

# On the steps of the French writer Honoré de Balzac



Balades et randos région d'Azay-le-Rideau - Saché



Château de Saché - Musée Balzac (David Darrault)



*Cette boucle de 19km vous amènera sur les pas de Balzac et vous fera traverser les villages de Saché, Pont-de-Ruan et Thilouze.*

## Useful information

Practice : Cycling

Duration : 2 h

Length : 18.6 km

Trek ascent : 180 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Loop

Themes : Heritage and history,  
River and stream

# Trek

**Departure** : Saché

**Arrival** : Saché

**Markings** :  Itinéraire cyclo

**Cities** : 1. Saché

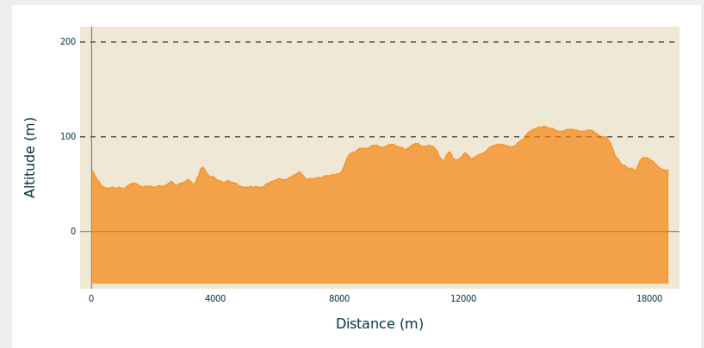
2. Pont-de-Ruan

3. Artannes-sur-Indre

4. Thilouze

5. Neuil

## Altimetric profile



Min elevation 45 m Max elevation 111 m

### 1. Saché and its Castle - Museum of Balzac

Around a central square which boasts a mobile by Alexander Calder, you will find a magnificent 15th century house. You can visit the Chateau de Saché, favourite place of inspiration for Honoré de Balzac.

### 2. Le Manoir de Vannes - Pont-de-Ruan

Balzac discovered this «little castle» and used it as the basis for the Chateau de Clochegourde, in home of the heroine of this novel «Le Lys dans la Vallée». The beautiful Indre Valley is the perfect setting for this little 17th century Chateau, which has remained unaltered since it was first built.

### 3. Les Moulins Lambert à Pont-de-Ruan

The Lambert watermills of Pont-de-Ruan and their waterfront garden. In a setting that invites you to a stroll, discover the small watermill and its museum, the wheels and the mechanisms explaining the production of flour, electricity and ice.

### 4. Thilouze

In his book «La Pucelle de Thilouze», Balzac mentions this charming village. Discover Thilouze, its historical heritage : the Gallo-Roman route, the wash-houses, castles and mansions.

# On your path...



# All useful information

 **Village à -2 km**

 **En plein air**

 **Rivière ou fleuve à moins de 300 m**

 **Vue sur fleuve ou rivière**



**A la campagne**

## **How to come ?**

Advised parking

Place de la mairie - Saché

# 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

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