



### **Camping la Grenouillère,**

Château de la Grenouillère, 41500 Suèvres,  
France

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### **GPS co-ordinates**

Latitude: 47.6875

Longitude: 1.4839



# Campsite Information

## Camping la Grenouillère, Blois

This campsite is set in the heart of the Loire region of France and is nestled in the grounds of a manor house. The site is close to some of the Loire's famous châteaux, and is only twelve kilometres north of the largest and most extravagant of these in Chambord. The town of Blois is just over fourteen kilometres south west of the site.

### Arriving at Camping la Grenouillère

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 09.00 until 12.00 and from 15.30 until 20.30 in low season. In high season it is open from 08.00 until 18.00.

### Barrier

The barrier is closed between 22.30 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

Currency may be exchanged at the campsite reception. A commission fee of €5 per transaction is payable for this service. Travellers Cheques are accepted as payment, but cannot be exchanged.

### Safety Deposit Boxes

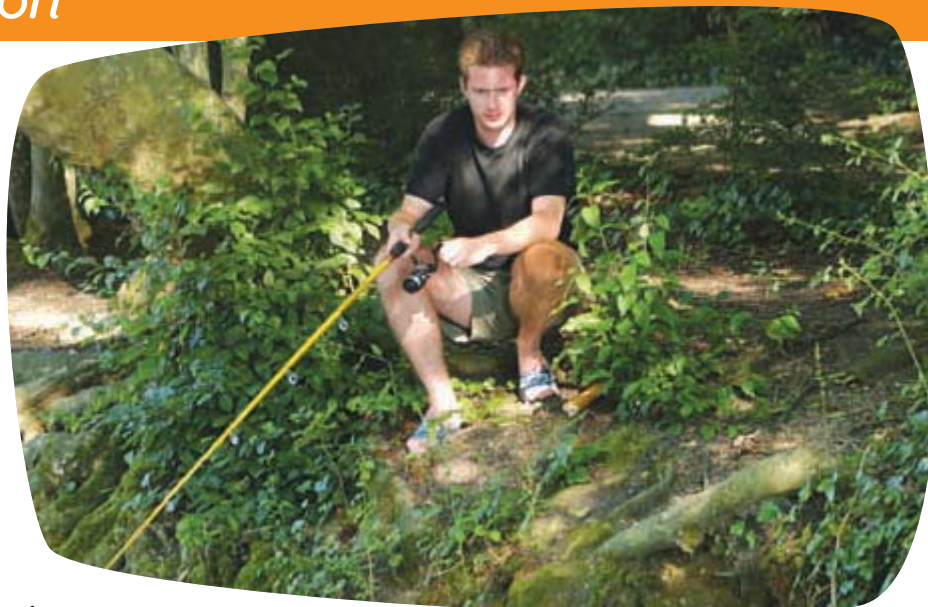
These are available to rent at the campsite reception for €5 per week.

### Telephone

There are two card-operated phones on site. Phone cards are on sale at the campsite reception.

### Web/Email Access

This facility is available on site, in the bar. You will need a phone card to access the service.



### Shopping

The on-site shop is open from 08.00 until 11.00 and from 15.30 until 19.30 all season. A range of basic groceries and produce, souvenirs and stationary as well as fresh bread and international newspapers are available.

### Washing and Toilet Facilities

Washing machines and tumble dryers (tokens for both are on sale at the campsite reception for €5 each), free iron hire, free hot showers, baby room, baby bath and standard toilets.

### Post

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

### Eating and Drinking

**Bar:** The cosy, ivy-clad bar overlooks the swimming pools. As well as drinks, light snacks are also available. The bar is open from 10.00 until 22.00 in low season and from 10.00 until 23.00 in high season. Ice cream cocktails are available here! There is a pool table, darts board and a television inside. In high season it is the location for all of the evening entertainment.

**Bistro:** This wine bar is open in the evenings from 18.00. Situated just behind the bar and opening out onto a quiet courtyard, it is a relaxing place to sit and enjoy a drink in the evenings.

**Takeaway/Pizzeria:** The modern takeaway and pizzeria is open from 18.00 to 22.00 in high season only. Favourites such as burgers, chicken, chips and drinks are available here. There is a limited amount of seating available outside.

**Restaurant:** The oak-beamed restaurant has a large outdoor terrace with vine-covered trellis. Choose from the set menu or dine à la carte. The restaurant is open daily from 18.00 until 22.00.

### Entertainment

There is a varied programme of entertainment in high season, including live music, cabaret, disco nights and sports competitions. Excursions such as canoe trips and day visits to Paris can be booked on the campsite.

### Recreation

**Swimming:** The tropical pool complex has two main swimming pools (one covered and one outdoors), a children's pool and another small pool with water slides, waterchutes and fun features. The pool complex is open daily from 09.00 until 21.00. The pools are all supervised in high season, but please note that children under 10 must be accompanied by a responsible adult. The slides are open the same hours as the pool complex. There is a minimum age of 7 for the slides.

**Tennis:** There are tennis courts on site that are available throughout the season for €8/hour. Please book at the site reception.

**Cycling:** Bicycles are available to hire throughout the season, at a cost of about €7.50 per half day and €13 per day.

**Canoes/Kayaks:** These are available as part of a trip on the Loire in high season. There are also facilities on site for fishing, boules, football, badminton, volleyball, archery and table tennis. There is a children's playground on site and also a games room.

### Canvas Active

Canvas Active is available at Camping la Grenouillère. Canvas customers have researched walking and cycling routes, as well as golf courses and fishing in the local area. For further details please see the activities booklet downloadable from Canvas Holidays website.

### Disabled Facilities

This campsite meets the Canvas Holidays "Recommended for the Disabled" criteria.

### Rules and Regulations

- Silence on site between 22.30 and 07.00.
- 10km/ph speed limit on site.
- No driving on site between 22.30 and 07.00.
- Children under 10 must be accompanied in the pools.
- Please recycle all bottles in the bins provided.
- Only one car is allowed per emplacement.



# Local Information

## Shopping

**Supermarket:** The closest supermarket is Super U in Mer. In high season the supermarket is open from 09.00 until 19.30 and Sunday mornings 09.00 to 12.30. The nearest hypermarkets are Auchan in Blois or E.Leclerc in Tavers.

**Souvenirs:** There are numerous gift shops in Blois and further a field in Orléans and Tours.

## Local Markets

**Monday:** Montrichard (pm).

**Tuesday:** Blois.

**Wednesday:** Romorantin, Tours and Loches.

**Thursday:** Blois and Mer (pm).

**Friday:** Montrichard and Amboise.

**Saturday:** Blois, Tours, Beaugency and Loches.

**Sunday:** Blois and Amboise.

## Facilities

**Petrol:** Fuel is available at Super U, open the same hours as the supermarket.

**Chemist:** The nearest chemist is on Place de l'Eglise in Mer. It is open Tuesday to Saturday from 08.30 to 12.30 and from 14.30 to 18.00.

**Bank:** There is a branch of Crédit Agricole in Mer, which also has a cash dispenser. It is open from 09.00 to 12.30 and 14.30 to 17.30.

**Post Office:** The closest post office is just off the main square in Mer. It is open from 09.00 to 12.30 and 14.00 to 17.00.

**Tourist Information:** The nearest tourist information office is in Blois at 3 Rue Dr Jean Laigret.

## Distances

Loire River: 6km (4 miles)

Chambord: 13km (8 miles)

Blois: 17km (9 miles)

Chaumont sur Loire: 34km (19 miles)

## Local Transport

There is a train station in Mer with services to Amboise, Blois, Orléans and Paris.

## Doctor

Cabinet Médical,  
7 Place de la Corbillière, Mer.  
Tel: 02 54 81 41 41.

## Dentist

Dr Dupont  
5 Place de la Mairie, Mer.  
Tel: 02 54 81 14 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 Rendez-Vous des Pêcheurs:** Blois. Lively bistro with some of the best cuisine in the region. Popular, so reservations are recommended.

**La Trattoria:** Mer. A good variety of pizzas as well as fresh pasta dishes and homemade quiches are served at this friendly, informal restaurant.

**Le Pousse Rapière:** Cheverny. Recommended by previous visitors for delicious food at reasonable prices and with excellent service.

**La Lampara:** Amboise. Friendly and relaxed atmosphere with children made especially welcome. A 3-course set menu is available at a great price.

**Restaurant de la Poste:** Amboise. Traditional French food is also the speciality at this informal

restaurant where set menus are available at reasonable prices.

**Auberge des Trois Maillets:** Avaray. Close to the site serving a good variety of inexpensive food.

**Le Petit Bateau:** Beaugency. A restaurant popular with the locals, which serves a quality, fixed course menu.

## Activities

Try canoeing down the river Loire. Trips run regularly from the site. Keen golfers will find this area great for a holiday; there are many courses in the area. For more information see your Canvas Holidays Activities Booklet which lists some of the courses in the area. The forest near to the Château de Chambord is a paradise for walking and cycling enthusiasts.

## Family Fun

Visit the Zoo Parc Beauval near St Aignan. It has been created for the wellbeing and respect of animals. There are around forty different cats and 160 monkeys here, 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.

## Nearby

**Blois** • An attractive, bustling town considered to be the tourist capital of the area. The old city, has many attractive buildings. 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. Son-et-lumière performances take place in the courtyard from mid-May to early September. For the sweet-toothed, tours of the Chocolaterie Poulain, (the chocolate factory), can be arranged.

**Château de Chambord** • The largest and most extravagant chateau of the Loire. Its double-helix staircase is a notable feature which people can climb or descend, neither meeting nor losing sight of each other. From the roof terrace there are expansive views over the forest. 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.



# 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. This region produces some excellent wines - fruity reds from Touraine, and Vouvray, a sparkling alternative to champagne. If you like dry white wine, try Savennières, Sancerre and Pouilly Fumé. The Loire also produces a number of fruit liqueurs including Cointreau.

### Things to do and see

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

## Family Fun

**Park Mini Châteaux** • with scale models of 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 600m<sup>2</sup> screen, a 3-D cinema, a "dynamic" cinema with simulated seating (seats which move in reaction to events in the movie), an "enchanted lake", bumper boats, adventure playgrounds, a water maze and a lego exhibition. Just outside Poitiers, exit 28 off A10 (open daily, \*A).

**Zoo Parc de Beauval** • A beautifully-landscaped park with many animals including big cats, birds,



monkeys, gorillas, sea-lions, snakes, crocodiles and more. There is 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 1930's. You can see furniture and ornaments along with displays about life underground. In Rochemenier-Louresse, 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. (Open daily, \*A).

## Places of Interest

**Amboise** • 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, and 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 (\*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 and 17th centuries (open daily, \*A). An excellent son-et-lumière is held in the chateau grounds on summer evenings.

**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. (Open daily, \*A).

**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. It's nicknamed the Château des Dames because of the many women who have lived here throughout the centuries (open daily, \*A).

**Château de Valençay** • A 16th-century Renaissance castle with lavish furnishings and decoration. The

grounds include a formal garden with statues, peacocks and an animal park. The museum in the chateau grounds exhibits cars and motorbikes dating from the late 19th century onwards. (Open daily, \*A).

**Chinon** • At the chateau 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 chateau 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 (open daily, \*A). 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.

**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).

**Tours** • The lively town of Tours has a cosmopolitan feel with wide avenues, formal gardens and streets lined with cafés. It has a lovely old quarter with half-timbered houses and interesting shops. 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 (open daily, \*A). The Musée des Beaux-Arts displays work by Rubens, Rembrandt and Degas among others (\*A). 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.

**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.

*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.*