



Camping Les Amiaux,

223 Rue de Notre Dame, 85169
St Jean de Monts, France.

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GPS co-ordinates

Latitude: 46.8075

Longitude: -2.105



Campsite Information

Camping Les Amiaux, St Jean-Plage

Camping les Amianux is a popular campsite on the vibrant Vendee coastline, close to St Jean-de-Monts. The campsite, set within a cool pine forest is large, spacious and well established. The emplacements are roomy with mature tree cover providing welcome shade to most. There are three pools, three play areas and plenty of space to run around.

Arriving at Camping Les Amiaux

On arrival, go to the campsite reception, they will then direct you to the Canvas reception. Your Canvas couriers will be there to meet you between 16.00 and 20.00.

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 09.00 to 12.00 and 14.00 to 18.00 in low season and from 08.30 to 20.00 in high season. English is spoken at the campsite reception.

Barrier

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

Currency Exchange

There are banks in the town of St Jean de Monts.

Safety Deposit Boxes

These are available to rent at the campsite reception, they cost €3 per day or €20 per week.

Telephone

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

Web/Email Access

There is internet access available in the bar at a cost of €4 per hour.



Shopping

The on-site shop sells a variety of produce and basic groceries including alcohol, sweets and fresh bread. The shop is open from 08.30 to noon and from 16.00 to 19.00 in low season, opening hours may be extended in high season depending on demand.

Washing and Toilet Facilities

Washing machines and tumble dryers are available on site (tokens are on sale at the campsite reception, washing is €5 and drying costs €1 per 9 minutes), iron hire (€1.50 plus €10 deposit), free hot showers, baby baths and standard toilets.

Post

Please hand your postcards to main reception who have a franking machine.

Eating and Drinking

Bar: The on-site bar at Les Amiaux is open from 11.00 until 00.00 in high season. The bar has satellite television. It is quite lively in the evenings as it is the venue for the evening entertainment.

Takeaway: The takeaway sells a range of food including chips, burgers, pizzas, omelettes, crêpes and sausages and is open daily from 12.00 to 14.30 and from 18.00 to 22.00.

Restaurant: The rustic on-site restaurant has a friendly atmosphere and a good value children's menu. Open from 12.00 until 14.00 and 19.00 until 22.00 in low season and in high season from 12.00 to 14.00 and from 18.00 to 22.00.

Entertainment

There is a varied entertainment programme on site which includes disco nights, karaoke and sports competitions. Ask your couriers for details on activities which are organised on site. The entertainment programme runs during June, July and August.

Recreation

Swimming: The wonderful pool complex has two main pools (one indoor), a separate children's pool, an open air jacuzzi and five great water slides. The pools are heated and are open daily from 11.00 to 18.00. Indoor pool opens 17 May, other pools and jacuzzi are open 1 July to 31 Aug. Waterslides are open from 1 June - 31 August.

Tennis: There are two tennis courts on site. Courts can be booked at the campsite reception and an hourly charge applies. Remember to bring your own equipment!

Crazy Golf: Mini golf is available all season and costs €1.50 per person plus a €10 deposit.

Cycling: Bikes are available to hire on site and cost from €10 per day and €30 per week. Helmets and baby seats are also available to hire.

Games Room: The games room has pool tables, arcade games and table football.

Other available facilities at Les Amiaux include table tennis, boules, football, volleyball, basketball, archery and a few well-equipped children's playgrounds.

Canvas Active

Canvas Active is available at Camping les Amiaux. Canvas customers have researched golfing and cycling in the local area. For further details please see the activities booklet, available to download from the Canvas Holidays website.

Disabled Facilities

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

Rules and Regulations

- Silence and no driving on site between 23.00 and 07.00.
- Charcoal BBQ's are forbidden on site.
- No inflatable toys or beach balls to be used in the swimming pool.
- 10km/h speed limit on site.
- Swimming trunks only in the swimming pools.
- Only one car is permitted per emplacement.
- Please recycle using the bottle bins provided on site.
- The water slide is restricted to those 10 years and over.



Local Information

Beaches

The nearest beach is Daviere Plage, which is half a mile's walk down a quiet woodland path. The Grand Plage at St Jean de Monts is superb, miles of soft sand and excellent for water sports. Les Sables d'Olonne is a lively resort with an excellent beach and is just 47km from the site.

Shopping

Supermarkets: There is an Intermarché and a Super U in St Jean de Monts on the road towards Challans. There are branches of Marché U in Notre Dame de Monts and St Jean de Monts which are open Monday to Saturday, 09.00 to 12.00 and 14.30 to 19.30. In July and August they are open from 08.00 to 20.00, and on Sunday mornings. The nearest hypermarkets are E. Leclerc and Hyper U, both in Challans.

Souvenirs: Shopping for a gift is fun in St Jean de Monts in the evenings at the street stalls.

Local Markets

- Monday:** Les Marines, Jard sur mer and Ile d'Yeu and Merlin Plage.
- Tuesday:** Challans, Clisson, Sion, Ile d'Yeu, Noirmoutier, La Tranche sur mer, Mortagne sur Sevre, Les Sables d'Olonne, La Roche sur Yon, L'Aiguillon sur mer and St. Gilles Croix de Vie.
- Wednesday:** Croix de Vie, Les Sables d'Olonne, St. Jean de Monts, Clisson, Ile d'Yeu, Barbâtre, Commequiers and Luçon.
- Thursday:** Brétignolles sur Mer, Talmont St Hilaire, St. Hilaire, St. Gilles Croix de Vie, Les Sables d'Olonne, La Roche sur Yon and Ile d'Yeu.
- Friday:** Brem sur Mer, Challans, Clisson, Sion, Les Sables d'Olonne, L'Aiguillon sur mer and Noirmoutier.
- Saturday:** Coëx, Croix de Vie, Les Sables d'Olonne, St. Jean de Monts, Commequiers, Challans, La Roche sur Yon Talmont St Hilaire, La Tranche sur mer and Luçon.
- Sunday:** Brétignolles sur Mer, St. Hilaire, Les Sables d'Olonne, Olonne sur mer, Notre Dame de Monts and St. Gilles Croix de Vie.

Facilities

Petrol: There is a garage in St Jean de Monts but fuel is cheaper at Super U.

Chemist: There is a chemist in St Jean de Monts on Rue Général de Gaulle.

Bank: There are several banks in St Jean de Monts and the local supermarkets also have cash dispensers.

Post Office: There is a large post office on the way into St Jean de Monts. Open 09.00 to 12.00

Web/Internet Access: Available at the library in St Jean de Monts. Also available at 'Melanie Pub' in St Jean and there is a cyber cafe in Orouet.

Tourist Information: The local office is situated in the Palais de Congress at 67 Esplanade de la Mer (the seafront) in St Jean de Monts.

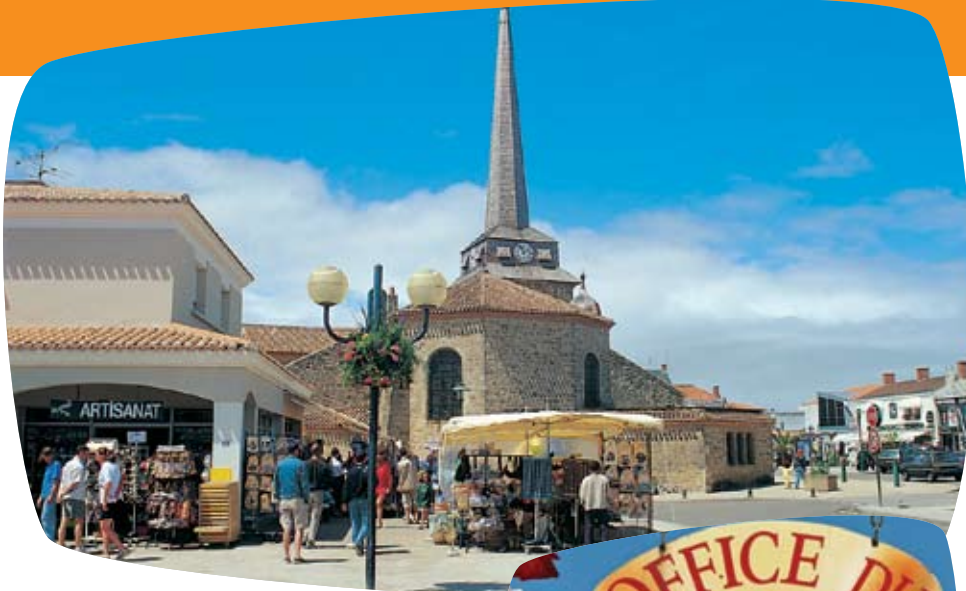
Please ask your couriers for directions and opening hours for all of the above facilities.

Distances

- St Jean de Monts: 4km (2.5 miles)
Challans: 20km (12 miles)
St Gilles Croix de Vie: 21km (13 miles)

Local Transport

There are train stations in Challans and St Gilles with regular services to Nantes and Paris. There is a small station in St Jean de Monts.



Doctor

Rue Général de Gaulle, St Jean de Monts.
Tel: 02 51 58 64 05

or

Dr Rabec, 133 Avenue d'Orouet in St Jean de Monts.
Tel: 02 51 58 67 90.

Dentist

M. Potereau, 8 Rue de la Plage, St Jean de Monts.
Tel: 02 51 58 65 38.

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.

Chez Tante Paulette: On Rue Neuve. This small, family-friendly restaurant specialises in fresh seafood dishes at reasonable prices.

La Cloche d'Or: At 26 Ave. des Tilleuls. The shellfish, especially crab, are particularly recommended. Indoor and outdoor seating is available and the set menus are extremely good value.

La Guillaume Tell: On Avenue de la Plage. Local people flock to this informal brasserie, especially at lunchtime, for the tasty, good value set menu.

Crêperie Vendéenne: 28, Esplanade de la Mer. Children are made welcome at this friendly crêperie which also serves fresh mussels and a range of grilled food.

L'Alambic: On Ave de la Mer. Tex Mex food, burgers and great salads are on offer at this lively, informal eatery with widescreen television and pool tables.

Auberge la Chaumière: In Orouet. Just five minutes from the campsite, you can choose to eat indoors or out in a woodland setting. Tasty regional cuisine with set menus available.

Activities

Windsurfs and pedaloes can be rented at St Jean de Monts beach and canoes are available for hire a little further along the coast, at Notre Dame. There is a sailing school at Sion sur l'Océan where you can book lessons and equipment.

Les Sables d'Olonne is a great venue for surfers, there are a few surfing schools here, located at the main beach.

Family Fun

Vélo-Train • Enjoy the delights of the countryside with family or friends by taking a trip on the Vélo-Train. The cycle cars take between two and five



people and a 10km stretch of former railway line is your cycle path. The track takes in a viaduct over the river Vie and several level crossings across the D82. Choose your own pace for a wonderful and relaxing experience (*A).

Nearby

St Jean-de-Monts • This was at one time a small fishing village. The town is now a bustling seaside resort with great sandy beaches and plenty of water sports facilities. There is a great choice of restaurants, cafés and bars along the promenade of the Grand Plage. The forest next to the town covers 2000 acres of land and is a relaxing and peaceful location for family walks or bike rides.

Ile-de-Noiremoutier • A visit to the island makes for a fascinating day out, especially if timed to make the crossing via the 4.5km causeway at low tide, rather than via the toll bridge from Fromentine. A blue-sign posted 'Route de l'île' guides cyclists and motorists on a 40km tour of the island with its attractive villages such as Vieil, La Blanche and Bois la Chaise and the smart, bustling capital Noirmoutier-en-Île. One of the capital's attractions is 'Sealand', an excellent aquarium where you can watch a huge variety of species both above and beneath water.

St Philbert-de-Grand-Lieu • One of the oldest churches in France is situated in this picturesque village. Monks from Noirmoutier fleeing the Norman invasion built the Abbaye St-Philbert in 815 to hold the relics of their saint. St Philbert's sarcophagus can be seen in the crypt. At the Maison de l'Avifaune du Lac you can learn about the birds that use the wetland habitat to the north (*A).

St Gilles-Croix-de-Vie • An attractive, busy port renowned for sardines and anchovies. The Maison du Pêcheur is furnished with items from a typical local fisherman's home in the 1920s. There are several festivals during July and August. Check with the local Tourist Information Office for details.

Regional Information

Vendée

The Vendée makes an ideal holiday destination, with over 140km of wide, sandy beaches and over two thousand hours of sunshine each year. Beaches are often backed by sand dunes and pine forests, which act as a natural windbreak. The wide shallow shores are safe for bathing and water sports. Inland you will find marshes, plains and wooded hills, rich in legend and history. To the south of the region lies the Gironde and the vineyards around Bordeaux.

Eating & Drinking – Regional Specialities

Vendéen regional fare tends to be simple and hearty. With such a long coastline, there is a wealth of fish and shellfish; especially good are the mussels, sardines and sole. Don't leave without trying the moules marinière (mussels in a white wine and onion sauce) or à la Crème (with cream). The Vendée is famous for its brioche (sweet bread), with each village having its own recipe. The region produces three kinds of Muscadet, a dry white wine particularly good with seafood. There is an even drier wine called Gros-Plant. Red, white and rosé wine is marketed under the Fiefs Vendéen label.

Things to do and see

*A • an admission charge is payable for these attractions

Family Fun & Days Out

Leisure Parks

Futuroscope • Futuroscope is Europe's first park devoted to technology. Attractions include a Kinemax cinema with a 600 square-metre screen, a 3-D cinema, a "dynamic" cinema with simulated seating (seats that move in reaction to events in the movie), a rotating tower, an "enchanted lake", bumper boats, remote controlled cars, adventure playgrounds, a water maze and a lego exhibition. 80km to the east of Vendée just outside Poitiers, exit 28 off A10 (open daily, *A).

Atlantic Toboggan • A family water park with huge pools and lots of water chutes. 7km northwest of St-Hilaire-de-Riez (open daily, *A).

Le Puy De 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. Book early, as there are only about 20 performances a year - enquire at the local Tourist Information Office in the Puy du Fou, Les Épesses.

Chateau de la Guignardiere • Chateau de la Guignardiere is a castle with a twist. Take the whole family around an adventure trail in the castle grounds to discover the chamber of chests and win prizes. Explore the castle fully furnished in a renaissance style including a free guided tour; meet the animals in the grounds and visit the menhirs also with a guided archaeological tour in high season.

Parc d'Attractions des Dunes • This park has attractions for young and older children; roundabouts, go karts, toboggans, mini-golf and more. In Brem-sur-Mer (open daily, *A).

Parc Floral • A beautiful flower garden with seasonal exhibitions based around plants, art and the senses. Children can play Rigole aux Fleurs, a cross between



mini-golf and snakes and ladders. In Coëx. (Open daily, *A).

Wildlife Attractions

Planète Sauvage • This great wildlife park has over 1,500 animals. It is situated to the north of the Vendée. Thatched mud huts add to the African atmosphere. In Port Saint-Père (open daily, *A).

Sealand • An excellent aquarium which includes sea lions in a semi open air pool. In Noirmoutier-en-l'Île (open daily, *A).

Zoo de Sables • In this tree-filled zoo you can see a collection of monkeys, exotic birds, big cats and other animals. In Sables d'Olonne (open daily, *A).

Boat Trips

You can rent a flat-bottomed boat to explore La Venise Vert from several villages in the area, including Maillezais, Coulon, Le Mazeau, Damvix and La Garette. From St-Jean-de-Monts you can take a guided tour in a canoe through the marshes.

Places of Interest

North Vendée

Apremont • A picturesque village in the valley of La Vie, crowned with the remains of a Renaissance castle. Two towers and a chapel remain of Château d'Apremont, built in 1534 (open daily, *A). Take a camera for the castle and the 80m high water tower, which gives a fabulous view of the area. Apremont also has a delightful lake where you can hire dinghies, pedaloes, windsurfs and rowing boats.

Ile d'Yeu • Boat crossings leave St Gilles-Croix-de-Vie and Fromentine each day. Once on the island it's a good idea to hire a bicycle to explore. Perhaps the most spectacular part of the island is the rocky, wild Côte Sauvage on the west. The imposing ruins of the old chateau overlook the pretty fishing harbour of Port-de-la-Meule.

Nantes • To the north of Vendée, this is the largest town in the area. An attractive city of art, an industrial centre and a busy port. The Château des Ducs de Bretagne is a well-preserved fortress, now home to several museums. Opposite the castle, the highlight of the Cathédrale-St-Pierre is the tomb of Duke François II and his wife (*A). The Musée des Beaux-Arts contains a fine collection of Renaissance paintings (*A).

St Étienne-du-Bois • Spared from the ravages of war, this small village has a charming collection of

Renaissance houses clustered around a church. Stroll around the narrow lanes and along the banks of the River Boulogne.

Sallertaine • Near Challans, this is a pretty village full of arts and crafts shops. The well-preserved 12th century church stages exhibitions showing local life past and present. Rent a canoe and spend a peaceful afternoon exploring the surrounding canals.

Tiffauges • The Château de Gilles de Rais towers over this little town. Joan of Arc's companion in arms, Gilles de Rais (known as Blue Beard in legend) retired to Tiffauges before being executed at the age of 36. A tour of the castle includes the crypt, dungeons and creepy corridors leading to a reconstructed laboratory of alchemy. You can also see reconstructions of 15th century siege machinery (giant cross-bows, catapults and cannons) operated by soldiers in medieval costume. Be careful or you may be put in the stocks! (*A).

South Vendée

Fontenay-Le-Comte • Formerly the capital of the Vendée, this ancient town was once the haunt of poets, scientists and philosophers. Stroll through the town admiring the half-timbered and stone houses or take a horse-drawn carriage tour. The Musée Vendéen displays prehistoric artefacts, 19th century furniture, local bird life and work by local artists (*A). You can tour the beautifully furnished rooms of a fairytale castle at Château de Terre-Neuve (open daily).

Les Sables d'Olonne • A busy fishing port with a lovely beach and a zoo (see Family Fun). The 17th century Abbaye Sainte-Croix now houses an art gallery and a costume museum (*A). There is a festival held here in mid August.

Maillezais • A pretty village on the edge of the Venise Verte. A stone museum in the Abbaye de Maillezais gives you a closer look at some of the detailed Romanesque carvings from the ruins of a Benedictine abbey. In summer, the abbey is used for dramatic son et lumière shows (*A).

Talmont-St Hilaire • A charming former port overlooked by the ruins of Richard the Lionheart's Château de Talmont. You can explore this impressive medieval castle. From the top of the keep there are wonderful views of the area. The Musée Automobile de Vendée displays vehicles dating from 1885 to the 1960's.

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.