

Camping la Palombière,
24200 Sainte Nathalène, France

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F: +33 (0)5 53 28 45 40

GPS co-ordinates

Latitude: 44.9069

Longitude: 1.2919



Campsite Information

Camping La Palombière, Sarlat

Camping La Palombière is set amidst rolling hills and unspoilt countryside between the Dordogne and Vézère Valleys. The medieval, honey coloured, winding streets of Sarlat are just seven miles away, and the spectacular cliff top château at Beynac is a mere five and a half miles from the site.

Arriving at La Palombière

On arrival go to 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 from 09.30 until 12.00 and from 14.00 until 16.00 all season.

Barrier

The campsite barrier is closed from 23.00 until 08.00; driving is not permitted on site during these hours. Should you wish to depart early in the morning or arrive back late at night, please leave your car outside.

Currency Exchange

Currency can be exchanged at the campsite reception. A small commission fee is payable for this service.

Safety Deposit Boxes

Safety deposit boxes are available for rental at the campsite reception.

Telephone

There are two card-operated telephones on site, located next to the bar. Phone cards can be purchased from the campsite reception.



Recreation

Swimming: Camping La Palombière has a great swimming complex with two pools, an interconnecting toboggan, and a small children's pool. There is also a spacious sun terrace on which to relax. The complex is open from 10.00 to 20.00 throughout the season.

Tennis: Tennis courts can be hired throughout the season from the campsite reception for €8 per hour.

Mini Golf: A course is available, costing €5 per person, and a deposit is also required.

Bicycle hire: Bicycles are available to hire and helmets are also available if required. Prices range from €4.50 - €50.

Other on-site activities include football, volleyball, boules, badminton, table-tennis and aqua aerobics. There is a games room with a selection of video games. Horse riding and canoeing can also be booked through the campsite reception.

Canvas Active

Canvas Active guides are available to download. Canvas customers have researched walking in the local area. For further details please see www.canvasolidays.com.

Rules and Regulations

- Silence on site between 22.00 and 07.00
- 10km/ph speed limit on site.
- Glass bottles must be disposed of in the recycling bins provided on site.
- No driving onsite after 23.00.
- Park your car on your designated parking space.

Web/Email Access

There is Internet access on site in the bar (you need a phone card to use it). It costs €5 for 1/2 hour, €8 an hour or €15 for 2 hours. There is also WiFi access available on the campsite. There are also several cyber cafés in Sarlat. Please ask your courier for directions and opening hours.

Shopping

The on-site shop is located next to the campsite reception. A good choice of groceries is on sale. It is open from 09.00 until 12.00 and from 17.00 until 20.00 in high season. Hours may vary in low season.

Washing and Toilet Facilities

Washing machines and tumble dryers (tokens are available from the campsite reception), free iron hire, free hot showers, wash cubicles with hot water, standard toilets and baby room.

Post

There is a post box on site, next to the campsite reception, and stamps are sold at the campsite reception.

Eating and Drinking

Bar: The bar is in an old converted farm building and is open every day from 09.00 until 12.00 and 14.00 until 00.00 Entertainment is organised in high season. Snacks and pizzas are available from the bar.

Takeaway: The takeaway serves dishes from the restaurant and is open 12.00 to 14.30 and 18.30 to 22.00.

Restaurant: The onsite restaurant is open from 12.00 until 14.30 and from 18.30 until 22.00 in low season. In high season it is open from 12.00 to 14.30 and 18.30 to 23.00. It offers a good range of local dishes, salads, steaks, pizzas and a children's menu at reasonable prices.

Entertainment

The campsite organises a number of sporting and cultural events in high season. Please ask on site for more information.

Local Information

Shopping

Supermarkets: The nearest supermarket is Champion, which is situated on the right just after the left turn for Les Eyzies. It is open from 09.00 to 19.45 from Monday to Saturday, and from 09.00 to 11.45 on Sunday mornings. For a greater selection, but a little further afield, try the E. Leclerc supermarket, which is on the other side of Sarlat, on the D704 to Carsac and Gourdon. It is open from Monday to Friday from 09.00 to 22.00, Saturday 09.00 to 19.30 and Sunday 09.00 to 12.30.

Souvenirs: There are numerous gift and souvenir shops in the towns in the surrounding area. The local markets offer some good souvenirs.

Local Markets

Monday:	Les Eyzies, and Cadouin (pm, high season only).
Tuesday:	Le Bugue, Beaumont, St Alvere, and St Amand-de-Coly (pm).
Wednesday:	Périgueux, Siorac and Belvès (pm in high season).
Thursday:	Domme, Monpazier, Meyrals and St Julien-de-Lampon.
Friday:	Souillac and Le Buisson
Saturday:	Sarlat, Le Bugue, Beaumont, Périgueux, Gourdon and Belvès.
Sunday:	St Genies, St Cyprien, Fumel, Issigeac and Bergerac.

There is also a flea market on the 1st Sunday of each month in Bergerac.

Facilities

Petrol: The petrol station with the best prices can be found at Champion in Sarlat where petrol is available 24 hours.

Chemist: The nearest chemist is Pharmacie Delaisis at 47, rue de la République in Sarlat. Open Monday to Friday from 09.00 to 12.30 and 14.00 to 19.30, and all day Saturday. Please note that it is closed Sundays and Monday mornings.

Banks: There are several banks with exchange facilities in Sarlat. The Credit Agricole has a 24 hour cash dispenser. Hypermarkets and supermarkets also often have cash dispensers.

Post Office: There is a post office in Sarlat, which is open from 09.00 to 17.30 on Monday, 08.30 to 17.30 Tuesday to Friday and 08.30 to 12.00 on Saturday.

Tourist Information: The tourist information bureau is on rue Tourny in Sarlat. In low season it is open from 09.00 until 12.00 and from 14.00 until 19.00. In high season it is open all day from 09.00 until 19.00 and on Sundays from 10.00 until 12.00 and from 14.00 until 18.00.

Distances

Sarlat-la-Canéda:	8km (5 miles)
Salagnac-Eyvigues:	13km (8 miles)
Domme:	22km (14 miles)
Beynac-et-Cazenac:	20km (12 miles)

Local Transport

There are train stations in Sarlat and Souillac, both offering connections to other regions of France.

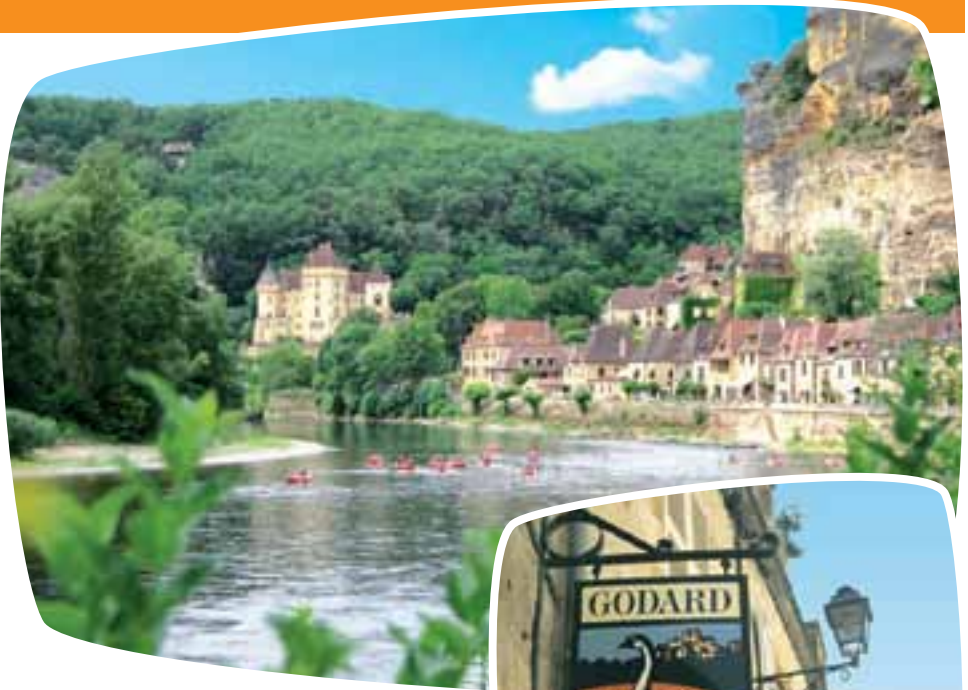
Doctor

Dr Girault in Carsac
Tel: 05 53 28 15 08.

There are several other doctors at the 'Cabinet Medical' in Sarlat at 19 rue Cordeliers.

Dentist

Cabinet Medical
Carsac
Tel: 05 53 28 16 67



There are also several other dentists in Sarlat.

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.

Restaurant Rossignol: In Sarlat. Périgord-style cuisine with menus at reasonable prices. The fish is especially recommended.

La Vieille Auberge: In St Geniès. Regional specialties and a children's menu, all at reasonable prices. Closed on Monday evenings. Highly recommended year upon year.

Crêperie Les Tulipes: On Avenue du 26 Juin 1944, Sarlat. A friendly crêperie, which is especially good for lunch when you can sit on the terrace. Traditional Dutch pancakes are served here by the couple who run the restaurant. Closed on Wednesdays.

La Belle Etoile: In La Roque Gagéac. This restaurant has a lovely setting and a friendly atmosphere.

Hotel l'Esplanade: In Domme. This is a high quality restaurant with great views along the valley. The duck dishes and the cheese board in particular have been recommended.

Activities

Try a riverboat trip from La Roque Gagéac, which takes in five of the best châteaux in the area. For a completely different perspective of the area, try a hot air balloon flight from La Roque Gagéac. Flights are run daily between July and October. There are also many different adventure sports available including karting, canoeing, rafting, climbing and horse riding.

The River Dordogne

The origin of the river's name comes from the Celtic "Dur-únna" which means fast water. The source of the river is in the Puy-de-Dôme area of the Massif Central. It then makes its descent eastwards towards the Gironde River and then finally the Atlantic Ocean. During its course it drops a great deal in altitude. This explains the strong flow of the river throughout its course, and makes it fairly dangerous at certain points. There are numerous activities to encounter along its banks including fishing and canoeing. Also



along the banks there is impressive evidence of the area's interesting history.

Nearby

St Léon-sur-Vézère: This lovely village is in a pretty riverside setting with two castles and one of the finest Romanesque churches in the region. This sleepy village, lying on a tree-lined loop of the Vézère River, is close to the region's centres of prehistory and is exceptionally picturesque. The church was built in the 12th century as part of a Benedictine priory and has a magnificent apse and a two-storey bell tower.

St Amand-de-Coly: The tiny village of St Amand-de-Coly boasts an awe-inspiring 12th-century fortified church, the mightiest in Périgord and one of the most unusual in France. The west front of the church is built like a castle keep with 4m thick walls. Inside there are high-level walkways from where the villagers could bombard marauders during the Wars of Religion. There is also a labyrinthine network of concealed staircases and passageways.

Sarlat-la-Canéda: This beautiful town, made from golden stone, is full of Gothic and Renaissance buildings. It is a lively commercial centre with a large market on Saturdays. The old centre still evokes the spirit of the 16th and 17th centuries when it was an important intellectual and ecclesiastical centre. To the west of the main street, known as La Traverse, is a labyrinth of narrow twisting alleys, flanked by half-timbered houses often with picturesque windows and balconies. The Maison de la Boétie, in the Place du Payrou, is one of the finest Renaissance houses in Sarlat. Built in the 16th century it has decorative gables and carved stonework around the windows. The Rue des Consuls also has several fine buildings, among them the 14th century Hôtel Plamon. The Musée Aquarium has more than a 100 different varieties of fish found in local rivers (open daily *A). Sarlat holds a music and theatre festival from mid-July to mid-August.

Regional Information

Dordogne

The Dordogne's beautiful rivers, charming villages and wonderful scenery, together with a good climate, make this area a superb holiday destination. The river valleys of the Vézère and Dordogne divide richly wooded plateaux, where the erosion of ages has created a unique underground world of caves, lakes and waterfalls. In addition to its outstanding natural beauty, this region is packed with historical interest.

Eating & Drinking – Regional Specialities

The Dordogne is one of the most celebrated gastronomic areas in France. It is famous for its delicious black 'truffles' (truffles), which are added to soups, sauces, stuffings, pâtés and other dishes, and which are delicious in omelettes. You will also find plenty of cèpes (a fleshy sort of mushroom with a subtle flavour), a far cheaper alternative to the luxurious truffle. Foie gras is a speciality of this region, made from goose liver and sometimes flavoured with cognac. This region also produces great quantities of vegetables, nuts and fruit. It is the largest producer of strawberries in France and the second largest producer of walnuts. The Dordogne produces a variety of wines. The vineyards around Cahors produce a rich, dark red, very full-bodied wine. Bergerac reds are a strong wine and rather fruity and the dry white Bergeracs go well with fish. Montbazillac is a rich and potent sweet white wine, which is served as an aperitif and to accompany foie gras or fruit desserts.

Things to do and see

*A • an admission charge is payable for these attractions

Family Fun

Caves/Prehistoric Interest

There are many caves in this area; a selection is included below. For conservation reasons the numbers of visitors are limited in caves with prehistoric paintings therefore it is recommended that you buy tickets early in the day and then you can use them whenever you wish. The caves can be chilly, so it is advisable to take some warm clothing.

Gouffre de Padirac • Lifts and pathways take you to an underground river which can be crossed by boat. There are spectacular floodlit limestone chambers with stalactites, stalagmites and a petrified waterfall. 14km from Gramat (open daily, *A).

Grotte du Grand Roc • A cave with 40m of tunnels and a beautiful collection of stalagmites and stalactites. From the terrace at the entrance you get a fabulous view of Tayac-les-Eyzies and the Vézère valley. 4km north of Les Eyzies, signposted from D47. (Open daily, *A). Tel: 05 53 06 92 70.

Grottes de Lacave • A small train takes you to the heart of the caves where there are galleries with subterranean rivers and lakes, stalactites and stalagmites. Rock formations have taken the form of people and animals. Lacave, 9km northwest of Rocamadour. Tel: 65 37 87 03 (open daily, *A).

Lascaux • The most famous of the prehistoric sites, discovered by four boys looking for a lost dog, two weeks before the Germans invaded France in 1940. Unfortunately, once the caves were opened, tourists exhaling carbon dioxide did more damage to the paintings in two decades than 17,000 years of lying undisturbed. The original Lascaux cave was closed to



the public in 1963 but you can visit Lascaux II where an exact replica has been created, using the same methods as those employed by the original artists. In Montignac (open daily Jul-Aug, *A). Tel: 05 53 05 6565.

Prehisto Parc • A Prehistoric theme park (or outdoor museum) that provides a fun way of learning about prehistory in the Dordogne. Human and animal figures depict scenes from the lives of Magdalenian families, reconstructed in a woodland park where Prehistoric man once lived. In Tursac, 6km northeast of Les Eyzies (open daily, *A). Tel: 05 53 50 73 19.

Leisure Parks/Animal Attractions

La Forêt des Singes • Located in Rocamadour, this is a monkey sanctuary with no cages or barriers. (Open daily, *A). Tel: 05 65 33 62 72.

Le Parc Animalier de Gramat • This zoo houses more than 150 species, including animals in danger of extinction. On the D14 south of Gramat (Open daily, *A). Tel: 05 65 38 81 22.

Quercyland • A leisure park with swimming pools, chutes, bouncy castles, go-karts and playground. In Souillac. Open daily from May to September. Tel: 05 65 32 72 61.

Le Train Touristique, Le Truffadou • Enjoy a 1½-hour journey through spectacular Dordogne countryside, aboard this steam train. (Open July and August, *A). Tel: 0565 37 35 81.

Reptiland • Here you will see 60 species of reptile including lizards, tortoises, snakes and crocodiles. In Martel (open daily, *A). Tel: 05 65 37 41 00.

Places of Interest

Belvès • A lovely, fortified village with many medieval and Renaissance buildings. From the old ramparts you get a splendid view of the surrounding countryside.

La Roque St-Christophe • A remarkable troglodyte city and fortress. A cliff with five levels and hundreds of natural rock shelters. Man first lived here 55,000 years ago. In the Middle Ages the powerful fortress played a significant role in the history of the region. In Peyzac-le-Moustier, 9km northeast of Les Eyzies (Open daily, *A). Tel: 05 53 50 70 45.

Cahors • Situated in a striking position within a loop of the River Lot, this historic town is famous for its wine, produced as far back as Roman times. Its most remarkable site is the Pont Valentré, a 14th-century fortified bridge and a wonderful example of medieval military architecture.

La Roque-Gageac • A pretty village hiding under a cliff beside the River Dordogne. It is classified as the 3rd 'Most beautiful village in France' with narrow streets, tropical gardens, caves and old church. You

can take a boat trip on the Dordogne, passing the châteaux of Lacoste, Castelnaud, Marqueyssac and Beynac.

Montignac • Standing at the head of the valley of the Vézère, this attractive little town is an important centre for the many local prehistoric sites. This is the only place that you can buy tickets for the famous painted caves of Lascaux.

Périgueux • Situated on the banks on the River Isle, Périgueux is the capital of the Dordogne region. This ancient city is renowned for its food and is best visited on market day (Wed and Sat mornings) when you can take your pick of the local specialities. The medieval quarter around the Cathédrale St-Front has narrow cobbled streets with old houses and delightful courtyards. The Musée du Périgord contains an exceptional collection of prehistoric artefacts (*A).

Rocamadour • An extraordinary village which clings to the side of a cliff above the River Alzou. It has been a sanctuary and pilgrimage site since the 12th century and much of its medieval splendour remains. The Great Stairway or Via Sancta, (still a site for pilgrims who climb up by kneeling on every one of the 216 steps) leads to the main square which has seven churches. Pilgrims flock to pay homage to the Vierge Noire and receive absolution in the Chapelle Miraculeuse. From the castle ramparts there is a fabulous view across the valley. Various son et lumière shows are held throughout the summer.

Domme • This medieval village, dominating the Dordogne valley from its high rock position, gives exceptional views over the river and valley. The well-kept streets bloom with summer flowers and small arts and craft shops.

Issigeac • Atmospheric and extremely picturesque, the best day to visit Issigeac is Sunday, which is market day in this medieval town of cobbled streets and half-timbered houses. This is one of the villages included in the Circuit des Bastides, a marked circuit which you can follow to visit fortified towns and villages. Most of them were founded during the Hundred Years War between France and England. They now look very attractive and photogenic and include such towns as Montbazillac, Bergerac, Castillones, Monpazier, Biron, Monflanquin and Domme.

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.