

### **Villedieu-les-Poeles**

Heading east this is a there and back again ride to the interesting town of Villedieu-les-Poeles where there are several things to do. If you fancy a shorter ride then you can divert to Champrepus Zoo

**Distance** 58.2km / 36.5 miles to Villedieu-les-Poeles  
40km / 25 miles to the zoo

#### **Places of Interest**

##### **1) Zoo de Champrepus**

The specificity of the Champrepus zoological gardens lies in the subtle alchemy between fauna and flora and on the « biotope » concept, which consists in integrating both wild and domestic animals. In fact, create the natural habitat for the some 50 different species living in the park.

Immersion begins as you enter in order to progressively disconnect from the outside world. The vegetation of each bio-zone is specifically created, based on the illusion and evocation of original habitats.

##### **Welcome to the black-footed penguins and their friends'**

In this space of 7000m<sup>2</sup>, the visitor is invited to follow the Nono penguin adventures. Over a fascinating journey across five continents, children discover the means of interactive animations, styles of life and locomotion of penguins, coatis, prairie dogs and wallabies.

##### ***Enter in the tropical birdhouse ...***

Under the large banana leaves and the arborescent ferns, take an amazing walk in this tropical paradise. The birds' guests are climbing plants, amazing flowers and coloured leaves. Here evolve red ibises, egrets, guirras, teals...

The tropical zone has increased little by little with the flamingo marsh and the squirrel monkeys in a new landscaped setting. Between the flamingos and macaws, horsetails, purple loosestrives, forget-me-nots and marsh irises bloom delicately in the water.

**Tropical Zone**: sumatra tigers, chimpanzees, persian leopards ...

**Malagasy Zone**: lemurs, Red Ruffed lemurs, Ring-Tailed lemurs ...

**African Zone**: giraffes, zebras, ostriches, antelopes ...

**Mini-farm**: goats, Poitou and Cotentin donkeys, sheep, cow...

##### **2) Villedieu-Les-Poeles**

#### **Bell Foundary**

Closed Monday and Sunday

<http://www.afranceattraction.com/france-attractions-uz/bell-foundry.htm>

The Bell Foundry is another of the fascinating old style workshops that exists in the town and is still working. The centre is open to the public and you will be amazed to see a process that most will have never witnessed before. The craftsmen use specialist tools and a 20 ton oven to make the large bells, and then there are several specialists who work on the inscriptions. You are able to watch the whole process before your eyes.

### **Copper Workshop**

Closed Sunday

54 rue de General Huard

<http://www.thecopperworkshop.com/>

The Copper Workshop is quite simply unique; it is owned by Etienne Dulin a descendent of the original "Sourdins" copper workers. It is the only manufacturer that is still based in the very heart of Villedieu-Les-Poeles.

### **Copperware Museum and Lace Centre**

Closed, mornings of Sunday, Monday and Tuesday

25 rue de General Huard

<http://www.normandie-tourisme.fr/pcu/copperware-museum-et-lace-centre---musee-de-la-poeslerie-et-maison-de-la-dentelliere/villedieu-les-poeles/fiche-PCUNOR050FS000TF-2.html>

[http://www.museesvilledieu.sitew.com/#Villedieu\\_les\\_Poeles.A](http://www.museesvilledieu.sitew.com/#Villedieu_les_Poeles.A)

The old, rebuilt 17th century workshop plunges you into the world of the stove maker. Upstairs, you can admire an exhibition of numerous pieces in copper and brass, dating from the 15th to the 19th century. At the Lacemaker's house (Maison de la Dentellière) visitors will discover this very special craft, with a demonstration of bobbin-lace making to round off the visit

### **Places to eat**

- 1) 12.km La Haye-Pesnel, several places
- 2) 29.2km Villedieu-Les-Poele, lots of places

## Route Description

Villedieu-des-Poeles SHORT RIDE- Friday 7th. June 2012			
Inst.	Miles		Notes
	Total	Stage	
0	0.0	0.0	Exit the campsite by the back entrance and head left
1	0.2	0.2	250 metres bear left (large cross LHS) and head east through Angomesnil
2	1.1	0.9	1.8km SO at XR, cross D973, SP St Aubin-des-Preaux 1.5, along D154
3	1.9	0.7	3.0km In St-Aubin-des-Preaux, TR towards St Ursin, la Haye-Pesnel (This is the turn before the church) At the next crossroads, SO SP St Ursin 4.5, along D30 and follow this to St Ursin
4	5.3	3.5	8.55km Through St Ursin, staying on D309
5	7.5	2.2	12.1km TL at TJ, no SP along D35 (Other way La Lucerne)
6	7.6	0.1	12.3km In la Haye-Pesnel TL at XR, SP Gavray, Coutances along D7
7	7.8	0.1	12.5km TR, SP Le Tanu, along D165 (car park RHS) climb out of town
8	9.6	1.9	15.5km Having just passed under the railway TR at TJ, SP Le Tanu 1.5 along D165
9	10.6	1.0	17.1km Follow sign SO for Champrepus 3.5
10	12.0	1.4	19.4km If you want to visit the zoo, Bear left, SP Champrepus 0.7 along D238, Then at Champrepus and the D924 (TAKE CARE) TL at TJ and the zoo is 400 metres LHS. Return to the site the way you came. If you want to go to Villedieu-les-Poeles, bear right SP La Lande Airou along D165
11	12.8	0.8	20.6km TR at TJ, SP La Lande Airou 2, along D579 opposite farmyard (you'll pass left turn very shortly afterwards-don't take this)
12	13.7	0.9	22.1km Keep straight following sign for La Lande-d'Airou
13	14.1	0.4	22.7km TL at TJ, SP Villedieu les-Poeles 6 along D41
14	16.3	2.2	26.3km Cross motorway
15	16.8	0.5	27km TL at XR and descend the N175, opposite traffic island (there isn't a quieter way in that I can find)
16	17.8	1.0	At the traffic lights (filter lane) TL (not the immediate left) Sp Centre Ville
17	18.0	0.3	29.1km Centre Ville
			<b>Note: The return km distances in this column are measured from Villiedieu-d-p.</b>
*	18.0	0.0	Return back the way you came.
*	18.7	0.7	At the traffic lights TR. SP Rouffigny D975
*	20.0	1.3	2km At Klaas tractor sales TR onto D41 SP La Lande d'Airou.
*	20.6	0.7	2.9km Cross motorway
*	22.8	2.2	6.3km TR at TJ, SP Champrepus along D309
*	23.2	0.4	7.0km Keep straight following sign for Champrepus D579
*	24.1	0.9	8.7km TL at Junction, SP Champrepus, along D165
*	26.3	2.2	12.2km Follow sign La Haye Pesnel 4.5
*	27.3	1.0	Follow road to L under railway line D165
*	29.1	1.9	16.8km TL, SP Avranches along D165 (car park LHS)
*	29.3	0.1	17.0km In la Haye-Pesnel TR at XR, SP La Lucerne d'Outremer along D35
*	29.4	0.1	17.3km TR at Junction, SP St Ursin along D35
*	31.6	2.2	20.8km Through St Ursin, follow road as it bears R staying on D309
*	35.0	3.5	26.3km In St-Aubin-des-Preaux, TL at TJ D154
*	35.8	0.7	27.5km SO at XR, cross D973, SP Kairon Plage 3.5, along D154
*	36.7	0.9	At cross on R bear R into narrow road back to campsite.
*	36.7	0.1	Enter the campsite by the back entrance.