

The Boucle des Trois Moulins

26 km - 7 hrs

Start:	Bretoncelles, 'complexe sportif' car park.
Direction:	clockwise
Signing:	yellow signposts and way markings
Ease of walking:	good
Ground condition:	dirt paths, often stony (72%)
Points of interest:	hikers' route: picturesque and varied, combines nature and heritage with part of the route on the Voie Verte (greenway); restaurant at mid-point of walk.

Leave the car park by passing in front of the schools. Left at the road junction and then right at the traffic lights. Head towards the village centre following the D918. On arriving at the Place Général de Gaulle take the direction of Condé-sur-Huisne.

1. At the bend in the road diverge to the right on a tarmac track that goes downhill and becomes stony leading to the mill, **Moulin d'Arrondeau**. Cross the **Corbionne** using the footbridge (note the ford to the right) and crossing stone bridge over the millstream. At the mill continue straight on towards la Moitillière. Walk on up to the cross, **la Croix Guérin**. Turn left following the yellow signpost. Pass by **La Rue** and **Saussay**. Continue along the tarmac road. At the **étang du Val**, pond on the right, continue along the stony path towards **le Val**.
2. On arriving at a gate take the path to the left. Follow this path down to the D38 at **Le Gravier**. Turn right onto the D road and continue for 250 m. Turn left towards **Le Noyer**. Take the path for **La Butte du Noyer** leading up into the forest. Pass under the power line. At the Y-shaped crossroad take the left fork to reach **La Bouillerie**.
3. At the crossroad take the left-hand path to rejoin the D287 at **La Marnière**. Follow it to the left for 250 m. Turn right towards **La Craponnerie**. Continue along the tarmac track then turn left at the junction. Pass through **Le Grand Ronceray** and **Le Trou Boutier**. Shortly after **La Gertrie** emerge onto a tarmac road, then take a left turn to arrive at **La Chaussée**. Coming into the hamlet take the path on the left. This passes by a small pond (picnic table) and leads to the centre of the hamlet. From there go to **La Chapelle Notre-Dame des Sept Douleurs** (picnic table) and continue along the D622 to **La Croix Saint-Michel**.
4. Follow the D622 on the right for 400 m. At the crossroad (calvary cross) take two left turns in succession, then after a short distance turn right. Go through the hamlet of **La Piffelière**. At the last of the houses take a dirt track that slopes gently towards the hamlet of **La Haute Roche**. Turn right then left and cross the **Corbionne** on a footbridge (picturesque setting) to reach **Le Moulin de la Basse Roche** (restaurant). Return via La Haute Roche and turn left and then right onto the greenway (**La Voie Verte**).
5. Follow the greenway for 5 kilometres, passing **La Noue** and **Le Cottage**.
6. At the **Halte de Dorceau**, former small railway station, take the road on the right, then cross the bridge over the **Huisne** (picturesque setting). After the **Moulin de Dorceau** (mill) turn right onto **Le Chemin (path) des Gains** and then **Le Chemin des Petites Rivières** crossing the **Couette**. Reaching the D10 turn right and continue for 20 metres. Cross the road and take the path opposite (**Le Chemin de la Fuie**), tarred to start with and then stony.
7. At the stone tower, **Beauregard**, take the right fork towards **La Guénetterie** then take a right-angle left turn towards **La Gibonnière**. Go through the hamlet, cross a local road and go up the forest track opposite. At the fork take the track on the left (**Chemin de César**) to follow the woodland path to the D38. Follow the D road on the right downwards for 100 metres and then go through the gate on the left and follow the forest path. Cross the wide power line alley and continue along the path on the edge of the forest of **Saussay** as far as the gate.

Return to the start via the itinerary 1 (above) in reverse.

