



THE HILLSIDES Guérande - La Turballe



13 km



3 hours 15



Guérande

Abrevoir car park

Access

around the ramparts, between the Porte Vannetaise and the Porte Bizienne



Guérande Tourist Information Office

1 Place du Marché au Bois
+33 (0)2 40 24 34 44



La Turballe

Place des Anciens Combattants

Access

in the village of Trescalan, next to the cemetery



La Turballe Tourist Information Office

Place Charles de Gaulle
+33 (0)2 40 24 34 44

Departing from Guérande or La Turballe, this trail takes you on a discovery of the white gold that is behind the prosperity of the Peninsula and is still responsible for its reputation today.

As you go up the hillside you'll be able to look down over the salt marshes. Enjoy a panoramic view of the Pointe du Croisic and the strait, which supplies the saltworks and its maze of basins with sea water. Don't miss a visit to the medieval town of Guérande.



From Guérande, leave the ramparts on your left. Take the Rue du Bouton d'Or, then opposite, the Rue du Parc des Bœufs. Turn right onto Rue Charles Le Goffic.



1 Carry on to Rue de la Maison Neuve. Turn left there. At the end of the road turn right, then take the 2nd left. Continue straight ahead, leaving the Vélocéan route on your right.



2 Near the village of Le Fan, take the Chemin du Boutouly on the right. Turn right, then left and left again to go to Trescalan.



3 Opposite the water tower, go straight ahead and continue towards the church of Trescalan. On the right-hand side of the route, the church's viewpoint offers a remarkable view of the Peninsula and its salt marshes.



Leave the church of Trescalan behind you, go up the street that runs alongside the cemetery and turn right, Rue de Kerigeole.



4 With your back to the cemetery, take Rue de Kerigeole down towards Trescalan. Then turn left onto Rue de Lo. 350 m further on, at the crossroads, turn right onto Rue de Sully and then head slightly left. At the intersection, cross the road to go straight on to the Chemin de la Garenne.



5 Turn left onto Rue du Petit Pré, then go alongside the quarry to head down to the salt marshes via the Route de Trévaly.



6 At the Trévaly manor house, take the path on the left which passes a farm, then continue towards the old Trévaly mill. At the next intersection, turn right to go towards Guérande or straight on to return to La Turballe (be careful when crossing the main road).



7 Continue straight on towards Guérande via the Chemin de Kersalio. At Le Requer, continue along the Route du Pigeon Frais and then turn right down the Route du Greguény. Turn left onto the Chemin du Dreuzeux and take the 2nd right just before the Calvary. The path leads off to the left. Continue along this path and go along a small sunken path lined with trees. Be aware that a sunken path is intended to drain off rainwater, so remember that the path may be wet in winter or after a rainy spell. Up on the hillside, this path offers an exceptional view of the Guérande salt marshes.



8 Continue straight ahead, taking successively the Rue de Poulion, then the Rue Poumaillard. At the roundabout, go up to the left and then immediately turn right to take the Chemin de Promarzin. At the intersection, turn left and continue straight ahead.



9 At the roundabout, take the 2nd right, Boulevard du Général de Gaulle, then the 2nd left, Rue Charles Le Goffic.

- To reach the medieval town of Guérande, take the 1st right, the Rue du Parc des Bœufs then opposite, the Rue du Bouton d'Or where the Abrevoir car park is located.

- To reach La Turballe, go straight on and then follow the instructions from 1.



GUÉRANDE, A 'VILLE D'ART ET D'HISTOIRE' (TOWN OF ART AND HISTORY)

Even today, the name Guérande is always associated with salt. It was thanks to this precious commodity that the city experienced its golden age at the end of the Middle Ages. Guérande benefits from a strategic position: in addition to its location overlooking the production basins, it also has easy access to the sea and is close to two river routes. The town acquired an important maritime fleet and flourished thanks to the salt and wine trade.

Guérande became the diplomatic capital of the duchy after the victory of Jean de Montfort in the War of the Breton Succession (1341-1364). The town is surrounded by ramparts flanked by six towers and with four entrance gates. Within the city walls, at the crossroads, stands the collegiate church of Saint Aubin. Shops and mansions flourish around the square of the same name and along the shopping streets, such as Rue Saint-Michel.

The increasing sand deposits in the ports of Guérande from the 16th century onwards led to a decline in commercial activity, to the benefit of Le Croisic and Batz-sur-Mer. The disappearance of the vineyard and the removal of the college of canons during the Revolution further weakened the town.

It is perhaps to this episode in its history that Guérande owes its state of preservation. When he discovered the town in 1830, Balzac described it as 'a unique town'. He saw it as a 'magnificent jewel of feudalism, proudly set to command the sea and the dunes' [...], whose 'fortifications seemed to have been completed only yesterday.' Guérande has now been awarded the 'Ville d'Art et d'Histoire' (Town of Art and History) label.



TO SEE ON THE WAY...

- the view of the Guérande salt marshes
- the Trescalan viewpoint



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LA BAULE
PRESQU'ÎLE DE
GUÉRANDÉ
TOURISME

