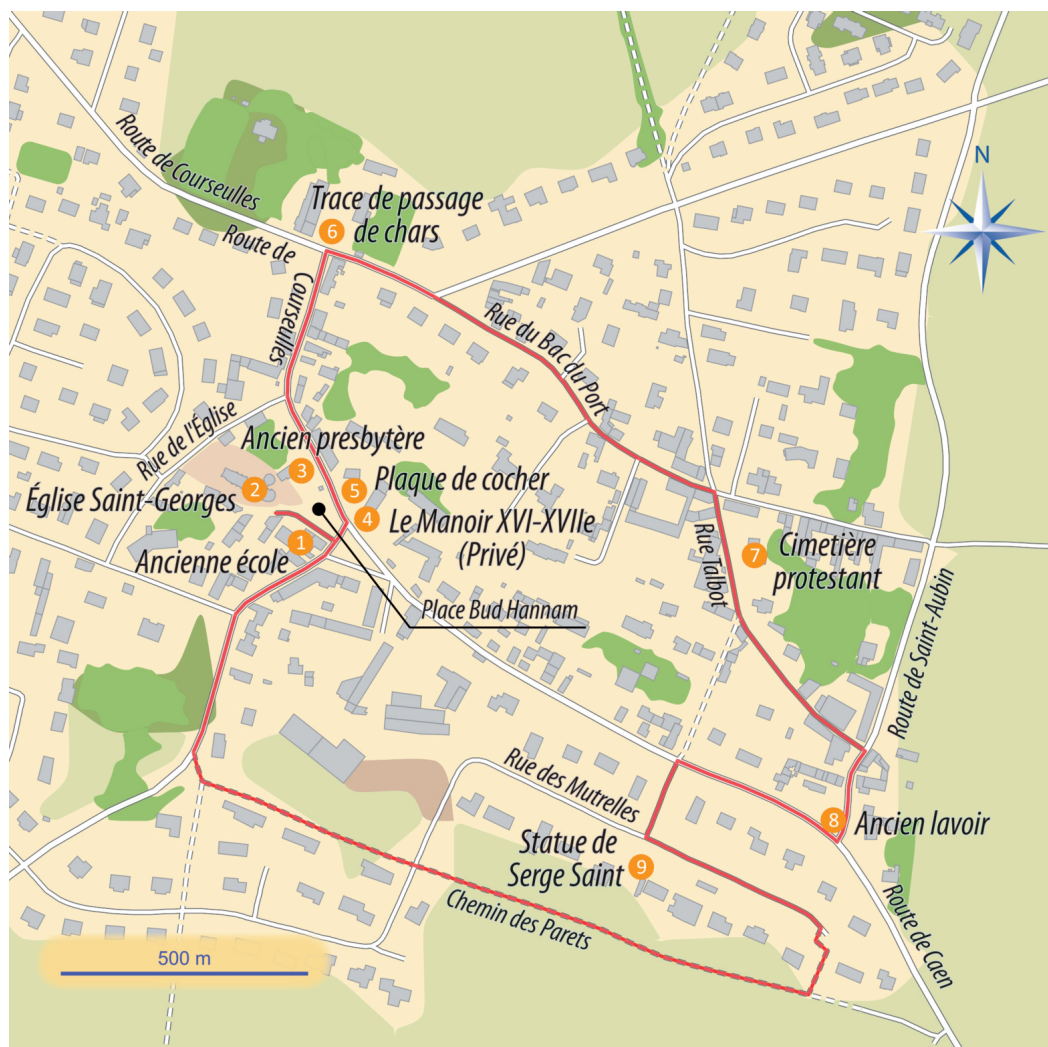


CIRCUIT DÉCOUVERTE BASLY

2 km
1h



Not to be confused with Bali, the southern island of Indonesia!



> START

Place Bud Hannam in front of the church. Head towards the church. Stop before the entrance to the cemetery

1 Former school (now the village library)

On 6 June 1944, Bud Hannam, a Canadian medic with the Régiment de la Chaudière, then aged 19, went to look after soldiers and civilians at a school in Basly that had been transformed into a military hospital. He remained there for the whole summer. Turned into a library, the former school has also borne his name since 5 June 2010. .

2 Church of Saint Georges

Originally, it was a dependency of the Abbey of Saint Wandrille, owned by the Benedictine monks. It has a typical Romanesque bell tower porch from the 12th century. The building's choir houses a priceless wooden Christ from the 13th century. The bell tower, which was destroyed by bombing on 6 June 1944, was shortened by two metres during its reconstruction. (Open every 1st Sunday of the month from 10:00am to 5:00pm).



Church of Saint Georges | Photo : M. Lelandais

3 Former rectory and its garden (town hall)

In the garden, there is a statue by Serge Saint*. After a difficult period in his life, this artist settled in Basly. Self-taught, he threw himself into sculpture, promptly expressing beauty (The Boxwood Hand), but also suffering (The Headless Bust, The Weeping Head, The Hollow Stone Head).

**The Serge Saint Sculptor Route will allow you to discover quite a few of his works:
routes-serge-saint-sculpteur.net*





Nice stone house in Caen | Photo : C. Marcello

Leaving the town hall, turn left and cross route de Courseulles.

4 The manor 16th-17th century | No. 2 – private

Originally, this building was probably the old farmhouse attached to the Basly château, which was burned down during the Revolution. At the beginning of the 19th century, when the château was reconstructed, the farmhouse was surrounded by outbuildings. The manor-farmhouse is without a doubt one of the oldest buildings in Basly. The farmhouse could have been a wing of the old château.

5 Plaque de cocher | No. 2

These 19th century relics of local history were placed high up so that they could be seen by coachmen travelling on major communication routes, and are called plaques de cocher (coachmen's plaques).

Continue on route de Courseulles as far as the crossroads.



Work by Serge Saint | Photo : B. Heize / C. Hudson

6 Traces of a tank (below the gable of the house) | No. 14 – private

This charming village of old buildings still carries scars from the major events that occurred here in 1944. The Allied Canadian soldiers arrived on 6 June in the early afternoon. After several battles, Basly was liberated in the afternoon. 15 German soldiers were made prisoners. On number 14 route de Courseulles, you can still see traces of a tank that damaged the wall while manoeuvring.

Go down rue du Bac du Port and turn right on to rue Talbot. At the parking lot, head towards the wooden door and open it.

7 Protestant cemetery

The village's history was marked by the arrival of Swiss Calvinist evangelists. The presence of Protestantism was responsible for the construction of a church in 1685, which was destroyed shortly after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. The coexistence of the two religions caused division in the population over the centuries. An old Protestant cemetery containing several graves is situated at this local heritage site.

Continue as far as route de Saint-Aubin. Turn right.

8 Former wash-house erected over a pond

This pond is home to the midwife toad (Alytes). This is a small terrestrial toad that lives near water, generally in small, more or less scattered colonies.

Turn right on to route de Caen and go as far as rue des Mutrelles.

9 Statue by Serge Saint

Go up rue des Mutrelles as far as the square, cross it and take the road to the right. Turn right on to chemin des Parets and continue as far as the road. Continue to your right and return to Bud Hannam square.



Protestant cemetery | Photo : A. Perez-Nedelec

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