

VISITOR GUIDE

The Pays des Achards

VENDEE



Pays
des
Achards
OFFICE DE TOURISME
Vendée

2026 | www.achards-tourisme.com



THE PAYS DES ACHARDS

“ THE COUNTRYSIDE BY THE SEA ”



Long gone are the days when you were just handed a map of the town at the local Tourist Office! Today, it's all about personalised service and a wide range of options!



We are constantly seeking the best way to welcome visitors and share our passion for the Vendée region. Here is our team – from left to right:

Audrey DELANOË

Audrey is the person in charge of working with tourism service providers and projects involving local producers. She works on our visual identity, manages our website, and runs our social media accounts.

Marion SAOUDIN

Marion is head of the Tourism and Cultural Events service for the Pays des Achards region. She is always enthusiastic about new ideas, acts as our representative with local councillors, and is our project manager.

Audrey BAROTIN

Audrey is the principal contact for tourist accommodation providers. She works to enhance the region's image by promoting and monitoring activities and events. She is also a representative for the Accueil Vélo® brand.

Alexandra RICHTER

Alexandra loves playing with words and telling stories. This magazine was born on her keyboard, as were most of the texts on our website and social media pages. She is also the primary contact for heritage-related projects.





A small region in Vendée, located between La Roche-sur-Yon and Les Sables d'Olonne, the Pays des Achards is a real breath of fresh air, where nature reveals itself at every turn. The vast expanse of the Lac du Jaunay contrasts with numerous small shady lakes. Pastures and hedged farmland alternate with wooded areas. There are no big towns here, just nine rural communities, with single-storied, red-roofes

houses, cows grazing in the fields, a family atmosphere and a peaceful lifestyle which makes a refreshing change from the busy beaches of the Vendean coast, which are just a short drive away.

So, why not come and experience a holiday here, where the friendly, welcoming locals will warm your heart as much as the Atlantic sun.

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Discover slowly

WHAT'S THE HURRY?

The Pays des Achards is a land to be discovered at a leisurely pace. Narrow roads and country lanes invite you to leave the car behind and get on your bike or put on your walking shoes. Let yourself be lulled by the sounds of nature and the lapping of the water. Slowing things down so that you can find your own rhythm enables you to concentrate on the present moment and the beauty of our landscapes.



A patchwork of
landscapes



26 FFR-(French Walking Federation) marked routes + 3 Vendée Vélo cycle paths + 1 GR® (Grande Randonnée) long-distance signposted trail

• • • •

Most of the routes can be downloaded from www.achards-tourisme.com

- › in PDF format to slip into your pocket
- › in GPX format for use on smartphones

Just 20 minutes from the beaches of the Vendée, the Pays des Achards is surprisingly rugged and varied.

• • • •

Forests, lakes, and fields surrounded by hedges form a lush green setting, ideal for walks and relaxation.



The lac du *Jaunay*

The Lac du Jaunay is the emblematic site of the Pays des Achards. A real jewel in a green setting, it offers 114 hectares of unspoiled nature.

Flat paths along the water contrast with steep hills. Busier sections alternate with secret hideaways that seem far from the world.



The shores of the lake are a delight for nature and wildlife lovers. At Le Moulin des Rochelles in La Chapelle-Hermier the observatory footbridge is a great place to watch for the many bird species that nest or stop off at the lake.

In the morning, Lac du Jaunay is cloaked in mist. As the seasons change, the lake takes on a different appearance, and each period has its own charm. The emphasis is on contact with nature and the simple pleasures of life.



The shores of the Lac du Jaunay and the surrounding area are ideal for a wide range of activities, including hiking, fishing, mountain biking and water sports.

Swimming and motorboats are not permitted.



Explore

Anne's trails

Anne Boury, from the Pays des Achards Planning Department, oversees mobility and environmental actions.

In charge of hiking and cycling routes, she explores the region's footpaths. Meet a young woman with her feet firmly on the ground.

.....



DISCOVER
4 HIKING IDEAS
ON PAGES
32-33



MY WORK

I grew up in the countryside and have always had a love of nature. When I was little, I wanted to become a vet. Today, I'm working on ways of getting around other than by car and on promoting natural areas in the Pays des Achards, especially through hiking.



WHY I LOVE THE PAYS DES ACHARDS REGION

It's a bit like the Cantal region where I come from. I don't have the mountainous scenery, but I do have plenty of woodland. The Lac du Jaunay is a treasure trove of plants and wildlife. The Pays des Achards is also a very agricultural area. It's interesting to see how this whole area works together.

I grew up in the countryside and have always had a love of nature.

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MY FAVOURITE PLACES

I love going to the Sainte-Flaive-des-Loups forest because of the peace and quiet and the feeling of being very small in front of all these tall trees. And yet it's a fairly young forest, having been planted around thirty years ago.

I love the trails around Beaulieu-sous-la-Roche. You follow narrow lanes through hedges, and you can make out private properties with small ponds that have been created to suit individual tastes.

The banks of the little Jaunay river between Martinet and La Chapelle-Hermier are another of my favourites. There are lots of trees and the water is peaceful. I find it relaxing and always feel like sitting down for a picnic.



MY FAVOURITE HIKING TRAILS

The Sentier du Beignon in the forest of Sainte-Flaive-des-Loups: Most of the trail is on natural paths, with virtually no roads, so I can enjoy the peace and quiet of the woods.

The Sentier de l'Auzance at Saint-Georges-de-Pointindoux : There are sometimes narrow paths with very pronounced hedges. At other points, you can see farmland. A little further on, there's a pond. It's really this variety that makes this trail so interesting.



WHICH TRAIL IS BEST FOR EXPERIENCED WALKERS?

The Sentier des Celtes at Le Girouard is an absolute must! It's steep and varied, with the added bonus that it takes you through the village and gives you a chance to see the original Château Gaillard. If you're a keen walker, it's ideal!



WHAT I LIKE BEST ABOUT MY JOB

Going from one thing to another. Working hand in hand with all the regional bodies. No two days are the same, because I have to deal with very different people.

Every day I feel like I'm changing jobs. It's quite extraordinary.

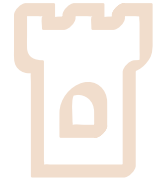


Hidden heritage

A LITTLE HERITAGE TELLS A BIG STORY.

The Pays des Achards' distinctive features become apparent at a closer look. The traces of the past are discreet but reveal themselves to those who take the time to stop and listen.





The stones whisper
***stories of
the past***

The Pays des Achards is a mysterious place where you'll look hard to find famous people or imposing monuments.

Instead, its small rural buildings tell the stories of our ancestors' daily lives.

Here, a restored washhouse recalls the hard work of the washerwomen. Over there, a small cross at the end of a narrow lane bears witness to the religious beliefs of bygone times. Further on, an old farmhouse is a reminder of rural life, with a modest dwelling and an animal enclosure under the same roof.

All it takes is a short pause and a little imagination to turn these whispers into stories. And that's how the very soul of our region is revealed.



- 1) An outdoor washhouse in Saint-Georges-de-Pointindoux
- 2) An old well in La Chapelle-Hermier
- 3) The fountain at the Bibrou lake in Les Achards
- 4) The chapel « La Chapelle des Moulières » in Saint-Georges-de-Pointindoux
- 5) An old farmhouse in La Chapelle-Hermier
- 6) Le Château Gaillard at Girouard
- 7) Saint-Georges-de-Pointindoux church
- 8) The chapel « La Chapelle-Garreau » in La Chapelle-Hermier
- 9) A windmill in Beaulieu-sous-la-Roche
- 10) Les Achards market



Bringing local *heritage to life*

All over the region, small heritage sites blend into the landscape: a cross at the bend in a path, a wash house, a chapel, an oven or a stone wall. These elements are sometimes discreet, but essential for understanding the history and identity of the Pays des Acharde.

For several years now, the small heritage sites of the Pays des Acharde have been at the heart of a promotion initiative led by the Tourist Office, in close collaboration with local councils, associations and residents.

Wash houses, crosses, chapels and more discreet structures dot the landscape and offer insights into local history. Their discovery often begins in a simple way: observing, taking the time, listening to stories and looking at our surroundings.

These actions restore the small elements of heritage that can be found throughout the region to their rightful place. Far from being frozen in the past, they tell the story of life in times gone by and help us to better understand the landscape. Whether walking along the paths or sharing a moment together, everyone is invited to stop and look at these places from a whole new perspective.





WAYS TO DISCOVER LOCAL HERITAGE



Enjoy a friendly moment during the **Apéros du Patrimoine** where stories and conversations share the same interests.



Explore and have fun with the **Adventure Lab® trails**, such as *Si La Mothe m'était contée* in Les Achards or *Le petit chemin des feux* in Martinet.



Discover the villages and their history in a different way with the **Legendr®** digital tours in Les Achards and Le Girouard.



Guided tours in Les Achards will allow you to gain a better understanding of our local heritage. (in French)



Take advantage of the **Journées européennes du patrimoine** (European Heritage Days) to visit places that are usually closed to the public and take part in tours and activities.

In your diary:

- > Apéros du patrimoine
July and August
- > Guided tours
July and August
- > European Heritage Days
3rd weekend in September
- > Adventure Lab® and Legendr® trails
All year round



Meet the locals





**WHO BETTER THAN THE LOCAL
PEOPLE THEMSELVES TO TELL YOU
ABOUT THE PAYS DES ACHARDS?**

It's by talking to them, by feeling the attachment they have for their commune or their land, that we understand what makes our region so special.



Local producers in the *Pays des Achards*



It's perhaps when you meet our local producers that you get the best idea of the concept of time. On the one hand, they don't count the hours they work. On the other, they know how to respect the seasons, understand the growth cycle of plants and work with changing weather conditions.

Discover the local producers and the organised tours (only in French) :



Nearly 40 local producers are based in the Pays des Achards. Many of them have chosen market gardening, others to raise livestock. Our producers also include goat breeders, a craft microbrewery, a floriculture farm and even a distillery.

Some sell directly from the farm, while others can be found at local markets. They all offer quality products and enjoy talking to their customers about their work.

« It takes a combination of commitment and patience to bring out the best in things: fruit, cheese, flowers and even whisky. »



Visits to our
Producers



Behind the scenes

Our Tourist Office is involved in promoting local producers in the Pays des Achards.

Every summer, several professionals welcome the general public to visit their farms. They take the time to show visitors around, talk about their experiences and share their daily lives. They all have very specialised skills that are unique for their profession.





Titiana reinvents *muesli*



The name and logo of «La Ferme du Petit Grain» in Sainte-Flaive-des-Loups really stretch the imagination.

Titiana Le Guen, a young organic oat and poultry farmer, is the woman behind the business.



Farming gave me the opportunity to put into practice everything I knew in theory.



When Titiana talks about her professional achievements, it's easy to understand the choices she has made and the direction she has taken.

After completing a degree in Environmental Engineering and Sustainable Development, her first jobs brought her into close contact with many farmers involved in a variety of activities. Titiana realised that she preferred to put her theoretical skills into practice. As a result, her desire to set up her own business in the agricultural sector continued to grow.

For Titiana, farming brings together several factors that are important to her: resourcefulness, DIY, biology, forward-thinking and a desire to settle down in the area. So, it was an obvious choice to set up in farming. In 2018, aged just 30, Titiana started her own business. She chose to combine organic poultry farming with a more unusual and original activity - cultivating white oats and transforming them for human consumption.

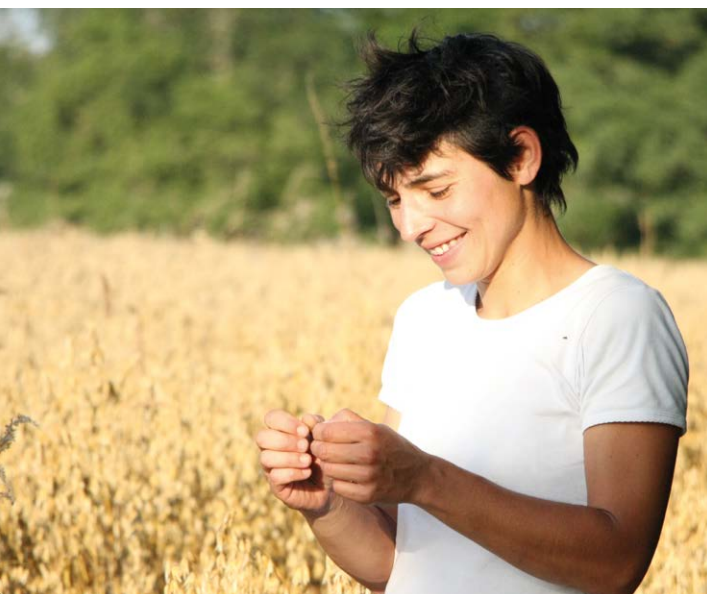


Initially, Titiana wanted to produce a plant-based farmhouse drink and worked intensively on the project. But the unique biochemical nature of oats meant that the results did not quite match the product she would have liked to produce.

Not discouraged by this, she reviewed her project and turned to dry cereals: « I haven't regretted choosing this cereal, which has a high nutritional content. It has opened up other possibilities for me in terms of muesli and oat flakes ».

Today, between 6 and 8 tonnes of oats are harvested and processed on the farm. To sort the grain, Titiana restored an old sorting machine that had been sitting idle in a barn for half a century.

Dismantled, cleaned, carefully reassembled and oiled, fitted with new belts and connected to an old motor, this traditional tool has become an invaluable ally in the selection of the grain.



LA FERME DU PETIT GRAIN

7 La Gobinière
85150 SAINTE-FLAIVE-DES-LOUPS

- › Organic poultry sold on order at the farm
- › Sale of oat flakes and muesli at the eco-responsible grocery shop « Chez Nini et Ferdi » in Les Achards and other organic or farm shops in the Vendée
- › Titiana gives tours of her « Ferme du Petit Grain » as part of the producer visits organised every summer.



The transformation is then carried out in a much more modern workshop. One half of the annual harvest is sold as oat flakes, and the other half as muesli, in three delicious formulas.

The « Chocolate » and « Honey » versions are available all year round.

During the colder months, Titiana also offers a « Winter Muesli », a blend in which almond purée, walnuts, allspice, and a hint of sweet orange are blended with crunchy oats.

In this way, the tiny grain becomes a real pleasure.



Meet our *craftsmen*

When you walk through the door of one of our artisans' workshops, time seems to stand still. Handicraft requires patience and concentration. Forget the hectic industrial production process. Instead, there are numerous hours spent creating items, many of which are unique.

The Pays des Achards is home to many designers, artists and craftspeople. Their activities are as varied as their individual personalities. Each designer's studio has its own style, which reflects the uniqueness and activity of its occupant. Painting, sewing, metalwork, jewellery and much more go side by side, forming a rich and diverse group of crafts.

The techniques used are often based on skills that have been passed down for centuries. Modernised, they combine the creativity and individual sensibility of each craftsman and artist to produce sublime and sometimes surprising results.

Come and meet the craftsmen:



In 2020, several professionals came together to form the «Beaulieu des Arts» association and offer a variety of workshops.

This unique space provides an opportunity to explore the world of arts and crafts in an inspiring setting.



 **ÉCOLE D'ART**

1 rue des Sables - Cour des Arts
85190 BEAULIEU-SOUS-LA-ROCHE
ecoledartdebeaulieu.jimdofree.com



Discovering your
***artistic
potential***

Every summer, our Tourist Office offers «Estiv'Arts», artistic workshops organised by professionals. The programme varies from year to year, ranging from introductory drawing classes to soap-making, modelling and flower arranging.

These workshops, held in small groups, allow participants to learn a manual technique, discover an artistic universe and exchange ideas with the craftspeople. Participants leave with their own creations, sometimes surprised to have discovered their own creativity.



This year's programme (workshops in French):



Myriam Noirot,

a life dedicated
to wool

As you pass through the gate, time seems to stand still. Myriam greets you with a radiant smile, and immediately you feel at home, as if invited to share in the relaxing rhythm of her daily life.

In her workshop, the yarns are waiting, already dyed and arranged by natural shades. Outside, the animals are never far away. Here, everything takes place at a leisurely pace, guided by the seasons, through repeated gestures and the time that is needed to do things the right way.



Myriam Noirot's professional career has not been a straightforward one. She initially trained as a nurse and worked in this field for several years before sensing the need for a change, bringing her closer to nature. Each new project has been developed gradually, through trial and error, with careful consideration and well-thought-out choices.

Wool gradually began to play a major role in her daily life. She started with sheep's wool, then moved on to alpaca wool, whose fineness and softness she particularly appreciated. Myriam now raises a few animals, taking care to respect their needs, their character and their natural lifestyles. Each animal has its own name, its own story, its own place. Producing wool is never an end in itself; instead, it adapts to the needs of the animals, and not the other way around.



Throughout the year, Myriam offers courses and workshops on wool and plant dyes, where she shares her techniques, expertise, and respectful approach to all living things.



Myriam oversees every stage of the process, from the fleece to the finished garment. Sorting the fibres and spinning the yarn, both of which are carried out by small spinning mills in France, dyeing with plant-based dyes, and then machine knitting, all require rigour, patience and precision. The colours are created using plants, through successive baths and meticulous measurements. However, nothing is ever entirely predictable: the season, the plant, even the water and wool can influence the result. This element of uncertainty is an integral part of her work.

In her workshop, everything is done with precision and care. She turns knitting machines into a creative tool in their own right. The items she designs are made to last, adjusting to the body so they fit perfectly without feeling uncomfortable. It's not just about fashion, but comfort, fit, and the feel of the fabric that guides her choices.

Passing on knowledge is also part of her daily routine. Welcoming trainees, talking to visitors and sharing know-how are all part of the job, as long as it is done in a sincere and respectful way. Here, you learn as much by observing as you do by talking.

Over the years, Myriam Noirot has built a lifestyle that is consistent, where every element is closely connected. Wool, animals, the garden, colours and new encounters form a perfect balance. In this way, she lives in harmony with her surroundings, living life at a slower pace and staying focused on what really matters.



MYRIAM NOIROT LAINES DE MON JARDIN

5 Les Thibaudières

85150 MARTINET

06 75 28 69 02

www.lainesdemonjardin.com





*Savour
the moment*

TASTING VENDEAN CUISINE

Tasting Vendean cuisine is all about discovering simple, traditional recipes. There are the old favourites, such as mogettes, préfou and brioche that we remember from our childhood. And at the same time, this land/sea gastronomy revisits its traditional dishes, with some surprising combinations.

Take a little piece of the Pays des Achards *home with you*

From handcrafted soaps, gourmet treats, artisan creations, games, everyday objects and items with a hint of local heritage: each product tells a story, one of local expertise, commitment and a region attached to the values of handmade local products, and meticulous workmanship.

Here, you can choose souvenirs that will last, that can be shared and that will prolong your experience of the Pays des Achards long after your holiday is over.



GIFT IDEAS TO SUIT EVERYONE

Jewellery and handcrafted creations



Games, posters, postcards and items featuring the colours of the region

Honey and sweet treats for young and old alike



The Pays des Achards medal, minted by the Monnaie de Paris, is an elegant memento of the local heritage

Preserves and savoury nibbles for pre-dinner drinks or cocktails

Cold-processed soaps made with local ingredients



GOOD TO KNOW

Look out for the **"FAIT AVEC AMOUR"** (made with love) stickers!

It identifies our local creations and products which come from local suppliers: a simple way to consume products that are both local and sustainable.



EXPLORE THE GIFT SHOP

An interview with

Antoine Préteux

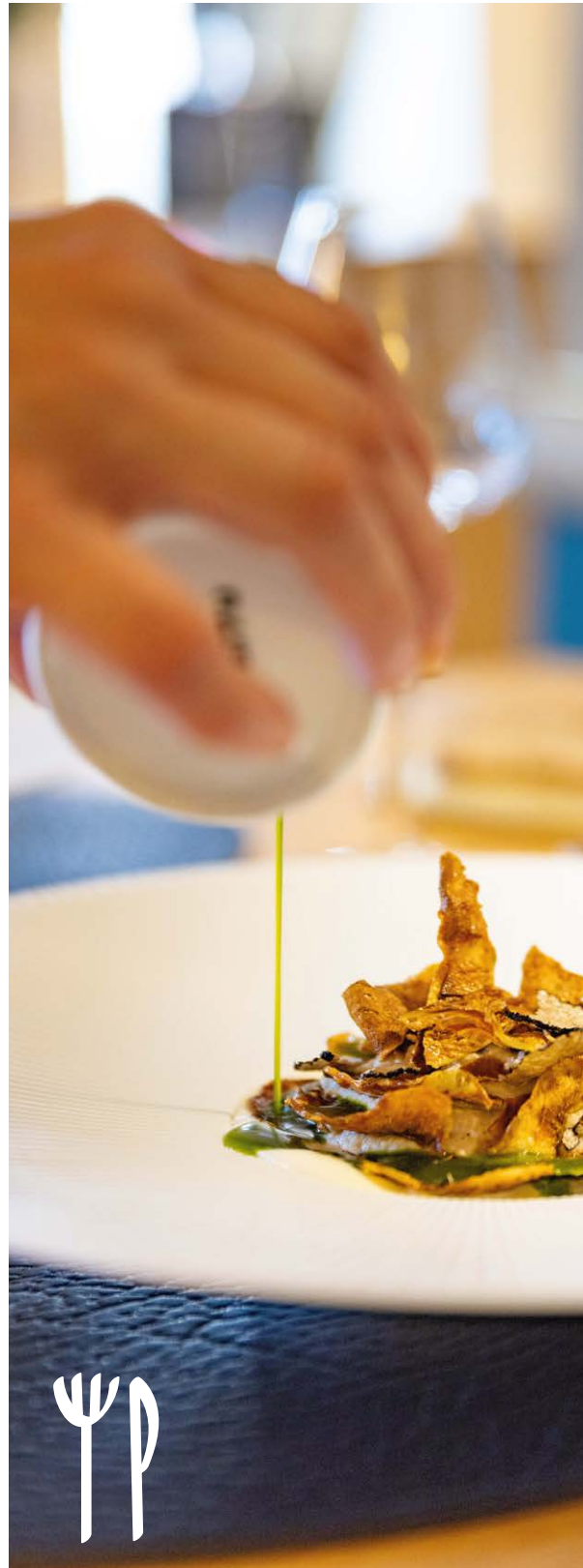
Antoine Préteux has an impressive career behind him, having qualified with a «Pâtissier Chocolatier Glacier Confiseur» CAP, followed by a CAP and Bac Pro in «Cuisine».

For several years, he worked alongside Michelin-starred chefs, developing his culinary skills and technical abilities in the process. In 2018, he opened his first restaurant in Beaulieu-sous-la-Roche.

The thick walls of an old building near the church in Beaulieu-sous-la-Roche have been home to several restaurants for over a century.

On 20th November 2018, young chef Antoine Préteux and his wife Virginie took over the «Café des Arts», keeping the name given by the previous owners. While Antoine works in the kitchen, Virginie oversees the table service. «You have to come from the same background to really understand this world» says the chef.

Everything is carefully arranged in the dining room, from the crockery on the table to the works of art on the walls. Some belong to the couple; others are exhibited by selected artists and are for sale.





This is where gastronomy meets creativity. Hors d'œuvres are served on a sculpture by artist Yvan Mercier. Drawings by comic book illustrator Galien add a whimsical touch throughout the restaurant, while a stained-glass window by Verre Curieux captures the light creating a unique atmosphere.



As well as buying from a range of specialised suppliers, Antoine also buys from several local producers. He is particularly fond of aromatic herbs, a feature of his career working with Michelin-starred chefs, and even has his own little kitchen garden.

In fact, most dishes feature aromatic herbs. Although the varieties remain relatively common, such as thyme, savory and sage, it's the way they are prepared that changes. Sage, for example, can end up on the plate without the customer seeing a single leaf.

As for desserts, Antoine prefers to work with fruit and likes to surprise gourmets with unexpected combinations and varied, contrasting textures.

Antoine's establishment has enabled him to create his own cuisine and put his own stamp on it. «Café des Arts» has also been awarded the «Bib Gourmand» label by the famous Michelin Guide, a sign of its excellent value for money.



***The secret of good cooking?
Good ingredients. Indulge yourself.
And occasionally, a bit of
madness is good too.***



LE CAFÉ DES ARTS

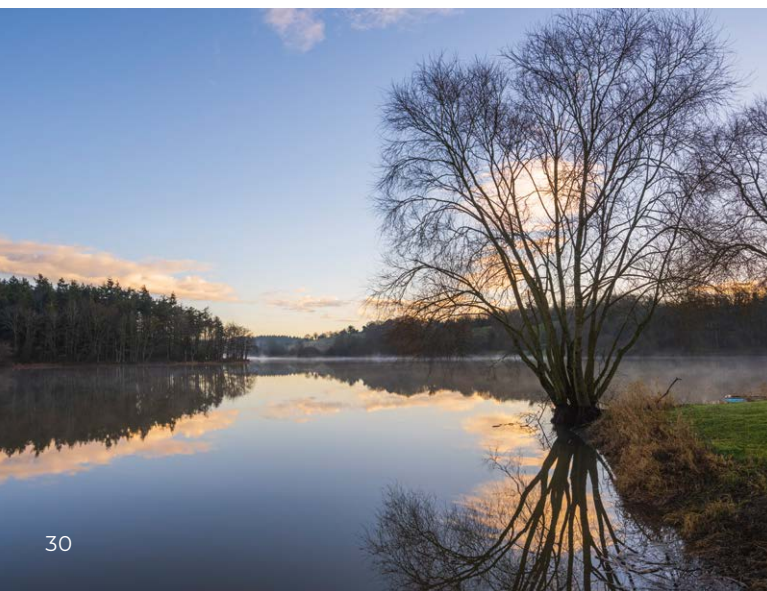
2 rue de la Poste - 85190 BEAULIEU-SOUS-LA-ROCHE

02 51 98 24 80

www.lecafedesarts-beaulieu.com



MICHELIN BIB GOURMAND



Seasonal living



All year round in the Pays des Achards, there's always a moment to enjoy or a new experience to discover. There's no need to go far, as everything is already there for you to have a great time.

4 seasons, *4 hiking ideas*

In the Pays des Achards, hiking can be enjoyed all year round. Each season offers a different atmosphere, changing landscapes and new sensations. We have selected four iconic trails to discover when they are at their most beautiful.



IN SPRING **SENTIER DES MOULINS**

In the spring, the Sentier des moulins Trail is adorned with soft colours. Along Lake Jaunay, small flowers appear on the banks, and the landscape gradually awakens. An ideal peaceful walk to enjoy the first beautiful days of spring and observe nature coming back to life.

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13.5 km • Starting point:
La Chapelle-Hermier

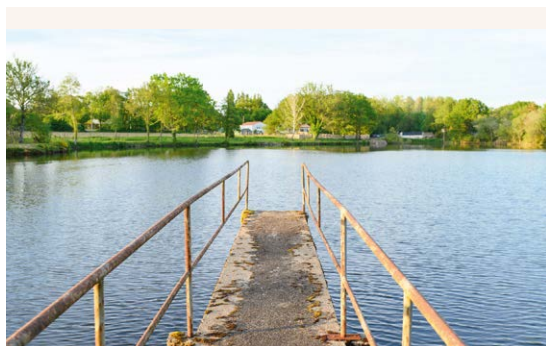


IN SUMMER **SENTIER DE LA BOËRE**

When temperatures rise, the Sentier de la Boëre Trail offers a pleasant walk in the shade of the trees. With its refreshing atmosphere, lush undergrowth and shaded paths, it is a particularly popular route in the summer. It's a wonderful way to walk even in hot weather, taking the time to enjoy the peace and quiet of the surrounding area.



16 km • Starting point:
Beaulieu-sous-la-Roche

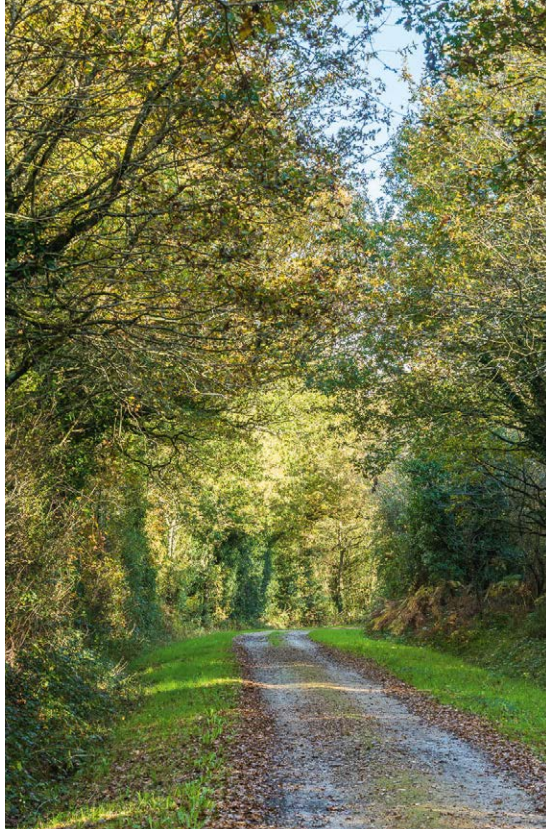


IN WINTER **SENTIER DES ÉTANGS POTIER**

Even in winter, the Sentier des étangs Potier Trail remains pleasant and accessible. The paths are easy to follow, allowing walkers to enjoy the open landscapes and reflections on the water in a calm and relaxing setting. An invigorating walk, perfect for getting some fresh air and appreciating the beauty of the ponds in any season.



5.5 km • Starting point:
Saint-Georges-de-Pointindoux



IN AUTUMN **SENTIER DE LA FORÊT** **DE LA LIÈRE**

In the autumn, the Sentier de la forêt de la Lière Trail reveals its rich diversity. The colours change, cyclamen covers the ground, chestnuts and sometimes mushrooms catch the eye. An immersive hike, ideal for fully appreciating the season and enjoying a natural break surrounded by warm autumnal colours.



8 km • Starting point:
Sainte-Flaive-des-Loups



Find all the hiking trails
on our website



Christmas in the *Pays des Acharuds*

You don't need the cold and snow to enjoy the magic of Christmas.

Just a few golden lights, a few notes of music and the smell of roasting chestnuts are often enough to take us back to our childhood.



THE BEAULIEU-SOUS-LA-ROCHE CHRISTMAS MARKET

This Christmas market is the oldest in Vendée and is renowned beyond the region.

Held over three days on the first weekend of December, it attracts thousands of visitors with its traditional decorations and festive entertainment. The stall holders are handpicked, and local crafts are given pride of place.

••••

LA FÉRIE DES SANTONS

This little museum at the foot of the church in Beaulieu-sous-la-Roche was born from the passion of a family who collected Santons and Christmas Nativity scenes. Today, «La Féerie des Santons» houses several hundred authentic Provençal figurines, grouped together in 8 miniature villages.

Each village has its own story to tell visitors, thanks to a scenographic (sound and light) show. During the festive season, nativity scenes are set up in the middle of the different scenes.



ANIMATED WINDOW DISPLAYS

Early in December, hundreds of cuddly toys spring to life in the shop windows of Beaulieu-sous-la-Roche.

Thanks to an ingenious system of wires and rails, a team of volunteers create these magical scenes. Every afternoon and evening in December, «The Reindeer School», «The Mouse Kitchen» and «The Toy Clinic» as well as many others come to life. The automated machines go to sleep in mid-January only to return at the end of the year.

PLAYMOBIL® EXHIBITION®

The Atelier de la Déesse in Beaulieu-sous-la-Roche opens its doors in December for a special Playmobil exhibition.

There are thousands of these famous little figurines carefully and meticulously installed in sets known as dioramas.

Here you can gaze in wonder at the "Battle of Azincourt", "Pirate Island" and the "Modern City".



To continue your visit:

CHRISTMAS WITH LOCAL PRODUCERS

- › Many local producers organise small Christmas markets on their farms.
- › The atmosphere is rustic and cosy, often in a barn, and it's a great opportunity to discover local products, which are renowned for their taste and quality.

Planning your trip

OUR TEAM



Preparing for your trip can quickly become complex, especially when tastes and desires differ.

To make your life easier, our team has put together a collection of ideas for visits, our favourite spots, tips, and practical information in this guide.

The essentials

in one day

• For travellers in a hurry •



1 TREE CLIMBING ADVENTURES AT LE GRAND DÉFI

Le Grand Défi in Saint-Julien-des-Landes is the world's biggest tree climbing adventure park! With a total of 44 tree courses and some thirty giant zip wires stretching above the lakes, it's the perfect place to take to the air. Those with a fear of heights can try the green courses, which are suitable for beginners.

*Duration 2 to 3 hours
From April to November
www.grand-defi.com*



3 EXPLORING LE GIROUARD

The picturesque center of this small commune is best explored on foot:

- › Stroll around the charming Château Gaillard,
- › Enjoy the view over the Ciboule Valley,
- › Follow the digital tour «The fabulous tale of the castle without a knight» with the Legendr® app.

*Duration 1h30 to 2h
All year round*

2 DISCOVER THE LAC DU JAUNAY

A real gem in a verdant setting, the Lac du Jaunay offers 114 hectares of unspoilt nature. It takes about 2.5 hours to complete the tour, but a road bridge allows you to cross from one bank to the other and opt for a shorter option. Several short hiking trails provide a great overview of this vast natural area.

Paddle-boarding, picnicking, fishing along the water's edge or hiring a pedalo in the summer are just some of the activities on offer.

Duration 2 to 3 hours - All year round

To continue your visit:

- › Enjoy lunch at 'La Cantine' restaurant on the Domaine de Brandois estate in Les Achards
Monday–Friday
www.domainedebrandois.com
- › Visit La Féerie des Santons in Beaulieusous-la-Roche (In French).
From December to mid-January and of course July and August.

time with the family

A DAY AT LE GRAND DÉFI IN SAINT-JULIEN-DES-LANDES

A natural leisure park for people of all ages, «Le Grand Défi» offers a wide range of sporting activities, many of which are suitable for children as young as 2 years old.

Accrobranche (tree climbing adventure), Lasergame, Paintball, Disc Golf, a treasure hunt called «Le Monde de Sylvain », orienteering course, Explor' Games® with various scenarios, «Les Aventures de Russel» - adventure trails, pony rides and, recently, the Aquapark - an inflatable water park on the edge of a lake.

It is possible to discover the mini-farm for free and to have a picnic on site, as the forest is shaded and pleasant even in the middle of summer.

Open from April to November
www.grand-defi.com



EXPLORE HERITAGE WITH LEGENDR® TOURS

Legendr® digital tours offer a fun and independent way to discover the Pays des Achards. Using your smartphone, you can discover different stories, anecdotes and other points of interest throughout the visit.

At Le Girouard, 'The fabulous story of the castle without a knight' introduces visitors to Château Gaillard and its surroundings. In Les Achards, in the La Chapelle area, the 'Jean-Baptiste and the ghost tomb' walk invites visitors to take a different look at the village and its everyday history.

Two tours accessible to all, to be enjoyed with family or friends.

Available all year round
www.legendr.app



ALEXANDRA

The Pays des Achards is an ideal place for families to spend time together. There are plenty of places to visit within easy distance of each other, so there's no need for long car journeys. Well away from the crowds on the coast, there are various places to exercise, explore or just simply relax.

Here are Alexandra's tips for activities with the children.



VISIT THE POTAGER DES Z'ANIMAUX IN BEAULIEU-SOUS-LA-ROCHE

This educational farm is home to sheep, goats, pigs, ducks, and chickens. Various options are available: self-guided or guided tours, visits involving animal care (mornings only), or a combined visit to the neighbouring vegetable garden and the animals on the farm. (visits in French)

Open all year round.



Le potager des z'animaux

•••••

DISCOVER "LA FÉERIE DES SANTONS" IN BEAULIEU-SOUS-LA-ROCHE

The museum is a truly original place, with 700 Provençal santons (figurines) set in 8 miniature villages. Thanks to a scenography (sound and light) show, each scene comes to life and tells its own story to visitors.

July - August and early December - mid-January.
www.feeriesantons.fr



HORSE RIDING AT LA GARANGEOIRE IN SAINT-JULIEN- DES-LANDES

This FFE-affiliated riding centre works with qualified instructors. Pony and horse-riding lessons, forest walks, baby ponies, and animal mediation. The emphasis is on a more educational, interactive approach to the animals.

Open all year round.

www.vendee-garangeoire.ffe.com

•••••

GO PEDAL-BOATING ON THE LAC DU JAUNAY

There's always fun to be had on the water. You can hire canoes and pedalos at the Le Pré centre in La Chapelle-Hermier and at the La Baudrière site in Saint-Julien-desLandes. The trips are self-guided and last from 30 minutes to 2 hours. From Monday to Friday, there is a «Happy Hour» option in the morning.

July and August.

www.canoe-jaunay.fr

To continue your visit:

- › Take a pushchair walk along the Sentier des Nichoirs in Beaulieu-sous-la-Roche
- › Take a break at one of the picnic areas in the Pays des Achards region, which are ideal for sharing a meal with the family while enjoying the great outdoors
- › Discover Martinet's heritage with the Adventure Lab® interactive game



You can find all the family activities on our website.

time spent with friends



WHY NOT DEFEND A SPACESHIP IN SAINT-JULIEN-DES-LANDES

« Le Grand Défi » is the biggest paintball park in the Vendée! There are 5 paintball areas, each with different themes, which make for some thrilling sessions.

I also love their laser game, which plunges players into a futuristic world where they must defend their spaceship against aliens.

April to November
www.grand-defi.com



ORGANISE A DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT IN LES ACHARDS OR IN MARTINET

The two Disc Golf courses are free and open to all. The rules are simple and very similar to golf rules. Players must throw a disc into a basket and complete the course in as few shots as possible. Even if you're just getting started, it's fun and you'll make rapid progress.

Open all year round. Discs may be rented from the Tourist Office.
www.achards-tourisme.com

ENJOY A GREAT TIME AT " L'ATELIER " IN LES ACHARDS

There's a friendly atmosphere in this wine cellar, bar, and restaurant. Regular customers gather here after work. The menu includes daily specials, burgers, salads, fajitas, and homemade desserts. The wine cellar has 150 different beers and a selection of over 250 different types of wines and spirits. The staff are always on hand to offer helpful advice.

Open all year round.



L'Atelier cave bar restaurant

••••

CARRY OUT AN INVESTIGATION AT THE ESCAPE GAME " LE POSTE " IN LES ACHARDS

This 100% police Escape Game invites players to put themselves in the shoes of detectives to solve puzzles in a police station scenario. The concept is like Cluedo, offering players a completely immersive experience which allows them to interact with the game master throughout the investigation.

Open all year round.
<https://leposte-enquete.fr>



AUDREY

Are you planning a bachelor/hen party or just a weekend getaway? Here are Audrey's tips for those who like to get together with friends.



LUNCH AT THE DOMAINE DE BRANDOIS

The «La Cantine» restaurant in Les Achards is housed in a 19th-century château, where the old drawing rooms have been refurbished to create a warm, elegant atmosphere. The menus are a blend of seasonal produce and new ideas.

<https://domainedebrandois.com/restaurant-la-cantine>



BOOKING COZY ACCOMMODATION

For an enchanting stay, several accommodation options in the Pays des Achards have well-being facilities or offer access to a swimming pool. For those looking for a change of scenery, you can opt for unusual accommodation and sleep in a gypsy caravan or tipi.

www.achards-tourisme.com - « Information » - « Accommodation » section

DINNER AT THE CAFÉ DES ARTS

This gourmet restaurant in Beaulieu-sous-la-Roche has been awarded the «Bib Gourmand» distinction by the Michelin Guide, a guarantee of fine cuisine offering excellent value for money.

The chef likes to surprise his guests with unusual flavours and highly refined presentation. (pages 28 - 29)

www.lecafedesarts-beaulieu.com



EXPERIENCE THE SUNSET OVER THE LAC DU JAUNAY

The elevated banks of the lake at Châteaulong in La Chapelle-Hermier are the perfect place to unwind at the end of the day.

The background noises fade away, the lake changes colour, then falls asleep and the first stars appear...

It's simply breathtaking.

romantic moments together



AUDREY

Treat yourself to a special break and create unique memories. Here's Audrey's advice for the perfect romantic getaway.

Going further afield in the Vendée

The Pays des Achards lies halfway between Les Sables d'Olonne and La Roche-sur-Yon. A short distance from the coast and surrounded by the Vendean countryside, it's the ideal starting point for discovering the must-see sites and typical landscapes that define the charm of the Vendée.

The Vendean *coastline*

With 140 km of beaches, the Vendean coastline features an abundance of dunes and rocky landscapes. Depending on the weather and personal preferences, you can go for a swim on the beautiful sandy beaches, take a walk along the unspoilt coastline or try your hand at fishing on the foreshore.



The two Vendée islands are well worth a visit for a day or even a weekend.

With a surface area of 49 km², **the island of Noirmoutier** is the larger of the two and is easily reached by a toll-free bridge. Salt marshes, dunes and holm oak forests give the island its distinctive appearance. At low tide, visitors can also take the Passage du Gois, a submersible road that links the island to the mainland. It's a real paradise for birdwatchers and anglers. Once the only crossing point to Noirmoutier, the Gois still amazes visitors with its unique beauty, sculpted by the ocean.

Covering an area of 23 km², **the Ile d'Yeu** is only accessible by boat. With a more rugged appearance than its larger neighbour, the island offers surprisingly contrasting coastal landscapes and wildlife. Small villages and remnants of the past seem to curl up in this piece of land in the middle of the ocean. The Ile d'Yeu is particularly suited to walking and cycling.



LE PUY DU FOU

Le Puy du Fou, a historical theme park, is just an hour's drive from Les Achards. Voted the « World's Best Amusement Park » on two occasions, it more than deserves this title.

From Roman antiquity to the early 20th century, the Grand Parc du Puy du Fou takes visitors on an extraordinary journey through the ages. The historical shows are breathtaking and the scenery absolutely magical.

When night falls, two great night-time shows, the « Noces de Feu » and the legendary « Cinéscénie® » a spectacular show (depending on opening dates), extend this extraordinary dream.



Our ticket service



Our Tourist Office provides a comprehensive ticketing service. Depending on the activity, you can take advantage of special rates, discounts and time-saving offers at the ticket office of the various tourist sites.

- › Le Puy du Fou
- › Crossings to the Ile d'Yeu
- › Le Grand Défi - A Nature leisure park
- › La Féerie des Santons
- › O'Gliss and O'Fun
- › Zoo des Sables
- › Planète Sauvage
- › Le Château des Aventuriers
- › Tickets for cultural events and nature outings organised by the Tourist Office
- › Disc rental for Disc Golf
- › Fishing passes for sale



LE GRAND DÉFI



The ultimate natural leisure park!

Are you more into intellectual challenges or physical challenges? Le Grand Défi is the must-visit adventure park in the Pays des Achards, catering to all ages and activity levels. Whether you're a sports enthusiast, a casual adventurer, or a relaxed explorer, there's a challenge waiting just for you!

You can choose from around ten highly varied activities, some of which are available for children as young as 2 years old*: Tree climbing adventure*, Paintball, Lasergame, Explor'Games®, pony rides*, Quick Jump, Disc Golf, Orienteering courses, fun trails*, treasure hunts*, and an aquapark in summer.

April to November
40 rue de l'Etoile - 85150 Saint-Julien-des-Landes
www.grand-defi.com



LA FÉRIE DES SANTONS

Discover hundreds of handcrafted Provençal figurines in the heart of Vendée!



This small museum is a true tribute to a local family's passion for figurines and Nativity scenes. Born in the early 2000s, «La Féerie des Santons» houses hundreds of authentic Provençal santons, all displayed in eight miniature villages.

Thanks to a scenographic tour using sound and light effects, each setting tells a unique story to visitors. During the holiday season, Nativity scenes are added among the displays, bringing a festive and traditional touch to the experience.

July - August and early December to mid-January
Place de l'Église - 85190 Beaulieu-sous-la-Roche
www.feeriesantons.fr



HENRY SIMON WORKSHOP LES RIMAJURES

This site pays tribute to the work of painter Henry Simon and is within walking distance of Saint Gilles Croix de Vie's fishing port.

As you visit the permanent exhibition, the workshop, the garden, resource centre and film, you will be plunged in the artist's world and his varied techniques (oil, pastel, gouache, drawing, and ceramics). Two temporary exhibitions are held each year: a contemporary art exhibition in the spring and another featuring the work of Henry Simon from the summer to the autumn. What's on the programme: tours, workshops, meetings, conferences, and more.

From the 4th April to the 31st May and then from the 20th June to the 19th November.
75 boulevard Georges Pompidou
85800 Saint Gilles Croix de Vie
atelierhenrysimon.fr



O'GLISS PARK



An ocean of excitement!

To celebrate its 10th anniversary, France's largest water park invites you to discover an ever more thrill-seekers. It has areas for young and old, thrill seekers and those just looking to relax: 16 slides, a lagoon with a waterfall, a wave pool, 400 metres of wild rivers, private areas with jacuzzis, and more. All this with your feet in the white sand and surrounded by lush vegetation.

In 2026, the STINGRAY was awarded "One of the world's best attractions"! Its immersive design with four slides perched at 26 metres above the ground, offers a unique sliding experience unlike any other in the world. Get your fill of thrills and excitement!

*From 20th June to 6th September
Route de la Tranche sur Mer - 85560 Le Bernard*



CANOË VENDÉE

Fancy a trip on a lake or river?

Canoë Vendée welcomes you to three sites: Lac du Jaunay, the Vie and Jaunay rivers.

Whether you choose to go for a leisurely paddle or a longer trip on pedal boats, kayaks, canoes, individual or XXL paddleboards, you can enjoy peaceful outings in these protected, listed sites.

Standard or electric bikes are available to hire so you can explore the cycle paths near the three water sports centres.

New for 2026: Canoe-bike pass: canoe/kayak trips + bike hire (audio-guided tours available)

*April to October
Landeveille - Apremont - La Chaize Giraud
For full details: www.canoevendee.fr*

ATLANTIC WAKEPARK

Atlantic Wakepark is a must-visit outdoor activity centre for discovering or practising water sports.

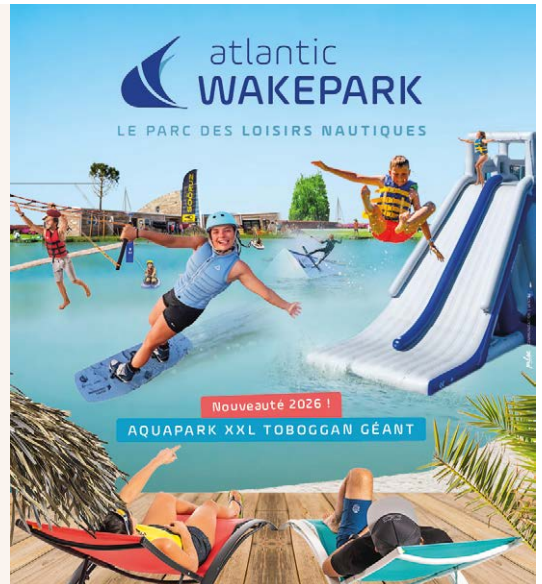
Thanks to its cableways and adapted speed slots, the site makes it easy to practise wakeboarding, water skiing, kneeboarding, or wakeskating, whether you are a beginner or an experienced rider.

Supervised introductions, adapted equipment, and personalised advice make the activity accessible to everyone, right from the first few minutes on the water!

The Splash Game is a giant water park consisting of inflatable structures, trampolines, obstacles, and water slides. Fun, sporty, and refreshing: ideal for having fun with family or friends!

New for 2026: an even more impressive giant slide for lots of thrills and fun.

The site also offers the Warrior Game, a Ninja Warrior-inspired obstacle course above the water, "the" perfect challenge! For quieter moments, stand-up paddleboarding and pedal boat rides allow you to enjoy the water in a more peaceful way.



*End of March to mid-November
(Splash Game from May to the end of August)
3 allée du Banc Cantin - 85460 L'Aiguillon-la-Présqu'île
www.atlanticwakepark.com*



LE PARC DES DUNES

The perfect way to relive your childhood!

Located on the D38 in Brem-sur-Mer, the Parc des Dunes covers 4 hectares and has over 40 attractions, all available for unlimited use.

This amusement park offers fun for all the family: water slides, pedal go-karts, crazy golf, trampolines, inflatables...

On-site catering, ice creams, crêpes, and picnic areas available.

*Open from April to September. Consult the online calendar.
2 rue de l'Écours - 85470 Brem-sur-Mer
www.parc-des-dunes.com*



COMPAGNIE VENDÉENNE



Succumb to the charm of the Ile d'Yeu: one of the most beautiful destinations on the Atlantic coast, with its wild coastline listed as a «natural site», its cliffs, its "Vieux Château", and the charming harbour called "La Meule".

The island is almost 10 km long and 4 km wide, making it ideal for hiking. Whether you're here on a day trip or for a longer stay, you'll be able to relax and enjoy the beauty of the island's stunning scenery.

The Compagnie Vendéenne has been operating for more than 25 years. Set sail from Saint-Gilles-Croix-de-Vie (or Fromentine and Barbâtre).

www.compagnie-vendee.com



LE POTAGER EXTRAORDINAIRE



You'll be amazed at the Potager Extraordinaire !

This Vendean theme park, located in La Roche-sur-Yon, is dedicated to the discovery of rare, surprising and edible plants. Explore a collection of plants that is unique in Europe, with over 1,000 different varieties of vegetables grown over 7 hectares. Follow a fun and educational trail with dramatized visits and hands-on workshops for all ages. Support our efforts to protect both biodiversity and professional insertion during an unforgettable moment.

On site: restaurant, children's games, mini-farm, picnic area, gift shop.

*April 4, 5 and 6 and from May 14 to 7th November.
Consult the online programme.
Route de Beautour - 85000 La Roche-sur-Yon
<https://potagerextraordinaire.com>*



GOLF DE LA PRESQU'ÎLE

Never played golf before? No worries, the Golf de la Presqu'île is perfect for you!

Here, you don't need experience, equipment or even a perfect swing, just the desire to try something new. And for experienced players, the course also promises exciting challenges and enjoyment with every shot. Golf is much more than a sport: it's a relaxing outdoor activity, accessible to all ages and all levels. Come alone, with family or friends, and let yourself be surprised by the pleasure of your first successful drive!

Then relax with a drink on the terrace facing the harbour. The bar is open to everyone, and both the golf course and the bar welcome you all year round. Supervised introductions every friday (to be booked in advance).

*13 chemin des Relais de Mer - 85460 L'Aiguillon la Presqu'île
<https://www.golfdelapresquile.fr>*

MECAMAX

Ideally located just ten minutes from Les Sables d'Olonne, the Mecamax racetrack was created in 1989 and offers plenty of open spaces on its 8-hectare complex, including 5 hectares of undergrowth.

The circuit is now managed by Anthony Abbasse, a two-time KZ Karting World Championship runner-up and former professional go-kart driver. Thanks to its young, enthusiastic, and professional team, Mecamax offers a wide range of entertaining activities. Adult and children's karting tracks, two-seater karts for the very young, handi-control karts with steering wheel, quad tracks (children's track, family ride track, etc.).

Mecamax is also:

- Guided outings on a 5-hectare trail for children aged 7 and over
- Protective equipment provided in case of rain or cold
- Driving lessons
- Children's birthdays, stag and hen parties
- Snack bar, terrace overlooking the slopes
- Children's play area

Open all year round
85340 L'Île d'Olonne
www.mecamax.com



PARC DES SABLOTS

A unique indoor and outdoor playground concept for children from 0 to 14 years, covering more than 1,500 m².

A huge play structure on 4 levels: tree climbing, trampoline, slides, ball pools, adventure games, obstacle courses, and a party area.

Outside, there's a giant treetop adventure park secured with nets, as well as trampolines, a toboggan run, and football pitches.

Exclusive : laser game for children aged 5 and over!

- Special area for toddlers to play safely

Open all year round
17 avenue Louis Bréguet - 85180 Les Sables-d'Olonne
<https://sablotsins.com>



O'FUN PARK

Head for the Wild West!



O'Fun is heading for the Wild West and setting up a playground where every area, every activity and every detail invites you to experience an adventure worthy of the pioneers. Guided by O'Pik, the cowboy cactus, set off on an unforgettable adventure with more than 30 activities: the Rope Canyon heights, the Silver Lake water courses, the wild Rushwater Canyon slides and the life-size challenges of the Explorer Camp. A fully immersive Wild West experience, designed for the entire family.

In 2026, two new additions complete the conquest: the Mini-Farm, a special place to meet the ranch animals, the Gold Rush, a water splash zone packed with interactive water games and slides for mini-pioneers.

From 4th April to 1st November
Le Bois Lambert - 85560 Le Bernard

L'AQUARIUM DE VENDÉE

Discover the wide variety of marine ecosystems at the Aquarium de Vendée!

A visit to the Aquarium is like an underwater journey, a truly immersive experience where each aquarium represents a different sea, ecosystem, or marine environment.

We invite you to discover over 400 animal species from all over the world.

Start your visit by discovering the species that inhabit our coasts and continue your journey to the heart of the most beautiful tropical seas, where you'll find a wealth of underwater curiosities.

*Open from February to December.
Consult the online calendar.
Avenue de la Mine - 85440 Talmont Saint-Hilaire
www.aquarium-vendee.com*



LES SALINES, AN ADVENTURE PARK WITH A SALTY THEME

Les Salines is a fun and original way for young and old alike to discover the salt marshes and the profession of salt workers.

Whether it's by boat, canoe or on foot, there's something for everyone. Along the paths of the Parc d'Aventure du Sel, you can explore the marshes, learn how they work and discover their history. There are also educational games and puzzles for the children! From the visitor stands, you get to meet the salt worker and discover an ancient but little-known trade. The children will also be able to harvest their own salt! Length of visit: 2 to 3 hours. Booking recommended. The shop sells marsh products, has other gift ideas and various regional produce. Private car park.

*Leashed dogs permitted.
Open from April to November
Rte de l'Aubraie - 85100 Les Sables-d'Olonne
www.lessalines.fr - Tél. : 02 51 21 01 19*



LES ÉCURIES D'ARTPAILLANGE

An unforgettable experience at the Écuries d'Artpailange !

From July 14 to August 27, enjoy spectacular shows, equestrian displays, and adventures with «Le Grimoire aux chevaux» and then from December 19 to January 3, enjoy «Les Christmas Dada» in a magnificent setting not far from Les Sables d'Olonne.

Savour every moment in our indoor riding arena, comfortably seated in the stands and enjoy our on-site catering. Special rates and group prices available. Treat yourself to the magic of live entertainment!

*1424 Route de Nieul – La Rivoire
85440 Grosbreuil
www.ecuries-artpailange.com*

LE CHÂTEAU DE TALMONT

Step into the heart of the Middle Ages at Château de Talmont!

Listed as a Historical Monument, this iconic site in the Vendée invites you on a fascinating journey through time, thanks to immersive activities, spectacular shows and its Keep, which offers breathtaking views.

From April to November, discover its secrets through various activities and Escape Games. If you require information on accessibility, please contact us.

Easter egg hunt on 5th and 6th April – Medieval Festival on 24th May.

Escape Game “Le Secret de La Reine» (The Queen's Secret) from April to the end of October (prior booking required).

From 7th April to 1st May: falconry, treasure hunt and guided tours.

July and August: immerse yourself in mediaeval times with knight shows and falconry displays. Discover the lives of our ancestors through workshops and guided tours.

Night show on 16th, 22nd and 28th July and 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th August. (booking required)

Free visits at weekends and outside school holidays from 7th April to 2nd October.

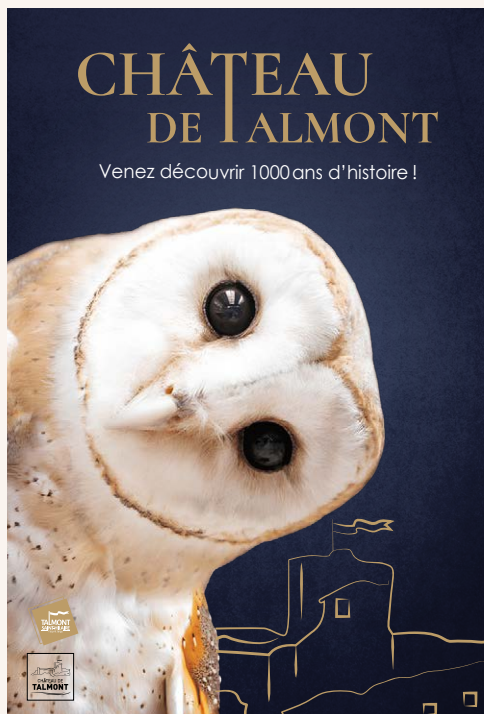
All Saints' Day holidays: night-time visits, storytelling walks, escape game, etc.

From April to November.

8 rue du Château

85440 Talmont-Saint-Hilaire

www.chateaudetalmont.com



LE CHÂTEAU D'APREMONT

Experience history!

The Château was built on a rocky hilltop in the 13th century.

There are guided and self-guided tours available. Visitors can explore topics such as cooking, games and construction.

- This summer at the château: six different themed activities, circus workshops and an interactive show. Enough to keep you busy for hours!
- What's more: all activities are included in the admission price.
- Don't miss: a unique exhibition on Renaissance fashion.

From 4th April to 20th September.

Check the online calendar.

Place du Château - 85220 Apremont

www.tourisme-vie-et-boulogne.fr/chateau-apremont

VENDESIA

(Re)Discover the Vendée like you've never seen it before!

Embark on an exceptional immersive adventure and let yourself be amazed by a journey that will awaken all your senses. Thanks to the latest technologies, the most secret places of Vendée are finally revealed to you, all gathered in one single location.

Experience unique sensations and unforgettable moments, designed for both children and adults alike. To conclude this unmissable experience, take a break in the shop and treat yourself to the finest regional products from Vendée.

From April to December.

221 Impasse des Fourmillières - 85440 Talmont-Saint-Hilaire
www.venesia.fr

Guidebook

A practical guide to the region!

Check the websites of service providers for further information on prices and opening times.



› ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES

Art School

Art courses

Beaulieu-sous-la-Roche
All year round, except during
school holidays
www.ecoledartdebeaulieu.jimdofree.com

Les Estiv'Arts

See page 23

Art workshops run by
professionals from the Pays
des Achards (in French)

July and August
www.achards-tourisme.com
« Events and entertainment »
section

› CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS

www.achards-tourisme.com
« Information » section



› PICNIC AREAS

www.achards-tourisme.com
« Information » section



› SWIMMING/BATHING

Centre Aquatique du Pays des Achards

Leisure and sports pools,
covered slide

Les Achards
Open all year round
<https://centreaquatique.ccpaysdesachards.fr>

« Le Grand Défi » nature leisure park

Aquapark - inflatable water park
on the banks of a small lake

Saint-Julien-des-Landes
Open in the summer
www.grand-defi.com

› CANOEING

Les canoës du Jaunay

Canoes and pedalos for hire

Saint-Julien-des-Landes and
La Chapelle-Hermier
July and August
www.canoee-jaunay.fr

› ENTERTAINING WALKS

Adventure Lab® Tours

Interactive outdoor game with
free application « Si la Mothe
m'était contée » trail in Les
Achards and « Le petit chemin
des feux » trail in Martinet

Available all year round
www.achards-tourisme.com
« Activities »

Legendr® Tours

Outdoor digital tour with a
free application
«The fabulous tale of the castle
without a knight» tour in Le
Girouard and «Jean-Baptiste
and the ghost tomb» in Les
Achards

Available all year round
www.achards-tourisme.com
« Activities »





> CULTURE

Libraries

10 libraries forming a network. Free registration, free events

Available all year round
www.bibliothequesdesachards.net

Concerts and entertainment

« Les Apéros du Patrimoine »

Sip & Heritage - Events at heritage sites

July and August
www.achards-tourisme.com

« Events and entertainment » section



« Les Jaunay'Stivales »

Open air festival

July and August
www.achards-tourisme.com

« Events and entertainment » section



« Les Hivernales »

Cultural season of the Pays des Achards

From October to April
www.achards-tourisme.com

« Events and entertainment » section



Exhibitions

Temporary art exhibitions

> Grenier du Pré

Le Pré, La Chapelle-Hermier
July - August

www.achards-tourisme.com
« Agenda » section

> Libraries in the Pays des Achards
Open all year round.

www.bibliothequesdesachards.net

Playmobil® exhibition

> Atelier de la Déesse

Beaulieu-sous-la-Roche

Early December to mid-January

www.feeriesantons.fr

« Le Chatbaret » Théâtre

Professional troupe, private theatre

Les Achards

Performances from September to June

www.lechatbaret.fr

> CYCLING AND MTB

Cycle paths

Download the routes for free online.

Available all year round
www.achards-tourisme.com

« Activities » section



Bike hire

> Yelloh Village «Le Pin Parasol»

Campsite

La Chapelle-Hermier

www.campingpinparasol.fr

Mountain bike trails

4 circuits in the Vallée du Jaunay, from 12 to 58 km

Available all year round
www.achards-tourisme.com

« Activities » section

Bicycle repair shop

« Les Cycles des Achards »

Les Achards

 Les Cycles des Achards

> RELAXATION AND WELL-BEING

Brit Hôtel

« Vendée Mer »

Wellness area with hammam and infrared sauna

Les Achards

Available all year round

www.hotel-sables-olonne.brithotel.fr

Centre de bien-être du Jaunay

Spa area, body and energy treatments, coaching

La Chapelle-Hermier

Open all year round.

www.centredebienetredujaunay.fr

Centre Aquatique du Pays des Achards

Pays des Achards Aquatic Centre

Relaxation area with sauna and hammam

Les Achards

Open all year round

<https://centreaquatique.cc-paysdesachards.fr>

La Guyonnière campsite

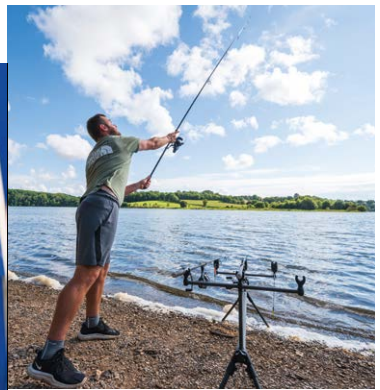
Wellness area with sauna, steam room, whirlpool bath and treatment room

Saint-Julien-des-Landes

When the campsite is open

www.camping-guyonniere.com





> EQUESTRIAN ACTIVITIES

La Garangeoire Equestrian Centre

Riding lessons and courses, introductory pony riding sessions, forest walks, and a variety of animal welfare activities

Saint-Julien-des-Landes

Open all year round

www.vendee-garangeoire.ffe.com

Domaine de la Thibaudière

Riding lessons, walks and coaching

Saint-Julien-des-Landes

Open all year round

 Domaine de la Thibaudière

Écurie d'Aliroz

Riding lessons, walks

Nieul-le-Dolent

Open all year round

 Écurie d'Aliroz

Poney Club du Haras d'Ancœur

Riding lessons and courses

Open all year round

Saint-Georges-de-Pointindoux

www.poneydancoeur.ffe.com

Riding itineraries

3 specially adapted routes

Available all year round

www.cdte85.fr

« Randonner en Vendée » section -

Routes 60, 61 and 81

> ACCOMODATION

www.achards-tourisme.com

« Information » section



> VENUE ROOMS FOR RENT

www.achards-tourisme.com

« Information » section



> LEISURE

« Esprit Cirk » circus school

Courses and workshops in trapeze,

juggling, balance, and acrobatics

Les Achards - All year round

www.esprit-cirk.fr

« Le Poste » Escape Game

Police investigations

Les Achards - Open all year round

www.leposte-enquete.fr

« Le Grand Défi » nature leisure park

Tree climbing adventures, Paint

Ball, Galactic Laser, Explor'Games®,

Pony rides, Quick Jump, Disc Golf,

Orienteering, Treasure hunts, Fun

trails, Aquapark in the summer

Saint-Julien-des-Landes

From April to November

www.grand-defi.com

Disc Golf Courses

Open and free access.

Disc hire from the Tourist Office.

Les Achards and Martinet

Available all year round

www.achards-tourisme.com

> MARKETS

Regular markets in Beaulieu-sous-la-Roche and Les Achards

Throughout the year

www.achards-tourisme.com

« Information » section

> MUSEUM



La Féerie des Santons

700 authentic figurines displayed in 8 miniature villages, with a sound and light show (in French).

Beaulieu-sous-la-Roche

Visits in July, August and from early

December to mid-January

www.achards-tourisme.com

« Activities » section

> FISHING

Fishing rules

www.federation-peche-vendee.fr

Fishing spots

Available all year round, except

when restricted by legislation

www.achards-tourisme.com

« Activities » section

Fishing permit for sale

All year round

Pays des Achards Tourist Office,

on site and by telephone.

www.achards-tourisme.com



> HIKING

Signposted trails

Routes can be downloaded free of charge from the Internet and paper guides are on sale at the Tourist Office.

All year round

www.achards-tourisme.com

« Activities » section

GR®364

« From Poitou to the Océan »

Passage through Beaulieu-sous-la-Roche, Martinet and La Chapelle-Hermier

Available all year round

www.ffrandonnee.fr and

www.achards-tourisme.com

> EDUCATIONAL OUTINGS

Les Jaunay'Scapades

Nature outings around the Lac du Jaunay (in French)

July and August

www.achards-tourisme.com

« Events and entertainment »

« Highlights of the year » section



Visits local producers

See page 19

Guided tour and tasting with local producers (in French)

July and August

www.achards-tourisme.com

« Activities » section

Le Potager des Z'Animaux

Educational farm with sheep, goats, pigs, ducks, chicken, and other farm animals. (in French)

Beaulieu-sous-la-Roche

Open all year round

 Le potager des z'animaux

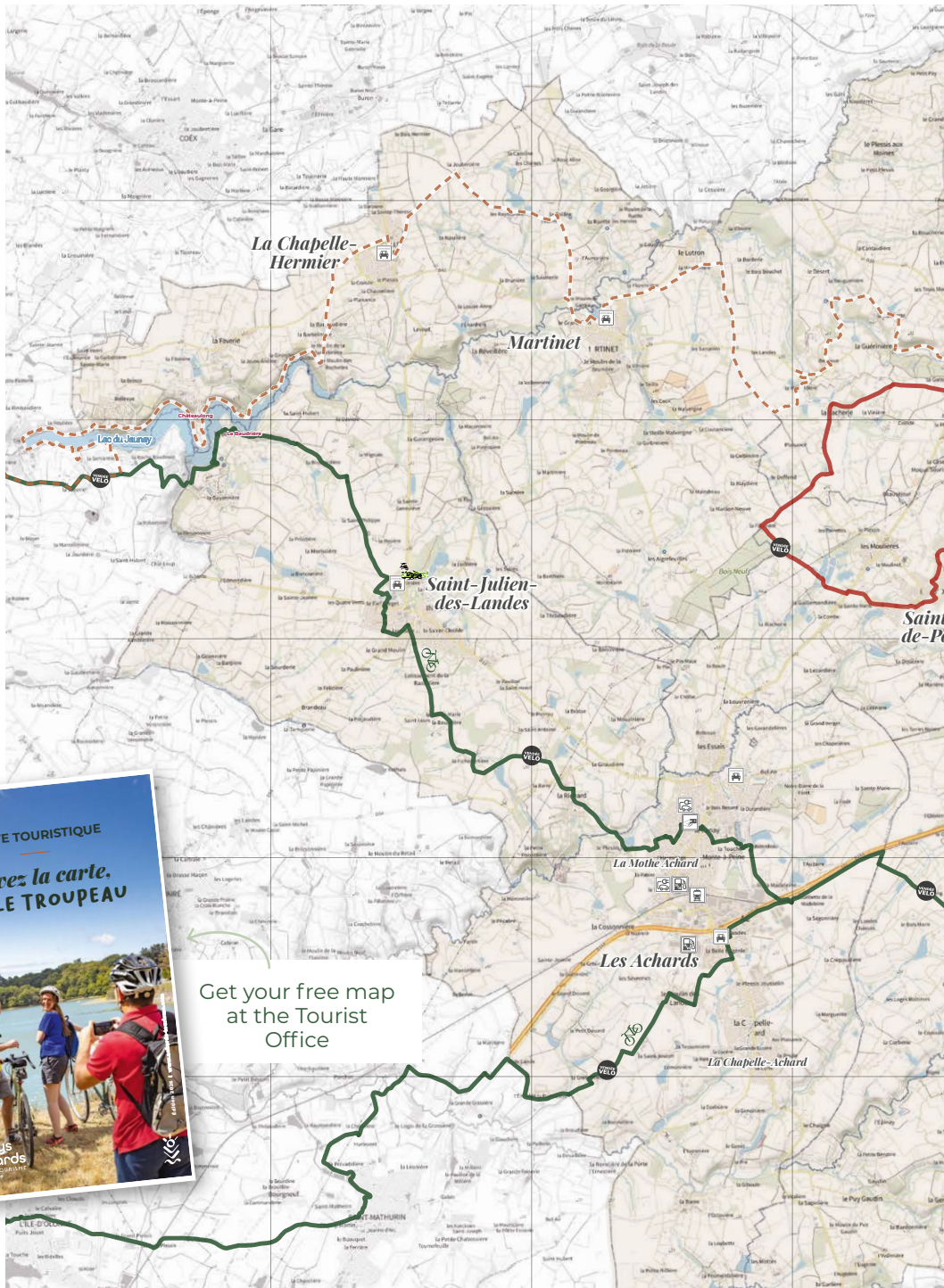
> RESTAURANTS

www.achards-tourisme.com

« Information » section



The Pays des Achards *tourist map*



Get your free map
at the Tourist
Office

Office de Tourisme
Tourist Office



0 500 m 1 km
0 0,5 mi 1 mi

Itinéraire Vendée Vélo
"Vendée Vélo" Trail

Boucle Vendée Vélo
"Vendée Vélo" loop

GR® 364, du Poitou à l'Océan

Distributeur de billets
ATM (Automated Teller Machine)

Aire de service gratuite
pour camping-car
Free motorhome service point

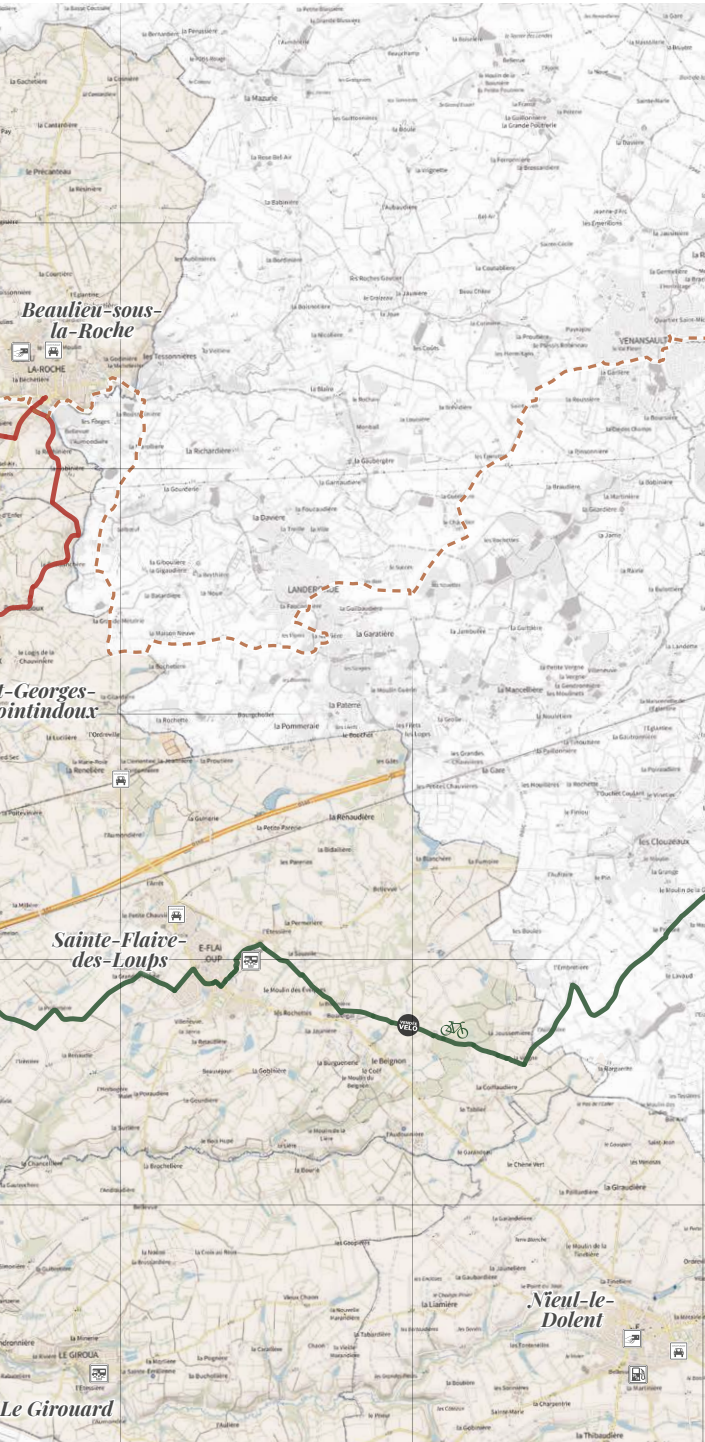
Borne électrique
Electric charging station

Station-service 24h/24h
Fuel pump 24h/24h

Gare SNCF
Railway station

Voie ferrée
Railway

Aire de covoiturage
Carpool area



› Our brochures




› Our special events



› Our Tourist Office





Come to the
Pays des Achards in the
Vendée



**Pays
des
Achards**
OFFICE DE TOURISME
Vendée



Office de Tourisme du Pays des Achards
56 avenue Georges Clemenceau
85150 Les Achards
02.51.05.90.49

www.achards-tourisme.com

