



CAMOËL - FÉREL CONNECTING ROUTE



 7 km  1 hour 45

 Camoël town hall car park

Access
Camoël town centre


 **Pénestin Tourist Information Office**
Allée du Grand Pré +33 (0)2 40 24 34 44

THE FISHWAY

Some species of migratory fish are used to moving from the salt waters of the Atlantic to the freshwaters of rivers to breed or feed. This is particularly the case in the Vilaine. To overcome the obstacle of the dam, the Institution d'Aménagement de la Vilaine built a fishway there in 1996. It allows shad, lamprey and other mullets to travel upstream thanks to a clever network of channels and sluice gates.

Eel fry, or elvers, unable to swim against the current, have a special passageway made up of inclined planes and brushes allowing them to reach a fish tank where they are counted before being released upstream.

From Camoël, this connecting route allows you to reach the Férel hiking trail in the village of l'Isle. After crossing through the village of Vieille Roche, return to the Arzal-Camoël dam. Upstream of the dam, the Vilaine, once an unpredictable river, has become a vast body of freshwater, suitable for 'nautical yoga'. It is hard to imagine that this area was once dependent upon the tides. Gradually, the river becomes narrower and winds its way through a deep valley. Let us guide you...

 Walk towards the church and go round it to the left, then take the 2nd right to on the Chemin de Mauportuis. Continue on this path.

1 At the junction with the main road, continue straight on to the village of Vieille Roche.

2 Cross the RD 139 and take a small path on the left which leads you to Arzal-Camoël marina. Go down the wooden steps to reach the entrance to the marina. Leave the route for a short detour, cross the road and climb the hill opposite, where you'll find orientation tables, so you can stop for a break and enjoy an exceptional view of the dam.

This structure was commissioned in 1970, and its main goal was to stop flooding: a system of sluice gates regulates the level of the Vilaine, while at the same time containing the tides. This has also created a significant freshwater reserve, which is useful for drinking water production. A lock allows the passage of boats and there is a fishway which makes the passage of migratory species easier, to a certain extent.

3 Then go alongside the marina until you cross a footbridge. At the top of the hill, turn left and continue on this path.

4 Follow the banks of the Vilaine. Before you reach the Drézet water treatment plant, take the path on the right. Go around the factory and back down to the river via some shaded steps.

5 Go up the path that runs along the banks of the Vilaine, turn left and continue to the village of l'Isle in the commune of Férel. From there, you can retrace your steps back to the starting point or go to the 'Petite Cité de Caractère' (charming little town) of La Roche-Bernard (see sheet n°5 - The banks of the Vilaine - Férel)

TO SEE ON THE WAY...

- Arzal-Camoël marina
- the banks of the Vilaine





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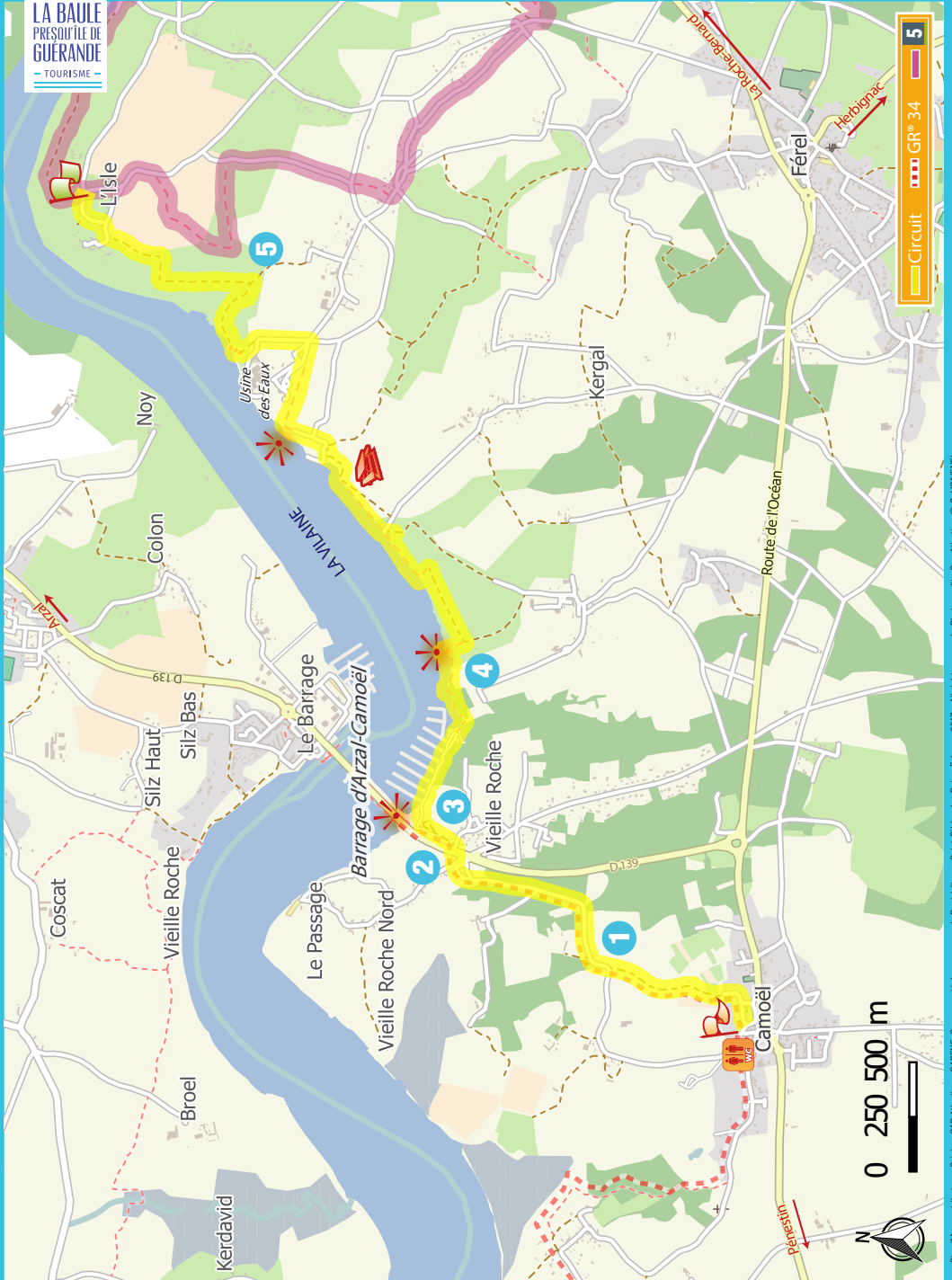


7 km



1 hour 45

LA BAULE
PRESQU'ÎLE DE
GUÉRANDÉ
TOURISME



5

— Circuit — GR° 34

0 250 500 m

