



Camping la Croix du Vieux Pont,

Berny Rivière, 02290 Vic sur Aisne, France.

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GPS co-ordinates

Latitude: 49.405

Longitude: 3.1286



Campsite Information

Camping la Croix du Vieux Pont, Bery Rivière

Camping la Croix du Vieux Pont is a tranquil parkland site with graceful poplar trees, bowing willows and neat hedges that make it fantastic to wander around. The campsite is just over an hour from Paris, in the heart of the countryside. A ten minute walk from site leads to the typical provincial town of Vic-Sur-Aisne.

Arriving at La Croix du Vieux Pont

On arrival, go to the campsite reception where you will receive some information, a campsite map and be pointed in the right direction for the Canvas reception. Your couriers will be here to meet you between 16.00 and 20.00.

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

Reception is open from 8am-midday and 2pm-7pm in low season. In high season it is open from 8am-7pm.

Barrier

The barrier is closed between 10.30pm and 7am. Should you wish to depart early in the morning, you will need to leave your car offsite.

Currency Exchange

Currency can be exchanged on site. There is a small fee for this service.

Safety Deposit Boxes

Available to rent at reception, at a cost of €2 per day or €8 per week.

Telephone

There are card-operated phones on site. Phone cards are on sale at reception and at the bar during high season.

Web/Email Access

This facility is available upstairs in the bar. You will need to buy an internet card available from the bar. There is WiFi access in the bar which requires a code for access. Please ask your couriers for more information.

Shopping

The on-site supermarket has a good range of essentials plus souvenirs and a good selection of wine. There is also a bakery, which sells fresh bread, croissants and cakes. It is open from 7.30am until 7.30pm in high season. In low season these times will vary. There is also a boutique where you can buy souvenirs, presents and games. It is open 10am to midday and 4pm-8pm (closed Mondays).

Washing and Toilet Facilities

Washing machines and tumble dryers (tokens are on sale at reception), free hot showers, and wash cubicles with hot water, baby baths and standard toilets.

Post

There is a post box on site, just outside the main reception. Stamps are sold at reception.



Eating and Drinking

Restaurant: The beamed, farmhouse-style restaurant with log fire is family friendly with children's menu and high chairs available. There are two menus available - an Italian menu and an à la Carte menu. Open from midday to 1.45pm and from 6pm to 10pm in high season, please check with your couriers on site for low season times. We recommend that you book a table in advance, as the restaurant is often busy. During the late part of the season the restaurant has a reduced menu.

Bar: The bar has a large outdoor terrace which overlooks the pool complex. It is open daily from 10am to midnight in high season. (5pm to 11pm in low season).

Takeaway Bery Burger: A variety of popular dishes such as burgers, chicken and chips are available between midday to 2pm and 5.30pm to 10pm (6.30pm to 10pm in low season) It is closed on Wednesday.

The Kiosk: There is a snack hut located at the top of the lake, next to the canoes, and another located at the beach. You can buy hot and cold drinks, hot snacks, ice cream and popcorn here. Open everyday from 10.30am until dark.

Please note that the restaurant, bar, takeaway and shop close on 30 September.

Recreation

Swimming: There are three pools on the campsite, two covered and heated, the other is an outdoor lagoon style pool and is overlooked by the bar terrace. There is a separate children's pool and covered paddling pool, and the indoor pool also has a twisting slide and three-lane chute. The pools are supervised throughout the season, and open daily from 10am to 7pm. In low season, the pools close between midday and 2pm for lunch. Please note that the outdoor pool is open from 1 May-30 September.

Tennis: Tennis courts can be hired at reception. (€7 per hour)

Cycling: Bicycles are available for hire opposite main reception. Baby seats are available free of charge. (€16 per day)

Fishing: Available on the lake. Equipment is available to buy on site. A permit costs €6 per day and €20 per week (half price for under 14's).

Canoes / Pedaloos: These can be hired at the kiosk, cost €2 and €8 respectively for half an hour.

Go Karts: These are designed for small children. You can hire mini go karts from the kiosk for €2 for four laps.

Games Room: The games room has arcade games and pinball.

Trampolines/Bouncy Castle: Available April - September €2 for about 10 mins.

Mini Golf: There is a mini golf course available on site. Please ask your couriers or campsite staff for more information

There is also a TV room with French satellite programmes and facilities for football, table tennis and boules. Archery is also available on site.

Beauty Centre

There is a beauty centre on the campsite offering various treatments including massage, sauna, solarium and manicures. Please ask on site for more information.

Trips to Disneyland and Paris

The campsite runs a bus service to Disneyland and Paris twice a week throughout the season depending on demand. Adult prices are approximately €20 to Disney and €23 to Paris. Children's prices are approximately €15 to Disney and €18 to Paris. The buses leave site at 7.50am and return around 9pm. Please note that the services often fill up quickly, so you should book in advance to avoid disappointment.

Disabled Facilities

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

Rules and Regulations

- Silence and no driving on site from 10.30pm to 7am.
- 10km/ph speed limit in site.
- There are bottle bins on site for recycling glass.
- There is a one-way system at the site entrance.
- Swimming trunks are compulsory in the pool.
- There is no food or drink allowed in the pool area

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 Waterwalkerz, 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 23 May-2 September. Please ask your FamilyExtra couriers for details of the weeks activities.

Local Information

Shopping

Supermarkets: The nearest supermarket is Inter-marché in Vic-Sur-Aisne which is open from 9am to 12.15pm and from 2.30pm to 7pm Tuesday to Saturday (closed Monday morning). There are two large hypermarkets nearby - Carrefour in Compiègne and Cora in Soissons (next to McDonalds). Cora is open 9am to 9pm, Monday to Friday and 8.30am to 9pm on Saturday.

Souvenirs: Compiègne and Soissons both have a good range of shops and Reims has been recommended as a good place to buy souvenirs.

Local Markets

Monday: St.Ouen, Paris and Hirdon.
Wednesday: Compiègne, and Vic-sur-Aisne.
Thursday: Villers Cotterets.
Friday: Pierrefonds.
Saturday: Soissons and St.Ouen.
Sunday: Cuisse-la-Motte.

The oldest and liveliest market in Paris can be found at the bottom end of Rue Mouffetard around Rue de l'Arbalète. (Metro - Censier Daubenton)

Facilities

Petrol: There is a small petrol station just to the left after the bridge in Vic-sur-Aisne but filling up is cheaper at Cora in Soissons.

Chemist: The chemist in Vic-sur-Aisne is open from 2pm to 7pm Monday, 9am to midday and 2pm to 7pm Tuesday to Saturday. On Saturday it closes slightly earlier at 5pm.

Bank: There is a Crédit Agricole with a cash dispenser in Vic-sur-Aisne. It is open Monday-Saturday.

Cash Dispenser: There is a cash dispenser at the Crédit Agricole in Vic-sur-Aisne, and also one outside the pub Le Welcome, just before the bridge in Vic sur Aisne.

Post Office: The post office in Vic-sur-Aisne is open from 9am to midday and from 2pm to 5pm Mondays - Fridays, as well as Monday afternoon and Saturday mornings.

Tourist Information: There is a small tourist information office in Vic-sur-Aisne, open Tuesday-Friday 10am to 12.30pm & 1pm to 5pm and open Saturdays 9am to 12.30pm & 1pm to 4.30pm. There is a larger office in Soissons, near to the cathedral.

Newsagents: There is a newsagent in the main square at Vic-Sur-Aisne selling British and Dutch newspapers.

Distances

Vic-sur-Aisne: 1.5km (1 mile)
Soissons: 16km (10 miles)
Compiègne: 25km (16 miles)

Local Transport

Both Soissons and Compiègne have good train connections to Paris and beyond. A local bus runs from Vic-sur-Aisne to Compiègne and Soissons. This service can be unpredictable at times.

Doctor

Dr Lenormand, Tel: 0033 (0) 3 23 55 50 12. Surgery is in Vic-sur-Aisne, next door to the pharmacy. A drop in service is available 2pm-4pm on Mondays, Thursday & Friday at a cost of €22.

Dentist

Dr Arnaud Ledru is also in Vic-sur-Aisne.
Tel: 03 23 55 56 80.



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 Donjon: In Vic-sur-Aisne. Good food from an extensive menu at very reasonable prices, offers set menus. Children are made very welcome.

Chez Micheline: In Berry Rivière. A small, traditional French establishment run by Micheline and her son Didier. Good, basic, inexpensive French and English food and excellent, friendly service. You are advised to reserve a table in high season. Open for lunch and dinner, closed on Thursdays.

Le Lion d'Or: In Vic-Sur-Aisne. One of the most expensive of the restaurants in the village. Serves good food and offers a varied wine list in a peaceful and pleasant atmosphere. Set menus available.

Auberge au Bord de l'Eau: In Fontenoy. Highly recommended for outstanding service, delicious food and an extensive wine list. Ideal for a special night out.

Le Bouchon: In Compiègne. Old-fashioned brasseries in rue St Martin. Generous portions of 'tête de veau' and 'boeuf bourguignon'. Set menus are also available.

Le Mandarin: In Soissons. An excellent Chinese restaurant in Soissons. Choose from a wide selection of dishes or set menus.

La Ferme du Carandeu: In Compiègne. This restaurant's speciality is its Wild Boar spit roast, and comes highly recommended by last year's couriers.

La Croix d'Or: In Attichy. The midweek business lunch is highly recommended. Impeccable and very friendly service.

Activities

Horse riding is available at The Pony Club, just five minutes' walk from the site. There is a skating rink in Compiègne on rue Jacques Daguerre.

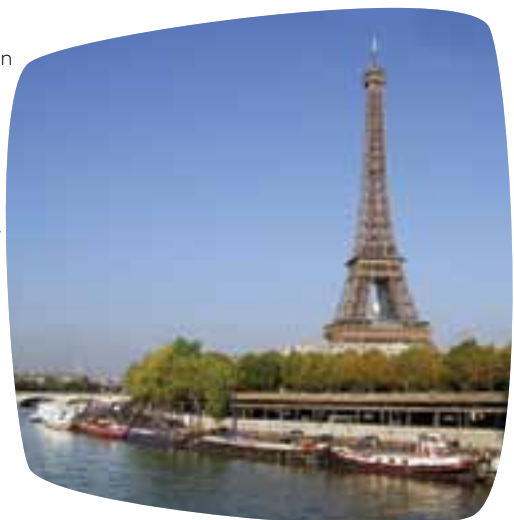
Paris

Paris has a wealth of glorious architectural heritage to explore and an enchanting atmosphere which draws visitors back time after time. One of the best ways to explore is on foot - take a stroll along the boulevards, allow time to branch off into side roads and gaze at shop windows or relax in pavement cafés.

Start with a panoramic view of this intriguing city. You might head for the Sacre Coeur, a lovely church on the top of the Butte de Montmartre, with its surrounding artists' colony and outdoor restaurants. Ascend the Eiffel Tower at least to the first stage, or use Europe's speediest lift to the 56th floor in the Montparnasse Tower. The top floor of the Pompidou Centre, a unique building which houses modern art collections and exhibitions, also offers a marvellous view. The courtyard outside is normally alive with buskers and street theatre performers. Climb the 225-foot towers of Notre-Dame to view not only the city, but also the gargoyles and celebrated belltower.

The Louvre Museum, with its controversial glass pyramid contains an extensive art collection, including the famous Mona Lisa. The Musée d'Orsay is an impressive gallery, once a hotel and railway station, which now houses Impressionist works.

The main shopping area is along the Boulevard Haussmann, particularly just behind the Opera, and there are also shops in the Rue St. Honoré. It is fascinating to browse around the weekend flea market at the Porte de St. Ouen in the north of Paris and there are, of course, numerous other markets.



Regional Information

Paris and the Île-de-France

The Île-de-France is the region surrounding Paris within a radius of 80kms. Although not an island, its name comes from the rivers that form its boundaries, the Seine, Oise, and Marne. Within its boundaries it displays a striking variety of scenery. Vast expanses of countryside and woodland continue to flourish in one of the most densely populated areas of France. With Paris as its focal point, this is also the political, economic, artistic, cultural and touristic centre of France.

Eating & Drinking – Regional Specialities

Paris is, of course, one of the world's great gastronomic centres. The very word "restaurant" was invented here in 1765 and you'll find classic and regional dishes at their best, as well as superb examples of international cuisine.

To the east of Paris, around Reims, pâtés and terrines wrapped in pastry feature strongly, and ham, gingerbread, and champagne-based mustard are also specialities. The region produces some delicious cheeses, the best known of which is Brie. To the east of the Île-de-France lies the vine-covered landscape around Reims, which produces the Pinot noir, Pinot Meunier and Chardonnay Blanc grapes. When blended and fermented they create the only drink in the world that may legally carry the name Champagne.

Savouring the Specialities

La Route Touristique du Champagne • There are four trails through the Champagne region, each clearly signposted. Enjoy the countryside and visit some of the Champagne Houses. You will find out how champagne is made, tour their caves and, in many cases, taste a glass of their best bubbly. Brochures in English are available at Tourist Information Offices.

Things to do and see

*A • an admission charge is payable for these attractions

Family Fun

Disneyland® Resort Paris • Over 70 attractions and shows to choose from. Go to Space Mountain, take a trip to the moon, visit Fairyland or Big Thunder Mountain Railroad. A steam train runs around the park with stations at each of the five "lands" and at the entrance. (Open daily *A). Disneyland Resort opened a second fantastic theme park in 2002 - Walt Disney Studios® Park. Enjoy the attractions such as Animation Courtyard, Stunt Show Spectacular, Armageddon Special Effects and Rock 'n' Roller Coaster. Separate tickets must be purchased for both parks. (Open daily *A). Marne-la-Vallée, 32km from Paris along motorway A4, Exit 14. RER A, station Marne-la-Vallée-Chessy.

As in any busy area, please take care of your personal belongings.



Parc Astérix • Discover the 'Gaulish' world of Astérix and Obélix at this theme park, which has over seven adventure areas and 40 attractions, including a giant wooden roller coaster. Plailly, 10km south of Senlis, via the A1. (Open daily. Closed some Mon and Fri in May and June. Sep/Oct - Wed and weekends only. *A).

Mer de Sable • Located in Ermenonville approximately an hour drive from the site, Mer de Sable is a wild west style theme park. Although not as big as Disneyland or Parc Asterix there are many rides for children and also several restaurants and eating places (A*).

Bois de Vincennes • A large park which includes the Zoo de Vincennes, the largest zoo in France (open daily *A) a flower garden, amusement park, medieval castle and boating on the lakes. In Paris. Métro: Porte Dorée.

La Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie • Young visitors can discover science through games, observation, exhibition and interactive experiences. You can touch, smell, feel, construct buildings and more. Visit Explora (which whisks you through "space, life, matter and communication") the Géode (a 180° curved screen cinema) and the Planetarium. In Paris. 30, avenue Corentin-Cariou. Métro: Porte de la Villette. (*A).

Places of Interest

Chantilly • Famous for its frothy, whipped cream and black lace, Chantilly also boasts a château, a superb art collection and a racecourse. The château is in a beautiful setting, rising above an artificial lagoon. It houses the Musée Condé which displays 15th century illuminated manuscripts and works by Botticelli and Raphael (*A). The château's grounds are also great for a leisurely stroll. Across the road from the château the 18th century Grandes Ecuries are the grandest stables in France and house the Living Museum of the Horse (*A).

Reims • Famous as the capital of the Champagne region, Reims is also home to a beautiful cathedral, and makes for an excellent day out. Visit also the Musée de Beaux Arts, with its large display of renaissance art and the Basilique St-Rémi, which is the oldest church in Reims and is the burial place of many French monarchs.

Pierrefonds • The imposing hill-top château dominates the small, lakeside village of Pierrefonds. Built in the 12th century and restored by Napoléon III in the 1860's, the château is one of the most striking in France. It is also the castle where BBC's children's drama "Merlin" starring John Hurt, Michelle Ryan and Richard Wilson was filmed last year. (*A).

Compiègne • Situated at the northern edge of the Île-de-France forest. The Palais de Compiègne, inhabited by French kings from the 14th century onwards, now houses the Musée de la Voiture featuring a large collection of carriages, coaches and

old cars (*A). The Musée de la Figurine has a unique collection of tin, lead, and plastic soldiers, from a Louis XIV trumpeter to soldiers from World War II (*A). Nearby is the Hôtel de Ville, a good example of Gothic architecture and boasting one of the country's oldest clocks. North east of the town is the Armistice Clearing where the Armistice was signed in a railway carriage on 11 November 1918 - you can see a replica of the original carriage (*A).

Senlis • Surrounded by forest, this well-preserved medieval town has a maze of cobbled streets. Formerly a Roman settlement, the core of the old town is an archeological garden, which attracts visitors from all over the world. Visit the Musée d'Art et Archéologie, built over an ancient Gallo-Roman residence (*A). In the centre of the town the Cathédrale Notre-Dame, with its elegant spire, is one of France's oldest and narrowest cathedrals. The Musée de la Vénérerie is a hunting museum located in the grounds of the ruined Château Royal and displays artifacts, prints and paintings (*A).

Soissons • A beautiful historic art town with plenty of bars and restaurants, only 15 minutes drive from the site. Although Soissons was seriously damaged during the first world war it still remains a town of great artistic value consisting of many monuments, sculptures and early gothic art.

Versailles • The Château de Versailles is one of the most visited monuments in France. Louis XIV, envious of Fouquet's Vaux-le-Vicomte, instructed Louis le Vau, Charles le Brun and André le Notre (architect, decorator and gardener) to build the most grand, opulent and most expensive château in France. You can tour the château of which, for many, the highlight of the visit is the Galerie des Glaces (hall of mirrors). You can also explore the formal but beautifully laid out gardens which include lawns, flower beds, statues, artificial lakes, fountains and woods. (*A).

Fontainebleau • Popular as a hunting base, Fontainebleau has been a royal residence since the 12th century. The royal apartments in the château are full of work by major artists and craftsmen spanning several centuries. The château also houses two national museums, the Napoléon Museum and the Chinese Museum (*A). The gardens are also worth a visit, especially the carp pond, and there are pony rides for younger visitors (Open daily). Once a royal hunting ground, the Forêt de Fontainebleau is still full of wildlife, and is ideal for walking, horse-riding, rock-climbing or just having a picnic.

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.