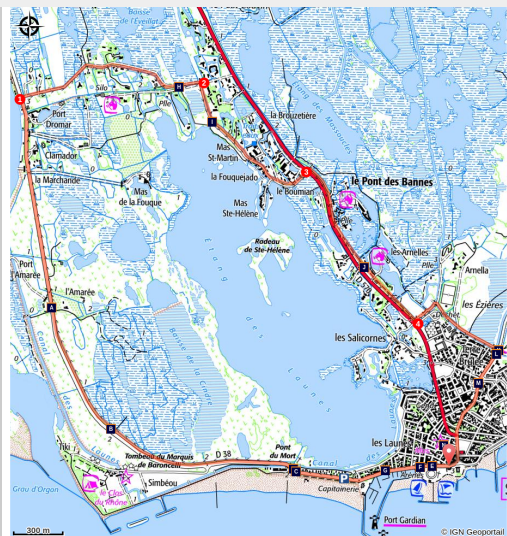


## "Dromar' cycling path

Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer



(Juliette Pimpier - PNR Camargue)



*In the footsteps of the traditions of  
Camargue ... Discover this nice little  
bike loop from Saintes-Maries-de-la-  
Mer.*

The Camargue Cross, the guardian huts, the Aubanel bouvau, the Mas de l'Amarée where one of the most famous characters of the Camargue life lived there ... This bike loop will be the perfect opportunity to discover this very identity-rich territory full of history that is the Camargue. To follow this route is also to discover the Launes pond and its exceptional fauna!

### Useful information

Practice : BIKE

Duration : 1 h

Length : 9.5 km

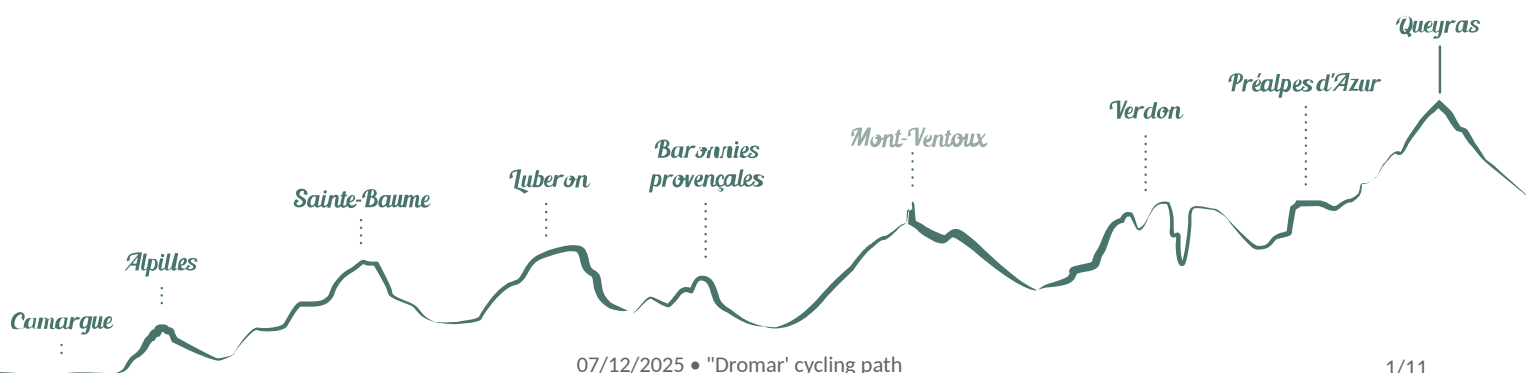
Trek ascent : 14 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Boucle

Themes : Heritage and history, Waters  
and rivers

Accessibility : Hybrid bike



# Trek

Departure : Tourist Office, les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer

Arrival : Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer

Back to the Tourist Office, head left on Van Gogh Avenue, towards Aigues-Mortes. Go along the Grau d'Orgon and the Petit-Rhône, on the D38.

**1** - After 4 km, turn right, Chemin de Port Dromar. Continue for more than 1 km.

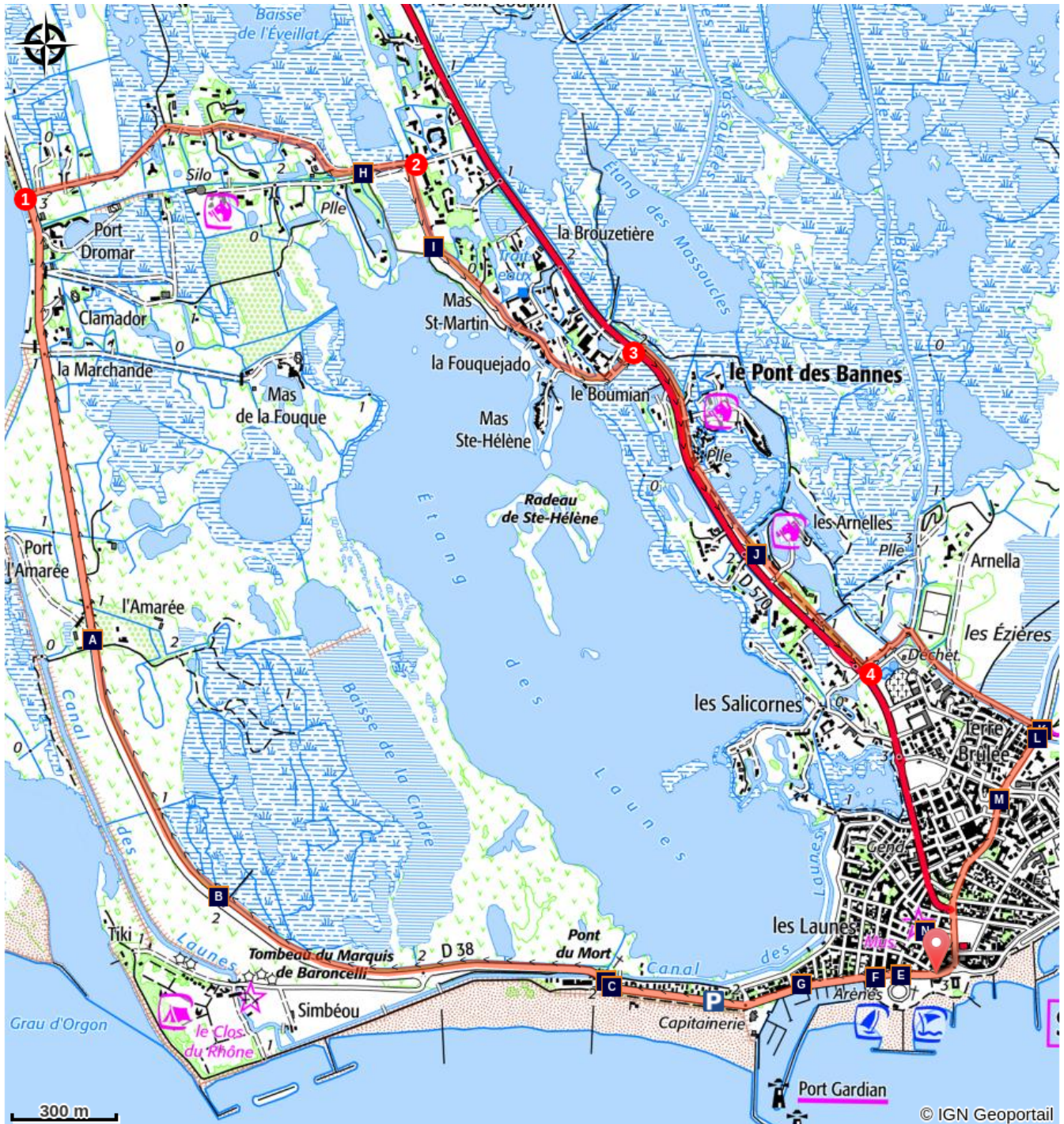
**2**- At the end of the road, turn right, Chemin Bas des Launes. Walk along Etang des Launes until you reach the D570.

**3** - At the intersection with the D570, cross it and take the dirt road on the right, parallel to the D570. Continue straight for about 1.5 km.

**4** - Turn left before the roubine (stream). Continue the path that runs along the roubine. Pass the small bridge and continue to the right. Continue straight and turn right on the road to Cacharel and cross the village to regain the starting point of the circuit, the Tourist Office of Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer.





# On your path...




- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  The Amarée Mas (A)                         |  The Petit-Rhône estuary (B)         |
|  The Gardian Hut (C)                        |  The Camargue Cross (D)              |
|  The arenas of Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer (E) |  The Camarguaise Race (F)            |
|  The Port Gardian (G)                       |  The glasswort and the saladella (H) |
|  Launes Pond (I)                            |  The Horses of the Camargue (J)      |

 Le Bouvau d'Aubanel (K)

 The eel (M)

 The Departmental Reserve of Imperialists  
(L)

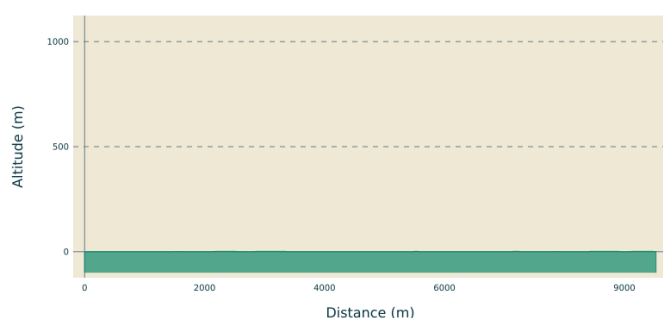
 The fortified church of Saintes-Maries-de-la-  
Mer (N)

# All useful information

## **Advices**

Respect the road code on roads open to public traffic. Caution on the D38! Attention, the D570 is a very busy and dangerous road! VTC advised

## **Altimetric profile**



Min elevation 0 m  
Max elevation 2 m

## **Transports**

Envia transport network : Line 20 > Arles/Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer by Albaron (free bikes racks) >> [www.tout-envia.com](http://www.tout-envia.com);  
[www.pacamobilite.fr](http://www.pacamobilite.fr)

## **Access**

24 km south of Arles, by the D570 then the D36.

## **Advised parking**

Parking Avenue Théodore Aubanel, Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer

## **Information desks**

OT Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer - Tourisme en Camargue



5 Avenue Van Gogh, 13460 Saintes Maries de la Mer

[info@saintesmaries.com](mailto:info@saintesmaries.com)

Tel : 04 90 97 82 55

<http://www.saintesmaries.com/>

the Camargue museum

Mas du pont de rousty, 13200 Arles

[info@parc-camargue.fr](mailto:info@parc-camargue.fr)

Tel : +33 (0)4 90 97 10 40

<http://www.parc-camargue.fr/>



# On your path...

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## The Amarée Mas (A)

The Amarée Mas was rented in 1899 by the Baroncelli marquis, writer and manadier who developed the Camargue, he exploited the traditions of the territory such as the Camargue race and the Gypsy pilgrimage. The Amarée mas which extends over 200 ha, the main house adjoins a stable. Due to financial problems, Baroncelli is forced to leave the Amarée, the Saintois contribute to offer him the land of Simbèu mas where he builds a farmhouse similar to the one of Amarée.

Attribution : Juliette Pimpier - PNR Camargue

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## The Petit-Rhône estuary (B)

The Petit-Rhône is one of the two arms of the Rhone Delta that leaves the main riverbed north of Arles to jump into the Mediterranean Sea. The Petit-Rhône estuary is located 2 km west of Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer and is called Grau d'Orgon. The Clos du Rhône beach, located at the Petit Rhône estuary, is the last beach of Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer. On the other side of the Petit-Rhône, there is the Espiguette Port Camargue beach.

Attribution : Juliette Pimpier - PNR Camargue

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## The Gardian Hut (C)

Traditional home of guardians of Camargue, the hut has whitewashed walls and a roof of sagne (reeds marshes). The architecture of these cabins is original : straight walls on all sides except the one exposed to the mistral (north-west) which is in apse (of rounded form) to offer less catch in the wind. At the top of this apse, there is usually a form of cross or horn that used to stow the cabin on the ground during windy days.

Attribution : Juliette Pimpier - PNR Camargue

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## The Camargue Cross (D)

The painter and sculptor Hermann Paul conceives the Camargue Cross in 1926 following the request of Marquis Baroncelli, « inventor » of the Camargue. It associates the guardians and the fishermen and symbolizes three virtues: the Cross for Faith, the Anchor for Hope and the Heart for Charity. The guardians and the Camargue soul are represented by the tridents. The original cross was made in wrought iron by Joseph Barbanson and inaugurated on July 7, 1926.

Attribution : Juliette Pimpier - PNR Camargue



## The arenas of Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer (E)

The arenas of Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer were inaugurated in 1931 and can accommodate 4,500 people. They are built in hard material and have a circular shape.. Part of the arena collapsed in 1931, and was rebuilt in 1932. In 1985, they were redesigned by the architect André Marchetti. They offer three forms of bull races: the Camargue race, the Spanish race, and the rejón bullfight where the bull is fought by a rider, the rejoneador.

Attribution : Juliette Primpier - PNR Camargue

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## The Camarguaise Race (F)

Originally, the race is a taurine game where animals and farmhands fight and play with the bull. Towards the end of the 19th century, this bullfighting game becomes less violent and only the man plays with the bull. We fix the attributes on the horns of the Camargue bull intended to be removed by the raseteurs dressed in white, now only protagonists of the race. A cockade is fixed on the horns of the bull and bonuses are awarded to the one who will pick up the attribute.

Attribution : Marjorie Mercier - PNR Camargue

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## The Port Gardian (G)

The creation of the marina, Port Gardian, dates back to the development of tourism in the Camargue in the mid-twentieth century. Built in June 1984, it has managed to keep its family atmosphere and its human dimension. This harbour has 380 rings. The village church, located not far from the port, 200 m from the wharves, is used as bitter, a landmark fixed and unambiguously identifiable. It guides boaters and fishermen sailing on the Mediterranean Sea.

Attribution : Juliette Primpier - PNR Camargue

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## The glasswort and the saladella (H)

Named "lilac" or "sea lavender", because of its beautiful purple flowers, the saladelle is a plant of the Mediterranean shores which lines the lawns. It is an edible plant and abundant in salty soil. The glasswort is also a halophilic plant (magnet salt) characteristic of sansouïre. The leaves are replaced by small segments nested in each other. Those extremities store the excess salt and the plant gets rid of it periodically.

Attribution : Emmanuel Vialet - PNR Camargue



### Launes Pond (I)

In the 1920s the Saintes acquired the Launes pond so that the fishermen could exploit it, it belonged previously to the Avignon Castle estate, however the fish and the fishermen are more rare today . The environment of this pond offers exceptional natural habitats for many species. The birdlife, the fauna related to the aquatic environment, is interesting, we find colonies of Little Egret, Black-crowned Night Heron and Purple Heron.

Attribution : Juliette Primpier - PNR Camargue

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### The Horses of the Camargue (J)

The Camargue horse is a very old breed (1978) and would descend from the prehistoric horse of Solutré. Symbol of the Camargue, with a gray-white dress, short ears and a shaggy mane, it is small, about 1.45 m at the withers. His dark hair of birth takes its final colour white-gray when he is around 4 years old. Raised in the Camargue, he is the companion of the guardian and the working tool for raising bulls. Breeding and reproduction criteria are strict to preserve his breed.

Attribution : Marjorie Mercier - PNR Camargue

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### Le Bouvau d'Aubanel (K)

The Baroncelli marquis, famous character of Camargue life, gave to his manade the name of Manade Santenco which means, in Provençal, manade of Saintes-Maries. At the death of the marquis, his son-in-law Henri Aubanel then manages the Santenco manade.. On June 15, 1996, the Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer inaugurate the Henri Aubanel bouvau, a circular enclosure where bulls are grouped after selection. At the death of Henri Aubanel, his son Pierre manages the manade that he renames Aubanel Baroncelli Santenco manade.

Attribution : Juliette Primpier - PNR Camargue

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### The Departmental Reserve of Imperialists (L)

Classified Departmental Reserve, Imperial and Malagroy Ponds were acquired by the Departmental Council of Bouches-du-Rhone in 1964 to protect these fragile natural environments (2,770 ha) which are home to many species of birds. The fishing, a traditional activity in Camargue, is practiced in the Imperial reserve in a boat without motor which imposes the use, as formerly, of the "partygue" (pole). Fishermen are looking for shrimps, eels.

Attribution : Chloé Scannapiéco - PNR Camargue

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### The eel (M)

At the graus level (or passages), communication canals between the sea and the littoral ponds, you will find fish, towards the flooded sansouïre and the ponds or towards the sea. Migrating species include mullet, sea bass, but also sea bream, sole and especially eel. Born in the Sargasso Sea, she joined the Atlantic and Mediterranean coasts after a long journey. She comes to grow in the coastal ponds or rivers where she spends several years of her life.

Attribution : Julien Faure - PNR Camargue

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### The fortified church of Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer (N)

True highlight of the Camargue (15 m), the church offers a breathtaking view of the village and all the Camargue. The 53 steps of a spiral staircase lead to the roof of the church where the panorama unfolds in all its splendour : up there, you can take advantage of a wide angle vision on the city, the sea and the ponds. Intense and sparkling blue of the Mediterranean Sea, purple hue of the Imperial pond The wind, the sun, the view of the calm expanse of the sea invite you to discover this landscape.

Attribution : Chloé Scannapiéco - PNR Camargue



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[www.cheminsdesparcs.fr](http://www.cheminsdesparcs.fr)

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