



### **Camping la Sirène,**

66702 Argelès-sur-Mer, France

**T:** +33 (0)4 68 81 04 61

**F:** +33 (0)4 68 81 69 74

### **GPS co-ordinates**

Latitude: 42.5708

Longitude: 3.0292



# Campsite Information

## Camping la Sirène, Argelès-sur-Mer

Camping la Sirène is the perfect location for an activity filled family holiday. Colourful flower-lined avenues lead to our emplacements but life here is centred around the breathtaking pool complex, with its own palm fringed desert island and a multitude of waterslides where children can play for hours.

### Arriving at Camping la Sirène

You should plan to arrive on site between 16.00 and 20.00. Go to the campsite reception, who will page your Canvas couriers for you. Your couriers will then show you to your accommodation.

### 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 onsite. 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.

### Security

At Camping la Sirène, you will be issued with an identification bracelet for security purposes. This also gives you access to all of the sporting and entertainment facilities (including the bars – over 16's only) on site, as well as those at the sister site of L'Hippocampe. These bracelets are available from the animations desk, located near to the reception. Please ask on site if you need any more information.

### Reception

Reception is open from 07.00 to 12.00 and 14.00 to 21.00 everyday; a night watchman is on duty outside of these hours.

### Barrier

The barrier is closed between 23.00 and 07.00. Should you wish to leave the site early in the morning, please ensure that your car is already outside the site.

### Currency Exchange

Currency and traveller's cheques may be exchanged at reception for a small fee.

### Cash Dispenser

Located near the campsite reception building, to the right in the car park

### Safety Deposit Boxes

These may be rented at the campsite reception for approximately €3 per day, or €18 per week.

### Telephone

There are a number of coin and card-operated phones in the car park near reception. Phone cards are on sale at reception and the on site shop.

### Web/Email Access

Available at the campsite reception for €1 for 15 minutes.

### Shopping

In low season the medium size on-site supermarket is open from 07.30 to 13.00 and from 16.00 to 18.00, during high season it is open from 07.30 to 13.00 and 16.00 to 20.00. It sells a good range of products including fresh bread, pastries, groceries, fresh fruit and vegetables. Postcards, stamps, beach items and toys may be purchased from the bazaar, which is open during high season from 08.00 to 12.00 and 15.00 to 19.30. The on-site newsagent is open daily from 08.00 to 12.00 and 16.00 to 19.30.

### Washing and Toilet Facilities

Washing machines and tumble dryers, (tokens cost €5.20 for a washing machine and €4.20 for a dryer, available from reception), free hot showers, wash cubicles, baby baths, baby toilets and British toilets.

### Post

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

### Eating and Drinking

**Bar:** Serving drinks, snacks and breakfast and open from 08.00 to 00.30 (23.00 in low season). It has a large outdoor terrace where entertainment is often provided. There is also a satellite TV and most major sporting events are shown.

**Takeaway:** Open from 11.30 to 14.00 and 17.30 to 22.30 (midnight in high season) with an extensive choice of dishes on offer including pizza, chicken, lasagne and chips.

**Restaurant:** The informal, restaurant has a good choice of food at reasonable prices. Open between 11.30 and 23.00 in high season. In low season it opens from 11.30 to 14.00 and from 17.30 to 22.30.

**Pub:** For over 16s only and open daily in high season from 20.00 to 03.00 with a dance floor and a pool table.

**Pizzeria:** Delicious pizzas are served between 11.30 and 23.00 in high season. In low season, they are open from 11.30 to 14.00 and 17.30 to 22.30.

### Entertainment

The campsite organise a vast entertainment programme throughout the season, including a children's club for 6-12 year olds, daily sports tournaments, excursions into the Catalan region, pool activities and superb evening entertainment. Please ask on site for a weekly animations programme.

### Recreation

**Swimming:** There is a tropical-style pool complex including children's pool, jacuzzi, waterfalls and waterslides. The complex is open from 10.00 until 19.00, and is supervised throughout the season. Please note that you will need to wear your wristband to gain access, and that no shoes are to be worn around the pool. Inflatables are not allowed in the pool.

**Tennis:** Courts are available (free of charge in low season). Reservations should be made at the reception.

**Archery:** Available free of charge when wearing your identification bracelet, on a first come, first served basis. Reservations should be made at the archery range.

**Aerobics:** At the pool complex from Monday to Saturday, free of charge.

**Scuba Diving and Boat Trips:** Pool and sea dives are available with the cost varying according to experience and requirements. All information is available from the club 'Apprendre à Plonger' at the pool complex.

**Rambling, Mountain Biking, Canoeing and Climbing:** All are organised via the 'Blue Bear Club'. Costs are detailed at the 'Blue Bear Club'.

**Bicycle Hire:** Bikes, helmets and child seats can be hired from the campsite.

There are also facilities on Camping la Sirène for table tennis, mini golf, canoeing, volleyball, football and basketball.

### Canvas Family Extra

We have teamed up with activity specialists In2Action to bring you high energy FamilyExtra sessions at this campsite. FamilyExtra offers activities tailored to different ages. The whole family can join in, or mum and dad can relax while the children are off having fun - It'd up to you. Do as much or as little as you choose while on your family camping holiday. The activities are available between 17 May and 3 Sep and offer something for everyone. Not all Family Extra activities are available on this site, with Scuba diving being an exclusion.

### Disabled Facilities

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

### Rules and Regulations

- 10km/ph speed limit on site.
- ID bracelet to be worn at all times.
- No driving or noise on site between 23.00 and 07.00.
- Charcoal barbecues are prohibited on the campsite.
- There are bins for recycling waste.

*Please note that noise can be heard late at night from the campsite animations.*



# Local Information

## Beaches

The soft single beaches of Argelès are close by and the North Beach is only five minutes' drive away. There is a bus service (or road train) to the North Beach in high season. The beaches of Argelès stretch for miles and are fringed with beach bars and restaurants and offer a great choice of watersports. The beaches at Canet and Ste Marie are suitable for young children as here the beach shelves gently into the Mediterranean.

## Shopping

**Supermarkets:** The nearest supermarket is Lidl or Carrefour in Argelès Ville, between Argelès-Plage and Argelès-Ville. Opening times may vary during low season. Perpignan has branches of Auchan and Carrefour. These tend to be open Monday to Saturday, 08.00 to 22.00.

**Souvenirs:** The Argelès area has a good range of craft and gift shops and Collioure is well worth a shopping trip for local art and wines.

## Local Markets

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <i>Monday:</i>    | Canet-Plage (HS), Elne, Argelès Plage.  |
| <i>Tuesday:</i>   | Canet-Plage, St Cyprien (HS), Port Argelès, Castelnou, Céret.   |
| <i>Wednesday:</i> | Elne, Collioure, CaneT (HS) and Argelès Ville.  |
| <i>Thursday:</i>  | Canet plage, St Laurent de la Salanque, St Cyprien village, Argelès Port, Banyuls-sur-Mer.                        |
| <i>Friday:</i>    | Canet Plage (HS), St Cyprien, Elne, Argelès Plage.  |
| <i>Saturday:</i>  | Canet Plage, Canet Port, Céret, Figueras  |
| <i>Sunday:</i>    | Canet Plage(HS), St Laurent de la Salanque, St Cyprien, Perpignan, Collioure, Banyuls-sur-Mer, Le Barcarès, Rosas |

Markets are held every morning in Perpignan both on Place des Poilus and Place de la République. The craft market in Argelès Plage opens at 17.00 every evening during high season.

## Facilities

**Petrol:** The cheapest fuel in the area is from the larger supermarkets. A 24hr petrol station is located next to Luna Park.

**Chemist:** The nearest chemist is 2km (1.2miles) away in Argelès Plage. Open 09.00 to 12.00 and 15.00 to 18.00.

**Bank:** Most of the major banks are represented in Argelès Ville, complete with cash dispensers.

**Post Office:** The main post office is in Argelès Ville, plus there is a 'summer' post office in Argelès Plage, on Avenue du Grau.

**Web/Internet Access:** There is several cyber cafés located in Argelès Plage, just as you enter the town on the right hand side.

**Tourist Information:** The main tourist bureau is at Place de l'Europe in Argelès Plage. It is open daily in high season from 08.30 to 20.00. In low season the hours are 09.00 to 12.00 and 14.00 to 18.00 Monday to Friday and 09.00 to 12.00 on Saturday.

## Distances

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Beach:           | 1.5km (1 mile).    |
| Argeles-sur-Mer: | 3.8km (2.3 miles). |
| Collioure:       | 12km (7 miles).    |
| Perpignan:       | 22km (14 miles).   |
| Gerona:          | 92km (57 miles).   |



## Local Transport

A tourist 'bus train' runs a frequent service between the major campsites and Argelès Plage and Ville in high season, which stops right outside the campsite. There is a train station in Argelès with connections to Perpignan, Narbonne, Port Bou and Spain. In high season, 'Bus Interplages' link the coast from Canet-Plage to Port Vendres.

## Doctor

A doctor regularly visits the site during high season. Surgery: 20 Ave du Tech, Argelès Plage. Tel: 04 68 81 62 67.

## Dentist

Dental Practise on 20 Ave du Tech, Argelès Plage, Tel: 04 68 81 02 15.

## Emergency Services

There is a two-digit phone number for emergency services:

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| Police:    | 17 |
| Fire:      | 18 |
| Ambulance: | 15 |

Argelès Police - 04 68 81 16 31

## Hospital

Perpignan Hospital, Hopital de Perpignan Marechal Joffre, 20 Av. Languedoc, Perpignan.

Tel: 04 68 61 66 33

## Eating and Drinking

You may like to try these restaurants and bars that have been recommended by Canvas customers and couriers:

**Pizzeria Al Raparou:** In Argelès Village. Paella, pizza and a range of specials.

**La Gamate:** In Argelès Village. A relaxed and informal restaurant serving typically French food. Popular with both locals and tourists alike

**Le Bleu Marine:** In Port Argelès. Seafood is the speciality and there are lovely views over the port. Reservations are advised and service is fantastic.

**Pizzeria des Pins:** Argelès Plage. Great pizza, pasta and paella dishes.

**Komodo:** In Argelès Plage. Looking over the Mediterranean sea. This restaurant serves large skewer kebabs (brochette), steaks and local delicacies.

**Le Joker:** In Argelès Plage. Offers an excellent dessert buffet, a pleasant location for a reasonably priced meal.

**L'Amadeus:** In Argelès Plage. A relaxed and elegant restaurant that serves regional specialities.

**L'Oasis:** In Racou. Serves local cuisine and offers panoramic beach views.

**La Veilleuse:** In Racou. This is the place to enjoy a drink whilst listening to live jazz until the small hours.

**Menja Aqú:** In Racou. A lively terraced bar/restaurant that specialises in Tapas.

Please check the Canvas Local Information folder in the Canvas reception for more recommended restaurants in the area.

## Activities

All manner of watersports are available at Argelès Plage. Please ask on site for some recommendations. From Argelès Port you can take a boat trip along the coast to Spain. Go-karting is available in Argelès Plage, just behind the Luna Park amusements. A fifteen minutes' drive will take you to Aqualand where families can have a great day out.

## Nearby

The local area is reputed for its wine production, be sure to visit some of the co-operative wine cellars in Argelès such as Cave Compristo on Avenue Libération, Cave Coopérative on Route de Sorède or Cave Deprade on the RN114.

**Perpignan** • Once the second city of Catalonia, this lively and attractive city has preserved its folklore and traditions. The Spanish influence is evident in the imposing Palais des Rois de Majorque, built in the 13th century. Le Castillet, in the centre of the town, is a little 14th century castle of pink brick. A wonderful panoramic view can be had from its terrace. It now houses the Casa Piral, a museum devoted to Catalan art and traditions. The Cathédrale de St-Jean, dating from the 14th and 15th centuries, contains a dramatic 14th century wooden sculpture named the Dévot Christ, and other beautiful pieces.

**Collioure** • A picturesque fishing village which has attracted many artists over the years, among them Matisse, Picasso and Dalí. The Château Royal is an impressive fortress and the former residence of the Kings of Majorca and Aragon. It now serves as a museum of modern painting and sculpture.

# Regional Information

## Languedoc Roussillon

With a long coast of beaches lapped by the warm Mediterranean and 300 days of sunshine a year, this area has become a popular tourist destination. There are excellent coastal resorts and spectacular beauty spots. The area stretches from the mouth of the Rhône River, down through marshes and lagoons, to the Pyrénées. In Roussillon, vast vineyards produce more than half the wines consumed in France.

### Things To Do and See

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

## Family Fun

### Leisure Parks

**Aqualand** • A fabulous waterpark with a huge variety of slides, and bumper boats. In St-Cyprien Plage (Open daily, \*A).

**Luna Park** • In the months of July and August, Luna Park fairground opens for all the family. It's free entry into the park with over 20 attractions to choose from, costing approx €2-5 per ride. Luna Park is situated close to Camping La Sirène and opens from 20.30 until 01.00.

### Wildlife Attractions

**Port-Canet Aquarium** • See marine life from five continents, sharks, piranhas, tropical fish, turtles and more. Small and friendly. In Canet-Plage (\*A).

**Réserve Africaine de Sigean** • Wild animals roam free in this safari park. The Nature Discovery Trail takes about two hours to complete. 15km (9 miles) south of Narbonne (Open daily, \*A).

**Le Tropic du Papillon** • A butterfly farm with many different types of butterfly, originating mainly from Ethiopia, Indonesia, Australia and tropical regions. You may be lucky enough to have one land on you. In Elne (\*A).

**Le Jardin d'Ariane** • This huge maze in Sainte Marie Village, north of Canet Plage, is a test of direction, logic and observation – and perhaps luck! Throughout the labyrinth, characters will either guide you in the right direction or confuse even the strongest willed. The relaxing bar awaits all once the task is complete (\*A).

**The Valley of the Tortoises** • With over 40 diverse species of tortoise. To enjoy the park at its best, it is recommended that you visit the park at the times that correspond with the animal activity from season to season. In the spring and the autumn time, visit late morning or mid afternoon; - in the summer, make your visit early morning or late afternoon. Located at Sorede, 20km (12 miles) from Perpignan (\*A).

### Caves

**Grottes des Grandes Canalettes** • Spectacular caves adorned with stalactites and stalagmites. There is a son et lumière show held in July and August. 1km (0.6 miles) from Villefranche de Conflent (\*A).

### Museums

**Musée de Tautavel** • In 1971 excavations revealed the skull of one of the oldest Europeans known to date, 450,000 years old. The Homme de Tautavel and an impressive number of other relics from the Stone Age, may be seen in this modern museum. In Tautavel (Open daily, \*A).

**Caves Byrrh** • In Thuir. These amazing cellars founded in 1866 are dedicated to the production of aperitifs. Visit the station concourse created by G. Eiffel's workshops. Admire the 800 huge casks – but,

most importantly, discover the biggest oak vat in the world, which holds 1,000,200 litres. The visit ends with a free wine tasting session (\*A).

## Places of Interest

**Carcassonne** • The wonderful 'pink' castle and fortified town of Carcassonne, featured in the film 'Robin Hood – Prince of Thieves' is a delight to wander through. Divided into two parts by the River Aude, the newer Ville Basse is an agricultural centre and La Cité is a powerfully fortified medieval city. The Romans built the original fortress, and sections of the wall date back to the 1st century. Cars are not permitted in Le Cité, so park outside the walls. Inside the walls you may visit the 12th century Château Comtal (open daily, \*A). The Cathédrale de St-Nazaire, dating from the 11th and 12th centuries, has some beautiful stained-glass windows (open daily). Carcassonne is truly impressive at night when it is spectacularly illuminated, totally dominating the surrounding countryside.

**Narbonne** • Make a day trip to this quiet provincial town to look at its Roman ruins and Gothic cathedral, and use as a base for exploring the vast surrounding wine-growing area. The pretty Canal de Robine that joins the Canal du Midi runs through the centre of the city. The covered market, Les Halles, is close by. Nearby is the Etang de Bage et de Sigean, a lagoon much frequented by flamingos.

**Banyuls** • A picturesque little wine producing town. Try a guided tour of one of the larger wine cellars, Cellier des Templier.

**Castelnou** • A feudal complex with a 10th century castle and fortified village, south-west of Perpignan. There is a great view of Pic du Canigou from the battlements.

**Céret** • An important artistic centre, with Picasso and Braque making it the capital of Cubism. The Musée d'Art Moderne displays works by Matisse, Chagal, Maillol, Dali, Miro and many others (Open daily).

**Ile-sur-Têt** • Sculpted by winds and storms in a sedimentary plateau over two million years old. "The Organs" are a spectacular sight. Ile-sur-Têt also houses the Centre d'Art Sacré where you can discover a feminine theme in Catalan artistic heritage. Excellent value for money (\*A).

**Prades** • A charming market town 40km west of Perpignan on the N116. Prades also makes a good base for walkers wishing to make the difficult climb

to Pic du Canigou (2,784m). There is a walk up to the Cholet Hotel des Cortalets and then down from the Ras de la Cortalets (approximately 4 hours) but you need a good constitution and good weather. .

**Villefranche-de-Conflent** • A superb fortified village on the banks of the river Cady. You may visit the Fort through the underground passage or by mini-bus (Open daily, \*A). Whilst in Villefranche, take a trip on the Petit Train Jaune (little yellow train), to enjoy the marvellous scenery in the upper valley of the Têt.

**Elne** • An attractive town built on a tiny hill, just 6km (3.6 miles) from the sea. Visit the fortified, partly Romanesque Cathedral of St Eulalie. The cloister displays beautifully carved motifs of lions, goats, foliage and biblical figures.

**Andorra** • A tiny mountain sovereign state, 460sq. km in size and 900m above sea level. Apart from its reputation as a shopper's paradise, due to the principality's duty-free status, it also has much to offer in the way of sightseeing.

**Figueres** • Situated just over the Spanish border, Figueres has become famous through the work of artist Salvador Dali who lived, worked and died here. It is well worth the hour's drive south from the campsite. Alternatively, take the coastal route, a beautiful drive but not recommended if family members suffer from travel sickness. Passports and picture driving licence (or International Driving Permit) will be required to cross the border into Spain.

**Perthus** • Just over the border you will find a quaint but busy area of shops and outlets selling everything from pork to pencils. Worth a trip for good discounted alcohol, gifts and mountains of sweets for children. Perfume, tobacco and brand clothing are all sold at reduced prices.

*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.*

