



### **Sologne Parc des Alicourts,**

Domaine des Alicourts,  
41300 Pierrefitte, France

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### **GPS co-ordinates**

Latitude: 47.5442

Longitude: 2.1917



# Campsite Information

## Sologne Parc des Alicourts, Pierrefitte

This superb lakeside site is in an excellent location from which to visit the magnificent Loire châteaux. The campsite is approximately an hour's drive south of Orléans and is close to the pretty town of Salbris, which lies seventeen kilometres to the southwest. Romorantin, also nearby, is a beautiful town which offers a cultural day out.

### Arriving at Sologne Parc des Alicourts

On arrival, go to the campsite reception and show your holiday itinerary, you will then be issued with a barrier card. You will then be directed 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 08.00 until 22.00.

### Barrier

The barrier is closed between 22.00 and 07.30. Should you wish to depart early in the morning or arrive back late at night you will have to leave your car outside the barrier.

### Currency Exchange

Currency and Traveller's Cheques can be exchanged at the campsite reception. There is a small commission fee for this service.

### Safety Deposit Boxes

Safety deposit boxes are available to rent at the campsite reception, please ask on site for more information about prices.

### Telephone

There are three card-operated phones on site and phone cards are on sale at reception.

### Web/Email Access

This facility is available on site in the main reception - you will need an internet card to operate the system. The internet cards cost €10 per hour.

### Shopping

The on-site shop sells a selection of groceries, produce, toiletries, wine, beer and beachwear, as well as croissants and milk. It is open daily from 07.30 to 12.00 and from 16.00 to 19.00. Fresh bread is available daily from the shop.

### Washing and Toilet Facilities

Washing machines and tumble dryers (tokens are on sale at the campsite reception, €4 for a washing machine and €2 for a dryer), free hot showers, baby room, baby bath, wash cubicles with hot water and standard toilets.

### Post

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

### Eating and Drinking

**Bar:** The spacious on-site bar is open every day from 10.00 until 23.00. It has a large terrace which looks onto the children's play area and offers a fine view of the stage where the nightly entertainment takes place.



There is satellite television in the bar, which has some British channels and shows sports events. As well as alcoholic drinks the bar has a good selection of hot and cold drinks, ice creams and some cold snacks on offer.

**Takeaway:** The takeaway is located behind the bar and serves a range of popular dishes such as pizzas, burgers, chicken and chips as well as salads, casseroles and steaks. It is open from 12.30 - 13.30 then from 17.30 until 21.30.

**Restaurant:** The attractive, gabled restaurant has a large ivy-clad terrace and is open from 18.30 until 23.00. Choose from the various set menus (including a special children's menu) or dine à la carte. It is obligatory to book a table in advance.

### Entertainment

A varied programme of well organised entertainment is on offer throughout the season. Events are organised daily, and include cabaret shows, discos and sports competitions. Please check with your couriers for details of organised entertainment.

### Recreation

**Swimming:** The tropical themed pool complex incorporates four separate pools (one especially for toddlers), a waterfall feature, a wave machine, five water slides (under 8yrs only for the small slides, over 8yrs only for the twisting chutes) and a whirlpool. The complex is open daily from 10.00 until 19.00, throughout the season. The pools are supervised by lifeguards all season.

**Cycling:** Hire prices are around €15 per day (plus a small deposit). Ask your courier for more information

**Tennis:** Courts can be booked at the campsite reception - €10 per hour and €2 for equipment hire.

**Golf:** There is nine-hole golf course on site. Price €15 with club hire or €10 without club hire for two hours.

**Mini Golf:** Available all season.

**Fishing:** You can fish in the onsite lake. Permits are available from reception.

**Games Room:** The games room is equipped with pool table, table football, pinball and arcade games.

**Pedaloers/Canoes:** Available for hire on the lake.

**Luxury Spa:** Facilities include fitness equipment plus an indoor pool with water jets, hydro massage pool, sauna and a Turkish bath. A range of massages and treatments are also available. Access is restricted to 18yrs and over, with limited family sessions.

There are also facilities on site for table tennis, badminton, boules, football, volleyball and basketball. The children's play area is divided into two, a sandy playground for the under fours and an adventure-style area for older children. There is also a skate/rollerblading park on site.

### FamilyExtra

FamilyExtra hosts fun filled activities for the whole family with sessions tailored to different ages. The sessions offer something to suit everyone and include activities such as Canvas Olympics, Raft building, Tatty Bumpkin for toddlers and Aqua Olympics. The whole family can join in, or Mum and Dad can relax while the children are off having fun - it's up to you. FamilyExtra is available between 17 May - 3 September. Please ask your FamilyExtra couriers for details of the weeks activities.

### Canvas Active

Canvas Active is available at Sologne Parc des Alicourts. Canvas customers have researched golf courses and fishing in the local area. For further details please see the Activities booklet, downloadable from the Canvas Holidays website.

### Disabled Facilities

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

### Rules and Regulations

- Silence and no driving between 22.30 and 07.30.
- 10km/h speed limit on site.
- Age restrictions apply for using the waterslides - see pool information for full details.
- Please recycle rubbish into appropriate bins.

# Local Information

## Beaches

The lake onsite has a sandy beach - a popular spot for sunbathing. Pedaloos and canoes are available for hire and the lake is suitable for swimming. There is a specially cordoned-off area for fishing, you will have to provide your own equipment and buy a permit from the site reception.

## Shopping

**Supermarket:** The closest supermarkets are Intermarché in Lamotte Beuvron or Super U in Salbris. Intermarché is open Monday 14.30 – 19.00, Tuesday to Saturday 09.00 - 12.00 and 14.30 - 19.00. Super U is open Monday to Thursday 09.00 - 12.00 and 14.30 - 19.30, and Friday and Saturday 09.00 - 19.30. It is also open on Sunday mornings. For a hypermarket head to E. Leclerc in Romorantin or Auchan in Blois.

**Souvenirs:** There are gift shops in both Salbris and Lamotte Beuvron. The châteaux and museums of the Loire Valley have shops that sell an array of souvenirs. For a wider variety head for Blois or Orléans.



## Local Markets

**Monday:** Sully sur Loire and Bourges.  
**Tuesday:** Sancerre, Blois and Vierzon.  
**Wednesday:** Blois, Romorantin, Gien and Bourges.  
**Thursday:** Chinon, La Ferte St Aubin and Blois.  
**Friday:** Lamotte Beuvron.  
**Saturday:** Gien, Chinon, Blois, Aubigny sur Nère, Sancerre, Salbris and Romorantin.  
**Sunday:** Chinon.

## Facilities

**Petrol:** Fuel is available in Lamotte Beuvron at the Intermarché supermarket or in Salbris at the Super U. There is also a garage in Lamotte Beuvron.

**Chemist:** The nearest chemist is in Brinon, which is about 7km from the site. There is also a chemist in Pierrefitte.

**Bank:** There is a branch of Crédit Agricole, with cash dispenser, in Salbris, and also a branch in Lamotte Beuvron. Bank opening times are from 09.00 to 12.30 and 14.30 to 18.00. Both of the supermarkets also have cash points which are accessible during opening hours.

**Post Office:** The nearest post office is in Pierrefitte. Open Monday to Saturday, 09.00 - 12.00 and 14.30 - 19.00.

**Tourist Information:** There is a tourist information office in Salbris, on Blvd de la République. For more information you are best to head to the offices in either Blois or Orléans.

## Distances

**Pierrefitte:** 5km (3 miles)  
**Lamotte Beuvron:** 16km (10 miles)  
**Aubigny sur Nère:** 25km (15 miles)  
**Futuroscope:** 222km (153 miles)



## Local Transport

The nearest train station is in Lamotte Beuvron. From here you can get connections to Paris via Orléans.

## Doctor

There is a doctors surgery in Pierrefitte at 3, Rue Nouvelle. It is open on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 09.30 to noon.  
Tel: 02 54 88 61 55.

## Dentist

There is a dental surgery in Nouan-le-Fuzelier.  
Tel: 02 54 88 78 26.

## 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:

**Lion d'Or, Pierrefitte.** This elegant restaurant occupies a restored Renaissance house and serves delicious regional delicacies such as white asparagus and fresh fish in 'beurre blanc'.

**La Perdrix Rouge, Souvigny en Sologne.** Extremely popular with local residents, particularly during the shooting season when excellent partridge and other game birds are served in the 'Sologne' fashion.

**La Pergola, Lamotte Beuvron.** This is a pizzeria restaurant which serves pizzas, pastas and grills. Friendly and informal.

**Le Cutty Sark, Aubigny sur Nère.** A Scottish restaurant in the heart of France! Serves set menus and dishes including pizzas, haggis and steaks.

**Hotel Tatin, Lamotte Beuvron.** Excellent food in good surroundings. The home-made desserts are highly recommended! Try the tarte tatin.

**La Sologne, Lamotte Beuvron.** Informal bar and café, offers cheap set menus and wholesome, simple food.

**L'Hermine, La Ferte Saint Aubin.** This crêperie is recommended for excellent value and good service.

**Le Souvignot, Souvigny en Sologne.** Recommended by previous customers for its excellent value menus, which have a very French feel to them. Set menus are available.

**Au Petit Coin Breton, Souvigny en Sologne.** This eatery specialises in sweet and savoury crepes. Ideal for families as there are many dishes and flavours to choose from. Reasonably priced.

## Activities

The generally flat landscape of the Loire Valley makes it ideal for cyclists and mountain bikers will enjoy the clearly sign posted paths through the region's forests and nature reserves. Comprehensive route maps and organised itineraries for cyclists are available from most tourist offices.

## Family Fun

Briare is well worth visiting to see the Pont Canal, an aqueduct spanning the Loire. It was built to allow barges to cross the Loire, avoiding dangerous currents, and is the largest aqueduct in the world. Boats still use the canal and you can hire a bateau mouche to explore or enjoy the views.

The capital of the Sologne is Romorantin-Lathenay, a lovely place to visit with its medieval quarter and old buildings. The Musée de Sologne explains the economy and wildlife of this fascinating area which is a bird watcher's paradise.

## Out and About

Sancerre is a town worth visiting. It is set on a hilltop and offers a range of wine tasting opportunities and great views of the surrounding area. The town of Aubigny sur Nère is a delightful and pretty town with a great park and a market located in a very picturesque setting.



# 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. Valençay is a pyramid shaped cheese with a mild, nutty taste. 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

**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).

**Futuroscope** • Futuroscope is Europe's first park devoted to technology. Attractions include a Kinemax cinema with a 600m<sup>2</sup> screen, a 3D 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).

**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).

**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).

**Park Mini Châteaux** • A park 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 (\*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 its lovely garden and watchtower, it is a fascinating place (\*A).

**Château de 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).

**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).

**Blois** • An attractive, bustling town considered to be the tourist capital of the area. The old city, which is partly pedestrianised, has many attractive buildings and a signposted walking tour of the historic streets. The Tourist Information Office near the chateau will give you information about guided tours. 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. (Open daily, \*A).

**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 (Open daily, \*A).

**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 history museum with waxwork figures, and an aquarium with many tropical, sea and freshwater fish (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 is nicknamed the Château des Dames because of the many women who have lived here throughout the centuries (Open daily, \*A).

**Chinon** • Chinon is an interesting small town which still has a medieval atmosphere. 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 (\*A).

**Chartres** • One of the prettiest cities in France with its old houses, picturesque streets and hump-backed bridges, Chartres is famous for its magnificent Gothic cathedral with luminous stained-glass windows dating from the 12th and 13th centuries. You can also visit the 9th century crypt (Guided tours daily, \*A). The Musée des Beaux-Arts, behind the cathedral, has some beautiful tapestries and a good collection of French paintings (\*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.*

