



Camping Parc de Fierbois,
37800 Ste Catherine de Fierbois, France

T: +33 (0)2 47 65 43 35

F: +33 (0)2 47 65 53 75

GPS co-ordinates

Latitude: 47.1483

Longitude: 0.6539



Campsite Information

Camping Parc de Fierbois, Tours

This delightful campsite is set in the estate of a private château and is an excellent base from which to explore the delights of the Loire Valley. The campsite is situated approximately twenty-five kilometres south of the city of Tours and is surrounded by acres of parkland. It is easily accessible from the motorway.

Arriving at Camping Parc de Fierbois

On arrival go to the Canvas reception; your Canvas couriers will be here to meet you between 4pm and 8pm.

Early/Late Arrivals

Please note if you arrive before 4pm, your accommodation may not be ready. If you arrive between 8pm and 10pm, you will find directions to your courier and/or accommodation at the Canvas reception. Arrivals after 10pm 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 9am the following day. Please telephone your couriers if you know that you are going to be late.

Reception

Reception is open from 9am to midday and from 2.30pm to 9pm. At weekends and during high season, these hours are extended to 9am until 9pm.

Barrier

The barrier is closed between 11pm and 8am. Should you need to leave the site early or arrive late, a magnetic card is available so that you can leave your car in the secure car park. Please ask your couriers if you require a card.

Currency Exchange

Currency can be exchanged at reception. There is a 6% commission fee for this service.

Safety Deposit Boxes

These are available to hire in the site reception. Please ask your couriers for details of prices.

Telephone

There are two card-operated phones on site, situated to the side of the campsite reception. Phone cards can be bought from reception.

Web/Email Access

There is Internet access available in the site reception and also in the bar area. You will need a phone card to operate this service, also available from the reception.

Shopping

The medium-sized shop sells a good range of essentials as well as toiletries, wine, beer and fresh bread. It is open from 8am to 9pm all season.

Washing and Toilet Facilities

Washing machines and tumble dryers (tokens costing €5 are on sale at reception), free hot showers, baby bath and standard toilets.

Post

There is a post box on site outside the reception and stamps are on sale at the campsite reception.

Eating and Drinking

Bar: The bar has a large outdoor terrace where, in high season, all the animation takes place. Open from midday to 2.30pm and 5pm to 11pm in low season and from midday to 11.30pm in high season. There is also a games room here, open 5pm until 11pm in low season and is open from 11am until 11pm in high season. There is satellite TV in the bar. As well as alcoholic beverages, a variety of hot and cold snacks, ice creams and hot drinks are also served.



Takeaway: A range of popular snacks and meals are sold including burgers, chicken, chips and steaks as well as the 'plat du jour'. It is helpful if you take your own containers. Open every day between 3pm and 10pm.

Pizzeria: The pizzeria is located beside the restaurant. It is open daily from 5pm until 9.30pm and offers a good choice of made to order pizzas.

Restaurant: The modern, airy restaurant with its flower-bedecked terrace is to the side of the bar. It is open everyday between 6pm and 9.30pm.

Entertainment

An extensive and varied programme of entertainment is organised on site during high season. Evening events include cabaret, karaoke, disco and quiz nights, bingo and magic shows. There are activities for children of all ages every morning. The site also holds regular sports competitions and tournaments throughout the day. Please see your couriers for an up to date programme.

Recreation

Swimming: There are two pools on site. The aqua complex is the centrepiece of the site. There is a large pool with separate children's pool and a 'waterpark' with four water slides, a twisting water chute, plunge pool, paddling pool and landscaped lawns. For those of you who require a more relaxing swim, the covered pool by the lake is perfect. The aqua park and the lake-side pool is open from 10am until 8pm. Please note that swimming trunks are compulsory in the pools.

Tennis: Tennis courts are available to hire throughout the season. They are free of charge, but you will need to book in reception and leave a small deposit if you want to borrow equipment.

Mini Golf: The mini golf is available all season, at a cost of €2.50 for children and €4.00 for adults. This includes a club and ball, for which you will need to leave a €20 deposit.

Fishing: You can fish for carp and pike in the large on-site lake. No permit is required.

Cycling: Bicycles are available to hire from the site reception. Prices range from €8 to €14 per day for an adult's bike and €7 to €12 for a child's bike.

Go Karts: Available to hire at a cost of €5 for half an hour.

Pedaloos: Available for use in the on-site lake. Cost €5 for half an hour or €8 for an hour (July and August only).

Aqua Aerobics: Takes place daily in the aqua complex during high season. Free of charge.

There are also facilities on site for table tennis, boules, volleyball and football.

Canvas Active

Canvas Active is available at Camping Parc de Fierbois. Canvas customers have researched cycling, fishing and golfing 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 and no driving on site between 10.30pm and 8am.
- 5kph speed limit on site.
- Please recycle all bottles in the bins provided.
- Swimming trunks are compulsory in the pools.
- Inflatable toys and boats are not allowed in the pools.
- Young children must be accompanied by parents to the wash blocks.
- No smoking, drinking, running, diving, radios, animals, t-shirts or shoes permitted in the pool areas.

Local Information

Beaches

The adjoining lake has a sandy beach and a grassy embankment where you can hire pedaloes, or simply relax and sunbathe. Fishing is permitted on the lake without a permit and swimming is also allowed.

Shopping

Supermarket: The nearest supermarket is Intermarché at Ste Maure. It is open from 9am to 12.30pm and 2.30pm to 7pm Monday to Saturday and 9am to 7.30pm on Friday and Saturday. It is also open Sunday morning, 9.30am to 12.30pm. There is also a smaller Champion supermarket in Ste Maure. For a bigger hypermarket, visit the Auchan at Chambray les Tours, open Monday to Saturday, 8.30am until 10pm.

Souvenirs: There is a small souvenir shop on site. Otherwise, there are some gift shops in Ste Maure while Tours has a wider selection.

Local Markets

Monday: Montrichard (pm).

Tuesday: Montbazou.

Wednesday: Tours, Loches and Romarantin.

Thursday: Chinon.

Friday: Amboise, Montrichard and Ste Maure.

Saturday: Tours and Loches.

Sunday: Amboise.

Les Halles, the large covered market at Place Gaston Pailhou in Tours, is open Monday to Saturday until 7pm and on Sunday until 1pm.

Facilities

Petrol: Both the Intermarché and the Champion in Ste Maure have filling stations. There is also an Esso garage here. Petrol is available 24 hours at Texaco, at the A10 Ste Maure junction.

Chemist: There is a chemist at 38 Rue Dr Patry in Ste Maure. Open Monday-Saturday from 9am-12.15pm and 2pm-7.15pm. Closed on Monday morning and Saturday afternoon.

Bank: There are branches of Crédit Agricole and Caisse d'Épargne in Ste Maure, both with cash dispensers, and Intermarché also has a cash point, accessible during opening hours.

Post Office: There is a post office in Ste Catherine de Fierbois, open Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons. The one in Ste Maure is open more regularly.

Tourist Information: There is a tourist information bureau in Ste Maure, open from 9am to 6pm. For a bigger office with more information, we recommend heading to Tours. The office is just opposite the railway station.

Distances

Lake beach:	Direct access
Ste Catherine de Fierbois:	7km (5 mile)
Tours:	40km (20 miles)
Villandry:	49km (30 miles)
Loches:	33km (20 miles)

Local Transport

The train station in Tours has connections to Paris, Nantes, Bordeaux and Poitiers. There is a bus service to the station from Ste Catherine, or you can get a local train from Noyant-en-Touraine.

Doctor

Dr Huthwohl-Baron,
Rue du Château,
Ste Maure de Touraine.
Tel: 02 47 65 45 50.



Dentist

Dr Campagne,
11 Ter Rue du Château Galliard,
Ste Maure de Touraine.
Tel: 02 47 65 66 66.

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 de la Poste, Amboise. Traditional French food is the speciality at this informal restaurant where set menus are available.

La Lampara, Amboise. Friendly and relaxed atmosphere with children made especially welcome. Three course set menu is available.

Le Grillon, Ste Maure. Tasty 'galettes' and 'crêpes' as well as a range of fresh salads are on offer at this small, friendly bar/crêperie.

La Piazzetta, Ste Maure. Made to order pizzas baked in a wood-fired stove are served every day except Sundays.

Le Veau D'Or, Ste Maure. This elegant but homely hotel/restaurant serves generous portions of traditional regional dishes. Set menus available.

L'Auberge Jeanne d'Arc, Ste Catherine. A warm and friendly welcome awaits you at this typically French restaurant which has been highly recommended by previous visitors. The beef and veal dishes are especially good; set menus and children's menus are available.

La Boule d'Or, Ste Maure. Local residents flock to this busy restaurant, especially at lunchtime when a set menu is available at a great value price.

La Cassolette, Montbazou. Highly recommended by previous customers for reasonably-priced menus.

Activities

The area around the site is superb for walking and cycling. See your Canvas Activities booklet for details of some of the best cycle routes in the area. You could try canoeing down the Loire river from one of the many centres. Keen golfers will love this area. Your Activities booklet lists some of the courses in the area.

Château d'Ussé • The romantic architecture of this château is said to have given Charles Perrault the idea for Sleeping Beauty's castle. Built between the 15th and 17th centuries, it is a combination of Gothic and Renaissance styles. Some rooms are furnished with tapestries and antiques, and waxwork displays



illustrating the story of Sleeping Beauty. There is a delightful 16th century chapel in the garden.

Chinon • Chinon is an interesting small town which still has a medieval atmosphere. At the château overlooking the town, Joan of Arc met Charles VII in 1429 and persuaded him to let her take command of an army to drive the English out of France. The château is mostly in ruins but the bell tower houses a small Joan of Arc Museum. The gardens can be visited and there is an excellent view of old Chinon from the ramparts. The old town lies between the castle and the river and has cobbled streets lined with 15th and 16th century houses. Here, in August, you will find the Rabelais market, an old-style street fair with jugglers, fire-eaters and minstrels.

Tours • The lively town of Tours has the cosmopolitan feel of Paris in miniature with wide avenues, formal gardens and streets lined with cafés. It has a lovely old quarter with half-timbered houses and interesting shops. The Cathédrale St-Gatien has superb 13th-century stained-glass windows and contains a beautiful Renaissance marble tomb in memory of two of Charles VIII's children. In the Château Royal you will find a museum telling the history of the region using waxwork figures, and an aquarium with many tropical, sea and freshwater fish. The Musée des Beaux-Arts displays work by Rubens, Rembrandt and Degas among others. At the Église St-Julien there is a wine museum and another museum dedicated to the history of the craftsmen's guilds and their customs.



Regional Information

Loire

This region, known as the 'Garden of France', takes its name from the Loire, France's longest river. The scenery is varied, from vast plains covered with cereals and forests, to rolling hills and green valleys covered with vines and other fruits. Hundreds of châteaux populate the Loire region adding to the natural beauty of this area.

You can horse-ride, cycle or walk through the countryside paths soaking up beautiful scenery. There are water sports on the many lakes and rivers, including canoeing, sailing and water-skiing. For golf fans there are several good courses.

Eating & Drinking – Regional Specialities

This region is famous for fresh produce; cheese, mushrooms, cereals and, of course, wine. The most famous cow's cheese is St Paulin which is creamy in texture. Goat's cheeses are also a speciality of the region. There is a wide range of fruit tarts. Try tarte tatin, an upside-down apple tart which originated in the Loire Valley.

To complement your meal this region produces some excellent wines. Fruity reds from Touraine and Vouvray, a sparkling alternative to champagne. The best reds from Touraine are Chinon, Bourgueil and St-Nicholas-de Bourgueil. If you like dry white wine, try Savennières, Sancerre and Pouilly Fumé.

Things to do and see

*A • an admission charge is payable for these attractions.

Family Fun

Parc Mini Châteaux, a park with scale models of the Loire châteaux and a forest of bonsai trees (Open daily, *A). Nearby, the **Aquarium de Touraine** has a huge variety of marine life. In Lussault-sur-Loire. (Open daily, *A)

Futuroscope • Futuroscope is Europe's first park devoted to technology. Attractions include, a Kinemax cinema with a 600m² screen a 3-D cinema, a "dynamic" cinema with simulated seating (seats which move in reaction to events in the film), an "enchanted lake", bumper boats, adventure playgrounds, a water maze and a lego exhibition. Just outside Poitiers, exit 28 off A10 (open daily, *A).

Jardin Zoologique de Doué • An unusually situated zoo in a former quarry, complete with pits, tunnels, troglodyte caves, lakes, islands and lush vegetation. In Doué-la-Fontaine, 16km south-west of Saumur (*A).

Zoo Parc de Beauval • Created for the well being and respect of animals. There are around forty different cats and 160 monkeys here, all living in surroundings, designed to recreate their natural environment. This is also home to the largest tropical birdhouse in France and there are eagle and sea lion shows daily. A beautifully landscaped park. There is also a mini zoo for children. In St Aignan-sur-Cher, on the D675, 35km south of Blois (open daily, *A).

Village Troglodytique • Cut into the limestone of a quarry, this well-preserved village was inhabited by farming families until the 1930s. You can see furniture and ornaments along with displays about life underground. In Rochemenier-Louesse, north of Doué-la-Fontaine (*A).



Grottes Pétrifiantes • Caves with stalactites, a lake, petrified cascades and a Gallo-Roman cemetery. Children will enjoy the realistic model dinosaurs in the caves. Savonnières, on the D7 west of Tours (*A).

Places of Interest

Amboise • Nestling under its fortified chateau, the picturesque town of Amboise is protected from the river by a dyke, whose flower-covered heights are an excellent place for a riverside stroll. The Château d'Amboise is a mixture of Gothic and Renaissance architecture, built in the 15th and 16th centuries. The Chapelle St-Hubert, perched on the ramparts, is believed to be where Leonardo da Vinci is buried (open daily, *A). The Manoir du Clos-Lucé, where da Vinci spent his final years, shows models of his inventions constructed from his drawings, with a lovely garden and watchtower. (*A).

Château d'Azay-le-Rideau • This early 16th century chateau was built on the site of an old stronghold. It is beautifully situated on an island in the Indre River. You can see furnished rooms and a fine collection of Flemish tapestries from the 16th-17th centuries (open daily, *A). An excellent son-et-lumière is held in the châteaux grounds on summer evenings.

Blois • An attractive, bustling town. There is a sign-posted walking tour of the historic streets of the old town. Look out for the Maison des Acrobates, a half-timbered medieval house, carved with acrobats and jugglers. From the gardens beside the Hôtel de Ville you have fine views over the town and river. The Château de Blois was built in stages between the 13th and 17th centuries and shows several architectural styles (open daily, *A). Son-et-lumière performances take place in the courtyard from mid-May to early September. For the sweet-toothed, tours of the Poulain chocolate factory can be arranged.

Château de Chambord • Built by Francois I in 1519 as a hunting lodge, Chambord is the largest and most extravagant chateau of the Loire. Its double-helix staircase is a notable feature. People can climb or descend, neither meeting nor losing sight of each other. From the roof terrace there are expansive views over the forest; this is where wives and mistresses used to watch their men folk out hunting (*A). You can walk and picnic in the chateau forest. Alternatively you can hire bikes or horses at the Royal Stables or take a trip in a horse-drawn carriage to explore the grounds.

Château de Chenonceau • The arches of this 16th century Renaissance palace span the River Cher. The

rooms are sumptuously furnished and contain some wonderful tapestries and paintings. You can canoe under the long gallery built over the river. (Open daily, *A). In July and August a son-et-lumière, 'Au temps des Dames de Chenonceau', reconstructs the major events of the chateau.

Château de Chaumont • Beautifully situated on a cliff with tremendous views over the Loire. Rebuilt in the 15th century in Renaissance style, it has retained its fortress-like appearance. The majestic stables, built in the 19th century, are worth a visit. Every year the International Garden Festival is held here from mid-June to mid-October (open daily, *A).

Loches • A well-preserved, fortified, medieval town picturesquely situated above the River Indre. The Château de Loches was once the residence of Charles VII and contains the alabaster tomb of his mistress Agnès Sorel. South of the citadel, the Donjon (keep) has impressive dungeons. From the ramparts there are great views of the town (*A).

Saumur • This town, on the banks of the Loire, is famous for its mushrooms and sparkling wine. Numerous wine cellars offer tastings and you can visit the interesting Musée du Champignon (mushroom museum), housed in a series of caves cut into white cliffs, just before the village of St-Hilaire (open daily, *A). Nearby is the École National d'Équitation, France's national riding academy. Shows are performed here in the summer.

Dominating the town is the fairytale Château de Saumur that houses three museums; the Musée du Cheval (Horse Museum); the Musée des Arts Décoratifs (Decorative Arts) and the Musée de la Figurine Jouet, displaying toy figurines. There are good views over the town from the watchtower (*A).

Château de Villandry • This 16th century chateau is particularly noted for its spectacular Renaissance gardens. Restored to their original form in the early 20th century, the gardens are arranged in three tiers; the water garden, the ornamental and "love" garden, and the famous vegetable garden and ornamental flower beds (Gardens & Château, *A).

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.