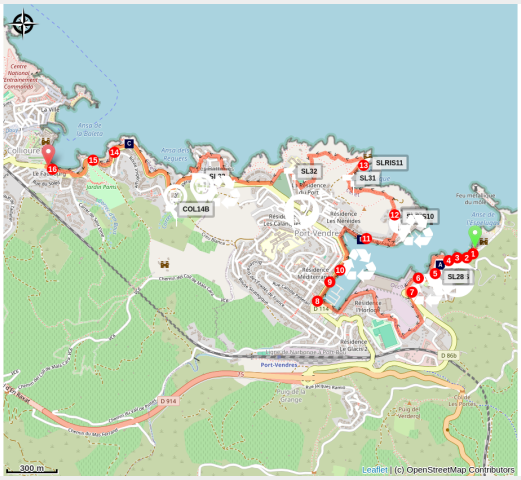
Charles Rennie Mackintosh Path

Côte Vermeille

(Isabelle Berga)



Discover the watercolors of a pioneering and multidisciplinary artist along a route on the quays of Port-Vendres, passing through the forts and continuing to Collioure.

A pleasant walk along the Port of Port-Vendres and up to Collioure, allowing you to discover 16 works by Charles Rennie Mackintosh, a pioneer of 20th-century Modern Art.

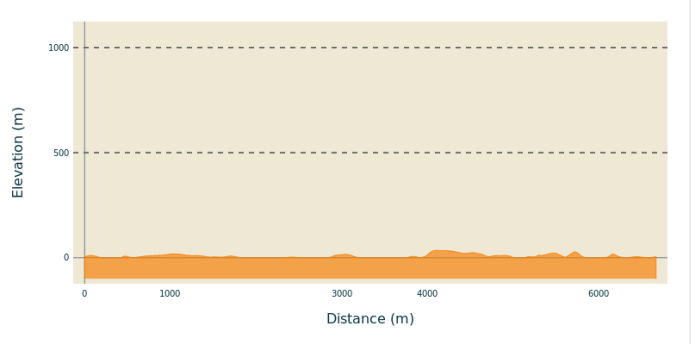
Useful information

- Practice : Hiking
- Duration : 2 h
- Length : 6.7 km
- Trek ascent : 181 m
- Difficulty : Easy
- Type : Traversée
- Themes : Flora, Architecture, Art, Littoral
- Accessibility : Poussette

Trek

Departure : Quai du Mole-Abri - Port-Vendres
Arrival : Faubourg district - Collioure
Markings : PR
Cities : 1. PORT-VENDRES
2. COLLIOURE

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 0 m Max elevation 35 m

Originally from Glasgow, and after an international career as an architect, Charles Rennie Mackintosh settled with his wife Margaret in Port-Vendres during the winter of 1925 at the former Hôtel de Commerce, where the owners, Mr. and Mrs. Dejean, treated them with care and kindness.

The dining room overlooked the busy port, which must have reminded them of memories from Glasgow. It is here that they would spend the most beautiful years of their life together. Upon his death, his ashes were scattered in the port by Margaret.

Inspired by the light of the place and away from the painters of Collioure and Céret, he created several watercolors depicting Port-Vendres.

Having left his career as an architect and designer behind, he dedicated the rest of his life to painting landscapes: isolated buildings, small villages, street corners; coastal or mountain landscapes became his favorite subjects.

At this time, Mackintosh had developed a confirmed realistic watercolor technique, which he had refined during a trip to Walberswick, England, where attention to detail and the rendering of light were already his priorities.

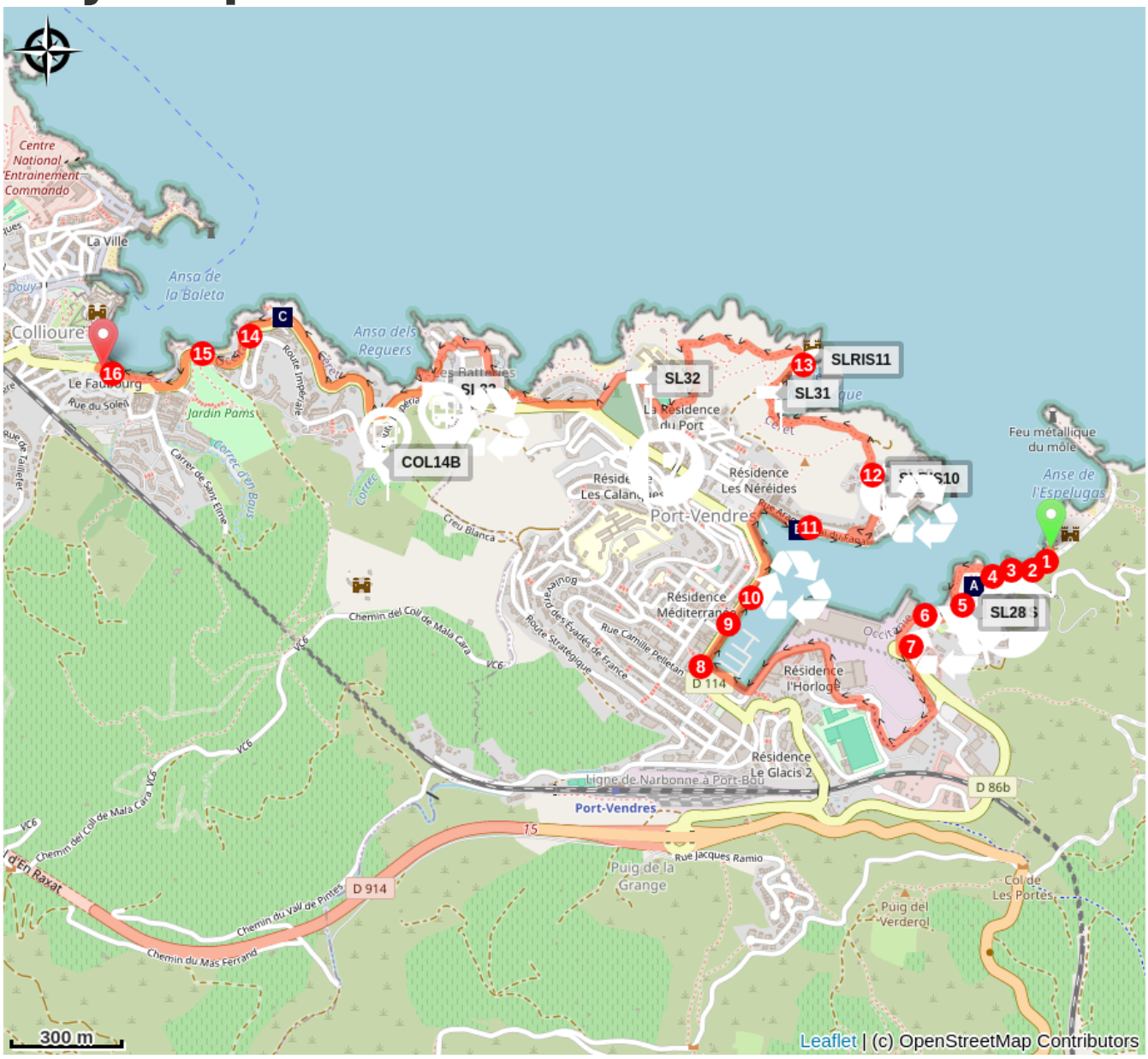
Mackintosh’s watercolors were greatly influenced by his work as an architect, sensitive to the articulation of volumes. The graphic quality predominates. Straight lines are balanced with a clever mix of curves. The shadows are very pronounced, creating varied surfaces in different shapes and sizes. As a colorist, Mackintosh juxtaposes planes of color. He always worked from life, but sometimes took liberties with his subjects. Some of his watercolors appear as an "assemblage" of two different viewpoints.

This walk invites you to discover 13 works by this pioneering artist of 20th-century Modern Art, while strolling around the port of Port-Vendres.

1. Port-Vendres
2. The Fort Mailly
3. The Rock

4. The Road Through The Rocks
5. The Fort
6. The Lighthouse
7. La Rue du Soleil – The Street of the Sun
8. A Southern Port
9. Port Vendres Quai des Douanes – Port Vendres Customs Quay
10. Steamer Moored at Quayside
11. La Ville – The Town
12. The Little Bay
13. The Fort Mauresque
14. Summer Palace of Queens of Aragon (Collioure)
15. Collioure 1924 (Collioure)
16. A Southern Town (Collioure)

On your path...



Redoute Béar (A)
View of Collioure Bay (C)

Nostra Mar (B)

All useful information

⚠ Advices

This route can be done along the coastal path from Collioure to Port-Vendres or in the opposite direction. Be sure to wear good shoes, bring water, and a cap or hat.

How to come ?

Transports

Bus 2€

Access

D914

Advised parking

Pier parking

Accessibility

Parcours citadin dans plus de la moitié de l'itinéraire.

Poussette

Environmental sensitive areas

Along your trek, you will go through sensitive areas related to the presence of a specific species or environment. In these areas, an appropriate behaviour allows to contribute to their preservation. For detailed information, specific forms are accessible for each area.

Zone Natura 2000 Directive Habitat

Sensitivity period:

Zone Natura 2000 Directive Oiseaux

Zone Natura 2000 Directive Oiseaux

Sensitivity period:

Zone Natura 2000 Directive oiseaux

On your path...

Redoute Béar (A)

Due to its strategic maritime position and its proximity to historical boundaries, Port-Vendres has received a great deal of attention from military builders. The historic turning point of the city is around 1659, when after the Treaty of the Pyrenees, King Louis XIV charged Vauban to make "Port-Vendres" a port of war. Go up to the Redoubt Béar built in the 18th century according to the plans of Vauban and immerse yourself in history.

Attribution : CCACVI

Nostra Mar (B)

Club hiking webbed and environmental awareness. Discover the rich marine environment of the Côte Vermeille from the edge with fins, mask and snorkel! Marine, diving instructor and biologist, will guide you. All levels. Equipment provided: fins, mask, snorkel, combination.

Attribution : Nostra Mar

View of Collioure Bay (C)

Collioure, with its rich history, offers various tourist sites, each with a unique but equally extraordinary perspective. The bay of Collioure is one of those stunning spots where the sea meets the mountains, providing a perfect place to relax for a moment. Whether you're down in the Catalan town or at a higher viewpoint, make the most of this one-of-a-kind location.

Attribution : CCACVI