

Security informations

Weather conditions

Website : www.meteo.nc – Voice assistant : 36 67 36
Weather forecast by fax : 36 67 37

In case of accident

- **Keep your calm**, don't panic.
- **Protect** : prevent any secondary accident ; take the group and the victim to safety.
- **Alert** : evaluate the situation. Describe the place : name of the path, nature of the ground (ridge, valley, undergrowth,...), number of the last seen milestone (paths and helipads are equipped with numbered milestones), hiking direction and, if possible, GPS coordinates. Wait for the instructions given by the rescue service.
- **Rescue** : provide first aid. In case of helicopter evacuation, make yourself visible.

Useful numbers (free)

15 SAMU (médical help) – **16** Maritime rescue service
17 Police – **18** Accident of fire
112 SOS all services

Opening hours Deva natural area

- From 6:30 am to 7:30 pm

Opening hours Deva information point

- From monday to sunday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

The access to the trails is free and unsupervised. Users hike them on their own responsibility or that of their legal guardian, for minors.
You are about to walk on a multidisciplinary path, so please observe the rules of courtesy.



Photo J.-F. Clair

FFRandonnée® route categories

GR Long-distance linear hiking trails, crossing different regions, over several days. Marked by two overlaid red and white rectangles.

PR One-day (at the most) strolling and hiking trails. Marked by a yellow rectangle.



The Giants trail

Lurking between the sea and some hills, under the foliage of one of the last dry forests of New-Caledonia, the Fournier marsh of Poé conceals uncommon natural spectacles. Niaoulis (melaleuca trees), ancestral banyans and bird populations that nest there (ducks, cormorants, whistling kites) all contribute to make this site a unique place. An ornithological observatory, discreetly placed in the heart of the marsh, invites to a silent contemplation of birds.



Location : Bourail, 165km/102miles from Nouméa (2-hour drive), via the territorial road RT 1. After the bridge on the Nera river, head to « Roche Percée » (« pierced stone »). At the first fork, take a right towards « Domaine de Deva » (Deva natural area). At the next intersection (Gouaro), turn left and drive to the entrance of the site, which is on your right.

Car park : second seaside roundabout (toilets, table)

Duration : 2 h

Length : 5,2 km / 3,2 miles (loop)

Elevation gain + : 21 m / 69 ft- **Elevation gain -** : 21 m / 69ft

Min. Altitude : 1 m / 3 ft

Max. Altitude : 9 m / 29 ft

Rating : **ibp** index 16 Easy • Technicity 2 Quite easy • Risk 1 Low.

Difficulties : Carefully follow the marking and the indications, since you could easily get lost, once under vegetation in flat terrain.

Water point : only at the car park

GPS coordinates : **UTM/WGS 84**.

Websites

www.deva.nc

www.destinationprovincesud.nc

Further informations

Deva information point– Tél. 46 57 56

Email : maisondeva@deva.nc

SEM Mwe Ara – Tél. 46 22 28

Bourail Tourist office– Tél. 46 46 12

Email : info@bourailtourisme.nc

Southern Province Departement of culture, youth and sport :

Tél. 20 48 50

Email : dcjs.contact@province-sud.nc



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Photo J.-F. Clair



HIKING GUIDE





8 Fork (GPS : 536 017 - 7 612 494) : take a right to the north. Pass

9 « le Niaouli Géant » signpost (« The Giant Niaouli ») (GPS : 536 027 - 7 612 565) : get back to point **8** and take a right. Go beyond the « Les stratégies » signpost and then pass « Les plantes » signpost.

10 Crossroads (GPS : 535 652 - 7 612 694) : keep walking straight ahead towards northwest (*an unmarked track goes left, to the south ; it leads to a Cook pine grove, delimiting a former mound*).

11 Creek (GPS : 535 196 - 7 613 071) : it is often dry. Walk westwards, and then northwards. Get out of the woods.

12 Crossing with a MTB trail (GPS : 535 076 - 7 613 329) : the pathway slightly curves to the north-northeast and then gets back to point **1** where it goes up to the car park.



Photo J.F. Clair

COURSE DESCRIPTION

D Starting point (GPS : 535 454 - 7 613 455 ; alt. 9 m / 29 ft) : leave the car park and go down to the gate. Walk through it and follow the track southward.

1 Fork (GPS : 535 448 - 7 613 363) (signpost) : turn left. The path peacefully wanders towards the east amongst scarce niaoulis, until it reaches the observatory.

2 Crossroads (GPS : 535 849 - 7 613 133) (signpost) : take a right southwards to get to the observatory access decking.

3 Ornithological observatory (GPS : 535 782 - 7 613 024) (built in 2016) : get back to point **2**. Turn right (east). Pass the signpost « Les Forêts sèches du domaine » (« Deva's dry forests ») and keep on walking eastwards. The path strolls amongst niaoulis and dry forest shreds, before getting out on open terrain.

4 « La lisière de la forêt » signpost (« Edge of the forest ») (GPS : 536 442 - 7 612 768) : the track inclines towards south-southeast in the direction of the No Bouaou creek, invisible and discreetly meandering into the vegetation.

5 Crossroads (GPS : 536 485 - 7 612 471) (signpost - location signboard) : take a right westwards (*the track that goes eastwards to the left is a link to the « Forest of the Origins » trail*). Then, the track continues its course in the direction of the west.

6 « Le bosquet des Bancouliers » signpost (« Bancouliers' grove ») (GPS : 536 247 - 7 612 548) : keep on strolling westwards in the sweltering undergrowth.

7 Intersection (GPS : 536 102 - 7 612 470) (location signboard the left track (south) joins the « Forest of the Origins » trail thanks to a footbridge over the No Bouaou) : To stay on the « Giants trail », continue straight ahead.

THE MARSHES

Scattered on the piedmont of Deva hills, the Temrock, Deva and Fournier marshes cover 128 ha of land, where we mostly find big niaoulis, banyans, gum trees and erythrinas. The avifauna of the site is very rich (thirty bird species). The first Big Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) nest was spotted on the outskirts of the Fournier marsh. They are wildlife natural shelters and water reservoirs, thus of huge ecological value.

Many small rivers end up in this area and the water network seems to converge toward the Shark island channel. This very zone might once have been the only outfall for a number of lowflow rivers, which couldn't fight their way through the sandspit and would get lost into the soils, consequently supplying the swampy area with water.