



## FROM THE THATCHED COTTAGES TO THE MARSHES

Saint-Lyphard - Guérande - Herbignac



 11.5 km  3 hours

 November to May

 Village of Kerhinet

### Access

from Guérande or Saint-Lyphard, take the RD 51.  
Head towards Kerhinet

 **Saint-Lyphard Tourist Information Office**  
Place de l'Église +33 (0)2 40 24 34 44

 **Brière Tourist Information Office**  
Maison du Parc - Village of Kerhinet - Saint-Lyphard  
+33 (0)2 40 24 34 44




### THATCH

The Brière Regional Nature Park contains almost 60% of the thatched cottage heritage in France. Thatch is a characteristic feature of houses in Brière and concerns nearly 3,000 houses.

This architectural feature owes its preservation to the know-how of the thatcher craftsmen.

Although the reed is always laid from the bottom to the ridge, two techniques can be distinguished: the Dutch method, which consists of laying the reed in successive horizontal rows, and the traditional Brière method, which consists of laying the reed in vertical strips about 70 cm wide. The Brière method is combined with 'repiquage', a repair technique that aims to preserve some of the existing thatch, depending on its condition.

From every point of view, this trail offers a real insight into the Brière atmosphere. After the traditional village of Kerhinet and its characteristic thatched cottages, explore the Faillies Brières marshes. Thanks to the presence of water, a lush natural environment has developed, where numerous animal and plant species flourish, some of which are particularly rare. Typical villages and vernacular heritage are also dotted along this route.

 Go through the village of Kerhinet and take advantage of this trail to discover the traditional Brière habitat. At the end of the main path, turn left and then take the first path on the right.

- 1 At the village of Kercradet, follow the road to the left until you reach the junction with the RD 51. Cross over and go straight on, then turn right towards the village of Kerlo. Continue straight on, keeping to the left.
- 2 At the next crossroads, turn left towards the path and walk along the Faillies Brières. These marshes present, over a small surface area, a condensed version of the vegetation landscapes and ecological interests of the Brière. A popular area for several bird species, it is also home to other remarkable animal species such as the European otter. When you reach the end of the Faillies, continue along the route, then take the first left. Continue to the village of Kertrait.
- 3 At the intersection, turn left onto the RD 52, be careful and stay on the side of the road. After 800m, go left and continue to the village of l'Éguignac, then turn left again. At the junction with the GR3 which leads to Guérande, stay alongside the Faillies and head left. Beware, this path can be muddy if it has been raining.
- 4 Continue for 400 m and turn left at the crossroads. Continue alongside the Faillies Brières to the village of Gras.
- 5 In the village, turn right and then immediately left. Continue until you cross the bridge of Gras, a Gallo-Roman construction. Please note that in winter the bridge may be under water. At the intersection after the bridge, turn right, then right again at the fork, towards the village of Kerbourg. In the village, go left towards the RD 51.
- 6 Cross the road and continue straight on, past the Kerverné mill. At the junction, turn left to head back to the village of Kerhinet.



### TO SEE ON THE WAY...

- the village of Kerhinet
- the traditional houses of Brière
- the Faillies Brières marshland
- the bridge of Gras





11.5 km



3 hours

