## (Autour du prieuré d'Authie)

Starting from the former Priory, discover the charms of a village bearing the same name as the coastal river that crosses it.

Time: 3 hours 20

Distance: 10 km

Route: moderate

Leaving from: The Priory of Authie





- 1 From the car park, take Rue du Marais, turn right, then cross the bridge over the Authie. Turn left toward the D152.
  - Rising in Coigneux, 5 km from here, the Authie flows into the bay bearing its name on the Picardy coast, between Berck and Fort-Mahon.
- 2 At the crossroads, go right. Cross the junction. Leave the D176 on your right and at the fork, take the lane on the left. At the 1st intersection, turn right, then left at the 2nd, and right at the 3rd toward the D152.
  - ▶ 18th-century Château, chapel of Notre-Dame de Grâce (1867).
- 3 At the D152, go left then right into the lane. Follow it straight on toward Thièvres.
  - ► This village in the Somme faces its twin brother located in the Pas-de-Calais, where it is home to their shared church. Restored mill.

- At the D176, do a "left-right" hook to take the path over the Authie.
- 4 At the intersection, follow the path right for 2 km ignoring adjacent paths.
- Turn right, then follow the wood as far as the D124. Go left there. Turn right twice, then left toward the road.
- 6 Follow it to the right, through the wood. Take the path to the left, then Rue du Marais on the right to get back to where you started from.
  - ► The church of Saint-Pierre. rebuilt in 1744, has retained its original stained glass windows. Since 1860, it has been the resting place of Monseigneur Danicourt, a son of the area and missionary to China.

**Tourism Offices: Poppy Country:** Tel: 03 2275 1642 www.tourisme-paysducoquelicot.com Doullens: Tel: 03 2232 5452

www.doullens-tourisme.com

## **Authie Priory**

As early as the middle of the 7th century, Benedictine monks from the abbey of Corbie came to swell the ranks in Authie. Within their priory, the disciples of Saint Benedict, the order's founder, observed his strict rule, based on prayer, work and reading Holy Books. After the Revolution, when the religious community had disappeared, the assets were sold off, but at the beginning of the 20th century, the parish priests made it their presbytery. These days, the Priory serves as a welcome centre and hostel for individuals or groups. This special place for relaxing or working also enables tourists to enjoy the immense charm of the Val d'Authie.

