

HIKE 3

DISTANCE 15 KM

(not suitable for pushchairs and prams/buggies)

Itinerary

1. Starting at the entrance of the campsite, walk onto the campsite towards the pedestrian bridge over the tributary of the Vecht river
2. Before crossing the bridge, turn left
Follow the path along the tributary
3. This is part of the 'Vechtdal Path'
4. Leave the campsite by stepping off a small pedestrian bridge
5. Keep following the path along the tributary

The Vecht has numerous blind tributaries as a result of the river's regulation around 1910, when no fewer than 69 bends were cut off. This was done for the benefit of shipping and to have the rainwater drain away more quickly in the winter so that farmers would have less trouble with floods. These tributaries may be 'blind' but they still offer plenty to see. They support fish of many kinds, frogs, newts, and water plants such as waterweed, hornwort, water lilies - also the yellow variety, the yellow water flag, sweet flag and reed mace. With a bit of luck, you might see a kingfisher dart across the water.

6. You will come across a drainage ditch with a weir
Walk over the weir and follow the path straight ahead
7. The path strays off the water for a bit, passes through the woods and alongside a meadow
8. After the meadow, the path leads you to a broader dirt path. Keep following this path alongside the tributary straight ahead
9. At the fork, keep left. This is still part of the 'Vechtdal Path'
10. Now you will walk through an oak forest with ferns
11. Turn left at the T-junction
12. Follow this path until a narrow path to the right appears while the path turns to the left
13. Turn right at the narrow woodland path
14. This path ends onto a beech lane, turn left
15. The lane ends at a paved road, turn left here

This estate owes its name to the 'esdorp' Junne, which lies in a bend of the Vecht river. An 'esdorp' is a kind of village where the farms are grouped together, surrounded by farmland and pasture. It is likely that there was already an agricultural settlement here in the Middle Ages, probably far earlier. This hamlet used to be the hub of the mark Junne, which was dissolved in 1846. A mark was a community of yeoman farmers who

exercised common rights of ownership and/or use on wasteland. Other marks in the vicinity include Zeesse, Beerze and Stegeren. Together, the marks constituted a shrievalty (Ommen), which in turn was part of a bailiwick (Salland).

16. After about 200 m turn right onto 'Eerderdijk' path
17. Follow this path straight on until you again come across a paved road ('Beerzerweg')
18. Cross straight over this road ('Beerzerweg')
Be careful!
19. After passing the level crossing, continue straight ahead
20. Second path on the left
21. Keep to this path until you reach a broad dirt road
22. Now follow the dirt road to the right
23. You will pass a farm on your left
At the second farm, this path will end with a gravel road and a cycle path ('Junnerbaan')
24. Turn left here. This road leads to a paved road ('Nieuwe Hammerweg')
25. Now turn right, and immediately afterwards left, onto a dirt road
26. This dirt road leads to another dirt road ('Gemoelaksweg')
27. Turn left here
28. On your right, you will see campsite 'De Vogelsangh'
29. Where the dirt roads cross, turn right onto 'Venedijk'
30. Continue to walk straight ahead down this dirt road until you reach a paved road

Before the end of the dirt road, you will see the extensive 'Beerzerveld' field on your right, with its many juniper bushes. One bird that likes to hover above this field is the buzzard. These birds allow the warm air (thermals) to carry them upwards, because the higher they fly, the larger the area they can keep their eye on (watching for prey such as rabbits and mice).

31. At the paved road, turn right
32. After approximately 400 m, turn left onto the 'Mariënbergerdijk' path (at pole L37)
33. Follow this dirt road straight on
34. You will pass several beautiful pools on your left

The many pools of bog water in this area are the result of intensive peat digging in the past. Plants you will find here include cotton grass, bog asphodel (narcethium), cranberry, marsh rosemary and marsh gentian.

35. The 'Mariënbergerdijk' path crosses the railway, continue to follow the dirt road
36. After the bend, you will see an entrance to the 'Beerzerveld' nature reserve on your left (pole with a yellow post to the left)
37. Take this path, following the yellow posts

You are now walking over a splendid sand-drift with ancient Scots pines. Some of them are sand-covered, while the roots of others, in contrast, have been left bare by the drifting sand. These pines, with their short, gnarled trunks and wide crowns, owe their shape to the wind that scattered them and buffets them in their open, exposed landscape. This is a favourite habitat of the nightjar (also called goatsucker).

38. After passing the sand-drift, you will see a red post marking the entrance to the woods
39. Turn left here
40. Follow the red posts until you reach a paved road ('Beerzerpoort')

When you see the paved road, keep following the red posts, parallel to the paved road, until you reach the starting point of the red posted route.

41. Cross the paved road and follow it to the right
42. Ignore the paved road that enters the woods on the left; keep to the 'Beerzerpoort'
43. When you are on the other side of the hill, and see the farms of Beerze before you, leave the paved road and enter the woods again on the left, at the entrance with the pedestrian fence
44. Go straight down this path
45. You will see meadows on the right and ridge dunes on the left
46. This woodland path finally leads to the 'Beerzerweg' road
47. Follow this road to the left towards the campsite

