

## GETAWAY

## ROWING DOWN THE AA



07 october

1 day / 25 km



REQUIRED LEVEL



## ROUTE

Going down the Aa will take you on a 22km long trip from Houle to Gravelines. You will launch the boats on the Houle river, at the heart of Saint Omer's moor, in Houle village which is famous for its juniper. The Houle river is an important water reserve for the Dunkerquois, which flows into the AA in Wattern 4km away. You will start rowing from this confluence for 2km and cross Wattern's small harbor, then reach the Aa historical great canal. The arrival takes place in Saint Georges on the Aa river, but you will first need to reach Gravelines and then make a U-turn in order to land the right way on the « Drying room » pontoon in Chicorée, which was turned into a clubhouse by Gravelines U.S.Aviron. There you will enjoy drinks and a meal inside the historical building, where you will receive a gift.



## SIGHTSEEING

The Aa descent is the northernmost tour of France. The Aa canal links the Saint Omer to Gravelines where she flows into the sea, winds across the coastal plain where it stands as a natural frontier between the regions of Nord and Pas de Calais. All along the tour you will discover its rich fauna and meet herons, ducks and swans amidst the amazing colored bucolic landscapes. You will witness the rising of the drawbridge at the sound of the sirens in Bistade, where walkers gather to watch the passing of the boats. You will then carry on and pass through another drawbridge in Saint Nicolas, which is high enough let you pass without being risen, and then reach yet a third one in Saint Folquin, where you will enjoy a meal in Fred's famous campaign restaurant called the «Petit Pêcheur».

The «Nord» is famous for its traditions and warm welcome, and the organizers are looking forward to showing you the beauty of their region.

Gravelines is one of Vauban's fortified cities and has one peculiarity: you can go all around it by boat or on land.



## PRATICAL INFORMATION



## TOUR DURATION

1 day, 07 october 2018



## TOUR PLACE

From Houle to Gravelines, Aa (rivers)



## BOATS

Recreational four-person sculling boats



## FEES

30 € : without accommodation, 1 meal included

52 €: with accommodation in 1 to 6 persons bedrooms, 1 night, 1 breakfast and 1 meal included



## FOR COMPANIONS

20 € : without accommodation, 1 meal included  
42 € : with accommodation, 1 night and 1 meal included

You can follow the tour by bike (not included) on the towpath.



## SEAT RENTAL

40 seats available, 13€/siège



## SAFETY

Supervision : 25 people

Safety boats : 4



## PROVISIONAL PLANNING

The meeting point is usually set in Gravelines (arrival site) at 8am, where you will depart by bus to reach the tour start, after enjoying snacks.

You will leave Houle around 10am, then row a few kilometers on the Houle river then the Aa before reaching Watten. Lunch and friendly drink when arriving at Gravelines rowing club house.



## CONTACT

Florent LEGAY

GRAVELINES UNION SPORTIVE AVIRON

Mob. 06 33 74 20 84

descentedelaa@gmail.com

www.gravelinesusaviron.com



## TO ENLIVEN YOUR STAY

Office de Tourisme des Rives de l'Aa

Phone 03 28 51 94 00

contact@gravelinestourisme.fr

www.tourisme-gravelines.fr/

SPORTICA

Phone 03 28 65 35 00

accueil@sportica.fr

Parc des Rives de l'Aa

Phone 03 28 23 59 82

contact@lepaarc.com

Centrale nucléaire de Gravelines

Phone 03 28 68 42 36

centrale-gravelines@edf.fr