



Séquoia Parc,

17320 St. Just-Luzac, Charente Maritime

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GPS co-ordinates

Latitude: 45.8111

Longitude: -1.0608



Campsite Information

Séquoia Parc, Marennes

In the heart of the Royan region, Séquoia Park is surrounded by fields of sunflowers and vineyards. This delightful site is set in the grounds of the Château de la Josephtrie and offers a warm and relaxed atmosphere. The village of St Just Luzac is under a mile from site and the beach resort of Marennes, famous for its oysters, is only three miles away.

Arriving at Séquoia Parc

On arrival, please go to the Canvas reception. Your Canvas couriers will be here to meet you between 16.00 and 20.00. Upon your arrival you will be issued with a barrier code which you will need to enter and exit the campsite at all times.

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 08.30-12.30 and 14.00-20.00 during low season and 08.30 to 19.30 during high season.

Barrier

The barrier is closed between 22.30 and 07.00. 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. You will need a code to enter and exit the campsite and these can be obtained from the campsite reception for a deposit of €10. If for any reason you do not receive your code upon arrival please ask your courier as soon as possible.

Currency Exchange

Currency and traveller's cheques can be exchanged on site. There is a small commission fee for this service. There is also a cash machine on the campsite, and there is an average fee of £1.50 per withdrawal.

Telephone

There are three public telephones on site; phone cards can be bought from the campsite reception.



Web/Email Access

This facility is available in the bar on site and also at the reception, it costs €6 for 30 minutes and €9 for 60 minutes.

Shopping

The medium sized on-site shop sells basic groceries, fresh bread, cigarettes and in high season, foreign newspapers. There is also a gift shop on site. The shop is open from 08.00 to 12.30 and 15.00 to 19.30 throughout the season, and the gift shop is open from 09.00 to 12.00 and 16.00 to 18.00.

Washing and Toilet Facilities

There are washing machines and tumble dryers on site. The washing machines cost €5 to run and are coin operated. Tokens for the dryer can be bought at reception and are €3 - powder can be bought for €1.50. Iron hire (a deposit is required), free hot showers, standard and continental toilets, baby baths, changing facilities and children's toilets.

Post

There is a post box on site, next to the campsite shop, and stamps are sold at reception.

Eating and Drinking

Bar: The bar is open every day from 10.00 until midnight in high season and 17.00 to 23.00 in low season. There is entertainment in high season such as karaoke and discos, both twice weekly.

Snack Bar/Takeaway: The takeaway serves the normal selection including chips, pizza, chicken and burgers. The bruschetta (toasted bread rubbed with garlic, and then topped with sliced tomatoes and olive oil) is particularly popular. It is open from 17.30 to 22.30 in high season (order from the bar in low season).

Restaurant: The on site restaurant serves a good range of international dishes. It is in a lovely setting and has an outside terrace. Opening hours are 17.30 until 22.30. The pizzeria is attached to the restaurant and prices start at around €7.

Entertainment

There is regular evening entertainment at the bar in high season, as well as daily sporting competitions. Please ask your couriers for an up to date animations programme.

Recreation

Swimming: There are three pools on the site, two large pools, one with a plunge pool, and a children's pool. In high season the pools are open from 10.00 until 20.00, these hours may be shorter in low season. There is a sun terrace surrounding the pool, with sun loungers. Regulations include no shorts, no inflatables, no diving and parental supervision is required. For security purposes a wristband must be worn in the pool. They are issued upon arrival.

Cycling: Bicycles are available for hire throughout the season. Basic model adult bikes, children's bikes, mountain bikes and tandems are available. Prices vary - check details and prices with your couriers.

Tennis: Tennis courts are available for use at a price of €8 per hour and a deposit of €50 for the key.

Table tennis: Table tennis tables are available on site and equipment can be found in the Canvas games chest.

Horse Riding: Horse and pony riding are available, with lessons and helmets provided, please see your couriers for more details. Available from June to August only.

There is also a games room on site, a children's play area, and facilities for basketball, football and boules.

Canvas Active

Canvas Active is available at Séquoia Parc. Canvas customers have researched golfing and cycling in the local area. For further details please see the Activities booklet, downloadable from the Canvas website.

Rules and Regulations

- Silence on site between 23.00 and 07.00.
- 10km/ph speed limit on site.
- No driving on site between 23.00 and 07.00.
- Only one car is allowed per emplacement (other cars must be parked in the car park).
- Wristbands must be worn in the pools.
- Recycling bins must be used to dispose of glass.

Local Information

Shopping

Supermarket: There is an Intermarché on the way to Marennnes, and an E. Leclerc supermarket in the centre of Marennnes, open Monday to Thursday 09.00 to noon and 15.00 to 19.30; Friday and Saturday open 09.00 to 20.00. The nearest hypermarket is E. Leclerc on the road between Royan and Saujon. This is open Monday-Saturday 09.00 until 19.30.

Souvenirs: There are numerous gift shops in St Palais and Royan.

Local Markets

Tuesday: Marennnes, Rochefort, St Palais, Vaux-sur-Mer and St Trojan-les-Bains.

Wednesday: La Couarde-sur-Mer and Mornac-sur-Seudre.

Thursday: Marennnes, Rochefort, St Palais and St Trojan-les-Bains.

Friday: Les Mathes.

Saturday: La Tremblade, St Palais, Marennnes, Rochefort, Vaux-sur-Mer and St Trojan-les-Bains.

Sunday: Château d'Oleron and Palmyre.

There are daily markets throughout the season in Mescher, La Rochelle, Royan, and Saintes (except Monday), and in July and August in Château d'Oleron, La Tremblade, La Couarde, Vaux-sur-Mer and St Trojan-les-Bains.

Facilities

Petrol: There is a filling station at the Intermarché near Marennnes. Fuel is cheaper from supermarkets than from garages in France.

Chemist: The closest chemist is in St Juste-Luzac on Rue Garennes. Open Mon to Fri from 08.30- 12.30 and 14.00 until 19.30.

Bank: There are banks in Marennnes, Royan, La Palmyre and St Palais and most have cash dispensers.

Post Office: The nearest post office is in St Juste-Luzac but it is very small. There is a larger branch in Marennnes which is open Monday to Friday from 09.00 to noon and 14.30 to 16.30 and 09.00 to noon on Saturday

Tourist Information: The small office in Marennnes is only open in the mornings and can be found at 1 Place Chasseloup Laubat. There is a larger one in Les-Mathes-La-Palmyre, in avenue de Royan. Open Monday to Saturday 09.00 to noon and 14.00 to 18.00 in low season.

Distances

Marennnes: 5km (3 miles)

Beach: 5km (3 miles)

Luna Park: 22km (14 miles)

Saintes: 28km (23 miles)

Cognac: 66km (41 miles)

Local Transport

The nearest train station is in Royan with trains to Angoulême, Cognac and La Rochelle.

Doctor

Dr Hiribarren,
1 Place André Dulin,
St Just-Luzac
Tel: 05 46 85 13 63

Dentist

Dr Pointcouteau,
14 Rue François Fresneau,
Marennnes.
Tel: 05 46 85 00 71



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 bars and restaurants that have been recommended by Canvas customers and couriers in previous years.

Morback TexMex, La Palmyre. Relaxed, friendly restaurant serving pizzas and salads as well as a range of Mexican dishes. Set menus and a special children's menu are available at superb prices.

Auberge Italienne, on the road towards Les Mathes. Highly recommended for excellent, freshly cooked Italian food.

La Biche au Bois, on the main road towards Royan. Popular with families for good food and friendly service.

There are numerous restaurants on the harbour front in Royan, and the Esplanade in St Palais is lined with restaurants and cafés.

Nearby Beaches

The beach at Marennnes Plage is only 7.5kms away and is ideal for all the family. With its lagoon style swimming area it is relatively safe for children.

Ile d'Oleron is just a 10km drive from the site. It has a great range of open, sandy beaches along its south west coast - La Grande Plage is especially good for body boarding. Plage de la Giraudière, just to the north, is also well worth a visit.

The huge expanse of golden sand by the La Coubre lighthouse faces the Atlantic Ocean head on and is susceptible to strong currents. This makes for great body boarding but is rather unsuitable for swimming for young families.

La Grande Côte. This beautiful, sandy beach is in the direction of St Palais, stretches for miles. Safe and bordered by trees, it can be reached by foot, bike or car. Please be aware of jelly fish in the water. A flag will be flying to indicate if it is safe or not to go swimming.

Windsurfing, canoeing, sailing and fishing are all available from various points in the area. There are stables in Les Mathes and horse riding and pony rides are available, prices vary for this activity.



An 18-hole golf course is situated in Royan - see the Canvas Activities Booklet for some more recommended golf courses in the area.

Nearby

Cognac • The town of Cognac is surrounded by rolling vineyards and quiet villages and is on the main Royan to Angoulême railway line. Several of Cognac's famous distilleries offer tours of their production facilities and reservations are not necessary. The 75-minute Hennessy tour includes a film in English and a boat trip across the Charente to visit the cellars. There is a tasting session at the end and the tours take place between 10.00 and 18.00 every day from June to September.

Royan • Except for the area around Pontillac, little remains of previous Victorian splendour which once characterised Royan. Most of the original town was lost during the Second World War so much of the architecture is contemporary. The long, covered esplanade is lined with many shops and restaurants. The beautiful church of Notre Dame is visible for miles around. Catering for tourists, Royan has 'generous helpings' of funfairs, circuses and spectaculars throughout the summer.

Boat Trips

From La Rochelle you can take a boat trip to the islands of Ré, Aix and Oléron, and to Fort Boyard. A handy way to reach the Médoc vineyards, avoiding Bordeaux, is by ferry from Royan across the Gironde to Soulac-sur-Mer.

Le P'tit Train de St Trojan is a tourist train that has been running for over 40 years and combines beach day trips with the opportunity to see more of the local area. It departs from St Trojan in the south of the Ile d'Oleron and goes on a journey of approximately 12km.

Regional Information

Royan

This is a region of golden beaches backed by pine forests, where the shallow waters are ideal for swimming and water sports. The area is well known for its wine and brandy production.

There are three main Claret districts of which the largest, and possibly the most important is the Médoc. It lies to the south of the Gironde. The route de Médoc wine road (D2) passes the vineyards of Château Lafite, Château Mouton-Rothschild, Château Latour, Château Talbot, Château Lagrange and Château-Margaux.

The vineyards closest to Royan, along the estuary, produce wines known collectively as Côtes. Tourist Offices have leaflets detailing all the châteaux allowing visits and wine-tasting. Please note that visits to the cellars of the grander châteaux must be arranged in advance.

You can visit the major brandy distilleries of Martell and Hennessy at Cognac. Hennessy organise a tour in English with a film and a free sample (*A). Martell also give tours of the cognac houses and a sample (*A). Visit the Château de Didonne (on the D730, 7km from Royan), which belongs to a group of wine producers. The Cognac tasting here has been highly recommended!

Things to do and see

*A • An admission charge is payable for these attractions.

Family Fun

Châteaux

Château de la Roche Courbon • This is a beautiful château with excellent exhibits of paintings and furniture on show. There is also a museum of prehistoric objects and some interesting caves to visit in the grounds.

Château de Terre Neuve • This is a privately-owned château dating back to 1580. There are original paintings on show as well as furniture and an interesting clothes collection. Worth a visit also is the alchemists fireplace.

Leisure Parks

Futuroscope • Futuroscope is Europe's first park devoted to technology. Attractions include a Kinemax cinema with a 600m² screen, a 3-D cinema, a rotating tower, an "enchanted lake", bumper boats, remote controlled cars, adventure playgrounds, a water maze and a Lego exhibition. 185km from Marennes just outside Poitiers, exit 28 off A10 (open daily, *A).

Lunapark • Situated only a short drive away in Les Mathes, Lunapark is a fairground style attraction park which has rides for younger children as well as teenagers (open daily *A).

Le Puy du Fou • Visit a reconstructed 18th century Vendéen village with a wide programme of events, including jousting and juggling (*A). La Cinéscénie is an incredible open-air, night time show re-enacting the history of Vendée, accompanied by fireworks, lasers and fountains, with the Château le Puy du Fou and the lake providing a beautiful backdrop.

Wildlife Attractions

Aquarium de La Rochelle • Visit the huge variety of tropical fish and spectacular shark tank. La Rochelle (open daily, *A).

Lilleau-des-Niges • A bird sanctuary on Ile de Ré, where over 300 species of bird migrate each year. At high tide the massed ranks of sandpipers, oystercatchers and barnacle geese are a wonderful sight. The reserve is in Portes-en-Ré (open daily).



Zoo de la Palmyre • This beautiful wooded park has a variety of animals wandering around in semi-freedom. In La Palmyre, 10km from Royan (open daily, *A).

Places of Interest

Ile de Ré • A curved toll bridge links this island with La Pallice, just north of La Rochelle. St Martin-de-Ré, on the north coast, is the island's capital with a lively harbour, 17th-century cobbled streets and whitewashed cottages. There is a bird reserve at Les Portes and oyster parks at Rivedoux. Climb the Phare de la Baleine (lighthouse), for a great view.

La Rochelle • A charming town with good seafood restaurants. On either side of the extremely picturesque old port are two 14th-century towers. You can climb one of the towers, the Tour St Nicolas, for a good view of the bay (open daily, *A). In a third tower, the Tour de la Lanterne, you can see graffiti carved by prisoners in the 17th and 18th centuries (*A). The Musée d'Histoire Naturelle has an extensive collection of rocks, coral, and shells (*A).

Ile d'Oléron • Connected to the mainland by a bridge, much of this island is given over to the shellfish industry. Along the "oyster road" to the north of the island you can see ostréiculteurs, the producers attending to their harvest. At St-Trojan-les-Bains, on the southern tip of the island, a narrow gauge railway takes tourists 6km through the pine woods to the Pointe de Maumusson, an isolated point on the Côte Sauvage; departures every 20 minutes.

Bordeaux • A city port on the Garonne River, with 18th-century architecture, wide boulevards, excellent shopping and numerous cultural events. The Pont de Pierre Bridge, built by Napoléon in 1813, spans the Garonne. Walk across for a good view of the quays and port. In the Place de la Comédie the Grand Théâtre is one of the most magnificent in France.

A visit to the Musée d'Aquitaine will give you an overview of Bordeaux, from prehistoric times to the present. (*A). The Musée des Beaux-Arts has a fine collection of paintings from the 15th to 20th centuries, including works by Rubens, Corot and Matisse (*A). The museum, bars and exhibition hall at

the Cité Mondiale du Vin explore on the world of wine, 25 Quai des Chartrons.

Saintes • Situated on the banks of the River Charente, Saintes is an old town with religious buildings, and Roman ruins dating back to the 1st century. The old city is an area of winding streets surrounding the Cathédral St-Pierre. The Abbaye aux Dames, built in the 11th century, has a beautifully carved façade and, although the style is Romanesque, sections date from the 18th century (open daily - *A). The Eglise St. Eutrope is only a fragment of a great pilgrimage church but you can visit the vast crypt which contains the sarcophagus of a 4th century martyred bishop of Saintes (open daily). You can still see the impressive amphitheatre, built in the 1st century it is one of the oldest in the world (open daily - *A). On the opposite bank of the Charente, the Arc de Germanicus dates from AD19.



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.