

12,5 km	
3h00 à pied - 1h30 à VTT	
Green/yellow	Low difference in altitude
Départ	Town Hall, Place Notre Dame, Wassy

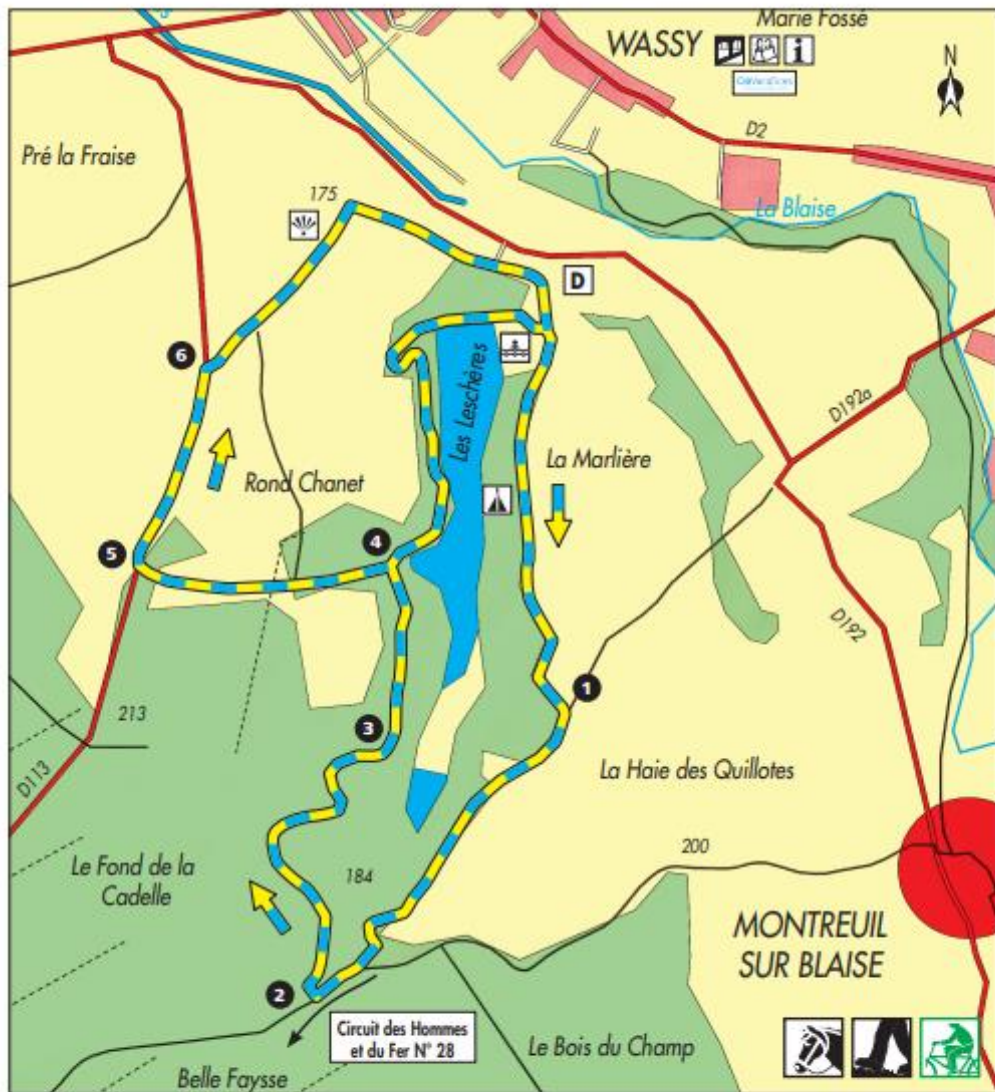
At the start of the Place Notre-Dame, stands the Romanesque church of Notre-Dame-en-sa-Nativité, built in the 12th century. Turn right into rue du Temple (one-way street, beware, mountain bikers, get off your bike) and look at it and the Grange du Massacre (opposite, the house where Camille Claudel was born), which evoke the history of Protestantism from 1517 to 1905. Then turn right into rue du Val du Château; at the intersection, join rue du Général Leclerc opposite. Then cross the river Blaise.

1 - Immediately at the crossroads, on the left, continue along rue du Champ d'Heu and discover the washhouse on your left, called the Bécus fountain, after the neighbouring gardener. Its construction dates from the first half of the 19th century. It is supported by oak posts. Continue for about 300 m, then turn right along the Jardinnet. Cross the canal on the right and turn left into Rue de la Digue. This leads to the Leschères reservoir, which is now used for leisure activities. In the 19th century, it fed the canal from Brousseval to Saint-Dizier, allowing the transport of iron ore and foundry products. At the fork in the road, turn right and cross the disused railway line. This railroad will make the "rouliers" disappear from the valley, peasants owning carts, who used to work for the factories during the production period. Then continue on the left for 100 m before turning right.

2 - Continue and then walk along the forest for about 1 km (on this last part, the path is shared with the Men and Iron circuit). When you reach the crow's feet, take the forest track on the left. Follow carefully the painted markings in the forest, which only use paths separating plots of woodland. After 1.5 km, at the end of the wood, follow the RD184 on the left for about 1 km towards Vaux-sur-Blaise. This path is the same as the Côte Dardaille circuit.

3 - At the crow's feet before Vaux-sur-Blaise turn right, cross the railway line and enter the village. Continue along rue de la Gare, cross the two bridges over the Blaise and then turn slightly right to continue along rue du Stade. On the way, leave the junction on your left and continue along rue des Moulins. At the crossroads, cross the rue du Général de Gaulle to join the rue des Visseaux. At the intersection, turn left into Rue Prouyère. On the right you can see the church of Saint-Jean, which contains a remarkable harmonium and a cast-iron Christ; then discover the washhouse paved with slag bricks, which gives it its particularity. A fountain inside collects the spring that feeds the basin. Continue upwards to take the street above the rue des Barizets, the rue des Croquantes, then turn left into the chemin de la Blanche to reach the rue des Varennes which leads to Montreuil-sur-Blaise and which you take on the right. At the left-hand bend, head towards the village of Montreuil-sur-Blaise along the allée des Platanes (trees decimated by the storm of September 2015); continue straight on and cross the Blaise.

4 - On the reach you can see the paddle wheel that once set in motion the machines of the foundry's assembly workshop, now completely demolished. Continue along Chemin des Usines. At the next crossroads, turn right into Rue Sainte-Marguerite, leaving the Place du Monument on your left. Go past the town hall, cross the square and turn right into the ruelle de la Fontaine. Discover the washhouse which has a large opening providing light to the basin situated below a staircase. Retrace your steps and turn right again into Rue Sainte-Marguerite; immediately at the next junction turn right into the rural road towards Brousseval. Follow the old railway line for about 2 km, then take a small path on the left at the rear entrance to the Brousseval-Montreuil foundry. When you arrive in Brousseval, turn right into rue de la Gare. Cross the bridge over the river Blaise, then turn left onto a small path following the meandering river Blaise for about 500 m. You will carefully cross a footbridge. On the right, you will reach the rue du Général de Gaulle, which you take on the left. Continue along this road in the direction of and within Wassy for about 1 km. Turn left into the ruelle Mauljean. Continue left to the Parc des Promenades with its three remarkable cast iron works (Le Faucheur, Le Triomphe de Galatée, Le Cerf) from the late 19th century. Turn right again into Rue Général Leclerc. Turn right into rue Général DeFrance, walk around Place Marie Stuart and return to the starting point via Boulevard de l'Hôpital and rue du Temple.



 Départ du circuit	 Camping
 Edifice religieux	 Baignade
 Point de vue	 Clevalocalices
 Barbecue	 Défilés
 IGN n° 3016 Est Wassy	

6,5 km	
1h30 à pied - 0h45 à VTT - 1h00 à cheval	
Blue / Yellow	
Departure : Parking at the Leschères dam	
Difficult on the bike	
Very easy Level	

n°116
5 à 11 km

Circuit du Val des Leschères



Beschrijving: From the car park of the lake of Leschères, take the road towards the campsite. Walk along it. Leave the fitness trail on your right-hand side, cross the barrier and continue straight ahead along the wood.

1- After one kilometre, you reach the road of Brousseval. Turn to the right and continue along the wood. In the past, this path joined an iron ore extraction plot and was called "chemin des minières". The path goes deeper into the woods. After 20 metres, turn to the right and follow the forest track on 150m.

2- Take the small path on the right in front of a cleared area. After 30 metres, turn again to the right. The path winds in the woods. This path was once equipped with a 60cm railway track which was used to extract clay (very clayey soil) used to fill the numerous leaks of the dam. You can see this extraction area as soon as you enter the wood, on your left.

3- After 1,5km, you arrive at an intersection. On the right, below, you see the lake of Leschères through a coniferous wood. Turn to the left. Until there, you have followed the historical maximum water level.

4- At the end of the wood, you can turn to the right to join the fitness trail by going along the reservoir and crossing by the dam (you will have 15 minutes to walk). For the big loop, obligatory on horseback, turn to the left towards the barrier and continue on the track up to the road D113.

5- Turn to the right. You discover a view on the North of the Blaise Valley, and after a few hundred metres, Wassy appears. You can see the bell tower of the church Notre-Dame (classified MH - 12th century).

6- After 500m, leave the road and take the track on the right. The route goes down towards Wassy. At the crossroads, turn to the right. On your left, you go along the old railway tracks. On your right, you pass the Leschères reservoir, known locally as "la digue". When you reach the road, turn right and go to the car park.

Onderweg Dit circuit : THE LAKE OF LESCHERES

The Leschères reservoir was created in 1875 to supply the Canal des fabriques, in order to maintain its water level in all seasons, for the transport of iron ore and coke to the factories in the region. A vast reservoir with a capacity of two million cubic metres, the "dike" extended over an area of 44 hectares at the place called "Val des Leschères". It draws its water resources from the Blaise by means of a 9-kilometre-long feeder channel, which originates in Dommartin-le-Franc. The dam is a structure made of stone blocks from Chevillon and Brauvillers, its length is 467 metres long and 20 metres high. For some years now, the dyke has been converted into a tourist attraction and its water level has been lowered for safety reasons.



n°30
plus de 18 km

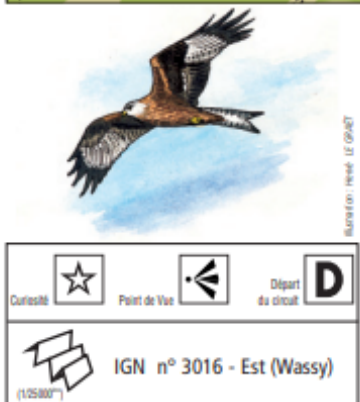
Circuit de la Forêt du Der



Description: From the car park near the sports fields, follow the towpath along the old canal des fabriques. Once you reach the Route du Buisson, cross the road and follow the counter-harbour to the Châtelier.

1. Turn right twice and follow the D192 (on the left is the 19th century château du Bois Lapierre, once inhabited by the forge owners).
2. After 700 m, take a slice on the left that climbs into the state forest. Near the climb, the slice forks slightly to the left. Go straight on for 800 m.
3. Then turn right, due north between cuts 219 and 215. Cross the Buisson forest road and continue across the road on a path between the leafy patches. Turn left onto the first path between cuts 212 and 213.
4. At the forest road turn right and after the fork in the road continue along the slightly uphill path. Take the first track on the left. Go up to the right until you reach the forest road of Louvemont.
5. Follow this road to the right for 300 m. Then turn left between cuts 185 and 186. At the end of the cut, turn left and then right to join the old railway line.
6. A variant allows you to cut the circuit by going along the railway line on the left. Continue to the right and cross the railway line after 200m. Turn right into the forest road of Le Rozet for about 1 km.
7. Turn right into a forest line between cuts 141 and 136. Go as far as the dead woman's forest road and turn left again between cuts 141 and 144. Turn right onto the Rozet forest road (tarmac) and turn left into the forest between cuts 145 and 147.
8. At the next junction, turn right for 300 m. Cross the forest road and go straight ahead on the Frampas forest road.
9. At the first crossroads turn left between cuts 158 and 165. Take the leftmost path down between a wood and a regenerating cut. At the end, go down to the right on the forest road of the pond of Jay which you follow for 1 km (nice view on the pond on the right)
10. Turn left at 120°. Go straight on for 850 m then turn right onto the round forest road and cross the old railway line (you join the variant).
11. In the bend to the left of the road, go straight on a dirt track. Go up and then down into a valley that leads to Belle Fontaine (iron spring) on the left. Go straight on until you reach a turning point and take the cross-cutting line on the left through the Marnesse forest. Then return to Louvemont by the Chemin de Départ.

On the way This circuit allows you to discover part of the large state forest of Der (5000 ha). In the past, it belonged to the Counts of Champagne and the Dukes of Orléans who used it for great hound hunting, as can be seen today by the radiating layout of the forest roads and paths. A closed and secret world, this forest has also given rise to many legends. Is it not said that the druids of Der ("Dervus" means "oak" in Celtic) came here to gather the sacred mistletoe and that they offered sacrifices? At the bend in the path, in the oak and hornbeam forests, watch and listen. You may see a roe deer running along a path, you may hear the oriole whistle, you may discover the tracks of a badger and you may see the oak jay stocking up on acorns for the winter



21 km

5h00 à pied - 2h30 à VTT - 3h30 à cheval

Balilage et GR14b

Orange	
Variant	

Start **Louvemont**

Difficulty in cycling Difficult level



Description:

1- The starting point of the stroll is at Eclaron, place de la mairie (starting sign). The village is crossed by the river Blaise. Its centre is provided with beautiful residences of the 16th century and with a church of Gothic architecture. Its bocage landscape is bordered by the Der forest (from the Celtic word dervo meaning oak, the main species). A stele commemorates the passage of Napoleon I in 1814 during the French campaign. With a campsite, a beach, and a cycle track, Eclaron is a tourist stop on the way to the Lac du Der. Take the street of Guise and follow the green/yellow markings. 2- After 900 m, you reach the passage of the former canal of Wassy which used to carry iron ore; it was filled up by the Americans in 1944 to build the airfield of Saint-Dizier (le Robinson). At this point turn left near the water tower. The path follows the GR14b for 4 kilometres to reach the Bailly wood. You then take the D185 on your left along the Pré Colin on your left and you reach Valcourt, halfway along the route. In the 18th and 19th centuries the water level of the Marne made it navigable. The port of Valcourt supplied Paris with wood and metal products. The freight was transported by "brelle", a kind of raft. The anchor in the square, the medallion on the façade of the town hall and the anchors on the old tombs are reminders of the village's seafaring past. In 1944 the village was badly damaged by Allied bombing raids on the German-occupied air base. - Pass the Pré Colin and before the centre of Valcourt turn left and take the towpath and the cycle track of the canal de la Marne au Der (the reservoir designed in 1974 collects part of the water of the Blaise and the Marne, tributaries of the Seine, in order to limit the risks of flooding in Paris). 4- After 1.3 km and the crossing of the D384, you arrive at the Saint-Aubin chapel situated on the heights of Moëslains, classified as a historic monument, dedicated to the saint since 1490 when the bishop of Châlon-sur-Marne donated the relic of Saint-Aubin invoked during wars and epidemics. This place was the object of a pilgrimage every first Sunday in March. Not far away is the fountain of the venerated saint, to whose water pilgrims attributed miraculous virtues. Follow the signposts on the cycle path along the Der feeder canal for almost 5 km. At the intersection with the D24, turn left and return to the starting point.

D

Départ du circuit

Circuit interdit les jours de chasse :
renseignements en mairie

IGN n°3015 SB

12 km

3h00 à pied - 1h30 à VTT

Balisage

Green-Yellow



Départ

In Eclaron, on the town hall square

Difficulté

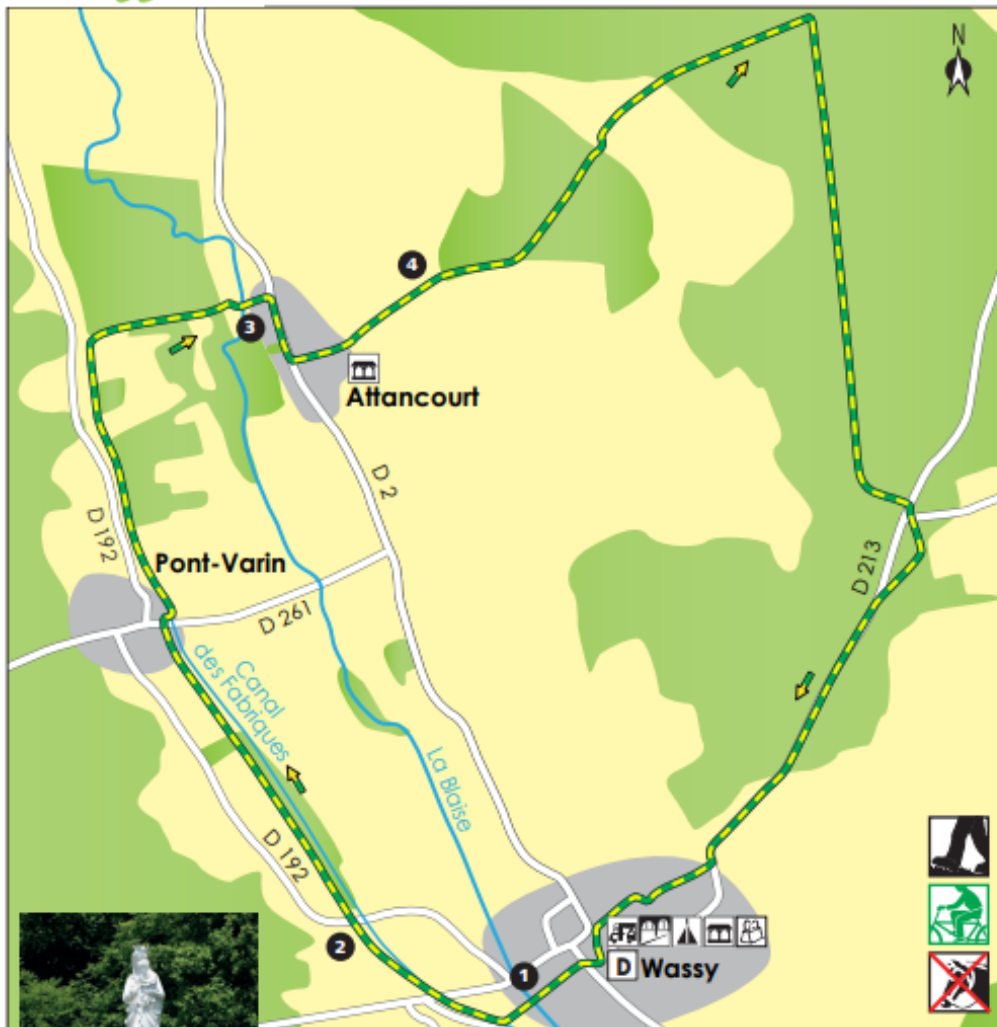
Easy Level









● Eclaron.




● Chapelle Saint-Aubin érigée sur une butte.





Vierge Blanche - Attancourt

 Départ du circuit	 Camping
 Aire de Camping Car	 Lavoir
 Ravitaillement	 Edifice religieux

 IGN
n° 3016 SB

15 km

 **4h00 à pied - 1h30 à VTT**

Green / Yellow 

Low difference in altitude

Start : Town hall, place Notre Dame, wassy

Beschrijving: At the beginning of the Place Notre-Dame, stands the Romanesque church of Notre-Dame-en-sa-Nativité, built in the 12th century. Take the rue du Temple to reach the rue du Val du Château (beware, no way round, get off your bike if you are on a mountain bike). On your left, observe the Grange du Massacre where the Wars of Religion began, then the Temple which evokes Protestantism from 1517 to 1905. Turn around, on the old house at n°2, rue du Val du Château, you can read a plaque which indicates that Camille Claudel, sculptor and his brother Paul Claudel, poet and academician, lived in this house. Option: Take the opportunity to walk around the recently renovated Place Marie Stuart. On this circular square, on your right, you will find the market hall and on your left, the theatre La Forgerie. Admire the street furniture from the Sommevoire art foundry (factory 13 km away). Go back to the Grange du Massacre and continue along the rue du Val du Château, then left onto the rue du Général Gresley, to cross the rue du Général DeFrance and join the rue du Général Leclerc opposite. Continue until you reach the Place du 14 juillet. On your left, you can access the Parc des Promenades and admire three remarkable art fonts (Le Faucheur, Le Triomphe de Galatée, Le Cerf). Return to the Place du 14 juillet.

1 - Cross the river La Blaise and continue along rue de la Gare. On your left, you will see a washhouse in rue du Champ d'Heu, called the Bécus fountain, after the neighbouring gardener. Its construction dates from the first half of the 19th century. It is supported by oak posts, the walls of the staircase are mainly made of ashlar. It has a beautiful paving and a nice roof. At the entrance to the 2nd street on the right, take the path leading down to the canal, walk along the canal for 400 m then cross the rue du Général de Lattre de Tassigny and continue along the banks on the other side of the canal. This canal, which bears witness to the rich industrial past of the area, was used to transport iron to the factories in Brousseval and Saint-Dizier.

2 - After 600 m, cross the RD192 and continue straight on along the canal. You will pass under an iron bridge of the former railway line which has become a cycle path. At the old Pont-Varin lock, continue straight ahead in a green area between the village and the canal. When you reach the RD261, turn right, go over the canal, cross the old railway line and then take the path on your left to the Port Sec lock. After travelling 1,500 m along the railway, at this lock, turn right onto the path which will take you 500 m further on to Attancourt.

3 - You arrive at the edge of the river Blaise, behind the old Griny mill with its waterfall (now a fire station and village hall). Cross the river by taking the metal footbridge, and continue straight on towards the RD2. Turn right into the main street of the village. 250 m further on, on your right, you can see the washhouse known as the Saint-Louvent fountain, which has an iron source, its walls are made of slag bricks, a material made from the residues of the blast furnace castings, its two cast iron columns reflect the metallurgical wealth of the area. Go back along the main street for 50 m, to turn left into Rue de La Motte. Option: You can continue to see the church dedicated to Saint-Louvent, remarkable for the architecture of the western portal, the bell tower and the choir dating from the second half of the 12th century. Return to the Rue de La Motte.

4 - At the end of the village, you will see a calvary on your left before seeing in the distance the statue of the Virgin Mary overlooking the village of Attancourt (a gift from an Attancourt family, erected at the end of the 19th century "to protect from hail"). Then be careful as the signposting is only provided by paint marks on the trees. Continue along the road for 2,700 m, passing the farm of La Motte and continuing on the road to Villiers-aux-Bois. At the end of a bend to the left, enter the wood on the right, where there is a white and red forest fence. This initially shaded path leads to a forest road and takes you to the RD213, 2,700 m away. Turn right and follow the RD123 to the first houses in Wassy. Before the first house on your right, take the Rue du Buisson Rouge on your right, then follow the signs to the Wassy town hall.



De Presqu'île en presqu'île

Des secrets en Champagne

n°104
plus de 18 km

Description From the car park, walk along the beach and take the path that leads to a small tarmac road.

1. Follow this road to the right and take the dike (beautiful view on the Cornée du Der cove).
2. At the end of the dyke, take the grassy path that leads to the forest. Follow the path to the Nemours marina, which you will pass along, and then come to the small road leading to the Brèche.
3. Turn right on the road and then, 150 m further on, left into a slice. Return to the Nemours crossroads by a path. Turn right and then left onto the path on the dyke.
4. Leave the dyke and turn right into the "Saint Laurent" forestry lane. The path then enters the state forest. Take a slice to the right about 150 m before reaching the road, the path allows some views of the Champaubert reservoir.
5. Then join the route des Mares, bordered by impressive cedar trees, which you follow for about 200 m before taking a path in the forest to the left which descends slightly.
6. Follow this path which runs along the edge of the state forest, on the slope bordering the Neuve Livière.
7. Join the route des Mares to cross the restitution canal, built when the Champaubert pond was created (the first "petit Der" in 1938) and which runs underground to the lake. At the crossroads with the Nemours - Saint Livière road, take the slice opposite, leading back into the forest.
8. Once again, go along the edge of the state forest on the hillside for almost 2 km, then go up by a slice on the left.
9. When you reach the road, turn right for 200 m, then the other small road on the left. It is then possible, by taking a path on the left, to return directly to the starting point, which reduces the circuit to 13 km.
10. Alternatively, continue straight ahead along the small road and then quickly take the path on the right to complete the 9 km tour of the Cornée du Der.

On the way THE FOREST OF DER The state forest of Der, managed by the ONF, offers numerous picnic areas and viewpoints on the lake. The colours of the landscape are sometimes striking. In summer, the green, grey-green and white hues of the aspens, white willows and reed beds dominate. At low water, the stumps of trees cut down when the lake was filled with water stand out, perched on their roots.



21 km	
6h00 à pied - 3h00 à VTT	
Balisage	Yellow-Yellow
Start : Cornée du Der, parking of the beach	
Difficult to cycle	
Difficult route (red level)	
Camping Point Pique-nique	Départ du circuit Point de vue
IGN n° 3016 Ouest : Montier en Der n° 3015 Est : Thiéblemont	



n°105
8 km **Le Vieux Der**

Description: From the washhouse, located near the mill, head towards the lake along a grassy path along the canal (on the left), which was built at the time of the canal (on the left), which was built when the Champaubert the creation of the Champaubert pond (the first "petit Der" in 1938).

1. Once you reach a small road, the road, the Mares Forest Road, the canal goes underground to the lake. Turn right then left and follow the small road in the direction of the Port de Nemours. Note the beautiful line of apple trees along the along the road.
2. At the Nemours crossroads, turn left twice onto the twice to the left along the dyke and follow the yellow markings. A small diversion to the Brèche (3 km round trip) gives access to a very beautiful viewpoint on the lake.
3. Leave the dam and turn right into the the "Saint Laurent" forest path. The path then enters the state forest. Take a slice to the right about 150 m before you reach the road, the path allows some views of the Champaubert reservoir.
4. Then join the route des Mares, bordered by impressive cedar trees, which to the right to leave the forest. Then follow the small road at the foot of the canal (a canal which, by gravity, brings water from the Marne to the Lac du Der).
5. Leave the poplar grove on your left then turn left onto a dirt track through the fields. through the fields.
6. When you reach the edge of the canal, take the to the right to return to the starting point in starting point in Sainte Livière



Illustration: Hervé LECOBAT



Illustration: Hervé LECOBAT

*Calopteryx splendens (Hannu)
(Calopterygidae)*
Hervé LECOBAT

Point Pique-nique Point de vue Départ du circuit

IGN n° 3016 Ouest : Montier en Der
n° 3015 Est : Thiéblemont

9 km

2h30 à pied - 1h00 à VTT

Balisage et

Blue-yellow	
Yellow-yellow	

Départ Sainte Livière,
in front of the wash house

Difficulté à VTT

Very easy tour
(Green level)

On the way

The birds of the Vieux Der At the various viewpoints on the lake, take the time to admire the birds going about their daily business: the pair of great crested grebes and their crested grebes and their little family, the macroule coot, recognisable by its white forehead and ivory beak with its white forehead and ivory beak which contrast with its black plumage, the kingfisher, a small blue arrow flying close to the water...