


The 400 Rounds PR®

A walk in a little valley of two rivers: the Dien and the Iles, which feed the wetlands enjoyed by many water-fowl hunters.

 Time: 4 hours 10 mins

 Distance: 12.5km

 Route: moderate

Starting at:
Ponthoile Church.

Ponthoile, 26km north-west of Abbeville, 9km south of Rue.



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La Somme

- ① From the Place de l'Eglise (church square), Route de Noyelles, go past the cemetery. At the junction, turn left along Chemin du Mont-Gréval to reach Bonnelle. At the hamlet, turn right at the corner of Rue Bayard. Ignore Rue du Marais de Bonnelle on the left. Cross the bridge and continue to the road.

▶ *Small waterfall*

- ② At the crossroads, follow the road to the right to reach Sailly-Bray. Go straight on at the junction.

- ③ At the Oratory, turn right along Rue du Marais, which becomes a track, until you reach Pont-le-Dien.

▶ *In these wetlands you will find the famous Hut of 400 Rounds.*

- ④ Turn right at the picnic area, cross the bridge and continue straight on along Chemin des Salines. Cross the level crossing.

Be careful: no barriers at the crossing.

At the junction take the path to the right to reach the D140. Follow it to the right, walking along the grass verge.

▶ *The path follows alongside the railway track of the Somme Bay Steam Train.*

- ⑤ Turn right along the path just before the D235 and when the path comes to an end, turn right again and follow the road to Ponthoile. Cross the level crossing. Turn right and return to the church square.

▶ *19th century St. Pierre Church, Oratory, Notre-Dame de Lourdes Caves.*

At the beginning of the last century, Gaston and René Caudron created the first bi-plane at a place close to here known as Ferme de Romiotte. It was a humble flight but made these young Picards pioneers of aviation (museum at Rue), a great experience!

Of Interest

A Mythical Hut

Tucked away in the wetlands of Sailly-Bray since 1904, the legendary Hut of 400 Rounds still brings delight to water-fowl hunters. Through an ingenious system of valves, the surface of the water can never freeze and stays at a constant level, allowing birds to land here.

It was the Viscount de Brossin de Méré, with his passion for water-fowl hunting, who developed this hut and its elegant pavilion. As to the name, it doesn't come from a memorable hunting session: on the day of the inauguration, 400 rounds - the whole stock - were fired!

Tourist Offices:

Le Crottoy: 03 22 27 05 25

Rue: 03 22 25 69 94

