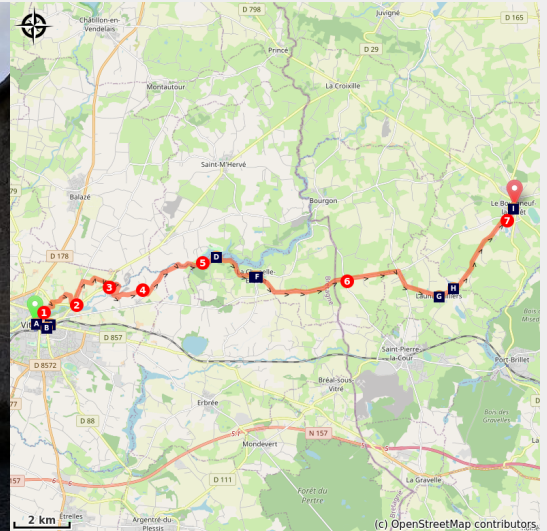


Vitré to Le Bourgneuf-la-Forêt

France - Bretagne



Mairie de la Chapelle-Erbée (Amis saint Colomban)



The Via Columbani passes through many hamlets and runs along part of the lake of the Upper Vilaine. Half of the stage takes place on departmental roads which invite you to be careful.

A fairly hilly stage whose gradient is constantly increasing until the finish in Bourgneuf-La-Forêt. At the beginning of the route, we are on the Red and White markers until the Plan d'Eau de la Haute Vilaine.

Useful information

Practice : Pedestrian

Duration : 6 h 12

Length : 24.8 km

Trek ascent : 368 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Step

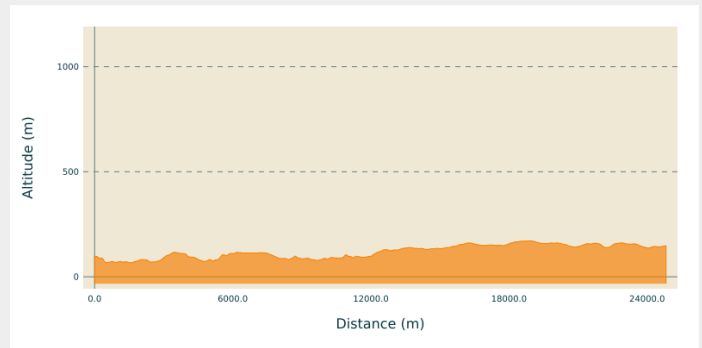
Trek

Departure : Notre-Dame Church, place Notre-Dame, 35 500 Vitré

Arrival : Église Saint-Martin, place de l'Église, 53410 Le Bourgneuf-la-Forêt

Cities : 1. Bretagne
2. Pays de la Loire

Altimetric profile

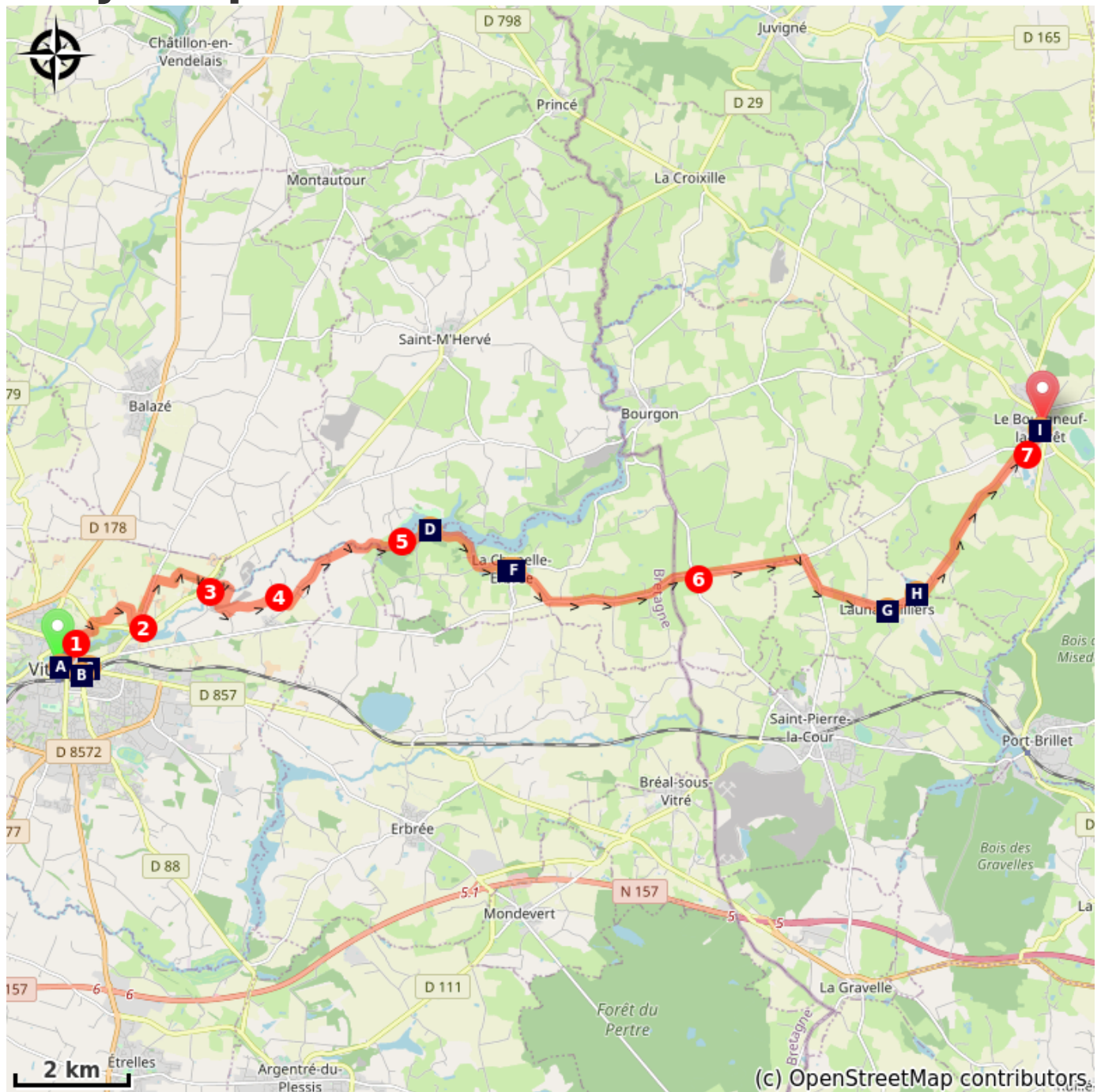


Min elevation 67 m Max elevation 171 m

In front of the church Notre-Dame de Vitré on the left and on the right on promenade du Val, red and white markings, go down to cross La Vilaine, chemin de Plaisance on the right chemin de Villaudin

1. On the right, leave Chemin de Villaudin, cross the Vitré bypass D 179, turn right along the bypass for a few metres, at the crossroads on the right.
2. Turn left at the crossroads with D 130, after the farms take a field road on the right, signposted in red and white, first path on the left, in front of the hedge of trees on the right, on the right at the crossroads with D 277, first road on the left for a few metres.
3. Go down path on the right, cross the Roche Blossac, straight ahead, right at the crossroads in the wood, straight ahead on asphalt road, 90° path on the left, first path on the right, red and white markings.
4. Turn right at the crossroads with tarmac road, left at the second crossroads straight ahead, signposted in red and white, follow La Vilaine.
5. On the right to take the dam you leave the red and white markings, follow the water, leave the waterfront stay on tarmac road, rue du Lac, straight ahead to La Chapelle-Erbée, rue du Bourg-Neuf, left at the crossroads with D 34
6. At the crossroads with D 106 in Hameau La Brécinière, straight ahead on D 123 at the next crossroads turn right on D 158 direction Launay-Villiers, turn left on D 279 direction Launay-Villiers, route de la Rabine, left in front of the church D 279 route des Étangs, straight ahead on D 279
7. Turn right at the junction with D 123 route de Vitré, rue de Bretagne, after the car park on the left first street on the left rue du Temple straight ahead between the houses you arrive at Place de l'Eglise.

On your path...



- ⦿ Notre-Dame Church of Vitré (A)
- ⦿ Saint-Martin Church in Vitré (B)
- ⦿ The Old Saint Martin's Tower in Vitré (C)
- ⦿ Pond of the Haute Vilaine (D)
- ⦿ Église Saint-Ouen Church il La Chapelle-Erbrée (E)
- ⦿ La Chapelle-Erbrée Town Hall (F)
- ⦿ Sainte-Trinité Church in Launay-Villiers (G)
- ⦿ Château de Villiers in Launay-Villiers (H)
- ⦿ Saint-Martin Church in Le Bourgneuf-la-Forêt (I)

All useful information

On your path...



📍 Notre-Dame Church of Vitré (A)

The present appearance of the Church of Our Lady, which was rebuilt between about 1440 and 1580, is that of the 15th and 16th centuries. As a transitional building between the late Middle Ages and the early Renaissance, it adapted to changing taste: in the flamboyant Gothic decor, Renaissance ornamental motifs are discernible (left side of the south façade).

We are in the presence of a so-called "multi-gabled" church: the multiplication of the gables on the aisles, pierced by wide windows, allows the light to shine more broadly on a building without high windows.

The main facade, on the west side, is less elaborate than the one on the south side. It was in fact masked by the Great Cloth Hall, made of wood, which was replaced after the fire of 1886 by a butter hall made of cast iron and bricks, destroyed in the 1960s.

Source website of the town of Vitré

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban



📍 Saint-Martin Church in Vitré (B)

The present St. Martin's Church is in neo-Romanesque style. It remains to this day the most important neo-Romanesque building in Ille-et-Vilaine. Construction began in 1883 and the building was consecrated in 1895. It is likely that its framework is made of metal, a framework to which rubble was grafted. This technique, practiced since the 1850s, had the triple advantage of a fast, inexpensive and solid construction.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban



📍 The Old Saint Martin's Tower in Vitré (C)

St. Martin's Church was not yet erected as a parish at the beginning of the 15th century. It was however in the centre of one of the first vitreous suburbs, as early as the end of the 11th century. It was destroyed at the end of the 1880s, while a new St. Martin's Church was built further south and west. However, the old bell tower, known as the Tour du Vieux-Saint-Martin, was preserved.

Together with the three other bell towers of the town, with the high towers of the castle and that of the Bridole, it is one of the monuments that give Vitré its very special silhouette.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban



🌊 Pond of the Haute Vilaine (D)

Launched in 1982, the role of the Haute Vilaine water body is to protect the Rennes agglomeration against winter floods. It also provides a reserve of drinking water for the Rennes and Vitré basins and supports low water flows to ensure the quality of La Vilaine's water during the summer.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban



📍 Église Saint-Ouen Church il La Chapelle-Erbrée (E)

The present parish church was built from 1841 by the architect Charles Langlois¹⁵, its tower being completed in 1843; it was blessed on 15 May 1844 by Mgr de Saint-Marc, Archbishop of Rennes. Its choir, in the form of a polygonal apse, was rebuilt in 1872.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban



📍 La Chapelle-Erbrée Town Hall (F)

In 1905, Mr. Mellet, the architect of the castles of the Vitré region, erected at La Chapelle-Erbrée a surprising building in this rural village with no significant Gothic heritage. It is in the style of a neo-Gothic edifice, used since the end of the 19th century in medieval towns with a rich past such as Vitré, Fougères, Redon or Saumur.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban



Sainte-Trinité Church in Launay-Villiers (G)

The building was built in 1636.

The church has a Latin cross plan. In the 19th century, the flat chevet of the choir is decorated with a five-sided sacristy and the bell tower was built. On the facades, René Godard's coat of arms is sculpted in a roundel on granite shields.

If the church is open visit the interior with the Monument to the Dead of the Great War.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban



Château de Villiers in Launay-Villiers (H)

Built in 1857, this castle is made of coated stone.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban



Saint-Martin Church in Le Bourgneuf-la-Forêt (I)

The very modest church has a magnificent bell tower which enhances if the church is open discover its statuary and painted wooden ceiling and a beautifully decorated interior.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban