

To see, to discover

Montbazon keep

Built in 991 by Foulques Nerra nicknamed the Black Falcon, Montbazon keep is considered to be one of the oldest monuments in France.

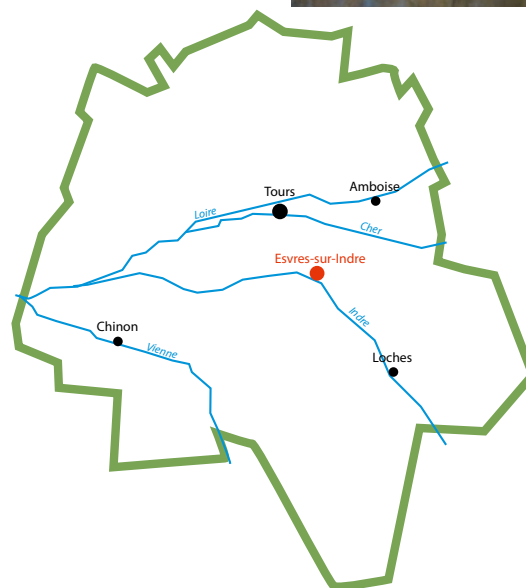
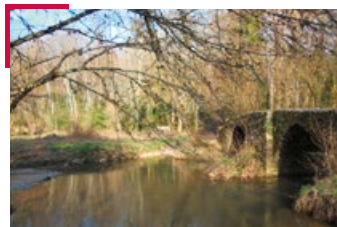
Numerous events are held here in the summer season.

Cormery

With a remarkable religious heritage, this pleasant village is not to be missed

The Candé Estate

Candé, with its neo-gothic style castle, is one of the most prestigious estates in the Indre valley, it boasts a vast, hilly park and a dramatic view of the majestic river. Owned by the Conseil general d'Indre-et-Loire, the estate is open to the public and offers numerous cultural activities and events, all the while promoting the site's value.



Walking charter

Cherish and respect nature. Listen to it, do not spoil it and do not harm it. Stay on the trail and be discreet. Do not damage plants or undergrowth. Do not smoke in the forest or do not light fires. Do not scare animals. Do not neglect human contact. Respect and get to know this rural world that welcomes you.

This material is funded by the Indre-et-Loire Council as part of the Footpath and Hiking Trail Regional Plan.

If you encounter any problem during the process of your walk, please inform us at sentinelles.sportsdenature.fr

LABEL BALADE
EN TOURAINE



Hiking
NATURE AND HERITAGE

Between rivers,
chateaux and watermills

**Esvres-
sur-Indre**

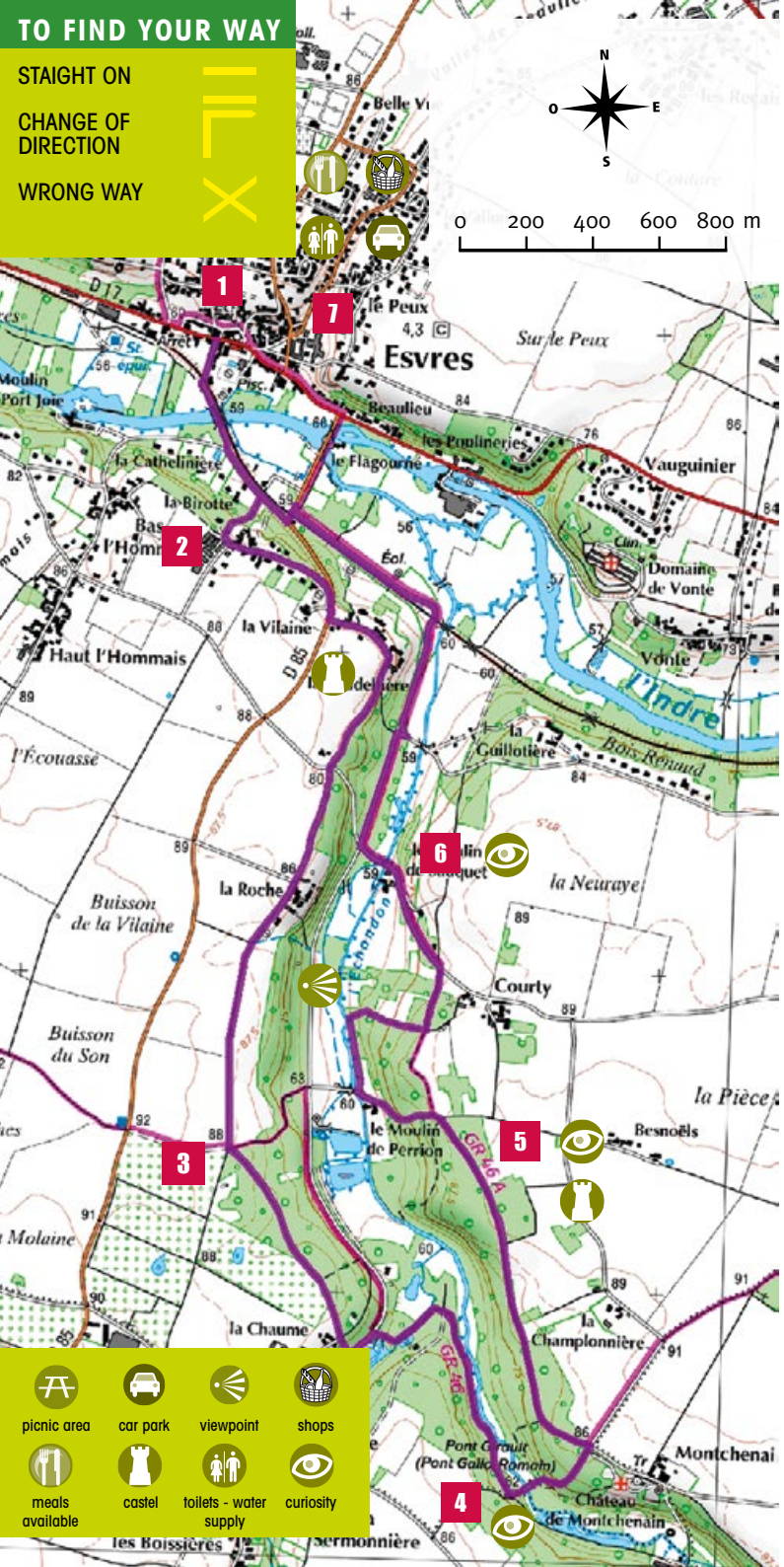
2h30 - 10km - easy

TO FIND YOUR WAY

STRAIGHT ON 

CHANGE OF DIRECTION 

WRONG WAY 



A series of plateaus, lakes, castles, mills and bridges come one after the other... and make this trail a showcase for built and natural heritage.

1

Saint Médard forecourt

The 10-kilometre circuit, guided by yellow way-markers, starts from the **Parvis Saint Medard** in front of the church founded in 470 and rebuilt in the 12th century, and the **Chateau d'Esvres**, former seigniorial home built in the 13th century. Head towards «rue Nationale» and turn right, then left onto rue de la Passerelle. Cross the **railway track** and onto the old iron bridge of the disused Esvres-Le Grand-Pressigny line (in service from 1889 to 1949) which runs alongside the Tours-Loches railway line, which is still in use. From the foot-bridge you will see on your right the **Port Joie** watermill. Turn left onto the path which runs alongside the road. After 100 metres, turn right and follow the dirt path leading to La Birotte.

2

Château de la Villaine

Turn left following the way-markers. When you come to the D 85 road, turn right and then left. You will pass first the «**château de la Villaine**», built in the 19th century, and then the «**Logis de la Baudelliere**», built in the 17th century. Continue straight ahead through cultivated fields and pastures. After crossing a tarmac road pass alongside the 15th century «**Manoir de la Roche Farou**», which includes a chapel and truncated dovecote.

3

La Chaume hamlet

Continue straight on to the hamlet «**La Chaume**», then left to go down a path to the road. Continue on the road for about 50 metres. Turn right onto a path. After the ponds you will walk along the «**Mouru and Echandon**» valleys in underwood.

4

Le Pont Girault

When you come to the crossroads, turn left and cross the «**Pont Girault**» bridge. You are following in the steps of Joan of Arc. According to the legend, she went over this bridge in March 1429 on her way from Loches to Chinon to meet the future King Charles VII. At the top of the slope you will come to the «**chateau de Monchenain**». Admire its 14th century portal. Take the path to the left and continue straight on under a beautiful canopy of trees.

5

Perrion Mill

Turn left following the **Balades en Touraine** sign. You will come to the «**Perrion**» **watermill**. During several centuries many watermills were in operation on the Echandon and the Indre rivers. The way that they worked was simple: the flow of the river drove the paddle wheel which caused a millstone to grind around 150 kg of wheat an hour. Turn right onto the path which runs along the Echandon river then right again onto the sloping path and then left.

6

Sauquet Mill

When you get to the tarmac road turn left and go down to «**Sauquet water mill**». At the beginning of the 19th century, an inventory of the mills in Touraine recorded 798 water mills and 58 wind mills. After the Echandon river take the first tarmac road on your right and then the path in underwood which corresponds to the old Esvres-Le Grand Pressigny railway line. Cross the Tours-Loches railway line and turn left to reach the «**Bollee**» **wind turbine** on your right.

7

Wind turbine Bollée

Commercialised at the end of the 19th century by **Auguste Bollee**, a hydraulic engineer, this wind turbine enabled the irrigation of vegetable gardens and fountains and supplied the «**Chateau de la Vilaine**», perched on the hillside.

Go back to the road, cross the railway line once again when you get to the level crossing on the D 85 and then follow the D 85 carefully for less than 100 metres then turn right onto the old iron bridge before crossing the railway line for the final time to get back to the car park.

