

NEWS RELEASE



Bagnoles de L'Orne set to become the largest waymarked area in France

The spa town of Bagnoles de l'Orne, in [Orne in Normandy](#) - a wellness destination known for its thermal baths, belle epoch architecture, casino and lake - is set to increase the number of waymarked routes to 70 in 2024, making the area the largest trail network in France mapped by the [On Piste](#) network.



There has been a year-on-year rise in the number of active visitors to the town who are seeking to enjoy trail running, mountain biking, Nordic walking or simply ambling along through the pristine forest, imbibing the pure air and reconnecting with nature.

On Piste is a network of permanent waymarked routes developed by Rossignol as a practical way of discovering local paths when travelling to a new destination. The app is free to download and routes emanating from Bagnoles de l'Orne are open to all those who enjoy running, cycling, and walking.

The level of difficulty is categorised by colour as used on ski runs in France: visitors can explore trails ranging from easy Green (5km) walks to more challenging Black paths (60km) with something to suit all age and abilities. The routes take walkers and cyclists through the pristine woodland and into the foothills of the oldest mountain in France, The Armorican massif, whose granite rock dates from 2 billion years ago.



The Armorican Massif offers a variety of undulating terrain which suits those looking for more challenging hikes and rides – in places, it is akin to being in the mountains. One route, departing from the medieval castle in the neighbouring village of Domfront, has a 500 altitude gain within just 10 kilometres of trail. The 30km red circuit of Champsecret extends takes adventure-lovers on a picturesque trail through the Andaines Forest and into the cider-making hamlet of Dompierre.

There is now an annual event, the Bagnoles Normandie Trail, which this year attracted over 700 participants in a range of races including a 100 km ultra-marathon, a 42km Nordic Walking Trail with an elevation gain of 900 metres, and a discovery trail of 8km.

Stay in the centre of town at the spa hotel Le Beryl, www.hotel-bagnoles.com with rooms overlooking the lake, an indoor pool, spa, fitness area and gourmet restaurant. Rooms from £100 per night (sleeps 2).

Orne in Normandy is just a short green hop from the UK by train, ferry, or flight. Brittany Ferries (www.brittanyferries.com or 0871 244 1400) offer returns to Caen or Cherbourg from £75pp for a car and two passengers.

For more information see www.orne-normandy-travel.co.uk

ENDS

For press information, contact: Fliss Hoad PR / + 44 (0) 7775 621780 / www.flisshoadpr.co.uk

High-res images are at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/qdgo2pi6aq58x0ooo50br/h?rlkey=ipv3eqzyfsbsllasmk46c70e8&dl=0>