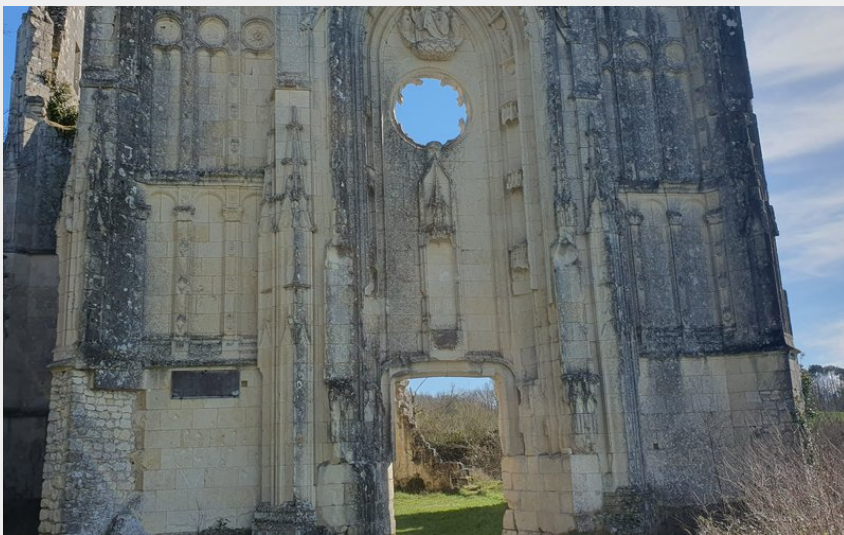


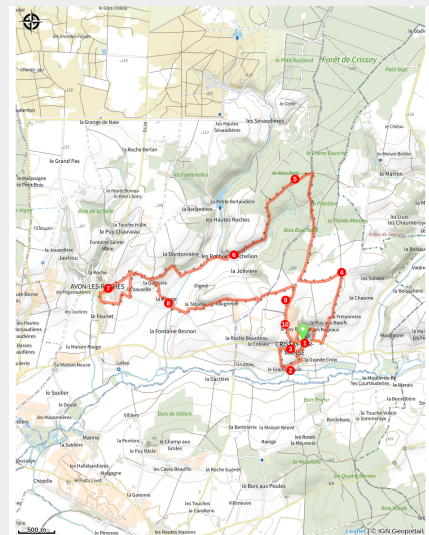
The Manse valley and its religious and historical heritage



Balades et randos région de Richelieu/Ile-Bouchard/Sainte Maure - Crissay-sur-Manse



Photographie de la collégiale des Roches-Tranchelion.



In the heart of Touraine, in the Manse valley, Crissay is listed as one of "France's Most Beautiful Villages". You will discover an exceptional architectural heritage, the surrounding landscape and neighbouring village of Avon-Les-Roches.

Useful information

Practice : Hiking

Duration : 3 h 30

Length : 14.6 km

Trek ascent : 216 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Loop

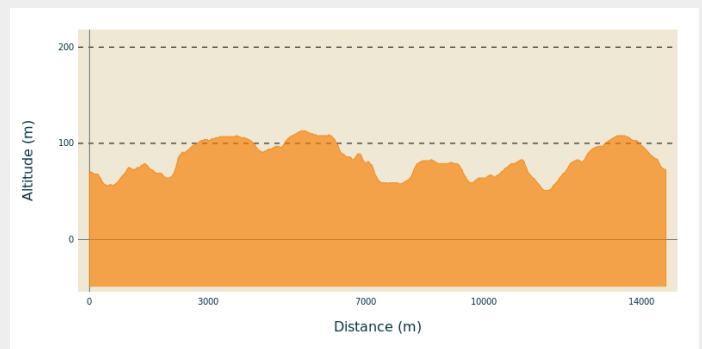
Trek

Departure : Car park in the Village, towards Saint-Épain

Arrival : Car park in the Village, towards Saint-Épain

Cities : 1. Crissay-sur-Manse
2. Avon-les-Roches

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 51 m Max elevation 113 m

1. Start

The 14-km-red-waymarked circuit (can be shortened if you wish) starts from the car park on the edge of the village in the direction of Saint-Épain. Take the white path that goes down towards the town hall (Mairie) and the 16th century church. Pass to the right of the cemetery then go right again after having a look at the washhouse next to the Manse river. (information panels will tell you about the fauna, flora, and mills).

2. Château de Crissay

Follow the path through the fields. In front of you stands the château de Crissay, built in the 15th and 16th centuries. You can see the ruins of the newer part of the château, being the northern facade, which remains the most intact. The magnificent gateway to the chateau, as well as the chapel and the servants' quarters have also remained.

3. Town centre

When you get to the road, head towards the village, turn left and then right onto the Rue du Château. Magnificent houses such as the Maison de Justice, the Maison du Grand Carroi and the Grande Maison, all built at the end of the 15th century, make an impressive sight. On the square, you will find information boards about the architecture and history of the village. The tufa stone used for construction illuminates the streets of the village centre. On the D21 road, in the direction of Saint-Épain, turn left towards Puys Renault then shortly turn back onto the D21 road and after a few metres, turn left towards Les Rageaux and Le Puy aux Boeufs.

4. Barn Carroi

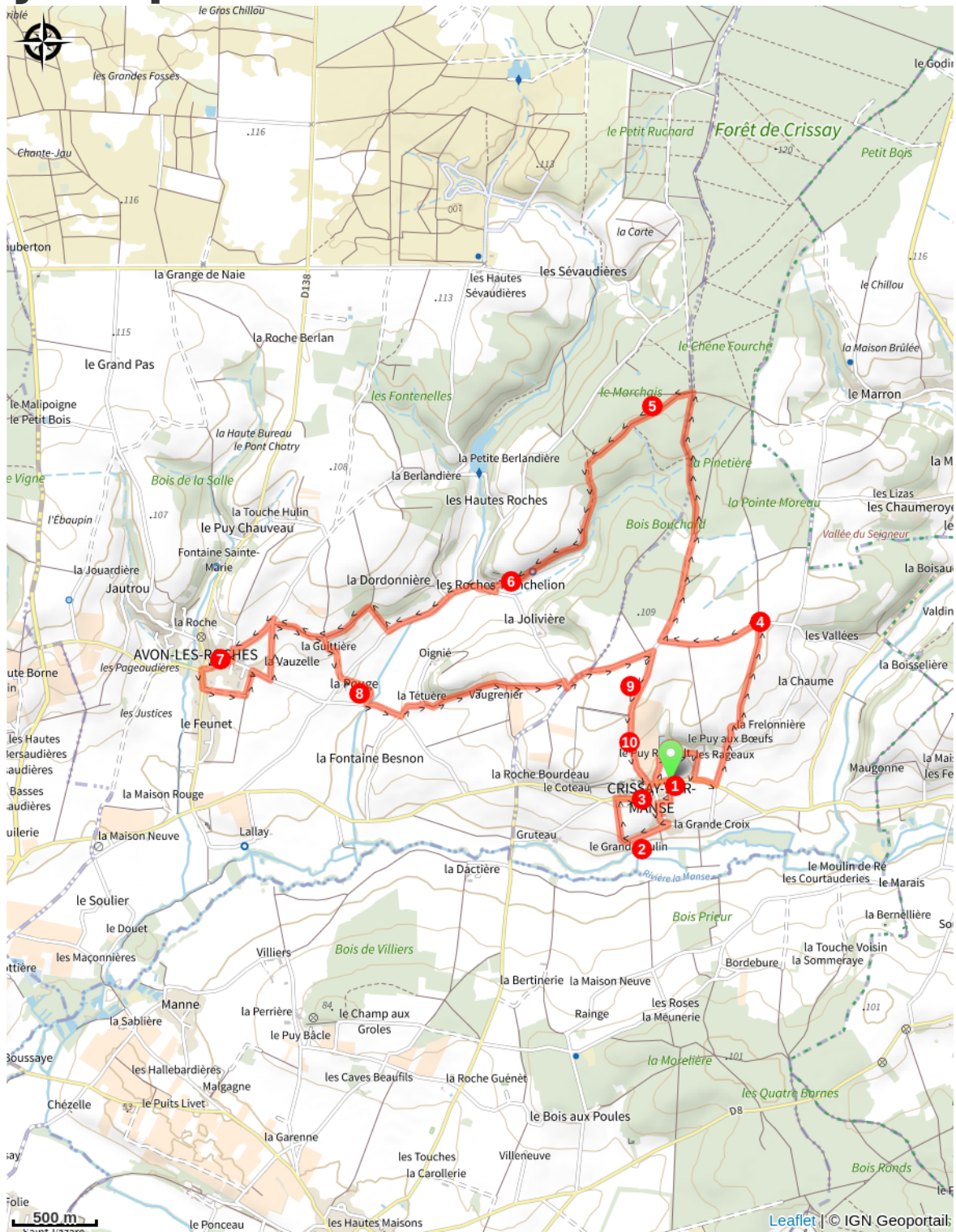
At the crest of the hill, turn left in the direction of the Carroi de la Grange. From this height, the view of the Manse and Vienne valleys, broken by various hamlets and cultivated fields, is exceptional. If you wish to return to Crissay directly, go left again. Otherwise, turn right.

5. Crissay Forest

You will now enter the beautiful Crissay forest, which comprises many species, mainly oaks and firs. After about 1700 metres in the woods, turn left and leave the shade of the trees to follow the Rue Chaude ("Hot Street"), so called because of its exposure to the sun. On the sides of the street are troglodytes dwellings, which were once inhabited.

6. Roches-Tranchelion
A little detour takes you to Les Roches-Tranchelion and its collegiate church. The ruins are impressive, in particular the flamboyant style of the facade, a rare example of religious French Renaissance architecture. Go back down the road, turn right and continue until you reach the Roches washhouse, where there's a picnic spot. After 500 meters, take the path to the right and then the path to the left to get to La Guitière. At the crossroads, go straight ahead to get to Avon, go left to go back to Crissay directly.
7. Avon-les-Roches
The village of Avon-Les-Roches also boasts a rich heritage with its church built in the 12th and 13th centuries. Be sure to stop in the cemetery which contains the graves of 78 Belgian soldiers who died during the First World War. Take the D 138 road and skirt the village to the left to get back to La Guitière again, then turn right.
8. Pouge hamlet
Descend to the hamlet of Pouge. Go through the hamlet to get to a washhouse. Turn left, then left again at the crossroads then right onto the dirt path. You can see the Oignié dovecote in the distance which has 2.000 putlog holes (pigeon nets) inside.
9. Vineyard
At the end of the path turn right then turn left. Notice the fields of vine. We are at the edge of the Chinon appellation wine area. To the right are the surrounding walls of the grounds of the château de Crissay. Turn right to return to the village.
10. Logis de la Poterne
As you walk down the road you will pass between troglodyte caves and dwellings dug into the tufa stone. Enjoy the shade they offer. To the right, notice a magnificent building, the Logis de la Poterne, formerly known as Porte Bigot, built in the 15th century. Go over the crossroads, then take the Rue du Puits-Auger and turn left to get back to the car park.

On your path...



All useful information

Information desks

OT Azay Chinon Val de Loire - Ste Maure

77 Av. du Général de Gaulle, 37800
Sainte-Maure-de-Touraine

tourisme@azay-chinon-valde Loire.com

Tel : 02 47 65 66 20

<https://www.azay-chinon-valde Loire.com/>

OT Azay Chinon Val de Loire - Chinon

1 Rue Rabelais,, 37500 Chinon

tourisme@azay-chinon-valde Loire.com

Tel : 02 47 93 17 85

<https://www.azay-chinon-valde Loire.com/>

OT Azay Chinon Val de Loire - Richelieu

Place du Marché, 37120 Richelieu

tourisme@azay-chinon-valde Loire.com

Tel : 02 47 58 13 62

<https://www.azay-chinon-valde Loire.com/>