## A BIT OF HISTORY

# THE MEGALITHS OF THE NOGENTAIS



The department Aube has an important concentration of megaliths that can mostly be found in the north-western part of the department, the Nogentais. Standing stones, dolmens and grooves are all stones that tell of a distant past, the upper Neolithic (2500 to 2000 B.C.).

The humans of that age made use of a material that abounded on the territory, the sandstone of Cuise that was formed in the lower Eocene period (53 million years B.C.). This fact explains the presence of megaliths on our territory.



### **RECOMMANDATIONS**

The megaliths are located on private territory where, depending on the years, different cultivations are present. The landlords kindly accord a right of way but please make sure to respect them and do not damage anything while walking.

Furthermore, it is vital to point out that during summertime the megaliths can be hidden by cultivations such as wheat and therefore cannot be seen

GO AND DISCOVER THESE MYSTERIOUS STONES BY FOLLOWING THE PROPOSED PATH.



13 Dolmens (a Breton name that means "stone table") that were covered by a burial mound and were exposed by erosion. Their exact use is not known but they might have been used as burial chambers.



7 Standing stones (also known as menhirs, a Breton name that means "upright stone"). Some believe they were probably used as religious edifices.



16 Grooves, blocks of sandstone, that are characterized by grooves and basins on their surface and were certainly used to sharpen tools. Furthermore, some were obviously used as part of a pagan cult. However, their exact use remains unknown.

#### JOIN US

Office de Tourisme du Nogentais et de la Vallée de la Seine (Tourist Office of the Nogentais and the valley of the Seine)

> 10400 Nogent sur Seine Tel/fax: 03.25.39.42.07



Working hours of the Tourist Office: From Monday to Saturday: 09:00am to 12:30pm and 01:00pm to 05:30pm Sunday: 10:00am to 12:30am and 01:00pm to 05:30pm



January 2018 IPNS, NPJSVP

# **DISCOVERY TOUR**



THE ROUTE OF THE MEGALITHS

DISCOVER THE SECRETS AND LEGENDS

OF THE NOGENTAIS AND

THE VALLEY OF THE SEINE.





9 Groove of Soligny-les-Etangs



8 Groove of
Pierre au Coq
Soligny-lesEtangs



7 Dolmen of Pierre Couverte Bercenay-le-Hayer



**Dolmen of Blancs-Fossés** 

Marcilly-le-Hayer



**Dolmen of Vamprin** 

Marcilly-le-Hayer



2 Standing stone of Pierre au Cog



Groove of
Côte des Ormeaux
Avant-lès-Marcilly



Pre-Celtic environment
Avant-les-Marcilly