



## THE DUCHESS TRAIL (CIRCUIT DE LA DUCHESSE) Saint-Molf



 5.5 km  1 hour 20

 November to May

 La Roche Blanche car park

### Access

Rue de la Roche Blanche, St-Molf



### Mesquer Tourist Information Office

Place de l'Orée du Bois - +33 (0)2 40 42 64 37 mesquer-quimiac@labaule-guerande.com



### Seasonal tourist information centre of St-Molf

1 rue des Epis - saint-molf@labaule-guerande.com



## SALT TAX AND WHITE GOLD

From ancient times to the industrialisation of its production, salt has always been a precious commodity. It is used in cooking, but also, and above all, for preserving foodstuffs, such as fish, meat or butter (hence the famous salted butter!).

This value first led to the creation of the word 'salary', from 'salarium' in Latin, corresponding to the salt ration given to Roman soldiers as payment for their military duties.

It then led to the creation of a tax, the 'gabelle', or 'salt tax'.

It was initially a direct tax on agricultural or craft products, but it was reserved for salt and made permanent by Philip VI in 1342. The price of salt and the per capita ration were then fixed each year. The collection and control of the tax was carried out by the 'gabelous' (customs officer).

Brittany was exempt from the salt tax during the ducal period, and retained this privilege when it became part of France in 1532, thereby boosting the region's salt industry.

Abolished in 1790, re-established by Napoleon in 1806, the very unpopular tax was only definitively abolished in 1945!

The trail owes its name to the duchess Jeanne de France, daughter of King Charles VI and wife of the Duke of Brittany Jean V. She was the owner of two saltworks in the Mès marshes. In addition to the white gold, look for the other treasures along this trail: calvaries, fountains and bread ovens are pleasant features of Saint-Molf and bear witness to the rural life of the past.



On leaving the Roche Blanche car park, turn left into the street of the same name. At the T-junction with Rue de l'Océan, turn right, then the second left (Rue de Kernoza). You'll arrive at the church. You can walk around it to the left, or go straight on past the gate and turn right at the corner of the square, Rue du Mès.



1 At the end of Rue du Mès, you come to Rue de l'Océan: cross the road at the pedestrian crossing and turn left. 50 metres further on, turn right onto the Route de Mesquer. At the roundabout, turn right into Rue de la Fontaine Saint-Venant, and continue until you reach Rue du Boscot.



2 There, turn right and follow the Rue du Boscot for more than 1 km. Then turn right onto the Route de Kestravouille that leads to the village of Boulay.



3 At the entrance to the village, take the road on your left. Cross through the village along Rue du Calvaire. At the junction turn right onto Rue des Gabelous and continue straight on for 800 metres.



4 At the hamlet of Kergadoué, take the small path on your right. At the end of this path, go right and then left onto Rue de la Roche Blanche.



### TO SEE ON THE WAY...

- the Mès salt marshes
- thatched cottages in the village of Boulay
- vernacular heritage (see sheet 11)





LA BAULE  
PRESQU'ÎLE DE  
GUÉRENDE  
TOURISME

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Saint-Molf

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