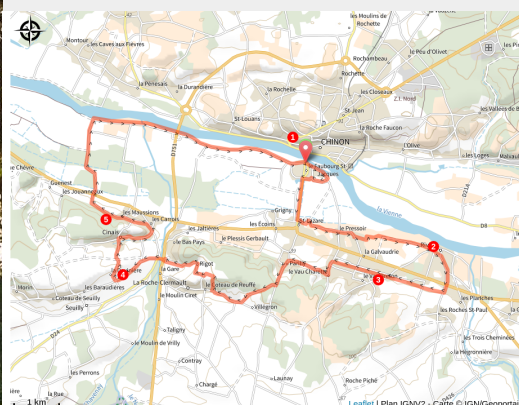


Following Rabelais' footsteps

Balades et randos région de Chinon - Chinon



(Pixabay)



Bike through the Chinon countryside in the footsteps of Rabelais, the famous writer whose museum is in Seully: take the opportunity to discover Rivière and its superb church, and stop off at Le Vazereau, a goat farm that sells its own produce!

Useful information

Practice : Cycling

Duration : 2 h 30

Length : 27.6 km

Trek ascent : 225 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Loop

Themes : Heritage and history

Trek

Departure : Chinon - Faubourg Saint-Jacques

Arrival : Chinon - Faubourg Saint-Jacques

Cities : 1. Chinon

2. Rivière

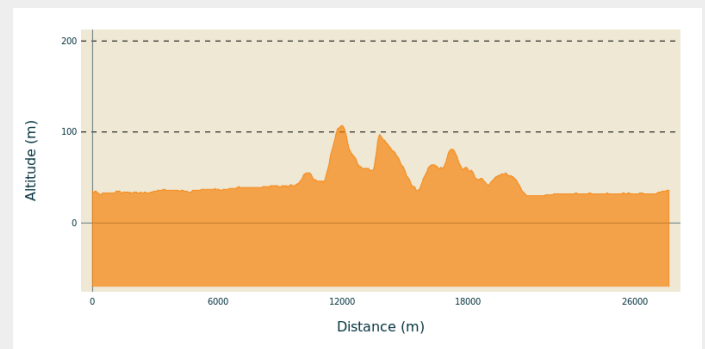
3. Ligré

4. La Roche-Clermault

5. Cinais

6. Seuilly

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 30 m Max elevation 107 m

1. Chinon, a medieval town, and its fortress

Chinon and its medieval city will take you back in time. Visit the royal fortress, where Joan of Arc and the future Charles VII met in 1429, and wander through the medieval town where you can sample a wide range of gastronomic specialities.

2. Rivière

This village, typical of the days of the bargemen, has at its heart the church of Notre-Dame, whose original architecture is well worth a visit. Stroll along the narrow streets leading up to the banks of the Vienne and pass by some of the oldest houses in the village (14th century).

3. The Voie Verte Richelieu - Chinon

For just a few kilometres, you'll follow one of the first connected greenways in France, in a natural environment rich in history. Grab your smartphone for this digital and cultural adventure.

4. La Devinière

Continue your gastronomic journey with Gargantua, and a visit to François Rabelais' home, La Devinière, in Seuilly.

5. Cinais

Climb up to the Roman Camp and discover its rare heather moorland and woodland.

The map displays the Chinon region in France, with a red route marked by five numbered stops (1-5) and a red pin at stop 1. The route starts at stop 1 in Chinon, goes south to stop 2 near Rivault, then west to stop 3 near le Vau Charette, stop 4 near la Roche-Clermault, and stop 5 near Cinais, before returning to Chinon. The map shows the Vienne river, major roads (D751, D24, D214, D8), and various towns including Chinon, St-Louans, Rochambeau, and Rochefort. A compass rose is in the top left corner, and a scale bar (0-1 km) is in the bottom left corner. The map is sourced from Leaflet | Plan IGN V2 - Carte © IGN/Geoportail.

All useful information

Environmental sensitive areas

Along your trek, you will go through sensitive areas related to the presence of a specific species or environment. In these areas, an appropriate behaviour allows to contribute to their preservation. For detailed information, specific forms are accessible for each area.

Site Natura 2000 des basses vallées de la Vienne et de l'Indre

Sensitivity period: January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, Decembre

The site was designated in 2005 under the Birds Directive. The Park has been coordinating the site since 2010 (initially for the period 2010-2016, then renewed for 2016-2019 and 2019-2022), in conjunction with the CPIE Touraine-Val de Loire and the Indre-et-Loire Chamber of Agriculture.

The low valleys are largely covered by natural flood meadows, which are mown and/or grazed. These meadows form large complexes that are home to rare and endangered birds: corncrake, red-backed shrike, meadowlark, spotted crake, etc.

Certain sectors are characterized by a dense bocage network, with pollarded trees surrounding the meadows (Véron bocage): this is the home of the Common Fritillary, Natterjack Toad, Great Capricorn...

Finally, the banks of the Vienne and Indre rivers are occupied by alluvial woodlands and poplar plantations.