



Parc
naturel
régional
de Brière



WILD LANDSCAPES Férel / Herbignac / Assérac

Itinerary 1:

13.2 km 1 hour 05

Itinerary 2:

23.8 km 1 hour 55

Departure: Place de la Mairie - Férel

Arrival : Pointe de Pen Bé - Assérac

Characteristics:

- Itinerary on quiet roads and cycle paths
- CAP à Vélo route

Assérac Tourist Information Point (44410)

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From Férel, there are two possible routes. For a longer exploration, stop off in Herbignac, or combine two routes in the same direction: the Pointe de Pen Bé in Assérac. Discover an array of landscapes: villages and wooded countryside, dunes and moors, coastline and marshes... The numerous viewpoints and the diversity of the habitats you'll pass by mean that you're guaranteed to see particularly rich fauna and flora.

TO SEE ON THE WAY..

• Assérac

You will enjoy the varied landscapes in this seaside town, such as the salt marshes, beaches, oyster beds and hiking trails. The wealth of Assérac is thanks to the bays of Pen Bé and Pont-Mahé, a real paradise for swimmers and kite-surfers, the Mès salt marshes and the famous salt (called 'Guérande salt').

• The moors of Pen Bé

This is the largest coastal heathland that still exists today in our territory. You'll find the typical plantlife of this sort of habitat, made up of heathers such as bell heather or the much higher green heather. There is also western gorse, a subspecies of the European gorse, which gives off a wonderful coconut scent when it blooms at the end of winter...

• The manors of Assérac

The history of Assérac is marked by the presence of wealthy families, who have left behind them, significant architectural heritage consisting of manors, charming houses, mills and other dwellings, dating from the 14th to the 18th century. The first lords of Assérac lived in the commune until the 12th century, before moving to Herbignac. Then the Rochefort and the Rieux lords rules over the village, which became a marquisate in 1574. In ancient times, the term marquisate was used to describe a fiefdom close to a border and so straddling two or three counties. For example, Pénestin was part of Assérac until 1767. Also, did you know that until 1939, the railway lines criss-crossing the Peninsula served the two stations of Assérac. During your exploration, take the time to come and see the old manor houses, such as the manor house of Faugaret, home of the first lords of Assérac, or the manor house of Kerougas, built on an old fortress (these houses are also private properties, please respect them).

FIND OUT MORE...

• Oyster farming in the Pen Bé strait

The strait here is an enclosed bay subject to the tides. This is a characteristic feature of the Guérande peninsula as it brings sea water into the salt marshes and is particularly well suited to shellfish farming. In the Pen Bé strait, oyster farming is predominant. Introduced in the second half of the 18th century, the flat oysters of Morbihan, decimated by a disease, were replaced by Japanese hollow oysters. They are grown in bags placed on iron tables and are submerged depending on the tides. Not far from the coast, in the Mès salt marshes, basins have been converted into oyster beds and are used for the maturing process. Three to four years of maturation are necessary before they can be consumed.

CONTINUE ON YOUR WAY..

- Itinerary n°1 "From the Vilaine to the bouchots"
- Itinerary n°2 "From the port of Tréguier to the Pointe de Pen Bé"
- Itinerary n°4 "From the thatched cottages to the marshes"
- Itinerary n°6 "Tour of the Mès marshes"



