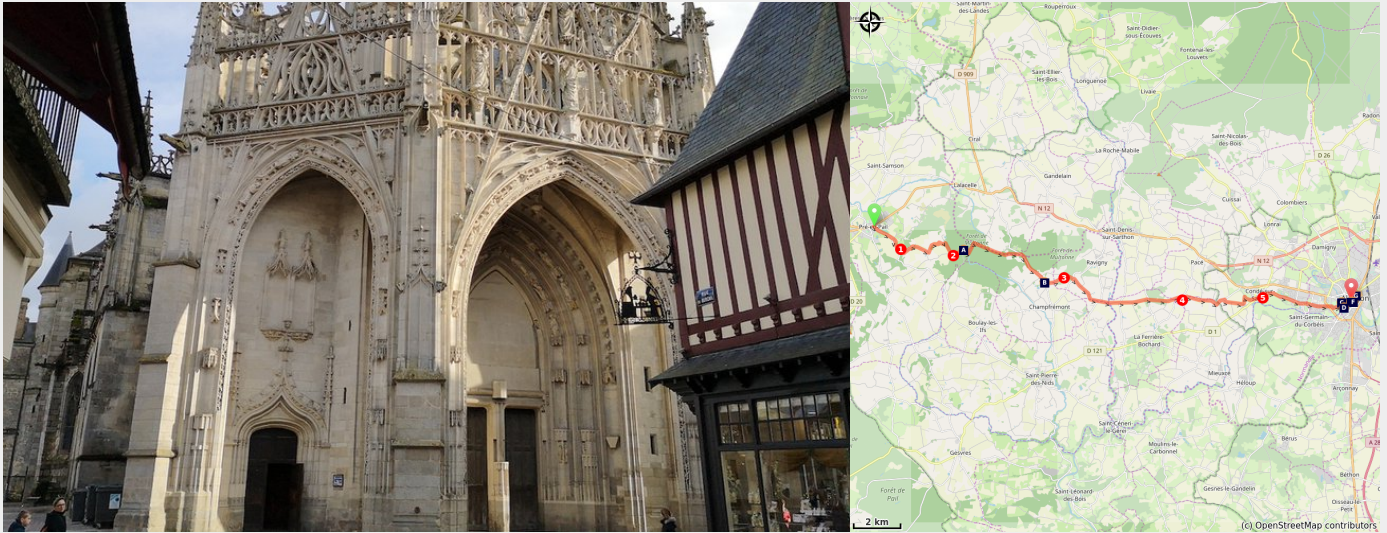


Pré-en-Pail to Alençon

France - Pays de la Loire



Basilique Notre-Dame d'Alençon (Amis saint Colomban)

By taking the Red and White markers (deep Mayenne tower) the beginning of the path climbs up to reach the Mont des Avaloirs lookout. Then, continuing in the forest of Multonne, a long descent will follow until the arrival in Alençon.

Route which will allow you to cross the forest of Multonne and to reach the orientation table at the Mont des Avaloirs. After crossing the forest, the Via Columbani is exposed until the arrival.

Useful information

Practice : Pedestrian

Duration : 6 h 30

Length : 25.4 km

Trek ascent : 356 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Step

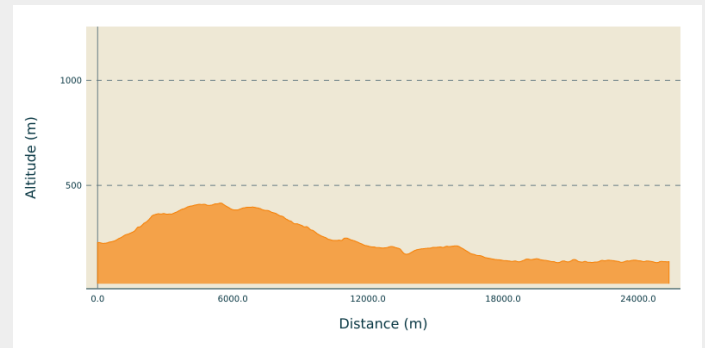
Trek

Departure : Sainte-Thérèse des Avaloirs Church, place du Marché 53 140 Pré-en-Pail-Saint-Samson

Arrival : Notre-Dame Basilica, 53 Grande Rue, 61 000 Alençon

Cities : 1. Pays de la Loire
2. Normandie

Altimetric profile

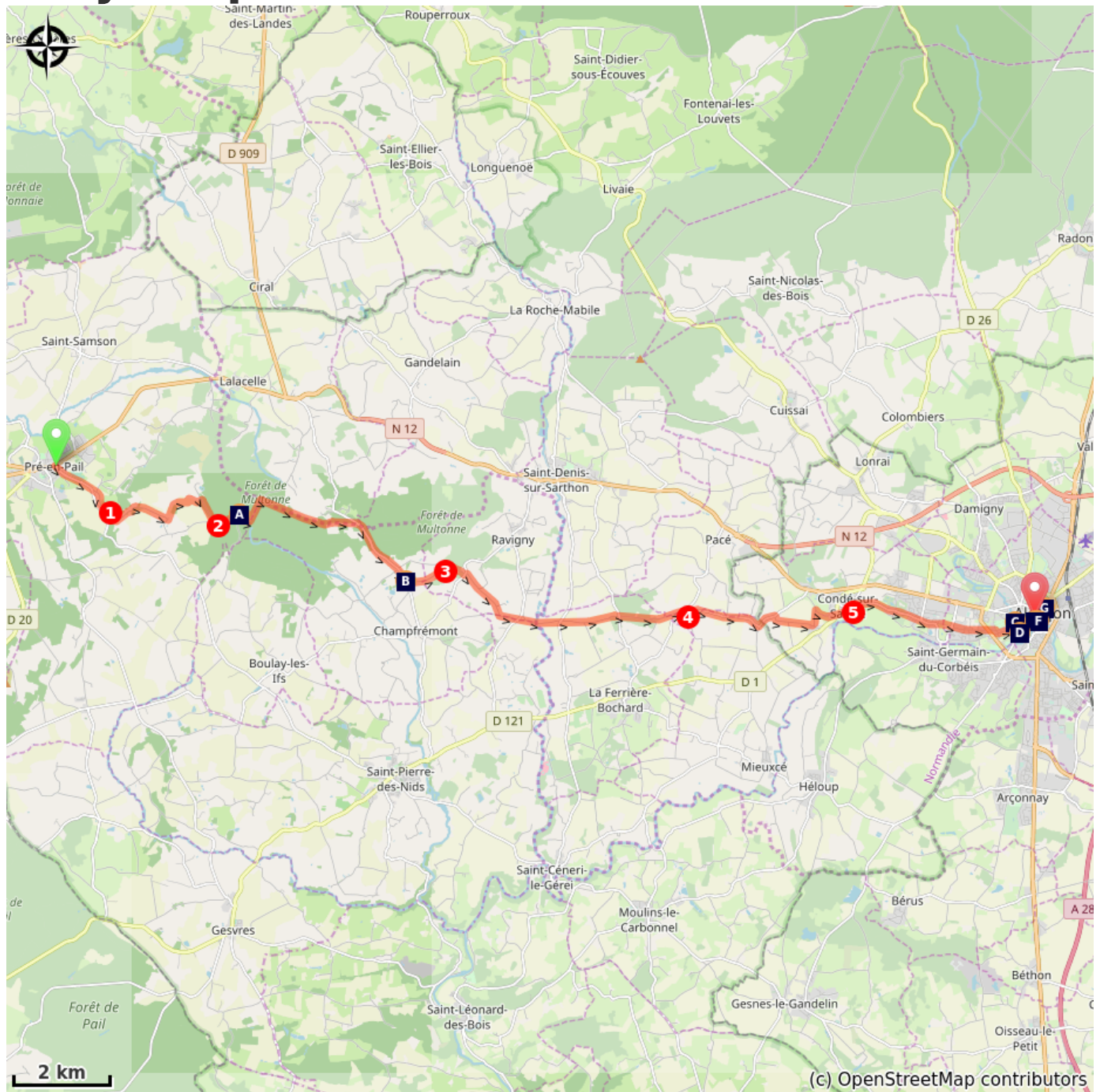


Min elevation 132 m Max elevation 416 m

In front of Sainte-Thérèse de Pré-en-Pail church, turn left on rue Sainte-Anne D 144, turn left in front of the oratory of Notre-Dame, la Boucherie des Bois.

1. Left at the crossroads of 4 roads, left asphalt road after a right turn, left crossroads at Haut Bourgneuf, dirt road, right along field hedge, right asphalt road crossroads
2. Turn left at the crossroads towards the relay, at the crossroads stay on the left, go past the road to the belvedere des Avaloirs (250 metres), second wooden path on the right, straight ahead on the D 536 then D 505, left after Sainte-Anne's chapel.
3. At La Muletière, twice right, left at the crossroads with D 245, right towards La Bouverie, straight on at the crossroads, turn left at the crossroads, cross the D 260, cross the D 350, then straight on the D 520 until the Stop sign with the D 521.
4. At the crossroads with D 522, stay on your right, follow D 521, turn left at the "patte d'oie", at Les Broses first street on the right, on the left at the crossroads Chemin de la Galochère, on the right Rue des Fusillés, cross D 1, Rue des Alpes Mancelles.
5. After the church on the right rue de la Jardinière, rue de Beauséjour, straight on at the roundabout, rue de Villeneuve, straight on at the roundabout, cross avenue de Koutiala, stay on rue Villeneuve, place Candie third street on the left rue Eugène Lecointre, straight on at each crossroads, rue Porte de la Barre, after the church Saint-Léonard on the left rue de Fresnay, at 53 Grande Rue you arrive at the basilica Notre-Dame d'Alençon.

On your path...



- 👉 Le mont des Avaloirs in Pré-en-Pail. (A)
- 🏰 Castle of the Dukes of Alençon (C)
- 🏰 Basilica of Notre-Dame of Alençon (E)
- 🏠 Maison Famille Martin (Sainte Thérèse's birthplace) in Alençon (G)
- 🏰 Sainte-Anne's Chapel in Champfrémont (B)
- 🏰 The Saint-Léonard district in Alençon (D)
- 🏠 La Maison d'Ozé in Alençon (F)

All useful information

How to come ?

Transports

[Gare SNCF Alençon](#)

On your path...



↩ Le mont des Avaloirs in Pré-en-Pail. (A)

The Mount des Avaloirs, at 416 metres, is the highest point of the Armorican Massif and the Great West (Normandy, Brittany, Pays de la Loire). It is located in the department of Mayenne, on the border of the department of Orne, in Pré-en-Pail. It is the main summit of the long line of hills of Normandy and has the appearance of a plateau of moors and meadows. The site is very popular with hikers.

The building at the summit was installed in 1994, it replaced an older monument.

In 2019, the Franco-British artist Seb Toussaint created a fresco covering the surface of both sides of the belvedere.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban



📍 Sainte-Anne's Chapel in Champfrémont (B)

At the foot of the forest of Multonne, the site of the chapel of Sainte-Anne de Champfrémont was a place of pilgrimage but also a famous place of famous cattle fairs. A delicate cohabitation with the prison.

The chapel dated 1630 is on the grounds of the powerful Benedictine abbey of Lonlay, a beautiful building with walls made of all the granite and sandstone of the area, with wooden vaults, four altars, a polychrome terracotta statue of Sainte-Anne, a hexagonal bell with cut-off sides, on flaked slates. With the miraculous spring that cures eye diseases, the site welcomes thousands of pilgrims.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban



🏰 Castle of the Dukes of Alençon (C)

The castle of the Dukes of Alençon currently designates the entrance pavilion of the former castle of Alençon which was destroyed over the centuries.

It cannot be visited, and for good reason: this beautiful 15th century building with two superimposed machicolated towers is a prison.

The castle of the Dukes is currently the subject of a redevelopment program. The creation of a contemporary urban park is under way in the courtyards and promenade of the former prison on different levels. The surrounding wall has been opened to provide access to the courtyard.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban



🏰 The Saint-Léonard district in Alençon (D)

This historic district takes its name from the church dedicated to Saint-Léonard, built at the end of the 15th century by Duke René and his wife Marguerite de Lorraine. From the castle to the crossroads of Les Étaux, via the rue de la Juiverie, half-timbered houses, narrow courtyards and gables with granite ramparts evoke Alençon in the Middle Ages in a picturesque district. The building is placed under the name of Saint-Léonard de Noblac.

It is of flamboyant Gothic style; it was built from 1489 by Duke René, second Duke of Alençon, then by his widow Marguerite de Lorraine at the beginning of the 16th century.

Its Martin tower dating from the 12th century is the base of the bell tower; it was profoundly altered following the collapse of the vaults of the nave in 1645. The church underwent several restorations in the 17th and 18th centuries before being refurbished in the 19th century by the architect Isidore Dédaux.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban



Basilica of Notre-Dame of Alençon (E)

The Basilica of Notre-Dame d'Alençon is a church of Gothic architecture located in the centre of Alençon in the pedestrian zone.

A Romanesque church, already dedicated to Our Lady in her Assumption, existed on this site in the 12th century. It depended on a priory founded by the Abbey of Lonlay. It later became a parish church and was enlarged. Its construction was begun by Charles III, Duke of Alençon at the time of the Hundred Years' War in 1356 and completed in the 19th century.

This Gothic building has a five-bay nave dating from the 15th century in the flamboyant Gothic style, early 16th century.

Following a fire, the choir, transepts and bell tower were rebuilt between 1745 and 1762.

Saint Therese of Lisieux received the sacrament of baptism in this church. A chapel in the basilica recalls this event.

It has been a basilica since August 10, 2009.

[More information](#) Wikipedia

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban



La Maison d'Ozé in Alençon (F)

The house, built entirely of granite, takes the form of a late 15th century rectangular dwelling on the square side, flanked on the right by a pavilion built at the beginning of the following century. On the rear facade, a cylindrical turret from the same period is attached to the pavilion. Inside, the dwelling has vast rooms with exposed beams that occupy the entire width of the building on each floor.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban



Maison Famille Martin (Sainte Thérèse's birthplace) in Alençon (G)

The family home of the Holy Martin Husbands, also the birthplace of Saint Thérèse, opens its doors to you to get closer to them and find the authenticity of the time they lived. The visit accompanied by the house allows you to discover the life of the Martin Family - of Saints Louis and Zélie, of Sainte Thérèse de Lisieux and her sisters.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban