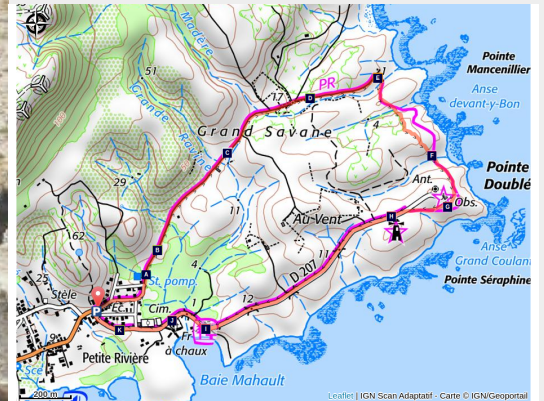


Montana Trail

La Désirade



Iguane des Petites Antilles (Iguana delicatissima) (CD971)



Located in the north east of the island of La Désirade, this trail owes its name to the ship 'Montana' which was wrecked off the lighthouse. On its coastal section, the trail runs along, the geological nature reserve. It also leads to the former weather station, whose architecture recalls the works of Ali Tur, as well as to the lighthouse and the ruins of a cotton farm, near which an exhibition explains the geological history.

A change of scenery is guaranteed when discovering this "lunar"-looking environment swept by Atlantic sea spray and teeming with animal species (sheep, goats, iguanas, passerines) and plant species (agaves, mapous, sea grape trees, cacti) that have adapted to extreme conditions.

Useful information

Practice : Walking

Duration : 1 h 30

Length : 4.0 km

Trek ascent : 90 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Loop

Themes : Agricultural landscape,
Cultural and architectural heritage,
Geology

Trek

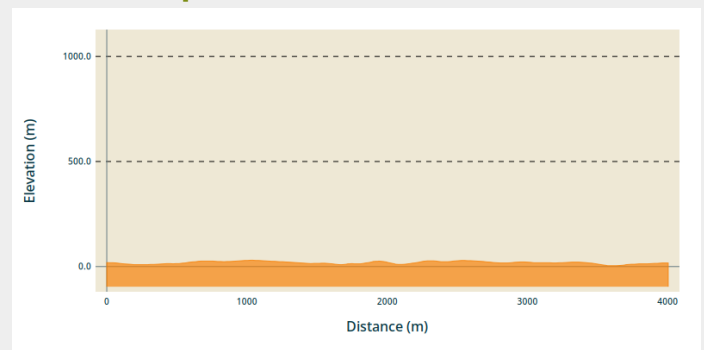
Departure : Au niveau de l'école de Baie-Mahault.

Arrival : Au niveau de l'école de Baie-Mahault.

Markings : — PR (short hike network)

Cities : 1. La Desirade

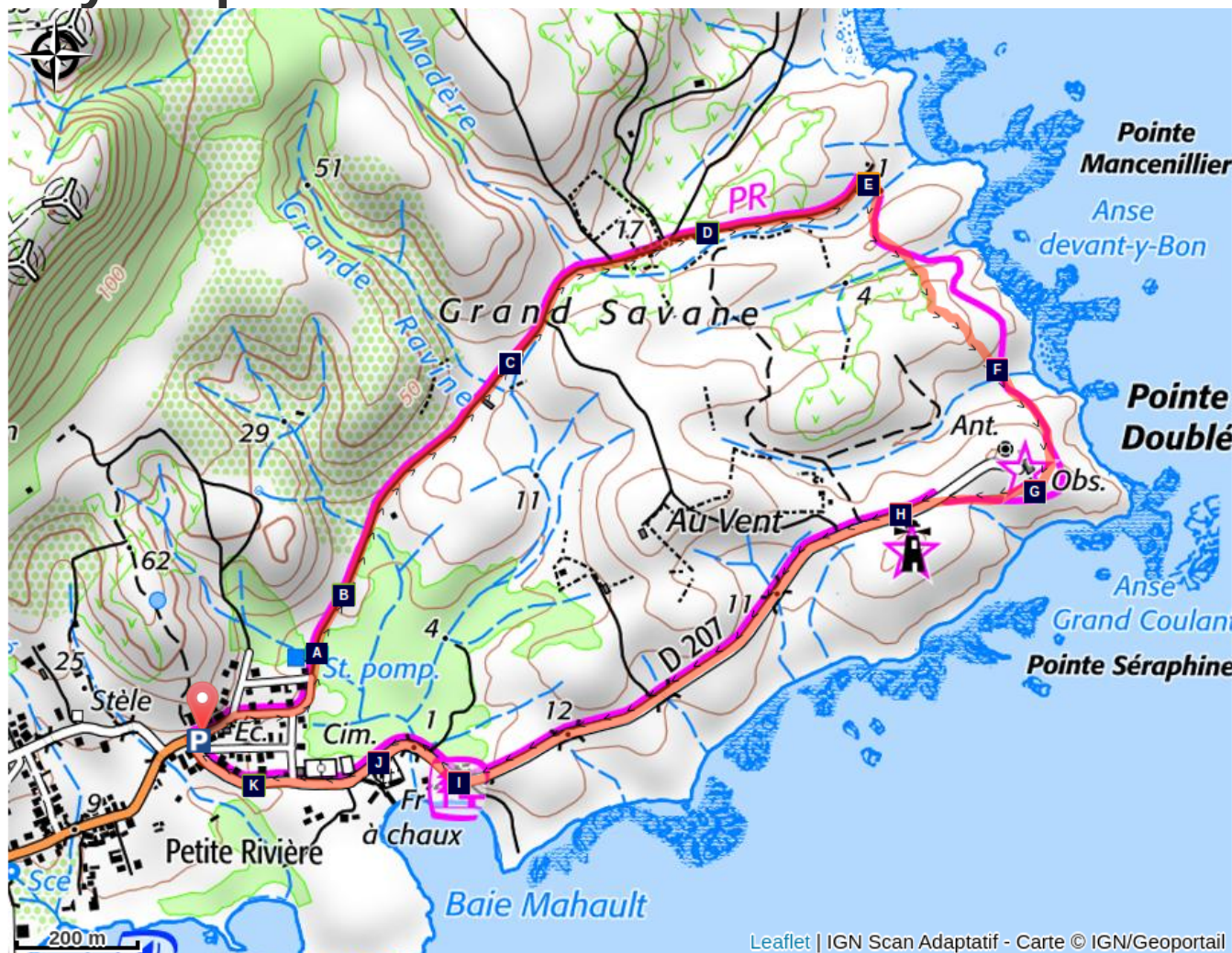
Altimetric profile













Min elevation 4 m Max elevation 30 m

Starting from the 'trace' entry sign, follow the waymarkers which lead up to Pointe Mancenillier. On reaching the coast, on the edge of the geological nature reserve, turn right, taking care on the stony trail leading towards Pointe Doublé. Then, after the weather station, reach the road which passes the lighthouse, the former cotton farm and the marine cemetery, to return to the start.

On your path...



Leaflet | IGN Scan Adaptatif - Carte © IGN/Geoportail

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Explanatory panel (A) |  Antigua Agave (B) |
|  Wind Farm (C) |  Gray Mapou (birdcatcher tree) (D) |
|  Carbet (E) |  Rocky patchwork (F) |
|  Former weather station (G) |  Lighthouse (H) |
|  Ruins of the old cotton farm (I) |  Marine cemetery (J) |
|  Frangipani (K) | |

All useful information

Advices

Trail cleared following Hurricane MARIA.

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Trail mainly open; be sure to hydrate regularly.

Slippery passages on the stones: wear hiking shoes.

Beware of the manchineel trees (every part is poisonous).

How to come ?

Transports

Bus service from the port with Karulis.

Access

Starting point : Lat : 16,33052°N - Long : 61,01702°W.

From the marine port, follow the D207 as far as Baie-Mahault school.

Advised parking

Beside "Baie-Mahault" school.

Information desks

Bureau d'information touristique de La Désirade

"Beausejour", capitainerie, 97127 Désirade

omt.desirade@gmail.com

Tel : 05 90 84 61 39

<http://www.mairie-ladesirade.fr/tourisme-tourism>



Source

Rando Guadeloupe

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

On your path...



Explanatory panel (A)

An explanatory panel describes the species (fauna and flora) which may be encountered on the trail.

Attribution : CD 971



Antigua Agave (B)

A specimens of *Agave Karatto*, adapted to dry, hot stony soils. Its imposing flower stalk announces the end of the plant's life.

Attribution : CD 971



Wind Farm (C)

View of the wind farm on the mountain plateau overlooking the trail.

Attribution : CD 971



Gray Mapou (birdcatcher tree) (D)

Specimen of Mapou Gray, *Pisonia subcordata*. Its branches lean in the direction of the prevailing winds.

Attribution : CD 971



Carbet (E)

This carbet invites you to take a break while enjoying the ocean panorama from the Pointe Mancenillier.

Attribution : CD 971



Rocky patchwork (F)

This conglomeration of rocks of various types testifies to the geological character of the remarkable La Désirade.

Attribution : CD 971



Former weather station (G)

View of the abandoned weather station, whose Art Deco architecture was inspired by the work of Ali Tur.

Attribution : CD 971



Lighthouse (H)

Lighthouse of la Désirade.

Attribution : CD 971



Ruins of the old cotton farm (I)

The site which was once home to a cotton farm and a leper colony now offers an exhibition tracing the geological history of la Désirade through information panels, as well as a rest area which has calmly been taken over by a group of iguanas.

Attribution : CD 971



Marine cemetery (J)

Last resting place, lulled by the tides.

Attribution : CD 971



Frangipani (K)

Frangipani flower, *Plumeria*.

Attribution : CD 971