



*Anemones Pulsatiles* © PG

## Circuit 9 The Goat Trail

A stone's throw from Beaune, tourist circuit of botanical interest (rare protected plants) with magnificent panoramas.

"It's the people of Bouze who are good boys, my boys! A – Z raise goats to gore passersby, my boys"

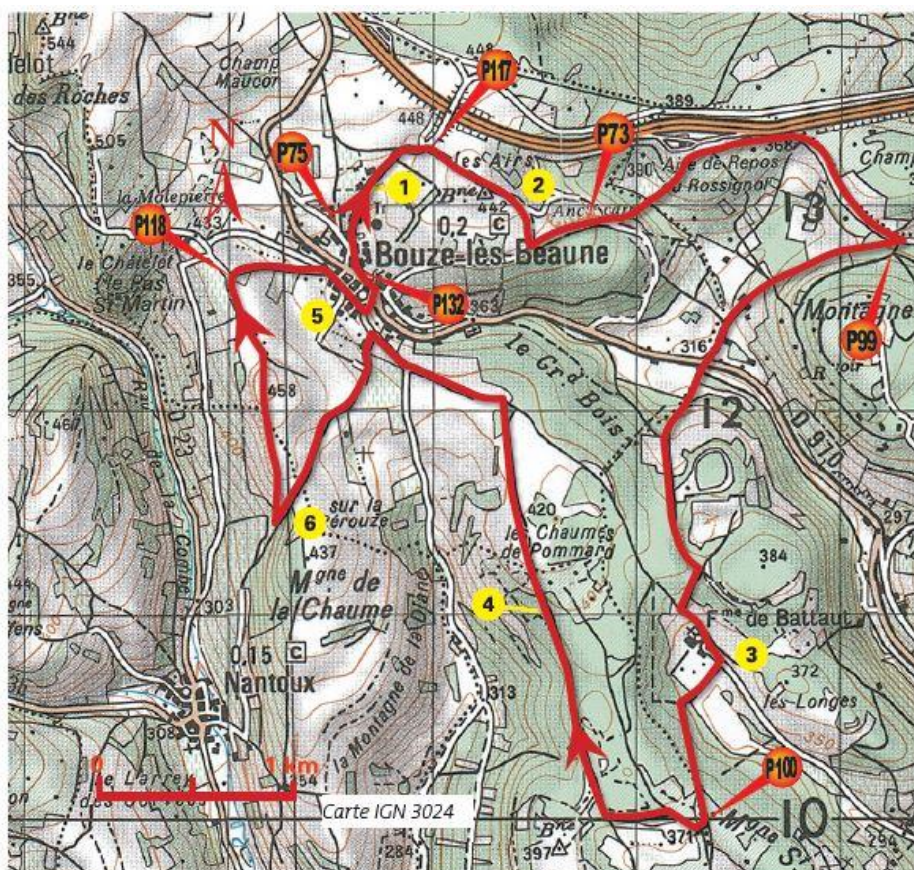
- Start: Bouze les Beaune, 6 km from Beaune along the D970
- Parking: Along the road from the War Memorial to the Town Hall
- Distance: about 15 km
- Duration: 4 hours 30
- Height gain: 350 m
- Level: medium
- Markers: directional posts and yellow paint marks on various objects (trees, walls, ground...)
- Restrictions: control dogs on the stubble fields (sheep); TAKE CARE during the hunting season (September till end-February) and official culls.

At the War Memorial, go up the main road past the château (on the right).

In about 50 metres, turn right towards Savigny-lès-Beaune (post P75) and continue in this direction along the dry stone wall behind the château **1**.

Just before the bridge over the motorway, take the little tarmac road on the right (post P117). Continue on this road, ignoring first a path, then the entrance to the old landfill **2** on the left.

Heading back down, turn left twice (red and white markings for the connection point between the GR® 7 and GR® 76). The path is first tarred and then metalled. At post P73, take a left down a path into the small wood. On leaving the wood, head uphill



slightly to the right along the edge of the field. Continue climbing into the woods. At the bend, ignore the track heading down to the right and continue slightly left on the path into the pines. Climb uphill along the motorway fence. Reaching a bare embankment near the motorway, turn right onto a wide metalled path. At post P99, turn immediately right (red and white markings of the GR® 76) on a large metalled path through the pines.



*Old "racetrack" © PG*

Cross the D970 (with care) and take a metalled road opposite, ignoring the road to the left, follow the telephone line and enter the small wood. Further on, take a broad road on the right leading to Battaut Farm, which was recently renovated **3**. The path skirts the estate, leaving the tar behind, and then climbs into the wood. After the top of the hill, in approximately 150 m, leave the GR at post P100 and take the path on the right and, in 20 m, turn right on the metalled path. At the next fork, turn left and stay on the main path. After the hunting cabin on the right of the road, in about 200 m, at the fork, turn right. Ignore all the roads intersecting on the right. On leaving the forest, continue on the main road through the stubble fields **4**.

Arriving at the little tarmac road, go straight ahead. At the next junction, either take the shortcut and continue down the asphalt road passing near the church **5**, or turn left on a small asphalt road up to the plateau, in 300 m ignoring the path to the right. The track stops being tarred. Coming out into the stubble fields, ignore the first grassy path on the right and the road to the left, continue for about 50 m and take the path on the right **6**.

Arriving at the pine woods, take the wide path on the right down through the pines and junipers (view of Bouze-lès-Beaune). The path widens; go straight ahead, ignoring a path on the left leading to a lyre-shaped vineyard. On the berm, in 400 m, turn right (post P118) and head down towards Bouze-lès-Beaune. At the first house, take a right into Rue Mandelot and then turn left (post P132). Take the pavement on the right and then the pedestrian crossing to cross the D970 (with care) and return to the car park.

## Don't miss

1 - On the right, round tower forming a platform, which is accessed via an outside staircase. It was built around the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century when part of the château parkland was turned into a meadow with a track for breeding race horses (hence the name "racetrack" which is sometimes encountered).

2 - Former quarry: extraction of a sort of marble at the beginning of the century (pale pink veined stone), then extraction of aggregates for the construction of the A6 motorway.

3 - Battaut Farm: set of recently renovated buildings. The estate was bought in the late 12<sup>th</sup> century by Mathilde, Duchess of Burgundy, and given to Tart Abbey, located 12 km from Cîteaux (it was the first congregation of nuns of the Cistercian order, the Bernardines).



*The famous "bique" (goat) © PG*

The current chapel next to the recently rebuilt dovecote, reconstructed in the second half of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, is very sober Romanesque in style.

4 - On the limestone stubble fields where "biques" (goats) once grazed, there are many rare protected plants, some of them Mediterranean.

5 - Church of Saint Vincent: only a few vestiges remain of the ancient "cella" of the monks of the Abbey of Saint Seine. On the outer left side, the stone crest of Lord Hugues Aubriot dates from the 12<sup>th</sup> century. From the 15<sup>th</sup> century, there remains a door with mouldings and a flamboyant window. The church was rebuilt in 1881.

6 - Stubble fields of Crétot: splendid views of the Hautes Côtes, with plenty of orchids (ophrys and orchis) in the spring. This stubble, continuing that of Nantoux, is protected by extensive grazing and light clearing.

Technical advisers: D. and R. MUTIN – November 2015

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Historical notes collected by class CM1 of Mrs POTOT on teaching attachment from Bouze-les-Beaune, Bouilland and Savigny-les-Beaune.