

FRANCE 1973

THE LANGTON

SPIRAL BOUND BOOK

For Water Colour, etc.

CONTAINING 12 SHEETS 352mm x 254mm

BOCKINGFORD 140 LB PAPER

MADE BY THE DALER BOARD CO. LTD.

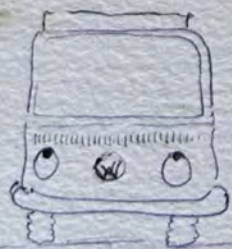
WAREHAM

DORSET

SATURDAY. 21st. July. Windy cloudy + sunshine

Friday the rain had poured down all day preventing packing. Michael had prevailed on the boys to let him home following the swimming sports. Up at 7 am. to try to go fishing but, bontine, compost bucket, digging spuds. etc. ^{c. Michael} prevented project. Jill had hair done. John to deliver Howells glasses to rooms. Bristol 600 opening but no real traffic jams. Manit had left on Thursday but ~~that~~ still with us. Ticky recording cassettes for new VW. cassette wireless.

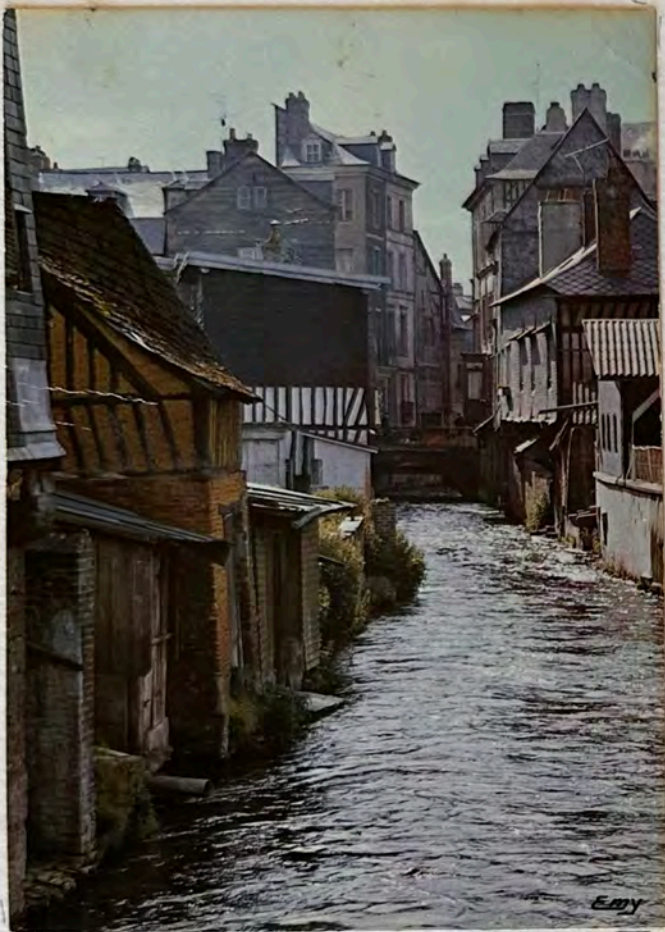
Nene came over for lunch & to help with packing, take Pippa. Cold meats + salad for lunch. followed by fresh redcurrants from the Sylvesters. Finished packing in pm and at last got away at 5.30 pm. after a delayed action photo which didn't - Farewell to Alison, Nicol. Progressed in new van going well in spite of heavy load via motorway - Chippenham - Devizes - Salisbury. Sunshine over Salisbury Plain & opening coun. Parked, went to Hotel by trout stream. converted into Benn Inn, had Pumpsteak + Beaujolais cheese + ice for £5. - (last cheap meal for 2/52) Franc recently devalued down to 10 fr / £1. To Southampton in good time & one at the front on the heapard. V crowded. Ticky got comfortable seats in disco - so kept awake all night by French yobos who played juke box until 2 am. - house play by same moenagos - forcibly shut up by steward. John on ground sheet like a dune under oars. on top deck (+ slight shower) Good view of ship taking off night at stern of ship. QE 2 looking magnificent + floodlit. towering above the docks like a skyscraper. Bought likker at duty free shop & so to sleep.



HAPPY NEW VAN



SAD NEW VAN.



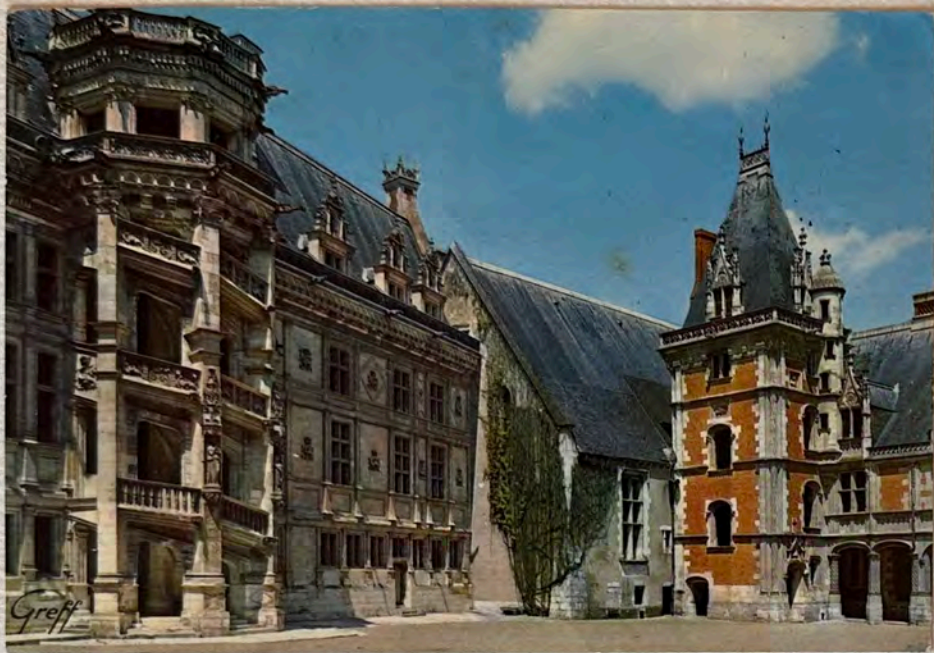
Port
AUDEMER



SUNDAY 22nd. JULY. Almost the first off the boat. Up at 5.30. Petit Dejener at 6 am. John in doghouse for not waiting (cost 12/- 60p). Sunshine - out thro' industrial zone, caves alongside Seine Port de Tancarville - toll cost. 6 F. (60p). Little traffic. At Port Audemer stopped to shop at crossroads

Pate maison, croissants, white wine, S.F. Nice old town worth a revisit. Took small white road on W. bank of Risle to Bioume. Caves water meadows meandering trout stream, sunshine, empty lanes. Main road from Bioume to Bernay then along a white road by the river bank to Broglie. Shortly after this a side road went down to cross the river by bridge & ford. Stopped for shaving - wash coffee & croissants. Michael saw a huge trout. On via St. Denis-s-Angerons ^{Vernus} Ferte Trenal. 1. Forêt de Ferte-Trenal. ^{D31} ~~Praye~~ St Evroult ^{D31} St. Crauburge - St. Colombe Then via. Forest of Madin-bon-Moulins to Don Moulins where we did not see a Trappist monastery. Soligny La Trappe. Montagne-au-Perche. The centre of the Percheron horse with a bronze statue in front of the town hall. - got lost in new housing estate. Then N.138 to Bellême & turned off at St. Germain de la Coudree up a white wood to lunch by huge hay barn. Lay in sun & had a sleep. Percheron horse. Alongside long low range of hills with lovely Normandy farms to Ferte Bernard. Vibrage. - St. Calais. - diverted to Sta. Cénotte - Chapelle-Huon. Two-tyrodite town & lower town on the Loir. crossed it at Montoire. - lovely little town worth a stay. Chateaurenault. then despite attempt by John to take

BLOIS. STAIRCASE OF FRANCOIS I.

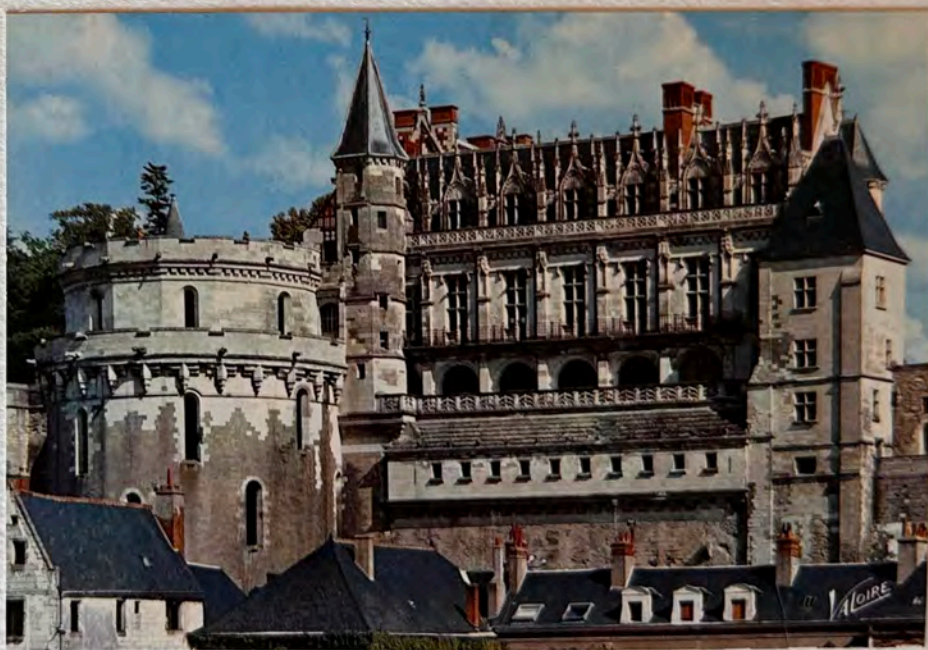


along Route de Vouvray - went straight to Amboise looking lovely in evening sunlight. What occurred the best campsite Ile d'Or was in fact night by town & very crowded, so drove to Chargé - 3 kms to municipal campsite which was spacious but not v. well equipped. We found an isolated spot overlooking the river. - pitched tent & had dinner of sausages egg bacon apples & pears - beanyolais from home. Jill, Michael in van. Michael & John in tent. Slept like logs & awoke to black skies & heavy rain.

AMBOISE XVth.

MONDAY. 23rd. JULY.

Rested & cheerful in spite of rain decided to cut losses & try to get VW into 600 mile service then if weather improved to canoe from Blois to Chaumont. At Blois found everything shut as it was Monday (Sunday is Monday etc.) & so to Chateau. Had interesting tour & English guide with American accent. Heant of its 3 periods. Louis XII. Francois I. Gaston D'Orleans - also original earlier medieval hall. Brick Stone Gothic. Stone Renaissance & Flamboyant & neoclassical. Impressed by chapel. (modern stained glass) nice triptich. & lovely ceiling in Gaston D'Orleans wing. Staircase in Francois I wing. lovely big room & 2 fireplaces & kings bedroom where Duc de Guise was murdered, the king preying in the next room for success of the enterprise!! with 2 priests!!



CHATEAU OF AMBOISE

Finally the restored ideal part of the chateau with Ambusson tapestries - Labours of Hercules. In spite of the rain (which showed the gargoyles to full advantage) the visit was worthwhile. After went into the town to find bread hunt meat & charcuterie & dragged back to the camp at Chargé via Chaumont, stopping en route at a Cave tasting & selling the wine of Amboise. Rather grumpy old woman gave us v. little to taste & the white wine we bought was a little too petulant. We also bought some red wine. (both at about 2fr.50.) and some honey. Lunch at the camp of pate campogne maison white wine etc in increasing sunshine then off in van to Tours to see if VW could be done the next day. Eventually diverted to industrial estate off Winston Churchill Avenue. Appointment made for job to be done at 8 am tomorrow. Spent afternoon driving along N. bank from Tours to do a circular trip of vineyards of Vouvray - great vineyards & cornfields with tall watertowers troglodyte dwellings & wine caves. La Fuye - Vouvray. La Touche direction up to Closaux. Vernou. & back to Vouvray. to see statue of Balzac in a little square looking just like Hicky. Parked by church. Back to Amboise in sunny evening light. - nice sunset Antichokes. Veal Cutlets. Peaches. Amboise red wine.

TUESDAY. 24th. July. Japanese fishing - in Japanese setting. Had caught 2 fishes. John & Jill up at 5 to get VW to garage in Tours. Driven to town centre by obliging mechanic in small VW. to Eglise St. Etienne. Had coffee & croissants in cafe then walked through old town. Cloudy with fitful sunshine. Modern but fine marble columned interior of modern Basilica to St. Martin with Tomb of St. Martin in the crypt. Outside the ancient cathedral Tour of Charlemagne with a modern St. Martin fresco on the top and the Tour d'Horloge gave an idea of the impressive size of the old Basilica about 3 times as big as the new. In the place Plumereau a stage set up for Shakespeare's King John. using the old houses as a backdrop. Maison de Tristan. & behind it some American archeologists excavating an old church with graves down to 10th. St. Saturnin church, rue P.L. courner. Place des Canues - fine mediaeval square. & then from there to Church of St. Gatien. Fine flying buttresses and stained glass with a picture of St. Martin dividing his cloak. Good N & S transept windows.

Walked to station through more expensive professional type Tours & then by taxi. £1 back to VW where Semicing was only the price of the oil. Back to camp via Montlouis where we had a wine tasting & bought a bottle. Nice little village. v. proud of Montlouis. - Stopped production in the war. was previously sold as Vouvray



La Salle des États

but now establishing its own reputation. Back to camp for lunch. Dull & cloudy afternoon but set out to Chaumont with canoes. Hicky by himself in collapsible & Michael & I in the bigger & fished. Jill walked round Chaumont & drove back to camp. Michael got a big fish on the spinner but lost it & the spinner. Later caught another but lost it about 2 feet from the boat.



FRANCOIS I
Van Clèves Studio.
1540

Back at camp Michael & I fished again then meal in camp.

WEDNESDAY. 25th. JULY.

lovely sunny morning - a welcome break after the rain. Up tents early & into Amboise by 9.30 am. Visited the chateau. high up on a cliff over the town & reduced to $\frac{1}{2}$ its original size in the 19th because its upkeep was uneconomical. Now still the private property of the Princes of France. lovely renaissance chapel where

Leonardo da Vinci is buried. Fine stone carving depicting St. Hubert & St. over the doorway. Small animals in high relief climbing up the door posts. In the chateau - the guard room with lantern over chimney, the balcony overlooking the Loire. The spiral ramp up which carriages & guns were taken from ground level up to the chateau. Several rooms - with fine tapestries & window frames carved with the pilgrims purse & other emblems of pilgrimage denoting that this was on the Northern route to Santiago de Compostella. A small room with profuse stone carving gave most of the annals history of the chateau. From the roof of the tower were some good views. r. Finally in the Salle des Etats a lovely fireplace with the pillars bearing the Fleur-de-Lys of France & the Ensigne of Anne of Bretagne & two pictures of the last inhabitants at Amboise in the 19th - Two arabs - whose tombs we later saw in the gardens of the Chateau.

From the balcony of this room were hanged the Huguenots who took part in the Amboise conspiracy. Walked round the gardens then bought lunch at the charentaise - several delicious salads & some rolls of pain de campagne & Pizza. And so to Mantuichard with a detour to see where Leonardo da Vinci spent his last years, via D61. At St. Aignan walked up the wonderful staircase to the chateau which is not open to the public and then round a little garden with a grotto & ponds (with bridge) containing huge goldfish. Valençay with the chateau associated with Talleyrand & into the countryside of Berry, Cuvacay, Reuilly. - great expanse of cornfields, rolling plains - some small deciduous forests & sunflower crops. Great farms with grain containers & huge barns. Just before St. Thovette overdue lunch stop at the bridge before St. Thovette. fish missing.

Pilchards, Rollmops, Mixed salads, from Charentaise. Melon, Vouvray wine. Sleep. And so to Bourges to see the cathedral *** with its marvellous facade & stained glass. The town of Avaricum, in Roman times - taken by the Romans. Capital of Aquitaine in 4th. Capital of Jean, Duc de Berry. Patron of the Arts & the Tres Riches Heures of the Duc de Berry, 1310-1416. The town of Jacques Coeur, master of the mints Charles VII of humble origin became a rich merchant & finally counsellor to the king, later fell from favour was exiled & imprisoned at Beaucaille & went into the

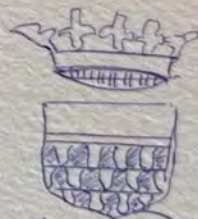
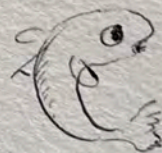
Popes service & died at Chios in an expedition against the Turks 1456. He never occupied the palace he had built in Bourges. University centre in 16th, & centre of reformation, Luther was here & Calvin a student at Bourges



CATHEDRAL OF ST. ETIENNE BOURGES
 TYMPANUM. XVTH. CENTURY.
 THE JUDGEMENT. 'THE DAMNED'

BOURGES. CAPITAL OF BERRY. Old quarter, cathedral

In 1478 a fire destroyed it. Industrial rebirth in 20th when metal
 & Michelin tyres came. For description of cathedral see Michelin Guide Verte, Pordogne
 Penquid. After a tour of the cathedral - through Old Bourges to Palace of Jacques
 Coeur, & then at cathedral - ice cream - rum & lemon, vanilla & lemon etc.
 Back in van via Dun-s-Auron - a nice little town where we got lost. the Pondy
 Ainay-le-Chateau. into the beautiful Forest of Tronçais - full of forest waders
 deer hunting. Deciduous trees. 12 miles by 4 miles to Ceully, Ygrande
 The smaller Forest de Gros Bois to Buxieres-les-Mines with old slag heaps



Restaurant. Le Dauphin. Varennes

Hidey, John

Jill & Michael

Ham & Salami

Pate, Salad, Salami

Tweet Mennan, Escargot

V. tender Steak

Entrecote Steak (Charollais
 beef)

Chips, Tomatoe

Cheese (St. Nectaire, Camembert, Cevennes)

Provencale

Beaufort type

Wine Reserve du Restaurant (Le Dauphin) ? St Pourcain.

but picturesque rolling landscape he Montet. St. Pourcain & so to a busy road across the Sioule & the Allier to Chateau camping at Varames. Quite nice with hot showers & hot water in the grounds of a chateau. Very camping only & not too bad. changed & into Varennes where after evening the New Restaurant opposite the station plumped for the Dauphins - see overleaf - a very good choice & good value for money. Two mencees at 20 fr. & 2 at 13 fr. (10 = k=1).

THURSDAY 26th JULY. Yesterday had been dry & sunny in parts. Today was even better but not hot.

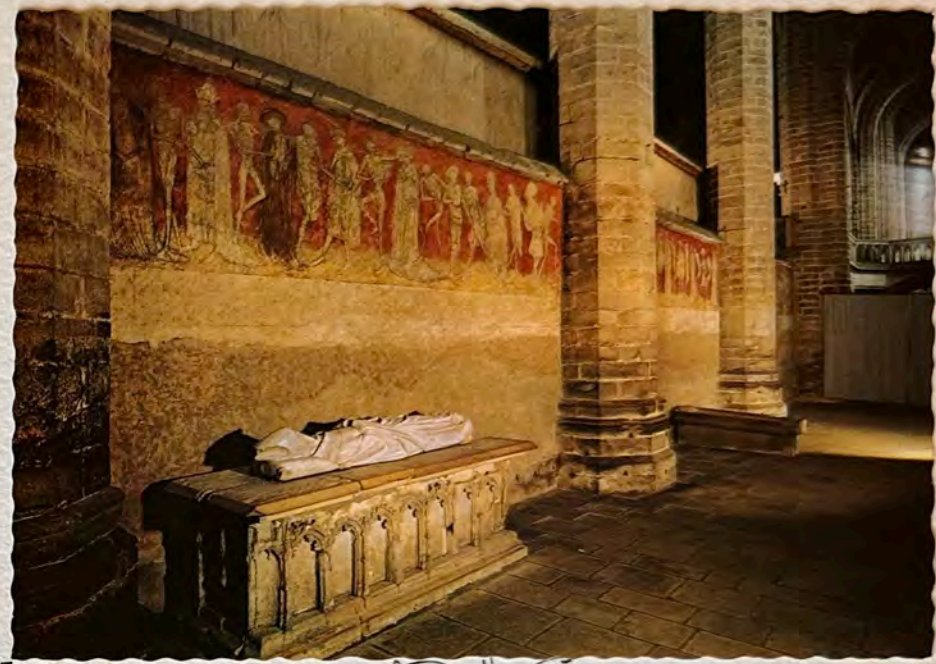
Up early and on road by 9.30 am. Drove to Cusset. Found all the petrol pumps shut so by industrial estate where we got lost to Villy & got petrol in the centre. On the way back to Cusse passed 4 petrol stations in a row. On side road into hilly country of eastern Auvergne. Bought lunch in little village of Fournières & drove on up a wiggly yellow road towards St. Remy. Took detour to lunch stop by Rez-de-Sol & climbed up a rocky eminence with views all round, saw a car wrapped around a tree with gourdannee at hand. Our hill had wild cherries, bilberries (myrtillus) & butterflies. Good view from rocks at top from narrow perilous rocky ridge. Lunch near a farm at foot of walk. Into Thiers where a fête was on. Nicky & Michael were asleep & so we did not stop to look at cutting. Parking was impossible anyway. From Thiers down a main road but not crowded & winding rising road to high Auvergne plateau.

Pretty-hilly countryside like Swiss highlands. via. Aubert to Chaise Dieu. Ancient Abbey founded by St. Robert 1043 son of the Count of Auvergne. Solidly built to stand up to bad weather. 300 monks and a monk who became Clement VI in 14th & who put the building of the present abbey in hand. In 1562 the Huguenots attacked & the monks had to take refuge in a tower. Clementine until delivered by Royalist troops. The Huguenots had done a lot of damage & knocked the heads off all the statues. In the nave - some shortened by a screen. with a fine crucifix. Around the ambulatory on

the N. side is the Pense macabre. (see opp) Beautiful carved choir stalls (not v. good misericords) (15th. 152 of them all different and above them an astonishing array of Aubert tapestries (16th (see opp) Subjects of O.T. & N.T. are copies of the Bible of the Poor. Tomb of Clement VI in the middle of the Choir. Walk outside to whipping room bowered over an elliptical vaulted roof. so that speaking at the ~~wall~~ wall in one corner in a whisper - the reply was heard apparently coming from the inside of the wall a few ins. away. Remains of the abbey are impressive. s. mediaeval. Back into village to buy evening meal & so on to Le Py through the lovely Auvergne upland. but not such clear distant views as we have seen before. - via Bellevue-la-Magne & past the viewpoint at St. Genevieve to stop at Polignac famous for its mediaeval robber barons. & later in 1713 when one of the family became a cardinal. Previously in Roman times the rock had held an oracle & temple of Apollo. Got lost in Baines. Chronosac but eventually found the campsite. (see brochure.) Michael went fishing in river. house alongside. 2 German parties camped unaccountably close. Wine of Auvergne - not special - peaches - cheap beef or corned beef hash & egg & soup beforehand. Every body said we were stewed



Arras Tapestry. (XV). Temptation of Christ.
 Temptation of Adam, Eve
 Resurrection of Lazarus, fils de la veuve de
 Sarepta.
 1 fils de la Samaritaine



Mural of the Dance of Death (XV).
 Tomb of Clement VI.



Donna The women at the tomb



DANCE OF DEATH RESTORED. 6ft. high, 26metres long



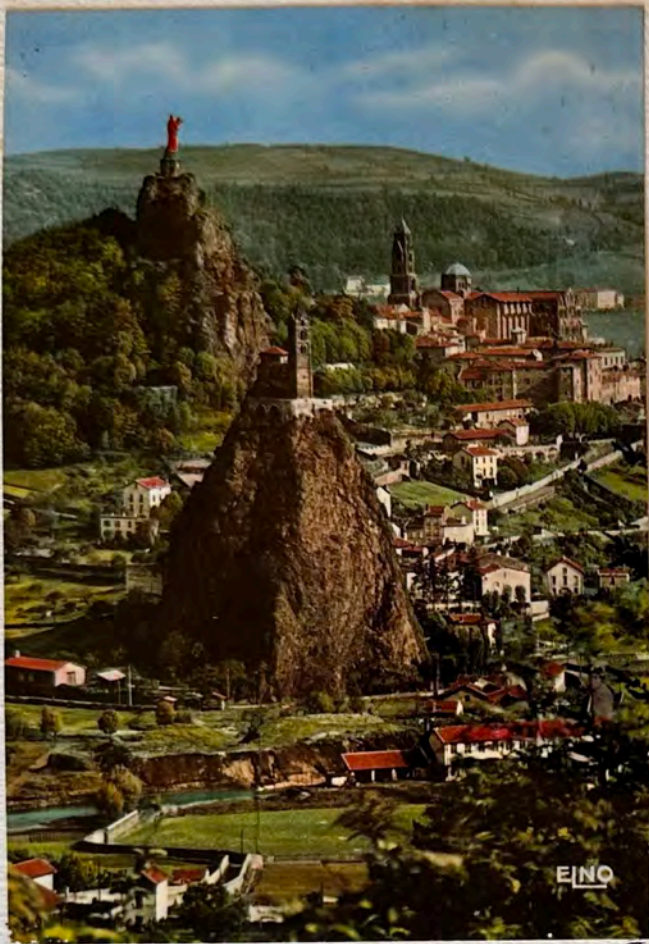
Pougnac, near Le Puy.

FRIDAY, 27th. JULY. Lovely sunny morning. Had all slept in van - quite comfortable. Lots of birds in the trees. Michael & I tried fishing but with no luck.

ABBAY OF
CHAISE DIEU
le Jube &
le nef

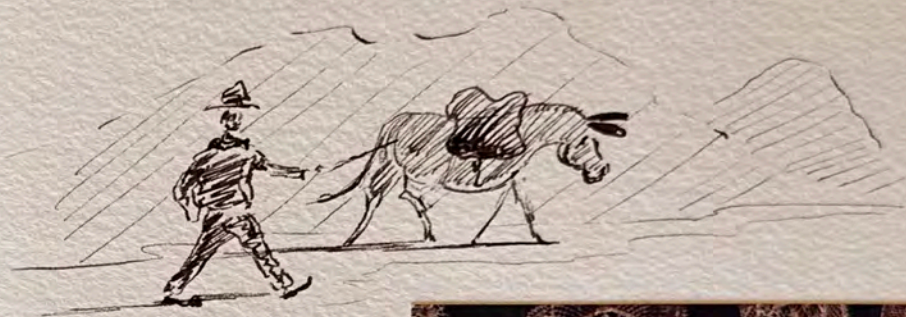


CHAZEUIL. CHATEAU CAMPING.



Le Puy, with 3 Pilgrimages.

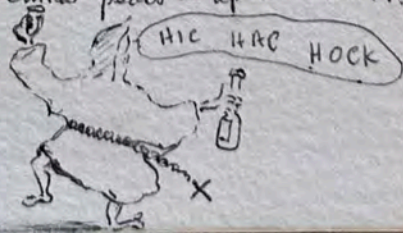
- 1) Cathedral & miraculous statue of M^rD. de Puy
- 2) La Rocher Corneille & M-D de France
- 3) La Rocher St. Michel & Chapelle Roman. Jewel of the Cth.



Into town parked near Cathedral. Walked up steep street past shops of lace & sabots still made! Entrance porch in 3 or 4 stages on cedar wood supports leads to entrance 1/2 way along church. Interior unremarkable except for fine pulpit given by Louis XV, black wooden virgini (a replica of one given by St. Louis - burnt in revolution). In sacristy ivory crucifix. Bible of Theodore vellum & considered v. valuable, written at time of Charlemagne. Decided not to visit cloister as seen last time. Ascended the Rocher Cornaille, the huge statue, climbing right up to the Virgin's crown - steadied by a guide. Final stage was an iron ladder. Magnificent view from the top. The statue was made from bronze, melted down from 213 cannon taken at Sebastopol, is 16 metres high & weighs 110 tons lace maker.



After this walked through old streets Repunio led by old lace-makers who did not
 wish her hands or work to be photographed. Bought lunch, dinner in town
 & then out by Coubron to the Monastier. By now a bit cloudy. The Monastier
 was a bit run down. Difficulty in finding Stevenson's memorial. Exhibition of
 Stevensoniana in Local Town Hall - a bit dusty, & a book by someone who had retraced
 his steps & written a book about it called Evans in the ? 1930s. All the villages
 here were built out of most attractive chocolate & dark coloured stone, including the
 little dark abbey church. Having started at Stevenson - starting point. Followed as far
 as Florac. Down the hill & over a (now bridge) over the river towards St. Martin
 just about of which we stopped for lunch in a cornfield - cornflowers & pinks. Lovely
 views of mountain tops & deep gorges. Bouclat was most attractive with a bridge
 over the river & dominated by a ruined chateau on a peak. Rose up & over a pass
 to montagne. Typical houses with stables house under the same roof. At the main road
 didn't follow his detour to the Bouclat but drove straight on to Pradelles - a pretty &
 fairly large village overlooking the valley of the Allier - which we crossed at hangogne by
 a new bridge & noted the old packhouse bridge he must have taken. lovely sunshine &
 a lovely drive along the Allier Gorge. Haymakers in the fields. Once again deviated
 from his route where he got lost at Cheylard l'Evêque, but rejoined at Laveyroue
 he Bastide a pretty small village & turned off to Notre Dame des Neiges where he
 had stayed in solitude some days. At the end of a pine wood a rather clinical
 white - Trappist church - hostelry & a very big distillery & wine making place. Trout
 for sale. Tasted the wines of which they make red, white & muscatel & also the
 liqueur Reine des Neiges which we bought together in the Neiges. - sweet &
 & pleasant. Michael had a myrtle (whimberry) ice cream. The place was full of
 tourists (French), in coach loads. Small country road to Chasserades along Allier.
 Up a track through L'estamps a small hamlet onto a deteriorating cart track to the top
 of the Montagne de Coulet - beautiful views of high Cevennes peaks - up to 5000 ft.
 Along winding track to the Bleynard, and then
 valley road via Gorge at hot past a lovely ruined
 castle at Chateau de Tournel to Baguel les Bains.



CAMPING D'AUDINET

A. MERLE

PROPRIÉTAIRE

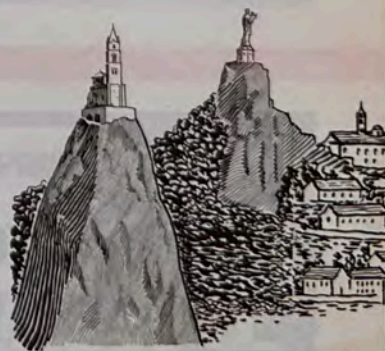
Tél. (72) 09.10.18

(72) 09.13.77

43 BRIVES-CHARENSAC



Entrée du camp



à
4 km
du

PUY-EN-VELAY



Carte Michelin N° 76 pli 7

SITUÉ à Brives-Charensac (Hte-Loire) à 4 kilomètres du Puy-en-Velay, sur un des grands axes Paris - Côte d'Azur, le camping d'Audinet s'étale sur 4 hectares dans un site champêtre et ombragé, à 609 mètres d'altitude.

Le camping d'Audinet est accessible à tous véhicules et ceci par la N. 535 (route de Valence) et la N. 88 (route de Lyon).

Par arrêté préfectoral le terrain est classé Etoiles

Il offre à ses campeurs, confort, calme et propreté.



Epicerie

Sur le terrain même : se trouve

- une épicerie,
- une buvette,
- un dépôt de pain,
- et un approvisionnement de gaz

Le propriétaire propose :

- le plat du jour ainsi qu'un service de plats cuisinés
- de boucherie, de charcuterie.

Liqueur
**PRUNELLE
DU
VELAY**

Mutzig
BIERE D'ALSACE

En bordure du terrain, un plan d'eau permet de se baigner, de faire du canotage. Les jeunes enfants trouveront l'endroit idéal pour barboter en toute sécurité.

Quant aux amateurs de pêche ils pourront taquiner le poisson.

Une zone de jeux comprend des balançoires, un terrain de volley-ball, bacs à sable, tables de ping-pong, salle de réunion servant de salle d'abri.



Salle de restaurant

■ Sur place aussi :

Un restaurant accueillant est au service des campeurs.



Plan d'eau



depuis 1859

**Verveine
du
Velay** VERTE
ou
JAUNE

la liqueur digestive

VETEMENTS - SPORTS - CAMPING

23, place du Breuil

La Hutte

LE PUY - Tél. 09.03.67

CUISINER
ECLAIRER
CHAUFFER
SOUDER

**CAMPING GAZ
INTERNATIONAL**

FRANCE

A 930^m D'ALTITUDE
DANS LE VELAY



CH. CHAUMARD

LE MONASTIER SUR GAZEILLE

STATION HISTORIQUE...
STATION CLIMATIQUE



TRAPPIST MONASTERY. N-D des Merges. LA BASTIDE. LOZERE



Caves de stockage et de vieillissement.
 "Le travail agricole, trop peu rentable en ce pays au sol nigral, et
 entrant les moines d'exploiter bon que mal que une industrie de vins. Cela leur
 permet d'assurer leur propre subsistance et aussi d'apporter une aide à beaucoup"

RENSEIGNEMENTS GÉNÉRAUX :

CHEF-LIEU DE CANTON - 2.350 HABITANTS - BUREAU DE P.T.T. - MEDECINS - DENTISTE - PHARMACIEN - VÉTÉRI-NAIRE - DISPENSAIRE - MAISON DE REPOS - BANQUES - MARCHÉ LE MARDI - CULTUE CATHOLIQUE - COLONIES DE VACANCES - TOUS LES COMMERCES - TAXIS - HOTELS - RESTAURANTS - MEUBLÉS.

DISTRACTIONS :

PÊCHE - CHASSE - JEUX DE BOULES - NOMBREUSES FÊTES ESTIVALES - FETE PATRONALE LE 1^{er} DIMANCHE DE SEPTEMBRE - TERRAINS DE SPORTS - BAIGNADES - CAMPING 4 Etoiles.

PROMENADES pouvant se faire à pied dans un rayon de quelques kilomètres :

LA VALLÉE DE LA GAZEILLE - LES MONTS BREYSSE ET SES BOIS - LE VIADUC DE LA RECOMÈNE - LES GROTTES - LE PLATEAU DE LA MOUTÈTE.

DÉPART DU SENTIER BALISÉ DU CIRCUIT STEVENSON. ANCIENNES VOIES ROMAINES.

SPÉCIALITÉS :

TRUITES DE LA GAZEILLE - ÉCREVISSES - CHARCUTERIE DE MONTAGNE - CHAMPIGNONS.

SITES ET MONUMENTS :

ANCIENNE EGLISE ABBATIALE et son Trésor : BUSTE RELIQUAIRE SAINT-CHAFFRE (en bois plaqué d'argent et enrichi de pierres précieuses serties en cabochons) - ÉTOFFES DÉCORÉES (X^e siècle) - ÉTOFFES DÉCORÉES DE PAONS - TOMBEAU D'UN ABBÉ (XIII^e siècle) - TOMBEAU DU CHANOINE IRAILHE (XV^e siècle) - TOMBEAU TRANSFORMÉ EN AUTEL - BUFFET DES ORGUES (XV^e siècle) - CROIX PROCESSIONNELLE (XVI^e siècle) - VIERGE ET L'ENFANT (BOIS SCULPTÉ XVIII^e siècle) - BOISERIES DE CRÉDANCE - VIEILLES PORTES (époque LOUIS XIV) - ÉGLISE SAINT-JEAN (XII^e siècle) - CROIX DU XVI^e SIÈCLE à 400 m. du village route du PUY.

Centre de document préhistorique. (Ouvert toute l'année.)

SYNDICAT D'INITIATIVES DE
LE MONASTIER-SUR-GAZEILLE

Mairie - Tél. : 08-30-01

B.P. N° 5



IMA L'ÉVEIL



omme son nom l'indique, Le Monastier a des origines religieuses. Elles sont plus que millénaires. C'est en effet vers la fin du V^e siècle, que Calmilius, issu de la noblesse gallo-romaine auvergnate décide de fonder sur sa terre de Villard un oratoire dédié à saint Pierre et d'y établir une communauté de moines. Plus tard, la pieuse fondation fut menacée et l'abbé du Monastier Theofred, vulgairement nommé Chaffre, massacré. Sous ses successeurs, les ruines des premiers édifices furent relevées et grâce à la protection des papes et des souverains, une ère de prospérité commença qui devait se prolonger jusqu'à la Révolution, et dont les témoins parvenus jusqu'à nous sont l'église, le château abbatial, et les bâtiments conventuels, auxquels sont attachés les noms de Vualde, Vital Erailh, François d'Estaing, de Gaspard de Tournon, des Saint-Nectaire, des cardinaux de Bonzy et de la Croix de Castries.

Ces trois monuments constituent les attractions principales du vieux Monastier. Le premier porte la marque de l'architecture bourguignonne, le second est un type complet des méthodes usitées dans le pays au XVI^e siècle ; le troisième est un exemple des transformations réalisées au XVIII^e siècle. L'église abbatiale attire particulièrement l'attention des connaisseurs, non seulement par sa façade impressionnante, qui est l'une des plus riches de la région, mais aussi par sa décoration intérieure. On ne peut faire moins que d'admirer entre autres l'élégance de la chapelle de Saint-Nectaire, bijou de la Renaissance qui abritait autrefois le buste reliquaire de saint Chaffre en bois plaqué d'argent.

D'autre part, de récentes découvertes d'objets préhistoriques attestent que le site du Monastier connaît la présence de l'homme depuis des époques reculées. Pièces qui sont en majorité réunies au centre de documentation préhistorique.

Toutefois, Le Monastier n'est pas uniquement un rendez-vous d'archéologues et de curieux. A l'ombre du clocher de l'église du monastère s'est développée une agglomération très active dont l'importance a fait considérer comme une des huit principales villes de la province. Elle forma deux paroisses, Saint-Fortunat, dont l'église fut démolie pendant la Révolution, et Saint-Jean dont on rencontre à l'extrémité méridionale de la localité les murailles patinées par le temps abritant un grand rétable attribué à l'école de Vanneau occupant le fond de l'abside ; elle avait un consulat, des officiers de justice, des écoles, un hôpital et parfois même une garnison utile pour la défense au temps des luttes intestines des guerres de religion.

A notre époque, la vieille Cité, libérée des servitudes engendrées par sa situation sur les routes mettant en com-

permet d'assurer leur propre subsistance et...

RENSEIGNEMENTS GÉNÉRAUX :

CHEF-LIEU DE CANTON - 2.350 HABITANTS - BUREAU DE P.T.T. - MEDECINS - DENTISTE - PHARMACIEN - VÉTÉRI-NAIRE - DISPENSAIRE - MAISON DE REPOS - BANQUES - MARCHÉ LE MARDI - CULTE CATHOLIQUE - COLONIES DE VACANCES - TOUS LES COMMERCES - TAXIS - HOTELS - RESTAURANTS - MEUBLÉS.

DISTRACTIONS :

PÊCHE - CHASSE - JEUX DE BOULES - NOMBREUSES FÊTES ESTIVALES - FETE PATRONALE LE 1^{er} DIMANCHE DE SEPTEMBRE - TERRAINS DE SPORTS - BAINADES - CAMPING 4 Etoiles.

PROMENADES pouvant se faire à pied dans un rayon de quelques kilomètres :

LA VALLÉE DE LA GAZEILLE - LES MONTS BREYSSE ET SES BOIS - LE VIADUC DE LA RECOUMÈNE - LES GROTTES - LE PLATEAU DE LA MOUTÈTE.

DÉPART DU SENTIER BALISÉ DU CIRCUIT STEVENSON.
ANCIENNES VOIES ROMAINES.

SPÉCIALITÉS :

TRUITES DE LA GAZEILLE - ÉCREVISSSES - CHARCUTERIE DE MONTAGNE - CHAMPIGNONS.

SITES ET MONUMENTS :

ANCIENNE EGLISE ABBATIALE et son Trésor : BUSTE RELIQUAIRE SAINT-CHAFFRE (en bois plaqué d'argent et enrichi de pierres précieuses serties en cabochons) - ÉTOFFES DÉCORÉES (X^e siècle) - ÉTOFFES DÉCORÉES DE PAONS - TOMBEAU D'UN ABBÉ (XIII^e siècle) - TOMBEAU DU CHANOINE IRAILHE (XV^e siècle) - TOMBEAU TRANSFORMÉ EN AUTEL - BUFFET DES ORGUES (XV^e siècle) - CROIX PROCESSIONNELLE (XVI^e siècle) - VIERGE ET L'ENFANT (BOIS SCULPTÉ XVIII^e siècle) - BOISERIES DE CRÉDANCE - VIEILLES PORTES (époque LOUIS XIV) - ÉGLISE SAINT-JEAN (XII^e siècle) - CROIX DU XVI^e SIÈCLE à 400 m. du village route du PUY.

Centre de document préhistorique. (Ouvert toute l'année.)

**SYNDICAT D'INITIATIVES DE
LE MONASTIER-SUR-GAZEILLE**

Mairie - Tél. : 08-30-01

B.P. N° 5

munication le Velay avec le Vivarais, a gardé son prestige de capitale de la Montagne. C'est un centre industriel et commerçant fréquenté par la population d'une vaste contrée. Ses foires et ses marchés sont très réputés et suivis ; ils créent un mouvement d'affaires, légitimant l'existence d'hôtels, de nombreux restaurants et cafés, qui accentuent la physionomie pittoresque du chef-lieu d'un canton où l'élevage et l'agriculture continuent d'être en honneur.

Le tourisme y a conquis depuis quelques années ses lettres de noblesse. Son organisation locale a motivé la constitution d'un Syndicat d'Initiative dont les efforts ont pour but de promouvoir les aménagements nécessaires comme la propagande utile.

Plus favorisés que l'Anglais Stevenson qui, voici soixante-dix ans, s'installait tant bien que mal au pays de Cornélie Falcon pour préparer son voyage à travers les Cévennes avec un âne, les estivants et promeneurs sont sûrs aujourd'hui de trouver au Monastier le gîte et la table. Installés convenablement à 930 mètres d'altitude, accueillis avec cordialité, ils auront à leur disposition toutes les ressources du confort moderne et ils respireront l'air salubre et reconstituant des altitudes. De superbes excursions les attendent dans les environs.

Ici les horizons sont larges et magnifiques, les vallons sont frais et paisibles ; ils offrent le calme d'une bienfaisante villégiature. Le syndicat et la population du Monastier vous proposent de l'expérimenter ; ils sont certains qu'elle vous agréera et que vous recommencerez.

POUR TOUS RENSEIGNEMENTS
SUR LES STATIONS ET RÉGIONS FRANÇAISES
S'ADRESSER AU

**BUREAU NATIONAL
DE RENSEIGNEMENTS DE TOURISME**

127, Avenue des Champs-Élysées, 127 — PARIS (8^e)

Téléphone : BALZAC 12-80

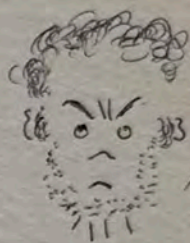
LA MAISON D'AUVERGNE

53, Av. Fr.-Roosevelt - PARIS (8^e)

Camped through village behind ? market which turned out to be teenage village meeting place, away from mass of caravans at far end. Tent up. Steak. Fried leeks beans potatoes (from home). Red wine of Cuvagne, not special.

SATURDAY. 28th. JULY.

lovely morning. Cycled into village for croissants bread + milk. Back along valley to le Bleymard. Noted St-Julien de Tournel. Pretty little unpolluted village. Up to summit of Col de Finiels. Parked + walked to top of Mount Lozere. Butterflies. Majestic view to Pyrenees. On south side of summit hot Mediterranean weather. Clouds evaporated as they came over the top. Purple campanula. Pinks, Arnica, ~~and~~ Sheets of Alchemilla minor everywhere. Bazzards. Wheatears? Bonellis sage. Much the highest place for miles though flat topped. Down towards Finiels found a lunch spot out of wind. Pate etc +. Whitewine of N.-D. des Neiges. - lovely Ham, mustard. Melon.



No HOT WATER

NO BAINS FOR THE

Drove back. left. bike at Le Mazel + walked from Chateau le Tournel. (left Michael in car) to Mas d'Ouvieres. Primitive hidden community about to have a grand fete. Bal trap. Danse (Grand Bal with band of repute [unknown]) etc. Fields with strips of different colors. Corn bunting +. John cycled back to van + back to pick up Micky + Jill at le Bleymard. Back to camp. Did diary. Veal tasting like beef. Tomato salad, sweet pepper salad, cos hors d'oeuvres. Trained peas. (olives, anchovies also in hors d'oeuvres. sardines).

SUNDAY. 29th. JULY.

Another lovely day. Biked into village again for croissants + looked at fish in river. Onto Stevenson track again over Col de Finiels to. le Pont-Morvan. + the valley of the Tarn. The village was packed for ? a fete. Beautiful drive down the river valley to Florac where the gorge opened up. Passed the empty chateau at Tinal. At Florac left. Stevenson track - the country of the Camisards etc. Prospected to put the canoes in but found the river too shallow. In Florac bought lunch + had a drink at a cafe + tried Patis (arrived) for the first time, liked it. Very hot. AT Ispagnac the water looked better but with quite a few rapids. Took cycle down to bridge over river at Montbunium - hid it in bushes + back to Ispagnac. Had a very hairy canoe trip down rapids + shallows + swept into bushes. Got stuck in one rapids, almost overturned. Stopped for lunch by diff. on a little beach. Repaired canoes. Michael + John fished. More hairy canoeing but now getting used to it. At end of trip by flat rocks + bridge Michael fished + caught one! while John went back to van at Ispagnac on bike. Nice evening drive past Castelbouc, Prades. St. Enemie - looking for campsite + as it was getting late plumped for ha Malene. A pleasant site just before les Baumies. Quite late so up tent changed + into Malene for meal out at

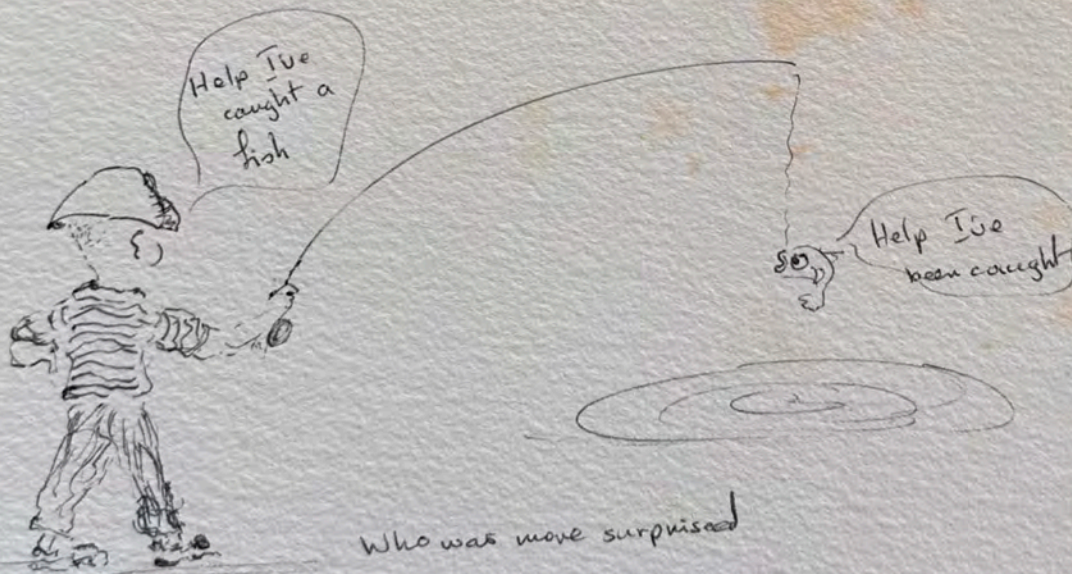
2 menus at 22F	Potatoe Soup.	Jill	Steak, Chips.	Fruit.	Caramel Cream	local	Bed. Van on a slope !!!
2 .. 13.50F	Pate.	M	Steak, Mushrooms	Chesse	Ice cream.	Wine.	
	Ham. (new)	N.					

Trout.



BAGNOLS LES BAINS. 913 m.

Bagnols les Bains



france - lozère





station thermale et climatique au cœur d'une région touristique

SAISON DU 1^{er} JUIN AU 1^{er} OCTOBRE, AGRÉÉE PAR LA SECURITE SOCIALE, RECONNUE D'UTILITE PUBLIQUE PAR DECRET IMPERIAL DU 23-11-1865

Bagnols-les-Bains

est situé sur la haute vallée du

Lot, au pied du mont Lozère, à l'orée de la magnifique forêt de sapins de la Loubière, à 913 mètres d'altitude. Son climat tonique et vivifiant fait merveille pour le villégiateur, qui appréciera le calme, la pureté de l'air, l'égalité de la température, l'absence de brouillard et d'humidité.

au long des siècles

Cette station a été l'une des plus célèbres stations balnéaires des Romains dont on connaît le culte pour l'hydrothérapie.

Il n'est pas douteux d'ailleurs que ceux-ci améliorèrent sensiblement cet établissement connu dès la plus haute antiquité.

On retrouva la trace formelle de leur passage lors des travaux importants effectués dans les Thermes en 1764 par M. le comte de Morangiés, seigneur et propriétaire de Bagnols, et en 1837 par M. Marius Richard. On découvrit en effet une quantité considérable de briques romaines, de fragments de pierres de taille ornées de feuilles d'acanthe, des urnes sépulcrales, des vases, des monnaies anciennes et les vestiges d'anciennes piscines construites en béton d'une grande beauté.

En 1857, et le 23 novembre, Bagnols-les-Bains a été reconnue d'utilité publique par décret impérial.

ses quatre sources

BAGNOLS-LES-BAINS possède quatre sources thermales sulfureuses - sodiques qui fournissent ensemble 275 000 litres d'eau en vingt-quatre heures.

La plus abondante et la plus chaude de ses sources (43° à son point d'émergence) alimente les piscines, douches et étuves, et un robinet des baignoires particulières. Les trois autres sont conjuguées pour obtenir une température d'environ 38°, la thermalité individuelle de ses trois sources étant respectivement de 42°, 35° et 30°

(cette eau à 38° sert exclusivement à alimenter un second robinet des baignoires particulières)

et sa source froide

très réputée, jaillissant du rocher, la source froide attire de toute la région de nombreux hépatiques et rénaux; légère et diurétique, véritable amie de l'estomac, du foie et des reins.

NATURE DES EAUX

Les eaux de Bagnols-les-Bains sont des eaux sulfureuses-sodiques-bicarbonatées, à thermalité constante, 38° et 42°.

Elles sont claires, limpides, dégagent une odeur d'hydrogène sulfuré ou d'œufs durcis.

Onctueuses au toucher en raison d'une matière appelée "glarine", elles ont une saveur fade et légèrement styptique qui laisse dans la bouche un goût hépatique auquel on s'habitue facilement.

AFFECTIONS TRAITÉES

RHUMATISME SOUS TOUTES SES FORMES

Arthrite chronique - Arthroses - Raideurs articulaires
Séquelles de fractures - Luxations - Entorses
Sciatiques - Névralgies - Névrites - Lumbagos

ENDOCARDITE RHUMATISMALE

Convalescence de rhumatisme articulaire
Complément de cure hormonale de rhumatisme
Séquelles de phlébites - Varices - Ulcères variqueux
Rhinites - Rhino-pharyngites - Trachéo-bronchiques - Bronchiques chroniques - Sinusite

- Traitement par bains, piscine, étuve, douches, pédiluves, inhalations, boissons.
- Docteur : M. Delmas Jean-Jacques.
- Infirmières diplômées (30).
- M. Mouragues, kinésithérapeute (soins sur demande)
- Gendarmerie. Téléphone : 1.

Malades et touristes, villégiateurs et promeneurs, venez à Bagnols-les-Bains, vous y trouverez la guérison, le repos, le calme et la détente; vous y ferez une cure de désintoxication, vos enfants y trouveront la joie et la santé, et dans nulle autre station thermale ou climatique vous ne trouverez des conditions pécuniaires aussi avantageuses qu'à Bagnols-les-Bains.

promenades

De magnifiques promenades à pied sont balisées. - Consulter les hôteliers ou les panneaux du Syndicat d'Initiative.

En outre, toutes les excursions ci-dessous peuvent être faites en voiture :

- à 2 km : Le Parc National des Cévennes.
- à 3 km : Forêt de la Loubière. - Château.
- à 3 km : Saint-Julien. - Eglise romane.
- à 10 km : Lanuéjols. - Tombeau romain. - Eglise romane.
- à 15 km : Le mont Lozère (pic de Finiels 1702 m). - Station de ski. - Panorama sur les Alpes. - Promenades illimitées. - Chalet.
- à 20 km : MENDE, ville touristique.
- à 25 km : Châteauneuf-de-Randon. - Tombeau de du Guesclin. - Forêt de Mercoire.
- à 40 km : La Bastide. - Trappe Notre-Dame des Neiges. - Gorges du Chassezac. - La Garde-Guérin. - Le barrage de Villefort.
- à 45 km : Gorges du Tarn.
- à 60 km : L'Aven Armand, Dargilan. - Les plus belles grottes du monde.
- à une heure voiture : Les Causses, les Cévennes, la Margeride, l'Aubrac.

chasse et pêche

La CHASSE est possible partout autour de Bagnols.

La PECHE également. - Bagnols est le "paradis" de l'amateur de truites sauvages. Le Lot et les innombrables ruisseaux qui l'alimentent sont tous de première catégorie et peuplés de truites.

camping ★ 200 places.

station de ski du mont-lozère

Ski de fond. Remontées mécaniques.

OPINIONS MÉDICALES

Professeur TEISSIER (Faculté de Lyon)

« J'ai vu des succès incontestables des eaux de Bagnols dans le traitement des endocardites et des lésions cardiaques d'origine rhumatismale. Ce bon résultat n'a pas été obtenu seulement sur des personnes jeunes, mais aussi sur des adultes et même sur des personnes d'un âge plus avancé. Des faits nombreux, tirés de ma pratique, me permettent d'affirmer que j'ai vu plusieurs malades guéris et ne présentant plus ni bruits de souffle, ni symptômes fonctionnels, après une ou plusieurs saisons à Bagnols; je ne connais pas d'autres eaux thermales qui produisent de semblables effets. »

Professeur RAMBAUD (Faculté de Lyon)

M. le professeur Rambaud dit que sur les malades atteints d'affections du cœur qu'il a envoyés à Bagnols, aucun n'a été rendu plus malade, beaucoup ont été soulagés et plusieurs guéris; il pense que même dans le cas de lésion valvulaire définitive, les eaux de Bagnols-les-Bains peuvent avoir un effet utile en modifiant et en améliorant la nutrition du muscle cardiaque.

Docteur COULOMB (de Lyon)

« Les eaux de Bagnols nous paraissent indiquées dans tous les cas de rhumatisme, même avec lésion cardiaque consécutive, surtout chez les personnes jeunes et vigoureuses, puisqu'elles contribuent à maintenir la lésion dans un état stationnaire, quand elles ne l'améliorent pas ou ne la font pas disparaître. D'ailleurs, les eaux de Bagnols-les-Bains paraissent prévenir le malade contre les attaques de rhumatisme nouvelles, et par cela même, contre l'aggravation des lésions cardiaques, préalablement existantes. »

Professeur TEDENAT (Faculté de Montpellier)

« ... Je connaissais les eaux de Bagnols-les-Bains par l'enseignement de mes vieux maîtres lyonnais : Bondet, Teissier, Rambaud.

« Ils envoyaient à Bagnols les vieux rhumatisants, les névralgies tenaces, surtout de nombreux cardiaques. Comme ces grands cliniciens, j'ai vu beaucoup de cardiopathies grandement s'améliorer après une série d'années de soins à Bagnols.

« J'ai personnellement comparé Bagnols à Wiesbaden, et Bagnols m'a paru avoir une supériorité marquée sur les grands thermes allemands.

« Bagnols a aussi l'avantage, grâce à son altitude, de son climat tonique, de son air "bracing" comme disent les Anglais. »

Professeur BOSC (Faculté de Montpellier)

« Je suis très heureux de certifier que les eaux de Bagnols-les-Bains, sulfureuses-sodiques à 42°, m'ont donné d'excellents résultats en particulier dans les cardiopathies, surtout de l'enfance et de l'adolescence, dans les cardiopathies en voie de décomposition, dans le rhumatisme sous toutes ses formes, la sciatique et les entorses.

« Elles agissent surtout sur la circulation générale, sur la nutrition cellulaire, pour augmenter les oxydations et mobiliser les déchets toxiques. »

Professeur GILIS (Faculté de Montpellier)

« Les eaux thermales de Bagnols sont remarquables par leur efficacité dans les rhumatismes chroniques et dans les séquelles cardiaques du rhumatisme. Chez les enfants, elles sont très bien supportées. Et j'ai observé plusieurs fois des améliorations notables, quelquefois des guérisons. »

Professeur GIRAUD (Faculté de Montpellier)

Dans le journal "Le Sud Médical et Chirurgical", du 15 janvier 1925 M. le professeur Giraud écrit un article ayant pour titre: "De la thérapeutique hydro-minérale et climatique des affections du système cardio-artériel" ou l'on peut lire :

« ... Quelles stations convient-il de recommander ?
Elles ne sont pas nombreuses, celles qui peuvent exercer cette action élective modificatrice sur le tissu cardiaque, sans faire courir au malade de risque trop grave de rechute.

« ... Bagnols, de la Lozère... trouve ici son indication... Bagnols-les-Bains possède de curieuses et précieuses propriétés thérapeutiques. Peu minéralisées, thermales, légèrement sulfurées, les eaux de Bagnols s'emploient suivant des techniques de cure assez particulières (association de l'étuve à 41°, de la douche chaude et du bain de piscine, demi-bains...). Les résultats en sont comparables à ceux de la station de Bourbon-Lancy. Mais les eaux de Bagnols sont plus excitantes que celles de Bourbon-Lancy, l'altitude de Bagnols est de 913 mètres; aussi cette cure s'adresse-t-elle à des malades à réactions peu vives, et déjà éloignés de la phase inflammatoire du début.

48190 BAGNOLS-LES-BAINS
station
thermale et climatique
aux portes des gorges du tarn
et en zone périphérique
du parc national des cévennes

Bagnols les Bains



S. N. C. F. : Gare de BAGNOLS-CHADENET (service de cars)
Voitures directes de Toulouse, d'Avignon, de Nîmes, de Lyon, du Puy
de Paris : ligne Paris-Nîmes (changer à la Bastide)

AÉRODROME de MENDE (20 km. - taxi)

R. N. 101 (CARTE MICHELIN N° 80)

imprimerie
des
marveleux

france - lozère



MONDAY. 30TH JULY. Beautiful morning. Dropped bicycle at Cirque des Baumes because of impenable rapids at Pas de Souci a bit lower down. Left the bike in a cave at a cafe & had a drink there. Canoes in at camp & beautiful canoe down les Detroits - rocky gorge accompanied by several flat bottomed punts boating tourists. Some easy rapids. Tree cricket & grasshopper wanderers, hauled on a lovely rocky beach. swam & swam down a rapid. Michael fished. Had lunch. Down more rapids to Cirque de Baume & decided to climb up to Point Sublime but after walking some way couldn't find the track. Jill & Micky on to Pas de ~~Souci~~ Souci which Jill & I had previously surveyed in the morning (see overleaf.) John back on bike to pick up van & Michael left on beach. John Jill & Micky then drove up to Point Sublime - better than walking as a very hot humid day. Walked along the top of the cliffs to the viewpoint having driven up a very hairpin bend road above le Vigne to get to the cause above. Upland pastures with no hint of the gorge below. Pic-nac shop at top selling big thistles as barometers! but they were all opened at differing degrees. also bits of rock. Had a drink - marvellous views over the gorge. Down again to le Vigne to shop for supper - picked up Michael, furious for being left 2 1/2 hours (Janice all over again said Micky!) More shopping at La Malene which we had seen all floodlit the night before looking most romantic. Chateau, cliffs & cliff top shrine all cleverly illuminated. Back to camp. Rose wine at Gorge du Tarn. Chicken curry nice (savoury) out of packets & tins. Bananas & tomatoes sliced.

TUESDAY 31. JULY. Another hot sunny day.

Up early & down to La Vigne with the canoes. Unloaded on the North Side by the bridge then drove down with the bike to survey the water. At the Mas de la Fort the passage looked a bit nasty and about 1/4 mile upstream an interesting fast narrow passage made us think. We unloaded the bike at Mas de la Fort where some 4 people were camping then back to la Vigne & started off. The unseem screened river above Mas d.l.F. turned out to be exciting with a smashed fibreglass canoe a testimony to what could happen



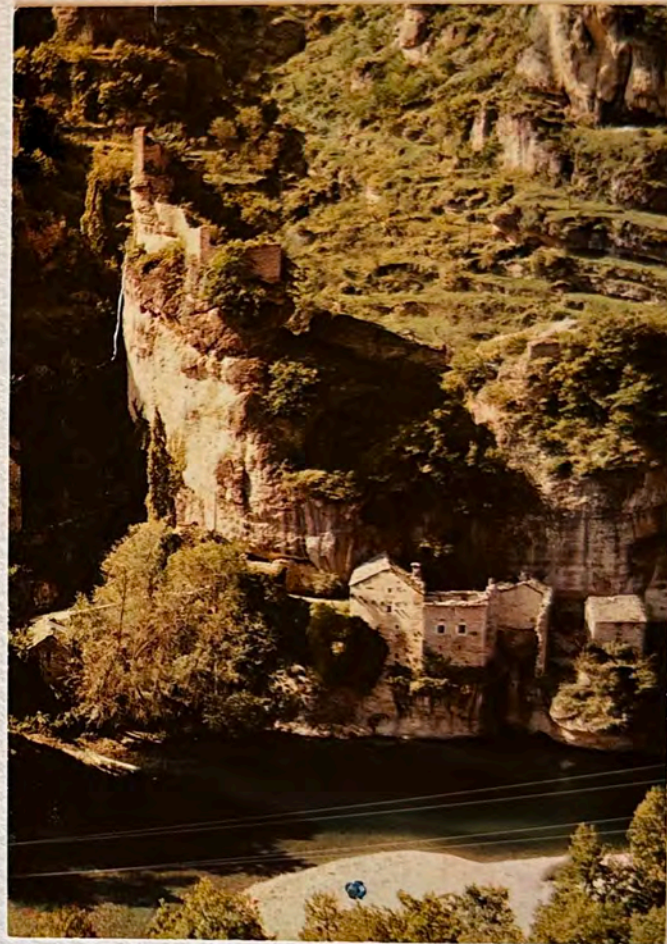
GORGES DU TARN.



POINT MERVEILLEUX.



POINT DE QUEZAC near ESPRANAC



CASTELBOUC.
Chateau of the horn.

We later found this was called the Petit. Pas de Socci! At. Mas de l.F. boached - had lunch swam, fished & Mickey once again did his swim down a rapid! Having demonstrated it wasn't so bad we decided to canoe down it. Some huge fish around. Nice Swiss folk & a young Dutch couple. Cycled back to La Vigne & saw small @12th shrine by roadside. Back in van to m.d.l.f. then drove bike down to stretch below the Rozier almost at N-D de les Champs. Back to m.d.l.f. which we shot with aplomb except Michael who felt the bank & bushes looked safer. Relatively gentle drift down to bike. John back to do a leapfrog down to Riviere - Tann which didn't look far but in the event took 2 1/2 hrs & one tricky bit thru a broken weir where a canoe school all came to quiet except the instructor & our two canoes. John fed up & waiting ^{at café} until 6.30. Loaded up & drove back in beautiful evening light. via. Peyrelade La Vigne etc to La Malene camp. Had bought meat a la Vigne in am.

WEDNESDAY. 1st. AUGUST. Another lovely morning. Packed up & off by 9.30 am. lovely drive down to the Rozier. Then winding road up Gorge de la Tante a narrower & even more beautiful drive than the Tann. Viewpoint. Belvedere de Terranes. below les Douzes. Boule in the village square. * Up the Col de Peyreval & at the top in a meadow had lunch. Vhot. & a bit windy. Saw a kite? Michael said it had a forked tail & hovered. Descent to les Vauels where we turned up white wrong but lovely road via Rousses. to just beyond Le Tunnel where we turned off on a small steep track through thick woods of sweet chestnuts. - Pont. Maré then ascended to Le Pompidou with its big factory for dealing in chestnuts. Maron Ciacé where we regained our right road. The Corniche des Cévennes. A beautiful widgeway with the rolling wooded Cévennes stretching to Mont Lozère to the North, so to St. Jean du Gard where R.L. Stevenson had finished his travels. Old tower - old town & old bridge restored following a flash flood which occurred here & which had destroyed the bridge in the last decade. At Anduze the gateway to the Cévennes a previous hot bed of Calvinism. we abruptly left the hills & onto a hot & hot perturbed plain. Cross country via Moussac where we crossed the Gardon to Uzès.

*
see PPP
GOO
(u)



Le Pas de Soucy.



Not fit for
canyoning I think



So do I

HOT FIT FOR WALKING EITHER



View from Point Sublime

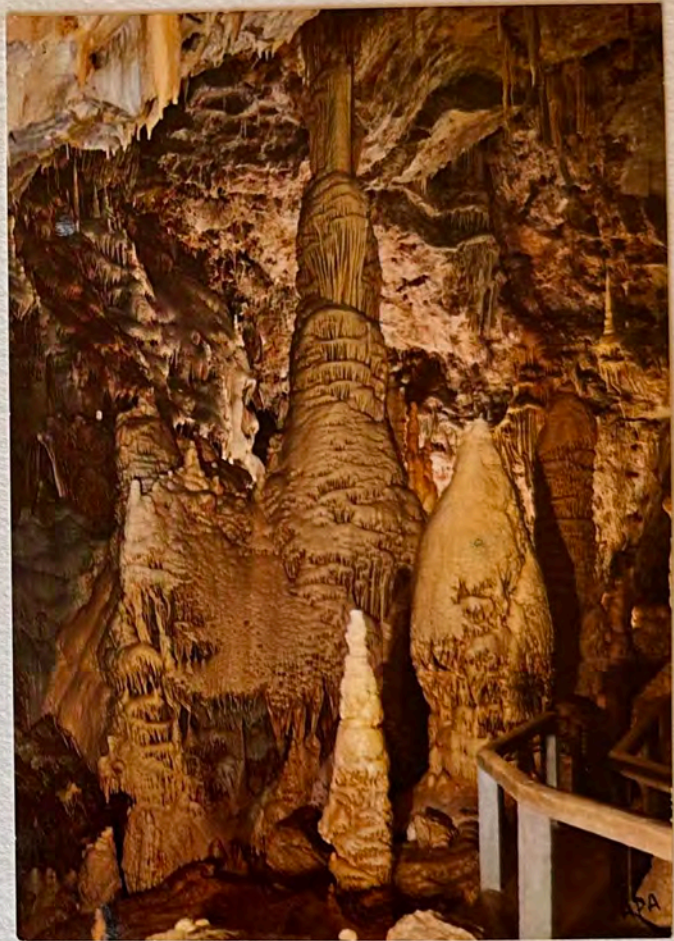
* At Meyrueis found the place crowded with a market. Cowboy in broad brimmed hat + pack horse. Drove to Cuvette de Dargilan. ** Made to wait while guides had lunch. Jill got furious waiting. John got furious waiting. No refreshments available. At last 1 hour visit of grottoes. 230 steps down to deepest part. Outstanding features were the cascade — a huge wall of stalactites + the bird hall with huge pillars. Quite wet + cold. Back to Meyrueis — a pretty town to buy fruit. Peas + tomatoes, given a bonus extra with each. Cheese Roquefort. Whimberry tart. Left behind tin of petit pois. 3 pieces of steak. Then to col de Peyrueil.

This is the region of the mulberry tree & silkworm & not far from here at Alès, Pasteur did some of his most important early work on transmission of disease by bacteria. At Uzès decided against the campsite near the town & went to Camping le Moulin Neuf. ~~was~~ of the D6 near St Siffret a lovely looking village on a hill. Swimming pool, bar & rather posh - full of English. Countryside flat with plane tree lined roads, vines, sweet corn & another strange crop? millet. Decided to pitch tent. Steak, Tomatoes, Potatoes, Potatoes & Corn and Custard
Cotes de Rhone

THURSDAY, 2nd August Very hot. Broke camp then swim in pool. Two English boys from Sedburgh working staying for a month. Into Uzès, lovely little Provençal town of Racine 1661 the famous poet. Walked on Promenade Jean Racine to see Pavillon Racine. Tour Fenestrelle (12th the only remains of the ancient cathedral, destroyed during the wars of religion. The tower is unique in France. Off via Chateau de Castille (16th chateau with multitude of colonnades & a chapel Roman. - couldn't go in to Pont du Gard. Climbed up scented hillside of evening plants, thyme, lavender to walk along top of Aqueduct. It was 50 km long & carried water from cool northern hill slope reservoirs at Uzès to Nîmes. It dropped 34 cms/km & delivered 2,000 ccs/day. Mickey, John, Michael walked along top. Lost Jill, lost Michael, Mickey. Found Mickey, lost Michael, Found Michael, lost Mickey, Found Mickey, lost Michael. Found Michael, Found Jill. It took one hour!!! Drive to Bagnols & had Pastis & henovade Bought lunch & supper but missed seeing superb collection of Impressionists at Town Hall. Bonnard, Matisse, Monet, Marquet, Vallotton etc collected by Bessir & Albert André. Pleasant drive to Pont Espirit with views of Rhone Valley. Stopped to look at bridge (restored) Terrace with lovely Renaissance Stairway and square with (15th Parish Church to ~~west~~ Baroque facade of Penitents chapel to S.E. & (17th church of St. Peter to S. The drive up the Rhone was disappointing because of industrial development but after Bourg St André diversion to see mediaeval village of St. Mortan with its ruined chateau. In search of picnic spot found ourselves climbing the gorge de la St. Baumé to harnas which had a perfect & famous Romanesque church. Got lost but eventually found lane to Viviers & stopped by a small stream & washing place, poplars, sugar cane, bull frogs heat, chimney butterflies, cicadas, ants. to have lunch under the shade of a silver birch.



les Detroits. Gorges du Tarn.



Gorges de Dardilan.
le Masquée



THERE

AND BACK

AND THERE AGAIN.



Decided to get a piece on via Viviers, which we bypassed to be Teil overwhelmed by Ciment Lafarge - now all over France - a huge cement monopoly. Stopped - the nearest point to Montelimar to buy some of the famous Haegat which soon stuck us all to each other & to the van.

Now short of time & kms up to the twin towns of Tournon, Tain L'Hermitage where we lodged to stop to taste the wines & so onto the Motorway, via Vienne & Lyons, to Macon, where onto the N7. to try to find a campsite at Lugny in the vineyards. By now the sunshine had gone & a very rainy looking evening. Lugny looked inhospitable & the local restaurants gritty even though recommended by a local talking to us from a vine covered balcony. So back to Pont de Vaux - a big & fairly full Camping des Peupliers on the banks of the Saone. (We should have gone to Azé.) Found a site decided to sleep in van - washed & out to the camp restaurant at 8.30 pm. Should have gone to nearby, Tichelin recommended restaurant but couldn't be bothered. The camp meal was quite good but fairly expensive at

18 F. Cold meats? Whitebait. } Steak } Cheese } Fruit. } Caramel } Local Wine.
Soup. } (Friture de Saone.) Clups. } Custard. } Beaujolais.
Pate.

Found ourselves locked out of the camp so slept on river bank, alongside other caravans, all in the V.W.

FRIDAY, 3rd. AUGUST. Awoke excited from the camp & raining torrential at times, thunderstorm. Washed, at 6.30 - Janitor sweeping spiders & flies from washing place roof. Hot showers available. Cycled to shop for croissants. Dashed by 9.30 & off to Fleurville, - vineyards - Azé. - looked nice with campsite by quillaces (prehistoric) & restaurant - we should have stayed there. Pleasant drive over a small pass to Cluny, a small town containing a very small bit of the once great abbey. The entrance was rather clinical, very little left of the main church & Paray-le-Monial really gave a much better idea of this type of architecture. Some good capitals & excellent models of its previous glory. Bought lunch in the town which had all sorts of little surprises in houses, fountains etc. Nice red road in lovely sunshine to Mont St. Vincent where we did a ** detour for the view. Montcau les Mines with a

CLUNY



CLUNY ABBEY

The Holy Water Tower 12 c.

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Basilica of St. Andoche

SAULIEU. Apparition of Jesus
to the women



The False Prophet Balaam

Lake & boating & very few ruins in evidence. Skirted le Creusot again industrial but from the distance very clean. The town of Schneider from 1831 the Schneider family have ruled the town. Engineers in steel, guns, marine engines etc. How the Société des Forges et Ateliers de Creusot S.F.A.E. Skirted Autun with its Roman theatre, cathedral, lovely town square

r out by one of the Roman town Gates, via yellow road to Saulieu. A surprisingly pretty town with a lovely small Cathedral & ~~xxx~~ capitals & wooden eaned choir stalls. The town also an etapes de gomme including Madame Sevigné & Rabelais ments a revisits. Quick road to Avallon & so by yellow road to Chablis. Again must be revisited. Had a glass of wine in a bar. Then required motorway to Fontainebleau where we left it & via F. & it's chateau to riverside camp by the Seine. at Samois. Camped by 2 Dutch hippies in a grasshopper Citroen. Guitar playing. Tomatoe Soup. Steak & Petit Pois. Cotes du Rhone. Call in the van. Trains going thro' the van all night.



Eiffel Tower.
 Built in 1887.
 320 m. high.
 7 million kilos weight.
 104 m. pillars apart.
 2,500,000 rivets
 15000 pieces of metal.
 1st platform is 57 m
 2nd 115 m.
 3rd 280 m.
 Steps are 1719 steps.



SATURDAY 4th AUGUST. Woods full of birds
 Hot showers. Off by. Gam via Bois-le-Roi to Motorway & Paris via Orly Airport. Got lost. & followed by Braun businessman in VW.

who thought we were seeking the ring road. Eventually left him to St. Sulpice!! Fine organ. Two couch stoups. 1745. Louis XV. (given to Francois I by Venetian Republic) Paintings by Delacroix. Servandoni's facade 18th. Then to Madeline & Cooks to change cash. lunch nearby for < £1. Has d'oeuvres. Steak au Poire. Fruit. Cheese Wine. Arc de Triomphe Chalgrin 1806-1836 completed. Best sculpture The Marseillaise by Rude. The eternal flame. Then to Eiffel Tower & lift up to second stage. Good views - walked steps to 1st stage. lovely Edwardian Restaurant. (Tourist meal £5 each). -> The Pantheon - vast paintings of life of St. Genevieve by Pousso. Chavannes not so good as some others at Charlemagne. Down to crypt & a funny little military man to see all the tombs - including that of a hero of the resistance. Rousseau, Voltaire, Hugo etc & finally to St. Chapelle. - a breathtaking masterpiece in glass. Statues of the apostles each bearing the consecrated crosses. (12 of the Church) houses chapel rather gaudily painted in 19th. Picked up van from the Flower market nearby & so via. Champ. Elyées. Arc de Triomphe to Motorway. s. Bourg Achard. Bought supper in the town & camped in campsite previously visited. Bought a camp meal of Boeuf Bourguignon. Jill & Micky. Chicken in Sauce Normande - Michael. Required as before but clean & hot water!

SUNDAY. 5th AUGUST. Sunshine, windy, cloudy. Up with little time to spare because we dawdled.

(Nicky driving). Off to ferry at Caudebec. - instant service. Shopped in Caudebec to buy picnic lunch & wine for the boat. To Lilleboume. - Roman theatre, and docks at the Havre. only to find the loading ramp raised, no boat. The man who worked the ramp was on strike for more pay on Sundays. Eventually after waiting an hour led in convoy by chef-dun-port to Leopard - berthed in a different place. Cars packed in & taking Thomas alongside in a Peugeot with a big sun hat. Up into discotheque, lounge & set off 1/2 hour late after a tricky bit of turning by the captain with only about 60 feet to spare for all.

Exciting race out of the Havre against Viking II which passed us & put us in her wash.

Rough & Michael felt sick so lay down on top deck. Picnic lunch. Wrote diary, slept, tea & then kept getting involved with the Blake one of the only 2 cruisers left in the Navy.

Big hanger astern - 4 choppons. & only 2 6 in, 2 3 inch guns & some missiles. Looked no bigger than a frigate or destroyer. Up at Comos got talking to a navy senior officer in civvie who pointed out the Royal Yacht & Prince Phillips standard, anchored there for Comos week with German destroyers, American frigate Portuguese frigate, 3 untested training schooners & 3 British frigates. all dressed overall. - quite rough & few yachts out. Up the Solent & docked 1 hour late. Quickly off & thro' customs flying queen stickers. - petrol from some chap who saw us off then in gale & cloud to Salisbury. to same hotel as before - Benetton.

Jill's Michael & Phaire, chips, Nicky, 1 - steak. Then long drive & v. gale swept drive back to Tockington by 12.30 pm. To bed. Voted one of the best trips ever!