



Camping de la Pointe de St Gilles,
29950 Bénodet, France.

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GPS co-ordinates

Latitude: 47.8631

Longitude: -4.0944



Campsite Information

Camping de la Pointe St Gilles, Bénodet

Camping de la Pointe St Gilles is an exceptional campsite close to the resort of Bénodet. The site is located opposite a sandy beach in an area which boasts a mix of lively and quaint resorts. The medieval town of Quimper lies ten miles to the north of site and the popular fishing port of Concarneau is just fourteen miles away.

Arriving at Camping de la Pointe St Gilles

On arrival go to the campsite reception who will give you a code for the barrier and security bracelets (no charge). Go to 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 onsite. 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 welcoming, friendly campsite reception is open daily and English is spoken here. It is open from 09.00 to 19.00 in low season. In high season it is open from 08.00 to 20.00.

Barrier

The barrier is closed between 23.00 and 08.00. Should you wish to depart early in the morning or arrive back late at night, please leave your car outside in the car park.

Safety Deposit Boxes

This facility is available on the campsite at a cost of €3 per day.

Telephone

There are two coin-operated telephones on the campsite and there are two card-operated phones just off site. Phone cards can be purchased from the campsite reception.

Web Access

You can access the internet at main reception on site, fees are €5 for 30 units, and €9 for 60 units. WiFi is also available, fees are €7 for one hour and €9 for two hours.

Shopping

The large on-site shop sells a good range of groceries and fresh produce, as well as fresh bread and croissants. It is open from 08.30 until 12.30 and from 16.30 until 19.30 in low season. In high season the shop is open from 08.30 until 13.00 and 16.30 until 20.00. There is also a small shop selling souvenirs, which has the same opening hours.

Washing and Toilet Facilities

Washing machines and tumble dryers, tokens are on sale at reception, washing tokens are €6 and drying tokens are €4, free hot showers, baby bath, wash cubicles with hot water, standard and continental toilets.

Post

There is a post box on site, outside the campsite reception.

Eating and Drinking

Bar: The on site bar is large and modern and is home to much of the organised entertainment in high season. The bar has satellite television and sometimes shows British television channels. The bar is open from 19.00 until midnight all season. The bar terrace overlooks the pool complex. Please note that children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by their parents.

Takeaway: Good selections of freshly cooked dishes are available at the takeaway including hot and cold dishes, salads, cakes and desserts. It is open from 18.00 until 20.30 in low season. In high season it is open from 12.00 until 14.00 and from 17.30 until 21.30

Entertainment

During July and August the campsite animateur organises a varied programme of entertainment including family disco nights, quiz nights and sports competitions and tournaments. In low season there are also some events organised. Please check with your couriers or at the campsite reception for a detailed programme of the organised entertainment on offer.

Recreation

Swimming: The pool complex has two swimming pools (heated), a children's pool with small water slides, two jacuzzis (over 25's only), waterslides and a water chute. The pools are surrounded by sunbathing terraces which have sunloungers, tables and chairs. The pools are open from 10.00 until 19.00. The water slides are open between 13.30 and 19.00. The pools are supervised in high season and please note that swimming trunks are compulsory.

Tennis: Tennis courts can be booked at the campsite reception for a charge of €8 per hour. The courts are located a short walk away from the campsite, next to the football pitch.

Table tennis: Table tennis tables are available on site throughout the season, free of charge.

Football: There is a football pitch, available throughout the season at the games field, a short walk from the campsite entrance.

Aqua gym: The animateur organises an aqua gym in high season.

Fitness circuit: The fitness circuit is available throughout the season, free of charge - please check further details with your couriers.

Bike hire: This is available on site. Prices for an adult bike are approximately €4 for an hour to €45 for the week. Please note that you will need to leave a piece of identification as a deposit for all bike hire.

Playground: The play area has swings, a slide and a roundabout and is located opposite the campsite reception.

There are also facilities on site for boules, short tennis and basketball and there is a large games field. A small train, the 'dotto' train, calls regularly at the campsite and will take you to and from the town and along the seafront.

Canvas Active

Canvas Active is available at Camping de la Pointe St Gilles. Canvas customers have researched golf courses in the local area. For further details please see the Activities Booklet, available to download from the Canvas Holiday website.

Rules and Regulations

- Silence on site between 23.00 and 08.00.
- 10km/h speed limit on site.
- No driving on site between 23.00 and 07.00.
- Swimming trunks are compulsory in the pools.
- Rubbish must be recycled in the designated bins.
- Children must be supervised in the pools.
- No inflatables in the pool.
- Security bracelets must be worn at all times.



Local Information

Beaches

From the site, a short stroll will take you to a small sandy and rocky beach. A few hundred yards further, you will find an enclosed lagoon with a good sandy and pebble beach. The nearby resort of Beg-Meil has two excellent beaches with children's clubs and sailing schools. There is a great beach at Cap Coz, recommended by previous Canvas customers as it is sheltered and good for young children. There is also a sailing and windsurfing school on this beach.

Shopping

Supermarkets: There are several supermarkets in Bénodet including a large Champion supermarket on the Quimper side of Bénodet, open Monday-Saturday, 08.45 to 19.30 (closed 12.30 to 14.15 Monday to Thursday).

For a hypermarket you will have to travel a little further afield to either Géant in Quimper or E.Leclerc in Concarneau.

Souvenirs: There are several gift and souvenir shops in Bénodet, Beg-Meil, Fouesnant and Quimper.

Quimper faïence (glazed earthenware), which is inspired by traditional Breton designs, makes an unusual gift. The shop just behind Faïenceries HB Henriot factory at Place Bérardier in Quimper has an excellent selection.

Local Markets

Monday: Bénodet, Concarneau and Île Tudy.

Tuesday: Loctudy, Pont-Aven, Port la Foret (July and August 19.00) Trégunc and Guilvinec.

Wednesday: Quimper, Beg Meil (July and August only), Combrit (Sainte Marine) Trégunc and Lorient.

Thursday: Pont l'Abbé and Névez.

Friday: Fouesnant, Concarneau, Quimper and Névez.

Saturday: Quimper and Douarnenez.

Sunday: La Fôret Fouesnant and Guilvinec.

The market in Quimper is held in the Halles de St Francis. On Saturdays the extra large market spills out onto the streets.

Concarneau also has a daily covered market on Place Jean Jaurés, with Friday being the best day to visit.

Facilities

Banks: There are several banks in Bénodet with cash dispensers; the Champion supermarket also has a cash dispenser.

Petrol: Fuel is available at the Champion supermarket in Bénodet, open the same hours as the supermarket. It is cheaper to buy petrol at the supermarket than at petrol stations.

Chemist: Is on Avenue de la Mer in Bénodet. Open from 09.00 until 12.30 and from 15.00 until 19.30.

Post Office: Is at 18, rue de l'Eglise, Bénodet. Open from Monday-Friday from 09.00 until midday and from 14.00 until 17.00. On Saturday open from 09.00 until 12.00.



Tourist Information: Is on Ave de la Mer in Bénodet. It is open weekdays from 09.30 until noon and from 14.00 until 17.00. In high season, open 09.00 to 19.00 Monday to Saturday and 10.00 to 18.00 on Sunday.

Distances

Bénodet: a short walk from the campsite.

Beg Meil: 12km (8 miles)

Quimper: 17km (10 miles)

Concarneau: 20km (14 miles)

Local Transport

The nearest train station is Quimper with connections to Vannes, Rennes and Nantes. SNCF buses from the Gare Routière serve most local coastal towns including Concarneau, Pont-Aven, Bénodet and Pont l'Abbé.

Doctor

Dr Gasnier, 35, Rue Charcot, Bénodet.

Tel: 02 98 57 22 21.

Dentist

Dr Annick Mathis, 7 Rue Laonnect, Bénodet.

Tel: 02 98 57 08 08.

Emergency Services

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

Police 17

Fire 18

Ambulance 15

Eating and Drinking

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

Crêperie Capucine, Fouesnant. A wide range of both sweet and savoury crêpes are available at this family-run establishment.

La Porte Au Vin, Concarneau. Seafood platters are the speciality here and children are made very welcome with their own menu.

Hôtel de la Pointe de Moustérlin, Fouesnant. This hotel restaurant is in peaceful surroundings and offers reasonably priced dishes.

Hôtel de Bretagne, Fouesnant. The set menu is highly recommended here for quality and value. A children's menu is also available.

L'Auberge du Bon Cidre, Fouesnant. This has been recommended by Canvas customers for families with older children. It serves good seafood at reasonable prices.

Les Embruns, Bénodet. This brasserie and pizzeria has also been recommended by Canvas customers, for its friendly, English-speaking staff and quality of food.

Nearby

The popular fishing port of Concarneau is eleven miles from site and is best visited in the afternoon or early evening. There is plenty to do in this charming port - visit the old harbour, the shopping arcade or take a tour around the city walls.

Family Fun

Océanopolis is a vast aquarium and sea life centre located in Brest. It is the main research centre in France for marine life - there are thousands of varieties of fish and sea life including sharks and penguins. (*A)

Out and About

The city of Quimper is the political capital of the region. There are many excellent shops here and the architecture is something to behold. A visit to the picturesque town of Pont-Aven is worthwhile. The town has an artistic feel to it. Make sure you visit the water mills, the artist's workshops (ateliers) and the riverside houses.



Regional Information

Brittany

Brittany is one of the most distinctive and beautiful regions in France, with a unique character and 1,200kms of coastline. In Breton it is called the land of Armor (the sea). Long beaches of soft sand and rocky headlands combine with a multitude of smaller coves, often with interesting rock pools.

This is also the land of Argoat (the forest). The interior of the region is a captivating blend of forest and woodland, vast moors covered with yellow broom, purple heather and pasture.

Eating & Drinking – Regional Specialities

Brittany is, of course, famous for its crêpes and galettes. Galettes are made with buckwheat flour and are eaten with savoury fillings. As a dessert, try a crêpe stuffed with fresh fruit or smeared with chocolate or kirsch. Quimper lace pancakes are a speciality. If you like seafood, Brittany is the best place to be. A delicious dish is homard à l'armoricaine, lobster flambéed in cognac and served in a tomato and wine sauce with onions, garlic and herbs. Try Coquilles St. Jacques, scallops in white wine sauce with piped potato, and Cotriade the regional fish stew. Don't leave without tasting the fabulous oysters from Belon near Pont-Aven.

There are also many traditional cakes with butter (in generous measure), a prime ingredient of most recipes. Try the famous kouign-amann (a puff pastry cake layered with sugar), or quatre-quarts (a light sponge cake often mixed with fruit, almonds and raisins).

Cider, made from apples or pears, is the main drink, with the best coming from Fouesnant and Beg-Meil. Brittany also produces lamrig, a kind of brandy from the cider apple, and chouchen, a honey based mead.

Things to do and see

*A • An admission charge is payable for these attractions

Family Fun

Les Balnéides • An indoor water centre. Choose from pools, slides (including the longest waterslide in Brittany), saunas and jacuzzis. Near Beg-Meil, 15km south of Quimper (*A). Les Balnéides is open every day from 10.00 to 20.00. Please note that swimming trunks are compulsory. Please see the Local Information Folder in Canvas reception for opening hours and prices.

Océanopolis • A fabulous crab-shaped aquarium and research centre, where you can discover a great variety of marine life. In Brest (*A). It is approximately an hour's drive on the N165 expressway on the northwest Brittany coast and is home to 60% of France's research into marine life. Not only will you see thousands of fish, ranging from plankton to sharks, Océanopolis also has a Polar Pavilion with hundreds of penguins to entertain you, added to a Tropical Pavilion with a living coral reef!

Parc de Préhistoire de Bretagne • See the life-size scenes with dinosaurs and humans in various stages of evolution. The wooded park also has five lakes, ancient wells and slate quarries. In Malansac, off the D755, 35km east of Vannes (open daily, *A).

Odet-Loisirs • Leisure park, found north-east of Quimper, on the D15 between Quimper and Coray, offering giant table football, slides, trampolines, bouncy castles, rope bridges, flying fox and a picnic area amongst a host of other activities. Previous Canvas Holidays customers have recommended this activity park as an excellent day out for all the family. (*A)



Parc Zoologique de Pont-Scorff • See the large collection of wild animals. Near Pont-Scorff, 5km northwest of Lorient, off the RN165 (open daily, *A). The tour can last up to two hours long, indeed longer if you should decide to take in any of the free, regular displays. The enclosures are relatively generous, the viewpoints good enough to ensure a proper look at the animals and the farmyard animals can be fed by the children. Previous Canvas customers have recommended it as a good activity for a cloudy day.

Places of Interest

Bénodet • A charming town with a popular sandy beach and plenty of promenade cafés and seafood restaurants. It is joined by a bridge to Ste Marine, which offers spectacular views of the Odet Estuary and the marina. From the church, take a boat trip to the Glénan Islands - then take a glass bottom boat around the islands to enjoy the beautiful clear waters and see the amazing sea fauna.

Belle-Ile • Catch the ferry to this idyllic island in the lively spa town of Quiberon. On the northeast side of the island, Sauzon is a picturesque fishing port. You can see across to the Quiberon Peninsula and the Gulf of Morbihan from the Pointe des Poulains. If the keeper is available, climb the lighthouse near Port Goulphar to admire the views.

Concarneau • A lively, historic fishing port which has an old walled castle at its centre. The Ville Close is on a rocky island protected by granite ramparts and a fortified bridge. Inside, browse around the many craft shops and visit the Musée de la Pêche whose models and exhibits illustrate the traditions of the fishing industry (open daily *A).

Take a boat trip to the Îles de Glénan and the Odet estuary.

Locronan • A charming village with beautifully preserved Renaissance buildings around its central square.

Lorient • Sunday is an ideal day to visit this pleasant town and take advantage of its bountiful weekly market. It also boasts the very attractive L'Amour Plage, and a wide choice of restaurants and bars. The revitalised dockland and modernised fish market at Lorient gives you an interesting walk around its vast harbour. Boat trips to Ile de Groix are a popular excursion from here.

Pont-Aven • This village was home to Paul Gauguin who founded what has come to be known as the School of Pont-Aven. It is still as picturesque as it was then with its riverside houses, water mills and walks in the Bois d'Amour. The Musée de Pont-Aven (open daily, *A) houses a photography exhibition documenting the life and works of the artists. Take

the Route of the Painters near Pont-Aven which leads you to the tiny chapel in Trémalo and the woodcarving, which inspired Van Gogh's Christ Jaune.

Quimper • The cultural and political centre of the region has an air of dignity and prosperity that sets it apart from the lively coastal resorts. The old quarters have changed little over the centuries and the narrow streets of half-timbered houses can be visited on guided tours. The Musée des Beaux-Arts displays paintings by the Pont-Aven school of artists and works by Rubens, Corot and Picasso (*A). The Musée Départemental Breton has a fine collection of costumes, pottery and furniture (*A). The Celtic Festival de Cornouaille is held in late July. In nearby Ste-Anne-la-Palud one of Brittany's biggest pardons is held on the last Sunday in August.

Quimperlé • An attractive, atmospheric little town situated near the confluence of the rivers Ellé and Isolé. Visit on a Friday for the delightful market and saunter around the maze of medieval lanes.

Locmariaquer • This pretty oyster port which guards the neck of the Golfe du Morbihan rivals Carnac in archaeological importance. Its main sites lie in a fenced compound north of the village. They include a huge menhir on its side. In Neolithic times it would have measured over 20m high and which now lies broken in four sections. Locmariaquer is a peaceful place with attractive south facing beaches and a pleasant old harbour from where you can embark on a variety of boat trips.



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.