



Camping Domaine de Chalain,

39130 Doucier, France.

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GPS co-ordinates

Latitude: 46.6644

Longitude: 5.8131



Campsite Information

Domaine de Chalain, Lac de Chalain

This site is situated on the wide, glistening Lac de Chalain in the Jura region of France. It is an area of outstanding natural beauty, where the lakes and mountains offer many outdoor pursuits. The site is less than a 2 hour drive north from the Swiss city of Geneva and just thirty kilometres east of the impressive town of Lons-le-Saunier.

Arriving at Domaine de Chalain

On arrival go to the campsite reception to get your barrier and swimming pool cards. You will then be directed to the Canvas reception, where your 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

Reception is open from 09.00 to 20.00 in low season and from 08.30 to 21.00 in high season.

Barrier

The barrier is closed between 22.00 and 07.00. Should you wish to depart early in the morning or arrive back late at night please leave your car outside the barrier.

Currency Exchange

There is no currency exchange facility on site.

Safety Deposit Boxes

These are available to rent at reception at a cost of €3 per day or €15 for the duration of your stay.

Telephone

There are five card-operated phones on site and phone cards are on sale at the campsite reception.

Web/Email Access

Internet access is available at the reception; access is gained with the use of an Internet card. These can be purchased at reception. It costs €8 for 1 hour. WiFi is also available, and is accessible across most areas of the site.

Shopping

The on-site shop has a good selection of groceries as well as international newspapers and magazines, camping equipment and beach items. It is open from 09.00 to 12.30 and 16.00 to 19.30 in low season. In high season the hours extend to 08.00 to 20.00. Also on site are a dairy, butcher's counter, bakery, sports shop, gift shop and a tabac. Opening hours vary throughout the season; please check times with your couriers.

Washing and Toilet Facilities

Washing machines and tumble dryers (tokens are available at the campsite reception, priced €4 for washing tokens and €2 for dryer tokens), free iron hire, free hot showers, baby bath, baby room and standard toilets.

Post

There is a post box on site, located just outside reception. Stamps can be bought at the tabac and reception.



Eating and Drinking

Bar: The bar, which has wide-screen satellite TV, is open from 11.00 to 01.00 during high season, and from 16.00 to 23.00 in low season. During high season a wide variety of entertainment takes place here, including live music and karaoke.

Takeaway: The takeaway serves a variety of food from 1 June including pizzas, burgers, fries and sandwiches and is open from 17.00 until 21.00, in low season, and 17.00-23.00 in during high season.

Restaurant: The modern restaurant has a varied menu, which changes throughout the season. You can choose from one of the set menus, or dine à la carte. The restaurant opens from 17.00 to 23.00 in low season and from 10.00 to midnight in high season.

Entertainment

There is a full programme of entertainment in high season including live music, playback shows, disco nights, karaoke, children's club, sports competitions and film nights. Ask your couriers for details of organised entertainment on site.

Recreation

Swimming: There is an impressive municipal tropical pool complex on site. Features include a heated indoor pool with paddling pool, sauna and a gym. The outdoor pools have waterslides (6yrs+ only), a Jacuzzi, waterfalls, snack bar and sun terrace. One entry per person per day is included during your stay, any further visits will have to be paid for. A card will be issued to you for pool entrance. The pools are open from 14.00 to 19.00 in low season and from 10.00 to 19.30 in high season. Swimming trunks must be worn in the pool. The second pool, the children's pool and the waterslides are all open from 1 June. Please note that inflatables are not allowed in the pools.

Games Room: The games room has table football, arcade machines, air hockey and video games.

Bicycles: Bike hire is available throughout the season. Bikes are available for €15 per day. Please ask on site for more information.

Fishing: Fishing is available on the lake, permits are required and cost €10 for 1 day and are available from the Tabac on site.

Pedaloos: These are available to hire on the lake for €12 per hour.

Canoes: These are available to hire on the lake and cost €6 per hour.

Tennis: Tennis courts can be booked from the site reception at a price of €7 per hour in high season. In low season tennis is free of charge. Please note that equipment is not provided, but can be hired.

Mini Golf: Mini golf is available for €3.

Trampolining: Very safe as you are always attached by ropes. Available during high season only, costs €4 for 5 minutes.

There are facilities for archery, badminton, table tennis, boules, football, volleyball, basketball and aqua aerobics.

Hoopi's Club

Hoopi's Club is available 6 days a week and is full of fun activities for all those aged between four and 11 including Parachute Games, Harry Potter Days and Water Games. Ask your Hoopi's courier for more details about the weeks programme or see the notice board outside Hoopi's tent.

Canvas Active

Canvas Active is available at Domaine de Chalain. Canvas customers have researched walking and cycling in the local area. For further details please see the activities booklet, downloadable from www.canvasholidays.com.

Disabled Facilities

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

Rules and Regulations

- No driving on site between 20.00 and 07.00.
- Silence on site between 22.00 and 07.00.
- 10km/ph speed limit on site.
- Swimming trunks are compulsory in the swimming pool.
- Children under ten must be accompanied by a parent or guardian in the swimming pool.
- After midnight access to the beaches is prohibited.

Recycling in the Jura

Please note that recycling waste products is compulsory in the Jura. All rubbish must be emptied from their bags and separated into paper, cardboard, metal, drink packs, glass and plastics. Your couriers will have more details.

Local Information

Beaches

There is direct access to a long, stony lake side beach. Pedaloos and canoes can be hired at the lake. Please ask your couriers for some other local beaches that have been recommended by previous customers.

Shopping

Supermarkets: There is a small Proxi Marché supermarket in Doucier, open Monday-Saturday, 09.00-12.00 and 14.00-20.00, and Sunday, 09.00-12.00, closed on Wednesdays. Champagnole has branches of Super U, Champion, Intermarché and Lidl. The nearest hypermarket is Géant Casino at Lons-le-Saunier, open from 08.00 to 20.00, closes at midday on Sundays.

Souvenirs: There are numerous gift shops in Lons-le-Saunier.

Local Markets

Monday: Poligny, Oyonnax, Chalon-sur-Saône, Doucier.
Tuesday: Dijon, Dole, Besançon, Morteau, Chalon-sur-Saône.
Wednesday: Chalon-sur-Saône, Fleurie, Dijon, Besançon, Clairvaux-les-Lacs, Beaune.
Thursday: Chagny, Dole, Lons-le-Saunier, Baume-les-Dames, Pontarlier, St Claude, Oyonnax, Dijon, Chalon-sur-Saône.
Friday: Besançon, Chalon-sur-Saône, Dijon, Mâcon, Nuit St Georges, Moirans-en-Montagne, Arbois, Mouthe, Poligny, Les Rousses.
Saturday: Beaune, Dijon, Mâcon, Tournus, Oyonnax, Nantua, Gex, St Claude, Morez, Dole, Champagnole, Morteau, Besançon, Chalon-sur-Saône, Lons-le-Saunier.
Sunday: Chalon-sur-Saône.

The campsite runs a shuttle bus to Lons-le-Saunier market on Thursdays in high season. This costs €5 per person for a return trip.

Facilities

Petrol: There is a filling station in Doucier, open 09.00 to 18.00. Fuel is cheaper at Super U and Géant Casino.

Chemist: There is a chemist in Doucier, open from 09.00 to noon and from 14.00 to 18.00.

Banks: There is a branch of Crédit Agricole in Doucier, with cash dispenser available 24 hours, open Tuesday to Friday. There is also a cash machine on-site, in the main reception.

Post Office: The post office in Doucier is open from 09.00 to noon and 15.00 to 18.00 Monday to Saturday.

Web/Email access: There is internet access available in Champagnole at "L'Espace Jeunesse". It is open 14.00-17.00 Tuesday-Friday and 10.00-12.00 on Wednesdays

Tourist Information: The nearest tourist information Offices are in Champagnole open 09.00 to 12.00 and 15.00 to 18.00. If you are in Lons-le-Saunier, it is worth going in to the Comité Départemental de Tourisme du Jura on Rue Louis Rousseau open 09.00 to midday and 14.00 to 19.00.

Distances

Doucier: 2km (1.8 miles)
Clairvaux les Lacs: 19km (11 miles)
Lons-le-Saunier: 24km (14 miles)
Geneva: 96km (58 miles)



Local Transport

There is a train station in Lons-le-Saunier, with links to Lyon. From Frasnay, there are T.G.V. connections to the rest of France and Switzerland.

Doctor

Dr Jean Menestrière
Le Bourg, Doucier
Tel: 03 84 25 70 42.

Dentist

Dr. Jean-Christophe Defour
61 av République, Champagnole.
Tel: 03 84 52 15 21

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, recommended by Canvas customers and couriers in previous years:

La Tonnelle: In Doucier. Dine on the terrace with a beautiful view of the Jura countryside. A large variety of dishes are available at a reasonable price.

La Sarrazine: In Doucier. This comfortable, airy restaurant is highly recommended for its steaks, especially the T-bone! The staff are very helpful and a children's menu is available.

Le Comtois: In Doucier. Well-recommended by previous visitors, this restaurant offers an extensive choice of set menus at good value prices. Children are made very welcome and a special menu is available.

Le Chalet: In Bonlieu. This restaurant offers good food at a reasonable price and a very French atmosphere. Set menus are available and start around €15. Dishes range from pizza to grilled meat and fish and are good value for money.

Big Ben: In Champagnole. A funky pizza restaurant suitable for adults only. Be prepared for the decorations. Reasonably priced.

Le Mirabilis: In Mirebel. This restaurant has a good menu and a great French ambience. Set menus are available and start from around €10 per person. Children's menus are also available. Dishes include meat and fish, and are good value for money.

Chez Yvonne:

Between Lons-le-Saunier and Doucier. This restaurant occupies a beautiful spot alongside the Ain River. The specialities are local trout and salmon, and a variety of traditional local dishes.

Lotus de Lons: In Lons-le-Saunier. A fabulous, smart Chinese restaurant. Inexpensive with generous servings.

Activities

This is an area ideal for outdoor activities. The number of lakes in the area make water sports the most popular activity, including waterskiing, available on Lac de Voughlans. If you would like to view the area from a different perspective, try microlighting. There are numerous walking and cycle routes to explore, and children may like to try horse-riding. There are two centres close to the campsite - please ask your couriers for more information.

Family Fun

The spectacular Cascades du Hérisson waterfalls are just 10km from the campsite, and will be enjoyed by all ages. For a superb view, take the trail through the woods along the Hérisson River from Doucier. The falls are particularly breathtaking after heavy rain.

While in Lyon, why not view the city from a different angle. Several companies offer boat trips along the Rhône and Saône rivers, a great way to see the old part of the city.

Nearby

Baume-les-Messieurs • An attractive village, renowned for its beautiful Benedictine Abbey and spectacular caves. The Grottes de Baumes are over 30 million years old, and are well worth a visit. Be sure to visit the 'Belvedere' (viewpoint) to look over the village.

Lons-le-Saunier • Once a Roman salt city, this picturesque town was the birthplace of Rouget de Lisle, who composed the French National Anthem. Today, you will find a lively and attractive shopping centre, home to the popular 'Laughing Cow' cheese.

Arbois • Picturesquely situated amid vineyards, this village was the childhood home of Louis Pasteur. The Maison de Pasteur, his parent's house has been preserved and you can see many of his possessions and his laboratory and instruments. At the Musée de la Vigne et du Vin you can learn about local wines. A wine festival is held in Arbois in early September.

Regional Information

Jura

The Jura lies in eastern France, bounded to the west by Burgundy and to the east by Switzerland. The name Jura comes from the Latin *juria* meaning forest, and for a long time Jura was covered with impenetrable forests. The Jura Mountains are formed of limestone, rich in fossils. This is a region richly endowed with lakes and rivers, spectacular gorges, caves and waterfalls. There is a wide range of water sports available, or for those who enjoy walking there are many signposted paths and plenty of minor roads, country lanes and tracks for cycling.

Eating & Drinking – Regional Specialities

In the Jura, local cuisine makes much of its cheese, and dishes like fondue are favoured. Some of the regional cheeses are; Comté, similar to Swiss Gruyère; Morbier, with a fairly fruity taste and a black streak through the middle; Vacherin, mild-tasting with a pale pink rind; and Cancoillotte, pale yellow and runny, with a very fruity flavour. The charcuterie is also excellent here. Try Brési (cured beef) and Luxeuil ham. Fresh-water fish form the basis for many local specialities. The Jura also has vineyards, which produce red, white, rosé, and the unique vin jaune (yellow wine) which is rich and full flavoured with a high alcohol content. A speciality from Jura is Hypocras, a red wine mixed with sugar and spices. You will also find a huge selection of alcools blancs, or eaux-de-vie (the water of life), clear spirits flavoured with fruit or berries, the most famous of which is made from Framboise (raspberry).

Things to do and see

*A • an admission charge is payable for these attractions

Family Fun

Parks/Animal Attractions

Dino Zoo • A prehistoric animal park with life-size models of dinosaurs appearing along a woodland trail. In Charbonnières-les-Sapins, about 15km southeast of Besançon (open daily, *A). Tel: 03 81 59 27 03.

Maison d'Oiseaux • You can find many extraordinary species dotted around one of the lakes at the centre including the exclusive Hoopi (Hoopoe) bird himself! In Villars les Dombes. (Open daily, *A). Tel: 04 74 98 05 54.

Touropark • A leisure park which includes water slides, white water rafting, miniature train and monorail. There are also animals and birds wandering in semi-freedom. In Romaneche-Thorins, about 15km south of Macon, off the N6. (Open daily, *A).

Museums

Musée du Jouet • A toy museum which recounts the history of toy making and has a collection of 5,000 games and toys from the 19th and 20th centuries. Moirans-en-Montagne (open daily, *A).

Caves

There are many beautiful caves in the Jura, some worth visiting include:

Gouffre de Poudrey (approximately 20km southeast of Besançon)

Grottes de Baume (near Baume-les-Messieurs, approximately 15km northeast of Lons-le-Saunier).

Grottes des Moidons (near Molain, approximately 10km southeast of Poligny)

Grottes d'Osselle (near Saint-Vit, approximately 15km southwest of Besançon)

Grottes des Planches (near Arbois)

Train Trips

St Lucipin - Morbier Railway • Inaugurated in 1912, the Saint-Claude railway in Morez was the last French rail conquest! Today, it offers visitors a sightseeing tour of 25km with commentary on the Haute Vallée de la Bienne. The train, travelling over or under numerous viaducts and tunnels (18 in total, including Frasses which follows a horseshoe-shape below the mountain), offers the incredible sight of the Bienne gorges, before stopping for a guided tour of Morez. A climb to 900m leads to Morbier, from where it is possible to make the return trip by bicycle. St. Lucipin is about 15-20 miles from Clairvaux-les-Lacs. The journey will take around 40 minutes on some very twisty winding roads (*A).

Places of Interest

Ornans • An attractive town whose medieval houses line the banks of the River Loue. The realist painter Gustave Courbet was born here and you can visit his childhood home, now the Musée Courbet (*A). From Ornans take the D67, which follows the river to Ouhans where you will see signs for the Source de la Loue. The spectacular source of the river has magnificent views of the area.

Ronchamp • Famous for the striking Chapelle Notre-Dame-du-Haut, situated on a hill above the town. Designed by Le Corbusier in 1951, it is unique in style, with curved walls and irregularly-placed windows

Salins-les-Bains • Situated in the valley of the River Furieuse, this town's salt-water springs have been used for medicinal purposes since Roman times. For an interesting lesson about the salt industry pay a visit to the saltworks for a guided tour of the workings, 250m underground (Guided tours hourly, *A).

Geneva • The Swiss city of Geneva is less than a two-hour drive from the site. The drive there is wonderful, winding through the mountains and valleys. The city is great for a day visit. Make sure you visit the old quarter with its cathedral and the United Nations Building.

Beaune • The wine capital of Burgundy, Beaune is one of the best-preserved towns in the area, still enclosed by medieval walls. The Hôtel-Dieu was built in 1443 as a charitable hospital. From the cobbled inner courtyard you will see the famous roofs of glazed coloured tiles. Its museum retraces the history of the hospital and also houses Rogier van der Weyden's stirring altarpiece of the Last Judgement (Open daily, *A). The Musée du Vin de Bourgogne traces the region's viticulture history (*A).

In September, Beaune holds the International Wine Festival.

Chalon-sur-Saône • The St Vincent district is the historical heart of the city and is set around the Romanesque and gothic influenced cathedral. The high neo-gothic towers look over the weekly market held in the square below. Chalon-sur-Saône's Hôtel Dieu (hospital) sits on an island in the middle of the Saône. Built in 1530 it has been added to over the centuries allowing for more wards and facilities. The Hôtel Dieu is the only Burgundian building of its kind with significant renaissance features. Also in Chalon, is the Denon museum specialising in fine arts and archaeology and the Niepce museum dedicated to the invention of photography.

Dijon • Dijon is a cultural and gastronomic centre. It is an appealing city with many buildings from the Middle Ages and Renaissance. The former ducal palace, the Palais des Ducs, now houses the Musée des Beaux-Arts. Whilst visiting the palace climb the 316 steep steps to the top of the Tour Philippe le Bon where you will be rewarded with a fabulous view (Open daily, *A). Behind the palace is a maze of narrow lanes lined with medieval houses. The 13th-century Église Notre-Dame is in the Burgundian-Gothic style and its west facade, with three rows of gargoyles, is quite unique. Look at the north wall for the tiny carved owl (chouette) that is the town mascot and which people touch for good luck.

Besançon • The strategic value of Besançon was first spotted by the Romans who built a settlement here. The Roman Grande Rue is still the main street, lined with 16th-18th century mansions (Victor Hugo was born at No. 140). Vauban, Louis XIX's military engineer, constructed the citadelle, with its elaborate system of fortifications. The citadelle offers magnificent views and now houses three museums devoted to natural history, regional folklore, and the French resistance during WWII. In the belfry of the cathédrale is a fabulous 19th century astronomical clock, the Horloge Astronomique, with thousands of moving parts, which activate just before the hour. In the Musée des Beaux-Arts et Archéologie there is a section devoted to the long tradition of clock and watch-making, for which Besançon is famous. During July and August you can take a trip along the river in a vedette boat from Pont de la République.

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.

