

HIKING TRAIL
ALLONNES (49)



The « Vallon de l'Automne » :
Among truck farming, orchards and forest.
Distance: 7.6 km, about 1.45.

- From Bourgueil, follow the green signs: in the market town, turn right in the direction of Neuillé (rue du Bellay then immediately on the left, rue Hugues d'Allonnes). After 3km, at Recouvrance, turn right, route de l'Automne, and drive 3km on the D 155 road to get to the trail's starting point, at the Gué de Louet, just after the sawmill.
- From Saumur, between la Ronde and Allonnes, take the D 155 road on the left in the direction of La Breille les Pins, go through Recouvrance and carry on to the Gué de Louet.

Starting point : the Gué de Louet washhouse
Yellow marking.

- Leaving the washhouse, walk up the road on the right and take the grass line along the orchard. Turn right to the sandy track.
- Have a look at some wonderful chestnut trees on the left side, walk through the orchards of apple trees, then through the truck farming (broad beans, beans, radish, onions, asparagus depending on the seasons...). You can see the *Manoir de Courbet* on the left, and the *Château du Bellay* toward the south.
- At the end of the track, turn right and walk down to the road.
- Carry on the other side of the road alongside the pumping station for irrigation, and over the Automne stream.
- At the intersection, opposing the fortified farm *la Barbillonnière*, turn right and walk carefully along the Route de l'Automne (D 155, car traffic).
- At the fork in the road, turn left on the Route de Saint Aubin. Then use the sandy track on the right, alongside the orchards before entering the forest.
- Turn right to walk down to the Route de l'Automne by the forest road.
- Turn left and follow the road which crosses the *ruisseau de l'Automne*, to meet the *Etang des Hautes Belles*.
- At the crossroads, turn right on the track in the forest. Go straight on and walk down to the washhouse.

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