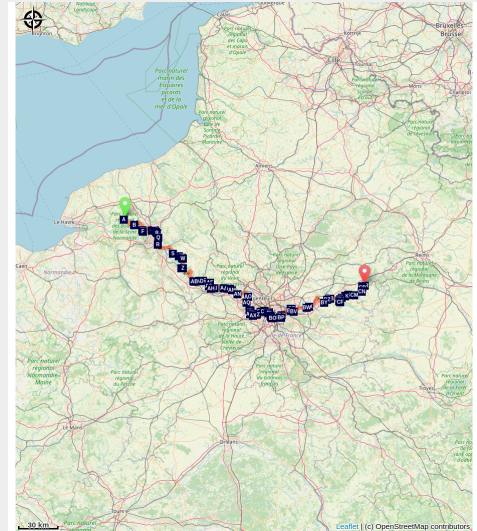


# 11. 610 France (6/8)

France - Normandie



Notre-Dame Paris (Amis saint Colomban)



*2720km long in France, the route of Colomban's exile in 610 is divided into 8 parts that can be followed successively or indistinctly. This sixth part of a particularly winding itinerary follows the Seine, crosses Paris and then follows the course of the Marne.*

Around 610, expelled from Luxeuil, Saint Colomban and the Irish monks were taken to Nantes under the guard of armed soldiers who were in charge of taking them on a ship to Ireland. But, barely on board, they managed to escape and, fearing that they would be caught, began an incredible journey through many countries. Most of the journey into exile takes place in France from East to West and then back again after Nantes. The itinerary mainly follows the great rivers and the vineyards often planted on their banks while crossing the historic cities that mark them out.

## Useful information

Practice : Pedestrian

Duration : 0 min

Length : 361.4 km

Trek ascent : 6694 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Multi-day trek

# Trek

**Departure** : 76490 Saint-Wandrille-Rançon

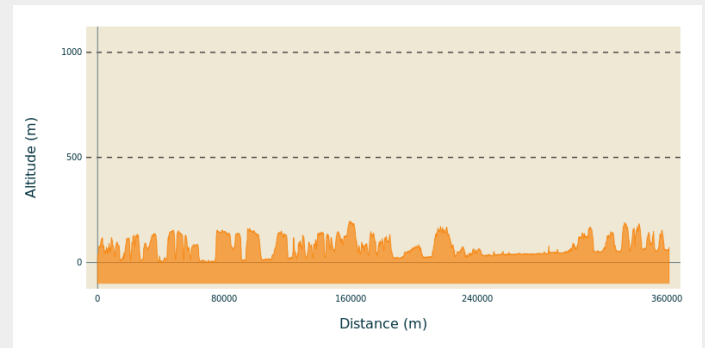
**Arrival** : 02400 Château-Thierry

**Cities** : 1. Normandie

2. Île-de-France

3. Hauts-de-France

## Altimetric profile



Min elevation -1 m Max elevation 196 m

These two successive crossings of France are not the most direct way to reach the Swiss border to the east of Luxeuil, only 110km away. But they do reflect the strong image of a strong-willed Columban who had left Ireland for good with no desire to return.

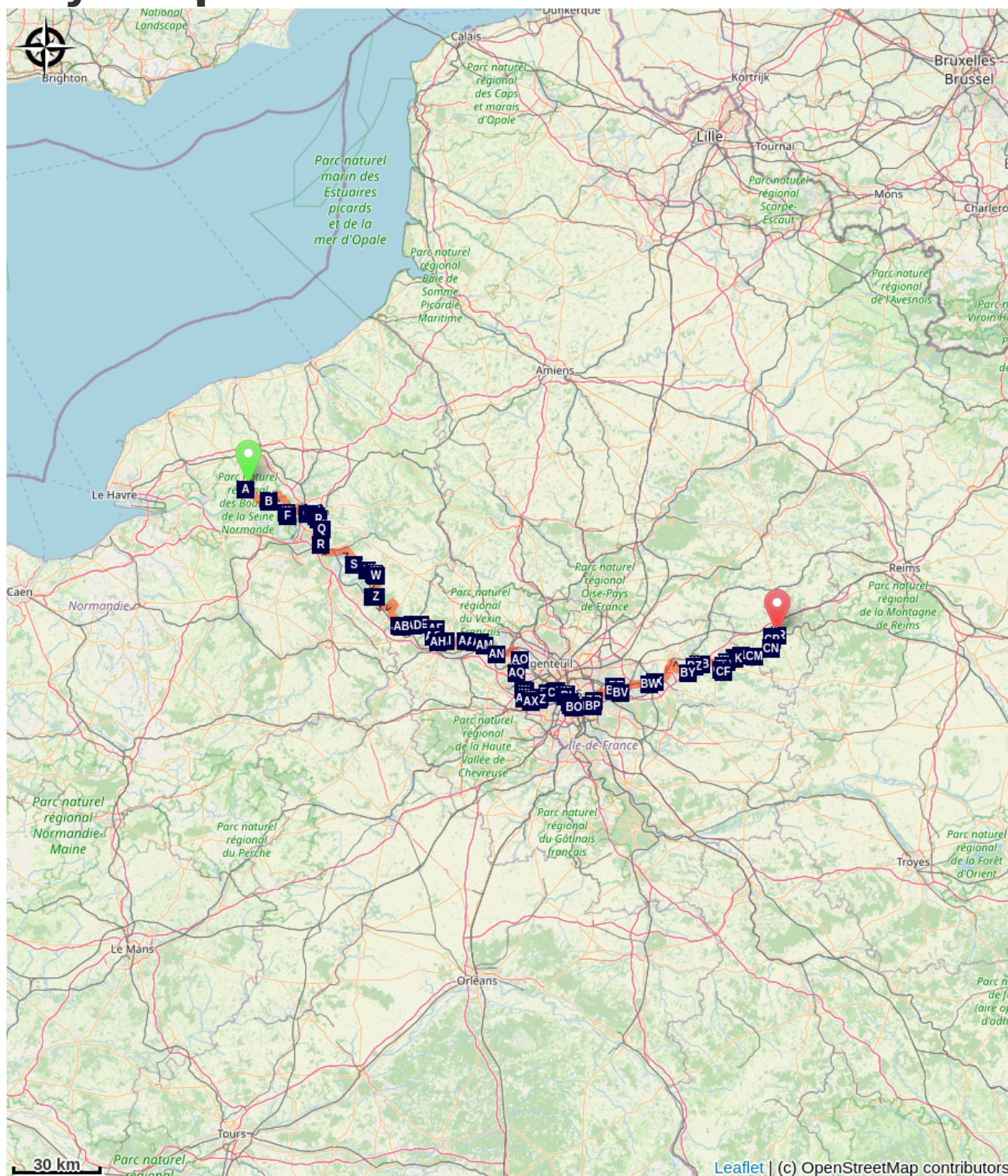
The sixth part (6/8) consists of 16 stages, each averaging 24km per day:






1. St Wandrille - Duclair
2. Duclair - Rouen
3. Rouen - Pont-de-l'Arche
4. Pont-de-l'Arche - Les Andelys
5. Les Andelys - Vernon
6. Vernon - Vetheuil
7. Vetheuil - Jambville
8. Jambville - Conflans-Sainte-Honorine
9. Conflans-Sainte-Honorine - Bougival
10. Bougival - Paris
11. Paris - Bry-sur-Marne
12. Bry-sur-Marne - Lagny-sur-Marne
13. Lagny-sur-Marne - Meaux
14. Meaux - Ussy-sur-Marne
15. Ussy-sur-Marne - Nanteuil-sur-Marne
16. Nanteuil-sur-Marne - Château-Thierry






## Stages :



- 1.** Saint-Wandrille-Rançon to Duclair  
24.8 km / 597 m D+ / 6 h 30
- 2.** Duclair to Rouen  
28.5 km / 666 m D+ / 7 h
- 3.** Rouen to Pont de l'Arche  
25.9 km / 590 m D+ / 7 h
- 4.** Pont-de-l'Arche to Les Andelys  
25.9 km / 348 m D+ / 7 h
- 5.** Les Andelys to Vernon  
28.5 km / 432 m D+ / 7 h
- 6.** Vernon to Vétheuil  
22.9 km / 755 m D+ / 6 h
- 7.** Vétheuil to Jambville  
24.2 km / 588 m D+ / 6 h 30
- 8.** Jambville to Conflans-Sainte-Honorine  
26.0 km / 616 m D+ / 6 h 30
- 9.** Conflans-Sainte-Honorine to Bougival  
23.9 km / 233 m D+ / 6 h
- 10.** Bougival to Paris  
24.6 km / 445 m D+ / 6 h 30
- 11.** Paris to Bry-sur-Marne  
21.1 km / 189 m D+ / 6 h
- 12.** Bry-sur-Marne to Lagny-sur-Marne  
21.9 km / 132 m D+ / 6 h
- 13.** Lagny-sur-Marne to Meaux  
20.9 km / 187 m D+ / 5 h 30
- 14.** Meaux to Ussy-sur-Marne  
23.3 km / 353 m D+ / 5 h 30
- 15.** Ussy-sur-Marne to Nanteuil-sur-Marne  
21.8 km / 462 m D+ / 6 h
- 16.** Nanteuil-sur-Marne to Château-Thierry  
21.8 km / 487 m D+ / 5 h 30



# On your path...



-  Monastery of Belcinac on an island in the Seine. (A)
-  Saint-Denis Church in Duclair (C)
-  Saint-Georges Abbey in Saint-Martin de Boscherville (E)
-  The Gustave-Flaubert bridge in Rouen (G)
-  Le Gros-Horloge in Rouen (I)

-  The banks of the Seine. (B)
-  Duclair City Hall (D)
-  Le Manoir de l'Aumônerie ou Ferme des Templiers, La Génétéy (F)
-  The Palace of Justice in Rouen (H)
-  Remarkable houses in Rouen (J)

 Historial Jeanne-d 'Arc à Rouen (K)  
 Saint-Maclou Church à Rouen (M)

 Notre-Dame Cathedral in Rouen (L)  
 L'Aître Saint-Maclou (N)

# All useful information

## How to come ?

### Access

Saint-Wandrille-Rançon is accessible by bus.  
Château-Thierry is accessible by bus and train.

### Advised parking

Luxeuil

# On your path...

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## ☀ Monastery of Belcinac on an island in the Seine. (A)

Thierry III (654-691) king of Neustrie, son of Clovis II, gave the island of Belcinac to Saint Condède, monk of the abbey of Fontenelle. The latter built a monastery there between 650 and 670. In 675, he donated the island and the monastery to the Abbey of Saint-Wandrille de Fontenelle. As with the establishment of the Abbey of Jumièges, which you will discover during your next stopover, the movement of Luxembourg monasticism will be the spiritual link between all the monastic foundations in the Seine valley. According to some historians this succession of foundations in the Seine can be interpreted as a rampart to the advance of Breton monasticism.

Attribution : <http://www.eau-seine-normandie.fr/>

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## ↶ The banks of the Seine. (B)

At Duclair you can cross the Seine with a ferry. The banks of the river present two different landscapes. On the right bank the town of Duclair with its businesses and its Seine riverside promenade embellished with beautiful Norman houses and the left bank devoted to agriculture and natural sites.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban

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## 📷 Saint-Denis Church in Duclair (C)

The wave of construction of abbeys also seems to have reached Ducler (medieval name of Duclair) since a division made by Saint Ouen, between Saint Philibert and Saint Wandrille, reveals the existence of a Saint-Denis abbey in Duclair in 671. This would have been destroyed by the Vikings in the 11th century. But as this is the only mention of this abbey here, it could only be an important church.

On a triangular square stands the parish church dedicated to Saint Denis, bishop of Paris and martyr, which dates partly from the 11th and 12th centuries. Facing the calvary stands a pretty little Renaissance portal. The right chevet with three gables dates from the 14th century. The 15th and 16th century stained glass windows have been restored by Max Ingrand.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban

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## Duclair City Hall (D)

Although a human presence is confirmed by the existence of a Gallic camp, it was not until the Roman invasion that Duroclarum (a beautiful town) experienced an important civilization.

The commune is the result of the merger of the two ancient parishes of Duclair and Vaurouy ("Val Rouil" in 1469). The baron of Duclair is mentioned among the warriors of Hastings (1066). Occupied by the English in 1360. Important beer factory in the 15th and 16th centuries. Leprosarium, until the Revolution, on Mount Davilette.

A railway line linking Barentin and Duclair is inaugurated in 1881.

In 1928, the town hall and the village hall were inaugurated in the presence of the Minister of the Interior Albert Sarraut.

The town hall was destroyed during the bombing on 19 April 1944.

The present town hall was inaugurated on 15 May 1960.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban



## Saint-Georges Abbey in Saint-Martin de Boscherville (E)

In 1055, Raoul-le-Chambellan set up a community of canons in the small funeral chapel.

At first, the canons taught and preached with the support of the aristocracy, but then, having become rich and powerful, they attracted the hostility of their benefactors. Their role did not resist the rise of monasticism with its values of poverty and community life. Like the collegiate church of Boscherville, about thirty Norman collegiate sisters disappear. In 1113 or 1114, Guillaume de Tancarville, chamberlain to King Henri I Beauclerc, drove them out to found the Abbey of Saint-Georges de Boscherville. In the 13th and 14th century the abbey suffered disorders leading to the decline of this rich abbey. The regime of the commend and the religious wars will ruin the abbey. At the Revolution, the goods are sold and after the Concordat the parishioners transform the abbey church into a parish church.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban





## 🏰 Le Manoir de l'Aumônerie ou Ferme des Templiers, La Génétéy (F)

The Manoir de l'Aumônerie is a rare example of 13th century civil architecture. The Manoir de l'Aumônerie was built by the Templars in 1214. The property is composed of numerous outbuildings and a medieval garden. On the estate is the Saint-Gorgon chapel, built in the 16th century. It was a famous place of pilgrimage until the 20th century. The Manor House has been listed in the supplementary inventory of Historic Monuments since 1974.

More information : site of the manor which is also a gîte.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban

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## 🌉 The Gustave-Flaubert bridge in Rouen (G)

The Gustave-Flaubert bridge is a lift bridge which allows the Normandy motorway (A13) to cross the Seine west of Rœun, downstream of the first bridge (William the Conqueror bridge) which marks the limit of the part of the river accessible to sea-going vessels. Several solutions have been studied to facilitate the access of cruise ships and tall ships to the quays of Rouen. A lift bridge. This solution requires the construction of high pylons on both sides to clear the maritime gauge. This solution makes it possible to clear the various constraints as closely as possible. Lifting the central span requires cutting off road traffic. It was commissioned on 25 September 2008, after four years of work.

[More information](#) Wikipedia

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban

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## The Palace of Justice in Rouen (H)

The Rouen courthouse, one of the most emblematic monuments of the Norman capital.

Built for the most part between 1499 and 1507 to house the Parlour for the Bourgeois and the former Exchequer of Normandy, it became the Parliament of Normandy during the reign of François I in 1515, before being used as a courthouse from the French Revolution onwards. The building was enlarged in the 19th century towards Joan of Arc and Socrates streets. By the scale and richness of its design, it bears witness first of all to the renewed prosperity of the city of Rouen at the end of the 15th century, renewing a previously neglected municipal heritage.

As an example of the Louis XII style civil architecture of the first decades of the 16th century, the monument was listed as a historic monument in 1840. Its architecture is similar to that of the Bourgtheroulde Hotel and the contemporary Finance Office.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban



## Le Gros-Horloge in Rouen (I)

Since its construction at the end of the 14th century, the Gothic belfry has housed the town bells and the town clock. The Big Clock is a Renaissance pavilion that spans the street with a low arch. On the double Renaissance dial, the single hand points the time. Under the number VI, the divinity symbolising the day of the week appears at noon on a chariot of triumph.

Above the dial, a globe indicates the phases of the moon. Everywhere sheep remind us of the importance of working with wool. The paschal lamb, represented in the centre of the arcade, symbolises the arms of the city. Finally, a Louis XV fountain completes the ensemble and celebrates the loves of the river god, Alphée, and the nymph Aréthuse.

A tour reveals the other side of the decor of this exceptional monument. In the pavilion, one reaches the dial room and in the belfry, one discovers the mechanism of the 14th century, the first municipal bells but also a unique panorama of the city.

[More information](#) Wikipedia

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban



## Remarkable houses in Rouen (J)

It is hard not to notice the many half-timbered houses in the historic city centre. A symbol of Rouen's architecture, a half-timbered house is made up of a wooden frame and the hourdage. Corbelling, allowing the creation of floors overhanging the ground floor, developed as early as the 14th century. As the technique was perfected, it was still possible to see two, three, and even four-storey houses until they were banned in 1520 due to beliefs about the health fears of the plague and the risk of fire spreading. The renaissance style of the Tourist Office will not leave you indifferent.

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban

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## Historial Jeanne-d 'Arc à Rouen (K)

Discover a new kind of visit. Through a spectacular and innovative staging, take part in a real judicial investigation to discover the fate of Joan of Arc.

It is at the Joan of Arc Historical Museum that the trial of Joan of Arc is played out to re-establish her innocence. Be an actor and judge in the most famous judicial inquiry in the history of Rouen. Witnesses, reenactments and audiovisual effects will take you on a unique experience in the heart of the 15th century! From his military actions for the reconquest of the throne of France to his torture at the stake, live an epic and captivating story through the medieval rooms of a monument previously closed to the public.

Then go and meet the people who made her story and question them in a virtual tête à tête to discover the thousand faces of our heroine. After your visit, her myths and legends will no longer hold any secrets for you, so : See you in 1456!

Attribution : Rouen Patrimoine



## Notre-Dame Cathedral in Rouen (L)

The first church dates back to the 4th century following archaeological excavations at the end of the 20th century. The importance of the building can be discovered from Côte Sainte-Catherine, on via Colombani 610 as you leave the city. These exceptional dimensions symbolize the rank of the archbishopric of Normandy in the Middle Ages in the 13th century, second duchy after that of France. The Duchy of Normandy, of which Rouen is the capital, became part of the kingdom of France in 1204. The sanctuary The choir still houses the recumbents of three dukes of Normandy (Rollon, Viking chieftain at the origin of the duchy, William 1st son of Rollon, Richard the Lionheart).

In the 11th century a Romanesque church was built, a century later the Gothic art can be seen in the whole building and makes its reputation. In the following centuries, the choir and the facade will enrich the gothic ensemble.

In the 19th century the Gothic spire was destroyed by lightning and replaced by a cast iron spire, at that time the cathedral was the highest in France.

During the Second World War the cathedral was heavily bombed and restoration work restored the building to its full splendour.

[More informations](#) : Wikipedia

Attribution : Amis saint Colomban

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## Saint-Maclou Church à Rouen (M)

Malo or Maclou, Breton bishop, he would have been born in Wales when he was inspired to evangelize the Bretons not far from the city of Aleth (Saint-Malo) which now bears his name. He continued his peregrination towards Aquitaine and it is in Saintonge that he ended his earthly pilgrimage. Legend has it that Maclou went to Luxeuil to meet the monk Colomban.

The construction of this church, considered by art historians as a jewel of flamboyant gothic art, began in 1437. It has a famous 5-porch portal decorated with magnificent carved wooden doors dating from the Renaissance. The church has interesting furnishings: a flamboyant Gothic staircase, a beautiful Renaissance organ case as well as a rood arch and 18th century baroque confessionals. The bombings of 1944 severely damaged the tower on the transept, now restored the ensemble has regained its past splendour.

[More information](#): Wikipedia

Attribution : Association Colomban en Brie

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## L'Aître Saint-Maclou (N)

The Aître Saint-Maclou bears witness to the great plague epidemics that ravaged the city. It is one of the rare mass graves cemeteries existing today. This cemetery is part of the Saint-Maclou parish, whose church is nearby. The entrance to the porch is located near the chevet of the Saint-Maclou church. The creation of l'Aître dates back to the black plague of 1348 which struck Europe. The site succeeds the old 13th century cemetery which had become too cramped. A new plague epidemic in 1521 made it necessary to increase the cemetery's capacity by building an ossuary consisting of three galleries arranged around the mass grave. The bodies are deposited in a common pit with lime, after putrefaction the bones are deposited under the roofs of the galleries of the ossuary. In 1779 the Normandy Parliament ordered the abolition of cemeteries in towns, the Aître is closed. In the 17th century a new building was built in the south to enclose the cemetery courtyard. The building is a school for poor children it will be closed in the early twentieth century. L'Aître became the property of the city of Rouen which will install a museum of Norman art.

The half-timberings are richly sculpted and the whole offers a beautiful architectural harmony.

Restoration work began in 2018.

Attribution : Association Colomban en Brie