

La Courtemanche

Stroll between the Somme, the Canal du Nord, the marshes and the plains to enjoy authentic landscapes where History is never very far away.

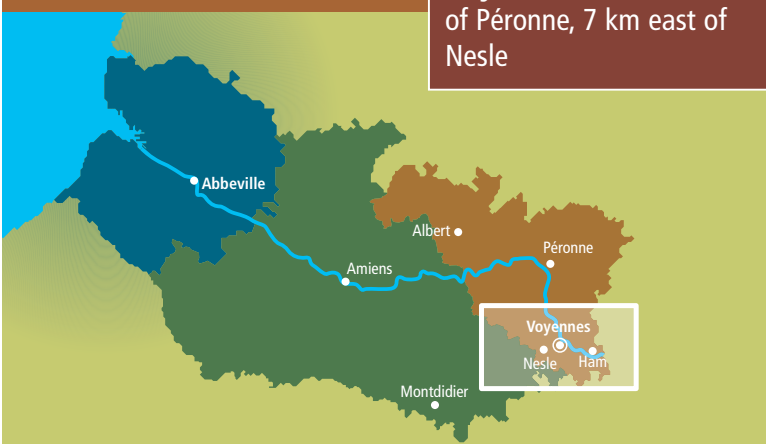
🕒 Time: 2 hours 40

📏 Distance: 8 km

🚶 Route: easy

Leaving from: Square in Voyennes

Voyennes, 21 km south of Péronne, 7 km east of Nesle



La Somme

- From the square in Voyennes, turn left. Pass in front of the church. Go toward the cemetery. Carry on down the footpath.

► *The church of Saint Étienne was destroyed during the three wars of 1870, 1914 and 1945. It was rebuilt in the style of the first half of the 20th century. Village life follows the rhythm of the marshes and ponds.*

- Keep left at the fork, in front of the trees. Cross the cultivated fields, bordered by the marshes. You may be lucky enough to glimpse wading birds, deer, hares, partridges, and more.
- Keep straight on. Follow a steep well-worn little footpath down to the village of Rouy-le-Petit. On your right, the arboretum is a joy to see. Climb up toward Rouy-le-Petit. Turn right. Walk through the village. Pass the War Memorial, then the washhouse.

► *Devised in 2001, the arboretum contains over a hundred species*

of trees. A stone pays tribute to Sergeant Soudry, killed on 1st September 1918, during the final German assaults in the battle of the Somme on the river Ingon. Since 20th June 1944, the Republic P47 Thunderbolt of Benjamin Hodges has been resting at the bottom of an old peat bog in the village marshes. The 18th-century washhouse has been completely restored. The church of Saint-Eloi, destroyed during the First World War, has been restored by the architect Edmond Duthoit, who hailed from Amiens.

- Take the footpath. Follow the Canal du Nord, the marshes and then the railway line. Before reaching the road, turn left. Look at the wayside cross on your right, then return through the plains to Voyennes.
- Cross the road and keep

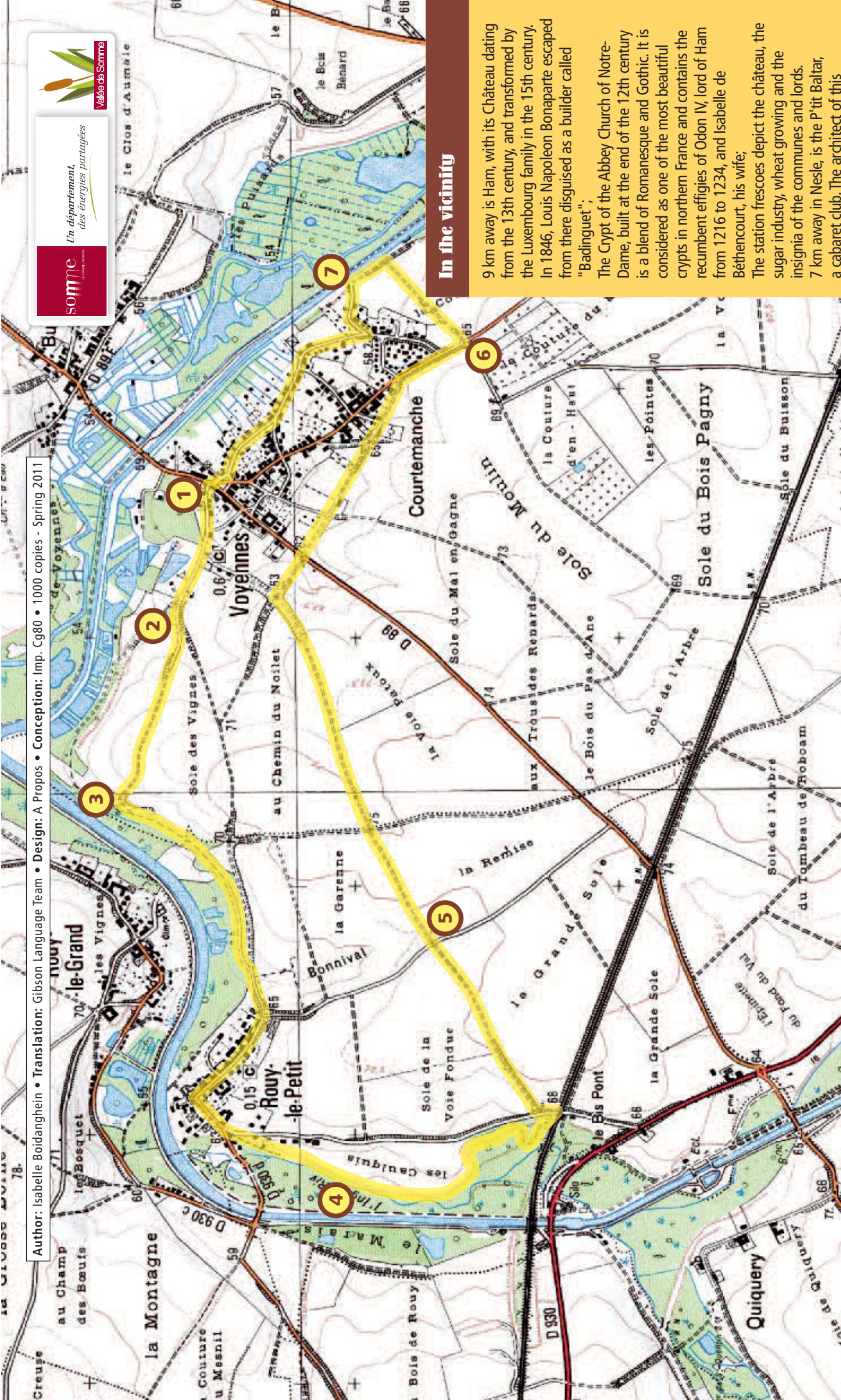
- straight on. As you approach Voyennes, turn right. Cross the D89. Pass the football stadium.
- Join the road again. As you come out of Voyennes, turn left. Take the footpath as far as the Canal de la Somme.
- Walk back up to Voyennes by Rue du Quai and return to the town hall.

Of interest

Beautiful wading birds

As you walk, you might catch a glimpse of herons near the water or in the fields. Herons are quite large wading birds, with very long legs. They have long S-shaped necks, and long conical beaks. They live in humid areas, around pools and watercourses. They eat aquatic prey: fish, amphibians, and insects.

Tourism Office Haute-Somme,
Tel: 03 2284 4238
www.hautesomme-tourisme.com



In the vicinity

9 km away is Ham, with its Château dating from the 13th century, and transformed by the Luxembourg family in the 15th century. In 1846, Louis Napoleon Bonaparte escaped from there disguised as a builder called "Badinguet".

The Crypt of the Abbey Church of Notre-Dame, built at the end of the 12th century is a blend of Romanesque and Gothic. It is considered as one of the most beautiful crypts in northern France and contains the recumbent effigies of Odon IV, lord of Ham from 1216 to 1234, and Isabelle de Béthencourt, his wife;

The station frescoes depict the château, the sugar industry, wheat growing and the insignia of the communes and lords. 7 km away in Nesle, is the P'tit Baltar, a cabaret club. The architect of this

establishment was none other than Gustave Eiffel. It is a pavilion from the 1890 World's Fair, dismantled and reassembled in Nesle in 1900 for the ironmongers Gobin and Deloire. Collegiate church of Notre-Dame, with its Art-Deco façade, in the town centre.



Signage	Wrong direction	Change of direction	Route continues
N	X	≡	—

The paths are not suitable for motor sports.

This circuit is maintained by the group of communes of the Pays Neslois.