The Brenne parc naturel régional in the centre of France is a naturalist’s paradise. Well known for having many lakes and rare aquatic animals and plants; it also has many other interesting habitats and corresponding species. In a calm, quite, friendly countryside a naturalist can take their time and discover a multitude of species, both common and rare, many of southern European distribution.

Where to watch birds (and other wildlife) in the Brenne Parc naturel regional - France
Please, during your visit, remain on public roads, trails or paths. Thank you!

To be seen in the area

**Birds**
- Little Bittern \((s)\)
- Purple Heron \((s)\)
- Black-necked Grebe \((s)\)
- Whiskered Tern \((s)\)
- Black-winged Stilt \((s)\)
- Savi's and Bonelli's Warblers \((s)\)

**Other species**
- European pond Tortoise \((s)\)

*(w) Winter, (s) Spring and summer, (r) Resident, (m) Migrant.*
Where to sleep near Mézières-en-Brenne (English speaking)

All cottages and bed and breakfast accomodations are 3 or 4 stars, hotels and camp sites 2 stars.

1 Hotel – restaurant “le Bœuf couronné”
Mézières-en-Brenne
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 04 39
www.restaurant-boeufcouronne.com
8 rooms.

2 Bed and breakfast “La Cistude”
Mézières-en-Brenne
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 16 03
www.randonnee-nature-brenne.com
1 room.

3 Bed and Breakfast “Les Cyclamens”
St-Michel-en-Brenne
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 03 06
www.lescyclamens.fr
3 rooms.

4 Bed ans breakfast “Brenne & Berry”
Lingé
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 39 26 53
www.brenneberry.com
5 rooms.

5 Cottage “des Vigneaux”
Mézières-en-Brenne
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 10 03
www.gites-de-france.com
5 people.

6 Camp site “La Caillauderie”
Mézières-en-Brenne
Tél. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 12 24

Wildlife information
Brenne’s wildlife visitor Centre
02 54 28 11 04 (answer in English)
www.maison-nature-brenne.fr

Tourist information
Tourism Office, Mézières-en-Brenne
02 54 38 12 24

Parc visitor Centre, Rosnay
02 54 28 12 13 - www.parca-naturel-brenne.fr
2 - Terres et étangs de Brenne
Massé-Foucault nature reserve

Legend
--- Limite of protected area
— Footpath
Place to leave your car
Lake
Forest
Public hide

Please, during your visit, remain on public roads, trails or paths. Thank you!

To be seen in the area
Birds*: Black Kite (s), Night Heron (s), Squaco Heron (s), Little, Great White and Cattle Egrets (r), Black-winged Stilt (s), Red-backed Shrike (s).
Other species: European pond Tortoise (s).

*(w) Winter, (s) Spring and summer, (r) Resident, (m) Migrant.
In the centre of Brenne, this area with its many lakes usually provides for good bird watching. It is one of the best areas for finding Night heron. The reserve has three hides open to the public. The many public paths in the area can be good for wild flowers and butterflies.

For more information “Brenne nature” in English.

One of the best walks in the Brenne (Plus belles balades du Parc) “Rencontre avec les paysages de Brenne”, (the 11 km walk takes about 3 hours to complete). Follow the yellow markers from the Blizon car park.

Where to sleep near Rosnay (north) (English speaking)
All cottages and bed and breakfast accommodations are 3 or 4 stars, hotels and camp sites 2 stars.

Bed and Breakfast and Cottage “Domaine de la Crapaudine”
Rosnay
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 77 12
www.domaine-de-la-crapaudine.fr
4 rooms (bed and breakfast) and 6 people (cottage).

Bed and Breakfast “le Maupas”
Rosnay
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 82 84
www.maisondumaupas.com
2 rooms.

Cottage “La Lézarderie”
Rosnay
Tel. 00 33 (0)9 71 53 58 20
www.gites-de-france.com
8 people.

Cottage “Les étangs Chats”
Migné
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 17 67
www.berryprovince.com
4 people.

Camp site “les Millots”
Rosnay
Tél. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 80 17
32 emplacements.

Wildlife information
Brenne’s wildlife visitor Centre
02 54 28 11 04 (answer in English)
www.maison-nature-brenne.fr

Tourist information
Tourism Office, Mézières-en-Brenne
02 54 38 12 24 - www.tourisme-mezieres-en-brenne.fr

Parc visitor Centre, Rosnay
02 54 28 12 13 - www.parc-naturel-brenne.fr
BIRDS, ORCHIDS AND BUTTERFLIES

3 - The étang Vieux

Legend
- Footpath
- Most interesting area
- Place to leave your car
- Lake
- Forest

To be seen in the area
Birds*: Bittern (r), Cirl Bunting (r).
Orchids: Brenne Orchid, Marsh Helleborine and other orchids (s).
Butterflies: Chequered Skipper (s), Dryad (s).

*(w) Winter, (s) Spring and summer, (r) Resident, (m) Migrant.

4 - Lancosme forest

Legend
- Access path
- Most interesting area
- Place to leave your car
- Lake
- Forest

To be seen in the area
Birds*: Honey Buzzard (s), Black Woodpecker (r), Middle Spotted Woodpecker (r), Short-toed Treecreeper (r), Wood and Bonelli’s Warblers (r).
Orchids: Common Spotted and Bee Orchids
Butterflies: Chequered and Large Chequered Skippers, Duke of Burgandy, Heath Fritillary, Woodland Brown, both Purple Emperors

*(w) Winter, (s) Spring and summer, (r) Resident, (m) Migrant.

Please, during your visit, remain on public roads, trails or paths. Thank you!
Less lakes and much more woodland, this area can be very interesting for many rare species; it provides a contrast to the rest of the Brenne and has several species that aren’t found elsewhere. On very hot days it is also a way of avoiding the sun.

One of the best walks in the Brenne (Plus belles balades du Parc) “Luxurience marécageuse”, (the 3.5 km walk takes about 2 hours to complete). Follow the blue markers from the car park located on the map.

For more information “Brenne nature” in English.

Where to sleep near Vendoeuvres (English speaking)

All cottages and bed and breakfast are 3 or 4 stars, hotels and camp sites 2 stars.

Holiday village and camp site “Bellebouche”

Mézières-en-Brenne
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 28 28
www.village-vacances-bellebouche.com
32 cottages with 2 ou 3 bedrooms.

Cottage “Château Robert”

Vendoeuvres
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 32 48
www.domaine-de-lancosme.fr
8 people.

Bed and breakfast and cottage “Le Moulin de Baratte”

Méobecq
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 37 07
www.blogdebaratte.com
1 room (b&b) and 4 people (cottage).

Bed and breakfast and cottage “Gîte de la Presle”

Mézières-en-Brenne
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 12 36
www.gites-de-france.com
2 rooms (b&b) and 2 people.

Cottage “l’Hermitage”

Vendoeuvres
http://www.gite-hermitage.blogspot.com
8 people.

Bed and breakfast and cottage “Gîte de la Presle”

Mézières-en-Brenne
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 12 36
www.gites-de-france.com
2 rooms (b&b) and 2 people.

Bed and breakfast and cottage “Le Moulin de Baratte”

Méobecq
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 38 37 07
www.blogdebaratte.com
1 room (b&b) and 4 people (cottage).

Wildlife information

Brenne’s wildlife visitor Centre
02 54 28 11 04 (answer in English)
www.maison-nature-brenne.fr

Tourist information

Tourism Office, Mézières-en-Brenne
02 54 38 12 24
tourisme.mezieresenbrenne@wanadoo.fr

Parc visitor Centre, Rosnay
02 54 28 12 13 - www.parc-naturel-brenne.fr
Legend

area 1a & b ...... page 2
area 2 .......... page 4
area 3 .......... page 6
area 4 .......... page 6
area 5 .......... page 10
area 6 .......... page 10
area 7 .......... page 12
area 8 .......... page 14
area 9 .......... page 14
5 - Les communaux de Rosnay

To be seen in the area
Birds*: Honey Buzzard (s), Quail (s), Woodlark (r), Melodious Warbler (s), Red-backed Shrike (s).
Orchids: Tongue (s), Loose-flowered (s), Greater and Lesser Butterfly (s).
Butterflies: many

*(w) Winter, (s) Spring and summer, (r) Resident, (m) Migrant.

6 - The Riaux lakes

To be seen in the area
Birds*: Whiskered Tern (s), Black-necked Grebe (s), Red-crested Pochard (r), Purple Heron (s), Little Bittern (s).

*(w) Winter, (s) Spring and summer, (r) Resident, (m) Migrant.

Please, during your visit, remain on public roads, trails or paths. Thank you!
Les communaux de Rosnay (Rosnay common) is a major site for both Tongue and Loose-flowered orchids with many tens of thousands of the first in flower in early June. It is also good for various bird and butterfly species. Management of the site includes cattle grazing in late spring and summer; please don’t disturb the animals if present.

The Riaux lakes provide a good alternative to birding in central Brenne. Many rare species can be seen in an area much less frequented by the public.

For more information “Brenne nature” in English.

**Where to sleep near Rosnay and Ciron (English speaking)**

All cottages and bed and breakfast are 3 or 4 stars, hotels and camp sites 2 stars.

**16 Cottages “Les Clous”**

Ruffec
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 21 24
www.gites-de-france.com
4 people.

**17 Cottage and bed and breakfast “Château du Pin”**

Douadic
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 40 55
www.chateaudupin.fr
2 people and 2 rooms.

**8 Bed and Breakfast “le Maupas”**

Rosnay
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 82 84
www.maisondumaupas.com
2 rooms.

**7 Bed and Breakfast and Cottage “Domaine de la Crapaudine”**

Rosnay
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 77 12
www.lacrapaudine.fr.st
3 rooms (bed and breakfast) and 6 people (cottage).

**10 Camp site “les Millots”**

Rosnay
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 80 17

**Wildlife information**

Brenne’s wildlife visitor Centre
02 54 28 11 04 (answer in English)
www.maison-nature-brenne.fr

**Tourist information**

Tourism Office, Le Blanc
www.tourisme-leblanc.fr

Parc visitor Centre, Rosnay
02 54 28 12 13 - www.parc-naturel-brenne.fr
7 - The Suin valley

To be seen in the area

Birds*: Melodious and Bonelli’s Warblers (s), Orchids: Pyramidal and Müller’s Orchids and White Helleborine (s), Butterflies and other insects: Large Chequered Skipper (s), Adonis Blue (s), Woodland Grayling (s), both Swallowtails (s), Weaver’s Fritillary (s), Ascalaphe (s).

*(w) Winter, (s) Spring and summer, (r) Resident, (m) Migrant.
This limestone area is particularly well known for its orchids; many of the species on the calcareous land here aren’t found on the clay soils of central Brenne. The same goes for butterflies but there are no bird species here that can’t be found elsewhere in Brenne.

One of the best walks in the Brenne (Plus belles balades du Parc) “Au pays des pyramides”, (the 4.5 km walk takes about 1h30 to complete). Follow the blue markers from the car park.

### Where to sleep near Pouligny-Saint-Pierre (English speaking)

All cottages and bed and breakfast accommodation are 3 or 4 stars, hotels and camp sites 2 stars.

**18 Cottage “Ferme de Fonterland”**

**Pouligny-Saint-Pierre**
Tel. 00 33 (0)6 83 53 44 91
www.fonterland.fr
2 people.

**19 Bed and Breakfast “Le Fresne”**

**Douadic**
Tel. 00 33 (0)6 83 53 44 91
www.lavirevolte-36.com
2 room.

**20 Cottage “Ferme de La Charité”**

**Tournon-Saint-Martin**
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 52 77
www.fermedelacharite.com
6 people.

**21 Cottages “Ecogîtes Les Saules”**

**Pouligny-Saint-Pierre**
Tel. 00 33 (0)6 85 31 37 34
www.ecogite-accueilvelo.fr
6 and 8 people.

**22 Camping “Les Grandes Iles”**

**Tournon-Saint-Martin**
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 50 60
www.tournonstmartin.fr

**23 Bed and breakfast “Ferme de Jappeloup”**

**Tournon-Saint-Martin**
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 28 05 51
www.gites-de-france.com

### Wildlife information

**Brenne’s wildlife visitor Centre**
02 54 28 11 04 (answer in English)
www.maison-nature-brenne.fr

**Tourist information**

**Tourism Office of le Blanc**
www.tourisme-leblanc.fr

**Parc visitor Centre, Rosnay**
02 54 28 12 13 - www.parc-naturel-brenne.fr
**To be seen in the area**

Birds*: Bonelli’s Warbler (s)  
Orchids: many orchids such as Monkey (s), Violet Limodore (s), Red Helleborine (s), Burnt-tip and Fly (s).

*(w) Winter, (s) Spring and summer, (r) Resident, (m) Migrant.

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**Legend**

- - - Limite of protected area  
Access path / Footpath  
Most interesting area  
Place to leave your car  
Forest

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**Access from “Les Roches” village via the D 61B not from the D 950.**

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**To be seen in the area**

Butterflies: Ilex hairstreak, Clouded yellow, Weaver’s Fritillary.

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Please, during your visit, remain on public roads, trails or paths. Thank you!
The Bois des Roches reserve is mainly a dry, calcareous meadow. Among the wildlife protected there are 356 plant species including 7 species of orchids as well as various insects and reptiles.

Interpretation trail.

**Where to sleep around Lurais**
*English speaking*

All cottages and bed and breakfast are 3 or 4 stars, hotels and camp sites 2 stars.

**24 Bed and Breakfast “Roc de Beauchapeau”**
*Mérigny*
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 38 98
www.rocdebeauchapeau.fr
4 rooms.

**25 Cottages “La Grange Neuve”**
*Lurais*
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 28 50 39
4 and 6 people.

**26 Cottages “Fournioux”**
*Lurais*
http://fournioux.pagesperso-orange.fr
4 and 2 people.

**Where to sleep around Fontgombault**
*English speaking*

All cottages and bed and breakfast are 3 or 4 stars, hotels and camp sites 2 stars.

**27 Cottages “Les Grichonnières”**
*Fontgombault*
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 37 20 55
www.gites-de-france.com
2 and 4 people

**28 Bed and breakfast “Le Cerf Thibault”**
*Le Blanc*
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 18 27 30 47
certhibaultenbrenne.fr
3 rooms.

**29 Cottage “Villa du Pigeonnier”**
*Preuilly-la-Ville*
www.gites-de-france.com
3 people.

**Wildlife information**
*Brenne’s wildlife visitor Centre*
02 54 28 11 04 (answer in English)
www.maison-nature-brenne.fr

**Tourist information**
*Tourism Office of le Blanc*
www.tourisme-leblanc.fr

*Parc visitor Centre, Rosnay*
02 54 28 12 13 - www.parc-naturel-brenne.fr
The Brenne Parc naturel régional, one of France’s 51 Parcs naturels régionaux

Parc naturel régional de Brière
www.parc-naturel-briere.fr

Parc naturel régional de la Brenne
www.parc-naturel-brenne.fr

Parc naturel regional de Camargue
www.parc-camargue.fr

Parc naturel régional de la Forêt d’Orient
www.pnr-foret-orient.fr

Parc naturel régional du Haut-Languedoc
www.parc-haut-languedoc.fr

Parc naturel régional du Marais du Cotentin et du Bessin
www.parc-cotentin-bessin.fr

Parc naturel régional du Perche
www.parc-naturel-perche.fr

Nature information center
(Maison de la nature et de la Réserve)
Saint-Michel-en-Brenne
Tel 00 33 (0)2 54 28 11 04 (Tony Williams, leave a message in English, he will call you back).
www.maison-nature-brenne.fr

Parc naturel régional de la Brenne
Le Bouchet - 36300 Rosnay
Tel. 00 33 (0)2 54 28 12 13
tourisme@parc-naturel-brenne.fr
www.parc-naturel-brenne.fr

How to get the Brenne
Airport : Tours (75 minutes drive) or Poitiers (60 minutes drive) and car hire.
Railway station : Tours or Poitiers and car hire.
By road : A 20 toll-free motorway exit 13.1 or 17.

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