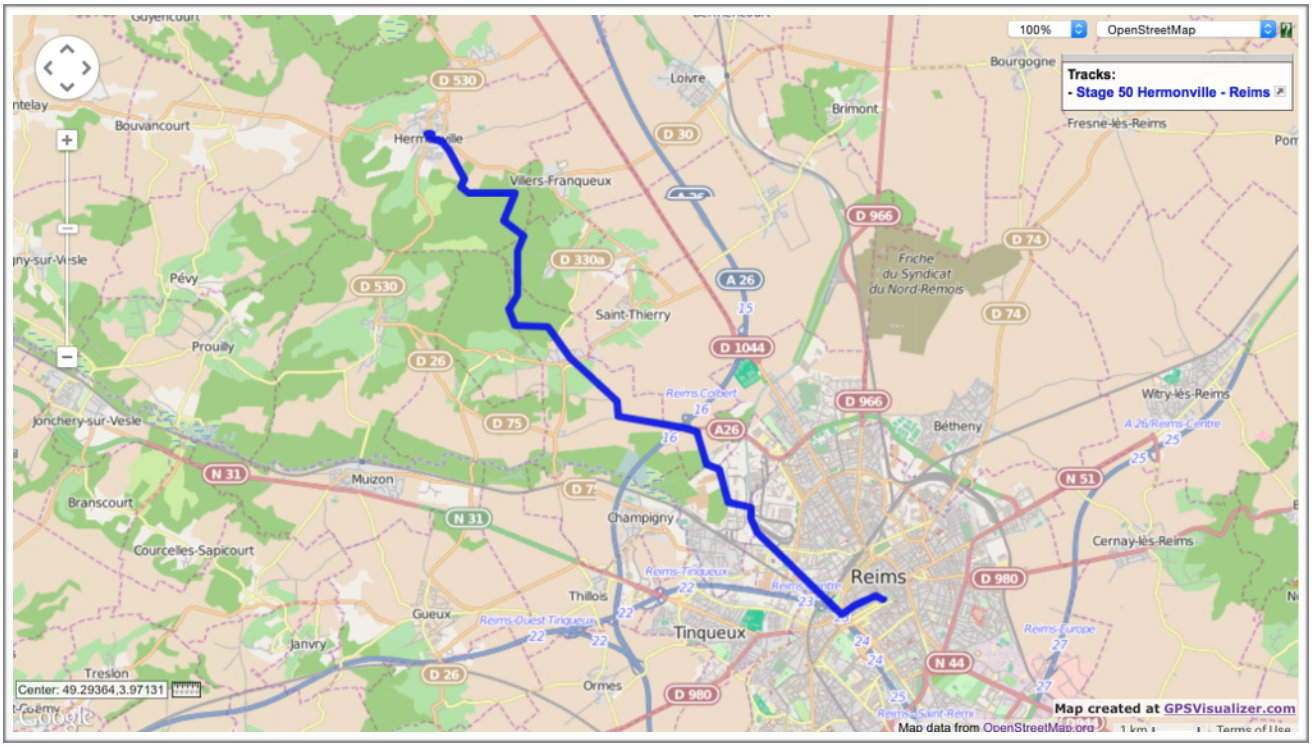
Stage 50 - HERMONVILLE TO REIMS

Distance - 15.9km / 9.8 miles
IGN Top100 Map - 104 Reims Saint - Quentin
Timings - 4 - 4.5 hours average time based on Naismith's rule.
Total ascent - 3m
Total descent - 2m

Description - This stage is predominantly through woodlands and vineyards, with the final section along the canal to Reims. There are a few uphill sections but nothing strenuous.



Walk description

1 - With the Hermonville Mairie behind you take the D30 direction Villers Franqueux, at the bank turn right Rue de Toussicourt and then follow the track into the woods bearing left. Follow the track round 3 sides of the field and then the fork left into the woods.

2 - At the track crossroads go straight ahead bearing slightly right, GR marked. Turn left at the end, up the hill and then right. Continue across the crossroads. The path will bear left. Take the footpath left and immediately right (GR marked on the tree) down a narrow path. Follow the GR markings to the broad track, and then turn right downhill to the road straight on to the village of Merfy, down Rue de Poillon.

3 - Cross the road and proceed out of the village. The road will eventually cross over the motorway, and then turn right to pass underneath power lines. Continue straight ahead on the track (there are quite a few fallen trees to negotiate on this section). Turn left at the T-junction and

then continue straight ahead at the barriers to then take a small track on the left towards the radio mast and the industrial estate.

4 - Go straight ahead on the road, and cross the next road to take the track which will reach the canal. Turn right, follow the canal towpath, and after passing the Congress building on your left pass under the bridge. Take the steps on the right upwards to cross over the canal passing the Congress building on your left again. Follow the road along the pedestrian street for 1km and then turn right on Rue du Tresor to reach Reims centre and the cathedral ahead.