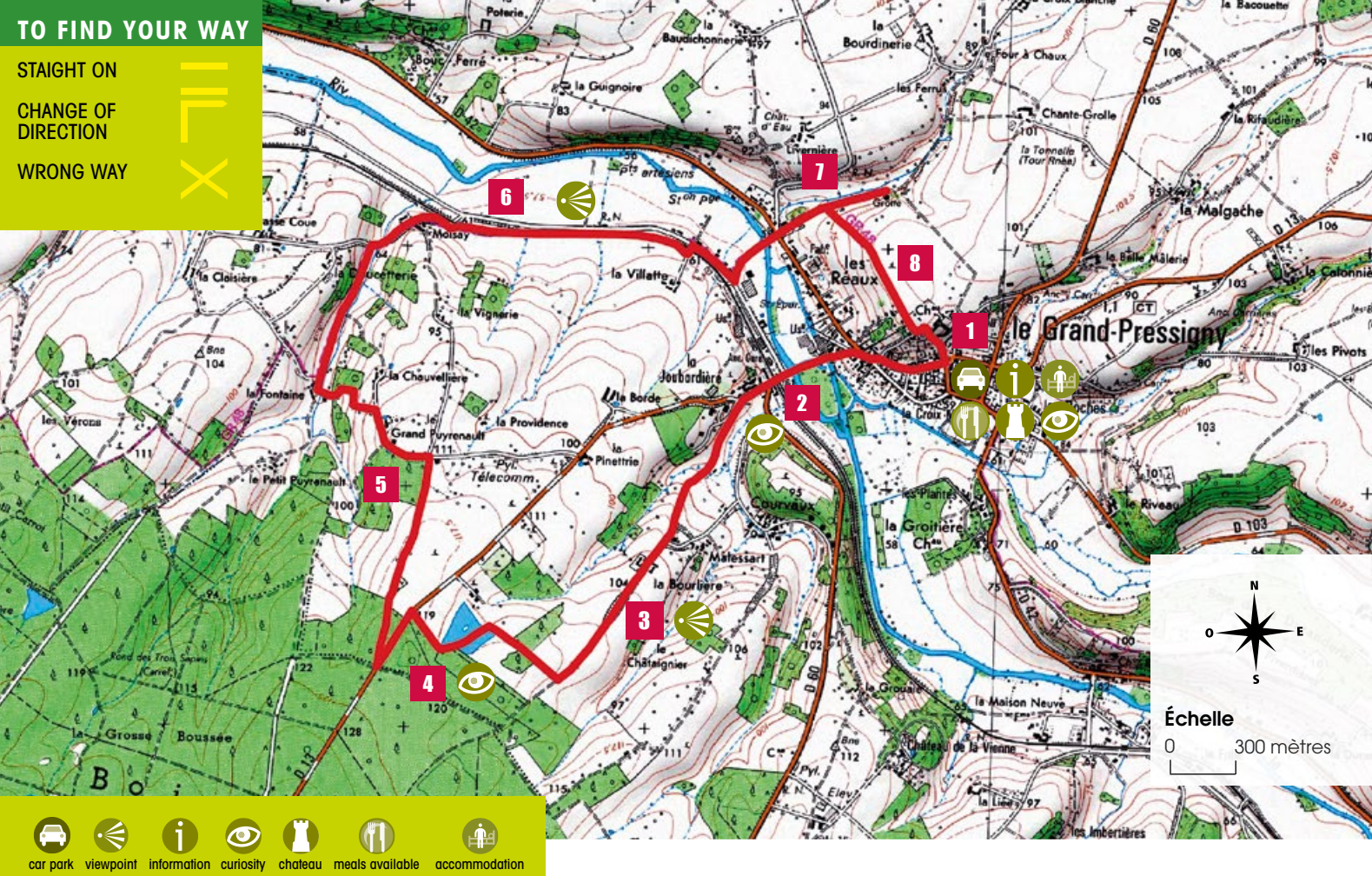


**TO FIND YOUR WAY**

STRAIGHT ON 

CHANGE OF DIRECTION 

WRONG WAY 



**5**

**La Fontaine**  
Owing to mixed farming, the area of Southern Touraine close to Berry and Poitou is mainly wooded. Leave the D 13 by turning right, then left to the place named « La Fontaine » and branch off to the right. You are now on the GR 48 which connects Limoges and Chinon.

**6**

**Railway embankment**  
The route follows the closed down **railway embankment** from Tournon- Saint-Martin to Port-de-Piles. This 50 km line was used by freight trains until 2005, in particular for transporting kaolin (white clay) and grain. Follow the tarmac road to the right to return to the centre of the village. Entering the village follow the way markers. Cross the Claise river once again, then the D 42 and continue straight ahead.

**7**

**Nymphée**  
Before turning to the right you can take a quick round trip to the « **Nymphée** ». Constructed in the form of a cave, this small temple, decorated with a fountain dedicated to nymphs, is located in a copse. An information board will give you more information about this 16<sup>th</sup> century heritage site.

**8**

**Château**  
Continuing on the GR 48, with a view of the **chateau** and the **Museum of Prehistory**, the beauty of the village and the valley is spectacular. If you have time, be sure to visit the museum. The descent to the village passes by a traditional bread oven to which the road owes its name. This oven, in constant use in the Middle Ages, allowed the inhabitants of Le Grand-Pressigny to cook their bread in exchange for a tax, « la banalité », paid to the Lord.

*Le Grand-Pressigny, a prehistoric hotspot, was a major flint producing centre at the end of the Neolithic era, around 2800/2400 BC. The « Livres de beurre » cores and long blades were exported to Switzerland and Holland. In the paths of our ancestors, discover the rich heritage and environment of this village.*

**1 La place de l'Église**  
The pleasant 9.5 kilometre ramble begins at the « **Place de l'Église** », right in front of the Tourist Office. In the 15<sup>th</sup> century the village was known as « Pressigny les Quatre Eglises » and then « Pressigny-le-Grand » before being named «Le Grand-Pressigny.»

**2 Claise river**  
Once you have taken the « Grande Rue », you will come to « **avenue André Theuriet** » N° 8 was the house of the great poet-novelist to whom the street owes its name. He was the

first to write regional and traditionalist literature in Touraine. The route crosses the river **Claise**. This calm river, whose stream was used in the past to turn the mill, cuts through « avenue André Theuriet.» When you get to « **La Joubardièr** », turn left onto the grassy path.

**3 Plateau**  
The climb to the plateau, the altitude of which varies between 60 and 120 metres above the valley floor, allows you to discover the landscape amid boundary hedges characteristic of Touraine farmland. Once on the top, enjoy the view on the valley of the Claise river and if you look in the distance you will see the forest of « le Grand Pressigny » and the chateau.

**4 Bois des Cours**  
Before joining the D 13 for 250 metres, pass close by the pond « Plessis » edging the wood « **Bois des Cours** ».

