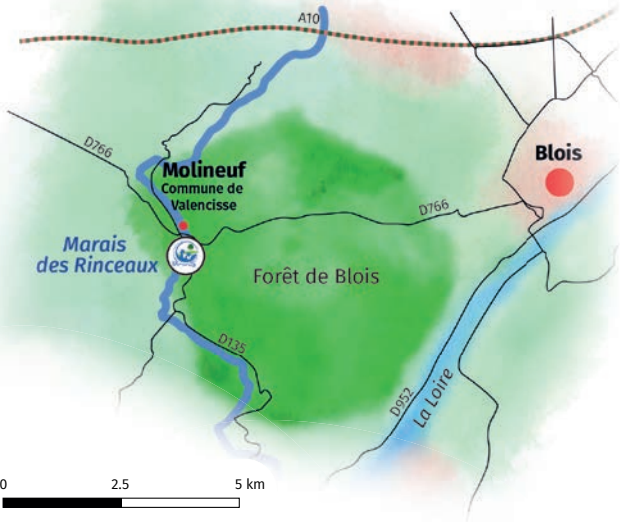


Location



Site information

- **Date of designation:** 2017
- **Administrator:** municipality of Valencisse & Loir-et-Cher Departmental Council
- **Owner:** municipality of Valencisse
- **Partners:** mixed Union of the Cisse Basin & Loir-et-Cher Nature
- **Total area:** 9 ha
- **Trail length:** 1 km



In the Past

Once, the landscape was largely made of grazing meadows. In the 1950s, poplar plantations and cultivated fields began to spread. This artificialization of soils peaked with the opening of an illegal landfill, which remained in use until the early 2000s. Starting in 2012, the Mixed union of the Cisse Basin and the local municipality launched a project to restore the wetland.

Today

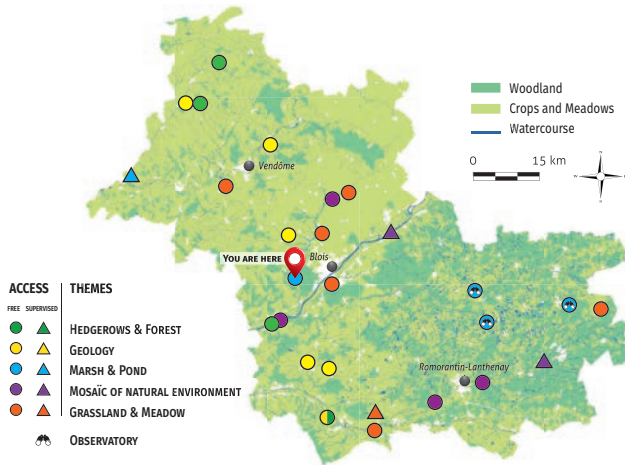
You are walking through a rich and diverse natural environment. The soil is irrigated by the Cisse River, which is artificially kept at a high level by a mill dam that slows its flow. To balance this, a bypass river was created, which you will discover on your walk. In 2018, a small wildlife passage was built under the departmental road to help amphibians migrate.

This site plays a key role in the life of the village, hosting annual art exhibitions, some of which you can see along your walk.



Sensitive Natural Areas (SNA) in Loir-et-Cher

These are natural sites open to the public where biodiversity is preserved. They have been labeled “sensitive” by the department. In Loir-et-Cher, these sites are generally managed by associations and local authorities, and receive financial and/or technical support from the department. Discover all SNA sites at [departement41.fr](http://departement41.fr).



Site regulations



Discover this site and immerse yourself in its colors, scents, and sounds. This natural area is a place for creating memories. Please respect fellow visitors, the site, and its inhabitants.

**Learn more about this SNA:** [www.observatoire-ens41.fr](http://www.observatoire-ens41.fr)  
**Contact:** [environnement@departement41.fr](mailto:environnement@departement41.fr)

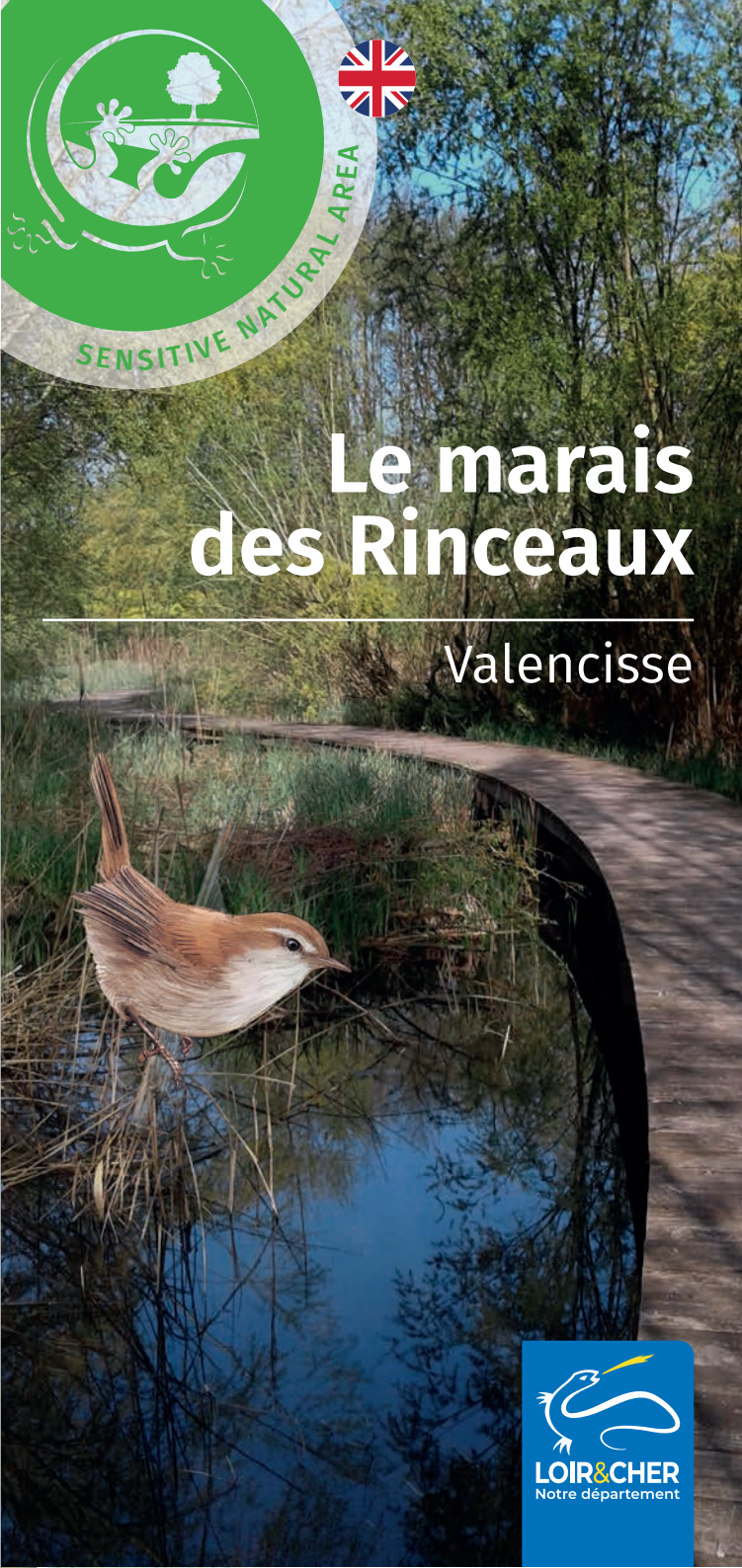


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Le marais des Rinceaux  
Valencisse



What to Look For

**1 The Yellow-Spotted Emerald Dragonfly.** Recorded for the first time in the Cisse Valley (Loir-et-Cher), you may spot it in summer, hunting over the reed beds.

**2 The Water Rail.** You might hear its loud, unexpected call from the dense wetland vegetation, especially in spring and early summer.

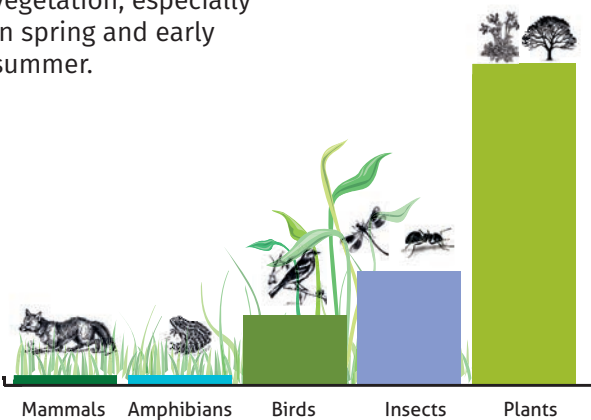


**3 The Common Frog.** This is the only non-forested breeding site of this species in the entire department. While it is difficult to see or hear, it might be watching you as it makes its way to the pond in late February.



**4 The Cetti's Warbler.** This small 14 cm bird was chosen as a mascot of the site and join you on your walk. While you're unlikely to spot it due to its shy nature, you'll certainly hear its loud and melodic song from March to November.

Thriving in damp thickets, the Cetti's Warbler finds an ideal refuge in the wooded and waterlogged environment of the marais des Rinceaux.



**Wildlife at the Site:** as of 2024, nearly 200 species have been recorded here, including five endangered ones.



With the **Guidigo** app, → the warbler will guide you through a mystery investigation in this protected natural area.





# How to explore this natural site?

The trail is designed for walking, with grassy paths and wooden walkways. There are three different access points to this natural area. Feel free to walk at your own pace and let the changing landscapes surprise you.



Take a five-minute break on the platform to look at the aquatic species in the foreground and stay alert for insects. In spring, you can see and hear the amphibians. Just a few steps from impressive outdoor artworks, you can walk along the wooden platform, but be ready for a surprise! The loud call of the Water Rail might startle you.



Your journey will likely start at the pond. Created in 2012, within months, it became a haven for sensitive species like amphibians (frogs, toads, newts) and insects such as dragonflies. You may also spot fish that arrive with the Cisse River's seasonal overflows.



Continue your walk through the damp woodlands, home to willows, Black Alder, and ash trees. Pause near the brambles—wait a few moments, and you'll witness nature coming back to life before your eyes.

Head north to reach the wet meadow, home to the Yellow Meadow-Rue, a plant protected by laws in France. Follow the trail leading toward the river.

Don't forget to walk the trail through the reed bed in the southern part of the site.

Explore the reedbed trail. Walk slowly, listen to the symphony of birds, and enjoy a moment of solitude in this wild yet peaceful landscape.

Walk alongside the river and imagine life as a fish! As you follow the current, you'll soon reach the bypass channel, where you'll have to decide—which path will you take next?

- Entrance
- View point
- Observatory
- Parking