



### **Camping la Côte de Nacre,**

Rue General Moulton,  
14750 St Aubin-sur-Mer

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### **GPS co-ordinates**

Latitude: 49.3258

Longitude: -0.3903



# Campsite Information

## Camping la Côte de Nacre, St. Aubin-sur-Mer

Camping de la Côte de Nacre is in an excellent location on the outskirts of St Aubin-sur-Mer and close to miles of superb sandy beaches and Caen port. The site is modern, well-maintained and family-run with a pleasant French atmosphere. The grassy emplacements, play areas and heated lagoon pool with slides make this an ideal location for young families, while there are good facilities to keep teenagers happy too.

### Arriving at Camping la Côte de Nacre.

On arrival, please park in the car park to the left of the barrier before entering the site. From here, head to 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

The campsite reception is open from 9am to midday and 2pm to 7pm in low season. In high season, these times change to 8am to 8pm.

### Barrier

The barrier is closed between 11pm and 7am. Should you wish to depart early in the morning or arrive back late at night, please leave your car in the car park outside the barrier.

### Safety Deposit Boxes

This facility is not available on site.

### Telephone

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

### Web/E-mail Access

Internet access is available in the bar.

### Shopping

The small on-site shop is open all season from 8am to midday and 3pm to 7pm in low season; 7.30am to 8pm in high season. It sells all of your basic holiday needs - a range of basic groceries and produce, newspapers and some souvenirs.

### Washing and Toilet Facilities

Washing machines and tumble dryers (coin operated, €5 for a washing machine and €4 for a dryer). Iron hire, free hot showers, baby room and standard toilets are also available.

### Post

You can post mail from the site reception. Stamps are available here and from the shop.

### Eating and Drinking

**Bar:** The modern bar overlooks the pool complex. It is open daily 10am to midnight. Times may vary due to demand. In the bar you will find a games corner with a variety of electronic games, pool table and a television.

**Takeaway/Pizzeria:** The takeaway is situated next to the restaurant, place your order at the bar. It serves a range of popular dishes, such as chicken, burgers, pizza and chips, as well as the 'plat du jour'. It is open every day, midday to 2pm and 5.30pm to 10pm. Opening hours may vary during the season depending on demand.



**Restaurant:** The restaurant is located inside the bar. It serves a range of international and regional dishes. Opening hours are midday to 2pm and 5.30pm to 10pm. Opening hours may vary during the season depending on demand.

### Entertainment

In July and August the site organises evening entertainment. Of an evening in the bar you can enjoy discos, karaoke and a fun quiz. There are also activities such as sports competitions organised during the day.

Please ask your couriers or see the animations board for an up to date animations programme

### Recreation

**Swimming:** The swimming complex comprises of an outdoor pool, a covered pool, a waterslide, a three-lane slide and a paddling pool. You will need to wear a swimming pool band to access the pools, issued to you upon arrival at main reception. The pools are open every day, from 9.30am to 8pm. In low season the swimming pool may be closed between midday and 2pm. The waterslide is open daily 11am to 7.30pm. Please note that swimming trunks are compulsory.

**Cycling:** Bicycles can be hired on site (adults only). Please ask for a list of prices.

**Children's Playground:** The playground has various equipment including swings, slides and a seesaw.

There are also facilities on site for table tennis, boules, volleyball, football, basketball and bouncy castles (all free of charge)

### Canvas Active

Canvas Active is available at Camping de la Côte de Nacre. Canvas customers have researched golfing and cycling in the local area. For further details please see the Canvas Holidays website .

### Rules and Regulations

- There is a 10km/ph speed limit on site.
- No driving on site between 11pm and 7am.
- Please keep noise to a minimum between these hours.
- Please use the bottle banks and bins for recycling.
- Pool bands must be worn at all times.
- No shorts in the swimming pool - trunks only.
- Only one car per emplacement.



# Local Information

## Shopping

**Supermarket:** There is a small 8 à Huit supermarket in St Aubin. The Intermarché in Bernieres-sur-Mer is open Monday to Thursday 9am to midday and 2pm to 7.15pm, and Friday and Saturday 9am to 7.30pm. There is also a Carrefour supermarket in Courseulles which does not close at lunchtime and is open on Sunday mornings. There is also a Carrefour hypermarket on the northern outskirts of Caen on the way to St Aubin.

**Souvenirs:** St Aubin has a range of souvenir shops, as do most of the resorts along the coast. The daily 'flea' market in Caen is a fun place to shop for gifts.

## Local Markets

**Monday:** Pont l'Évêque.  
**Tuesday:** Courseulles, Deuville.  
**Wednesday:** Trouville, Bayeux.  
**Thursday:** St Aubin (high season), Houlgate.  
**Friday:** Courseulles, Deauville, Caen.  
**Saturday:** Honfleur, Falaise, Bayeux.  
**Sunday:** Cabourg, Caen.

The market in Caen on a Sunday has been particularly recommended.

## Facilities

**Chemist:** There is a chemist in St. Aubin, on Rue Pasteur.

**Petrol:** The nearest filling station is in St. Aubin, but fuel is cheaper at any of the larger supermarkets mentioned above.

**Bank:** There is a branch of Crédit Agricole with cash dispenser, in Luc sur Mer. The Casino in St Aubin has a cash dispenser.

**Post Office:** The nearest post office is in St Aubin, just opposite the entrance to the site.

**Tourist Information:** The closest tourist information office is in St Aubin, on Rue Pasteur. The one in Caen is larger and has a better range of information.

## Distances

St Aubin:	1km (2/3 mile)
Luc sur Mer:	3km (2 miles)
Caen:	19km (12 miles)
D-Day Landing Beaches:	20km (13 miles)
Houlgate:	52km (32 miles)
Bayeux:	27km (17 miles)

## Local Transport

The nearest train station is in Caen, which has connections to Paris and Rouen.

## Doctor

Cabinet Medical in St Aubin has three doctors.  
Tel: 02 31 97 33 81.

## Dentist

Dr Bessac is based in Douvres la Deliverance.  
Tel: 02 31 37 93 82.

## 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.

**Le Crab Vert, St Aubin.** This inexpensive, popular restaurant is situated on the sea front and specialises in grills, pizza and salad.

**The Charleston, St Aubin.** This restaurant on the seafront sells French/American food at reasonable prices.

**Le Clos Normand, St Aubin.** Slightly more expensive, but a specialist in regional dishes and seafood. Offers set menus and a children's menu.

**La Petite Auberge, Caen.** This homely little restaurant serves home-cooked food and 'plats du jour'.

**Le Pommier, Bayeux.** This restaurant has a real country feel to it and serves food made exclusively from local produce.

**Dolly's Café and Tearooms, Caen.** The food and service in this little café are British. You'll find it behind the château on Avenue de la Libération.

## Beaches

The nearest beach is only half a mile away in St Aubin, backed by a superb promenade. Slightly further afield, you will find popular beaches at Arromanches and Courseulles. The beaches along the coast between Deauville and Cabourg are generally quieter and ideal for families.

**Deauville** • Enjoy the white, meticulously clean, sandy beach, stroll along Les Planches (the wooden promenade) or wander around the exclusive shops. The American Film Festival is held here in September.

**Houlgate** • A seaside health resort with a fine, sandy beach. To the east, the Vaches Noires cliffs are a favourite haunt for fossil collectors.

**Trouville** • A smaller, less expensive and more 'down to earth' version of Deauville. Trouville is a colourful fishing port with an unbeatable fish market. If it threatens rain you can head for the aquarium.

**Villers-sur-Mer** • A quieter resort, 8km southwest of Deauville, with a 5km long, gently sloping sandy beach - ideal for children.

## Nearby

The town of St Aubin is only a short walk from the site. It is a lovely seaside resort with a good selection of restaurants and bars along its promenade. Visit the D Day beaches on the Côte de Nacre which

include Omaha, Juno and Gold beaches. The memorials at Colleville sur Mer are worth a visit as are the many military museums in the area.

## Activities

The rivers, forests and lakes of inland Normandy provide ample opportunity for walking and fishing. The nearby Côte de Nacre has facilities for various watersports including sailing, jet skiing, canoeing, diving and also sand yachting.

## Family Fun

Car lovers will enjoy a rainy day trip to the car museum 'La Belle Epoque' at the Château de Betteville. There is a lovely collection of old cars from a range of countries here, interesting for both the young and the old!

## Bayeux

Here you can see the world's most celebrated piece of embroidery work, the Tapisserie de Bayeux, housed in the Centre Guillaume le Conquérant. Stitched in 1067, this 70m long piece of linen portrays the events leading up to and including the Battle of Hastings. The visit includes an audio-visual show and a film (alternatively French and English) (Open daily, \*A). A special ticket covers a visit to the centre plus three smaller museums in Bayeux.

## Caen

Although much of Caen was destroyed during the war it has retained its old world charm. Two monuments represent the town - the Abbaye Aux Hommes and the Abbaye Aux Dames (both have guided tours daily). They were built by William the Conqueror and the Queen Mathilde in return for a papal dispensation to marry. It is worth making a visit to two of the towns museums, the Musée des Beaux-Arts and the Musée de Normandie, devoted to popular arts and traditions. Take a stroll in the château gardens where you can enjoy the view of the city. The Mémorial de Caen is highly recommended and worth visiting (allow at least three to four hours for a visit). Located just outside Caen, the museum offers visitors an audio-visual presentation of 20th century history, from 1918 to present day. Commentary in English is provided throughout the museum (Open daily, \*A).



# Regional Information

## Normandy

Normandy is one of the largest regions of France and has a captivating variety of scenery. There are 600kms of coastline with stunning cliffs, pebbled coves and long stretches of fine, golden sand. Inland you will find magnificent forests, tranquil streams, lush pastureland and acres of fruit orchards, dotted with traditional timber-framed houses and farmsteads. Normandy's history and culture have always been closely linked with Britain. William the Conqueror was Duke of Normandy and retained his land and power base here after his invasion of England in 1066. This region was of great significance during World War II. 133,000 allied soldiers landed on the beaches on "D-Day" - June 6, 1944. Craftsmanship is an important part of the cultural heritage. Lace makers of Alençon and Bayeux, ivory carvers from Dieppe, and potters from Noron-la-Poterie still demonstrate their craft. For sports enthusiasts Normandy has a myriad of choice. The coastline is ideal for watersports. There are signposted footpaths for ramblers, good climbing conditions, superb golf courses and many horse riding centres.

### Eating & Drinking – Regional Specialities

Normandy is most famous for its dairy produce and supplies half of France's butter, milk, cheese and cream. It is also the home of Cider and Calvados (apple brandy), which are commonly drunk instead of wine. Most cheeses are of the soft variety, the best known being Camembert and you can be sure your seafood will have been bought that day from one of the many fish markets - the local shellfish is superb. Make sure that you leave room to sample the mouth-watering local desserts.

### Things to do and see

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

## Family Fun

**Festyland** • This leisure park promises to be a great day out for the children. Slides, water rides, bouncy castles, swings, a miniature train, kart racing and a toboggan ride are just some of the attractions. Just west of Caen, off the N13 (Open daily, \*A).

**Zoo de Jurques** • The zoo is set in 500 hectares of land and boasts over 500 animals from five continents. There is a fantastic parrot show that takes place each day and you can see all of the animals being fed at various times - check the feeding timetable when you enter the zoo. The zoo also has an extensive breeding programme, so often you will be able to see the animals with their young. There is also a 'farm corner' where children and adults alike can pet the people friendly goats and donkeys. (\*A)

**Cerza Zoo** • Founded in 1986, this zoo has devoted more than 50 hectares to the care, conservation and reproduction of various species. The white rhino, giraffe, oryx, lion and hyena live in a well-simulated natural environment. There is a free safari train, which gives you a good chance to explore the park. Located 7km north east of Lisieux on the D510 (\*A).

**Château de Balleroy** • An elegant 17th century château which houses a hot air balloon museum in the stables. There is a festival of balloons in June. 15km southwest of Bayeux, off the D572. (\*A).

**La Musée de la Poste et des Techniques de Communication** • This museum illustrates the history of the postal service. French communications systems are some of the most advanced in the world and the museum is informative for adults and children. It is situated inside one of the few 16th century timber-framed buildings still standing in Caen. It shows the history of the postal service, how stamps are made and the changing role of the telephone and telegraph.

**Chemin de Fer Miniature** • The 'biggest' miniature railway in Europe. Outside there is a small gauge railway which carries children around the estate. In Clécy, southeast of Caen (Open daily, \*A)

**Le Souterrain des Ardoisères** • This former slate mine has 400m of underground galleries and four huge caves, a visit includes a show of light, sound, and images. In Caumont l'Eventé (Open daily, \*A).

**Musée d'Automobiles 'La Belle Epoque'** • This automobile museum is found at the Château de Bretteville on the D48 near Pont l'Évêque. There is a good collection of historic vehicles from many countries. The collection includes cars, vans and fire engines. Recommended for a rainy day

## War Museums and Memorials

**Arromanches-les-Bains** • You can still see the wreckage of the artificial harbour known as the "Mulberry". Highly recommended by Canvas customers is the Musée du Débarquement on the sea front. It has a diorama cinema, models and photographs that recall D-Day (open daily, \*A). The Arromanches 360 cinema on the cliff-top above the town shows the events of D-Day in a 360° auditorium.

**Bayeux** • The Musée Mémorial de la Bataille de Normandie (1944) is one of the best of its kind, retracing the military and human history of the Battle of Normandy. (Open daily, \*A).

**Memorial Pegasus** • In Bênouville-Ranville. On the night of 5 June 1944 members of the Sixth British Airborne Division used gliders and parachutes to arrive silently and stealthily in the town of Bênouville-Ranville in order to capture the now famous Pegasus Bridge from the Nazis. This was the first step toward allied victory. The memorial now honours the bravery of the soldiers of the Sixth British Airborne Division. Next to the memorial is a museum devoted to the event, including the original Pegasus Bridge

**Landing Beaches** • Omaha and Utah, were held by American troops, and the Gold and Sword Beaches by the British. The Liberty Milestone and the Invasion Museum, housed in a wall bunker at Utah Beach, and the Normandy American Cemetery at Omaha Beach, are both well worth a visit.

**Normandy pass** • If you are planning on visiting a number of the D day museums and beaches it may be worth investing in a "Normandy Pass". This card allows you to have reduced entry to 26 participating museums and 15 other attractions. Please ask onsite for more information.

## Places of Interest

**Rouen** • The Norman capital is a city of art and history, known for its museums and monuments. Visit the Cathédrale Notre-Dame, the subject of a series of paintings by the Impressionist painter Monet. Also visit the Place du Vieux-Marché where



Joan of Arc was burned at the stake in 1431. The Rue du Gros Horloge links the Cathedral to the modern church dedicated to Joan of Arc and is Rouen's main pedestrian and shopping street. The Renaissance clock, which spans the street, dates from 1527. Other interesting places to visit include the Musée des Beaux-Arts (\*A) and the Aître St-Maclou, once a cemetery for plague victims.

**Lisieux** • One of the world's great pilgrimage centres and the leading town of the Auge region. A million pilgrims a year come to see the home of Ste-Thérèse and the Basilique Ste-Thérèse which is the setting for a laser show every evening, except Sunday, from June to September. Lisieux has two large markets full of traditional Norman fare. One of the best ways to see all the sights of Lisieux is to take the tourist train that runs 50-minute tours during the summer.

**St-Germain-de-Livet** • Just outside Lisieux, it is worth stopping to see this 15th-16th century castle. A traditional half-timbered manor decorated with locally glazed bricks (Open Wed-Mon, \*A).

### Honfleur

A picturesque seaport town, full of character and with historical and artistic interest. The Musée Boudin houses a selection of 19th century paintings (\*A). Wander around the cobbled streets and soak up the atmosphere. The Église Ste-Catherine, France's oldest and largest wooden church, dominates the harbour's north corner. For a closer look at the Pont de Normandie, take one of the two 90-minute, cruises, which sail each day from the eastern side of Avant-Port.

**Fécamp** • Visit the Musée de la Bénédictine where the world famous liqueur is still made today. Tour the Bénédictine distillery and the old distilling chamber where it was first produced. At the end of the tour there is free tasting (Open daily, \*A).

**Giverny** • Claude Monet lived here from 1883 until his death in 1926. The house, now a museum, displays his personal furniture, a fine collection of Japanese prints, and reproductions of his work. You can also explore the Japanese-style water garden made famous by his 'water lilies' series (\*A).

**Falaise** • William the Conqueror was born here in 1027. The original château was probably one of the first stone castles to be built in Normandy. Henry I built the keep and the cylindrical Tour de Talbot was added in the early 13th Century. Climb the battlements for spectacular views (\*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.*