



Mondial Camping,

07150 Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, France

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F: +33 (0)4 75 37 13 73

GPS co-ordinates

Latitude: 44.3978

Longitude: 4.3989



Campsite Information

Mondial Camping, Pont d'Arc

Mondial Camping is a well-shaded site, situated on the river Ardèche. The site is just up river from the magnificent natural arch, Pont d'Arc, and the scenic countryside around the Gorges de l'Ardèche. The large town of Montélimar lies around forty-five minute's drive to the northeast.

Arriving at Mondial Camping

On arrival go to the campsite reception and they will open the barrier. From here, head for the Canvas reception, your Canvas couriers will be here to meet you between 16.00 and 20.00.

Early/Late Arrivals

Please note if you arrive before 16.00, your accommodation may not be ready. If you arrive between 20.00 and 22.00, you will find directions to your courier and/or accommodation at the Canvas reception. Arrivals after 22.00 cannot be accepted on site. Please note that if you do arrive late and cannot be admitted onto the campsite, you have full responsibility for finding alternative off-site accommodation. A Canvas courier will be available on site from 09.00 the following day. Please telephone your couriers if you know that you are going to be late.

Reception

The campsite reception is open in low season from 08.00 until noon and from 15.00 until 19.30. In high season it is open from 08.00 until 19.30.

Barrier

The barrier is controlled with an electronic key, which will be given to you by your Canvas courier upon arrival in exchange for a €10 deposit. The barrier cannot be used between 23.00 and 07.30. If you wish to depart early in the morning or arrive back late at night please leave your car outside the barrier.

Safety Deposit Boxes

Safety deposit boxes are available at the campsite reception, free of charge with a €10 deposit.

Telephone

There are three card-operated and one coin-operated telephones on site. Phone cards are on sale at the campsite reception.

Web/Email Access

This facility is available in the bar.

Shopping

The on-site shop is open in low season from 08.00 to noon and 14.00 to 19.30. In high season the shop is open between 08.00 and 20.00. A variety of produce and basic groceries are on sale as well as fresh bread, croissants, milk, beer, wine, postcards and beach items.



Washing and Toilet Facilities

Washing machines and tumble dryers (tokens are on sale at reception, price €4 for both washing token and drying token), free hot showers, baby bath, baby room and standard and continental toilets.

Post

Stamps are sold at the campsite reception and you can leave your post here.

Eating and Drinking

Bar: The bar is open from 08.00 until 00.00 in high season. In low season the bar is opened subject to demand. There is a satellite television and most major sporting events are shown here.

Takeaway: A selection of food is available to takeaway including pizzas, chips, chicken and steak. The takeaway is open from 08.30 until 22.00 in high season.

Restaurant: The modern restaurant is geared towards families, with a wide choice of simple, local dishes. You can dine à la carte, or choose from one of the set menus. There is a terrace, perfect for dining outdoors. The restaurant opening hours are from 08.30 to 22.00 all season.

Entertainment

The site organises a varied entertainment programme in high season. There is live music, karaoke, disco nights and numerous sports competitions. A children's club operates during high season on site and is free of charge. For all entertainment, check the programme with your couriers or at the campsite reception.

Recreation

Swimming: The pool complex has two swimming pools, one with two small slides and a river with jacuzzi, and there is a separate children's pool. The pools are heated in low season and are floodlit. They lie in an attractive setting surrounded by plants and palm trees.

The pools are open from 09.00 until 19.30. Please note that swimming trunks are compulsory in the pool.

Tennis: Tennis courts can be hired at the campsite reception for €6.50 per hour (free of charge in low season). Tennis equipment is provided.

Archery: In high season you can try archery free of charge. The archery area is next to the river, from 10.00. There is an animator present.

Aqua Aerobics: Aqua aerobics is available during high season, at 10.00, free of charge.

Fishing: River fishing on the Ardèche is available but a permit is required. Permits are available at the Tourist Office in Vallon-Pont d'Arc.

Canoeing: excursions run by campsite, ask at the main reception for details.

Other facilities on this site include table tennis, badminton, volleyball, basketball and boules.

Canvas Active

Canvas Active is available at Mondial Camping. Canvas customers have researched walking routes in the local area. For further details please see the activities booklet, available to download from the Canvas website.

Disabled Facilities

This site meets the Canvas "Recommended for the Disabled" criteria.

Rules and Regulations

- Silence on site from 23.00 to 08.00.
- 10km/ph speed limit on site; cars must be driven in first gear.
- Barbecues are not permitted.
- Swimming trunks are compulsory in the swimming pool.



Local Information

Beach

The on site river beach is stony. River shoes, widely available locally, are recommended. Many water sports are available, including canoeing.

Shopping

Supermarkets: The Intermarché supermarket is the closest, just five minutes' drive from the site. It is open in low season Monday to Saturday, from 08.30 to 12.30 and from 15.00 to 19.00 (high season 08.30-20.00, closed on Sunday afternoon). There is a large Super U (08.30-19.00; open until 20.00 and Sundays until 13.00, in high season) in Ruoms and an E.Leclerc hypermarket in Aubenas.

Souvenirs: There are numerous gift shops in Vallon Pont d'Arc and Ruoms.

Local Markets

Monday: St Agreve, Vogue and Rosieres.

Tuesday: Lamastre, Jaujac, Largentiere and Viviers.

Wednesday: Joyeuse, Coucouran, Le Pouzin, St Peray, Annonay, Le Cheylard and Meyras-Neyrac.

Thursday: Vallon Pont d'Arc, Le Teil, Chomerac.

Friday: Ruoms and Cruas.

Saturday: Aubenas, Les Vans and Privas.

Sunday: St Martin d'Ardèche, Lablachère and Vallon-Pont-d'Arc.

Facilities

Chemist: There are two chemists in Vallon Pont d'Arc, Open from 09.00 to noon and from 14.00 until 19.00.

Petrol: The nearest petrol station is approximately 2km from the site in Salvas, although petrol is cheaper at the Intermarché supermarket in Vallon.

Banks: There is a Crédit Agricole in Vallon, and four other banks with cash dispensers. Banks are closed on Mondays. The Intermarché supermarket also has a cash dispenser.

Post Office: There is a post office in Vallon on Ave Jean Jaures, next to the large car park.

Tourist Information: The nearest tourist information office is in Vallon, opposite the post office.

Distances

Pont d'Arc:	8km (5 miles)
Largentière:	25km (15 miles)
Montélimar:	56km (35 miles)
Châteauneuf-du-Pape:	75km (47 miles)

Local Transport

The nearest train station is in Montélimar (TGV), to the east of the site.

Please check routes and times at the campsite reception or with your couriers.

Doctor

Cabinet Médical du Pont d'Arc
71 Bld Peschaire Alizon, Vallon Pont d'Arc.
Tel: 04 75 88 18 18.

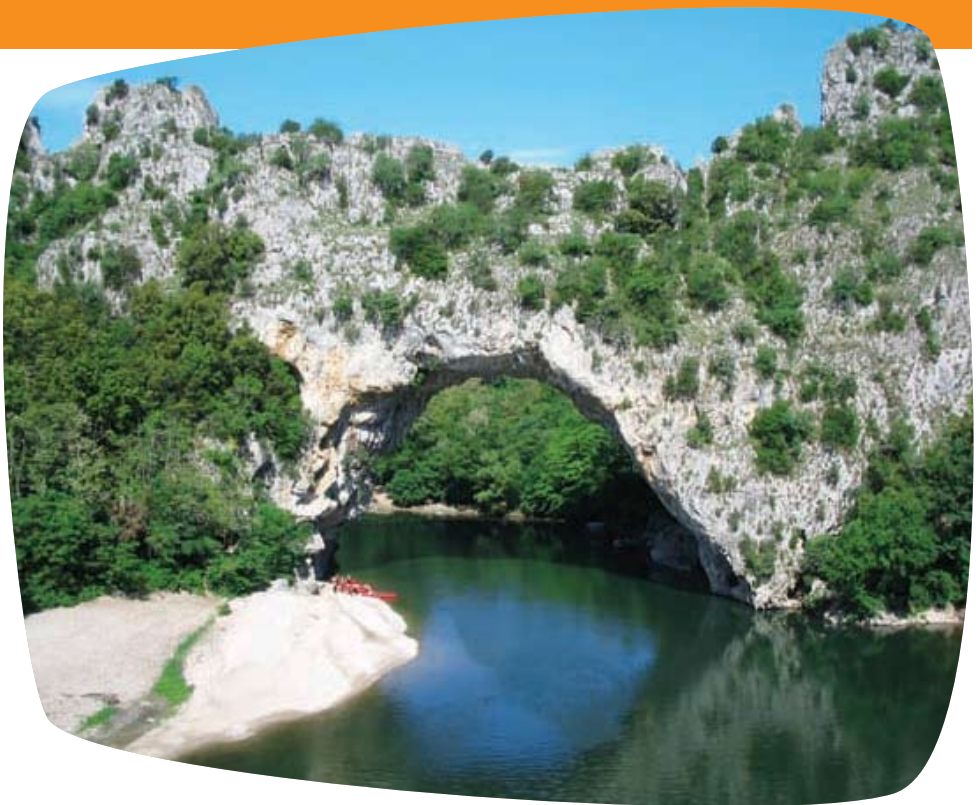
Dentist

Cabinet Dentaire
Place Allende Néruada, Vallon Pont d'Arc.
Tel: 04 75 88 05 38.

Emergency Services

There is a two-digit phone number for emergency services:

Police	17
Fire	18
Ambulance	15



Eating and Drinking

You may like to try these restaurants and bars, which have been recommended by Canvas customers and couriers in previous years:

Au Vieux Porche: *La Bastide de Virac.* The best value in the region! This restaurant comes highly recommended. Excellent four-course menu of home-cooked dishes. Dine inside or on the terrace.

Le Chelsea: *Vallon Pont d'Arc.* Bar/Restaurant with lovely shady garden terrace, ideal for a warm evening. Typical Provençale food and children are welcome.

Point d'Interrogation • *Vallon Pont d'Arc.* Excellent choice and good value set menu. Wide choice of inexpensive wine. Dine inside this quaint restaurant or sit outside in the pedestrianised alleyway.

La Papaye • A welcoming restaurant with a wide selection of dishes on offer, including fish and meat dishes. Set menus are available at reasonable prices.

Nearby

The tourist shops of Vallon Pont d'Arc are enjoyable to wander around with fine examples of local ceramics, lavender, wine and jewellery for sale. There is a weekly evening market in high season. Visit the town hall in Vallon Pont d'Arc to see the tapestries of the village.

The Pont d'Arc is a magnificent natural arch, with footpaths leading to its base.

Activities

The main activities in this area are canoeing and kayaking. The campsite organises group descents and mini descents - check prices and further details with your couriers.

Out and About

Pont du Gard is an exceptionally well-preserved three-tiered Roman aqueduct, which was once part of a 50km-long system of canals built around 19BC to bring water from Uzès to Nîmes.

The best view of the Pont du Gard is from the hill on the northern side (left bank) about 200m from the aqueduct.

Gorges de l'Ardèche • The gorges are at their most spectacular between Pont d'Arc and St Martin. Between these two points a corniche road gives spectacular views plummeting into a limestone gorge

carved through the Bas Vivarais by the waters of the Ardèche.

Follow it, passing narrow ravines and waterfalls, broad meadows and pastures, through a succession of fine old towns, villages, castles, caves, and abbeys.

Uzès • The setting for the 1990 film 'Cyrano de Bergerac', this medieval town is a great place to spend the day. Stroll around the narrow streets and tiny squares; visit the herb garden and the Château Ducal which offers guided tours. Canvas customers have recommended the Saturday market here.

Nîmes • An industrial city with some outstanding Roman remains. The Maison Carrée is a Roman temple dating from 1st Century AD, which now houses the Musée Archéologique (in Bd. Victor-Hugo, open daily). At the other end of Bd. Victor-Hugo is the Arènes. Considered one of the world's best-preserved amphitheatres, the Arènes is now used for various functions, from exhibitions to bullfights. The Jardin de la Fontaine, at the end of Quai de la Fontaine, is a formal garden designed in the 18th century. At the far end of the garden is the Tour Magne, the city's oldest Roman monument. Climb to the top for a fine view of the city. Nîmes has a number of museums and you can buy a "passport" ticket from the tourist office, which admits you to all the museums and monuments (including the above) and is valid for 3 days.

St-Jean-du-Gard • A bright and cheerful town situated in the centre of the Cévennes mountains. Here you can catch Le Train à Vapeur des Cévennes, a steam train that chugs through the spectacular scenery of the Vallée des Gardons. You can stop at the Bambouseraie or just relax and enjoy the trip. Visit the Musée des Vallées Cévenoles to see traditional objects in daily use. Children will enjoy a trip to the Magic Voyage, a transport museum with a difference (open daily). Near St-Jean, in Mas Soubeyran, is the Musée du Désert which recaptures life at the time of the Camisards' struggle to achieve liberty in the 17th and 18th Centuries (open daily).

Regional Information

Cévennes, Tarn & Ardèche

The natural beauty of the region makes it ideal for outdoors activities. This is a region of breathtaking beauty with impressive rock formations and deep gorges, where rivers have carved channels in the limestone. The unspoilt countryside has green valleys, chestnut tree orchards and pine woods, open heaths and pasture. Little rivers and streams flow through meadows and woods. Quiet villages are hidden on hillsides and there is an abundance of wildlife. This area is as rich in history and cultural heritage as it is in natural beauty. Fine examples of Roman architecture can be seen, for example the magnificent engineering of the Pont du Gard and the amphitheatre at Nîmes. There are medieval remains, superb examples of Romanesque architecture and museums whose exhibits confirm the presence of a culture from prehistory to the present day.



Eating & Drinking – Regional Specialities

Roquefort cheese, garlic, olive oil and aromatic herbs feature strongly. Other specialities include wild boar stew, hot crayfish mousse, trout and candied chestnuts. Try cassoulet, a hearty stew of beans, flavoured with sausage, pork and mutton and preserved goose, and scented with garlic. Brandade de morue is salt cod pounded to a cream with milk, garlic and olive oil. The local lamb often tastes of the herbs that grow in the sheep pastures. The charcuterie is generally excellent and for the sweet-toothed there are plenty of delicious pastries, tarts, cakes and fruit. To wash it all down there is a wide selection of wine from the Côtes du Rhône and Languedoc and Roussillon. There are also liqueurs made with chestnuts, raspberries, blackberries, blueberries, peaches and pear-brandly.

Things to do and see

*A • an admission charge is payable for these attractions

Family Fun

La Bambouseraie • Spectacular gardens with more than 150 varieties of bamboo, as well as sequoias, banana trees and many rare plants. In Anduzes (*A).

Wildlife Attractions

La Ferme aux Crocodiles • Children will enjoy a visit to this crocodile farm - a good trip for a rainy day. Pierrelatte, south of Montélimar, 10 mins from the A7. (Open daily, *A).

Les Aigles de Beaucaire • Set within the grounds of this castle and its magnificent towers, the roman arena is the setting for this bird display. Free flying birds of prey swoop around the arena close to visitors heads. The falconers are dressed in medieval costume to add to the effect. It is located between Avignon and Arles.

Natural Beauty

Parc National des Cévennes • Of the seven French National Parks this is the largest and has an extensive range of wildlife and an overwhelming variety of wild flora. The rich plant life supports a huge variety of insects with some spectacular grasshoppers, crickets and swallowtail butterflies. Wall and green lizards are often seen sunning themselves. Bird life includes hoopoes, crag martins, buzzards and short-toed eagles. You may also spot golden eagles, black kites and peregrines. Griffon vultures have recently been re-established in this area.

Museums

Musée de Bonbon-Haribo • The museum is located in Pont-des-Charrettes, near Uzès. The visit is a magical moment for children, while at the same time reviving childhood memories for their parents. During

your visit you will learn how the sweets are made, see old-time advertisements, drawings and films, and enjoy the scents and flavours of the different sweets made in the adjoining factory. There is parking close to the museum (*A).

Zoo Préhistorique • At the Aven Grotte Marzal, you can visit the cave and this prehistoric exhibition. See life-size models of prehistoric animals and human models showing development from 180 million years ago to the present day. On the D201 between St. Remèze and Bidon. Tel: 04 75 04 12 45 (*A).

Caves

Some of the many caves around the Gorges de l'Ardèche and local area are detailed below

Aven d'Orgnac • is the most important cave in the area and is listed as one of the top sites in France (*A).

Aven Grotte de Marzal • Near St Remèze, known for the colour and variety of its stalactites and stalagmites (*A).

Grottes de St-Marcel-d'Ardeche • 10km from Saint Marcel Village (*A).

Aven-Grotte de la Forestiere • On the D217 between Vallon Pont d'Arc and Orgnac.

Grotte de la Madeleine • Near Saint-Remèze, which contains the remains of ice-age animals (*A).

Grotte La Cocalière • is the fun cave for children, because they get to sit on a little train that brings you

back to the entrance. Situated north of St Ambroix on the D104 (*A).

Grotte de Trabuc • near St-Jean-du-Gard is one of the largest caves in the Cévennes, where the Camisards (18th Century peasants who fought for the right to freedom of worship) took refuge (Open daily, *A).

Grotte des Demoiselles • You are transported into the enormous cave on a funicular railway to see its magnificent formations in Saint-Bauzille-de-Putois. On the D986 south of Ganges (Open daily *A).

Places of Interest

Orange • A small town with a superb Roman theatre. Dating from the 1st century BC, the Théâtre Antique is one of the best-preserved classical theatres in existence. Noted for its acoustics, classical plays are still performed here on a regular basis.

The Arc de Triomphe, at the north entrance of the town, was built to honour the conquering legions of Caesar around 25 AD. At the Parc de la Colline St-Eutrope, behind the Théâtre Antique you get a fine view of the theatre and the surrounding valley.

Avignon • The spectacular city of Avignon is an essential stop in Provence. Thirty-nine towers and seven gates punctuate the ramparts surrounding the city.

The Palais des Papes (Papal Palace) is a must-see. In 1309, Pope Clement V moved the Seat of the Roman Catholic Church to Avignon "the other Rome". During the 14th century, seven French popes and two anti-popes ruled from this white fortress. The Rocher des Doms gardens surround the palace.

One of the most elegant streets in Avignon is the rue Joseph Vernet, adjacent to the Calvet museum and the Requien Museum.

Within Avignon, you will find a cultural treasure-trove including a university, an opera house, theatre companies, and town squares with mimes, musicians and other performers. Be on the lookout for Tromp l'oeil windows and walls decorating the city, especially around the Place de l'Horloge. The Place de l'Horloge is located at the entrance to the Papal Palace and is the centre of café life. It is the place to stop for lunch or a cool drink.

Every effort has been made to ensure the information contained within this guide, to the best of our knowledge, is both helpful and correct at time of going to press (March 2010). Canvas Holidays cannot accept responsibility for inaccuracies contained herein.

