

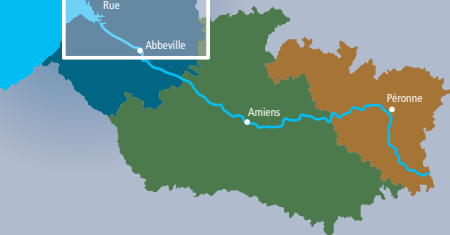
The Crocs Walk PR®

At the very heart of Marquenterre, take a walk in the pine forests and dunes called "Crocs" in the Picardy language.

- 🕒 Time: 5 hours 30 mins
- 📏 Distance: 16km
- 🚶 Route: very difficult (4km in sand)

Starting at:
The Marquenterre Domain.

Saint Quentin en Tourmont, 35km north-west of Abbeville, 8km west of Rue.



© R. Cheuvre

Of Interest

The Marquenterre Bird Sanctuary

The bird sanctuary is an integral part of the Somme Bay Nature Reserve and was created in 1973. It stretches over 200 hectares of land at the heart of the Marquenterre sand dunes. Copses and marshlands are tucked away into these dunes, and two thirds of the 450 different European species of palmate and wader birds frequent the area. Passerine birds, dragonflies, butterflies, rabbits, deer and wild-boar live happily side-by-side and the area also hosts a remarkable flora. Although you are welcome to wander through this haven of peace, care must be taken to preserve it and not disturb the wildlife - a small price to pay for such an unforgettable sight!

- ① From the car park, walk towards the horse riding school.
- ② Follow Chemin des Garennes on the left.
- ③ Before the roundabout, follow Chemin des Matelots on the left and then Rue du Bout d'Amont to return to the path that leads to the sea.
- ④ On the left, follow the path that leads to the sea through the pine-wooded dunes.
▶ *Walking this 3,6km long path is quite difficult, but well worth the effort when the sea and immense beach come into view.*
- ⑤ Turn left and follow the top of the beach. You are entering the Somme Bay Nature Reserve, markers will provide information about the measures to take in order to protect this remarkable area.
▶ *In the distance, you will see wooden posts used for mussel farming.*
- ⑥ **Warning: this trail is not to be taken during very high tides (>100).** At the point of Saint Quentin, continue alongside Banc de l'Illette, and follow the Marquenterre Sanctuary sea-wall.
▶ *Cayeux, Le Hourdel, Le Crotoy, Saint-Valéry-sur-Somme and lighthouses can be seen from here.*
- ⑦ ▶ *Four observation points have been installed to enable bird watching without disturbing the wildlife. The park is a sanctuary for birds at high tide and an important nesting area to a number of species including avocets and spoonbills.*
- ⑧ Before the bridge, follow the Berges trail on the left.
- ⑨ At the junction, turn left to Chemin des Garennes.

Tourist Office:
Le Crotoy: 03 22 27 05 25
Rue: 03 22 25 69 94

The Somme Bay is an estuary that lives to the rhythm of the tides. It holds a number of risks: drowning, getting stuck in quicksand, injury, strong wind, fog, etc. For your own safety, please do not venture alone into the bay and pay attention to the safety notices:

- ▶ find out about the tide times;
- ▶ leave the bay three hours before high tide and wait one hour after high tide to enter the bay (by Prefectoral decree of 19th July 1977);
- ▶ Take means of communication with you (reflective jackets, torch, mobile phone, etc.);
- ▶ Take a first aid kit with you;
- ▶ In favour of going alone, take an organised trip with a professional tour guide.

RÉSERVE NATURELLE



Not suitable for cycling.

Warning: Within the Somme Bay Nature Reserve : no dogs allowed, no flower picking, and please keep your distance from birds and seals.

Change of direction



Carte IGN 2106 E

This hiking trail is maintained by the Communauté de Communes Authie Maye and the Syndicat Mixte Baie de Somme Grand Litoral Picard (SMBS-GLP).