

The Banks of the Somme

PR®

Today, water from the River Somme still feeds the surrounding ponds and lakes, but in the past the river flow was also controlled by locks in order to provide electricity!



Time: 2 hours 40 mins

Distance: 8km

Route: easy

Starting at: Car park at the entrance to the road leading to the hydro-electric plant at Long

Long, 15km south-east of Abbeville, 5km south of Ailly le Haut Clocher.



La Somme

① From the car park turn left along the D32. After walking 50 metres and before reaching the bridge, turn right and then follow the first track to the left.

► Water and greenery combine in this beautiful area.

② At the crossroads, turn right along the grassy track, ignore the "The Fishermen of Long's Marshlands in Paradise" path to the left and continue along the grassy track. Turn right after 100 metres and cross a footbridge to join the banks of the Somme.

③ Turn left. At the next crossroads leave the tow-path and take the path to the left.

④ Turn right at the junction and right again when you reach the road. Continue to the river without crossing the bridge.

► St. Martin Church and wooden cross.

⑤ Turn right and continue along the tow-path. Cross the blue, metal bridge close to the lock and pass beneath the bridge that crosses the Somme.

► This path was used for towing boats and barges.

⑥ Continue along the tow-path, cross over the lock and return to the hydro-electric plant and car park.

Of Interest

A Gift from the Electricity Fairy!

The inhabitants of Long were able to put most of their candles and oil-lamps away long before other people could! In June 1903, each household owned an electric light bulb fed by a direct current of 110 volts from the brand-new hydro-electric plant and its barrage-dam by the side of the River Somme. Of modest size this factory was still composed of many turbines, cogs, pulleys, driving belts and copper levers – the kind of atmosphere that Jules Verne would surely have appreciated!

EDF took over in 1968, but Long wanted to keep this testament of its rich past. It is classed as a Historic Monument and the factory is now a museum.



Tourist Offices:

Long: 03 22 31 82 50

Pont-Rémy: 03 22 27 20 71

Longpré-les-Corps-Saints: 03 22 31 72 15



In the Vicinity

3km away, Pont-Rémy: Ambiani Association, archaeological reconstructions of Gallic buildings and a river boat from Gallo-Roman times. More information: 00 33 (0)3 22 27 06 91.

4km away, Longpré-les-Corps-Saints: relics from the third crusade; 12th century, restored Notre-Dame de l'Assomption Collegiate; roman crypt; entombment; Notre-Dame des Sept Douleurs Chapel, ponds, Maison des Marais (Marshland Centre), viewpoint, walking and boat trips.

5km away, Ailly-le Haut-Clocher: Assumption Church from the 13th century, restored in the 16th century.

7km away, Bussus-Bussuel: restored Hémimont Chapel from the 16th century.

12km away, Saint-Riquier: Abbey and abbey-church, UNESCO World Heritage listed belfry, museum and Hôtel-Dieu.

15km away, Abbeville and its rich heritage.

Somme Valley Cycle Route

Sign posts

Route continues



Change of direction



Wrong direction



This hiking trail is not suitable for

horse-riding (tow-path).

Variation



This hiking trail is maintained by the Communauté de Communes

de la Région de Hallencourt and the municipalities of Cœcquiel and Long.

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0

250

500

750

1km

