

Dune du Pilat

Grand Site

From the age of 6



1 hour

2 km

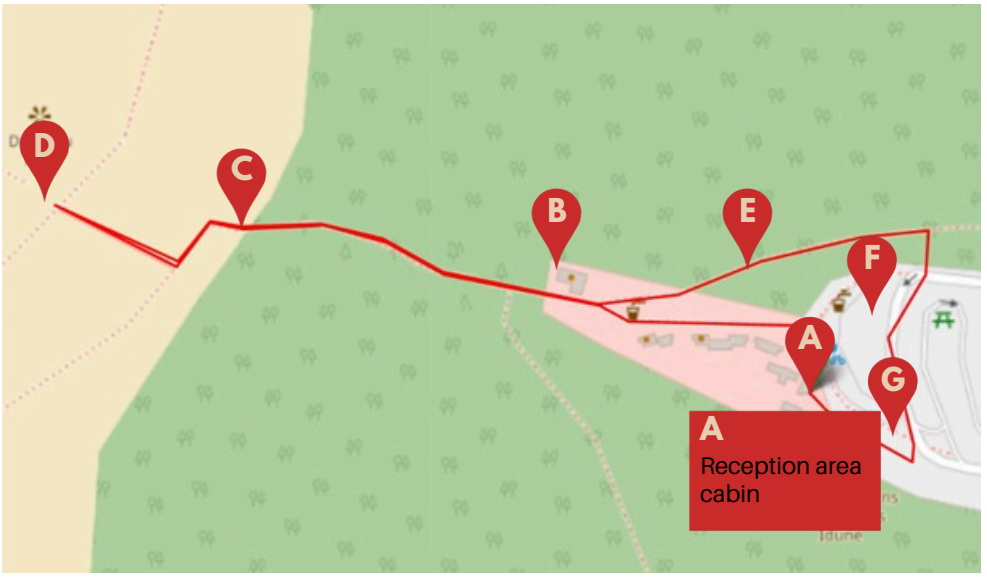
LES PISTES DE ROBIN

COME DISCOVER THE SECRETS OF THE DUNE DU PILAT!



site classé

dune du Pilat
Plaçons-nous à sa hauteur



Hi, I'm Robin!

I often come here, at the Dune du Pilat, with my friends Panpan and Alienor, and I'll show you the spot and its secrets. This winter, we did some archeological digs, and found an old document in the palaeosols! It holds all the secrets of the dune. A part of the document was going to unveil the origin of the sand, but one word is missing in order to understand it! Help us find it!



DID YOU KNOW?

The **palaeosols** are remains of vegetation, former forests and ancient soils. They form thick black lines under the dune, on the ocean side. They are traces of the various stages of the site's history.



B

From the reception area cabin, head towards the dune and stop at the last cabin, the "discovery center". Behind it, you will find signs which will teach you about the hidden residents of the dune and the forest.

1

Using the signs, write down the names in French related to the plants or the animals that you could observe in the surroundings of the Dune du Pilat.



DID YOU KNOW?

Each year, the plover tries to nest close to the top of the beach alongside the Dune du Pilat. It lays its eggs on the sand. Traffic on the beaches is a real threat for the eggs : stamping, predation by dogs...If you want to protect them, keep your dog with a leash, avoid walking on the dune's vegetation and stay close to the water!



Head to the bottom of the dune now and have a look at the blue sign!

The *sea holly* is a plant currently threatened by the coast damages and erosion. It was chosen as the symbol for the coastal protection agency, the owner of the site.



2 Try to guess the meaning of the following pictograms, linking them to the right prohibition



- Do not leave waste in nature
- Paragliding authorised only in specific areas.
- Keep your dog on a leash
- Wild camping prohibited
- Motorised vehicles prohibited
- Slide sports prohibited
- Fires strictly prohibited
- Respect biodiversity : do not disturb, do not collect

3 Circle the prohibition whose pictogram is missing



I leave you now with Panpan at the top of the Dune! Be careful to respect biodiversity, don't disturb the animals, don't pick plants and keep the sand on the Dune!

D

Now climb to the top using the stairs (if they are there!) or through the sand...

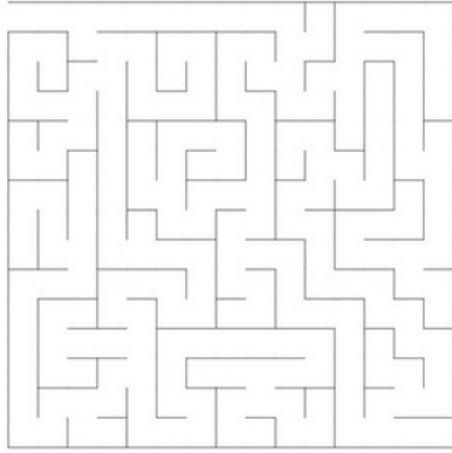
4

Help Robin find his way to the top where his friend Panpan is waiting!



DID YOU KNOW?

The Dune du Pilat is the highest dune in Europe. It is 100 to 110 meters high depending on the years, about 3km long and 600m wide!

**5**

Enjoy the landscape at the top of the dune and draw what you see to show Alienor!

DID YOU KNOW?

The dune is moving 1 to 5 meters per year, slowly covering the forest!

The Banc d'Arguin is located to the west of the dune. It is the small island of sand in front of you. Close, on the right, at the entry of the bay of Arcachon, you can see a red and white lighthouse.

6 On which sandy point is it?

- A. Cape Horn
 - B. Cap Ferret
 - C. Cape of Good Hope
- (if you don't know, you'll find the answer a bit later, so pay attention!)*

E Now Robin and Panpan need to catch up with Alienor who stayed down there to learn more about the dune. Go back to the discovery house and use the small path through the forest, I'm sure I saw her going there!

« As you can see, this forest is diversified, there are a lot of various species of trees and plants »

7 Put the letters in the right order to find out two new letters !



I N P E O N E C = _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _



DID YOU KNOW?
Until the mid 20th century, resin was collected from these trees, in ceramic pots, to make paint, perfume, soap and more. To collect it, the tree had to be injured, making an incision so the sap could flow out.



AKO = _ _ _

F

You can now reach the cycling path toward the bike racks. Under the trees, you will find big signs, go!

8 Thanks to its strong flow, the river pushes the sand out of the bay of Arcachon and prevent it from closing. What is the name of the river?

_ ' _ _ _ _

G

Look for the sign called « The dunes around the world », located along the pedestrian white path.

9 The Dune du Pilat is the highest dune in Europe. What is the highest dune in the world? In which country is it?

The highest dune in the world is

It is located in

10 Remember, the palaeosols are remains of vegetation and ancient soils. How many are there here at the dune?

A- 3 B- 4 C- 6

11 Can you help Alienor, telling her how old is the first palaeosol (the oldest one)?

.....

12 **Try to guess what the ground you are walking on is made of?**

Hint: I am a mollusc raised in large quantities in the Arcachon Bay, and partly on the Banc d'Arguin? »

The ground is made of...

-- --
■ ---
-- --

That's it! You have found all the letters of the word! These are the letters with a blue background. If you put it in the right order, you'll find a mystery word and you will be able to decipher the message about the origin of the sand!

DID YOU KNOW ?

This use is a good example of valorisation et reuse of our waste. These can also be used in construction works or animal feeding. This allows to give it a second life : from the plate to the dune!



Mystery word:

Mystery message:

The sand of the Dune du Pilat comes from the _____ of the mountains (Pyrenees and Massif Central). Over time the _____ wear down and break. They fall into the watercourses. They become smaller and smaller until they form grains of sand. The sand is carried by the rivers to the Atlantic Ocean. The ocean currents then leave the sand on the coast, forming beaches. With the wind, the sand accumulates and forms dunes.



Are you done? To check your answers, go back to the reception area. If you managed to solve all the riddles, you will get a little surprise!

GRAND SITE DE LA DUNE DU PILAT

More about our nature activities?

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Our website

<https://ladunedupilat.com/>

Social medias

Dune du Pilat Officiel



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