



### **Camping Acapulco,**

Avenue des Epines 85160,  
St Jean de Monts, France

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### **GPS co-ordinates**

Latitude: 46.7544

Longitude: -2.0136



# Campsite Information

## Camping Acapulco, St Jean-Plage

Camping Acapulco is a well-maintained and modern site, in a wonderful location close to many long sandy beaches. The facilities on site are superb and include a landscaped pool complex, which offers five waterslides with their own splash pool, a children's pool and a swimming pool.

### Arriving at Camping Acapulco

On arrival, go to the Canvas reception. Your couriers will be there to meet you between 16.00 and 20.00. Every client over the age of 7 years, will receive a security bracelet (deposit payable) which must be worn in order to use the facilities on site.

### 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 09.00 to 12.30 and 15.00 to 18.00, hours may vary in low season.

### Barrier

The barrier is closed between 23.00 and 07.00. Should you wish to depart earlier in the morning or leave later at night, please leave your car in the car park outside the barriers.

### Currency Exchange

This facility is available at the campsite reception. There is a small commission fee for this service.

### Safety Deposit Boxes

These are available to rent from reception at a cost of €3 per day.

### Telephones

There are card operated phones on site and telephone cards are available from the campsite reception.



### Web/Email Access

WiFi is available for customers with their own laptops in the campsite bar for €1 per day. There is access to the internet at the library in St. Jean-de-Monts and there are internet cafés in town. Please ask your couriers for directions and opening hours.

### Shopping

The supermarket on site sells basic groceries and fresh bread. It is open 08.00 to 13.00 and 16.00 to 19.00 in high season. During low season the shop is only opened in the morning. In high season stock is increased, providing a better selection of fresh fruit, veg, meat and cheese. At the shop you can also hire bicycles.

### Washing and Toilet Facilities

Washing machines and tumbler dryers (tokens, at a cost of €4 each, are available to buy from campsite reception), free hot showers, standard toilets and baby room.

### Post

Post is collected from and delivered to reception on a daily basis.

### Eating and Drinking

**Bar:** The bar is open daily from 10.00 until 00.00 in high season (these hours may be shortened in low season). It is equipped with satellite television, pool tables and arcade games. In high season it becomes quite lively in the evenings as it is the venue for much of the entertainment.

**Takeaway:** A range of popular foods such as burgers, chicken, chips and croque monsieur are available. The takeaway is open from 11.30 to 14.30 and 18.00 until 22.00 throughout the season.

### Entertainment

During high season the site organises various entertainment such as bingo, karaoke, disco nights, magic shows and sports competitions and tournaments. Please ask on site for an up-to-date animations programme.

### Recreation

**Swimming:** The pool complex is fantastic and has one main pool, a separate children's pool, and five water slides. The pools are surrounded by spacious sun terraces with sun loungers and the complex is overlooked by the bar terrace. The complex is open daily from 09.00 to 19.30. Please note that the pools are not supervised and children must be eight years and older to use the slides.

**Tennis:** The tennis court is available for hire and can be booked at the campsite reception. The courts cost €6 per hour.

**Cycling:** Bicycles are available for hire on site and cost is around €9 per day.

**Mini Golf:** Available on site, please ask at reception for more information.

**Games Room:** The games room is equipped with pinball, video games, pool tables and driving games.

There are also facilities on site for table tennis and boules and there is an area where volleyball, basketball and football can be played.

### 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 Bumkin 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 17 May - 3 September. Please ask your FamilyExtra couriers for details of the weeks activities.

### Canvas Active

Canvas Active is available at Camping Acapulco. Canvas customers have researched cycle rides and 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 on site between 23.00 and 07.00.
- There is a 10km/h speed limit on site.
- No driving on site between 23.00 and 07.00.
- Only one car per emplacement is permitted.
- Swimming trunks are compulsory at the pool. Shorts are forbidden.



# Local Information

## Beaches

There is a safe, sandy beach just 10 minutes' walk from the campsite. St. Jean-de-Monts beach is superb, with miles of soft sand and excellent water sports facilities. The sandy beaches of Sion sur l'Océan, St. Gilles Croix de Vie and Les Sables d'Olonne are also within easy reach by car.

## Shopping

**Supermarkets:** The nearest supermarket is Marché U at St. Jean-de-Monts. It is open Monday to Saturday from 0800 to 20.00 and Sunday from 09.00 to 12.00 in high season. In low season from 09.00 to 12.00 and 14.30 to 19.30, Sundays morning only. Intermarché can also be found in St. Jean-de-Monts and the nearest hypermarket is E. Leclerc in Challans (open 08.45 until 20.00).

**Souvenirs:** Shopping for gifts is fun in St. Jean-de-Monts. Go one evening to 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 Total garage in St. Jean-de-Monts but fuel is cheaper at Super U or the Intermarché supermarket.

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

**Bank:** There are branches of Crédit Agricole, CIC and Banque Populaire in St. Jean-de-Monts, with cash dispensers. There is also a cashpoint machine at the Marché U supermarket.

**Post Office:** Branches can be found in St. Jean-de-Monts, St. Hilaire de Riez and also next to Marché U in high season, open 09.00 to 12.00.

**Web/Internet Access:** Available at the library and at Melanie Pub in St Jean de Monts. There are also cyber cafes in Orouet.

**Tourist Information:** The nearest tourist information office is in St Jean de Monts, at the Palais de Congrès. It has a good range of maps and guides.

## Distances

**St. Jean-de-Monts:** 6km (3.5 miles)  
**St. Hilaire de Riez:** 9km (6 miles)  
**St. Gilles Croix de Vie:** 12km (7 miles)  
**Challans:** 20km (13 miles)

## Local Transport

The nearest train station is in St Gilles Croix de Vie with services to Nantes and Paris.



The nearest bus stop is in St Jean de Monts with services to all local towns.

## 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

Dr. Barreteau has a surgery on 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. All are in St Jean de Monts, unless otherwise stated.

**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 wide-screen 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

The Vendée boasts five 18-hole, par 72 golf courses, including its newest at Talmont St Hilaire. A Vendée Golf Pass is available which entitles the bearer to one-round on each, plus a discount on further green-fees. Golf clubs may be hired on the spot. Please see the activities booklet for more information.



## Nearby

**St. Jean-de-Monts** • In recent years St. Jean-de-Monts has evolved from a small fishing village into a bustling cosmopolitan resort. The town boasts 8km of golden beaches, bordered by acres of dunes and pine forests.

**Sallertaine** • Near Challans, this pretty village is full of arts and crafts shops. Rent a canoe and spend a peaceful afternoon exploring the surrounding canals.

**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 1920's. There are several festivals during July and August. Check with the local Tourist Information Office for details.

**Ile-de-Noirmoutier** • You can access this island by bridge from Fromentine. However, it is more fun to use the Passage du Gois, a 5.5km causeway open at low tide. 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 Le Vieil, La Blanche, Bois de la Chaise and the smart, bustling capital Noirmoutier-en-L'Île - a pretty place with an impressive château at its centre.



# 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 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

**Futuroscope** • Futuroscope is Europe's first park devoted to technology. Attractions include: a Kinemax cinema with a 600m<sup>2</sup> screen, a 3D cinema, a "dynamic" cinema with simulated seating, 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).

**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.

**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. 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.

**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 1500 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. From La Rochelle you can take a boat trip to the islands of Ré, Aix and Oléron, and to Fort Boyard.

## 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 ticket 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.

**Île 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. The Fête du Thon (tuna fishing festival) is held in early August.

**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.

**St-Philbert-de-Grand-Lieu** • One of the oldest churches in France is situated in this picturesque village. The Abbatale St-Philbert was built in 815, to hold the relics of their saint, by monks from Noirmoutier fleeing the Norman invasion. 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).

**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 display (\*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. Also in Talmont St Hilaire, 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.*