



## FROM THE RIVER MÈS TO THE 'BOCAGE'

## Mesquer / Piriac-sur-Mer / La Turballe



14,5 km



1h05



**Starting point:** Place de l'Hôtel - Mesquer



**Circuit ends:** Lay-by de Boulle - La Turballe

### Type of circuit:

- Route using low-traffic density roads & dedicated cycle paths
- *Vélocéan* cycle route.



### Tourist Office Mesquer-Quimiac (44420)

Place de l'Orée du Bois - Quimiac  
Tel. 02 40 42 64 37 - [www.labaule-guerande.com](http://www.labaule-guerande.com) -  
[mesquer-quimiac@bretagne-plein-sud.fr](mailto:mesquer-quimiac@bretagne-plein-sud.fr)



### Tourist Office Piriac-sur-Mer (44420)

7 rue des Cap-Horniers  
Tel. 02 40 23 51 42 - [www.labaule-guerande.com](http://www.labaule-guerande.com) -  
[piriac@bretagne-plein-sud.fr](mailto:piriac@bretagne-plein-sud.fr)

'Turf' to 'surf', set off on an outing which will bedazzle you with its ever changing colours and landscapes. From the salt marshes to the 'bocage' to the vastness of the ocean which stretches out before you. Enjoy the savoury and 'fresh from the sea' flavours at the little port of Kercabellec and the rustic delights of the countryside. Your circuit ends in the heart of the wood 'Le bois de Boulle' where you can take a well-deserved break. This unique circuit is an experience which gives us all 'food for thought'!



### THINGS TO SEE ALONG THE WAY...

#### • The port of Kercabellec

Until the beginning of the XIXth century the harbour of Merquel provided safe haven at Kercabellec for the port of Mesquer. In 1841 the latter had a fleet of some 50 large cargo vessels which provided both the small and higher volume cabotage, most of which was dedicated to the transport of salt. During the last few years of its activity Kercabellec was the site for the installation of many modern facilities. Only the small building which housed the port's shipping office and the moorings at Kercabellec, which are exclusively reserved for wooden hulled boats, still remain today to bear witness to the shipping activity of years gone by. Today oyster farming has become a major 'industry' at Kercabellec.

#### • 'La bôle de Merquel' and its headland

'La bôle de Merquel' is an area which includes salt marshes, meadows and dunes. It is a large nesting area for the Common Tern, a colony of which settles here every spring. Please ensure that you respect the flora and fauna of this fragile natural environment by remaining on the path and by not picking any of the flowers. Beyond 'la bôle de Merquel' lies the headland 'Pointe de Merquel', an ideal spot for a Sunday walk and where you'll find two orientation tables and a belvedere to observe the bird life.

#### • The headland 'Pointe de la Croix'

There is no 'croix' (cross) here in fact but an exceptional panoramic view out to sea and along the coast. On a clear day you can sometimes see beyond the island of Dumet from port to starboard: the peninsula of Rhuy (Sarzeau), Pénerf, Damgan, the mouth of the river Vilaine, the beach of Lanséria. Some still recall that at the time of the Rogations (a religious festival) the parishes of Mesquer and Piriac-sur-Mer would meet here for a celebration. At the boundary between the two towns they would set up a temporary altar and cross.



### DID YOU KNOW...

#### • Dumet island

The island Dumet, situated just 6 km from the coast of Piriac-sur-Mer, is in fact the only island off of the department 'Loire-Atlantique'. Some 600 m long and 150 m wide, it occupies a strategic position, close to the mouth of the river Vilaine, which means that it was often witness to many a naval battle. It was abandoned by its last inhabitants in 1986 and has belonged since 1994 to the 'Conservatoire du Littoral' (coastal protection agency).



### WHERE TO HIRE YOUR BIKE

- **Bertho Nautique** - 276 rue du Moulin à eau - Quimiac - Tel. 02 40 42 50 56
- **Camping le Prad'Héol** - 180 rue du Moulin à Eau - Quimiac - Tel. 02 40 15 34 21
- **Piriac en Vélo** - Garage Piriac Auto - Rue du Pladreau - ZA - Piriac-sur-Mer Tel. 02 40 60 12 99 - 06 25 13 00 08



### TO GO JUST A LITTLE FURTHER...

- **Circuit n°6** 'Salt & fresh waters'
- **Circuit n°7** 'The circuit of the fishermen'
- **Circuit n°8** 'Historic towns & villages'

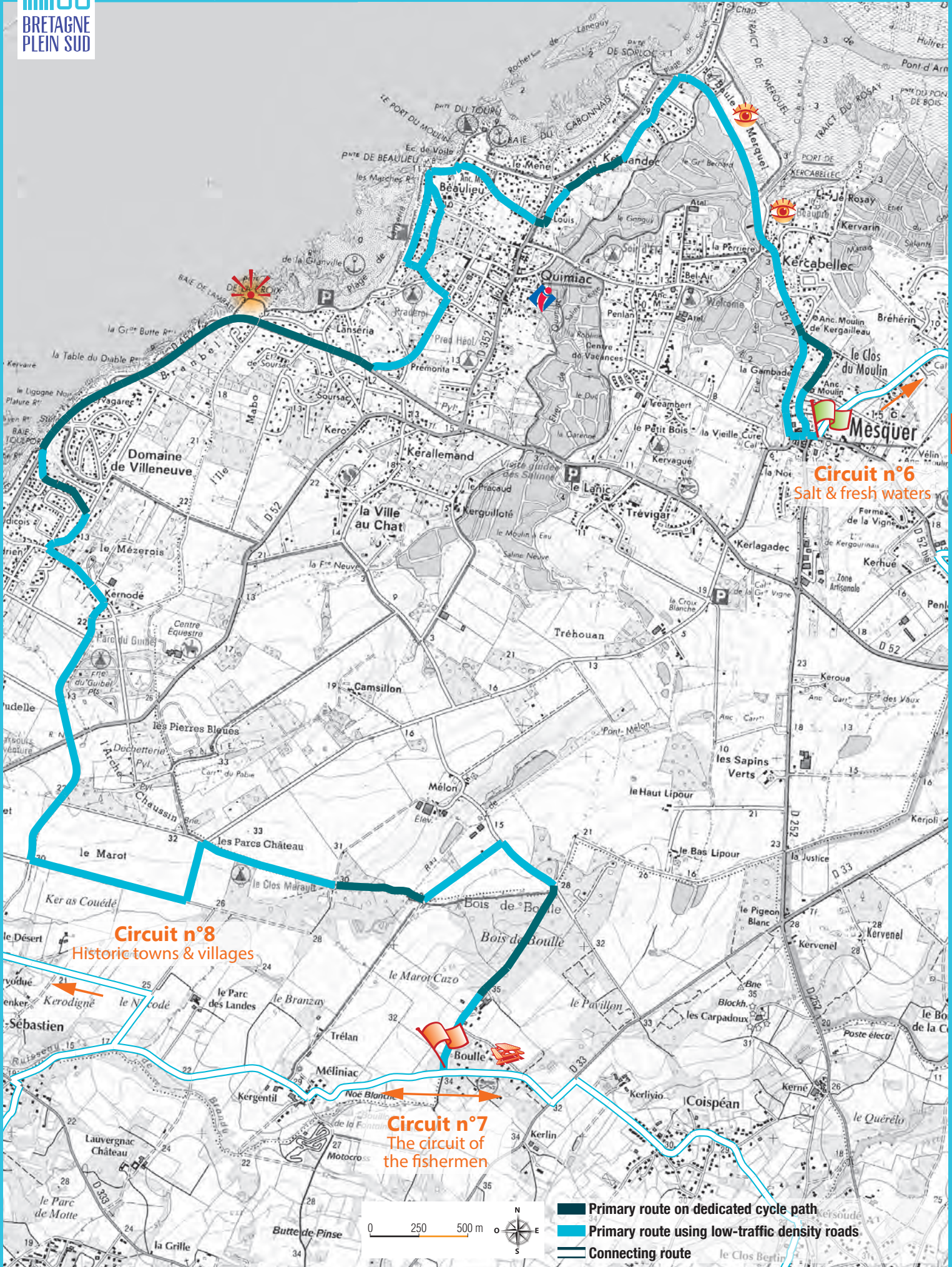




14,5 km



1h05



**Circuit n°6**  
Salt & fresh waters

**Circuit n°8**  
Historic towns & villages

**Circuit n°7**  
The circuit of the fishermen

- Primary route on dedicated cycle path
- Primary route using low-traffic density roads
- Connecting route