



Petit-Rhône meanderings

The «Petit-Rhône»

The « Petit-Rhône » is the branch of the Rhône River delta which separates two administrative regions -- Provence-Alpes-Côtes d'Azur and Occitanie -- between the Bouches-du-Rhône (13) and the Gard (30) departments. It also symbolizes the separation between the "Petit Camargue" (in the Gard) and the "Grand" Camargue. It leaves the Greater Rhône River north of Arles and flows into the Mediterranean Sea near Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer.

The Bac du Sauvage ferry

The ferry has been crossing the Petit-Rhône since 1974 and was completely renovated in 2004. It is powered by two side paddle-wheels, and moves along a cable with no possibility of changing directions. It leaves every half hour. Check the timetable at the Tourist Office in Les-Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer



A gardian's hut

The "gardian's" hut

Along the way you will see "gardians" huts. The hut has white-washed walls and a thatched roof (made with marsh reeds). The form of these huts is original : the walls are straight except the north-west side, facing the mistral wind, which has the form of an apse (round) to better resist the wind. At the top of the apse roof there is usually a cross or a horn which was formerly used to anchor the hut to the ground on windy days.

Emergency numbers

- European emergency number 112**
 - Marseilles treatment center for poisoning +33 (0)4 91 75 25 25**
 - 15**
 - 18**
 - 17**
 - 3250**
- Caution! Consult the weather forecast before starting and avoid the mistral wind.**



The Bac du Sauvage ferry

Along the way

Bar and restaurant

- Bars et restaurants des Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer
- La table de Sylvérial : +33 (0)4 66 73 74 35
- La Régie de Frigoulès, route de Cacharel : +33 (0)4 90 97 52 92

Rent a bike

- Le Vélociste (Saintes-Maries) : +33 (0)6 25 32 07 03
- Le Vélo Saintois (Saintes-Maries) : +33 (0)4 90 97 74 56
- 100% Camargue (Sylvérial) : +33 (0)6 09 56 06 47

Don't miss

- The town of Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer (Notre-Dame-de-la-Mer church and crypt)
- Boat cruise on the Petit-Rhône (Le Tiki) - +33 (0)4 90 97 81 68
- Canoeing on the Petit-Rhône (Kayak Vert) - +33 (0)6 09 56 06 47

SAINTES-MARIES-DE-LA-MER TOURISM OFFICE
 5 Av. Van Gogh – 13460 Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer
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 E-mail : info@saintesmaries.com
 Website : www.saintesmaries.com



Trekking City, trekking or mountain bike, car 6

Between the Bac du Sauvage ferry and Cacharel ranch

Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer

	mountain bike	
	trekking bike	
	city bike	
2h30 à 4h		
	car	
	hiker	
		1h30

Starting point : Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer Tourism Office

Distance : 30 km loop

Take note :

- Dangerous crossings : the Sylvérial bridge and Route D570 at Pioch Badet
- Check the timetable for the Bac du Sauvage ferry crossings at the Saintes-Maries Information Center

Photo credits : Opus-Species, P. Daniel, Vinzi Studio / Parc de Camargue Bac du Sauvage





6 Between the Bac du Sauvage ferry and Cacharel ranch Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer

How to get there

- Start from the Tourist Information Center at Les-Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer, Avenue Van Gogh.

At the **Tourism Office 1**, follow Avenue Van Gogh (D38) on your left toward the arena and Aigues-Mortes. Go along beside the sea, the port and the arena where bull games are regularly organized. Cross the hamlet Dromar. After km 6, turn left to take the **Bac du Sauvage ferry 2** (check the ferry timetable at the Tourism Office). Continue on Route D85 toward Aigues-Mortes. Cross the Peccais Canal and at the crossroads turn right on D58 toward Arles (⚠ Take care, this road is dangerous!). Cross the **Sylvéréal bridge 3**.

400m after the bridge turn right on the narrow road (toward S33) and go through **Astouin 4**. At the next crossroads turn right, then 500m later, turn left (D38b). At the Y-shaped fork, take the road to the left to **Pioch-Badet 5**. At the crossroads in the center of the hamlet cross Route D570 (⚠ Caution, dangerous road) and take Route D85a toward Arles-Pioch-Badet by the **Cacharel Road** (Route de Cacharel). For 10 kilometers you will go along beside first the Consecanière and then the Impérial ponds (étangs).

Possible alternate route through **Cabanes de Cambon 6** on Route D38.