

## C209-ST Morvan lakes



The Morvan is a vast cratered plateau which slowly rises from the Parisian Bassin towards the Massif Central. It is covered by sprawling forests sometimes interrupted by prairies or farming lands where a few picturesque hamlets lie hidden. Water runs in all directions and you will cross or follow along streams and small rivers which, with man's help, have given birth to a number of lakes that have been perfectly integrated into the nature landscape and become the joy of vacationers!

### Itinerary

**Day 1** - Arrival at QUARRE LES TOMBES, a village situated in the Morvan National Park region, between the La Cure and Le Cousin valleys, at an altitude of 460 meters on the summit of Mont Culan. Around the Saint Georges Church lies a beautiful collection of Merovingian sarcophagus, dating from the 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> centuries, which have been restored many times since. *Dinner, lodging and breakfast in a two-star hotel.*

**Day 2** - CRESCENT LAKE – BRASSY (24 km). Escort by taxi from Quarré les Tombes to the hamlet of Courotte. Along a slightly-sloped path, you will walk the banks of the Crescent Lake, cross it to come to l'Huis Bargeot, and will then cross the prairies to arrive in Chaloux. You will then enter into the forest and head towards the hamlet of Plaineffas and the banks of the Chaumeçon Lake. You will follow the road which runs the length of the lake to arrive in the small village of Brassy. *Dinner, lodging and breakfast in a two-star hotel.*

**Day 3** - BRASSY –CHAUMARD (23 km). You will leave Brassy for the hamlets of Rivières and Maguémont, crossing through woods and prairies. You will skirt around the Mont Grinon and pass the Croix Gerrin (Gerrin Cross) to arrive at Ouroux en Morvan. You will next arrive at Pannecièrre Lake, passing through the villages of Montpensy, Courgermain and Les Quatre-Vents. You will follow the lake bank to the village of Chaumard - *Dinner, lodging and breakfast in a charming guesthouse*



**Day 4** - VAUMINOT – PLANCHEZ (25 km). You will follow the Pannecièrre Lake for about 10 km and cross over to the other bank where you will pass into the forest to reach the Fauboulion Chapel and Le Fou de Verdun. In the middle of the forest you will find the small village of Planchez, where you will overnight - *Dinner, lodging and breakfast in a two-star hotel.*

**Day 5** - PLANCHEZ – LES SETTONS LAKE (18 km). You will cross through the village and, following several small paths and roads, arrive in La Gutteleau and the hamlet of Grosse. You will next come to the lake and, circling around it, pass through Le Cerney, the nautical base of the Branlesses, and the Settons Dam - *Dinner, lodging and breakfast in a two-star hotel.*



**Day 6** - LES SETTONS – SAINT AGNAN (23 km). You will cross again the dam and enter into the forest, heading for the village of Gouloux. You will make a slight detour so to visit the Saut du Gouloux (waterfall) and take up again your hike through the woods to Saint Brisson. The path then takes again to the forest and brings you to Saint Agnan, lying on the banks of the Saint Agnan Lake - *Dinner, lodging, and breakfast in a two-star hotel.*

**Day 7** - SAINT AGNAN – QUARRE LES TOMBES (19 km). You will follow the banks of Saint Agnan Lake, passing by the Saint Pierre Chapel, and will enter into the forest to arrive at the Abbaye de la Pierre Qui Vire at the bottom of the Trinquelin Valley. You will next arrive at the village of Saint Léger Vauban and will end your walk at Quarré Les Tombes - *Dinner, lodging and breakfast in a two-star hotel.*

**Day 8** - QUARRE LES TOMBES. Tour ends after breakfast.

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## Season

From May to middle of October

## What's included?

- ✓ 7 nights' accommodation in 2-star hotels
- ✓ 7 breakfasts – 7 dinners
- ✓ Hotel to hotel luggage transfer along the trail.
- ✓ Taxi transfer : Quarré les Tombes – Courotte
- ✓ A set of maps (1/25 000 scale) with the route marked on and detailed route notes describing the trail.
- ✓ A daily itinerary together with information about facilities and places of interest along the trail.
- ✓ Emergency assistance.

*Visa fees - transportation fees to and from the walk area - Insurance (strongly recommended on all trips) - Transfers except those mentioned above – Drinks - Additional meals – Entrance fees - Spending of personal nature e.g. laundry, souvenirs, phone calls,... are not included*

## Getting there and away

**By train:** The nearest train station is Avallon, well-served from Paris Gare de Lyon or Paris Bercy (with a connection). From the Avallon station, a taxi will bring you to Quarré les Tombes. The return will be made in the same manner.

**By car:** You will exit motorway A6 Paris-Lyon at exit 23 for Avallon. Follow N6 road in the direction of Saulieu. In Cussy les Forges turn right D33 road and continue along D10 road to Quarré les Tombes.

**Where to park:** Free, unguarded car park is available on the village square.

## Walk difficulty

Grade 3 - walks of between 5 and 8 hours a day with ascents up to 700 m. Some hiking experience is advisable. A reasonable level of fitness and some stamina are required for these walks. You may cover long distances in remote countryside and the terrain will be rough underfoot. In mountainous areas you will encounter some sustained ascents and descents