

Journey to the Isle Valley

{ READY-MADE TOURS FROM 1 TO 4 DAYS }

ROADBOOK

*Take it easy, just follow the flow of the river
and your love of food...*



DORDOGNE
PÉRIGORD
TOURISME FRANCE

Édition 2022/2023



The Isle Valley,

A Journey along the river, in the heart of its cultural heritage, gastronomy and history!



Start your discovery of the **Isle Valley**, its history, culture and gastronomy! With **castles, abbeys, priories and museums**, a large variety of discoveries are offered in an **authentic natural environment**.

The road trip will make a stop in **Périgueux**, the capital of Périgord. A city of more than 2,000 years old, that stands out for its medieval and renaissance landmarks and for its reputed Roman-Byzantine style, **Saint-Front Cathedral**. Your route will cross the **Vesuna museum**

and its Gallo-Roman vestiges, the Romanesque City church with cupolas, the private mansions from the Renaissance, all that are part of remarkable cultural heritage of the city which is listed a **"Ville d'Art et d'Hisoire"**...

The Isle Valley will awake your taste buds because of all its gastronomic treasures: **truffles, caviar, walnut oil, local rusks/crackers and home-made farm ice cream**... here there is something for everyone.

You will take the **"green bike road"** of the Isle Valley which alter a green path and a regular road with low traffic. This is our must-do for families.

A highlight? A ride of the Isle River on a flat-bottom barge called **"gabare de Duellas"** will take you back to the period of the inland waterway transport operating from Périgueux to Libourne.

Many **leisure activities** are available: **golf, canoeing, tree-climbing, swimming, hiking, fishing**... no reason to get bored.

To punctuate your trip, various **activities** await you during the day or evening: **Festival Expoésie, Festival of Strawberries and flowers, Macadam Jazz, Mimos Festival, Sinfonia en Périgord, Comic Strip Festival, Cartoon Festival, Festival of the Theater du Roi de Coeur, Nuit des Bandas, gourmet markets**....

In the Isle Valley, **slow-tourism** is in the spotlight. Take the time to discover, to enjoy, to taste...



Day 1

In the footsteps of truffles and gluttony

Let's rush to the truffle capital of the world...
Unlock the mysteries of black diamonds



Sorges

Discover the eco-museum dedicated to truffles, situated in a recent beautiful garden!

In Sorges-et-Ligueux-en-Périgord, in a beautifully restored farm of the 18th C., the Truffle Ecomuseum reveals all the mysteries of the black diamond: species, stories, cycle, farming, gastronomy.

Don't miss the discovery trail through the limestone plateau of the region, offering the specific flora and fauna related to truffle, the shop is entirely dedicated to truffles and local products; and on the upper floor its museum. All the mysteries of the precious mushroom are revealed, from the harvest to the plate.

Guided tours are offered to groups all year round by appointment. You can also participate in tasting sessions and demonstrations of «cavage» (truffle hunting) in the season.



2 Our favorite

The Andrévias farm

On the road... stop at **the Andrévias Farm** (direct sale of preserved food to consumers).

Here the specialties are goose preparations, but there is also a walnuts grove of 10 hectares. The main goal of this farm is to maintain family know-how and traditions and to highlight the exceptional quality of goose foie gras.



The Andrévias farm



Château des Bories

3

Château des Bories

(Open to the public from 1st July to 31st August)

This castle is typical of the Périgord and the architectural evolution. It has, amongst other facets, splendid medieval kitchens and a monumental Renaissance staircase with a square layout ...

The present castle started to be built in 1497 and was probably completed in 1604 by Henri de Saint-Astier, a protestant who, in 1592, witnessed its capture by the Catholics.

The castle has a long rectangular main building, flanked by two large round towers and a square tower containing a monumental staircase.

The building has kept its defensive system: machicolation towers, ditches, drawbridge, fortified courtyard.

The staircase seems to be the prototype of the monumental French staircase that kept through the 17th century.

Sites

- **Eco-musée de la truffe - Sorges-et-Ligieux**
<https://ecomuseedelatruffe.com>
- **Ferme Andrévias - Sorges-et-Ligieux**
<https://fermeandrevias.com/>
- **Château des Bories - Antonne et Trigonant**
<https://lesbories.monsite-orange.fr>
- **Jardin du Bouquet - Sorges-et-Ligieux**
www.facebook.com/lesjardinsdubouquet/

Accommodations

- **Maison d'Hôtes « Domaine Truffier du Grand Merliot » - Savignac Les Eglises**
www.facebook.com/Domaine-truffier-du-Grand-Merliot-175078086478960/
- **Domaine des Bories - Sorges-et-Ligieux**
www.location-gites-dordogne-perigord.com/
- **Ô bois dormant (hébergements insolites) - Lempzours**
www.o-bois-dormant.voyage/fr
- **Village de vacances Huttopia Lanmary - Antonne et Trigonant**
<https://europe.huttopia.com/site/village-lanmary>
- **La Forêt Enchantée (location de chalets) - Cornille**
www.laforetenchantedordogne.com

Day 2

Travel through the time on the Isle River, in the capital of Périgord!

1

Oh **Périgueux** ! its visit to the rooftops of Saint Front Cathedral (reservation at the Tourist Office of Périgueux), its farmers' markets on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday mornings...



Market of Périgueux

Walking city tour lead by a licensed guide from France's Impressions or from the Tourist Office to discover the **medieval-Renaissance district**, then the **Gallo-Roman remains** of the antique sections of the city. Later on, take the Campniac ferry (summer only) and follow the footsteps of the ancient past of Périgueux.

Accept to be guided and discover in a privileged way the history of Périgueux and urban walks.



Tour de Vézonne



Guided tour of Périgueux

Périgueux was born in 1240 from the union of two geographically and politically opposed urban centers: the city of Petrocores to the west and the town of Puy Saint-Front to the east.

The Périgueux Tourist Office and the Grand Périgueux Intercommunal Tourist Office invite you to discover these two historic districts by following an approved guide-lecturer.

2 Our favorite

The Vesunna Museum and its audacious architecture designed by Jean Nouvel, dedicated to the Roman origins of Périgueux, is built up over a Gallo-Roman villa called “domus of Vesone”. The archeological collections reveal ancient lifestyle, daily and leisure activities of the Petrocorii. (ancient inhabitants of Perigord).



Vesunna Museum



Roof top of the cathédrale Saint-Front

3

Discover the **medieval section** with its history and cultural heritage by strolling through a labyrinth of narrow streets. Then, go for the cathedral of Saint-Front before succumbing to temptation of the food specialties of our terroir

Admire the amazing panoramic view of the historical center of Périgueux **from the roof top of the cathedral.**

On top of the city is situated the most emblematic building of Périgueux: the Cathedral with its five 12th C. cupolas. It was restored by Paul Abadie, the architect who designed Sacré-Coeur in Paris. He was inspired by the Saint Front Cathedral. The cathedral is listed in 1998 a UNESCO World Heritage Site (WHS), being part of the stops of the pilgrimage route to Santiago de Compostela. Visits are available from April to October.

By strolling through the belltowers and domes, you will have new view of the Roman-Byzantine architecture. Guided tours are offered only in French.

Guided Visits

- **France's impressions Voyages**
www.voyages-france-impressions.com/en/
- **Office de Tourisme du Grand Périgueux**
www.tourisme-grandperigueux.fr
- **Office de Tourisme de Périgueux**
www.destination-perigueux.com

Sites

- **Site-musée Vesunna - Périgueux**
www.perigueux-vesunna.fr
- **Toits de la cathédrale Saint-Front - Périgueux**
www.tourisme-grandperigueux.fr
- **Musée d'Art et d'Archéologie du Périgord - Périgueux**
www.perigueux-maap.fr

Accommodations

- **Hôtel Mercure - Périgueux**
<https://all.accor.com/hotel/6237/index.fr.shtml>
- **Hôtel IBIS Centre - Périgueux**
<https://all.accor.com/hotel/O636/index.fr.shtml>
- **Les Suites de la Tour (appart'hôtel) - Périgueux**
<https://appartements-hotels-perigueux-dordogne.suitesdelatour.fr/>
- **Les Suites du Théâtre (appart'hôtel) - Périgueux**
<https://appart-hotel-perigueux.suitesduthetheatre.com>
- **Maison d'Hôtes Villa Marguerite - Périgueux**
www.chambres-hotes-perigueux.com
- **Maison d'Hôtes La Maison Blanche - Saint-Laurent sur Manoire**
www.maison-blanche-dordogne.com
- **Hôtel-restaurant Château Lalande - Annesse et Beaulieu**
www.chateau-lalande-perigord.com

Day 3

Between stone and water:
Along the Green path

CHANCELADE - SAINT-ASTIER - NEUVIC

≈ 25 km



1

Don't miss a detour to the **Romanesque Abbey of Chancelade** located in the village of the same name. It's construction was spread over the 10th to the 12th C. The abbatial church was listed an historic monument in 1909. It has suffered from the Hundred Years and Religious wars. We can still admire the 12th C. Romanesque chapel and the park of the Abbot House, with its famous painting: "Christ Mocked", attributed to painter Gerrit Van Honthorst and dating from the 17th C. Free Visit. Information at the Tourist Office of Grand Perigueux www.tourisme-grandperigueux.fr



Abbey of Chancelade



Green path of the Isle Valley



Château de Neuvic

2

Bike track "Green path of the Isle Valley" In the kingdom of the biking in Dordogne!

By foot, bike or roller skating, this itinerary will allow you to contemplate the river Isle meandering through the valley. One will enjoy spectacular views from the footbridge overlapping the river and giving access to numerous rest areas for a well-deserved break.

Following the green & white panels, you will discover wonderful landscapes, natural environments, historical sites (castles, churches, abbeys), industrial heritage (mills, canals, lime quarries) and some highlights of the Périgord's gastronomy (producers and restaurants).

From green path to country road with few traffic, from Périgueux (Trelissac) in direction of Bordeaux (Le Pizou) this "veloroute" allows you to cover more than 100 kilometers. Are you ready ?

3

Saint-Astier

Enjoy a playful way to discover Saint-Astier, with a treasure hunt in the village and in the footsteps of Asterus, the founder of the town

Large market on Thursday morning



4

Our favorite



The lime factories of Saint-Astier !

The visit of the lime factory is spectacular. Go down to the galleries of the underground lime quarries... Discover the lime manufacturing process: extraction of limestone, firing crushing and processing We highly recommend to experience this exclusive visit organized by the company during the summer!

Reservation is mandatory at the Tourist Office of Saint Astier.

www.tourisme-isleperigord.com

Sites

- **Abbaye de Chancelade**
www.abbaye-chancelade.com
- **Usine à chaux - Saint-Astier**
www.tourisme-isleperigord.com
- **Château de Puyferrat - Saint-Astier**
www.tourisme-isleperigord.com
- **Vélo route Voie Verte de la Vallée de l'Isle**
www.tourisme-isleperigord.com

Discover our expérience :
www.dordogne-perigord-tourisme.fr

Accommodations



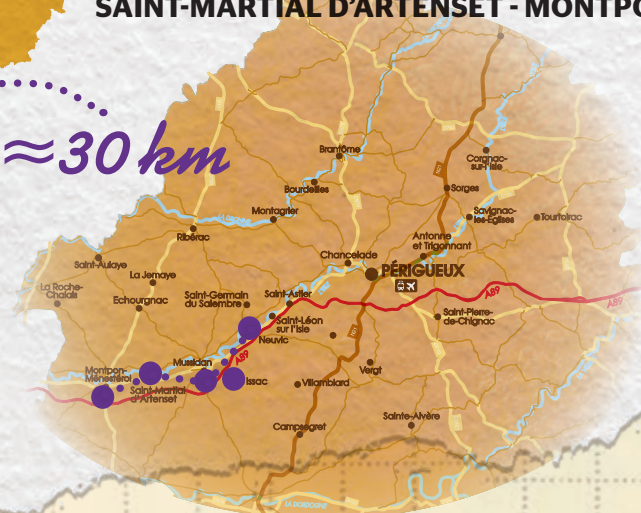
- **Maison d'hôtes La Fabrique en Périgord - Saint Astier**
www.lafabrique-perigord.fr
- **Maison d'Hôtes Château la Thuillère - Saint Front de Pradoux**
www.chateaulathuilriere.com/fr/index.html
- **Camping de Bazange - Monfaucon**
www.camping-bazange-dordogne.com
- **Camping le Périgord - Saint-Astier**
www.camping-le-perigord.com
- **Gîtes Baie l'Isle - Neuvic**
www.gites-baieisle-neuvic.fr

Day 4

Nature and delights
in the Isle Valley

NEUVIC - MUSSIDAN -
SAINT-MARTIAL D'ARTENSET - MONTPON

≈ 30 km



1



Biscuits Billeau

This morning, a first stop at **Saint-Léon sur l'Isle**. Stop at the shop "**Maison Billeau**"... the temple of crackers and biscuits. You never get tired of walking through the stalls and displaying your curiosity. Observe the cookies making process: "croquants", "palets", croustinoisettes" are cookies made an artisanal way and according to historical techniques and unchanged recipes since 1957

2

In the village of **Saint-Germain du Salembre** you find **La Chanteracoise**, the last traditional cookies factory in France. Here in the shop and workshop, you will learn about the history and how these delicious cookies are made.



Biscottes La Chanteracoise

3 *Our favorite*



Caviar de Neuvic

A must see : for epicureans, the **Caviar de Neuvic**, invites you to discover the sturgeon. Discover the precise and precious gestures that allow the elaboration of caviar before a tasting! Several options for a visit are offered all year round upon reservation, to discover the caviar and the breeding farm.

To go further on: enjoy a sensory and olfactory experience at the **Moulin de la Veysière**. Owned by the same Elias family since 1857 (7 generations). This is the last water-mill of the Vern valley, specialized in traditional processing of walnut and hazelnut oil. It used to produce flour and bread, then walnut and hazelnut oil. The mill is open all year round, reservation is not required.

4



5



From here, proceed to the **Château de Montréal** at Issac, a little village at 7 km from Mussidan. This elegant castle overlooks the Crempse valley, its facades ornated with columns, mullioned windows is surrounded by 12th and 13thC. fortifications. The Renaissance chapel houses an exceptional statuary, statues of the 12 apostles. Outside the ramparts, there is a parc with a star-shaped hornbeam. Inside the ramparts, you will find an Italian style garden and a French garden spread over two terraces.



6

Site de Duellas : Mill & flat-bottom boat on the agenda!

Continue your road trip by bike or by "gabare" (flat bottom boat), out of the beaten paths, along the Isle river to discover mills, locks and gourmet treasures. Embark on board of "Le Duellas", you will be surprised by the serenity of the spot, discover the fauna and flora and the history of the "gabariers" (bargemen).

A bonus: experience the passage of a manual lock, it is unique in the Périgord!

Sites

- **Musée André Voulgre - Mussidan**
www.museevoulgre.fr
- **Château de Barrière - Villamblard**
www.tourisme-isleperigord.com
- **Château de Montréal - Issac**
www.tourisme-isleperigord.com
- **Moulin et gabare du Duellas - Saint-Martial d'Artenet**
www.moulin-duellas.fr

Accommodations

- **Château de la Roche - Saint Martin l'astier**
<https://gite-chateau-de-la-roche-perigord.fr/>
- **O Délices de la Monnerie - Bourgnac**
www.odelicesdelamonnerie.com
- **Logis Saint Martin et de la Fontaine - Montagnac la Crempse**
www.logis-saint-martin-perigord.fr
- **Chambres d'hôtes « Au Cœur de Ménéstérol » - Montpon**
www.aucoeurdemensterol.fr
- **Gîte L'Attendue à l'orée du Bois - Saint-Sauveur Lalande**
www.dordogne-perigord-tourisme.fr/offres/lattendue-a-loree-du-bois-saint-sauveur-lalande-fr-3469664/
- **Gîte La Guirandole - Eygurande**
www.giteguirandole-eygurande.fr
- **Gîte Les Vergers du Désert - Le Pizou**
www.lesvergersdudesert.fr
- **Les cabanes de Lara (chalets sur pilotis) - Ménesplet**
www.tourisme-isleperigord.com/les-cabanes-de-lara
- **Camping Lestaubière à Douville**
<https://camping-lestaubiere.fr/fr>
- **Camping Orpheo Negro à Douville**
www.orpheonegro.com
- **Camping La Cigaline - Montpon**
www.camping-dordogne-lacigaline.com



Usefull Addresses:

Tourists Offices

- **Tourist Office of the Grand Périgueux***
www.tourisme-grandperigueux.fr
- **Tourist Office of Périgueux**
www.destination-perigueux.com (from March 2023)
- **Tourist Office of the Isle Valley (Saint-Astier, Neuvic, Mussidan-Villamblard, Montpon*)**
www.tourisme-isleperigord.com

Market days

- **Périgueux** : Saturday and Wednesday morning
- **Saint-Astier** : Thursday morning
- **Neuvic** : Tuesday and Saturday morning
- **Mussidan** : Saturday morning
- **Montpon** : Wednesday morning
- **Villamblard** : Monday morning

Other accomodations

- **Syndicat Départemental de l'Hotellerie de Plein Air**
www.campingsdordogneperigord.com/
- **Hôtels Logis en Dordogne**
www.logishotels.com/hotel/aquitaine/dordogne

Restaurants suggestions

- **Hercule Poireau**, Périgueux
- **Espace le 6ème sens**, Périgueux
- **Chez Alfred**, Périgueux
- **L'Epicurien**, Périgueux
- **Restaurant Les Singuliers**, Saint-Astier
- **La Table du Marché**, Saint-Astier
- **Restaurant la Douzième Heure**, Douzillac
- **Chez Bonnebouche**, Saint-Jean d'Estissac
- **Pause et Vous**, Mussidan
- **Auberge du Musée**, Mussidan
- **O Petit gavroche**, Montpon-Ménéstérol
- **L'Eclade Traiteur (plats à emporter)**, Montpon-Ménéstérol
- **Le Duellas**, Saint-Martial d'Artenset
- **Le Cilaos**, Neuvic



What to bring home ?

- **Foie gras, confits, magrets...**
Ferme Andrévias, Sorges
<https://fermeandrevias.com>
La Ferme du Breuilh - Aubertie Foie gras, Eyraud-Crempe-Maurens
www.foiegrasaubertie.com/
- **Caviar**
Caviar de Neuvic, Neuvic
<https://caviar-de-neuvic.com>
- **Walnut Oil, hazelnut or almond oil**
Moulin de la Veyssière, Neuvic
www.moulindelaveyssiere.fr/
Moulin de Landry, Chantérac
www.moulin-de-landry.fr
- **Truffles and by-products**
Ecomusée de la truffe, Sorges
<https://ecomuseedelatruffe.com>
- **Cheese**
Fromagerie de la Trappe, Echourgnac
(cheese, jam and fruit pastes...)
www.fromageriedelatrappe.com
- **Honey**
Apiculture bio Hervé Poirier, Issac
(honey, gingerbread, honey soap, honey beer, nougats...)
www.apyraine.com/
- **Cookies, Crackers**
Biscotterie la Chantéracoise, Saint-Germain-du-Salembre et Biscuiterie Billeau, Saint-Léon sur l'Isle
www.la-chanteracoise.fr/
- **Icecream**
Ice cream at the farm of Javerzac, Saint-Martial-d'Artenset
www.glaces-javerzac.fr/
- **Beers, Wine & Spirits**
Distillerie Clovis Reymond, Villamblard
www.clovisreymond.com/
Brasserie Les 2 Ours, Saint-Médard-de-Mussidan
www.brasserie-les2ours.com
Ferme de la Courte Echelle, Saint-Hilaire-d'Estissac
(beers, sirop, herb tea, jams, oil and aromatic vinegar)
<http://lacourteechelle.bio/>





My best memories

Wow!

*A must
see* 

I can paste here, my photos memories...

My favorite sites



1

2

3

*To see
during my
next visit!*

* Sites and accommodations mentioned in this roadbook are only suggestions. A full list of sites and accommodations is available on our website: www.dordogne-perigord-tourisme.fr (in French).

DORDOGNE PÉRIGORD

TOURISME FRANCE

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For further information in English, please visit our website:

www.enjoydordogne.com

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