The natural wonders of Bout du Lac d’Annecy

Réserve Naturelle du Bout du Lac - Doussard

(Franck Miramand)

A family-friendly educational trail to discover the flora and fauna of Le bout du Lac.

A delightful walk through the marshes of the nature reserve at the Bout du lac d'Annecy. You'll pass through an alluvial forest, a humid meadow and reed beds on a discovery trail built on wooden stilts. And don't forget your binoculars if you want to observe nesting birds or wintering ducks.

Useful information

Practice : Summer hike

Duration : 1 h

Length : 3.0 km

Trek ascent : 10 m

Difficulty : Very easy

Type : Boucle

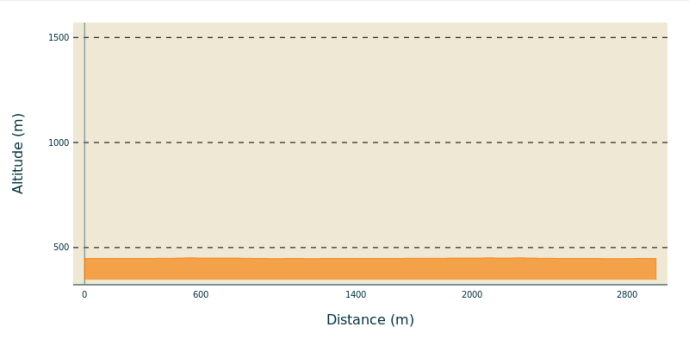
Themes : Fauna, Flora, FALC - Facile à lire et à comprendre, Montagne sans voiture, Point de vue

Accessibility : Fauteuil roulant, Poussette, Joelette

Trek

Departure : Parking « plage de Doussard »
Arrival : Parking Plage de Doussard
Cities : 1. Doussard

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 447 m Max elevation 451 m

Cross the beach and follow the path. Take the pontoon and continue along the path as far as the River Ire footbridge. After the footbridge, turn left onto the broad track. Continue along the boardwalk between the reed beds as far as the beaver observation point. Continue on the path alongside the river (Eau morte). Turn right onto the wooden stilts. Cross the main path to the footbridge and retrace your steps.

On your path...

- Wet meadows (A)
- The Common Kingfisher (B)
- The Goosander (C)
- Reedbeds (D)
- Lake of Annecy birds (E)
- Signs of the beaver presence (F)
- Invasive non-native plants (G)
- The Common Chub (H)

All useful information

Animaux non acceptés

Les chiens sont interdits en cœur des parcs nationaux et dans la plupart des réserves naturelles. La divagation des chiens a un impact et des conséquences lourdes pour la faune sauvage et les troupeaux. Les chiens perturbent la biodiversité par leur odeur, leur présence et l'impact de leurs déjections. Ils peuvent transmettre des germes, stresser la faune sauvage ou encore détruire des couvées au sol.

Advices

Please note that no dogs are allowed in the reserve, even on a leash. Bicycles and scooters are prohibited (noise hazard for wildlife). Accessible path for wheelchairs and pushchairs only as far as the Castor lookout.

How to come ?

Transports

BY BUS : From Annecy: Intercity line 51 From Talloires: Route 61 Further information: www.philibert-transport.fr Free summer shuttle service From Doussard: LS and Faverges: LV From Annecy: L1 and L2 Information: mobil-ete.grandannecy.fr 2.13.0.0 2.13.0.0 2.13.0.0 2.13.0.0 2.13.0.0 2.13.0.0

Access

Access via the cycling route around Lake Annecy. Bicycle shed at the Doussard beach car park. Follow the lake along the RD 1508, turn left at the Douss'plage sign. Paid parking from May to September: from 01/05 to 30/09 at €0.70 for the first half-hour, then €1.20 per hour, with a fixed fee of €15 for 8 hours and a season ticket of €61 for the whole period.

Advised parking

Parking Plage de Doussard

Accessibility

Fauteuil roulant Poussette Joelette

Environmental sensitive areas

Along your trek, you will go through sensitive areas related to the presence of a specific species or environment. In these areas, an appropriate behaviour allows to contribute to their preservation. For detailed information, specific forms are accessible for each area.

Réserve naturelle nationale du Bout du Lac d'Annecy

Sensitivity period:

Contact: **Asters - Conservatoire d'espaces naturels de Haute-Savoie**
contact@cen-haute-savoie.org

La Réserve Naturelle du bout du lac est un espace naturel protégé. Merci de respecter la réglementation :
Pensez à rester sur les sentiers.

On your path...

Wet meadows (A)

A natural environment home to typical marsh species: - lysimachia with its lovely yellow flowers (same family as primroses) - purple loosestrife, with its clusters of pink flowers - meadowsweet, known for its medicinal properties - water mint, with its very pleasant scent Of course, these environments are home to many other plant species, including orchids such as the Marsh Helleborine and the Marsh Orchid (Anacamptins palustris). Photo: Lysimachia - loosestrife - meadowsweet - water mint - marsh helleborine - marsh orchid

The Common Kingfisher (B)

Look out on the perches by the water and you might just spot a kingfisher, a beautiful, vibrantly-coloured bird. It is an unrivalled fisherman, always on the lookout for small fish. It dives like a torpedo deep into the water to catch fish to nourish itself. Often all you can see is the turquoise glint of its feathers as it glides like lightning onto its next feeding ground.

Attribution : Laurent Théophile

The Goosander (C)

Can you recognise at a glance which is the female? The female goosander has a brown head and a grey and white body, while the male has a dark green head and a black and white body. The goosander is not a duck but a fish-eating aquatic bird. It is an iconic species in Haute-Savoie, as it breeds in only 5 provinces in France. It is a good diver and it nests in cavities, such as old tree trunks.

Reedbeds (D)

Reedbeds represent a vibrant and fertile environment, providing refuge for many species of fish. They are also ideal nesting grounds for numerous passerines, such as the verderolle and effarvatte warbler. Maintaining these fragile environments requires a natural tidal range (variation in the water level of the lake) throughout the seasons.

Attribution : Illustration Jean-Luc Fouquer

Lake of Annecy birds (E)

This medieval tower is an ideal vantage point for observing water birds. Great crested grebe, goosander, common coot, heron - many species enjoy the calm of the aquatic reeds and take refuge there. Wintering ducks such as the ruddy duck, the tufted duck and the common pochard overwinter at the mouths of the Ire and the Eau Mort rivers.

Attribution : Fuligule Morillon - JL Fouquer

Signs of the beaver presence (F)

The beaver uses wood to build its burrow-lodge and eats leaves and tree bark. Have a look around you at all the willow trunks that have been gnawed by beavers. This animal, which was reintroduced to the lake in 1972, now inhabits Lake Annecy from north to south, all the way to the Giez marshes.

Invasive non-native plants (G)

Solidago, butterfly bush, Japanese knotweed, Himalayan balsam, all these garden escapees are causing problems today because they are displacing our wild plants. These are aggressive plants that compete with other species, upsetting the local ecological balance. The Conservatoire d'espaces naturels de Haute-Savoie, which manages the nature reserve, regularly calls on volunteers to uproot these invasive plants in order to preserve the local vegetation.

Attribution : @MalorieParchet

The Common Chub (H)

The common chub is a freshwater fish that generally stays at the surface of the water in summer and takes shelter at the bottom when the weather turns cold. Young chubs tend to be social and live in shoals, while adults are more solitary. They always seem to have an empty stomach and are always on the lookout for any food the river may bring.

Attribution : JL Fouquer