



Tourist Information around Chauffour

Markets

There are markets virtually every day of the week in this area, selling wonderful local produce, including foie gras, wines, cheeses and lovely fruit and vegetables. Ribérac's renowned market is held on Fridays. It is full of local quality produce and friendly faces and definitely worth a visit.

It is worth noting that *most* markets are over by lunchtime, so you need to be up early!

Here is a list of other markets in the area but it is not exhaustive:

- Monday - Tocan St Apre (on the road to Perigueux)
Chalais (about ½ hour the other side of St. Severin)
- Tuesday - Brantôme (July & August), Nontron, La Roche Chalais
- Wednesday - Perigueux, Bergerac, Montpon, La Tour Blanche
- Thursday - St Astier
- Friday - Bergerac, Brantôme, Ribérac
- Saturday - Bergerac, Lalinde, Nontron, St Aulaye, Verteillac
- Sunday - Brantôme (July & August)
Verteillac - Antique market - 1st Sunday of every month during the year.

Days Out & Short Visits

There are many lovely villages and towns near Chauffour that are well worth a visit for the day or for just a quick drive out.

Within half an hour:

Aubeterre sur Dronne - officially one of France's prettiest villages, with a monolithic church and a lovely square for drinks or dinner. There is also a river beach on the river with a children's play area.





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St Aulaye - another pretty beach on the river with children's play area, café and water slides (only open in high season from 3pm to 6pm)

Lusignac - a lovely village with wonderful views and a popular bar/restaurant called La Licorne serving food, outdoor eating area.

St Paul de Lizonne - small attractive village with a couple of restaurants.

Ribérac - large market town with lots of local shops, including two wine caves and two big supermarkets. Lots of restaurants for both lunch or dinner.

Free music evenings in the square Tuesday nights in July and August.



Montpon Menesterol - plenty of shops and a pleasant market square; choices of eateries, a nice riverside walk. Music festival in August.

Within 1 hour:

Brantôme - very pretty, described as the "Venice of Perigord". Lots of good places to eat including a Michelin starred restaurant "Le Moulin D'Abbaye". Also good canoeing along a gentle stretch of river.





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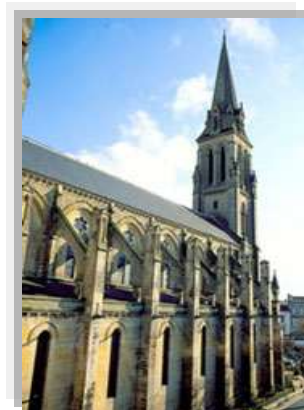
Bourdeilles - nearest chateau to visit with interesting furniture collection, good restaurant nearby called "Le Moulin du Roc" at Champagnac de Belair. Canoeing also possible at Bourdeilles.



Perigueux - with it's lovely medieval centre and cathedral and is also full of good shops and interesting little pedestrian back streets, lots of pavement cafes, boat trips available on the river Isle.



Bergerac - apart from the wine interest ("Pecharment" is the best of the Bergeracs) the vielle ville is full of lovely medieval buildings, and boat trips can be taken on the river Dordogne.





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Verteillac - nice little market town, famous locally for it's "Merlaud" store, which is truly a tardis. "

St Jean De Cole - another one of those pretty villages, lovely for a stroll in the sun, lunch or drinks.

St Emilion is 1 hour away, a world heritage site, even if you don't like wine it's worth a visit, especially to see the monolithic church and the lovely streets. There is also a "train" which can take you on a trip around all the local vineyards.



2 hours

The sites along the river Dordogne can be easily reached in a day trip from here, the towns of **Sarlat**, **Domme**, **Rocamadour**, **Les Eyzies** and **Montpazier** (amongst others) are around a 2 hour drive. Why not have a day out, starting early and coming back home in a leisurely fashion via the sites and book an evening meal ready for when you return?

Please Note that during high season the above towns are very busy with heavy traffic and limited parking - you will need to book for the caves at Lascaux 2 or try the nearer Grotte de Villars that are just as impressive and less busy. You will be glad to get back to the peace and tranquillity of the Riberic area after a busy day sightseeing.





Local Attractions

Crazy Golf - 2 minutes away in the car on the road between here and St Severin, opposite the Douane Bar and petrol station. Small café for snacks and ices. (Take a hat if it's warm as there is no shade while you're playing.

Cycling and Walking - There are numerous wonderful walks and cycle rides in the vicinity, passing by chateaux, farms, vineyards and woodlands, and the picturesque rivers Dronne is close by, with it's beaches at Aubeterre and St Aulaye. There are also many local cafes and restaurants where you can sit and sip an aperitif and sample some local foie gras, which this area is famous for.

Local events - fetes, music festivals, art exhibitions, local handicraft and brocante (bric-a-brac) sales are held in villages close by on most weekends in the summer.

If your pastimes include bird watching and painting or drawing you will be amazed at the quality and quantity of subject matter!

Swimming places, beaches

The beach at **Aubeterre sur Dronne** (10Kms away) is very popular in summer, there is a children's playground, toilets and bar/restaurant and there is a lifeguard on the beach as well.

St Aulaye

The pretty town of St Aulaye (20Kms away) is host to another beach with water slides and is another pretty place.

La Jamaye - the lake here is great fun in the summer. La Jamaye is past Vanxains and offers childrens playground, free kayaking, snack bars, restaurant, lifeguard, wooded walks and a hide to watch the birds on the lake. During July and August the Dordogne department hold sporting activities and events at the lake, including water skiing, cycling and many more.

Brossac - Beach with snack bar about 40 minutes away - the other side of Chalais.

Arcachon - said to have the best surfing on the Atlantic coast of France, but a long day; it's over 2 hours away; beyond the airport at Bordeaux. It also has the largest sand dune in Europe (100m high) but is an incredible site and well worth the journey.



Water parks

There is a water park at **Parcoul** the other side of Aubeterre about 30 minutes drive. For wet days there is also an **indoor water park** at Angouleme, about 1 hour away, called Nautilus.

Kayaking

Available at Ribérac, Aubeterre, Bourdeilles and Brantome.

We also have our own canoe for 4 people and will be happy to organise a day on the river or at one of the nearby lakes. Please contact us for more information.

Horse riding

L'Equitation Madrix and the Hippique pony club & riding school are between here and Riberac.

Details are:

Tel: 05 53 90 03 53 or 05 53 90 05 73

It is off the D709 between here and Riberac, at Villeteureix, 4kms after Allemans & is sign-posted.

There is also horseriding at Bors de Montmoreau.

Chateaux to visit

The nearest chateaux to visit are Bourdeilles, near Brantome and Mareuil, north of Verteillac off the D708. There details of these and other chateaux in the tourist leaflets in the houses.

Golf & tennis

At **Longeveau** - only 15 minutes away, there is a **9 hole golf course**. There are also tennis courts and a bar, run by English owners.

Futuroscope - north of Poitiers. Full of futuristic virtual reality rides mainly for slightly older kids. Takes around 2 hours to get there, so a long day. There is a good selection of hotels on site should you decide to stay the night.

L'appel de la Forêt, Thenon -Explore Thenons ancient forest with tree top walks, tree swings and pulleys as well as a lake with a beach, fishing, and a cafe/restaurant with live concerts in summer.



Gastronomie and Vin

Restaurants:

Most places have a reasonable choice of set menu, also with a la carte choices if you prefer. Prices tend to range from 11 euros for lunch with wine, up to 25 euros for a 5 course dinner.

Hostellerie du Perigord - Aubeterre sur Dronne. Tel: 05 45 98 50 46

Another lovely restaurant with tea rooms and offering beauty treatments.

Raoul et Josette - Bertric Buree Tel: 05 53 90 46 10 specialises in fish, (but not only fish)

La Licorne - in a lovely village called Lusignac.

Les Tourbieres - why not have a walk around this wetland area which abounds in frogs and dragonflies and it's overlooking the water

Hotel De La Paix - in St Severin, a good choice of set menus, we've never been but friends and previous customers have said it's reliably good.

Le Coqliquot - in St Paul Lizonne, another pretty little village. Close to home, only 5 minutes in the car and a good choice of lunch & dinner menus of average price. Mixed reports; some have said it was great...others not so -ask us for the latest!

La Vieille Maison - St Paul Lizonne. Tel: 05 53 91 61 31. English owners run this place; have heard very good reports since a new chef arrived summer 2007. Cosy dining and outside eating in Summer. Child friendly.

Passe Simple - Aubeterre sur Dronne, a warm welcome & tasty dishes.

Alba Terra - Aubeterre Sur Dronne; a bit more expensive, mixed reviews about the service but food reports have been good.

La Taverne - Aubeterre; great little restaurant opposite the monolithic church - good value food and lovely terrace.

Chez Rina - Bonnes; great pizzeria offering other choices of menu - good value childrens menu.

La Lavoire - Near St. Martin de Riberac offers good value lunch time menu and set in pretty hamlet.

Restaurant Poirier - Bardenac - a nice place to stop for lunch after the Chalais market on a Monday.

There are also numerous snack bars which offer great food for good value. There is one at Epeluche only a short cycle ride or walk from Chauffour.

Vineyards

Should you wish to visit a vineyard, and buy wine direct from the family, then we recommend **Chateau Laulerie**. Monsiuer Dubard (Serge) - the owner- is very welcoming and speaks English too! He sells very good quality white, rosé and red wine. Prices are around 5 euro per bottle - but very good quality.

Directions: Head for Montpon-Menesterol. At Montpon, take the St Foy road.

Through the village of Saint-Méard-du-Gurçon. 1.5 km up the hill, on the crest, turn



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left. It is signed **Ch.Laulerie, Domaine Gouyat**. Drive into the courtyard. The office is to your right, and ask for M. Dubard.

Lovely restaurant in St Méard du Gurçon, should you want lunch.

Of course there are also the famous regions of St. Emillion, Bergerac and Monbazillac to explore and savour the wines they produce.

Not forgetting we are within easy reach of the Charente famous for it's Cognac.

Hope this information gives you plenty of ideas of things to do around Chauffour and this beautiful area of the Dordogne.

Please let us know if you find anything different you think other visitors may like to do!