

## ADVICE



BRING A PAIR OF BINOCULARS



AVOID PICKING  
AND TRAMPLING VEGETATION



STAY ON THE PATHS



DOGS ALLOWED ON A LEASH



DO NOT LEAVE WASTE



MOTOR VEHICLE PROHIBITED

IMPRIM'VERT®

PEFC® 10-31-1519



worldRE® - © P. Calas, Couradin, H. Comte, N. Durrieu, O. Maynard.  
Imprimé sur du papier certifié PEFC - 05/2023.

## THE SEASHORE

At the junction of land and sea, the beach is a favourite place for nature lovers. Terns, seagulls and Gravelots come to nest on this place surrounded by abundant sources of food.

## THE DUNES

This fragile natural environment, in perpetual evolution, is characterised by a significant botanical richness that contributes to its structure. The vegetation, which is subject to wind and sea spray, is highly specialised: dune oyat, sea alfalfa, blue thistle, sea lily, sea arroche, dune immortelle, etc.



## THE "SANSOÛRE"

The sansouïre is an environment very rich in salt, which can be flooded for part of the year. The vegetation is not very diversified and is dominated by saltbush and soda. The little egret can be observed all year round.

## REEDBEDS

The reed bed is a freshwater environment, poor in plant species, providing a shelter for many birds. The wild fauna mixes with domestic animals (bulls, sheep, horses) grazing nearby.



## SALT GRASSLANDS AND AGRICULTURE

These areas, which are partially drained for agricultural purposes, show a varied and green vegetation due to the presence of freshwater streams. Grazing activities allow the maintenance of the grasslands.

## WATER PURIFICATION

This artificial lagoon acts as a natural wastewater purifier. Rich in nutrients, it is a feeding area for many birds (ducks, waders).



## THE ASTIAN AQUIFER

This deep groundwater table allows many uses in the area. Its quality is ensured by coordinated management and action on the ground.



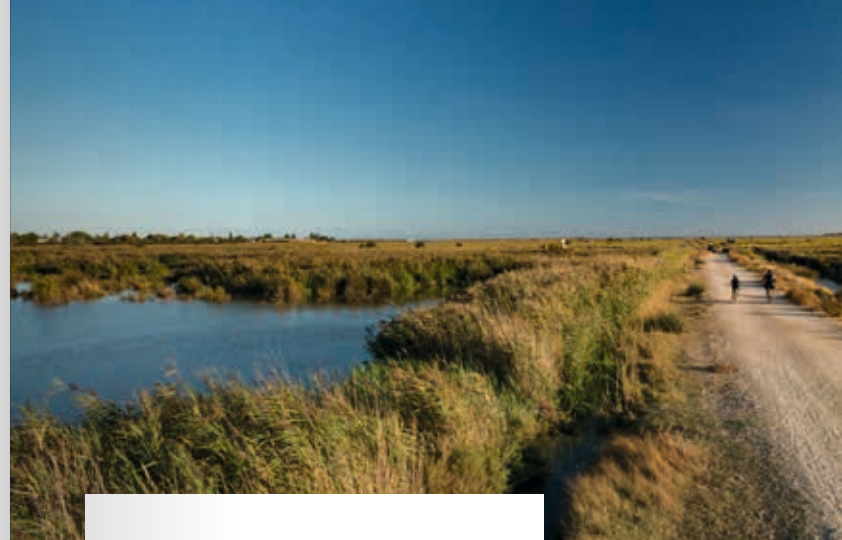
## THE "RIVIÉRETTE"

This small lagoon is connected to the Grande Maïre by canals. This environment is teeming with life (birds, aquatic fauna) and is a privileged area for hunting.

### Follow the guide!

Guided tour with a  
coast guard every  
Wednesday in July  
and August at 6pm.

Information  
and booking:  
04 67 90 92 51



## NATURE TRAILS IN PORTIRAGNES

NATURE AND HERITAGE GUIDE

CAP D'AGDE  
MÉDITERRANÉE



TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE  
Cap d'Agde Méditerranée  
Bulle d'accueil  
Impasse de la Bienvenue  
BP 544 - F-34305 Le Cap d'Agde cedex  
Tél. : +33 (0)4 67 01 04 04  
contact@capdagde.com

TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICE  
Portiragnes-Plage  
Place du Bicentenaire  
34420 Portiragnes  
Tél. : +33 (0)4 67 90 92 51  
portiragnesplage@capdagde.com

capdagde.com



CAP D'AGDE  
MÉDITERRANÉE

Explore  
France

Occitanie  
Sud de France

Tourisme  
Hérault

L'AGGLO  
HERAULT MÉDITERRANÉE

EN

Grande Maïre  
Site Natura 2000





## FAUNA AND FLORA OF "LA MAÏRE"

This vast wetland area is designated a Natura 2000 site (European network of protected natural areas). It is home to many remarkable plant (Spanish iris) and animal species (red-necked gravelot). It is a migratory stopover for many birds and an important fishing area.

In Portiragnes, between the sea and the Canal du Midi, lies the Grande Maïre site, a complex ecosystem composed of a mosaic of environments: dunes, lagoons, sansouïre, reed beds and salt meadows. This area, forged by thousands of years of natural and human history, reflects subtle changes in altitude, salinity and submersion. Three signposted itineraries are available from Portiragnes-Plage or Portiragnes Village.

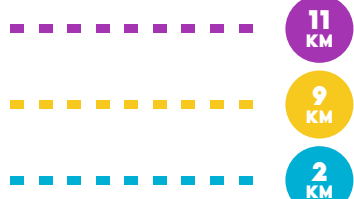


## THE "GRANDE MAÏRE"

The lagoon of the former Orb delta is intensely biologically active, due to the sunshine, the mild water temperature, the oxygen provided by the plants, the shallow depth and the large amount of nutrients present. It is 100 times more productive than the sea but much less diverse.

## THE MIDI CANAL

This World Heritage landscape plays an important role in the hydraulic functioning of the area of the area, by ensuring flood regulation. The fauna and the flora are similar to those of the river banks. Port Cassafières, the river port of Portiragnes, is a nice starting point to sail on the Canal (rental, walk).



Each route is marked out with information panels presenting the richness of the fauna and flora of the sector, all the human activities that take place there, as well as the management of water on the site. The aim of these paths is to help you discover an exceptional site, which bears witness to the ecological richness of the Mediterranean coastline.

Enjoy your visit and be curious!



Follow the guide! on your smartphone

Flash this code and go for a walk on the 11 km trail (in French).

