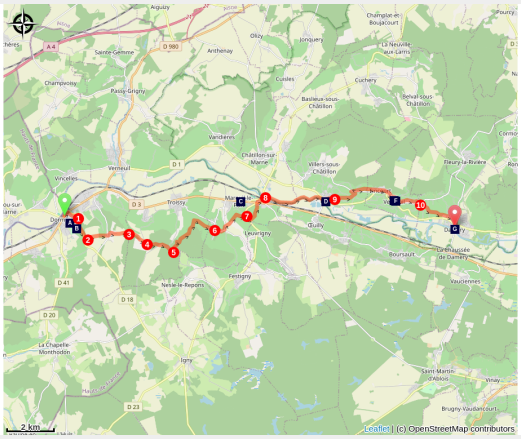
Dormans to Damery

France

La Marne devant Damery (Amis de saint Colomban)



A stroll in the Champagne landscapes of the Marne valley alternating, cereal crops, forests, vineyards, the banks of the Marne.

As the monks of Luxeuil do to join the Luxembourg monastic foundations in Brie, you will follow the Marne by making a few escapades in the villages of the Champagne vineyards in order to admire the landscapes of this beautiful valley.

Useful information

Practice : Pedestrian

Duration : 6 h

Length : 22.9 km

Trek ascent : 515 m

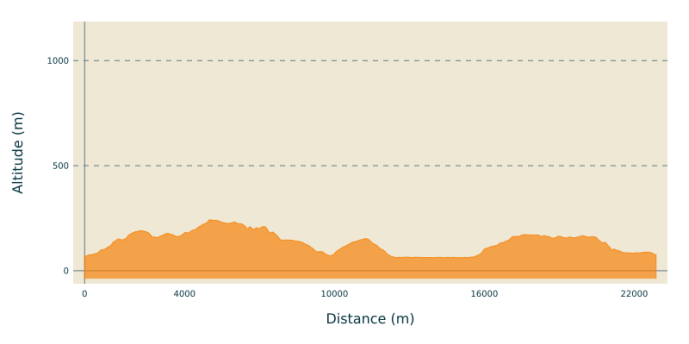
Difficulty : Medium

Type : Step

Trek

Departure : St Hippolyte church, 6 rue des grands remparts, 51 700 Dormans
Arrival : St Georges Church,1 Place de l'Église 51480 Damery
Cities : 1. Grand Est

Altimetric profile

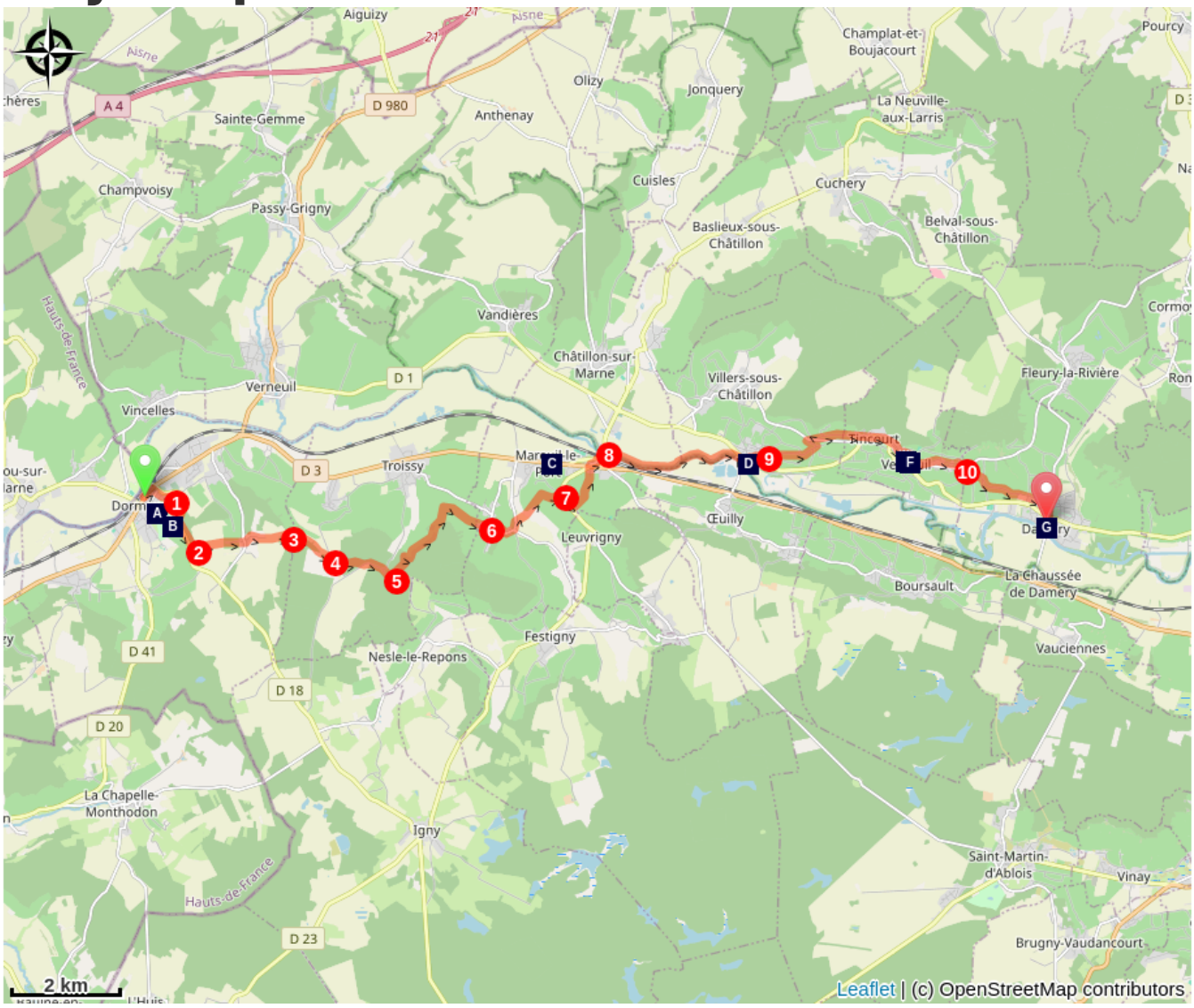


Min elevation 62 m Max elevation 242 m

From the church choir, turn left in the direction of rue Jean de Dormans, pass place du Luxembourg, first right, rue du Maréchal Foch, then rue Claude Nicolas Ledoux.

1. Turn right at the crossroads and left at the next crossroads. Go up the Rue du Chemin Vert, turn right on the departmental road and then after 100 metres turn left between vineyards and forests.
2. At the crossroads with an access road to the main road turn left, cross the crops until you reach the village of Vassy, at the crossroads in the village turn slightly left in front of you, rue des Marinières, follow the tarred road then the dirt track.
3. Before arriving in the vineyard, turn right into the wood along the vineyard. After 900 metres turn right and then left.
4. At the exit of the wood take the road on the right for 400 meters and then a path on the left.
5. At the crossroads turn left, cross the path in the clearing and go along the vineyard. At the source of Chaudriers, turn left into the vineyard and take the second path on the right towards Cerseuil.
6. At the crossroads in Cerseuil turn left and then right on the Clos de Tirvet path, at the crossroads D 523 turn left and then the second left. First on the right in the vineyard until the end of the path on the left.
7. Cross the D23 and take the road slightly to your left and then the first left, straight ahead to Port à Binson. Cross the avenue Paul Doumer in the direction of the bridge over the Marne river.
8. After the bridge turn right to follow the Marne river to the village of Reuil, pass in front of the church on the left rue du Pont, on the right Grande Rue, second on the left, on the right and on the left rue du Château.
9. After rue du Château turn right, stay on the tarmac road, turn right on the tarmac road, then take the second road on the left towards Tincourt. Cross Tincourt, rue de la Source, take the second road on the left, rue de la Poterie, cross Venteuil.
10. At the exit of Venteuil turn left on chemin d'Arty-Haut. Arty turn right at the crossroads D22a turn left then right rue de Damery, stay on the tarmac road until Damery. At the cemetery turn right, rue Paul Douce, straight ahead you arrive at the church of Damery.

On your path...



Dormans Castle (A)

Battle of the Marne (1914-1918) Memorial at Dormans (B)

Église Saint-Rémy à Mareuil-le-Port (C)

Église Saint-Martin de Reuil (D)

Venteuil, la révolte des vignerons en 1911 (E)

Église Sainte-Geneviève de Venteuil (F)

Église Saint-Georges de Damery (G)

All useful information

How to come ?

Transports

Gare SNCF, rue de la Gare 51700 Dormans

Bus en France

On your path...

Dormans Castle (A)

The first castle was built in 925 from 1340 the Dormans family rebuilt a medieval castle, the building remained in this family for three centuries. It was then owned by illustrious families including the Condé, Conti, de Broglie, de Ligne, de La Rochefoucauld. Its feudal aspect gradually faded with the passing of time as it was transformed into a pleasant residence, while reducing its influence.
It was restored after 1918 in the Louis XIII style. It was private property until 1919 when it was acquired by "L'oeuvre de la Chapelle de la Reconnaissance de la Marne à Dormans" which built the Memorial of the Battles of the Marne.
Property of the town of Dormans, the castle is not open to visitors.

Attribution : Association Colomban en Brie

Battle of the Marne (1914-1918) Memorial at Dormans (B)

The first battle of the marl in September 1914 has already been mentioned in the monument of La Ferté sous Jouarre.
The Dormans memorial was inaugurated in 1931 after 10 years of work, to remember the sacrifice of 112,000 soldiers on the French-English side and 83,000 Germans. The initiative was taken by the de La Rochefoucauld family, the Duchess of Estissac, Marshal Foch, Cardinal Luçon and Monsignor Tessier. According to Marshal Foch the site is the synthetic point of the two battles of the Marne.
The high monument offers a vast view over the valley of the marl, and one will take the time to visit this place of meditation comprising a chapel, a crypt, an ossuary and a cloister. Open in free access from 2 to 6 pm.

Attribution : Association Colomban en Brie

Église Saint-Rémy à Mareuil-le-Port (C)

The church of Saint-Rémi replaced the neighbouring oratory of the former 10th century castle. Its Romanesque bell tower dates from the 12th century. The rest of the building is Gothic but from two different eras. The church underwent important modifications in the 16th century, the bell tower dates from this period, it keeps beautiful stained glass windows from the 16th century.

Attribution : Amis de saint Colomban

Église Saint-Martin de Reuil (D)

Dating from the 12th and 13th centuries, the church is a three-vessel Latin cross with a transept and a straight chevet. The nave, aisles and chevet are covered with a flat wooden ceiling, while the north transept has a ribbed quadripartite ribbed vault. The crossing of the transept is covered with a masonry vault. It underwent numerous restorations in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Attribution : Amis de saint Colomban

Venteuil, la révolte des vignerons en 1911 (E)

Following poor grape harvests between 1907 and 1911 as a result of phylloxera, which devastated the majority of French vineyards, Champagne was not spared. The wine growers get their supplies from the Aube, whose Champagne appellation is forbidden following a decree of 1908. Demonstrations are organized to block winegrowers buying from the neighboring department. The destruction of cellars is engaged, the prefect intervenes the army, the two departments are at war. Venteuil was hard hit by this revolt and a plaque on the wall of the town hall recalls this event.

Attribution : Amis de saint Colomban

Église Sainte-Geneviève de Venteuil (F)

The church of Venteuil is in the tradition of Champagne churches in rural areas. Its construction dates from the end of the 12th century or the beginning of the 13th century. Over the course of time it was rebuilt several times, notably in the 17th and 18th centuries.

Attribution : Amis de saint Colomban

Église Saint-Georges de Damery (G)

St. George's Church was the seat of a priory between the 12th and 16th centuries.
Damery's land was part of the royal estate. A diploma from 870 indicates that Damery's villa was given to the Benedictines of the Abbey of Saint-Médard de Soissons.
A church existed at the beginning of the 12th century because in 1101 a conflict arose over the altar of Damery's church. Indeed the bishop of Soissons, Hugues de Pierrefonds, offered the altar to the chapter of the cathedral of Soissons. The altar was finally returned to the abbot of Saint-Médard de Soissons.

Attribution : Amis de saint Colomban