



Camping le Soleil,

66700 Argelès sur Mer, France

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GPS co-ordinates

Latitude: 42.5758

Longitude: 3.0425



Campsite Information

Camping le Soleil, Argelès Plage

Camping le Soleil one of our top sites for over 40 years, has an enviable location with direct access to an uncrowded stretch of sandy beach. Argelès is a diverse and exciting town with an interesting port and wonderful beaches. This site is only twenty kilometres from Perpignan in the north and is on the doorstep of Spain in the south.

Arriving at Camping le Soleil

On arrival go to the campsite reception where you will be asked for a deposit of €20 for a barrier pass. Afterwards, go to the Canvas reception, your Canvas couriers will be here to meet you between 16.00 and 20.00. If you arrive after 23.00, there is no driving allowed on site and you will have to leave your car outside.

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 08.00 to 20.00 in low season and from 08.00 to 20.00 in high season.

Barrier

The barrier is locked between 23.00 and 07.00. Should you wish to leave early in the morning, or arrive back late at night you will have to leave your car outside the campsite.

Currency Exchange

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

Safety Deposit Boxes

These may be rented at the campsite reception for approximately €3 per day or €15 a week.

Telephone

There are four card phones on site. Phone cards are sold at the campsite reception. There is free WiFi access near reception if you have your own lap top.

Web/Email Access

Access to the Internet is available near the campsite reception.

Cash Dispenser

There is a cash dispenser located next to the reception. It accepts most bank and credit cards.

Shopping

There are two shops on site. The mini-supermarket sells a variety of produce including fresh bread and milk. In low season it is open from 08.00 to 12.00 and during high season 08.00 to 12.00 and 17.00 to 19.00. The tabac is located near the swimming pool complex and is open between 08.00 and 12.00 and 16.00 to 19.00 (times may vary in low season). Here you will find cigarettes, international newspapers,

postcards, stamps, sweets, ice creams, beach items, toys and souvenirs.

Washing and Toilet Facilities

The laundry room is open daily from 09.00 to 21.00. Washing tokens cost €5.20 and drying tokens cost €2.50, available from the reception. Free hot showers, wash cubicles, baby rooms and baths and standard toilets.

Post

Mail is collected daily from the post box alongside the campsite reception. Stamps are available from the tabac.

Entertainment

During high season there is a full programme of activities and entertainment for all age groups, organised by the Soleil Animation Team. There is live music at the Beach Bar Can Pepito and a popular on-site nightclub (entrance fee may be applicable) during high season, plus a host of sports competitions and activities. Check the notice boards around the site, plus visit the Entertainment Stand for details.

Eating and Drinking

Poolside Bar: Open daily from 10.00 to 19.00 (low season times may vary) and serves beer, wine, soft drinks and ice creams.

Beach Bar Can Pepito: Open from 18.00 through to midnight. Live music is performed here on certain evenings during the week.

Takeaway: A wide variety of food is available daily from the takeaway, at the restaurant. The takeaway is open 12.00 to 14.00 and 18.00 to 22.00 in low season and 12.00 to 22.00 in high season.

Restaurant: Le Soleil's long-serving chef is renowned throughout the Argelès area for offering delicious food, from pizzas to lobster, including many regional specialities at very reasonable prices. The restaurant is open from 07.00 to 11.00, 12.00 to 14.00 and 18.00 to 22.00. The restaurant offers both a brasserie and restaurant menu.

Recreation

Swimming: The magnificent pool complex is the focal point of the campsite incorporating a large pool, children's pool, sun deck and terraces plus a sunken pool bar. The complex is open throughout the season from 10.00 to 19.00.



Tennis: Courts may be booked at reception. Please note that equipment is not provided.

Fishing: You may fish on the river that runs by the side of the campsite and into the Mediterranean. At present, no permit is necessary and remember to bring your own equipment!

Also available are table tennis, badminton, boules, football and volleyball. There is a fitness centre in the pool complex, a games room with pool, pinball and arcade games and there is a children's playground.

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 noticeboard outside Hoopi's tent.

Canvas Active

Canvas Active is available at Camping le Soleil. Canvas customers have researched golf courses in the local area. For further details please see the activities booklet, available to download from the Canvas Holidays website.

Rules and Regulations

- Silence and no driving on site from 23.00 and 08.00.
- 10km/ph speed limit on site.
- Le Soleil stickers to be displayed on car windscreens.
- Do not fix washing lines between trees or fences.
- Swimming trunks are compulsory in the pool.
- Only one car per emplacement is permitted.
- Charcoal BBQ's are prohibited on the campsite.
- Security bracelets must be worn at all times.

Local Information

Shopping

Supermarkets: The nearest large supermarkets are Lidl and Carrefour in Argelès Ville, open 09.00 to 20.00 Monday to Saturday, 08.30 to 12.00 on Sunday. Opening times may vary during low season. Perpignan has branches of Auchan and Carrefour. These tend to 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

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

There is also a craft market held every evening from 17.00 during high season in Argelès Plage at Parking les Plantanes.

Facilities

Petrol: There are several filling stations in Argelès, but fuel is cheaper at supermarkets.

Chemist: The nearest chemist is on the road towards 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. There is also several banks in Argelès Plage.

Post Office: The main post office is in Argelès Ville, open Monday to Saturday 09.30 to 12.00 and 14.00 to 16.00 closed Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. Plus there is a 'summer' post office in Argelès Plage, on avenue du Grau.

Web/Internet Access: Other than the internet access in reception, the nearest cafe is in Argeles Plage, found just past the pharmacy. Price is dependant on length of time on computer.

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, Saturday morning only.

Distances

Beach, Direct access.
Port Vendres, 17km (11 miles).
Perpignan, 24km (15 miles).
Figueras, 57km (35 miles).

Local Transport

A tourist 'road train' runs a frequent service between the major campsites and Argelès Plage and Ville in high season. There is a train station in Argelès with connections to Perpignan, Narbonne and Barcelona. In high season, 'Bus Interplages' link the coast from Canet-Plage to Port Vendres.

Doctor

A doctor visits the site during high season. Please ask your couriers for more details.

Surgery: 20 Ave du Tech, Argeles Plage.

Tel: 04 68 81 62 67.



Dentist

Dentist Practise on 20 Ave du Tech, Argeles Plage.

Tel: 04 68 81 02 15.

Hospital

Perpignan Hospital, Marechal Joffre, 20 Av. Languedoc, Perpignan. Tel: 04 68 61 66 33

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:

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

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

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

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

L'Ancienne Ecole: Palau Vidre. Open from 18.00 daily, this is a family-friendly restaurant offering a variety of fare at reasonable prices. Vegetarians and children are well catered for.

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

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

Beaches

The campsite has direct access to a long, wide sandy beach. It's great for children to play on, but take care as it shelves quite steeply into the sea. The beaches of Argelès stretch for miles and are fringed with beach bars and restaurants. At Canet and Ste Marie, the gently shelved Mediterranean beach is ideal for young children.

Activities

The area is perfect for water sports. Sailing boats and lessons are available at St Cyprien Port and Port Argelès. Go karting is available at Ludi Kart near to the Plaza Bowl

for budding Schumachers! Horse riding is available at the Kentucky Ranch at Argelès Plage.

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 may be had from its terrace. It now houses the Casa Pairal, 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 Dali. 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.

Elne • An attractive town built on a tiny hill, just 8km (5 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.



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 • admission charge is payable for these attractions.

Family Fun

Leisure Parks

Aqualand • A fabulous water park 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 just along the road from Camping Le Soleil 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 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).

Le Tropic du Papillon • A butterfly farm with many different types of butterfly, originating mainly from Ethiopia, Indonesia, Australia and tropical regions. In Elne (*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 l'Homme de Tautavel and an impressive number of other relics from the Stone Age may be seen in this modern museum. In Tautavel (*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: 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.

South of Perpignan

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

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

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 (*A).

Prades • A charming market town 40km west of Perpignan on the N116. Prades makes a good base for walkers wishing to make the difficult climb to Pic du Canigou (2784m). There is a walk up to the Cholet Hotel des Cortalets and then down from the Ras de

la Cortalets (approx. 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. The beautiful Grottes des Grandes Canalettes (see Family Fun) are also well worth a visit.

Spain

Barcelona • The capital of Catalonia and the second largest city in Spain buzzes with life and attracts thousands of visitors every year. Barcelona needs little introduction. It is a must. There is plenty to visit, to do and to see! Speak to main campsite reception for details on trips run in partnership with Argelès Tourism.

Figueres • Situated just over the Spanish border. It has become famous through the work of artist Salvador Dali who lived, worked and died here. An hour's drive in the direction of Barcelona from the campsite and worthy of it. 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.

Perthus • On and 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 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.