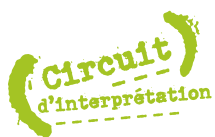


# THE CLAY PIT PATH



→ SITUATION : Cambes, 10 kms from Figeac via the D813

→ START POINT: Interpretation path car park (alongside the D48 Cambes-Reyrevignes road, 3 kms from Cambes)

GPS Coordinates : : N 44.631651° E 1.933929°

DURATION : 2hrs

LENGTH : 2.3 kms

WAYMARKING : Yellow

PATH MASCOT : The yellow-bellied toad

PARTICULAR EQUIPMENT :

Heritage interpretation information boards



The Puy-Blanc site provides a fascinating heritage path. This interpretation walk made up of 8 informative sections provides the key to understanding the Man-Nature link so characteristic of this site. The Yellow-bellied toad, star of the site, guides visitors on the clay trail. Indeed, Puy-Blanc conserves a healthy population of this little toad, which is particularly under threat because its natural habitats - ponds and small bodies of water - are becoming increasingly rare.

① From the car park, take the path along beside the D road. After 300m, take a clay path to the left, winding between woods and heathland, up to the landscape viewing table.

① Go back a little way, and take the path which goes to the left. Continue straight on and descend the wooden steps where the clay was removed. You then follow a former extraction ditch at the bottom of the old pit. Come to a junction with another path, take this to the right and go up as far as the tile-factory information board.

② The Puy-Blanc tile factory stands in front of you : you are looking at two centuries of industrial history. Turn around and continue along the path which goes down to your right. This follows the former track used to transport the clay to the factory. You come to the information board about

clays : you can see outcrops of black clays.

Continue along the path to get to the the two ponds where two information boards will plunge you into the life of this eco-system.

③ At the end of the ponds, take the path to the left going up towards the observation hide. Retrace your steps, and continue to the left up to the information board on amphibians. Continue straight ahead and enter the woods to return to the car park.

To complete your visit to Puy-Blanc, you can follow the Puy-Blanc path. 6 kms in length, starting from the tile factory, (yellow waymarking), this path guides you through 9 sections dealing with the features of the landscape.

## A SITE INFLUENCED BY MAN AND NATURE

Transformed by Man during a century of industrial activity, this area of clay of about thirty or so hectares was previously constituted of a wooded area, arable fields and pastures. The closing of the Puy-Blanc tile factory and the ending of excavation of the clay pit allowed an exceptional landscape to take shape, consisting of a humid zone, a wood, and two ponds bordered with reed beds. The site has thus become an area with a wide variety of natural habitats and species, some of which are protected.

*This path has been set up by the Causse du Quercy Regional Natural Park, the commune of Cambes and local associations in 2016. It is integrated into the network of Park GeoSites, to be found on [www.parc-causses-du-quercy.fr](http://www.parc-causses-du-quercy.fr)*



“ Let yourself be guided along to explore the rich industrial past of the Puy-Blanc mechanical tile factory which fashioned the landscape and natural habitats of this site. ”

### TO SEE IN THE AREA...

• Figeac : Town of Art and History, Champollion Museum - The Writing Systems of the World

→ FOOD SHOPS/ RESTAURANTS ETC Cambes and Camboulit

→ INFORMATION Pays de Figeac Tourist Office 05 65 34 06 25

