



Where to watch birds (and other wildlife) in the Brenne Parc naturel régional - France



Parc
naturel
régional
de la Brenne

The Brenne parc naturel régional in the centre of France is a naturalist's paradise. Well known for having many lakes and rare aquatic animals and plants; it also has many other interesting habitats and corresponding species.

In a calm, quite, friendly countryside a naturalist can take their time and discover a multitude of species, both common and rare, many of southern European distribution.



1a - Chérine national nature reserve & Beauregard interpretation trail

Within its more than 370 hectares the reserve has most of the habitat types, and thus species to be found in Brenne. Thanks to the protection they are afforded and the reserve's management many rare species of plants and animals thrive within its limits. These are often easily observed thanks to the provision of several well sited hides and various strategic access points for the public.

One of the best walks in the Brenne (*Plus belles balades du Parc "Voyage entre les étangs et le canal des 5 bondes"*, (the 17 km walk takes about 5 hours to complete). Follow the green markers from the auberge de la Gabrière car park (off the map). For more information "*Brenne nature*" in English.



Where to sleep near Mézières-en-Brenne (English speaking)

All cottages and bed and breakfast accomodations are 3 or 4 stars, hotels and camp sites 2 stars.

1 Hotel – restaurant "Le Bœuf couronné"

Mézières-en-Brenne
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 04 39
www.restaurant-boeufcouronne.com
8 rooms.

2 Bed and breakfast "La Cistude"

Mézières-en-Brenne
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 16 03
www.randonnee-nature-brenne.com
1 room.

3 Bed and Breakfast "Les Cyclamens"

St-Michel-en-Brenne
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 03 06
www.lescyclamens.fr
3 rooms.

4 Bed and breakfast "Brenne & Berry"

Lingé
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 39 26 53
www.brenneberry.com
5 rooms.

5 Cottage "des Vigneaux"

Mézières-en-Brenne
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 10 03
www.gites-de-france.com
5 people.

6 Camp site "La Caillauderie"

Mézières-en-Brenne
Tél. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 12 24
www.tourisme-mezieres-en-brenne.fr

Wildlife information

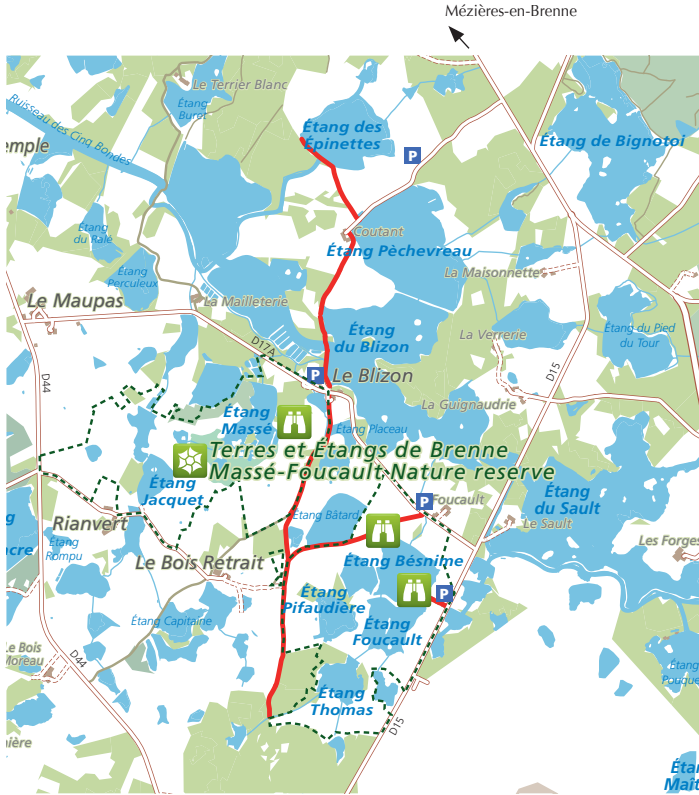
Brenne's wildlife visitor Centre
02 54 28 11 04 (answer in English)
www.maison-nature-brenne.fr

Tourist information

Tourism Office, Mézières-en-Brenne
02 54 38 12 24
www.tourisme-mezieres-en-brenne.fr

Parc visitor Centre, Rosnay
02 54 28 12 13 - www.parc-naturel-brenne.fr

2 - Terres et étangs de Brenne Massé-Foucault nature reserve



Legend

- Limite of protected area
- Footpath
- P Place to leave your car
- Lake
- Forest
- A Public hide

Please, during your visit,
remain on public
roads, trails or paths.
Thank you!

To be seen in the area

Birds*: **Black Kite (s), Night Heron (s), Squacco Heron (s), Little, Great White and Cattle Egrets (r), Black-winged Stilt (s), Red-backed Shrike (s).**

Other species: **European pond Turtle (s).**

* (w) Winter, (s) Spring and summer, (r) Resident, (m) Migrant.

2 - Terres et étangs de Brenne Massé-Foucault nature reserve

In the centre of Brenne, this area with its many lakes usually provides for good bird watching. It is one of the best areas for finding Night heron. The reserve has three hides open to the public. The many public paths in the area can be good for wild flowers and butterflies.

For more information "Brenne nature" in English.

One of the best walks in the Brenne (Plus belles balades du Parc "Rencontre avec les paysages de Brenne", (the 11 km walk takes about 3 hours to complete). Follow the yellow markers from the Blizon car park.



7 Where to sleep near Rosnay (north) (English speaking)

All cottages and bed and breakfast accommodations are 3 or 4 stars, hotels and camp sites 2 stars.

7 Bed and Breakfast and Cottage "Domaine de la Crapaudine"

Rosnay

Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 77 12
www.domaine-de-la-crapaudine.fr
4 rooms (bed and breakfast)
and 6 people (cottage).

8 Bed and Breakfast "le Maupas"

Rosnay

Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 82 84
www.maisondumaupas.com
2 rooms.

9 Cottage "La Lézarderie"

Rosnay

Tel. 00 33 (0)9 71 53 58 20
www.gites-de-france.com
8 people.

10 Cottage "Les étangs Chats"

Migné

Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 17 67
www.berryprovince.com
4 people.

11 Camp site "les Millots"

Rosnay

Tél. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 80 17
32 emplacements.

Wildlife information

Brenne's wildlife visitor Centre

02 54 28 11 04 (answer in English)
www.maison-nature-brenne.fr

Tourist information

Tourism Office, Mézières-en-Brenne

02 54 38 12 24 - www.tourisme-mezieres-en-brenne.fr

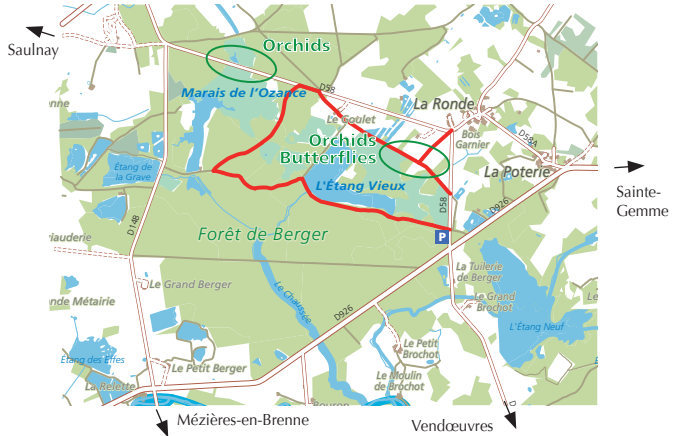
Parc visitor Centre, Rosnay

02 54 28 12 13 - www.parc-naturel-brenne.fr

3 - The étang Vieux

Legend

- Footpath
- Most interesting area
- P Place to leave your car
- Lake
- Forest



To be seen in the area

Birds*: **Bittern (r)**, **Cirl Bunting (r)**.

Orchids: **Brenne Orchid, Marsh Helleborine and other orchids (s)**.

Butterflies: **Chequered Skipper (s)**, **Dryad (s)**.

**(w) Winter, (s) Spring and summer, (r) Resident, (m) Migrant.*

4 - Lancosme forest



Legend

- Access path
- Most interesting area
- P Place to leave your car
- Lake
- Forest

To be seen in the area

Birds*: **Honey Buzzard (s)**, **Black Woodpecker (r)**, **Middle Spotted Woodpecker (r)**, **Short-toed Treecreeper (r)**, **Wood and Bonelli's Warblers (r)**.

Orchids: **Common Spotted and Bee Orchids**

Butterflies: **Chequered and Large Chequered Skippers, Duke of Burgundy, Heath Fritillary, Woodland Brown, both Purple Emperors**

**(w) Winter, (s) Spring and summer, (r) Resident, (m) Migrant.*

Please, during your visit, remain on public roads, trails or paths. Thank you!

3 & 4 The étang Vieux & Lancosme forest

Less lakes and much more woodland, this area can be very interesting for many rare species; it provides a contrast to the rest of the Brenne and has several species that aren't found elsewhere. On very hot days it is also a way of avoiding the sun.

One of the best walks in the Brenne (Plus belles balades du Parc) "Luxuriance marécageuse", (the 3.5 km walk takes about 2 hours to complete). Follow the blue markers from the car park located on the map.

For more information "Brenne nature" in English.



Where to sleep near Vendœuvres (English speaking)

All cottages and bed and breakfast are 3 or 4 stars, hotels and camp sites 2 stars.

12 Holiday village and camp site "Bellebouche"

Mézières-en-Brenne
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 28 28
www.village-vacances-bellebouche.com
32 cottages with 2 ou 3 bedrooms.

13 Cottage "l'Hermitage"

Vendœuvres
<http://www.gite-hermitage.blogpost.com>
8 people.

14 Cottage "Château Robert"

Vendœuvres
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 32 48
www.domaine-de-lancosme.fr
8 people.

15 Bed and breakfast and cottage "Le Moulin de Baratte"

Méobecq
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 37 07
www.blogdebaratte.com
1 room (b&b) and 4 people (cottage).

30 Bed and breakfast and cottage "Gîte de la Presle"

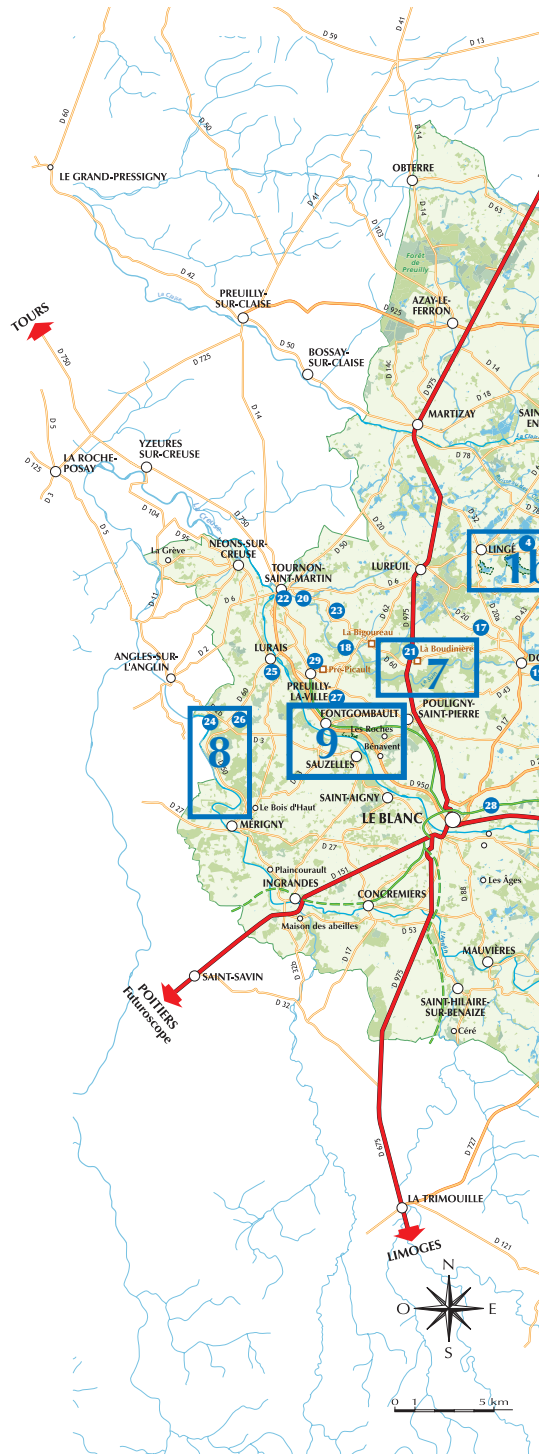
Mézières-en-Brenne
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 12 36
www.gites-de-france.com
2 rooms (b&b) and 2 people.

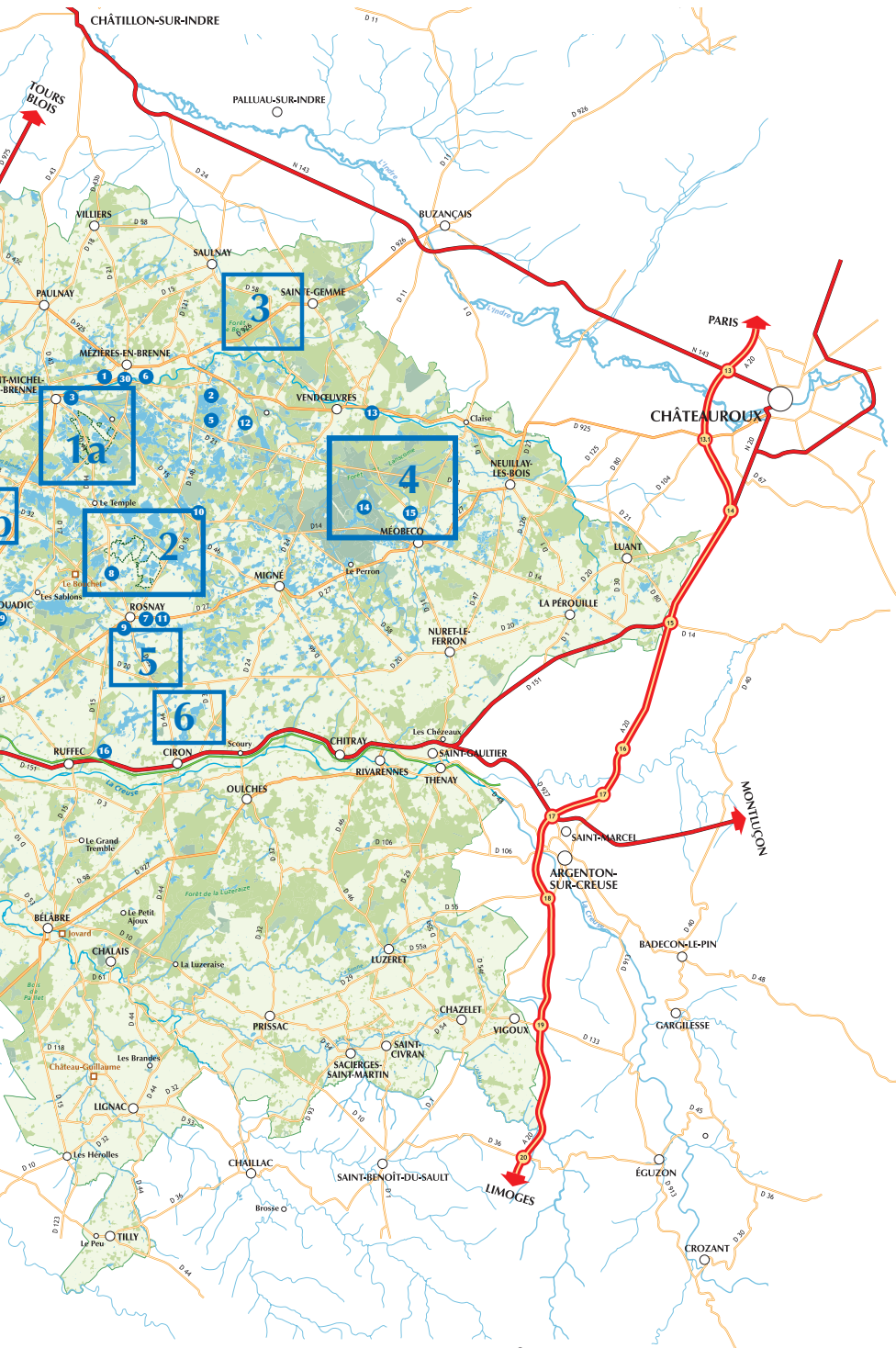
Wildlife information
Brenne's wildlife visitor Centre
02 54 28 11 04 (answer in English)
www.maison-nature-brenne.fr

Tourist information
Tourism Office, Mézières-en-Brenne
02 54 38 12 24
tourisme.mezieresenbrenne@wanadoo.fr

Parc visitor Centre, Rosnay
02 54 28 12 13 - www.parc-naturel-brenne.fr

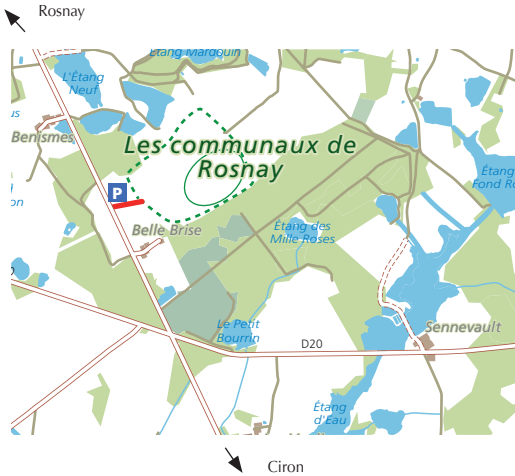
Legend	
area 1 a & b page 2
area 2 page 4
area 3 page 6
area 4 page 6
area 5 page 10
area 6 page 10
area 7 page 12
area 8 page 14
area 9 page 14





BIRDS, ORHIDS AND BUTTERFLIES

5 - Les communaux de Rosnay



Legend

- Limite of protected area
- Access path
- Most interesting area
- P Place to leave your car
- Lake
- Forest

To be seen in the area

Birds*: *Honey Buzzard (s), Quail (s), Woodlark (r), Melodious Warbler (s), Red-backed Shrike (s).*
Orchids: *Tongue (s), Loose-flowered (s), Greater and Lesser Butterfly (s).*
Butterflies: *many*

**(w) Winter, (s) Spring and summer, (r) Resident, (m) Migrant.*

6 - The Riaux lakes



Legend

- Access path
- Most interesting area
- P Place to leave your car
- Lake
- Forest

To be seen in the area

Birds*: *Whiskered Tern (s), Black-necked Grebe (s), Red-crested Pochard (r), Purple Heron (s), Little Bittern (s).*

**(w) Winter, (s) Spring and summer, (r) Resident, (m) Migrant.*

Please, during your visit, remain on public roads, trails or paths. Thank you!

5 & 6 - Les communaux de Rosnay & the Riaux lakes

Les communaux de Rosnay (Rosnay common) is a major site for both Tongue and Loose-flowered orchids with many tens of thousands of the first in flower in early June. It is also good for various bird and butterfly species. Management of the site includes cattle grazing in late spring and summer; please don't disturb the animals if present. The Riaux lakes provide a good alternative to birding in central Brenne. Many rare species can be seen in an area much less frequented by the public.

For more information "Brenne nature" in English.



Where to sleep near Rosnay and Ciron (English speaking)

All cottages and bed and breakfast are 3 or 4 stars, hotels and camp sites 2 stars.

16 Cottages "Les Clous"

Ruffec

Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 21 24
www.gites-de-france.com
4 people.

17 Cottage and bed and breakfast "Château du Pin"

Douadic

Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 40 55
www.chateaudupin.fr
2 people and 2 rooms.

8 Bed and Breakfast "le Maupas"

Rosnay

Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 82 84
www.maisondumaupas.com
2 rooms.

10 Camp site "les Millots"

Rosnay

Tél. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 80 17

7 Bed and Breakfast and Cottage "Domaine de la Crapaudine"

Rosnay

Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 77 12
www.lacrapaudine.fr.st
3 rooms (bed and breakfast)
and 6 people (cottage).

Wildlife information

Brenne's wildlife visitor Centre

02 54 28 11 04 (answer in English)
www.maison-nature-brenne.fr

Tourist information

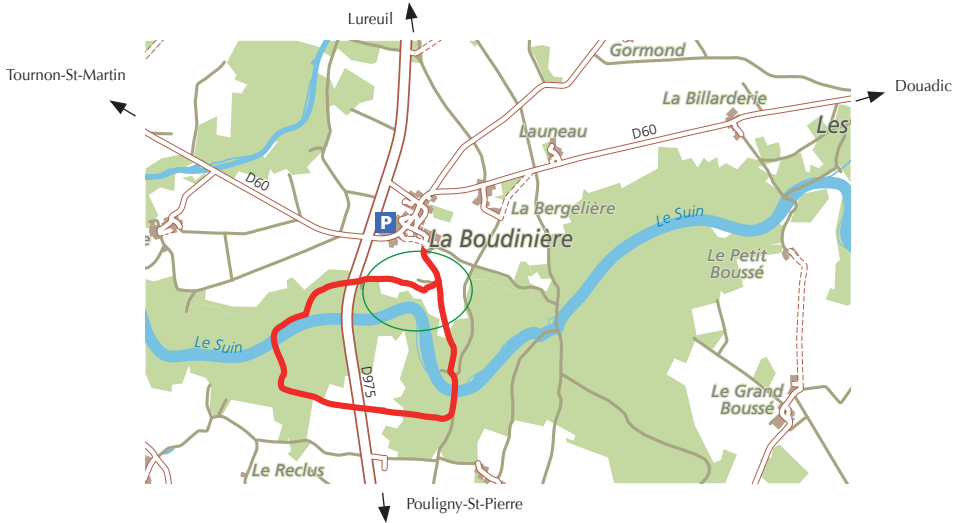
Tourism Office, Le Blanc

www.tourisme-leblanc.fr

Parc visitor Centre, Rosnay

02 54 28 12 13 - www.parc-naturel-brenne.fr

7 - The Suin valley



Legend

- Footpath
- Most interesting area
- P Place to leave your car
- Forest

Please, during your visit,
remain on public
roads, trails or paths.
Thank you!

To be seen in the area

Birds*: **Melodious and Bonelli's Warblers (s)**,

Orchids: **Pyramidal and Müller's Orchids and White Helleborine (s)**,

Butterflies and other insects: **Large Chequered Skipper (s), Adonis Blue (s), Woodland Grayling (s), both Swallowtails (s), Weaver's Fritillary (s), Ascalaphe (s)**.

*(w) Winter, (s) Spring and summer, (r) Resident, (m) Migrant.

7 - The Suin valley

This limestone area is particularly well known for its orchids; many of the species on the calcareous land here aren't found on the clay soils of central Brenne. The same goes for butterflies but there are no bird species here that can't be found elsewhere in Brenne.

One of the best walks in the Brenne (Plus belles balades du Parc) "Au pays des pyramides", (the 4.5 km walk takes about 1h30 to complete). Follow the blue markers from the car park.



20 Where to sleep near Pouligny-Saint-Pierre (English speaking)

All cottages and bed and breakfast accommodation are 3 or 4 stars, hotels and camp sites 2 stars.

18 Cottage "Ferme de Fonterland"

Tournon-Saint-Martin
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 28 70 66
www.fonterland.fr
2 people.

19 Bed and Breakfast "Le Fresne"

Douadic
Tel. 00 33 (0)6 83 53 44 91
www.lavirevolte-36.com
2 room.

20 Cottage "Ferme de La Charité"

Tournon-Saint-Martin
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 52 77
www.fermedelacharite.com
6 people.

21 Cottages "Ecogîtes Les Saules"

Pouligny-Saint-Pierre
Tel. 00 33 (0)6 85 31 37 34
www.ecogite-accueilvelo.fr
6 and 8 people.

22 Camping "Les Grandes Iles"

Tournon-Saint-Martin
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 50 60
www.tournonstmartin.fr

23 Bed and breakfast "Ferme de Jappeloup"

Tournon-Saint-Martin
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 28 05 51
www.gites-de-france.com

Wildlife information

Brenne's wildlife visitor Centre
02 54 28 11 04 (answer in English)
www.maison-nature-brenne.fr

Tourist information

Tourism Office of le Blanc
www.tourisme-leblanc.fr

Parc visitor Centre, Rosnay
02 54 28 12 13 - www.parc-naturel-brenne.fr

8 & 9 - The Anglin valley Bois des Roches reserve

The Bois des Roches reserve is mainly a dry, calcareous meadow. Among the wildlife protected there are 356 plant species including 7 species of orchids as well as various insects and reptiles.
Interpretation trail.

Where to sleep around Lurais (English speaking)

All cottages and bed and breakfast are 3 or 4 stars, hotels and camp sites 2 stars.

24 Bed and Breakfast "Roc de Beauchapeau"

Mérigny

Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 38 98
www.rocdebeauchapeau.fr
4 rooms.

25 Cottages "La Grange Neuve"

Lurais

Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 28 50 39
<http://gobled.pagesperso-orange.fr>
4 and 6 people.

26 Cottages "Fournioux"

Lurais

<http://fournioux.pagesperso-orange.fr>
4 and 2 people.

Where to sleep around Fontgombault (English speaking)

All cottages and bed and breakfast are 3 or 4 stars, hotels and camp sites 2 stars.

27 Cottages "Les Grichonnières"

Fontgombault

Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 20 55
www.gites-de-france.com
2 and 4 people

28 Bed and breakfast "Le Cerf Thibault"

Le Blanc

Tel. 00 33 (0)2 18 27 30 47
cerfthibaultenbrenne.fr
3 rooms.

29 Cottage "Villa du Pigeonnier"

Preuilley-la-Ville

www.gites-de-france.com
3 people.

Wildlife information

Brenne's wildlife visitor Centre

02 54 28 11 04 (answer in English)
www.maison-nature-brenne.fr

Tourist information

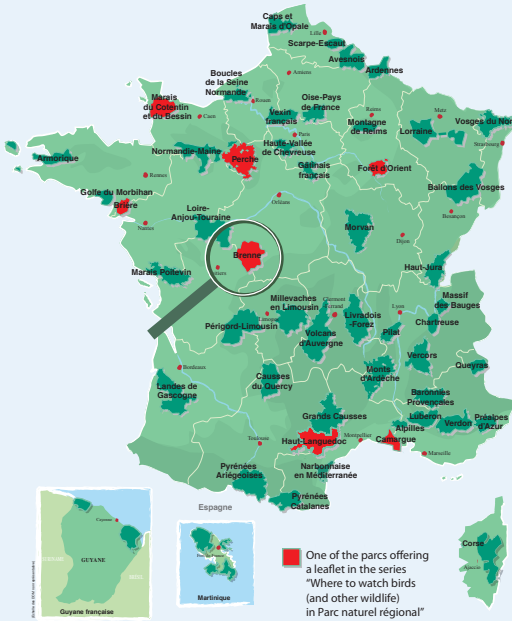
Tourism Office of le Blanc

www.tourisme-leblanc.fr

Parc visitor Centre, Rosnay

02 54 28 12 13 - www.parc-naturel-brenne.fr

The Brenne Parc naturel regional, one of France's 51 Parcs naturels regionaux



Parc naturel régional de Brière
www.parc-naturel-briere.fr

Parc naturel régional de la Brenne
www.parc-naturel-brenne.fr

Parc naturel regional de Camargue
www.parc-camargue.fr

Parc naturel régional de la Forêt d'Orient
www.pnr-foret-orient.fr

Parc naturel régional du Haut-Languedoc
www.parc-haut-languedoc.fr

Parc naturel régional du Marais du Cotentin
et du Bessin
www.parc-cotentin-bessin.fr

Parc naturel régional du Perche
www.parc-naturel-perche.fr

Nature information center (Maison de la nature et de la Réserve) Saint-Michel-en-Brenne

Tel 00 33 (0)2 54 28 11 04 (Tony Williams, leave
a message in English, he will call you back).
www.maison-nature-brenne.fr

Parc naturel régional de la Brenne

Le Bouchet - 36300 Rosnay
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 28 12 13
tourisme@parc-naturel-brenne.fr
www.parc-naturel-brenne.fr

How to get the Brenne

Airport : Tours (75 minutes drive) or Poitiers
(60 minutes drive) and car hire.
Railway station : Tours or Poitiers and car hire.
By road : A 20 toll-free motorway exit 13.1 or 17.

