




THE EMBANKMENTS Saint-Malo-de-Guersac



 **8.3 km**  **2 hours 15**

 Section with a risk of flooding in winter

 Parking des Écluses

Access

from Montoir-de-Bretagne, take the RD 50 and cross through the town of Saint-Malo-de-Guersac.

As you leave the village, at the Rozé roundabout, go right and park in the car park

Brière Tourist Information Office

Maison du Parc - Village of Kerhinet - Saint-Lyphard
+33 (0)2 40 24 34 44

Saint-Nazaire Tourist Information Office

Submarine base
Boulevard de la Légion d'Honneur
+33 (0)2 40 22 40 65

ROZÉ AND THE BOATS

There were three types of boat that sailed along the Brière, essential for communication between the islands and for trade in peat and 'Noir de Brière' to the outside world: the barge, often built by its user and which could be equipped with a sail called the 'trinquette'; the 'blin' barge used for heavier transport (peat, domestic animals, etc.) and the longboat, short or bow-fronted, which was used for sailing on the Loire and the ocean. Today the longboat has completely disappeared from local navigation and only the barge is still used frequently on the Brière and is built on-site.

At the Lockkeeper's house, history is brought back to life. Gone are the longboats and 'blin' barges of yesteryear, the little port with its skilled carpenters, taken over by the naval shipyard of Saint-Nazaire, has fallen asleep. The bustling traffic has ceased. The islands where the houses are clustered together still bear some pearls of greenery recovered from the marsh. In the waters of the Brivet, we can now only imagine the prestigious boats that were once built here, thanks to the booming Brière industry.

 From the Rozé site car park, turn left onto Rue de la Petite Brière and carry on for about 200 m.

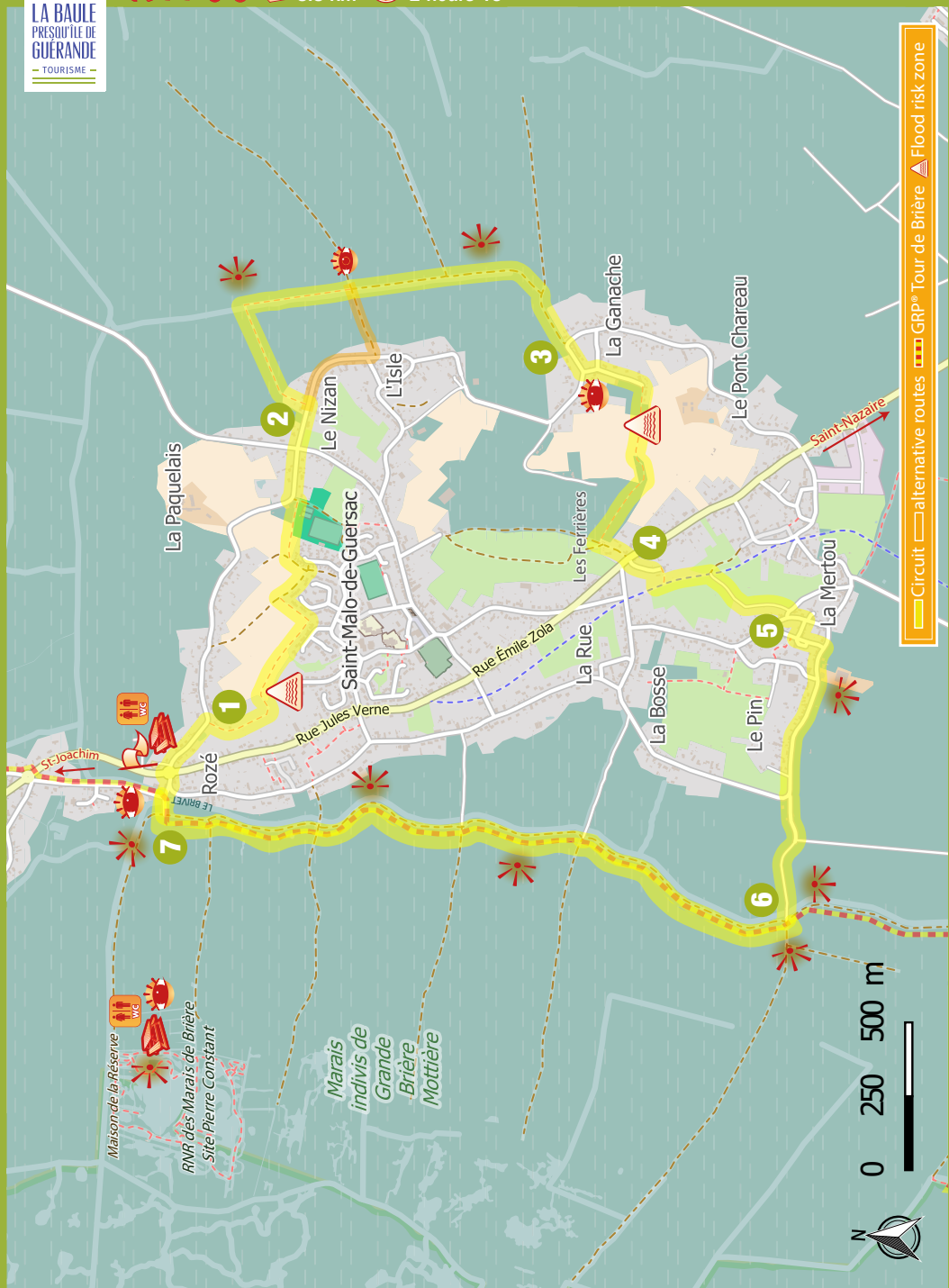
- 1 Turn right and take the path leading to the Gagnerie de Guersac. Continue to the left until you reach the leisure complex. Go back to the road and carry on as far as Nisan.
- 2 To the left, turn onto the Ganache marsh farm track and then, to the right, follow the wet meadows. Take your binoculars and observe the birds in this area!
- 3 At the Ganache cross, go straight on and then turn left onto the Impasse des Gagneries. Go past the bread oven and then straight across La Gagnerie to Les Ferrières.
- 4 Take the Impasse des Dabonnières opposite, making sure to use the designated crossing a little further up on your right. At the end of the cul-de-sac, turn left and follow the cycle track for about 200 m. Then turn right onto the Chemin des Gros Bouillons.
- 5 Turn right then left and go down the road to La Croix du Pin. Take the first right and then the first left to reach Rue du Pin. Continue on your right to the Pont du Pin.
- 6 After crossing over the Brivet, take the path on your right. You are in the intermediate zone between the Brièremarshes and its islands, go up along the Brivet to the locks.
- 7 There are two possibilities:
 - On your right, go past the Lockkeeper's House and the bridges, then cross the roundabout to get back to your starting point.
 - On your left, follow the Rozé canal to reach the Brière Marshes Regional Nature Reserve, the Pierre Constant Reserve site. In a protected area of 25 hectares, a 1.5 km walking trail leads you through reeds and meadows, alongside mudflats and 'piardes'. You might catch a glimpse of the inhabitants of this aquatic environment, going about their day, sometimes hidden away. The information panels and games will teach you everything you need to know about this living world: insects, batrachians, reptiles, plants, as well as traditional human activities. (Opening hours: enquire at the Maison du Parc - Brière Tourist Office).

TO SEE ON THE WAY...

- the Grande Brière Mottière marsh and its islands
- the Brivet
- the port of Rozé
- the Brière Marshes Regional Nature Reserve




 8.8 km  2 hours 15



 alternative routes  GRP® Tour de Brière  Flood risk zone