

## La Bassée Nature Reserve

From the village of Servolles, you can already see the dry hillsides edging Sourdun forest with views of La Bassée, a vast flood plain famous for its natural riches, with the river Seine cutting through it. La Bassée features the largest freshwater swamp forest in the Paris Basin. The national Bassée Nature Reserve partially protects it. Among the most ancient of woods, looking like a jungle, grows a typical wild vine, a cousin of cultivated varieties.

There is water everywhere, which attracts dragonflies, including the smoky-winged River Jewelwing that flutters above the noues (the local name for the many brooks bubbling through the region). These tiny waterways all make their way to the Seine, winding across the flood plain, irrigating the nature reserve and farmland. In flooding season, they help to evacuate excess water.

These **noues**, in Bassée, correspond to former palaeochannels of the Seine later used by humankind. They make the land rich and wet, suitable for use as pastureland or prairies.



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**Access:** Hermé, 15 km south of Provins on the D619 and D78 (at Sourdun).

**Practical information:** elevation gain: 75m.

### The Hiker's Code of Conduct

- Do not leave the marked paths.
- If there are any doubts regarding which path to take, markings take precedence over the description.
- Respect nature and private property.
- Don't litter.
- Avoid routes during hunting season (check with the town halls or the Seine-et-Marne hunting federation).
- Close gates and fences after you.
- Whenever possible, remove any obstacles from the path.



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## Hiking

in Provinois, Bassée-Montois and Morin

# HERMÉ From solines to the *noues*

In Vieille Seine country with its grassy ditches, explore the woods and climb up to viewpoints to admire the Seine valley.

CIRCUIT N°

09

Bassée-Montois



**PROVINS TOURISME**  
entre Bassée, Montois et Morin



## From solines to the noues

- 1 From the square outside the Town Hall, head for the church and follow the path on the left to La Boisse au Barde.
- 2 At the crossroads, take the path on your right and walk 300m. On the left, an old bridge with three arches leading to La Motte-Bonnot; a feudal hillock mentioned in 1249 elevated to a barony and belonging to Provins high tower. Continue along the path to the D78.
- 3 Cross the road and follow the path on your right for 450m. Bear right into a path leading to the D18. Follow it on the left to cross the railway track. Then take the little road on your right that leads to Servolles. Pass through the hamlet then climb up the path on your right. At the end, turn left, then go up on your right towards the wood and walk with the trees to your right.
- 4 At the crosspath (the high point of the circuit with views of La Bassée), go down opposite the ridge, round the woods on the right to the silos. Cross the D78, take the path on your right then the one on the left along the electricity line.
- 5 At the crossroads, turn right, cross the D18 and enter Les Chaises. After the water tower, take the street on your right. At the bend in the road on your right, take the opposite fork and continue along the street that turns right. Take Rue du Pont-des-Chaises on the left and cross the railway bridge.
- 6 Take the D49a1 on the left, then the street on your right. It becomes a path. You'll come to the crossroads you saw on the way out.
- 2 Turn right to retrace your steps back to Hermé Town Hall.



The trail markings on this route are installed and maintained by 250 footpath wardens from the Seine-et-Marne departmental hiking committee. (Codérando 77). It is part of a network of 4,500 km of walking and hiking trails in the department. If you notice any irregularities during your hikes (errors or lack of markings, poor maintenance, illegal waste disposal), please inform Codérando 77 via the website <http://sentinelles.sportsdenature.fr/> by selecting the "hiking" activity.