

Superb heritage

Family fun

Gastronomic delights

Sports & outdoor activities

Traditional skills

New experiences

Exciting adventures

Unique Dordogne



PRESS KIT



DORDOGNE
PÉRIGORD
BEST OF FRANCE



GETTING TO THE DORDOGNE



BY TRAIN:

- TGV stations in Angoulême, Bordeaux and Libourne
- TER stations in Périgueux, Bergerac, Sarlat and elsewhere.



BY PLANE

- Bergerac : 15 international flights



BY CAR:

- Périgueux-Paris - 550km
- Périgueux-Lyon on the A89 - 400km
- Périgueux-Bordeaux on the A89 - 120km

FACTS AND FIGURES

Facts and figures:

- **Region:** Nouvelle Aquitaine
- **Prefecture:** Périgueux
- **Sub-prefectures:** Bergerac, Sarlat, Nontron

Surface area:

9,060km², the third largest French département in terms of area.

556 kilometres of navigable rivers suitable for canoeing

Population:

415,000 inhabitants, and a density of 43 inhabitants/km²

Number of communes:

520 communes, of which 498 are rural

4 main valleys: Dordogne, Vézère, Isle and Dronne

Urban centres: Périgueux, Bergerac, Sarlat and Nontron

Urban population: 48%

Tourism sector:

- Around **3 million tourists a year**
- Approximately **18 million overnight stays**
- Around **6,200 direct or indirect jobs** all year round
- Awarded the "département fleuri" label in 2016

Tourism in numbers:

- 191** sites and monuments open to visitors
- 15** UNESCO World Heritage-listed prehistoric sites
- 9** prehistoric deposits
- 9** painted caves and shelters
- 6** troglodyte sites and villages
- 5** caves and chasms with crystallisations
- 46** castles
- 11** abbeys and priories
- 71** museums and eco-museums
- 32** parks and gardens
- 3** man-made lakes each with a total area over 20 hectares
- 11** treetop adventure trails
- 7** affiliated golf courses
- 25** registered equestrian centres
- 10** climbing sites
- 1** aquarium

Accommodation:

- 229** hotels, 162 of which are rated 1 to 5 star, with a total capacity of 9,828 beds
- 13** tourist residences, 9 of which are rated 3 or 4 star, with a total capacity of 5,375 beds
- 249** camping and caravanning sites, 191 of which are rated 1 to 5 star, with a total capacity of 58,886 visitors
- 17** holiday villages
- 4,660** houses for rent, **660** officially approved rental properties,
- 2,158** Bed & Breakfasts, some of which are members of the Charmance Gîtes de France and Clévacances networks



THE RICH DIVERSITY OF THE PÉRIGORD

Situated **in Nouvelle Aquitaine**, in south-west France, **to the east of Bordeaux**, at the gateway to Occitanie, the Dordogne offers visitors a host of sensations and emotions. A favourite destination with food-lovers, this is a fascinating area with plenty to see and do at any time of year.

Beautiful buildings such as castles, manor houses and **Romanesque churches are dotted around the countryside**, providing a magnet for anyone interested in culture and heritage. It's not by chance that Prehistoric Man chose to settle in the area 17,000 years ago. He left exceptional works of art to Humanity, such as the cave paintings in Lascaux and the **15 prehistoric sites** concentrated in the Vézère valley, which are now **listed UNESCO World Heritage sites**.

Our **10 listed villages**, our medieval bastides and our **three "Towns of Art and History"** make the Dordogne **one of the richest départements in France** in terms

of listed historical monuments.

Today, this extraordinary heritage is showcased thanks to new tours and experiences available to the public. **A visit to the new Centre International de l'Art Pariétal Montignac Lascaux** is the best example of this, with its concentration of technology and modern design combining to take visitors back on a journey to the origins of human history.

The area also offers numerous festivals and events dedicated to music, mime, film and food throughout the year.

Nature-lovers and outdoor activity enthusiasts are spoilt for choice in the Dordogne - choose from activities as diverse as canoeing, hiking and cycle touring to golf, climbing and fishing, as well as wakeboarding and pot-holing.

Bon voyage!



BERGERAC Dordogne Périgord **airport**



With its **15 scheduled flights**, Bergerac airport is the gateway to your holiday.

300,000 passengers used the airport **in 2018**, with services operated by 6 airlines.

In 2019, these air links will continue as follows:

Ryanair: Brussels Charleroi, Liverpool, London Stansted, East Midlands and Bristol

Transavia: Rotterdam,

Jet2.com: Leeds Bradford, Birmingham, Manchester

Flybe: Southampton, Exeter, Edinburgh, Birmingham

British Airways: London City

For information on flight times and days of operation, visit the airport's website:

www.bergerac.aeroport.fr

Information is also available via social media:

Facebook: @aeroportbergerac.dordogneperigord

Twitter: Aéroport Bergerac @aerobergerac

Instagram: #aeroportbergerac

THE LASCAUX INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR CAVE ART

A sensory voyage in search of our ancestors

Situated at the foot of Lascaux hill, the **International Centre for Cave Art** in Montignac is home to a complete facsimile of Lascaux cave, alongside other high-tech exhibits offering visitors an immersive and virtual experience which appeals to all the senses.

The facsimile

One of the site's main attractions, the facsimile is a complete reproduction of the Lascaux cave paintings, created using the technical skill and expertise of the Atelier des Fac-Similés du Périgord (AFSP). In order to give visitors a chance to appreciate the paintings and enjoy an immersive experience, the atmosphere of the original cave has been completely recreated (temperature, humidity, lighting, sounds, etc...) in what is the largest facsimile of a painted cave in the world today. The site enables visitors to admire and experience the original cave in a highly authentic way.



A new visitor experience

The visit begins on a discovery path leading to the cave and finishes in a room dedicated to temporary exhibitions of contemporary art. As part of the tour, after viewing the facsimile, visitors are introduced to cave art, the Cro-Magnon civilisation and the history of work in the prehistoric world via imaging and virtual technologies used in exhibits in the Lascaux workshop and the wall art theatre. Thanks to its 3D cinema, exploring the paintings of Lascaux and other wall art from similar sites, and its gallery of painting, the International Centre for Cave Art presents prehistoric art using some of the most advanced virtual reality technologies. The centre is now a leading tourist and cultural site for the showcasing and promotion of cave art.

Contact: Semitour Perigord

Tél. : +33 (0)5 53 05 65 65

www.lascaux.fr



Press contact:

Micheline Morissonneau / Carine Gutierrez
promo1cdt24@orange.fr / Tél: +33 (0)5 53 35 50 05

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25 rue Wilson - BP 40032 - 24002 PERIGUEUX Cedex

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A NATIONAL MUSEUM TO REDEFINE LASCAUX'S PLACE IN ITS HISTORICAL CONTEXT

An ideal introduction to the region's World Heritage Sites, the National Prehistory Museum invites visitors to discover some of the oldest traces of humanity, which are impressively exhibited in a superb contemporary setting.

Situated in the heart of the Vézère Valley between Le Bugue and the Lascaux cave in Montignac, the village of Les Eyzies-de-Tayac is highly deserving of its nickname, "the world capital of prehistory". Built alongside the monumental cliff which is an integral part of this historic museum, the exhibition rooms at the Musée National de Préhistoire are crammed with stone tools, works of art carved from bone and ivory, life-size reconstructions of prehistoric man, and extinct animals, all of which provide an insight into the development of human society over the past 400,000 years.

Recommendations for smaller, more unusual sights to complement a visit to the museum:

The Abri du Poisson in Les Eyzies-de-Tayac is home to the earliest image of a fish discovered to date (dating back to around 25,000 BC). The fish in question is a life-size salmon which measures more than a metre in length.

The Abri de Cap Blanc in Marquay boasts the only monumental sculpted prehistoric frieze that can be seen by the general public.

Contact: Musée National de Préhistoire

Tél. : +33 (0)5 53 06 45 45

www.musee-prehistoire-eyzies.fr



LIVING HERITAGE COMPANIES KEEPING CULTURE ALIVE



The French State's "Entreprise de Patrimoine Vivant" (Living Heritage Company) label has been awarded to no fewer than eight businesses in the Dordogne. Working in the fields of art, fashion, construction and interior design, these "artists" protect the skills which have made French style renowned across the world and provide a fascinating insight for those who are passionate about maintaining French aesthetic traditions.

Atelier des Fac-similés du Périgord, A passion for creative reproductions

The Atelier des Fac-Similés du Périgord company specialises in creating facsimiles of prehistoric cave art. Their creations include the International Centre for Cave Art in Montignac Lascaux, two panels from the Niaux caves in the Ariège and Ekainberri in the Spanish Basque country. The company's highly qualified artisans reproduce as exact a replica as possible their subject (reliefs, surface appearance, decoration, etc...) using a combination of technological tools (3D surveys, digital photos and computer-assisted design) and patented techniques and materials.

Thanks to these highly skilled copyists, visitors can once again marvel at these historical artefacts..

Contact: AFSP

Tél. : +33 (0)5 53 50 47 11

www.afsp-perigord.fr



Pastels Giraults:

The oldest manufacturer of dry pastel sticks still in business today

The same techniques and family tradition since 1780

The dry pastel stick is a French invention dating back to Renaissance, although it wasn't until the 18th century that the sticks became famous thanks to Quentin de la Tour. Degas also used these pastels in his paintings in the 19th century. Although these pastels have been made and exhibited in the Dordogne since 1998, Pastels Girault was actually founded in Paris in 1780. The company was awarded the "Entreprise du patrimoine Vivant" label in 2013.

Karine Loiseau, the founder's niece, and her husband Stéphane, continue to keep this family tradition alive here in the land of Cro-Magnon man, who can be considered the "first pastel painter in France".

Although painting with dry pastel sticks has become a niche technique in France, this art form is fortunately very popular in other parts of Europe, as well as in the United States and other parts of the world.

Courses and masterclasses run by renowned pastel painters are regularly organised by the company.

Contact: Karine and Stéphane LOISEAU

www.pastelsgirault.com



Ateliers Ferignac:

Artists and artisans for the past 90 years

This company was founded in 1928 by Jean Ferignac. Although it now specialises mainly in carpentry and joinery, the company also offers a range of complementary skills such as cabinet-making, sculpture, decorative wrought-iron work, polychrome woodwork and gilding, all of which are essential skills for the conservation of our heritage. Ateliers Ferignac boasts numerous references, having worked on projects ranging from the renovation of the wooden roof structures of Hautefort, Biron and Mont-moreau castles to the restoration of the joinery in the Château d'Yquem, the square fort in Collioure and the Brittany parliament building.

Contact: +33 (0)5 53 51 88 18

<https://www.ateliers-ferignac.com/>

Press contact:

Micheline Morissonneau / Carine Gutierrez
promo1cdt24@orange.fr / Tél: +33 (0)5 53 35 50 05

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EXCELLENCE IN THE RESTORATION OF HISTORICAL HERITAGE

The Dordogne departement has the highest number of listed historic monuments in France after Paris.

Let's take a close look at two companies in the Perigord whose work involves the conservation of some of the most famous architectural monuments in France and around the world.

Saint Astier, a "finely crafted" natural lime

Since the mid-19th century, lime production has been an important industry in the Isle Valley. For four generations, the "Chaux et enduits de Saint Astier" family business has been making and processing top quality natural hydraulic lime with unequalled expertise.

The quality of this lime is appreciated by architects from around the world and the lime has been used in numerous prestigious restoration projects, including the Sagrada Familia in Barcelona, the Metropolitan Museum of New York, the Tower of London, Mont Saint Michel and the Pont Neuf in Paris.

A unique visit: The factory is open to visitors every Wednesday in summer. Learn all about the production process and visit the underground quarries (about 20m below ground), where this marly siliceous limestone, the mineral properties of which are unique in Europe, is quarried.

Contact: Marlène PERET

Tél. : +33 (0)6 86 46 10 00

www.saint-astier.com



La SOCRA, a company specialising in the restoration and conservation of monuments and works of art.

Situated near Périgueux, an officially recognised "town of art and history", SOCRA works on historic monuments, works of art and archaeological remains, offering services such as the restoration of stone decor, metal statuary, mosaics and technical studies.

The company has worked on the restoration and renovation of prestigious monuments such as the archangel at Mont Saint Michel, the Hall of Mirrors at the Palace of Versailles and the Pyramid at the Louvre in Paris.

SOCRA has acquired an excellent reputation in the heritage conservation sector thanks to its experience gained over fifty years of working in France and further afield.

The company's many different areas of expertise enable it to take part in numerous major heritage renovation projects and to work with some of the most famous names in contemporary art and architecture.

For more information on the company: www.socra.fr



Contact for visits on specific dates: Grand Périgueux Tourist Office

www.tourisme-perigueux.fr



Press contact:

Micheline Morissonneau / Carine Gutierrez
promo1cdt24@orange.fr / Tél: +33 (0)5 53 35 50 05

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OUR MASTER LAUZIER STONEMASONS WORKING TO RESTORE THE REGION'S HISTORIC MONUMENTS

The castles of the Périgord enjoy a facelift

Their silhouettes are familiar sights to locals, hidden in the curve of a valley or perched on a rocky outcrop. From medieval fortresses to Renaissance chateaux, and fortified houses to manor houses, the "land of a thousand and one castles" has something for everyone !

Renovating or restoring these monuments full of history is a task which requires much thought and preparation. The work must be carried out by experts in their field who have experience working with historic buildings and traditional materials.

The master lauzier stonemason, A time honoured professional skill

The roofing technique known in French as "en tas de charge" has survived thanks to master lauzier stonemasons who have taught themselves this traditional skill which is in danger of being lost today.

The restoration project planned for the Château de Castelnaud makes an important contribution to the conservation of the region's heritage, shining the spotlight in particular on the remarkable skills of the lauzier stonemasons.

Thierry Chapoulie is one of the few lauzier stonemasons who keep this traditional craft alive in Saint-Geniès. Working with lauze stone creates unique results. The techniques used date back generations and vary depending on the stone used for the roofing, the shape of the roof in question, and the skills used in different regions.



Contact: +33 (0)5 53 59 48 48

Tél. : +33 (0)6 74 08 72 32

www.chapoulie-lauze.com



A monumental technical challenge at the Château de Castelnaud

Built on a rocky spur, this fortified castle boasts magnificent views of the Dordogne valley. Founded in the 12th century, the castle is a perfect example of a medieval fortress.

Following three major restoration projects which brought the castle back to life and led to the creation of the Musée de la Guerre au Moyen Âge (Museum of Medieval Warfare) in 1985, a new project is underway to restore the lauze stone roof of the main building in conjunction with Thierry Chapoulie, a specialist in lauze stone from the Périgord.

Contact: Christine Laborde

Tél. : +33 (0)5 53 31 30 00

www.castelnaud.com



Favorite

The Château de Fénelon in Sainte Mondane is one of the few castles in the region to be crowned with an imposing lauze stone roof, which requires a strong chestnut wood framework to support it. Aware of the importance of maintaining this precious piece of local heritage, the owners have recently restored the 15th century roof and wooden structure of the castle's Tour des Confitures.

www.chateau-fenelon.fr



Press contact:

Micheline Morissonneau / Carine Gutierrez
promo1cdt24@orange.fr / Tél: +33 (0)5 53 35 50 05

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HISTORY BROUGHT TO LIFE: THE LATEST NEWS FROM OUR CASTLES

In 2018, the Dordogne's castles will host a range of different activities for adults and children alike in this "Land of a Thousand and One Castles"

Château de Commarque

This constantly evolving fortress offers a whole host of fascinating activities

Situated near Les Eyzies de Tayac, at the end of a wooded track which adds to the site's mysterious ambience, the Château de Commarque is home to a well-preserved castle-village, as well as a prehistoric cave housing some fine examples of cave art.

In 2018, the Romanesque- and Gothic-style rooms in the lower section of the castle will be open to the public and will host a new exhibition dedicated to Commarque's prehistoric cave, a listed historic monument. This new exhibition entirely dedicated to prehistory will enable visitors to discover the beauty of the cave and to learn about its scientific importance, thanks to its immersive displays, subdued lighting and background sound track. A 3D film will also present images of the cave's interior.

In addition, the whole site has been reproduced in 3D images, enabling visitors to experience the castle in a completely new way. Thanks to new technology, you'll learn about the evolution of the building, from the Neolithic period to the Middle Ages via a video screened in the Salle des Logis.

A quiet drink?

Take a relaxing break from your sightseeing at the "Castrum café" in the Château de Commarque.



Contact:

+33 (0)5 53 59 00 25

www.commarque.com



Have your photo taken in early 20th century costume at the **Château de Jumilhac**

A listed historic monument, this castle is one of the most unusual in the Dordogne thanks to its spectacular fairytale-like rooftops (13th-17th century) which are striking for their diversity.

After your guided tour, choose from a selection of hats, umbrellas, bunches of peonies, clogs and other accessories and have your photo taken as a lasting reminder of your visit to this château which is unique in France.

Contact:

+33 (0)6 09 61 78 40

<http://chateaudejumilhac.com>



Spend the night at the **Château de Sauveboeuf** Soak up the atmosphere of a candlelit dinner at the castle

After joining an evening guided tour (every Wednesday in summer), enjoy a candlelit dinner either in the large arcaded hall or outdoors (depending on the weather) at the Château de Sauveboeuf in Aubas, a property owned by Claude Douce, one of France's most successful advertising executives.

The castle grounds will be illuminated for the occasion, highlighting the beauty of this historic residence on the banks of the Vézère river, now full of interesting sights. Visitors have the option of staying at this charming 17th century castle (a listed historic monument), which has a studio and two "Nicolise" B&B rooms available for guests.

Contact:

+33 (0)5 53 51 89 46

<https://chateau-de-sauveboeuf.jimdo.com/>



Press contacts:

Micheline Morissonneau / Carine Gutierrez
promo1cdt24@orange.fr / Tel: + 33 (0)5 53 35 50 05

Dordogne Tourist Board
25, rue Wilson - BP 40032 - 24002 Périgueux Cedex

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EXCELLENT IN TRADITIONAL CRAFTMANSHIP

Although traditional artisanal techniques are becoming harder to find in France, some of these are nonetheless gradually being revived. The Dordogne still has a few companies which continue to work traditionally, keeping these time-honoured production techniques alive for future generations.

Visitors can now participate in a traditional workshop in a setting full of history

The Vaux paper factory, in Payzac

This old 17th century forge was converted into a straw paper factory in 1861.

Today the Papeterie de Vaux, a listed historic monument, is a European ecomuseum dedicated to the production of straw paper.

This unique museum hosts artisanal papermaking workshops for adults and children alike, during which participants make and decorate their own sheet of paper.

For reservation

Tél. : +33 (0)5 53 62 50 06

laformeronde@hotmail.fr



A museum-workshop in Varaignes dedicated to weaving and the production of the famous **Charentaise slipper**

Housed in the Château de Varaignes in the northern Dordogne, this museum-workshop presents a host of regional weaving techniques, from working with hemp and wool to the traditional "cousu-retourné" technique used to make the Charentaise slipper.

The reconstruction of a 19th century weaver's house allows visitors to learn all about a traditional skill which has all but disappeared.

The castle rooms, all of which are named after local factories, recall the region's rich textile history, with a display of weaving looms and machines for cutting and sewing the famous Charentaise slippers.

The museum organises events and activities, including a Charentaise slipper-making workshop following which participants will receive their very own diploma in slipper making !

Contact:

Tél. : +33 (0)5 53 56 23 66

www.cpie-perigordlimousin.org



Press contact:

Micheline Morissonneau / Carine Gutierrez
promo1cdt24@orange.fr / Tél: +33 (0)5 53 35 50 05

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EXCLUSIVE VISITS TO THE VEZERE VALLEY

Your profil: you enjoy luxury and want to treat yourself to a few nights in an elegant, beautiful building full of character, in a region where you can learn more about the art of our Cro-Magnon ancestors.

Magical visits to Lascaux II, by torchlight

Lascaux II, the first cave art facsimile in the world, and an impressive identical replica of the original, opened to visitors in 1983.

Situated a few hundred metres from the original cave, Lascaux II now offers visitors an in-depth visit by torchlight, recreating the atmosphere of the original cave.

During this unique visit, you'll make your way to Lascaux hill and start your visit outside the original cave. Your qualified guide will take you to Lascaux II where, in a small group, you'll be able to appreciate the power and intimacy of the facsimile. Alone in the cave, you'll take time to appreciate the importance of Lascaux, a masterpiece which has played a major role in the history of the prehistoric period, and the evolution of humanity and its tools.

Open from early April to late November

Contact: SEMITOUR PERIGORD

Tél. : +33 (0)5 53 05 65 65

www.lascaux.fr



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Where to stay nearby ?

At the new 4-star Hôtel-restaurant de Bouilhac in the centre of the village of Montignac, which opened in the summer of 2017.

New owners Karine and Christophe Maury wanted to bring this old 17th century private townhouse, a listed historic monument, back to life. The property, which is a member of the "Millésime, hôtel et restaurant de collection" network, has been transformed into a superb hotel offering 10 guestrooms, all featuring the typical architectural style of the Perigord.

Its "bistronomic" restaurant serves dishes made from fresh ingredients.

Christophe also hosts demonstrations of cooking over an open fire, in keeping with the traditions of bygone days.

Contact:

Tél. : +33 (0)5 53 51 21 46

www.hoteldebouilhac-montignac.fr/index.php



Our favourite wine bar

The "Du Bareil au même" wine bar in Montignac is open every evening from Tuesday to Sunday.

The bar offers a selection of carefully chosen top-quality wines available by the bottle or the glass, accompanied by a selection of tapas, charcuterie, cheeses, foie gras, rillettes and grattons (pork scratchings).

www.madeinbareil.com/du-bareil-au-mme



Press contact:

Micheline Morissonneau / Carine Gutierrez
promo1cdt24@orange.fr / Tél: +33 (0)5 53 35 50 05

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TREAT YOURSELF TO A DELIGHTFUL BREAK AWAY FROM IT ALL

Your profil: you enjoy unique experiences and like to meet people such as collectors of old objects who maintain and project our past history

Moulin de Lapeyre,

a beautifully restored mill dedicated to local arts and crafts.

Discover a whole host of traditional skills in a natural setting created around a lake and renoved mill.

Listen carefully and you'll hear the sound of the blacksmith's hammer or the mill wheel turning to make flour or walnut oil. A little further along, you'll come across the knifemaker who'll be happy to explain the different stages involved in producing a Périgord knife.

In July and August, artisans sell home-made produce such as bread and walnut oil in the shop here.

Contact: François DEVIGE

Tél. : +33 (0)5 53 56 50 20

[www..couteau-leperigord.com](http://www.couteau-leperigord.com)



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Where to stay nearby ?

A digital detox at the "Parenthèses imaginaires" campsite

Rediscover the pleasure of connecting with others without the filter of a screen and enjoy spending quality time with friends or family. This campsite offers a host of interesting activities, such as fishing, land art and a huge choice of board games. If you're addicted to your phone or laptop, you'll find during your stay that you gradually become more relaxed, more curious and more open to new experiences.

To start to feel the benefits of a digital detox, plan to stay for at least a weekend in our opinion, a week is the ideal length to get maximum benefit. Are you in need of a holiday with a digital detox focus, without being completely cut off from the world ? Before you finish your list of resolutions for 2018, this could be the moment to think about it...

Contact:

Tél. : +33 (0)6 10 03 67 04

<http://parentheses-imaginaires.com>



Our favourite shopping in Nontron

1P2L - Contemporary jewellery and lights

Discover Sylvie Capellino's creations which demonstrate the art of creating a lace-like effect on metal. This delicate work is carried out with great patience and precision.

<https://1peu2lumiere.fr>



Press contact:

Micheline Morissonneau / Carine Gutierrez
promo1cdt24@orange.fr / Tél: +33 (0)5 53 35 50 05

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New: "La rue du temps qui passe", a street which takes you back to the 1900s

Imagine being able to go back in the time and stroll along shopping streets as they were from 1860 to 1940.

Situated in the village of Allas les Mines, near some of the finest castles in the Dordogne valley, the "Rue du temps qui passe" museum takes visitors back to the late 19th century and early 20th century.

Head back to a time when electricity and running water were not part of our daily lives, when the motor car was just making its appearance on our roads, when knifegrinders sharpened knives in the street, and when your shoes were made by the local cobbler.

Michel BOOM, an enthusiastic owner of vintage cars, realised a collector's dream when he created a museum based around a period street which features reconstitutions of scenes from bygone days.

You'll be amazed by the museum's atmosphere, with its smell of turpentine bringing back memories of a traditional hardware store and its 28 shops which are full of fascinating items from the past, all of which you can discover on a visit lasting approximately 1 hour and a half.

This fascinating museum highlighting the region's past will bring back many moving memories for visitors.

Contact: Christelle BOOM

Tél. : +33 (0)5 53 28 27 82 - +33 (0)7 85 63 30 60

<https://musee-laruedutempsquipasse.fr>



A PERIGORD FOR EVERYONE

Where to stay nearby ?

In a chapel, a gîte sleeping two.

In Carsac-Aillac, Virginie and Oliver offer accomodation in their unique "enchanted chapel".

Dating from the 16th century, this lauze-covered chapel with an unusual architectural style (a stone vault without a wooden framework) makes a cosy place to stay in an authentic setting which is full of charm.

Contact:

Tél. : +33 (0)6 05 06 54 20

www.gite-chapelle-enchantee.fr



Our favourite food boutique

Artisanal walnut oil produced at the moulin de Trel in Vézac. Opened in June 2017, this restored mill (1780) produces oil made from PGI (Protected Geographical Indication) "Noix du Périgord" walnuts.

www.facebook.com/moulindutrel



Press contact:

Micheline Morissonneau / Carine Gutierrez
promo1cdt24@orange.fr / Tél: +33 (0)5 53 35 50 05

Comité Départemental du Tourisme de la Dordogne

25 rue Wilson - BP 40032 - 24002 PERIGUEUX Cedex

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DISCOVERY SCENERY FIT FOR A MOVIE SET

Your profil: you're a film-buff who enjoys exploring places used as movie sets

Enjoy a cinema experience at the Château de Hautefort

Numerous movies have been filmed in this beautiful chateau, both filmed in its parkland and gardens as well as within the furnished rooms of the castle itself (17th and 18th centuries).

The last film shot here was "The Death of Louis XIV" (2015) by Albert Serra.

Discover the original set from this movie on an interactive visit to the castle. Learn how to be a film director or cameraman, as you film scenes in the bedroom of King Louis XIV.

Contact: Marie MAITREPIERRE

Tél. : +33 (0)6 75 63 88 14

<https://www.chateau-hautefort.com/visite-interactive-dun-decor-plateau-de-cinema>



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Where to stay nearby ?

The Samsaget Cabane Hobbit spa in Salignac Eyvigues.
Enjoy a delightful holiday in these unique semi-underground hobbit huts created by two Tolkien fans.
Staying in a hobbit hut takes you into a timeless world of the imagination while still enjoying the warm, comfortable facilities of modern life.

Contact: Cathy and Jean-Yves THOMAS

Tél. : +33 (0)5 53 29 04 35

<http://xn--lesinsolitesduprigord-p5b.com>



Press contact:

Micheline Morissonneau / Carine Gutierrez
promo1cdt24@orange.fr / Tél: +33 (0)5 53 35 50 05

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A BREATH OF FRESH AIR IN OUR GARDENS

Your profile: #Natural

“Landscape heaven”, in Ginestet near Bergerac

Imagine greenhouses where organic vegetables grow alongside an open-air theatre where plays by Feydeau and exciting performances of tango are staged.

The focus in this unique location is on nature, agriculture, innovation and the preservation of fauna and flora.

In this landscaped garden close to Bergerac you can have lots of fun as you learn about botany and the virtues of the plants that grow here. Sign up for courses on beekeeping and gardening, buy local products and meet artisans from the region.

In 2018, a new landscape garden will immerse visitors both young and old in nature on a journey that is both informative and fun!

Contact: Emmanuel Reclus

+33 (0)6 36 66 68 13

<http://eden-et-sens.com>



The brand-new Le Bouquet garden in Sorges

The dream of Thierry de Sevin, the owner of the Château des Bouquets, a fine building dating back to 1834, will become a reality in the spring of 2018.

After nine years of Herculean restoration work and Olympian patience, this verdant haven conceived, designed and planted by de Sevin will open to the public in the grounds of the château.

This contemporary-style 15-hectare botanical garden is home to around 50 plant-based features dominated by boxwood (no fewer than 80,000 plants) and a multi-coloured rose garden and can be visited from May/June 2018 onwards.

Contact: Thierry de Sevin de Bandeville

+33 (0)6 07 09 89 60



A treetop adventure in the Jardins de Marqueyssac!

This net-enclosed walkway extends for over 100m through the trees in the middle of the romantic and picturesque Marqueyssac gardens. The path, which stands 5m above ground level, follows the contours of the garden's undergrowth and is as fun as it is innovative. Not to be missed...

Contact:

+33 (0)5 53 31 36 36

www.marqueyssac.com



Press contacts:

Micheline Morissonneau / Carine Gutierrez
promo1cdt24@orange.fr / Tel: + 33 (0)5 53 35 50 05

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THRILLS AND ADVENTURE WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Your profile: #Adventurer

Head for the treetops where you can move around via a series of ropes, platforms and zip wires...
this fun adventure is a perfect activity for friends and family.

The Big Bird in Le Bugue-sur-Vézère

Ready for some excitement?

A sense of adventure?

Experience the excitement of the first urban aerial adventure park in France! 16m high, it features no fewer than 57 different challenges that will test your aerial agility and skill, including snowboarding a dozen or more metres above the ground, a geometric figure course, and a rubber tube slalom.

Unlike tree climbing, where you move from tree to tree, the Big Bird features a continual safety line which enables you to move freely and wherever you want!

Contact: Marine Lanaille

Tel: +33 (0)5 53 07 10 74

www.big-bird.fr/big-bird-perigord



A tree-climbing course

Make your way through the treetops, where you'll spend the night suspended in mid-air!

Why not try your hand at tree-climbing in the Vézère valley, a fun activity combining sport, the environment and a sense of discovery?

With instructor Leray Youen guiding you, you will learn the art of tree-climbing while respecting the nature around you (the equipment used will be dismantled at the end of the course).

Where to stay

Spend a night in a bivouac suspended beneath the stars. Following some fun and friendly climbing, make your home in comfortable and completely secure tents hanging at different heights above the ground where you'll spend an unforgettable night sleeping among the trees. Several options are possible: a bivouac 2m above the ground or a lot higher!

Contact: Tree Connect

Tel: + 33 (0)6 99 06 47 60

<https://tree-connect.net>



Press contacts:

Micheline Morissonneau / Carine Gutierrez
promo1cdt24@orange.fr / Tel: + 33 (0)5 53 35 50 05

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THERE'S A BERGERAC WINE ROUTE FOR EVERYONE!

Whether your interest lies in art and culture, hidden treasures, gastronomy or the region's festive events...

Throughout the year, the 120 officially recognised "Route des Vins de Bergerac" wine-producers offer a warm and friendly welcome to visitors who can learn all about their craft, their vineyards and their wines.

Offering tours and activities that reflect their vibrant personalities, our skilled Bergerac wine-producers are keen to ensure that visitors have an opportunity to experience an insider's view of their vineyards.

Whether your interest lies in art and culture, hidden treasures, gastronomy or the region's festive events, experience the Route des Vins de Bergerac to the full!

#Artistic

Bergerac's skilled wine-producers express the full subtlety of their art through their wines, but it doesn't end there, as every summer they host sculpture exhibitions, concerts and lectures amid their vineyards or in the hushed setting of their wine cellars.

Highlight: Henk Shoen's sculptures at the Château Bélingard in Pomport

#Secretive

Ready to uncover the mysteries of wine? If so, the wine-producers along the Route des Vins de Bergerac are happy to share their secrets, offering you the chance

to become a wine-maker for a day on a variety of wine-themed workshops.

Highlight: the wine school and biodynamic harvest at the Château Feely in Saussignac

#Gourmet

The gastronomy of the Périgord and the wines of Bergerac are a match made in heaven. Experiment at food and wine pairing workshops, cheese and wine tastings and other gourmet food markets held on our wine estates - your tastebuds are in for a treat!

Highlights: the Auberge Vigneronne at Les Moulins de Boisse and the gourmet food market at the Domaine du Siorac in Saint-Aubin-de-Cadelech

#Festive

The wine-producers along the Route des Vins de Bergerac offer a friendly and authentic south-west welcome to guests as part of the festive events hosted on their estates.

Highlight: the Friday evening aperitif concerts at the Maison Vari in Monbazillac



Bergerac wines – facts and figures

5 different types: red, rosé, dry white, sparkling, sweet
93 villages, 12,000 hectares, 900 wine-producers
7 appellations: Bergerac, Côtes de Bergerac, Monbazillac, Pécharmant, Montravel, Saussignac, Rosette
Before you head off: accommodation at the Domaine de Grange Neuve



Before you head off...

Why not book your accommodation in the very heart of the vineyards? And what could be better than at the Sources du Vignoble, a splendid gîte full of character at the Domaine de Grange Neuve which received a Best of Wine Tourism award in 2016?

You'll also find plenty of great ideas for the Périgord Agenais in the Le Mag 247, created by the Vins de Bergerac et Duras association. For the webzine, head to **www.247lemag.fr**.

Three paper editions per year are also published and are available on request by emailing **contact@vins-bergeracduras.fr**.



Press contacts:

Micheline Morissonneau / Carine Gutierrez
promo1cdt24@orange.fr / Tel: + 33 (0)5 53 35 50 05

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ECO-FRIENDLY HOLIDAYS LET'S SAVE THE PLANET!

Your profile: # ECO-FRIENDLY

Reduce your carbon footprint on an environmentally friendly visit to **the Gouffre de Proumeyssac in Audrix**

The Gouffre de Proumeyssac aims to raise awareness of the environment through its new "Vélowatt" initiative. The idea is simple: six electricity-generating bikes are available for guests, allowing them to contribute towards the energy needed to run this tourist site and enabling you and your children to produce your own energy!

The Gouffre de Proumeyssac is the biggest chasm open to visitors in the Dordogne, with two sound and light shows which highlight the attractions of this "crystal cathedral".

The site was awarded "NF Environnement" certification in 2016. It was the second site in France to receive certification and the first underground chasm.



Contact: Alain Frances

Tel: +33 (0)5 53 07 27 47

www.gouffre-proumeyssac.com



A PERIGORD FOR EVERYONE

Our favourite accommodation

Park your car at the Domaine de la Rhonie in Meyrals and leave it here for the duration of your stay!

Once you reach this farm-hotel, you will find yourselves in a delightful natural setting which has been awarded the European "Natura 2000" eco-label. The hotel offers panoramic views of the surrounding countryside with its preserved natural biodiversity and a safe environment in which children can happily play. An ideal refuge off the beaten track, this property is perfect for a relaxing stay in an unspoilt setting. A host of nature-focused activities are available here, including visits to the huge estate (either guided or unaccompanied) with its forests, meadows, land dedicated to sustainable agriculture and areas home to geese, horses and lambs. The estate is also home to a small historic site with 11 dry-stone huts and a troglodyte fort.



New: A wellbeing break in nature offering a complete break from your daily routine.

The Domaine de la Rhonie is running two all-inclusive "wellbeing" breaks, from 13 to 18 May and 10 to 18 June 2018. The breaks include meditation, walks, Nordic walking, vegetarian and vegan meals, a visit to a Buddhist centre, visits to local tourist sights, and an introductory course to essential oils.

Contact: Marie Rose Ampoulange

Tel: +33 (0)6 82 80 80 29

www.domainedelarhonie.com



Press contacts:

Micheline Morissonneau / Carine Gutierrez
promo1cdt24@orange.fr / Tel: + 33 (0)5 53 35 50 05

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© Photos: Gouffre de Proumeyssac /
Domaine de la Rhonie

MAGICAL EXPERIENCES WITH ANIMALS

Your profile: #Sensorial

An equestrian wellbeing break

At the "Les Deux Abbesses en Vert" farm in Mareuil sur Belle, Laurence offers her guests an extraordinary sensorial experience with her "Lawrence of Arabia" herd of pure-bred Arabian horses. Situated in the heart of the Parc Naturel Régional Périgord Limousin, this farm is the perfect venue for equicoaching courses.

Horses are expert non-verbal communicators and often reveal the underlying intentions behind our behaviour by immediately reflecting the impact of our energy or emotions.

Tea and tickles!

This horse-enthusiast offers special family-focused activities, with an introduction to horses from the prehistoric period to the present day, and their relationship with humans since they were domesticated. This activity (on foot) gives visitors the chance to feed, stroke, brush and tickle the foals in the herd, as well as enjoy a delicious tea.

Where to stay

On site: a comfortable gîte and B&B rooms are available in this peaceful and restful setting.

Contact: Laurence Perceval

Tel: +33 (0) 06 76 82 85 10

<https://lesdeuxabbessesenvert.com>



Become a wolf trainer in Le Thot

We're just off to prepare dinner for the wolves...

In Thonac, the Le Thot "Centre d'interprétation de la vie préhistorique" is home to a pack of wolves, in addition to aurochs, bison and small horses. Come and admire the wolves here and marvel at these wonderful animals as you help care for them, getting involved in tasks such as preparing their meals, feeding them or simply observing the different individuals. Experience the life of an animal trainer on this 2hr adventure!

Contact: Semitour Perigord

Tel: +33 (0)5 53 05 65 65

www.lascaux.fr/fr/contenu/9-le-thot



The Domaine de la Valette "discovery farm" in St Felix de Villadeix

is home to a whole host of rare breeds, such as Bazadaise cattle, donkeys from the Cotentin, Gascon chickens and turkeys, Lusitanian and Mérens horses and ponies from the Landes. A member of several networks of keen breeders, Arnaud shares his enthusiasm for this part of France's living heritage with his visitors.

Where to stay

On the farm itself, in one of its charming rental properties.

Contact: Arnaud Bourgeois

Tel: +33 (0)6 47 65 22 77

www.lavaletteperigord.com/fr/ferme-decouverte



Press contacts:

Micheline Morissonneau / Carine Gutierrez
promo1cdt24@orange.fr / Tel: + 33 (0)5 53 35 50 05

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www.dordogne-valley-tourisme.com
www.dordogne-perigord-tourisme.fr

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