

CIRCUIT DÉCOUVERTE SAINT-AUBIN-SUR-MER

The charming asset

📍 3 km

🕒 1h



> START

Brèche des Acadiens.

1 Nature reserve of the Cap Romain cliff

The Cap Romain owes its name to the traces of Roman and Gallo-Roman occupation discovered at its summit. The cliff which is 6 to 7 metres high stretches over about 500 m, almost the length of the two beaches of Bernières-sur-Mer and Saint-Aubin-sur-Mer. It is a real geological open-air museum, natural erosion having revealed an exceptional fossil sponge reef, a very rare reference section from the Jurassic age, as well as quaternary deposits, evidence of the last glacial period.



Cap Romain | Photo : N. Papouin

Walk up towards the road and cross the car park.

2 50 mm anti-tank gun in casemate
A German fortification, remains of the Atlantic Wall (strongholds equipped with one or more guns and small concrete bunkers) built during the Second World War. This gun was pointed towards the south in the direction of the road, and not towards the beach, it thus covered both ends of the shore.

From the gun, go back down towards rue des Bains, at No. 9 turn right towards rue Canet.
Continue as far as rue Abbé Bossard.

3 Church

This is a 19th century neo-Gothic church. By royal order of 1831, the hamlet of Saint-Aubin was given a vicarial chapel. It was not completely detached from the parish of Langrune until 1843 at the time of appointing its first priest. However, the building of the current church from 1850 is owed to Abbot Bossard.

Follow avenue de la Marne as far as place de la Gare.

4 Old railway station

It is situated on the single track from Caen to the sea, in the direction of Courseulles-sur-Mer. The first train from Paris to Caen arrived on 18 November 1855. The only means of transport to reach the sea at this time was a kind of cabriolet « the patache of Mr Cabieux ». Railway equipment quickly followed, in 1885 passengers from Paris were able to buy their ticket for Saint-Aubin-sur-Mer and above all not have to change train between Saint-Lazare and the station. The line was completely removed in 1951.

Go down avenue Georges Pépineaux, turn left and then right into rue Bon Pierre (after rue Gambetta).

Passageways and alleyways

Narrow streets typical of the architecture of Saint-Aubin-sur-Mer can be found between the town's parcels of land with enclosed gardens. They are part of fishermen's traditional houses, the walls which surround them enabling the fishing nets to stretch from one garden to another. Original features of the commune, they all lead directly to the sea.



5 Rue Bon-Pierre

Rue Bon Pierre or rue du Bon-Pierre, recalls Baptiste Lepoëtre, known as Bon-Pierre, who was a sailmaker in 1855.

Return to the seafront walkway or Boulevard Léon Favreau.

6 Posts on the beach

In the middle of the 19th century, the majority of bathing enthusiasts did not know how to swim; when the waves were strong, bathers hung on to a rope held between two posts that can still be seen on the beach.

7 Villa la Loggia

Many villas were built in Saint-Aubin-sur-Mer in the 19th century such as Villa la Loggia. This Belle Époque residence built in 1902 was designed in an Art nouveau style by the architect A. Aumasson. It used to welcome tourists and people taking spa treatments of Parisian high society who came to spend time away from the bustle of the capital. There are not many villas from the end of the 19th century that remain in their original state after the D-Day Landings.



Villa La Loggia | Photo: F. Dupont

From the seafront walkway, walk back up towards rue Pasteur, cross it and follow rue Dupuy, passage du centre and rue Aumont.

8 Typical alleyways

Rue Dupuy is one of the narrowest and most quirky. Passage du centre and rue Aumont bear the name of an old family.

At the corner of rue Aumont and rue Pasteur.

9 La Halle

Opened in 1926, this old covered market was built by the architect A. Aumasson. It was run for more than thirty years. Recently renovated, it now hosts temporary exhibitions.

To return by the sea, follow the seafront walkway as far as place du Général de Gaulle.

10 Sculpture de la Paix

European street of sculptures dedicated to peace built across Europe thanks to an association « La Voie de la Paix ». It is a sign of peace and fraternity between countries. The original idea came from Otto Freundlich, a German sculptor and painter (1878/1943) that was then continued by the sculpter Léo Kornbrust.

Continue as far as Pasteur Bridge.



50 mm anti-tank gun in casemate I
Photo: A. Perez-Nedelec



Rue Aumont | Photo: M. Lelandaïs

11 Pasteur Bridge

Its construction was voted for in 1893 in order to connect the two sections of the walkway cut off from each other by a hole.

Go down the stairs. You are now in la Fosse aux chats, or, in the local dialect « la fosse é cats », which was the meeting place for all the local cats.

12 Casino

Designed by the architect Vanier, it was opened in the 1920s. Its façade is characteristic of the period before the war.

Cross Parc Pillier and stop near Calvaire square Abbé Halley.

13 Chapel-oratory

Inside there is an altar on which stands the Madonna and Child and an ex-voto.

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Books on the commune on sale in our tourist office in Saint-Aubin-sur-Mer.

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Guided tours are regularly organised. More information in our events calendar.



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