



   **RELIGIOUS HERITAGE**

The treasures of the Sammiellois



TOURIST CIRCUIT BIKE • AUTO • MOTORCYCLE

This itinerary was created to make you (re) discover some churches open within a **20km radius around Saint-Mihiel**. Let yourself be surprised by the **richness** of these buildings between constructions from the interwar period, the decorations of the **Donzelli family**, or those made in the 16th century by **Ligier Richier**.



Let yourself be guided by the beautiful Meusian roads to admire these varied landscapes within which a bell tower is regularly admired.



A tour ru by the Eglises Ouvertes France network, created by the parish of Sainte-Croix-Center-Meuse with the support of the municipalities.

Photos : Josiane K. - Sandra L. Delphine M. - Margot R. - Michel T.

Mapping : OpenStreetMap

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HUNDREDS OF CHURCHES TO DISCOVER

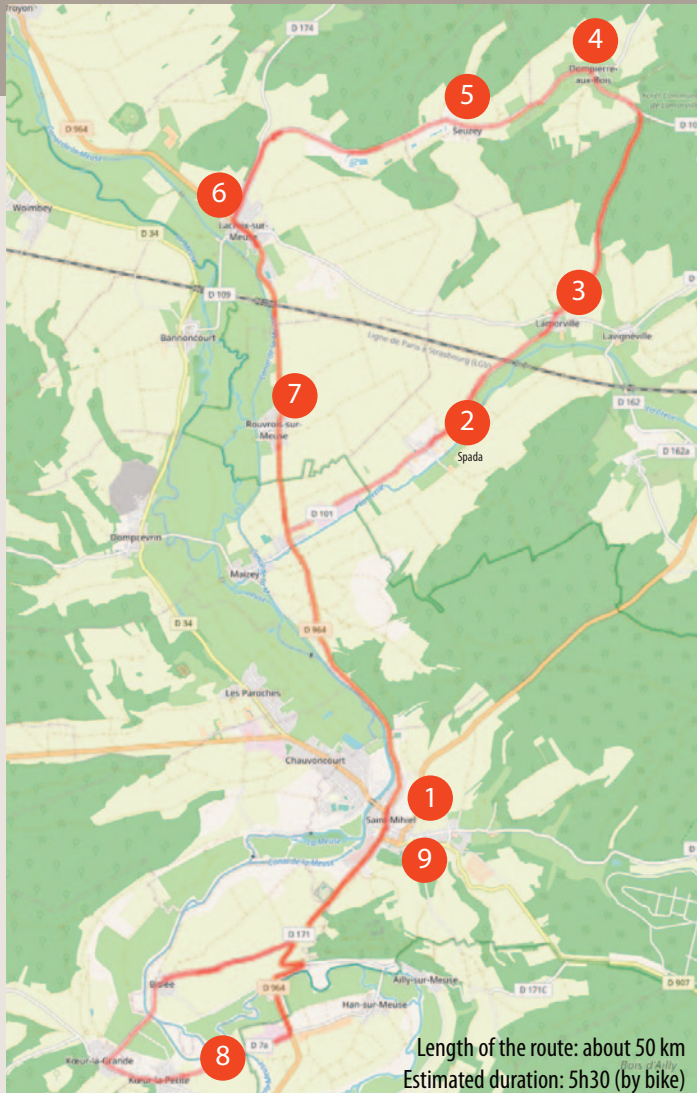
A European network that continues to France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Sweden and the Netherlands, Sweden and the Netherlands.



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Attention : always check on our site that churches are open at the time of your passage.

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Length of the route: about 50 km
Estimated duration: 5h30 (by bike)

The circuit is also available on the Open Churches website:



<https://openchurches.eu/en/churches-routes/treasures-of-the-samiellois>



1- Saint-Mihiel, Saint-Michel abbey church

(Place Jean Bérain)

1st April - 30th September, everyday 8 am to 7 pm

1st October - 31th March, everyday 9 am to 5 pm

Saint-Michel Church got some remarkable furniture including 80 choir stalls and choir wooden work from 1710 and a walnut sculpture from Ligier Richier depicting "The Virgin swoon": one of the most prominent Renaissance wooden work. You can also admire a monument by Ligier Richier's grandson (date 1608) and two organs. The "grand organ" from the end of the 17th century is one of the most beautiful organs in Europe with its richly decorated organ cabinet and its two independent pedal turrets.

2- Spada (Lamorville), Saint-Pierre church

(rue de Gerbeville)

15th June - 15th September, everyday 3 pm to 6 pm

The primitive church was destroyed during the 1st World War and rebuilt in 1924. It's decorated with frescoes realized by Dante Donzelli. The most beautiful one is a "Pieta" (Virgin supporting Christ) created by a Flemish sculptor Jean Crocq who lived at the court of the Duke René II. This "Pieta" is a polychrome work with a particularity: a veil in the Virgin's hand to mop Christ's face. We can find it in only three churches: Vassinourt, Louppy-sur-Loison and Spada.

3- Lamorville, Sainte-Marie Madeleine church

(rue de l'église)

15th June - 15th September, everyday 3 pm to 6 pm

The primitive church dates from 1760. The choir and the arches were modified in 1819. Destroyed in 1914, it was rebuilt in 1922. Its nave was decorated by Dante Donzelli. The city of Yvetot, godmother of war, offered a bell and a church window for the choir (destroyed during the 2nd world war).

4- Dompierre-au-Bois, Saint-Pierre church

(rue Chaude)

1st June - 15th September, everyday 2 pm to 6 pm

The ancient church was destroyed in 1914 by a French bombing raid against the Germans. A French shell burst out in the church on the 27th September 1914 (22 dead, 17 wounded) this action is painted on one of the church stained glasses. The actual church has been rebuilt on the foundations of the old one. In the choir, you can admire the old high altar and the two small side altars (dedicated to the virgin and Saint Joseph).

5- Seuzey, Saint-Marcel church

(Grand-rue)

1st July - 31th August

Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays 10 am to 7 pm

Destroyed during the First World War, it was rebuilt in 1933 with its bell tower, its open porch on the sides: it is a neo-roman model-type barn without column. Duilio Donzelli realized several artistic remarkable pictures. The church glasses were created by the "Maitre Verrier" Georges Janin (date 1935). The church has an organ which looks like a tribune. The high altar and the two small ones were realized by Maitre Donzelli and are made of white calcareous rock. (The baptismal fonts and the stoups, too).

6- Lacroix-sur-Meuse, Saint-Jean-Baptiste church

(rue du Général de Gaulle)

1st January - 31th December, everyday 10 am à 6 pm

The church has been rebuilt on the same place as the old one from the 17th century by François Langard, Priest of Lacroix-sur-Meuse from 1843 to 1872, in the direction of the diocesan architect of Bar-le-Duc M. MAXE. The church was blessed by Monseigneur Rosat (Bishop of Verdun), but during the First World War was spoilt her. The Tombstone comes from Etienne III's grave (Rosières), the Lord of Lacroix. A chair to preach (neo-gothic style) realized thanks to Abbe François Langard. We can admire three Rosettes: One of them on the portal represents the "Eternal Father" surrounded with three angel heads. The paintings on the small altars and in the choir were realized by "Maitre Donzelli" 20th century. You can also visit: Donzelli's Fountains and Monuments.

7- Rouvrois-sur-Meuse, Saint-Laurent church

(rue de l'église)

1st July - 31th August, everyday 10 am to 7 pm

1st September - 30th June, everyday 10 am to 5 pm

The actual church was rebuilt in 1926 on the ruins of the old one destroyed in 1914. There are wonderful wall paintings realized by Duilio and Donzelli (1931).

In its choir and in the side chapels: They symbolize Christ's Royalty. The orange color of its vault shines with the light of the stained glass windows and give a wonderful ton to the vault when the sun sets.

To see in the village: suspended floor washstand.

8- Kœur-la-Petite, Saint-Rémi church

(rue de la 164^e Batterie)

1st June - 30th September

Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays 10 am to 6 pm

Situated in the center of the village, the church, built in 1770 with the stones of the old castle, is reflected in the "Gayoir". Damaged during the two world conflicts, it has been restored each time. Two commemorative glass windows illustrate the end of these conflicts. The first one, created in 1952 by a master glassmaker from Nancy, the Benoît frères studio, represents Saint-Martin ordering the armistice on the banks of the Rhine; the second one represents "Sainte Jeanne d' Arc". We can also admire an oil on canvas of the 17th century, the apparition of the child Jesus to "Saint Antoine de Padoue", inspired by Murillo.

9- Saint-Mihiel, Saint-Etienne collegiate church

(rue du Général Audéoud)

1st April - 30th September, everyday 8 am to 20 pm

1st October - 31th March, everyday 9 am to 5 pm

First, it was a collegial church (type Hall church, arch gothic style), rehabilitated during the 16th century and again during the 19th century. Its plan and architecture are simple but the edifice is full of an extraordinary light that comes from the high stained church windows (created by Charles Lorin 1930) the church keeps Ligier Richier's masterwork in limestone: The entombment of the Christ or "The Sepulchre".

Ligier Richier managed to vary the gesture of the 13 characters and to gather them in a living scene that reveals his feelings. We can also admire a "Virgin in coat" (16th century), an altar-piece (17th century) from the Renaissance and woodworks by Ligier Richier's descendants.