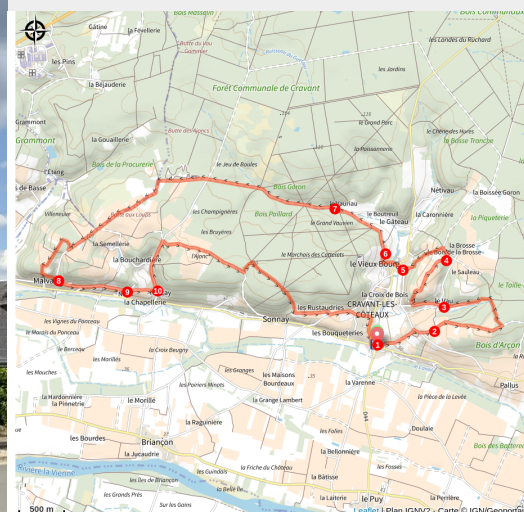


# The Vienne river's valley - Alternative route n. 3

Balades et randos région de Chinon - Cravant-les-Côteaux



*Cravant-les-Coteaux's footpaths let you discover the diversity of the commune's landscapes: wide panoramic views over the Vienne valley, a vast, game-filled forest and sun-drenched hillsides.*

## Useful information

Practice : Hiking

Duration : 4 h

Length : 15.2 km

Trek ascent : 272 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Loop

Themes : Fauna, Flora, Forest, Heritage and history, Vineyard

**Departure** : Cravant's Church

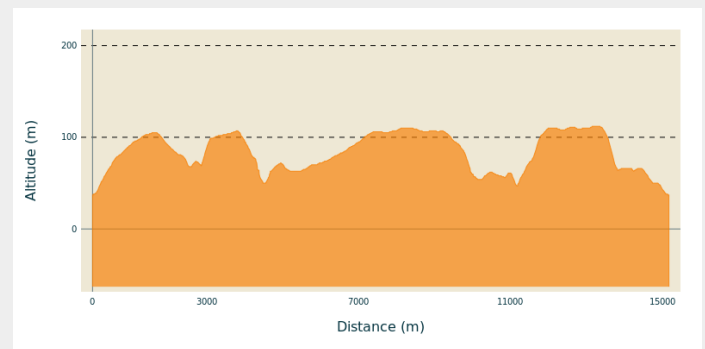
**Arrival** : Cravant's Church

**Markings** : — PR

**Cities** : 1. Cravant-les-Côteaux

2. Saint-Benoît-la-Forêt

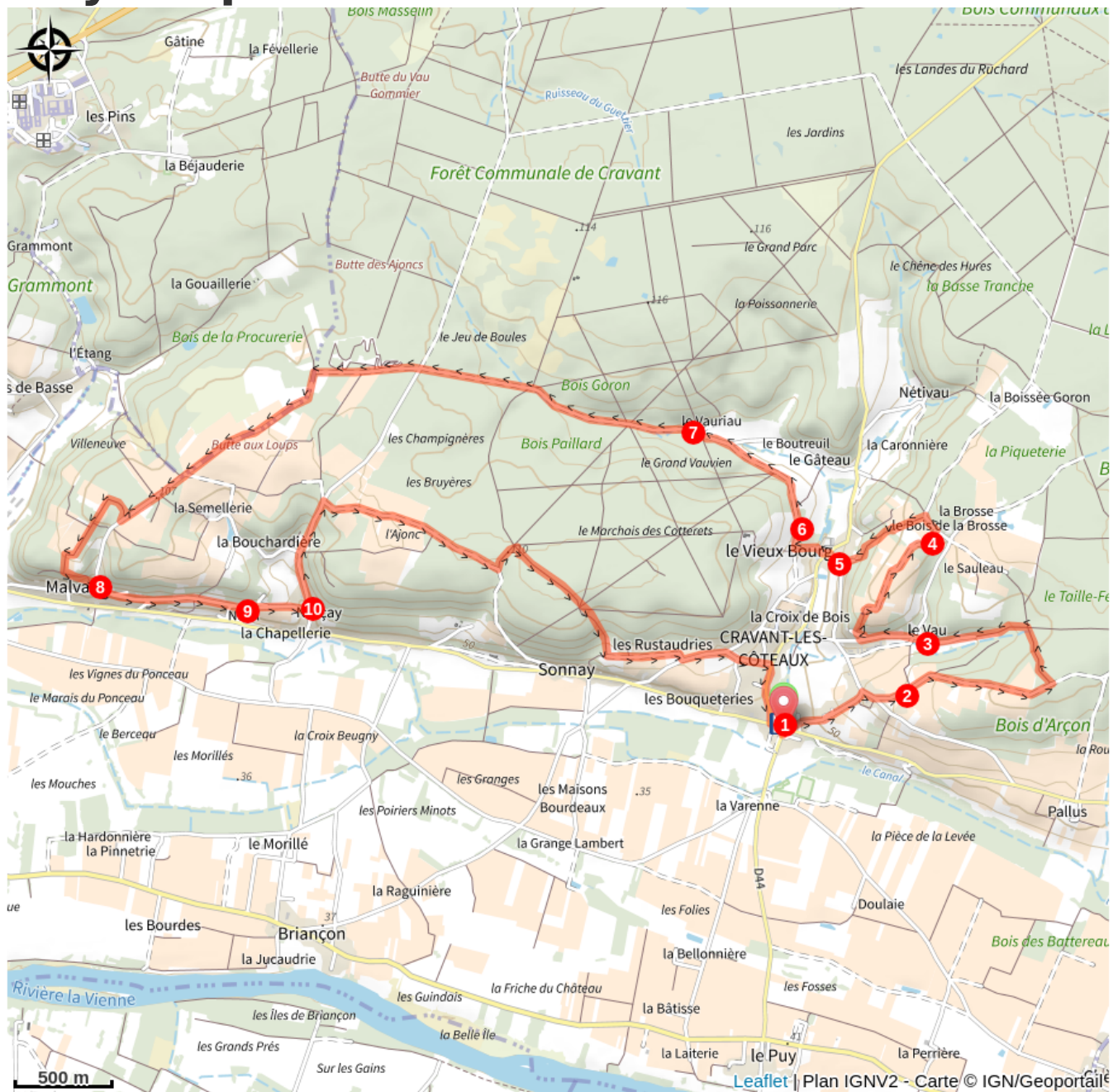
## Altimetric profile



Min elevation 37 m Max elevation 112 m

1. The village with the church of Saint-Léger (1865), the presbytery and the wash-house (1870).
2. Panorama, orientation table. Beautiful views over the Vienne valley and vineyards.
3. The footpath links up with the GR 48, which is also said to have been used by Joan of Arc, who set off from Sainte-Catherine-de-Fierbois on her way to Chinon. You can also join the Panzoult footpaths via the GR48.
4. Troglodytic houses: these remaining cellars are once again being sought as settlements.
5. Water tower.
6. View of the old castle: 14th-century fortress, altered at various times (private).
7. The old village:
  - Covered wash-house
  - The cemetery with its beautiful avenue of centuries-old yew trees
  - The old church (9th and 12th centuries), listed as a historic monument. This harmonious edifice, built over the St-Léger fountain, is typical of early Romanesque architecture in Touraine. Its nave is one of the few well-preserved examples of Carolingian religious architecture.
8. View of the Tesserie manor house (15th century).
9. View of the Pigeonnerie farm
10. Enter the forest, a haven for birds, small and large mammals. Here you can admire beautiful old oak trees and forest orchids ....
11. View over the Vienne valley and part of the vineyards.
12. Below the road: Manoir de Nueil (private): fortified farmhouse with a beautiful 16th-century entrance gate and pedestrian gateway.
13. Narçay: picturesque valley and wash-house  
Altitude marker: 110m.

# On your path...



# All useful information



## In the forest



## Circuit patrimoine

Les circuits patrimoine vous plonge dans l'histoire de la commune que vous visitez et vous permet de mieux appréhender les mœurs et coutumes d'antan.

## How to come ?

Advised parking

Place Pierre Alliet

# 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 crane, 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.

## Information desks

### OT Azay Chinon Val de Loire - Chinon

1 Rue Rabelais,, 37500 Chinon

[tourisme@azay-chinon-valdeloire.com](mailto:tourisme@azay-chinon-valdeloire.com)

Tel : 02 47 93 17 85

<https://www.azay-chinon-valdeloire.com/>

## Source

SPL Saumur Val de Loire Tourisme

<https://www.ot-saumur.fr/>