

## The pedestrian circuit of the lavoirs of Le Conquet

### Departure from the Tourist Office

-1- Head towards the city center and just after the "Ar Dagenta" restaurant, turn right into the small alley. Then turn left on the coastal path. At its end is the **Drellac'h lavoir**, the newest in the town.

-2- Go along the quay and go up the first street on the left. At the crossroads, continue opposite and cross Llandello Square on the right. At the end, turn left, then right after the school. Follow the main road towards St -Mathieu then turn towards the sea at the second street on the right. Go up the ledge to the left and halfway up the slope, stop on the right on the Promenade Jean Hobé which overlooks Portez beach. At the end of this space, a staircase leads on the rocks to the old **Portez lavoir**.

-3- Resume the ascent of the ledge then the coastal path GR 34 which leads to Bilou beach. Leave this path there and go up towards the road. On the right is the **Bilou lavoir**.

-4- Go along the tourist road towards St-Mathieu and take the second street on the left, rue de Béniguet, which leads to the **lavoir of Prat-ar-C'hrenn**.

5- Then follow rue de l'Iroise which returns to the touristic route and turn left, rue Surcouf, facing Porsliogan beach. 200m away, a small street on the right, rue du Lavoir de Lochrist, leads to the **Lochrist lavoir**.

-6- Then continue the street in the axis of the lavoir and walk along the cemetery, leaving it on the left. Follow the small road on the left and at the height of a green transformer of the EDF, take a small path on the left. In a bend, take another path on the left. It leads very close to the **lavoir of Kervouroc**.

-7- Come back along the path you just left and follow the first path to the left. Turn right rue de Kervidré, cross a small road and continue opposite. Take the first street on the right, then the first on the left. After the houses, it continues in a bend by a wide path which leads to a clump of trees where the **Bréhostou lavoir** is located.

-8- Return to the small road and continue to follow it. At the crossroads, turn right. We cross the hamlet of Kerangoff where we notice an old well on the left. Continue down this street. Below, just before the Brest road, is the **Kerangoff lavoir** on the right.

-9- On the Brest road, turn left towards Le Conquet. Carefully cross the road to reach the picnic area at the end of which you can follow the coastal path that leads to the **Prat-ar-C'halvez lavoir**.

Take a good look at how the tide is and continue along the path that borders the inner port. You pass in front of the old iodine factory and you come out again on the road.

- If tide is low, take the small street immediately to the right as far as the Poulconq slipway and go down to the shore to follow it to the footbridge.

- If tide is high, go up rue du Général Leclerc and take the first small alley on the right. It leads directly to the footbridge.

-10- Cross the footbridge and go up the path to the Route des Blancs Sablons. Turn left towards the tip of Kermorvan. In the first bend, go down the small path on the left. It leads to the **Maison Blanche lavoir**.

Continue down this path and follow the street to the left. Turn right to return to the footbridge. Cross it, go up rue Amiral Guépratte opposite. It ends at the Tourist Office roundabout.

A lavoir is a wash house which can be covered, part covered or open air. These traditional and convivial laundettes have seen generations of Breton womenfolk washing their linen. And at the same time catching up on local gossip. There are some in all the municipalities of Finistère and the walker often passes by, without paying attention. However, it represents an important testimony to the daily life of our ancestors and deserves better than a furtive glance at a structure that is now deserted. A rehabilitation of these elements of our heritage is in progress fortunately.

Cleared, harmoniously highlighted among trees and flowers, they can become charming stops on hiking trails. But you must first discover and understand them in order to love them. This small guide only offers you an itinerary. To find out more about each of the washhouses encountered, simply go to the internet where the "Patrimoine d'Iroise" site ([www.patrimoine-iroise.fr](http://www.patrimoine-iroise.fr)) devotes two long pages, one to the use of lavoirs in the past, the other on each of the 10 lavoirs in Le Conquet.