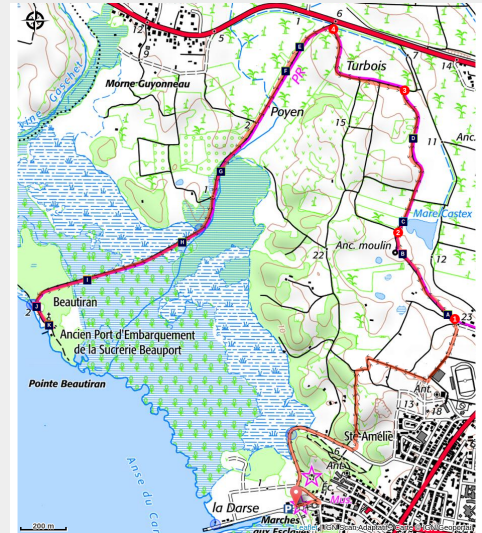


Sentier de Beautiran

Grande-Terre Nord



l'ancien port de Beautiran (PNG)



A walk among fields of sugar cane and mangrove, on the traces of the region's past. The site of Beautiran was the shipment port of the sugar and rum produced by the Beauport factory, as well as the landing place for the coal necessary for the steam engines.

December 2024 : change of starting point of the hike ; follow the markings starting from the "slave steps" (town of Petit-Canal).

Useful information

Practice : Walking

Duration : 4 h

Length : 11.5 km

Trek ascent : 89 m

Difficulty : Easy



Type : Return trip

Themes : Agricultural landscape, Cultural and architectural heritage, North Grande-Terre circular trail, The Slave Route

Trek

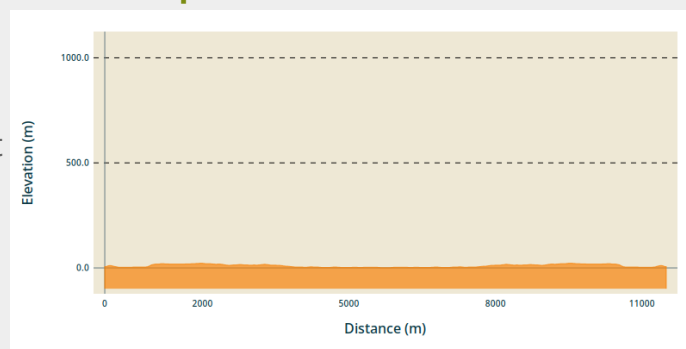
Departure : coming out of the village of Petit-Canal, after the new stadium, take the small path leading westwards.

Arrival : Dans le bourg de Petit-Canal, départ en bas de l'escalier des "marches des esclaves".

Markings :  North Grande-Terre circular trail  PR (short hike network)

Cities : 1. Petit-Canal

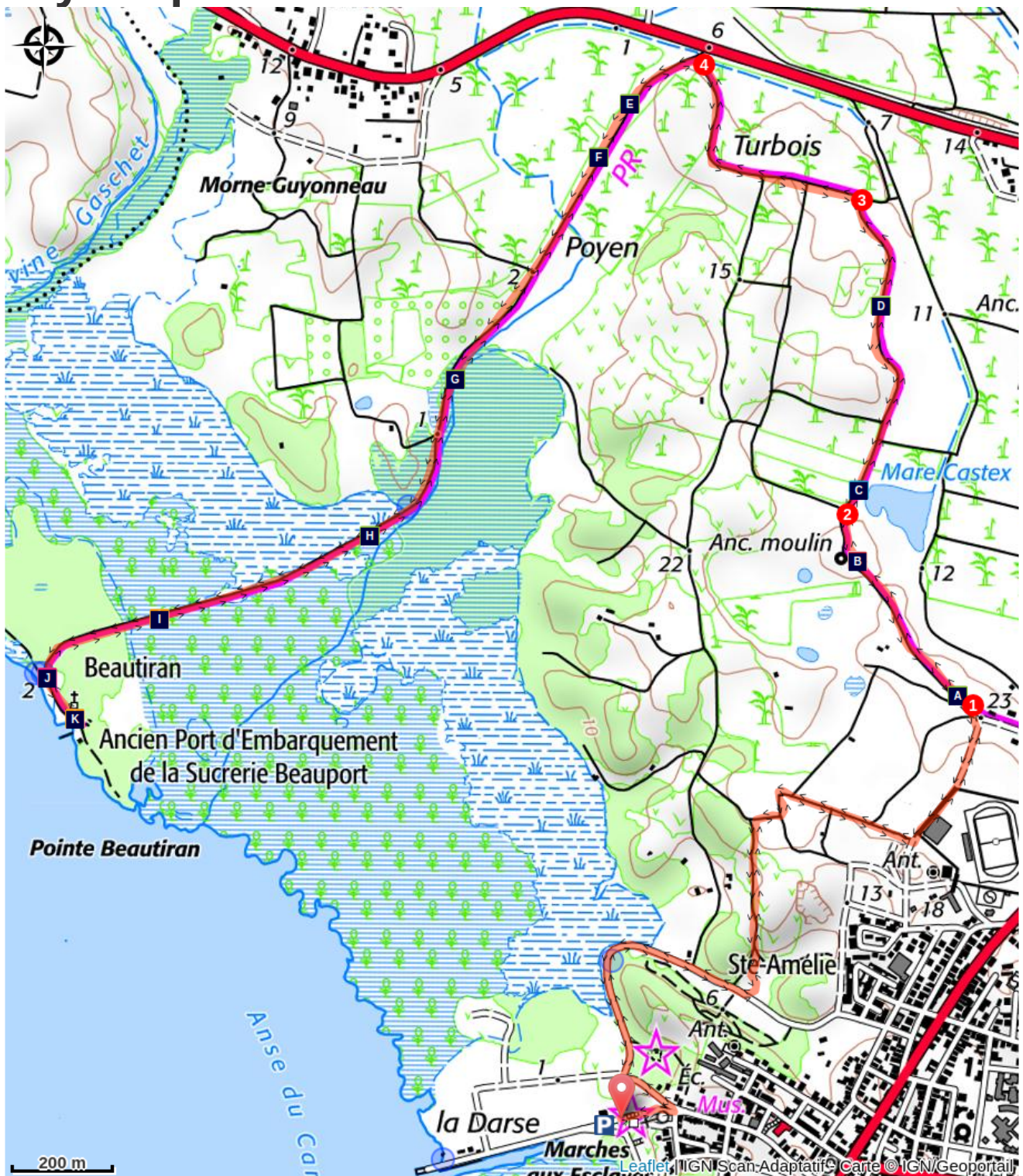
Altimetric profile














Min elevation 1 m Max elevation 22 m

Hiking trail colour : yellow.

On your path...



-  Trumpet Tree (A)
-  Mare de Castex (C)
-  Castor Oil Tree (E)
-  Dragonsblood tree (G)
-  Industrial ruins (I)
-  Old Port of Beautiran (K)

-  Moulin de Sainte-Amélie (B)
-  Sugar cane fields (D)
-  Fiddlewood tree (F)
-  Mangrove (H)
-  Sea view (J)

All useful information

AdVICES

As Guadeloupe is prone to natural risks, extra care should be taken in this natural environment. For the benefit of all hikers, responsible behaviour is very important.
Please note: the parking is not supervised.

How to come ?

Transports

Le conseil régional assure le réseau de transport interurbain avec des lignes de bus qui desservent tout l'archipel, par secteur géographique.

Voir : <https://www.regionguadeloupe.fr/les-actions-regionales/transport-interurbain/#>
-> Pointe-à-Pitre / Abymes / Morne à l'Eau / Petit-Canal / Port-Louis / Anse-Bertrand : ligne 102.

En Guadeloupe, 2 applications pour le covoiturage :

Déposé : <https://depoze.fr>

KAROS : <https://www.karos.fr>

Access

Starting point : Lat : 16,38525 N - Long : 61,48295 W.

Coming out of the village of Petit-Canal and heading for Port-Louis, go past the new stadium then turn left on the first non-metalled track. Parking at the start of the track, near the hike information panel.

Advised parking

coming out of the village of Petit-Canal, after the new stadium, at the beginning of the little path.

Information desks

Office de tourisme intercommunal "Le Nord Guadeloupe"

2 rue Gambetta, 97117 Port-Louis

contact@lenordguadeloupe.com

Tel : 0590 22 33 87 / 0690 50 76 48

<http://www.lenordguadeloupe.com>



Source

Rando Guadeloupe

<https://www.randoguadeloupe.gp/>

On your path...



Trumpet Tree (A)

The pink trumpet tree (*Tabebuia heterophylla*) is identifiable by its beautiful pink flowers with a yellow heart, which lie scattered over the ground. It is very resistant to the wind. Its wood is valued for carpentry, and is used for building. It is also often used in the composition of 'saintoise' canoes.

Attribution : PNG



Moulin de Sainte-Amélie (B)

Remains of the mill at Sainte-Amélie; the tower is encircled by a fig tree. Windmills were used to crush the stems of the sugarcanes to extract the juice (vésou), used to manufacture of sugar and then rum agricole (cane juice rum).

Attribution : PNG



Mare de Castex (C)

A damp area in the middle of the cane fields, the Mare is an attractive place for water birds (herons, water hens, etc.) who come there to feed.

Attribution : PNG



Sugar cane fields (D)

Sugar cane has marked the history and landscape of Guadeloupe since the fifteenth century, the period where it would have begun to be planted in the Caribbean. Cane is a grass, whose stem is used in the manufacture of sugar and rum; the foliage serves as cattle feed.

Attribution : PNG



Castor Oil Tree (E)

The castor oil tree (*Carapatier*) is a pioneer plant, which means it is one which colonises open spaces. Carapate oil is manufactured from the seeds of the shrub. It has a cosmetic use, being recommended for the care of the hair.

Attribution : PNG



✿ Fiddlewood tree (F)

Characteristic of the dry rainforest in Guadeloupe, the fiddlewood (*Citharexylum spinosum*) can reach 15 metres in height. It is recognisable by its orange leaf-stems and its clusters of small round fruit, ranging from orange to black. Its flowers are white, perfumed and nectar-laden. Its twigs are square in section, giving the tree its common name.

Attribution : PNG



✿ Dragonsblood tree (G)

The Dragonsblood (*Pterocarpus officinalis*) is a characteristic tree of the swampy forest, located behind the mangroves. It often has often imposing buttress roots, and its bark produces a red resin.

Attribution : PNG



✿ Mangrove (H)

On either side of the trail you will see the mangrove. Between the sea and the swampy forest, this vegetation consists of red, black, white and grey mangrove trees. The attached PDF describes the features which allow you to distinguish between these species.

Attribution : PNG



🕒 Industrial ruins (I)

All along the trail, ruins of the industrial past of the site of Beautiran are still visible: rails, wagons, ancient storage buildings, etc. It was the Clugny sugar farm which, in the late nineteenth century, invested in building a railway to connect it to the landing at Beautiran. In that way, its production could be routed to the port, and then shipped to Pointe-à-Pitre.

Attribution : PNG



📍 Sea view (J)

Coming out of the mangroves, there is a beautiful viewpoint over the bay of Grand Cul-de-Sac Marin as well as the contours of Sainte-Rose, in the distance.

Attribution : PNG



Old Port of Beautiran (K)

In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Beautiran was the landing stage used by the neighbouring sugar farms (Beauport). There could be seen the wagons and dug-out canoes used to transport the sugar and rum to Pointe-à-Pitre. The Beautiran site was therefore a centre of activities for the trading fleets and their slaves. It was finally closed in the 1960s. Its equipment can still be seen, including the loading gantry (1865).

Attribution : PNG