

*My* **GPS...** *made of paper*

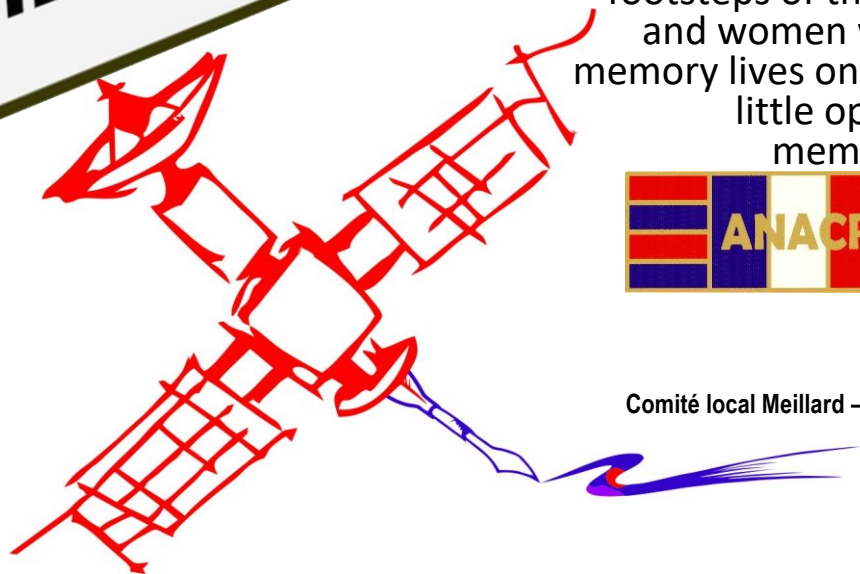


*the  
roadmap*

guides you along our  
"Itinerary of  
Resistance" in the  
heart of the Bocage  
Bourbonnais...  
Set out to discover  
and follow in the  
footsteps of the men  
and women whose  
memory lives on in our  
little open-air  
memorial...



Comité local Meillard – Le Montet



The Resistance itinerary will lead you into to the heart of the Bocage Bourbonnais throughout its 14 stops, illustrating the facts of the Resistance, the journeys of the men and women who risked their lives and places of memory where the history of the Resistance still resonates with us today.

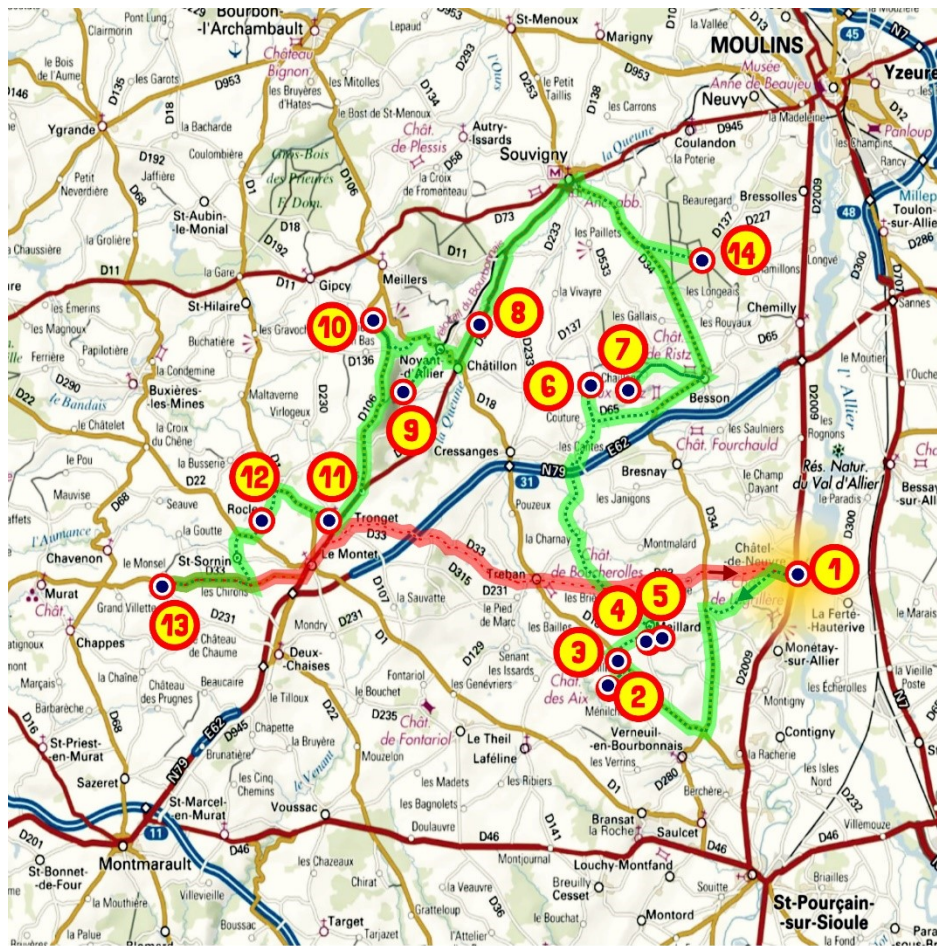
Each place can be approached separately. However, the stops indicated along the route are linked to the original project which was to intersect at Châtel de Neuvre with

another Resistance route that joined Mont Mouchet to the Mal-Coiffée in Moulins...

The Resistance Memory routes also follow the chronology of key moments of the conflict in its evolution.

Enjoy your journey through our memorial heritage, which will take you past many other treasures and curiosities of our region.

Meet at n°1 in Châtel de Neuvre, Place de l'église, facing the panorama of the Allier valley...



1. Le pont de l'Allier – Châtel de Neuvre
2. Stèle de la Pièce Plate – Les Champs MEILLARD
3. Stèle de Chapillière – MEILLARD
4. Monument aux Morts – Cimetière – MEILLARD
5. Plaque des Déportés – Mairie – MEILLARD
6. Stèle du Parc – CRESSANGES
7. Stèle de la Vivère – BESSON
8. Stèle du Rocher Noir – CHATILLON
9. Tunnel ferroviaire des Cerisiers – NOYANT d'ALLIER
10. Ferme de Villars – NOYANT d'ALLIER
11. Stèle de la Croix Saint-Joseph – TRONGET
12. Monument aux Morts – ROCLES
13. Stèle du Montcel – SAINT-SORNIN
14. Monument de Moladier - BESSON

# 1.

From Châtel de Neuve at the Place de l'Eglise, there is a panoramic view of the valley and the Allier bridge which was destroyed by the retreating French army during the German advance in June 1940. The bridge was rebuilt in 1947 with metal sections of the temporary 'mulberry' artificial harbour which had been used by the Allies at Arromanches during the D-Day landings in Normandy.



Leave the square in front of the church of Saint Laurent to join the **D2009**.

➡ Turn right towards Moulins.

⬅ In the center of the village turn left onto the **D33** towards Treban.

⬅ After 800m at the crossroads, turn left onto the **D217** towards Meillard for 3.6 km.

⬅ At the crossroads "des 5 routes", take the 3rd left, **D34** and follow it for 4.5 km.

➡ Turn right onto the **D18** towards Treban for 4 km

⬅ Turn left towards the village of Les Champs

## 2.

The Pièce Plate memorial is located in the Douzenan valley in a clearing in the woods, approximately 1.5km below the small hamlet. It is only accessible once a year during the commemorative ceremonies on the second Sunday in May.



← Retrace your steps to the **D18** and turn left towards Treban for 400 m.

## 3.

The roadside marker on your left is dedicated to the memory of Camp Hoche and the mobile Daniele Casanova camp.



→ Continue on the **D18** for about 400m and turn right towards Meillard.

→ At the entrance to the village of Meillard on the right, stop at the cemetery.

## 4.

In the center of the cemetery you will discover the Monument aux Morts. There are two plaques affixed to it: one in memory of the deportees who died for France and another castigating the criminals of war.



➡ At the exit of the cemetery, continue to the center of the village, to the Town Hall (the 'Mairie') which is located on your left.

## 5.

At the Town Hall, under the edge of the roof at the top left, you can see the plaque honouring the memory of the deportees who died for France.



Make a U-turn and at the crossroads turn right onto the D517 for 2.3km

↩ Turn left onto the **D33** for 150m

➡ Turn right towards Les Haras for 2km

➡ Turn right onto the **D129** towards La Charnay and continue left for 3.5km to Les Rousseaux.

➡ Turn right onto the **D291** for 150m

↩ Turn left at Les Cantes onto the **D129** and turn right towards Les Cormiers

Follow the **D129** to the Vernasseaux crossroads; cross the **D65** and continue on the **D129** for 1.3km.

## 6.

The Parc memorial is located at the junction of the road leading to the Parc farm on the left. It honours the memory of Marc Bonnot who fell in battle on 18 July 1944 during the attack on Camp Casanova by the GMR and the Pétain militia.



Go back. Retrace your steps and...

← Turn left onto the **D65** at the Vernasseaux crossroads towards Besson for 2.5 km.

← Turn left and follow the **D65** to the entrance of the village of Besson

← Turn left onto rue de la Montée, **D533** for 1.7 km.

Continue straight on towards Chante-Alouette, leaving the **D533** on the right.





← Turn left and cross the hamlet of Les Chaillons to reach La Vivère.

# 7.

The marker is dedicated to the memory of Roger BELLIEN, who was killed in action on 18 July, 1944 during an attack on Camp Casanova by the GMR and Pétain's militia. This memorial is situated on the bend in the road leading to the Guiorche farm.



Retrace your steps to Les Cherreux.


-  Turn left onto the **D533** for 250 m
-  Turn right at the Croix Peloux for 1.5 km and join the **D34**
-  Turn left onto the **D34** towards Souvigny for 4 km
-  At the crossroads, turn right onto the **D137** and enter the Moladier forest as far as the roundabout, 2.5 km away.


# 14.

Our latest creation... This monument was erected in memory of Camp Casanova and celebrates the creation of the maquis on 6 June, 1944 on the initiative of Jean Ameurlain.



Retrace your steps on the **D137** to leave the forest in the direction of Souvigny.

 Turn right onto the **D34** towards Souvigny for 4 km.

 Turn left onto the **D945** to go through the village of Souvigny.


Follow the D945, turning left at the end of the village towards Chatillon for 6km.


# 8.


The Rocher Noir memorial is on your left at the end of a bend, where the maquisards of Camp Casanova had ambushed a column of the German army heading towards Moulins.



Continue on the **D945** to Châtillon.

 Turn right onto the **D18** towards Noyant-d'Allier.

 Turn left on the village square following the **D18**.

 Turn left after the level crossing and take the Chemin de Valtanges for 2.5km to the hamlet of Les Cerisiers



## 9.

Here the uphill path bends to the left to pass over the Cerisiers railway tunnel. Access to the tunnel is currently blocked by vegetation and the passage over private land means that it is not yet possible. Nevertheless, there are many traces of the derailments following the sabotage carried out by the Résistants of Camp Casanova.



Retrace your steps to Noyant station.

↩ Turn left towards Meillers and follow the **D18** for 1.4km.

↩ Turn left onto the **D136** at Les Croisiers, towards Saint-Hilaire for 1.3 km.

↪ Turn right onto the **D106** towards Meillers for 700m.

## 10.

This monument was erected in memory of the Resistance fighters of the Villechenon Group who were stationed at Villars Farm in early July, 1944. The attack by the militia and the GMR on 18 July did not cause any casualties among the maquisards who managed to escape. However, the attackers murdered a man from the farm before setting it on fire and leaving with four prisoners.



Follow the road back towards Tronget on the **D106** for 6km.

↪ Turn right onto the **D945** to the village of Tronget.


↪ At the crossroads in the center of the village of Tronget turn right onto the **D107** towards Saint-Hilaire.

# 11.

The Saint-Joseph Cross marker was erected in memory of Louis LANUSSE, at the exit of the village of Tronget, located at the junction of the D107 heading towards Saint-Hilaire and the D230 in the direction of Gipcy LANUSSE was a young Resistance fighter who was murdered by the Germans on 18 June 1944.



Continue the **D107** to La Pise.


 Turn left across the **D1** to reach the village of Rocles


# 12.

On the village square, in the heart of the village of Rocles, the War Memorial is surmounted by the bust of a child pointing at the visitor to deliver his pacifist message: "Let's learn to eliminate war".




Leave the village of Rocles and follow the **D297** for 900m.

 Turn right onto the **D22** towards Cosne d'Allier for 500m

 Turn left towards Saint-Sornin.

Go through the village of Saint-Sornin and continue on the **D297** to the Cemins crossroads.

 Turn right onto the **D33** towards Villefranche d'Allier for 3.5 km

# 13.

The Montcel memorial is on your left opposite the Chemin du Montcel. It was near here that on 27 July 1944, German soldiers shot two young resistance fighters rounded up the day before in the village of Deneuille les Mines. Miraculously, one of the two, left for dead, survived his wounds...



You are now at the end of your journey along the Bocage Bourbonnais Resistance Route!  
You can reach your starting point directly by turning back towards the village of Le Montet, via Tronget and Treban to Châtel de Neuve.

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