

WHAT'S NEW IN DORDOGNE

IN 2024



HERITAGE & CULTURE | FOOD & LIFESTYLE | SLOW TOURISM & RECONNECTING WITH NATURE
ACCOMODATION NEWS | EXPERTISE



We provide the setting
you create the storyline...



GETTING TO DORDOGNE



BY TRAIN

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



BY CAR

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



BY PLANE

Destination Bergerac

Ryanair : Bruxelles-Charleroi, Bristol, East Midlands, Bournemouth, Liverpool, Londres Stansted, Edimbourg.

Transavia : Rotterdam.

Jet2com : Leeds Bradford, Manchester.

British Airways : London city, Southampton.

Find more information on the Bergerac Airport website:

www.bergerac.aeroport.fr/en/

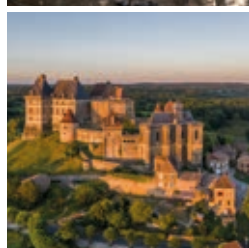


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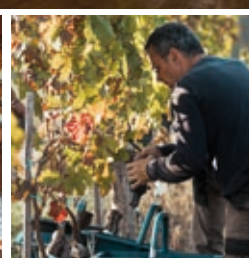
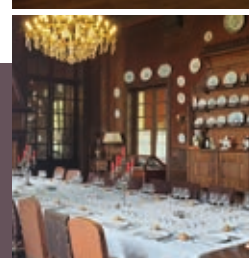
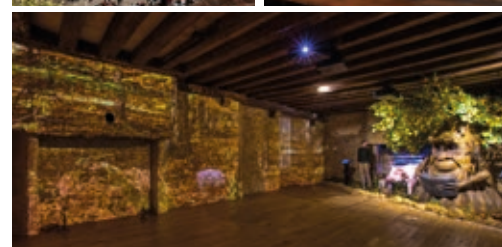
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SLOW TOURISM & RECONNECTING WITH NATURE

Green cycling routes
covering more and more ground
Flow Vélo cycling route extending
towards Périgord Noir and Sarlat

Have a mini-adventure in the Dordogne Valley:
In the footsteps of Harrison Barker

Touring on foot:
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EXPERTISE

Maison Manouvrier:
The epitome of high-end ice cream!

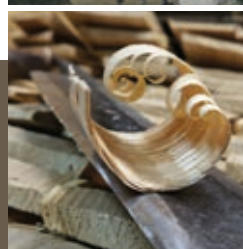
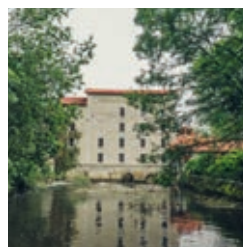
Moulin de la Pauze:
A shared legacy and expertise

Shingle making:
A trade aligned with the times!

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Our destination in the Nouvelle-Aquitaine region is the 3rd biggest department in France, just 1½ hours from Bordeaux and 2½ from the Atlantic Ocean via the A89 motorway.

NATURE

- No. 1 destination for recreational canoeing
- 1 river designated as a Biosphere Reserve: the Dordogne
- 1 "Grand Site de France": Vézère Valley
- 1 regional nature park: PNR Périgord Limousin
- 3 major, national bicycle touring routes
- 7 major routes for touring on foot
- 2 via ferratas
- 32 parks and gardens, 11 of them classified as "remarkable"



HERITAGE

- 15 prehistoric sites inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List
- 1 prehistoric information centre
- 1 international centre for cave art: Lascaux IV
- 3 designated "Towns of Art and History"
- 10 of the "Most Beautiful Villages in France"
- 4 villages labelled as "Small Towns of Character"
- 1,001 châteaux and manors
- 1 experimental arts and crafts centre



FOOD & WINE

- 7 AOCs in the Bergerac wine region.
- 1 Cognac AOC covering the villages of Parcoult-Chenaud, La Roche-Chalais and Saint-Aulaye-Puymangou.
- 1 PDO for Périgord walnuts.
- 3 PGIs: for Périgord foie gras, Périgord strawberries and Périgord chicken.
- 1 Label Rouge for Périgord chestnuts.
- 12 controlled markets dedicated to Périgord black truffles.





JANUARY

- 20-21 January: **Truffle Festival / Jean Rougié Trophy in Sarlat.** <https://en.sarlat-tourisme.com>
- 27-29 January: **Truffle Festival in Sorges-et-Ligieux.** www.tourisme-grandperigueux.fr

MARCH

- 2-3 March: **Fest'Oie Goose Festival in Sarlat**
- 12-24 March: **La Grande Randonnée vers Paris hike to the capital stops in Dordogne** - <https://dordogne.ffrandonnee.fr>

APRIL

- 13-28 April: **4th édition of Châteaux en Fête**
This event offers exclusive experiences in Périgord's châteaux, manors, country houses, château wineries and other heritage sites - www.chateauxenfete.com

- 26-28 April: **Winestock Festival in Monestier and Thénac.**
The 2nd edition of this festive, rural food & wine event will feature plenty of activities (concerts, tastings, workshops, a wine fair, masterclasses, local products and more) - www.winestockfestival.fr

MAY

- 13-17 May: **Inauguration of the Dordogne section of the Amadour Path.** Departing from Issigeac, the inaugural ramble will arrive in Domme at noon on Friday, 17 May. Stops: Issigeac · Saint-Avit-Sénieur · Cadouin · Belvès · Castelnau-la-Chapelle · Domme.
- 22 May: **Olympic Torch Relay passing through Dordogne.** It will be carried through seven towns in Périgord: Saint-Aulaye-Puymangou, Bergerac, Nontron, Saint-Aulaye-Puymangou, Agonac, Montignac-Lascaux and Périgueux. Périgueux, a "Terre de Jeux 2024" ("Land of the 2024 Games"), will be an official stop along the route.

- 28-31 May: **Val Natura en Périgord in Beaumont-du-Périgord.** This event is a cultural, walking treasure hunt designed for seniors ages 60 and over.

JUNE

- **100th anniversary of the discovery of the Grand Roc Cave in Les Eyzies-de-Tayac.** www.grotte-grand-roc.fr/fr

JULY / AUGUST

- 7 July – 18 August: **Wine Dating at Quai Cyrano in Bergerac.** Vineyards from along the Wine Route will be taking over Quai Cyrano during these sociable Thursday night events. The wines and winemakers will change from one date to the next. www.pays-bergerac-tourisme.com

SEPTEMBER

- 7-8 September: **10th edition of Vintage Days in Périgueux** - www.perigueuxvintagedays.com

OCTOBER

- Mid-October: **NAMMA Arts & Crafts Fair in Terrasson.** www.metiers-art.com/salon-des-metiers-d-art-NAMMA
- 12-13 October: **La Ronde des Villages rambling weekend in the Fénelon region.** www.larondedesvillages.com/
- Late October: **Rue des Métiers d'Art Crafts Fair in Nontron.** <https://metiersdartperigord.fr/>

NOVEMBER

- 5-9 November : **33rd edition of the Sarlat Film Festival.** <https://en.sarlat-tourisme.com>
- Mid-November: **Gourmet Book Festival in Périgueux.** <https://livregourmand.perigueux.fr/>

BERGERAC, A “TOWN OF ART AND HISTORY” steps up its cultural ambitions

Between the opening of Dordonha, a new heritage centre, and the creation of an art market, the town is tackling the challenge of making culture accessible to one and all!

Dordonha, the new heritage and cultural centre, offers visitors a unique artistic and heritage experience thanks to three exhibitions that the public can explore for free.

On the first floor, the **Architecture and Heritage Interpretation Centre (CIAP)** invites visitors to discover the history and the architecture of Bergerac.

The town's construction around the Dordogne River forms the guiding thread of a 300 m² exhibition brought to life by films and digital installations.

Under the stone vaulting of the **Costi Museum**, a collection of bronze sculptures is on display.

A **temporary exhibition space** on the ground floor alternates between heritage exhibitions and art exhibitions. Through 17 March 2024, the exhibition *Bergerac: Before and After*, developed in partnership with the photographic heritage association Patrimoine Photographique du Bergeracois, presents old photos of the town (streets, shops and buildings) that you can try to identify with their present-day versions.

An **educational space** hosts art workshops in conjunction with the “Town of Art and History” label.

An **80-seat amphitheatre** puts the finishing touch on the heritage centre.

Café des Musées is a great place to take a tasty break surrounded by local heritage.

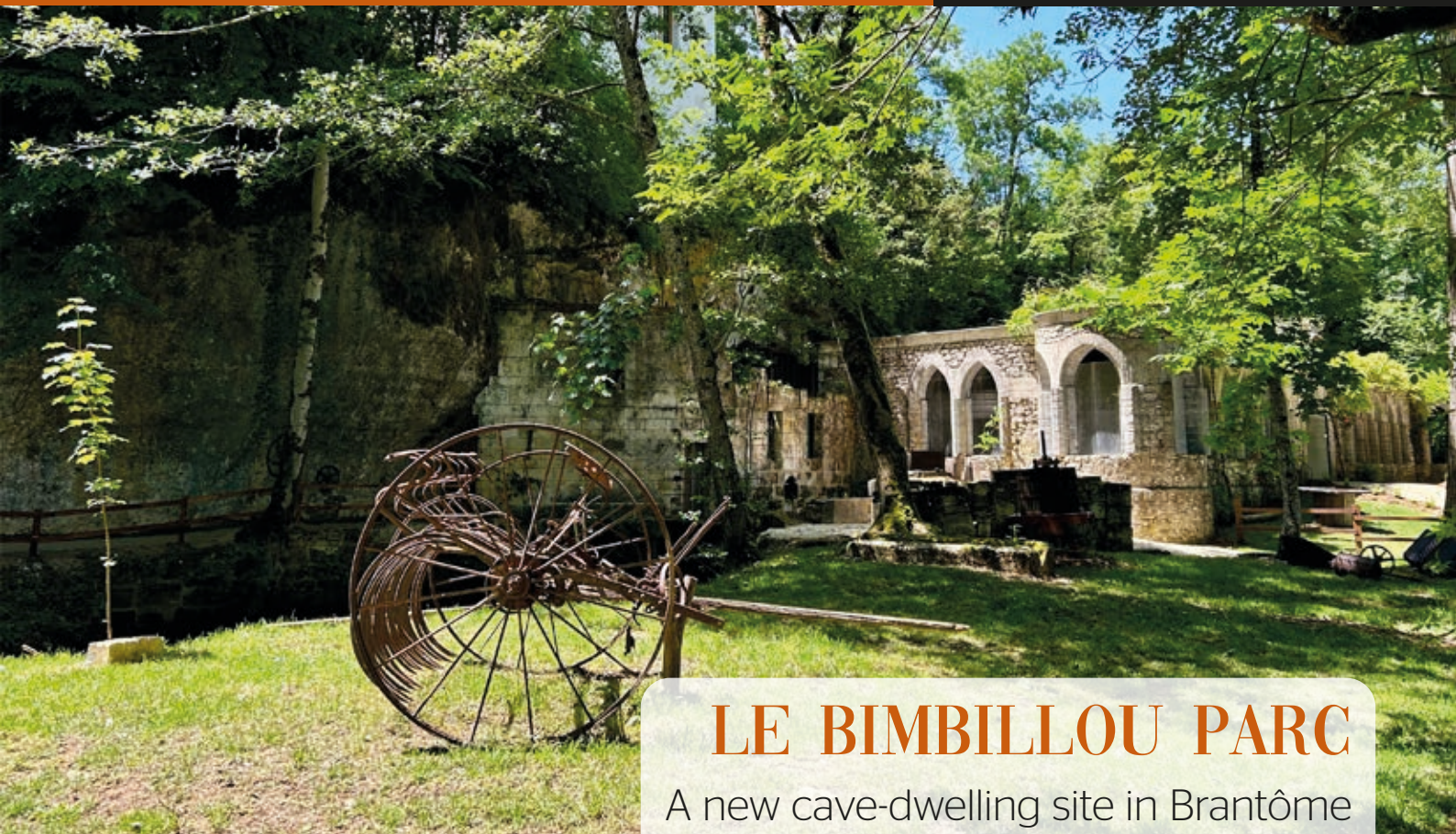


More information

www.bergerac.fr/directory/dordonha

www.pays-bergerac-tourisme.com/fr





LE BIMBILLOU PARC

A new cave-dwelling site in Brantôme

In June 2023, Le Bimbillou Parc had its grand opening in the heart of Brantôme-en-Périgord, a "Small Town of Character". Thanks to the drive of two cousins, this romantic and atypical place dedicated to ancient arts and crafts, was created as a tribute to their late grandfather.

Story of a dream

Once upon a time... there was a passionate man named Claude Martinot, who founded the motorhome company Font Vendôme and collected many ancient tools and machines. He had always hoped to be able to introduce the public to his vast collection. And it finally happened in June 2023, after his death, when his grandsons Théo Bauchaud-Martinot and Tom Gilbert decided to fulfil their grandfather's wish. They opened Le Bimbillou Parc to the general public, where the incredible personal collection of ancient objects is on display in the "monastery mill".

A unique cave-dwelling universe steeped in romanticism and history

Set up in the first cave mill run by Brantôme's Benedictine monks, on the banks of the Dronne, this location has already had multiple incarnations (a never-completed hotel, a cave dwelling, and the list goes on). Here, you will find ancient quarries and a multitude of caves. And today, it is a museum attraction called Le Bimbillou* Parc.

**Bimbillou is a word in the Périgord dialect that means going everywhere and nowhere at the same time!*

More information

www.lebimbillouparc.com





REMEMBERING THE STORIES OF PÉRIGORD

that combine to make history

From the particularities of the Maquis of Dordogne to the fate of the Charterhouse of Vauclaire, these places have been revived to question the meaning of their narratives from a perspective of the local history to which the people of Périgord have actively contributed.

A captivating experience at the Maquis de Durestal refuge in Cendrieux

This reconstructed Resistance hiding place provides an authentic glimpse into a crucial period of France's history. It was one of the biggest in Périgord, and its theatrical tour is a great way to grasp what the daily lives of the Maquis might have looked like: how their camps were organized, the surveillance methods they employed, and their hopes and fears during the French Resistance.

The five lives of the Charterhouse of Vauclaire in Montpon-Ménestérol

After being the property of Carthusian monks in the 14th century, the Charterhouse of Vauclaire underwent multiple conversions. It was ransacked during the Hundred Years War and the Wars of Religion, then sold to private owners after the French Revolution and eventually leased to the US Army as a hospital in 1915. Later, the building even became a psychiatric hospital! What remains today is a lovely architectural complex that has been a listed Historic Monument since 2014.

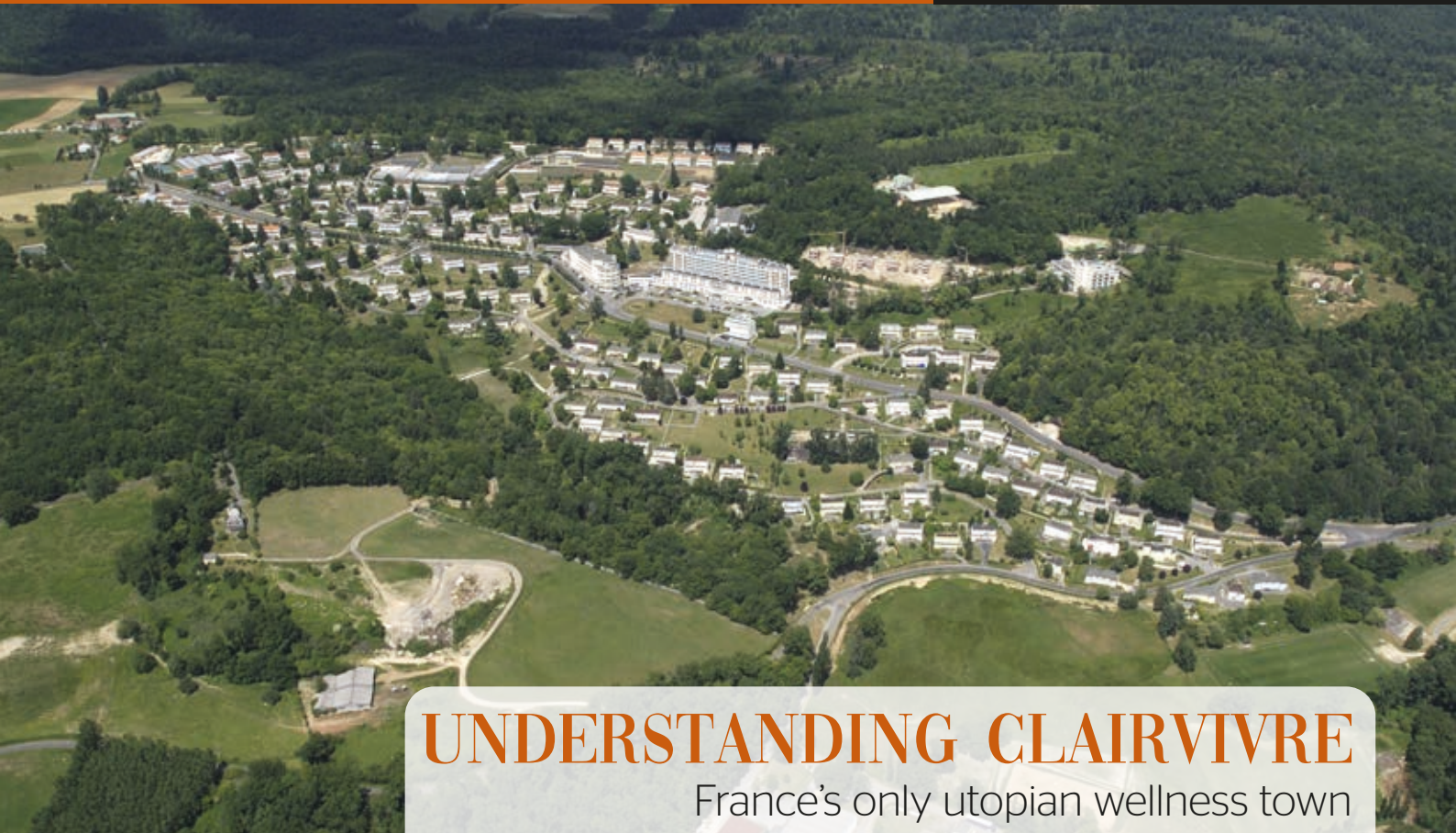
To learn about the history of the various misadventures suffered by its church, the symbols in its small and large cloisters and the little-known history of its cemeteries, free guided tours are given in the summertime by the GEMM, a research and memorial group that studies the Montpon region. Open year round to groups, by appointment only.

More information

www.tourisme-grandperigueux.fr/en

<https://tourisme-isleperigord.com/en>





UNDERSTANDING CLAIRVIVRE

France's only utopian wellness town

Created in the early 1930s by Albert Delsuc, Secretary General of the FNBPC (French Federation of Combatants with Lung Injuries), in a spirit of citizens' solidarity and mutual aid, this avant-garde oasis left its mark on the Dordogne landscape thanks to the unique features of its modern, social architectural style.

90 years of existence for France's first wellness town!

This "hygienic town" in the middle of nowhere, with its "20th Century Heritage" label, was a beacon of modernity. It was designed to be completely self-sufficient (with its own housing, hospital, restaurants, departments stores, drinking water and heating networks, etc.) and to treat injured veterans of the Great War and tuberculosis patients. Its role would later expand to include hosting refugees, which it continues to do in today's international climate.

FYI: A treasure hunt for families, involving a 1¼ hour walk, offers an opportunity to learn whilst having fun and to discover the fabulous history of the town.

Off the beaten track: A trail through mountain sheep country

Salagnac-Clairvivre is also the starting point for a 12K loop for hikers and mountain bikers. It is accessible by bus from Périgueux and leads adventurers through the enchanting setting of the Auvézère Gorges, where they can explore the village of Saint-Mesmin, see the Saut Ruban Waterfall and... maybe run into some mountain sheep! This route comes from a booklet of 24 suggestions of locations that can be visited by train or bus in Périgord.

More information

www.naturellementperigord.fr

www.calameo.com/dordogne

Guide to car-free travel in Dordogne (in French)





FROM NEW YORK TO BIRON

Two sculptures returned to the château's chapel

The Château de Biron, the seat of one of Périgord's oldest baronies, survived the centuries to become a major cultural site surrounded by the fortified towns of Périgord. In 2024, its heritage conservation strategy continues with the acquisition of **two replicas** of 16th century works of art on view at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

A reunion with two French Renaissance sculptures

The Entombment of Christ and *the Pietà with Donors* are coming home to the château! These will not be the originals, which are the property of the New York Met, but rather identical copies produced by the AFSP (Facsimiles Workshop of Périgord) in Montignac. They will be resuming their rightful places in the chapel, which has been empty ever since they were sold to an American financier and major art collector in 1907.

Historical and cultural experience

The role of the Château de Biron has shifted from dissuading potential invaders to opening its doors to as broad a public as possible. The managers of this must-see attraction promise to share its history and feed visitors' minds with temporary exhibitions of masterpieces, concerts and live performances, and to organize a wide variety of entertaining activities.

Popular favourite: Les Villégiatures, a music festival that's always a hit at the château

The festival's concerts, food and sunsets entrance its audience each year, with the next edition slated for 17-19 July and 21-23 August 2024!

More information

www.chateau-biron.fr/fr



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THE VOULGRE MUSEUM

A time capsule for the Isle Valley

Anyone interested in rural life should make their way to the André Voulgre Museum in Mussidan. This place, which reinvented itself during the pandemic, is home to a variety of eclectic collections. Its interactive exhibits demonstrate how lifestyles have evolved in the Isle Valley. A real gem worth exploring!

A journey through the eras

More than 20 rooms display the collections of this private museum, set up in Dr André Voulgre's family charterhouse. The doctor was a collector who loved art and history, chiefly amassing objects linked to the know-how of rural settings. As a historical and heritage resource centre for the Isle Valley region, it provides a better understanding of this part of Périgord, in the face of the shifting modern world and changes to Périgord society over the past 200 years.

2024: A special, bountiful year for the museum

From 27 May to 15 December 2024, the museum will be hosting the temporary exhibition on *The Tragedy of Espinasse* for the 80th anniversary of the event when, in the Salembre Valley, a series of misfortunes ended with the massacre of 27 Maquis and 4 civilians with the hamlet of Espinasse being set on fire on 27 July 1944, commemorated today by a memorial in Saint-Etienne-de-Puycorbier. All year round, various ceremonies will introduce new ecotourism resources connected to the memorial heritage of the Second World War.

More information

<https://museevoulgre.fr/>





TWO NEW EXPERIENCES IN PÉRIGUEUX

Unique and flavourful

With no fewer than 80 restaurants (according CCI 2022 data), the capital of Périgord boasts a concentration of culinary locations. And now, two young and promising chefs have arrived in town...

Antoine Romagné, who trained at Michelin-starred establishments in Paris and Bordeaux, heads up the kitchen at **Oxalis**. At the age of 29, he already has 10 years' cooking experience under his belt. His career mainly features Michelin-starred restaurants like Le Taillevent** and Alain Ducasse au Plaza Athénée***, both in the City of Light.



Antoine Romagné

Malo Tual, age 28, has returned to his homeland (after working for Alain Dutournier in Paris, at L'Oustau de Baumanière in Les Baux-de-Provence, for Jérôme Ferrer in Montreal, and in Gstaad, Switzerland) to sharpen his knives and elevate local products at his restaurant **Le Pétrcore**. Though there is only one cook in this kitchen, he is assisted in the dining room by his partner in life and business, Morgane Guider. His signature dish is duck breast served on flaming-hot walnut shells... An explosion of local flavours!



Malo Tual

The chefs' concept: Two atmospheres in the same place

Our two new chefs serve up modernity, imagination and tradition, each with his own personal touch. Working in small teams, both of these foodies follow the lasting trends, offering a "bistronomic" set menu for lunch, based on seasonal ingredients and the chef's inspiration, followed by fine dining in the evening, to create an unforgettable taste experience.

More information

www.restaurant-oxalis.fr

www.facebook.com/p/Restaurant-Le-Pétrcore-100083674448020/





NEW DEVELOPMENTS for Périgord's "yellow gold"

Walnuts are a part of the region's history and its cultural and culinary heritage. Their oil (nicknamed "yellow gold") received European recognition in the form of a PDO, awarded in 2021. These days, young producers have developed new, immersive tours of their properties

Follow the odyssey of Périgord walnuts at the Bocerno oil mill in Plazac

This new oil mill makes extremely refined, cold pressed, single variety oils out of walnuts harvested from orchards in the process of converting to organic.

Our favourite feature is the new, immersive tour entitled "The Odyssey of the Walnut", which provides additional information about the oil mill, its expertise, Périgord walnuts and their benefits, and so much more.

The Noyeraies du Lander adventure: From childhood friends to business partners

Paul Dieudonné and Damien Peboscq came together for a joint venture: taking over the Aussel family walnut orchard, a farm located in Sarlat, along the Périgord Walnut Route.

Paul comes from seven generations of millers. He and his friend Damien devised a new concept for a tour, based on respect for nature and people, plus discovery and good taste, as a means of perpetuating this craftsmanship.

Our favourite features are:

- the educational exhibit covering **walnut cultivation through to oil production**, which explains everything there is to know about the nut's different processing stages.
- the walking tour of the conservation orchard and the nature trail, ending with a tasting of walnut-based sweets.

More information

www.bocerno.com

<https://noyeraiesdulander.fr>





A FUN INTRODUCTION to the world of truffles

In 2023, the town of Sarlat added another attraction relating to Périgord black truffles! In addition to the annual festival (in January), a new, private museum aimed at families has opened its doors in the heart of the mediaeval town, covering the region's famous "black diamonds".

The new Truffle Museum: Modern, interactive and sensory

Located inside a 15th century building that is a listed Historic Monument, the visit begins with an immersion in the particularly rich history of the town of Sarlat. The tour covers four floors, showcasing the world of the iconic Périgord black truffle. Visitors wonder at the immersive audiovisual spectacle devoted to our famous black diamonds - through the seasons but also in the kitchen - before ending their tour with a tasting. Embark on a journey through flavour...

A new personality for Hôtel de Vassal in Sarlat

Frédéric and Isabelle Dubois Signorini have truffles in their blood. The creators of the Signorini Tartufi brand (with 17 branches and more than 30 franchises in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Italy and England) decided to set up a museum in a typical Renaissance building that is also a listed Historic Monument. Inside this renovated, modernized private manor, the history of the Signorinis, a family of Italian truffle farmers, is also told.

More information

www.museedelatruffe.com





REVIVING THE TRADITION OF PRESTIGIOUS DINNERS at châteaux

Since the Middle Ages, this type of dinner has been associated with the "art of living" in kingdoms across Europe.

So, why not dive into this other dimension over the course of an evening in the Dordogne Valley?

Two châteaux in Périgord offer culinary, cultural experiences to guests who dine like kings and queens.



At the Château de Puymartin: One supper per season

To make these events even more of an occasion, the organizers have chosen to serve these meals at the Château de Puymartin in Marquay just once per season, with spots limited to 25 lucky guests. After a private, guided tour of the 13th century castle, diners will savour dishes prepared before their very eyes by the Michelin-starred Chef Vincent Lucas, who divides his talents between various locations, including a number of heritage sites.

At the Château de Montaigne: Bespoke dining

The tower attached to the fortified house is the heart and soul of Michel Eyquem de Montaigne. Across from that place steeped in history (where the humanist philosopher and wine lover wrote his famous Essays), there is a 19th century château designed by Pierre Magne, a lawyer appointed as Minister of Finance under Napoleon III. Within the walls of that edifice, following a guided tour of the property, the experience can be capped by a lunch or dinner surrounded by the authentic décor of the château's dining room.

More information

www.chateau-puymartin.com

www.chateau-montaigne.com





CONTINUOUSLY EVOLVING WINE TOURISM OPTIONS

in the Bergerac region

With more than two millennia of history and PDOs that have celebrated 80 years of excellence, the Bergerac & Duras wine region stands out for its diversity and its quality wines.

Experience the seven main terroirs along the Périgord Wine Route and discover the multitude of activities on offer in the region.

The most inventive winemakers will share their trade with you in unique ways!

While Domaine de Perreau in Saint-Michel-de-Montaigne highlights its outdoor escape room, Haut Montlong in Pomport offers immersive "wine gaming". Others, like Les Farcies du Pech in Bergerac, place an emphasis on lifestyle by opening a gift shop, or an "antique shoppers' café" in the case of Château de Fayolle in Saussignac. The Château de la Jaubertie in Bergerac regularly displays artists' work in its exhibition room, its storehouse or its gardens.

Château Les Monderys, David Fourtout's new vineyard

With 100,000 m² of grapevines, David Fourtout has created a "high-tech, revolutionary" winery, Château Les Monderys. With this unique, half-underground and wholly gravity-fed storehouse that features all the latest technological advances, he is banking on limited production at the top of the range.

More information

<https://domainedeperreau.com/oenotourisme-vignoble-bio-bergerac-montravel/>

www.boutique-monbazillac.com/en/wine-gaming

www.farciesdupesch.com/shop-of-the-farcies/

www.chateau-jaubertie.com

www.facebook.com/chatealesmonderys



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GREEN CYCLING ROUTES

covering more and more ground

In 2024, the popularity of cycling is expected to keep going strong. And Dordogne aims to become an outstanding destination for two-wheelers by continuing to develop its non-motorized routes for tourism and leisure. Here are a few paths worth exploring...

Safe rides on green cycling routes

Most of the region's bicycle routes run alongside rivers. Take the V90 to discover the gently rolling hills of the Isle Valley (Périgueux / Le Pizou) or the V91 from Bergerac for a glimpse at the past history of winemakers and bargemasters. You can extend that look with a ride on the ferry between Mauzac and Calès.

From Sarlat, follow the green cycling route to the Fénélon region on an excursion to multiple châteaux.

New: A green alternative in Vézère Valley

23 kilometres of safe cycling routes have just opened, linking four villages together: Les Eyzies, Le Bugue, Limeuil and Saint-Chamassy. The course follows paths running along the Vézère River, which was once an important mode of transport for the valley.

This new itinerary gives families the chance to take easy day trips from the village of Les Eyzies. It is connected to the Flow Vélo, which allows cycling tourists to take a two-day detour before making their way to Sarlat by train.

More information

www.dordogne-perigord-tourisme.fr/preparer-son-sejour/bouger/cyclotourisme



FLOW VÉLO CYCLING ROUTE EXTENDING towards Périgord Noir and Sarlat

The current Flow Vélo (also known as V92) is fully waymarked between Ile-d'Aix and Le Lardin-Saint-Lazare, spanning a distance of some 350 kilometres. In spring 2024, a new section of the cycling route will become operational as far as the town of Sarlat.

Another 40 km of Flow Vélo running into southern Dordogne!

Cycling tourists will now be able to pedal all the way to the mediaeval town of Sarlat. This new track will immerse riders in Périgord's scenery as they pass through typical villages with tilestone roofs, a gourmet stop at the market in Saint-Geniès and/or a cultural stop at the Industrial Museum in Le Lardin-Saint-Lazare and, a short distance off the path, a tour of the Château de Lacypierre.

Where to stay along the way: Accueil Vélo accommodation

No fewer than 11 accommodation sites near Dordogne's bicycle touring routes have earned the Accueil Vélo (Cyclists Welcome) label, including campsites, B&Bs, hotels and more, four of these on the Dordogne section of the V92. This national label certifies the facilities meet the needs of cycling tourists passing through the department. Additional locations are expected to join this club soon, like Camping La Salvinie in Terrasson, the Ibis and Le Meysset hotels in Sarlat, and the list goes on

More information

www.laflowvelo.com

www.dordogne-perigord-tourisme.fr/preparer-son-sejour/bouger/cyclotourisme/accueil-velo





HAVE A MINI-ADVENTURE IN THE DORDOGNE VALLEY

In the footsteps of Harrison Barker

The Dordogne Valley is beginning to make the move towards sustainable mobility. To reach its untouched natural landscapes, as experienced by Harrison Baker, today's adventurers can follow a hiking trail from Sarlat. This year, an alternative to the original path is a great reason to repeat the experience.

Périgord, seen through a 19th century lens

This 100 kilometre route between Sarlat and Le Buisson-de-Cadouin is getting a makeover. Starting in the mediaeval town of Sarlat, it is changing course to travel along the opposite bank of the river. Through the testimonials of this 19th century English journalist, riders can (re)discover châteaux, charming villages and of course views of the Dordogne River, France's biggest Biosphere Reserve, all in five easy stages.

Ecological and economical... and perfectly attuned to current concerns

This expedition into the natural scenery of the Dordogne Valley begins at the train station in Sarlat and ends at the station in Le Buisson-de-Cadouin. In spite of the changes made to the route, it is accessible by cyclists of any skill level. With hostels and other accommodation scattered along the way, this experience will be an easy one to plan, even without a car! Delicious Périgord cuisine can also be found in the villages on the route.

Where to stay ?

Opening in 2024: Charming cottages at La Jolie Vie in Le Buisson-de-Cadouin.

www.lajolievie.fr/fr

More information

<https://pleinenature.dordogne.fr/parcours/sur-les-chemins/>





TOURING ON FOOT

The Amadour Path is making its way...

On the strengths of its assets (its natural and religious heritage), this 500 kilometre hiking trail inspired by the legend of Saint Amadour is in the process of obtaining the registered trademark for French national hiking trails, the GR® (making it the GR 81). This former pilgrimage route passes through four departments, including Dordogne, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Quercy region.

From a legendary pilgrimage to authentic scenery

The route connecting Soulac-sur-Mer to Rocamadour in 21 stages crosses the Gironde, Lot-et-Garonne, Dordogne and Lot departments. The eight waymarked stages along the Périgord section showcase the Cadouin and Saint-Avit-Sénieur Abbeys and charming villages, like the fortified town of Eymet and the mediaeval towns of Belvès and Sarlat.

Some paths change a person

Just like the Camino de Santiago, whether you are pursuing a spiritual quest or a personal challenge and whether you split it up into several trips or do it all at once, this trek in the footsteps of the hermit Amadour will lead you to areas full of satisfaction and wonder. The Périgord trail, which runs through the biggest Biosphere Reserve in France, covers a total of 150 kilometres.

Mark your calendar:

The official inauguration of the Dordogne part of the path will take place from 13 to 17 May 2024. It will depart from Issigeac and arrive in Domme.

Stops: Issigeac · Saint-Avit-Sénieur · Cadouin · Belvès · Castelnau-la-Chapelle · Domme



More information

www.chemin-amadour.fr



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NEW ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS SURROUNDED BY NATURE

in the Vézère Valley

This valley, which has been designated a "Grand Site de France", is one of the best spots in Dordogne for slow tourism. In addition to nature activities, it features two new accommodation options where you can rest and recharge!

Take refuge at Domaine Saint Amand

Thanks to Jeanne and Baptiste, this old, abandoned campsite has been brought back to life with a new concept: a peaceful getaway in a high-quality environment that is fully focused on nature. 55 small, comfortable wooden houses are spread across 60,000 m² of land in Coly-Saint-Amand. When you need a break, the young owners recommend a massage surrounded by nature or on the terrace of your house.

Enjoy a hideaway at Kozi Dôme

Meet The Beautiful Star, The Great Bear, Moonlight and (coming soon) Eclipse Night, the 40 m² geodesic domes from the Dôme'N Terres d'Etoiles project conceived by Orianne and Alexandre in Ladornac. These unique housing units on stilts are tucked away behind a screen of greenery. Each one is designed for sustainability, with a selection of organic products on offer.

As an added bonus, you can really see the stars because of the total absence of light pollution.

More information

www.domainesaintamand.com

www.kozidome.fr





TOURING ACCOMPANIED

by clip-clopping hooves

Off the beaten trail, Périgord Vert is a great place for eco-friendly equestrian activities. On horseback, you can cover more distance than by foot, while still enjoying the environment around you. For those in less of a hurry, outings with donkeys can satisfy your nature aspirations.

Expedition in the Périgord Limousin Regional Nature Park

In Saint-Front-d'Alemps, Cheval Nomad' organizes supervised excursions lasting two, four or seven days in the heart of this little-known area, a far cry from mass tourism. Simplicity and authenticity are at the core of these horse treks designed for adventurous spirits and nature lovers, covering 30 kilometres each day. For Marie, the horses' well-being is a top priority (barefoot horses, etc.).

Zero carbon outings... with donkeys

At Boucles d'Anes, Anne gives you the opportunity to set off with your new long-eared friend at a pace of around 4 km/h. There are four routes available around Saint-Front-d'Alemps for you to discover the surrounding countryside (on waymarked trails), or you can take a longer trek spanning three or four days. The donkeys provided for your excursion will be fitted with packsaddles to carry your luggage and/or child.

More information

www.chevalnomad.com

<https://bouclesdanes.fr>



© Photos credits: Boucles d'ânes - Cheval Nomad



NEW AND CHARMING HOTELS in Saint-Cyprien en Périgord

While Sarlat may be the leader by sheer number of high-end hotels, the "Small Town of Character" that is Saint-Cyprien-en-Périgord, in the heart of the Dordogne Valley, is holding its own in this arena. Two charming hotels with restaurants have opened there in record time

The latest addition: L'Abbaye

Just a few steps from the centre of the village, in a fully renovated 18th century building, this family-run hotel with 13 guest rooms opened for business in June 2023. The Lecomte family created it to be a sweet escape in a bucolic setting, with an outdoor pool, a garden and a restaurant. As an added bonus, it has a function room and private lounges where receptions can be held.

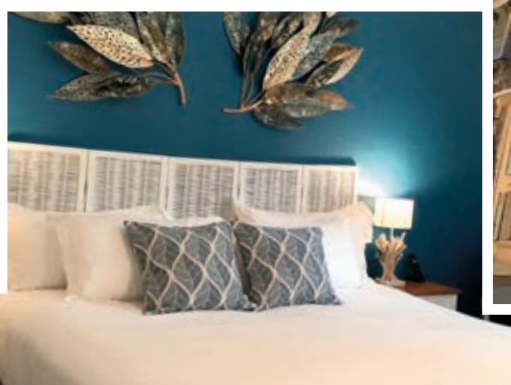
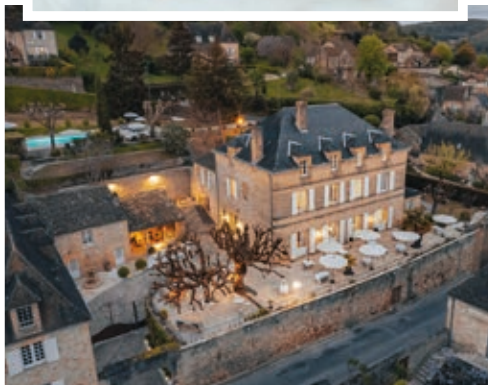
Hotel-Restaurant des Augustins

ENamed after the Augustine monks who founded the village's abbey in the 12th century, this establishment features 12 guest rooms with a contemporary style that blends with architecture inspired by the region's tobacco curing barns. Each room has its own décor, in the colours of 12 of Périgord's towns and villages. Bénédicte Nardi and Damien Joubert have successfully given a new lease of life to the old Hôtel de la Poste, which was a shining star back in its day!

More information

<https://hotel-labbaye.com>

www.hoteldesaugustins.com





LA BOURLIE

The château life, 21st century style

In Urval, in the heart of the Dordogne Valley, this 13th century historic monument has been in the same family for more than 800 years. Each new generation restored and modernized it. In 2024, the Château de la Bourlie is a reflection of its current owners: artistic and ecological!

A dreamy, Bohemian family home

AArt lovers Cyril de Commarque (a sculptor and painter) and Ortensia Visconti di Modrone (a writer) have imbued the place with their offbeat vision of the château life. They have transformed the "main house" into a residence with six guest rooms, each with its own naturally unique atmosphere. They have paired their quest for aesthetics with their philosophy of hospitality without the usual marketing hype. Guests can stay in this extraordinary establishment in B&B mode or hire out the entire building.

Openness to art, beating in time with nature

The present-day owners are committed to protecting the environment. They strive to communicate their love of agriculture and nature through the values of La Bourlie. The grounds, which include a permaculture vegetable garden and an elegant collection of roses and fruit trees, have earned the "Remarkable Garden" label.



More information

www.chateaudelabourlie.com



© Photos credits: Tom Mannion



CHÂTEAU BELET

A blend of luxury and the mediaeval

Halfway between Bordeaux and Périgueux, in the heart of the Isle Valley, Château de Belet has been included in the Les Collectionneurs network's selection of locations, chosen for its high-end comfort combined with the sweet country life. The establishment is available to individual guests as a B&B or can be hired out as a private château.



The French lifestyle

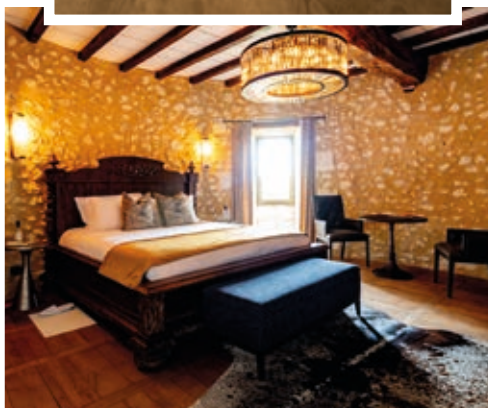
Jennifer and Don share their home in Saint-Aquilin from October to May, with extra heart and soul. Guests who stay in one of the five rooms at this Renaissance château enjoy the best of modern life and delicious food. In addition to the various services that are available on site (like massages, bespoke travel plans, a car and driver or even a helicopter), it is also the ideal starting point for touring the Bergerac wine region, hunting for Périgord black truffles or visiting charming little towns.

Take the keys to the castle... for your event

From June to September, Jennifer and Don Macdonald will hire out part or all of their renovated 15th/16th century château, so guests can savour an unforgettable, chic and historical experience.

More information

www.chateaubele.com





HIDEAUTS HOTEL LE CHEVALIER BLEU

The essence of local

In 2023, the Austrian operator Urbanauts opened its first French hotel in the fortified town of Monpazier, as part of its "hideauts hotel" concept. This new location features 14 charming guest rooms and flats in one of the oldest houses in the mediaeval town

An Urbanauts hideaut hotel in the countryside

Le Chevalier Bleu is one of the hotel chain's cosy little cocoons that are perfectly suited to the concept of relaxing weekends in the country. Architect Enrico Realacci renovated this historic 12th century building and turned it into an ultra-modern hotel for urban travellers. In addition to its guest rooms of varying sizes, it has an outdoor pool, a sauna and a bar, all in the heart of the fortified town, near Place des Cornières.

The "Stay Relaxed" experience

The purpose of this hotel, created in collaboration with Stephan Gerhard, managing owner of Solutions Holding and a seasoned hospitality expert, is to help its guests explore Périgord in the most authentic way possible. To that end, Le Chevalier Bleu recommends a selection of "Fellows" to its customers: neighbouring bars, restaurants and tourist attractions that it considers to be partners

More information

www.hideauts-stay.com/en/monpazier



© Photos credits: Roberto Pastrovicchio



MAISON MANOUVRIER

The epitome of high-end ice cream!

At his production workshop in Saint-Geniès, Roland Manouvrier imagines “abstract” ice creams and sorbets that match the personalities of Périgord’s tourist attractions! In collaboration with local artisans and/or tourist attractions, he is always working on new products.

A quest for rare, original flavours

After more than 30 years, Roland is still inspired! This trained pastry chef has become a master in artisanal ice cream of the highest quality. The goal of each of his creations is to transform an amazing flavour into an emotion. He promotes the “school of abstract ice cream”, which involves creating ice cream the way perfume is created, by blending fragrances, fruit and spices with quality base ingredients

Available at tourist attractions and at his three shops (in season)

In 2023, customers were able to enjoy the Josephine B bar, in reference to the feminist icon’s Rainbow Tribe. It was specially designed for the Josephine Baker Book Festival. Roland’s acacia ice cream was made using acacia blossoms gathered at the Gardens of Marqueyssac, and his Ort Gin sorbet was concocted with the master distiller at Distillerie de l’Ort in Montignac.

Savour these delectable creations and more at his ice cream shops in Saint-Léon-sur-Vézère, Cadouin and Terrasson-Lavilledieu.

More information

www.facebook.com/maisonmanouvrier



MOULIN DE LA PAUZE

A shared legacy and expertise

The miller and farmer Frédéric Pradeau sold his first harvest of heirloom wheat to the father of Alain Mazeau, a miller, baker and former owner of Moulin de la Pauze in Saint-Méard-de-Drôme. 20 years later, Frédéric became the mill's new owner!

A mill steeped in history

Built in 1710, Moulin de la Pauze belonged to 11 generations of the Mazeau family (from 1878 to 2019). Thanks to the current of the Dronne River, this imposing building produced walnut oil up until 1892, followed by flour and electricity for houses in the village. Alain Mazeau, the last heir to this heritage, produced baked goods there and eventually decided to convert the industrial plant into a tool of remembrance and an ecomuseum (now closed). Even back then, the idea was to share the history of his profession.

Moulin de la Pauze joins La Belle Meunerie, a milling project

To preserve the expertise and history of milling, Frédéric Pradeau continues to make bread today at Moulin de la Pauze. His artisanal loaves are sold at the market in Ribérac. This farmer and miller now owns more than a square kilometre of organic farmland and two mills, Moulin Bobina in Saint-Martin-de-Ribérac, where he makes his flour, and Moulin de la Pauze, where he crafts his bread.

More information

Address: Chemin du Moulin de la Pauze,

24600 Saint-Méard de Dronne

Phone: +33 (0)7 87 21 32 52



© Photos credits: Moulin de la Pauze - F. Pradeau - Marie Dominique Privé - Radio France



SHINGLE MAKING

A trade aligned with the times!

The ecological transition is reviving traditional trades that were on the verge of being lost forever, like the profession of shingle maker. At Atelier du Châtaignier in Archignac, Gabriel Darcy makes shingles and tiles out of chestnut wood, a species that is common in Dordogne.

Hand-made in Périgord!

Gabriel Darcy, a professional wooden tile maker, is a member of the next generation of shingle makers who are perpetuating and reinventing this age-old craftsmanship. He splits chestnut wood to make shingles (known as *bardeaux*, *tavillons*, *ancelles* or *essentes*, depending on the region) that can be installed on rooftops or as cladding, thanks to the durability of that wood. Tours of his workshop can be arranged by appointment.

A profession that meets today's ecological concerns

Wood shingles were employed until tiles became widespread (between the 14th and 18th centuries) but are now enjoying something of a revival. Thanks to their durable, environmental properties, and their ability to be moulded to fit complex shapes, they are creating an advantageous outlet for Périgord wood. In Saint-Pierre-de-Frugie for example, the Château de Vieillecour, a listed Historic Monument, has round towers with conical roofs that were restored using chestnut shingles.

More information

<https://atelier-du-chataignier.business.site>







DORDOGNE PÉRIGORD

BEST OF FRANCE



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