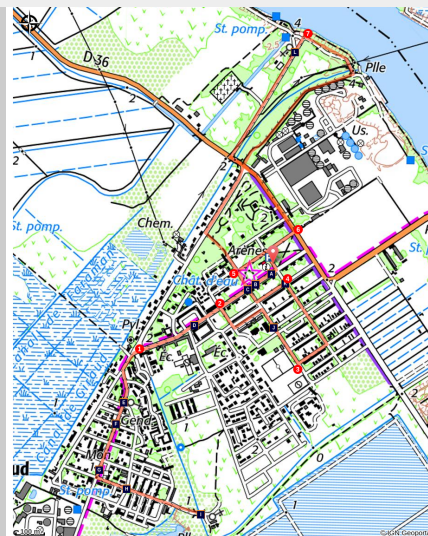


## By bike, an unusual village in the Camargue

Arles



Cycliste le long des Corons de Salin-de-Giraud (Juliette Primpier - PNR Camargue)

*A stroll in the alleys of Salin-de-Giraud, whose architecture will transport you in a typical landscape of the north of France.*

Salin-de-Giraud fascinates and impresses with its long rectangular buildings with bricks imported from the north. Nicknamed "the coron of the south", the city was built on a chequerboard plan typical of the workers' cities of the second half of the 19th century. This route offers a walk in the heart of housing workers separated by public or private gardens. Browse the city to discover the old factory and its mansion. An atypical landscape in this Provencal environment!

### Useful information

Practice : BIKE

Duration : 1 h

Length : 6.6 km

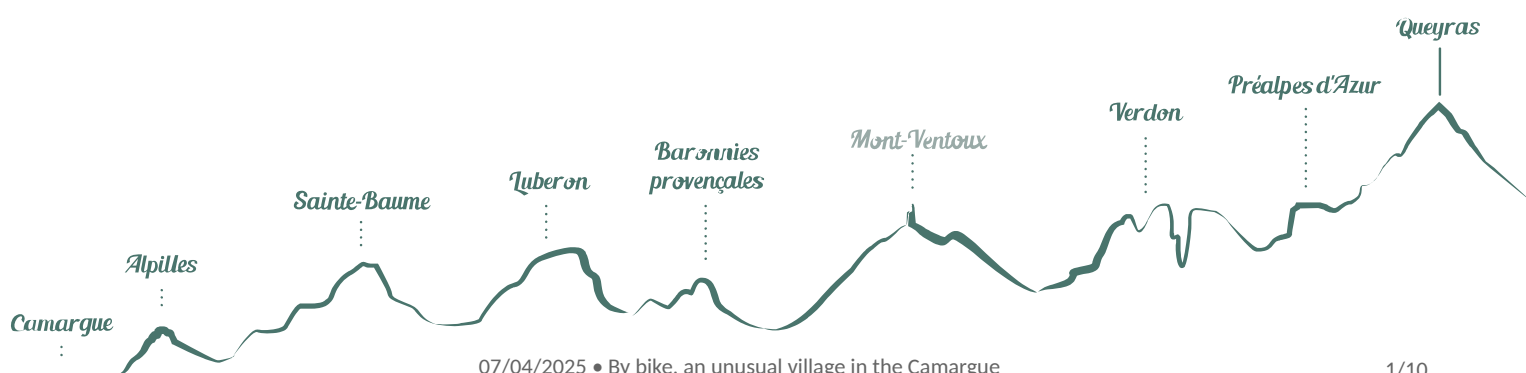
Trek ascent : 2 m

Difficulty : Very easy

Type : Boucle

Themes : Heritage and history

Accessibility : Hybrid bike



Departure : Tourist Office, Salin-de-Giraud

Arrival : Salin-de-Giraud

Departure from the Tourist Office:

Back to the Tourist Office, head to the right. Turn right at the junction to reach the Boulevard de la Gare and continue on the boulevard.

Departure from the Boulevard de la Gare car park :

Go to the right, back to the car park, on the boulevard.

**1** - At the roundabout, turn left. Continue on the Boulevard de la Camargue for 300 m, pass the Saint-Trophime Catholic Church and continue until Adrien Badin Square. After the bandstand, head to the left on Rue du Jeu de Mail. Continue straight for 400 m in the residential area until the Greek Orthodox Church. Then retrace your steps to Boulevard de la Gare.

**2** - At the end of the Gardians square, located after the Boulevard de la Gare car park, head to the right then turn the second left on the rue des Ecoles. At the stop sign, turn right on the Rue des Arènes.

**3** - turn left on Rue Mireille then, at the giving way sign, turn left towards Rue Pierre Tournayre.

**4** - turn to the left on the Rue de la Provence. At the intersection with the Rue des Arènes, turn right. At the junction with the Boulevard de la Gare, cross straight ahead, leaving the bullring on the right.

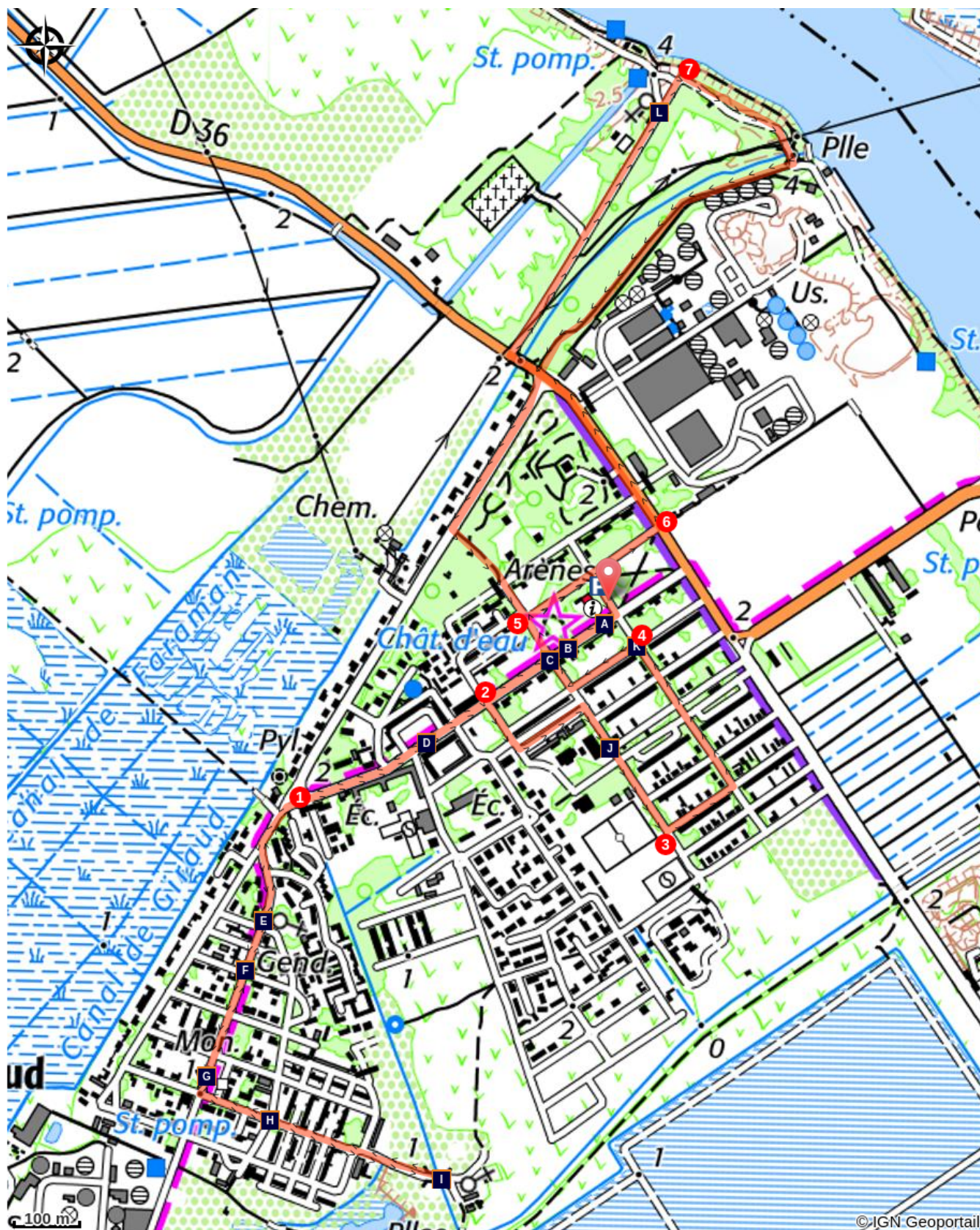
**5** - After the bullring, go to the right Rue Louis Pasteur and continue to the stop.

**6**- At the intersection with the D36, turn left and continue for 400 m After the traffic light and the bridge of the Giraud Canal, turn right on the C142 of the Barcarin Church.

**7** - After the Barcarin Church, take the path along the river on the right. At the old Solvay loading platform, take the path to the right after the barrier that runs along the wall. This path allows to join the village by the Joseph Imbert avenue, take the first path on the right that leads to the Rue de la Victoire to return to the Tourist Office.



# On your path...



Solvay district (A)



The industrial village of Salin-de-Giraud (C)



The catholic church of Salin-de-Giraud (E)



The arenas of the village (B)



The Carle Naudot square (D)



The Péchiney district (F)



The Adrien Badin square (G)



The Orthodox Church of Salin-de-Giraud (I)



The corons (K)



The barracks (H)



The sports district (J)



The Barcarin church (L)

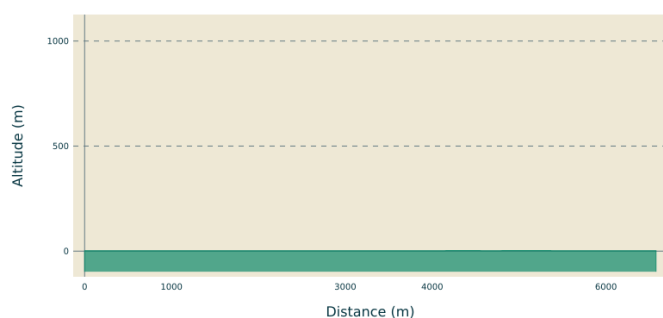
# All useful information

## **Advices**

Respect the road code on roads open to public traffic.

Caution on the D36!

## **Altimetric profile**



Min elevation 2 m

Max elevation 3 m

## **Transports**

Envia transport network : Agglo 10> Arles / Salin-de-Giraud by Gageron and Villeneuve >>  
[www.tout-envia.com](http://www.tout-envia.com); [www.pacamobilite.fr](http://www.pacamobilite.fr)

## **Access**

38 km south-east of Arles, by the D570 and the D36.

## **Advised parking**

Stationnement devant l'Office de Tourisme, Salin-de-Giraud ou Parking Boulevard de la Gare, Salin-de-Giraud

## **Information desks**

Domaine de La Palissade  
BP 5, 13129 Salin-de-Giraud  
[palissade@parc-camargue.fr](mailto:palissade@parc-camargue.fr)  
Tel : +33 (0)4 42 86 81 28  
<http://www.palissade.fr/>

OT Salin-de-Giraud  
1 Boulevard Pierre Tournayre, 13129 SALIN DE GIRAUD  
[ot-salindegiraud@arlestourisme.com](mailto:ot-salindegiraud@arlestourisme.com)  
Tel : +33 (0)4 42 86 89 77  
<http://www.arlestourisme.com/>



# On your path...

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## Solvay district (A)

The Solvay coron was built between 1896 and 1902 by the Belgian company having imported its red brick architectural model. Salin is nicknamed "coron du sud" because of these dwellings designed on the model of the working cities of the north. This model reproduces the hierarchy of the enterprise, from the director's house to the workers' accommodation. Impregnated with paternalism, the Solvay company built for its employees, among others things, a hospital, a school group but also arenas.

Attribution : Chloé Scannapiéco - PNR Camargue

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## The arenas of the village (B)

Built in the twentieth century, the arena of Salin-de-Giraud is part of the social arsenal that the Solvay factory had set up for its staff. The workers from Gard wanted to have a place for their passion for bulls. The friar poet Carle Naudot, foreman at the Solvay factory, created the bullfighting club Prouvenço Aficioun to animate this enclosure, one of the first buildings of its kind in Provence. Today, arenas are a nerve center for the socio-cultural activity of the village.

Attribution : Marjorie Mercier - PNR Camargue

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## The industrial village of Salin-de-Giraud (C)

In the mid-nineteenth century, 10,000 ha were developed by the company Henri Merle (Péchiney thereafter). Solvay settled next. The village of Salin-de-Giraud is born from the double implantation of Péchiney and Solvay in the late nineteenth century and their need for salt. The two companies turned to outside labor, initially from surrounding areas and then of Italian, Armenian and Greek origin, to carry out this painful work of salt exploitation.

Attribution : Opus Species - PNR Camargue

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## The Carle Naudot square (D)

It was here that people from Solvay and Péchiney met. In balls, at school. For a long time, the Carle Naudot square was the only link between the two parts of the village. C. Naudot worked at the Solvay design office. He was a municipal councilor and special assistant of the village, he is also at the origin of the bullfighting club (1901). Photo-ethnographer, the steel silhouettes scattered around the village are made from Saliniers photographed by C. Naudot.

Attribution : Juliette Primpier - PNR Camargue



### The catholic church of Salin-de-Giraud (E)

The Catholic Church, which belongs to the Compagnie des Salins, is made of lightweight material. The chapel, with its single nave, rests on concrete walls punctuated by buttresses. The chapel was built in 1934-1935 and is covered by a low vault in broken cradle. In the era of industrial paternalism, workers are encouraged to practice the Catholic religion. Concerning education, the Péchiney society uses religious education, the Solvay group chooses secularism. Attribution : C. Scannapiéco - PNR Camargue



### The Péchiney district (F)

The Péchiney district has a less structured and organized organization than the Solvay district. It is more the result of a policy of temporary development and reoccupation of vacant buildings. Less structured, this district gave way to individual and collective initiative. So we can meet with DIY sheds, gardens in front of the house, shortcuts. It is possible to walk and walk from one street to another without forcing the privacy of its inhabitants.

Attribution : Juliette Pimpier - PNR Camargue



### The Adrien Badin square (G)

In 1900, Adrien Badin was hired at the Salindres factory (Gard) by M. Péchiney. An essential figure in the development of the Company, he is appointed director after the departure of Mr. Péchiney. He established a system of retirement and health protection for his workers, he built "modern" cities. The company will experience a rapid development, from 3 to 12 factories in 1917 ! One of the neighbourhoods will long be called Badinville. A statue has been erected in his memory.

Attribution : Chloé Scannapiéco - PNR Camargue



### The barracks (H)

During the First World War, many of the Pechiney Company's workers did not return, so Italian, Greek, Armenian, Spanish and Maghrebi immigrants came to supplement the workforce. The old train linking the city of Arles to Salin-de-Giraud allowed to ensure their arrival. They were installed in the military quarter of Péchiney district which was converted into workers accommodation. It has therefore welcomed a labor force, composed for the most part, of immigrants.

Attribution : Juliette Pimpier - PNR Camargue



### The Orthodox Church of Salin-de-Giraud (I)

The flourishing industry Solvay factories (established in 1895) requires manpower, especially at the time of the First World War when the French are at the front. The Greeks, who arrived between the two wars, settled by family reunification. They kept their customs and religion while integrating themselves into the life of the village. A church for Orthodox worship was built in 1952. The Salins du Midi company will donate it to the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of France in 2009.

Attribution : Chloé Scannapiéco - PNR Camargue



### The sports district (J)

The workers live in difficult conditions and to avoid any revolt the employers developed a social policy in the mid-nineteenth century. The worker becomes dependent from his company who offers him a housing. The company organizes leisure activities : the music, the library but also the sport. Impregnated with paternalism, the Solvay group took early initiative to organize leisure, a way to ensure the cohesion of employees, the sports bar is present in this neighbourhood.

Attribution : Capucine Ser - PNR Camargue



### The corons (K)

The architects and planners of Solvay have drawn ex nihilo a working-class city that looks like corons from the north. A coron is a group of dwellings typical of Western European regions where workers live with their families. Unlike the working class, the houses are terraced and an alley separates the corons located opposite. The factory is usually located near the workers' accommodation.. The corons are one-storey dwellings with a small vegetable garden at the rear.

Attribution : PNR Camargue



### The Barcarin church (L)

The Barcarin church stands apart from the village of Salin-de-Giraud, along the river. built in the 19th century. under the prestigious name of Saint-Trophime, it will shelter only for a few decades the faith of the saline and other riparians of the Rhone. Its discreet presence testifies as much to the difficult organization of worship in the deepest part of Arles, as to the ravages of the mouth of the Grand Rhone. The cult is practiced today in a modern chapel of the village.

Attribution : PNR Camargue





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Ce projet partenarial rassemble également le Comité Régional du Tourisme, les agences départementales de développement touristique, les offices de tourisme et les syndicats d'initiative.

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**www.cheminsdesparcs.fr**

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