

Our journeys 2007-2014

France 2014 Itinerary

Wednesday 28th May – Monday 30th June. Liz + Chris + Hugh in our Campervan Kon-tiki.

Ferry Portsmouth to Caen (Ouistraham). Hugh flew back on 14th June from Perpignan [Flybe].
Total: 1,730 miles; 2,768km.

Ouistraham, Mayenne, Bauge, **Lac Rille**; Langeais, Motorway past Poitiers, Limoges, Angouleme, Perigeux, **Le Bugue**; Caduin, Agen, Cologne, **St Cricq, Lac de Thoux**; L'Isle-Jourdain; Motorway around Toulouse, Foix, Ax-les-Thermes, Bourg-Madame, Mont-Louis, **Matamale**; Mont-Louis, Prades, Thuirs, **Argeles-s-Mer**; Perpignan airport, Estagel, **Tuchan**; Durban-Corbieres, Ripaud, **Gleon**; Portel-des-Corbieres, to Motorway past Narbonne, Beziers, Lodeve, **Le Vigan**; Ganges, Anduze, Langogne, **Lac Naussac**; Solignac, Rion, Montlucon, Ciron, **Rosnay**; Bournan, **Saumur**; Bauge, Sable-s-Sarthe, **Sille-la-Guillaume**; St-Pierre-sur-Dives, Troarn, Ranville, **Merville-Franceville Plage**; Ouistraham; Portsmouth.

***New campsite. **France Passion**

Ouistraham. Thury-Harcourt, Flers, Domfront, Mayenne, Montsurs, Sable, La fleche, Bauge, Noyant, Breil, Lac Rille [181 miles].

29th May, Thursday. Lac Rille. 3 nights. Excellent site in woodland by a large lake which is a bird sanctuary. Easy very close access for launching kayaks. Small pool [cold out of season]; simple camp restaurant. Poor shop and no nearby village. Bread delivered. Spotted flycatchers, Black redstart, Reed warblers. Little train ran around site on Sunday.

Langeais, Montbazou, Motorway past Poitiers, then Lussac les Chateaux, Bellac, Limoges, Angouleme, Dignac, Brantome, Perigueux, (A89, D710), Le Bugue [264 miles].

1st June. Le Bugue. 2 nights. Camping Les Trois Caupain. Good site. Good pools. Excellent restaurant. Nice small town very close by.

Caduin, Beaumont-dePerigord, Villeneuve-s-Lot, Agen, Astaffort, Lectoure, Fleurance, Mauvezin, Cologne, St Cricq, Lac de Thoux [128 miles].

3rd June. Lac Thoux near St. Cricq. 4 nights. Very nice site under pine trees by lake; very good for kayaking. Lots of woodpigeons and collared doves. Should pay for kayak permit. Can hire sails.

L'Isle-Jourdain; Motorway around Toulouse (past Foix), Les Cabannes, Ax-les-Thermes, Col de Puymorens (tunnel closed but it better and easy over the top), Bourg-Madame, Saillagouse, Mont-Louis, Matamale [175 miles]. Note: this is better than the route through Quillan, Asat and the Gorge de Saint George.

7th June. Matamale. 3 nights. Camping du Lac. At 1500m. Great village restaurant. Wonderful grassy site with sweet smelling conifers, nesting redstarts and Winchats, and good views. Near lake. Nearby swimming pool. Great walks and bike rides.

Mont-Louis, Prades, Rodez, Corbere, Thuirs, Elne, Taxo d'Aval, Argeles-s-Mer [73 miles].

10th June. Argeles sur Mer. 4 nights. Le Soleil. Wonderful pools and large site. Good bars, shop and excellent Restaurant. Next to beach. Bee-eaters, hoopoes and nightingales. Good bike rides. Good local restaurants.

Elne, around Perpignan, Airport, Estagel, Paziols, Tuchan [57 miles].

4th June. Tuchan. 3 nights. Excellent site near village responsible for Fitou wine. Nice pool and excellent small bar and restaurant. Very friendly.

Durban-Corbieres, Ripaud, Gleon. [18 miles].

17th June. Gleon. 1 night.** Chateau Gleon-Montanie. France-Passion site in Corbieres, near Villesques des Corbieres. Excellent. Bought 3 cases of super wine. Nice walks. Friendly. Monsieur Monastier showed me

round. He was a French Navy pilot based in Scotland.

Portel-des-Corbieres, to Motorway past Narbonne, Beziers, North to Badarieux, East to Clermont-Herault, Lodeve, St. Maurice-Navacelles, Le Vigan [139 miles].

18th June. Le Vigan, Le Val de l'Arre. 3 nights. Good very friendly site on banks of the river Arre, small pool, shop, snack restaurant. Gave us great help with van which had developed problems.

Ganges, St. Hippolyte, Anduze, Ales, Portes, Genolhac, Villefort, Langogne, Lac Naussac [109 miles]; one of the nicest roads in France.

21st June. Lac Naussac. 2 nights. Lac de Naussac, Langogne. Excellent site on terraces overlooking lake and beautiful countryside. Swimming in lake and boats available from nearby Loisir centre. Small childrens pool. Administered by a hotel on site. Excellent restaurant. No shop but the bar will provide coffee milk bread etc (not wine). Great walks and bike rides around lake. Very friendly.

Langogne, Pradelles, Solignac (past Puy en Velay), Lavaudieu, Brioude, Motorway past Issoire, Clermont Ferrand, Riom, Montmarault and Montlucon, La Chapelaude, Colan, LA Chatre, St. Gaultier, Ciron, Rosnay [258 miles].

23rd June. Rosnay in La Brenne. 3 nights. Wonderful municipal site on edge of lake by very small village. Whole area has many lakes, some of which are bird sanctuaries. Grey and Purple herons, Night heron.

Mezieres-en-Brenne, Azay-le-Ferron, Le Peti-Pressigny, Ligeuil, Bournan, Ste-Maure-de-Touraine, L'le-Bouchard, past Chinon, Candes-st-Martin, Saumur [91 miles].

26th June. Saumur. 2 nights. Good large site on island in Loire. 20 min to town. It now has its own small pool. The large adjacent municipal pool has been closed down. Nice walk to town with good restaurants.

Longues-Jumelles, Bauge, La fleche, Sable-s-Sarthe, Brulon, Sille-La-Guillaume, Sille-Plage. [74 miles].

28th June. Sille-la-Guillaume*. 1 night. Indigo site in dark forest by lake. Friendly site. Tiny pool.

Villaines-la-Juhal, Pre-en-Pail, Carrouges, St-Pierre-sur-Dives, Troarn, Herouvillette Escoville, Ranville, Merville-Franceville-Plage [121 miles].

29th June. Merville-Franceville Plage*. 1 night. Just past the town going East towards Cabourg. The first of 3 adjacent excellent sites on the huge sandy beach. Has covered swimming pool. 600 yards along beach leads to village with excellent restaurants.

30th June. Ouistraham, Portsmouth, Home [22 miles].

France 2013 Itinery

Wednesday 10th July – Thursday 15th August 18th Liz + Chris + Hugh in our Campervan Kon-tiki.

Ferry Portsmouth to Caen (Ouistraham). Hugh flew back on 27th July from Avignon [Flybe].

Total: 1,880 miles; 3,008km.

***New campsite. **Wild. ***France Passion**

Ouistraham, Mayenne, Bauge, Lac Rille; Langeais, Motorway past Tours, Vierzon, St.-Paulien, Rochelambert; Le Puy en Velay, Valence, Die, Hirondelle at Menglon; Gap, Barcelonette, Larche; Towards Gap, Sisteron, Nr. D.-des Anges, Moulin de Vendre at Niozelles; Apt, Avignon; Past Arles to clos du Rhone at Les Sainted Maries de la Mer; Nimes, Ganges, Le Vigan, St. Julien de la Nef; Le Vigan, Meyrueis, Causse Mejean; St. Enemie, Mende, Lac Naussac; Grandrieu, Croix de la Col de Bor; St. Flour, Riom es Montagne, Trizac; Bort-les Orgues, La Courtine, past Aubusson, Generailles, Chatelus Malveix, Boursolles near Roche; Bonnat, Ciron, Rosnay; Ligueil, Crouzilles, Domaine Coton at Le Perriere; Langeais, Ferte Bernard, Belleme; Montagne au Perche, Livarot, Ouistraham, Portsmouth.

Note: a) Excellent Campervan park at Nieuil on D28 off N147 opposite the chateau. Before Argentat. b): Campsite on river beach and swimming and interesting town at L'Ile-Bouchard on R. Vienne between Rosnay and Saumur.

Ouistraham. Thury-Harcourt, Flers, Domfront, Mayenne, Montsurs, Sable, La fleche, Bauge, Noyant, Breil, Lac Rille [181 miles]. Because the Tour de France was going past the campsite we had a gentle detour by way of the village of Asnieres.

11th July. Lac Rille. 4 nights. Excellent site in woodland by a large lake which is a bird sanctuary. Easy very close access for launching kayaks. Small pool, simple camp restaurant. Poor shop and no nearby village. Bread delivered. Spotted flycatchers, Black redstart, Reed warbler. Little train ran around site on Sunday.

Langeais, Langeais, Motorway past Tours, Vierzon, Bourges, Montlucon, Gannat, to Vichy Thiers, Ambert, Chaise-Dieu (good mountain site here), St. Paulien. St.-Paulien, Rochelambert. [322 miles]. Advise go on towards Clermont Ferrand on the Motorway and avoid crowded complex extensive Vichy at all costs.

15th July. La Rochelambert near St. Paulien*. 2 nights. This was alternative to nearby excellent Vorey that was full (see 2010). Good site with restaurant, small shop, small pool. In low hill countryside with nice walks.

Past Le Puy-en-Velay, St. Agreve, Valence, Portes-les-Valence, Crest, Die, Recobean-Jansac, Menglon. [133 miles]

17th July. Hirondelles campsite near Menglon*. 1 night. Good campsite for children but not otherwise. Huge paddling pools. Very very long campsite under pine trees by river [almost inaccessible]. Nice countryside. (Alternative to Lus de la Croix Haute)

Luc-en-Dios, Col de Cabre, [diversion through narrow mountain road to La Faurie], Veynes, Gap, Barrage de Serre-Poncon, Barcelonnette, Meyronnes, Larche. [125 miles].

18th July. Les Marmottes at Larche. 4 nights. One of our top sites. About 1800m. Excellent restaurant on site and also in village. No pool. Good shop. Very many high mountain walks. Crag martins in village. Many lesser whitethroat warblers and many Winchats. There is now a small coach service up the road to the high plateau for wonderful mountain walks [to Italy].

(We had intended going to our usual Farigoulette lakeside site near St Laurent near Verdon Gorges but this was full)

Barcelonnette, towards Gap then South, Tallard, Sisteron, La Brillane, Niozelles near D. des Anges [104 miles]

22nd July. Moulins de Ventres near small chapel - D. des Anges*. 4 nights. Excellent site with excellent restaurant, large proper pool. Nice bike rides and walks. Free WiFi.

Niozelles, Forcalquier, Cereste, Apt, Avignon (take outer ring road signposted Arles, Nimes)[70 miles]

26th July. Pont d'Avignon campsite. 1 night. Good large site, snack bar, shop, small family pool. Easy walk or ferry into Avignon, packed with restaurants etc. Hugh flew home from here by Avignon airport. The airport has many names so can be confusing. It is on the main road near Caumont East of Avignon [Flybe].

Noves, Graveson, Arles, Saintes Maries de la Mer [76 miles].

27th July. Le Clos du Rhone near Les Saintes Maries de la Mer. 3 nights. Wonderful pools and large site. Good bars, shop and excellent Restaurant. Next to beach for good swimming.

St. Gilles, Nimes (horrible), Sauve, St Hippolyte, Ganges, St. Julien de la Nef. (83 miles).

We went to this campsite because our usual nice one at Le Vigan was full.

30th July. Isis de St. Julien. 1 night*. Very nice large shaded site by the river which has many small beaches for swimming. Small children's pool. Nice restaurant and bar. Free wifi.

Le vigan, Mont Aiguol Met Observatory(great views, worth the slight detour), Col de Peyguret, Cabriac, Meyreuis. La Parades, Mas de Val [63 miles].

31st July. Causses Mejean 3 nights.** Wild camping. Best wild camping in France (their description is 'Camping Sauvage' which is perfect for this place. Overseen by vultures. Good bike rides and walks.

St-Chely-du-Tarn, Ste-Enimie, Sauveterre, Le Bec, Mende, Badaroux, Laubert, Chateuneuf-de-Randon, Naussac (just before Langogne) [60 miles].

2nd August. Les Terraces du lac, on lac Naussac.* 3 nights. Excellent site on terraces overlooking lake and beautiful countryside. Swimming in lake and boats available from nearby Loisir centre. Small childrens pool. Administered by a hotel on site. Excellent restaurant. No shop but the bar will provide coffee milk bread etc (not wine). Great walks and bike rides around lake. Very friendly. (We met Andrew and Di here. Andrew solved my horrible gear change problem by lubricating the linkage system. He then serviced the fridge so we could wild camp later.)

Langogne, Pradelles, Le Sauvetat, Grandrieu, Col de la Croix de Bor [47 miles]

5th August. Col de la Croix de Bor. 2 nights.** Great wild camping site at 4,500 ft in Margeride hills. Good walking country. Always have huge thunderstorms with hail here.

St. Alban dur Limagnol, Motorway north to St. Flour, Murat, Riom es Montagne, Trizac [92 miles]. One of best drives on our journey.

7th July. Trizac municipal site. 3 nights. No pool but could swim in the etain on site. No shop etc. Wonderful village surrounded by good walking on plateau or cycling. Good restaurants.

Riom es Montagnes, Bort les Orgues, by Ussel, La Courtine, Felletin, by Aubusson, Generailles, turn right to Chatelus Malveix, Boursolles near Bagnat and Roche [112 miles].

10th August. Ferme de Boursolles. 1 night*.** France Passion site. Very peaceful. Hoopoes and golden orioles. Good for cycling and great walks.

Chatelus, Bonnat, Aigurande. Le Fay, St. Gaultier, Ciron, Rosnay in La Brenne [68 miles].

11th August. Rosnay municipal. 2 nights. Wonderful municipal site on edge of lake by very small village. Whole area has many lakes, some of which are bird sanctuaries. Grey and Purple herons, Night heron. Excellent cycling. Site has no pool or shop etc. Very near village has shops and excellent simple restaurant.

Le Temple, Preilly sur Claise, Le Grand Pressigny, Ligueil, Bournan, Crouzilles (East of Chinon on Loire) [58 miles].

13th August. Domaine Coton in Le Perriere*. 1 night.** Great France Passion site. In beautiful farming country. Bought some good wine from their caves (set in limestone cliffs on edge of farm). Excellent for walking and cycling.

St. Gilles near L'Isle Bouchard (where there is a good campsite with beaches) Azay-le-Rideau, Langeais, Cinq-Mars, Champchevrier, Chateau du Loir, Le Grand Luce, Connere, Ferte Bernard (campsite locked closed for 3 hour lunch break so we ignored them), Le Theil, Belleme. [127 miles].

14th August. Belleme municipal. 1 night. Good simple site. Nearby town pool is really best for children. Steep short walk into nice old town. Good restaurant and one excellent expensive one.

Mortagne au Perche, Moulin la Marche, Vimoutiers, Livarot, St Pierre-Dives, Troarn, Herouville/Escoville, Ranville, Ouistraham [88 miles].

France 2012 Itinerary

Thursday 14th June – Wednesday 18th July. Liz + Chris + Hugh in our Campervan Kon-tiki.

Ferry Portsmouth to Caen (Ouistraham). Hugh flew back on 3rd July from Perpignan [Flybe].
Total: 1,899 miles; 3,056km.

***New campsite. **Wild. ***France Passion**

Ouistraham, Mayenne, Bauge, *Lac Rille*; Langeais, Motorway past Poitiers, Limoges, Motorway past Uzerches, Tulle, *Argentat*; Beaulieu, Souillac, St-Cyprien, *Le Bugue*; Caduin, Agen, Cologne, *St Cricq, Lac de Thoux*; L'Isle-Jourdain; Motorway around Toulouse, Foix, Axat, Formigueres, *Matamale*; Mont-Louis, Prades, Thuir, *Argeles-s-Mer*; St, Cyprien, past Rivesaltes, Estagel, *Tuchan*; Durban-Corbieres, Ripaud, *Gleone*; Portel-des-Corbieres, to Motorway past Narbonne, Beziers, Frontignan, *Les Tamaris*; Gizean, St-Martin-des-Londres, Ganges, *Le Vigan, Le Valle de l'Arre*; L'Esperou, Mont Aigoual observatory, Meyrueis, *Causse mejean*; Ste-Enimie, Mende, Chateuneuf-de-Randon, *Col de Croix de Bor*; St-Alban-sur-Limagnols, Chaude-Aigues, Pont de Lanau, *La Belvedere (Neueglise)*; St-Flour, Murat, Riom-es-Montagnes, *Trizac*; Riom-es-Montagnes, Bort-les Orgues, La Courtine, Gentioux-Pigarolles, *Vauveix, Val de Vassiviere*; Peyrat, Gueret, Argenton-sur-Creuse, Ciron, *Port de la Brenne, Rosnay (in La /Brenne Region)*; Mezieres-en-Brenne, Bournan, L'Ile-Bouchard, *Saumur*; Bauge, Sable-s-Sarthe, Evron, Carrouges, *Falaise*; St-Pierre-sur-Dives, Troarn, Ranville, Ouistraham, Portsmouth.

Note: a) Excellent Campervan park at Nieuil on D28 off N147 opposite the chateau. Before Argentat. b) Campsite on river beach and swimming and interesting town at L'Ile-Bouchard on R. Vienne between Rosnay and Saumur.

Ouistraham. Thury-Harcourt, Flers, Domfront, Mayenne, Montsurs, Sable, La fleche, Bauge, Noyant, Breil, Lac Rille [181 miles].

15th June, Friday. Lac Rille*. 3 nights. Excellent site in woodland by a large lake which is a bird sanctuary. Easy very close access for launching kayaks. Small pool [cold out of season]; simple camp restaurant. Poor shop and no nearby village. Bread delivered. Spotted flycatchers, Black redstart. Little train ran around site on Sunday.

Langeais, Montbazou, Motorway past Poitiers, then Lussac les Chateaux, Bellac, Limoges, Motorway past Uzerches, then Seilhac, Tulle, Argentat [148 miles].

18th June. Argentat. 3 nights. Le Chambon. One of our best sites on banks of Dordogne next to the best rapids. [Too full for us this year]. Small pool was closed [too early in season]. Very very friendly site. Excellent walks and bike rides. Lovely small town with excellent restaurants.

Beaulieu, Vayrac, Souillac, (S. of Sarlat), St-Cyprien, La Bouisson de Caduin, Le Bugue [90 miles].

21st June. Le Bugue. 1 night. Camping Les Trois Caupain. Good site. Good pools. Excellent restaurant. Nice small town very close by.

Caduin, Beaumont-dePerigord, Villeneuve-s-Lot, Agen, Astaffort, Lectoure, Fleurance, Mauvezin, Cologne, St Cricq, Lac de Thoux [127 miles].

22nd June. Lac Thoux near St. Cricq. 2 nights. Very nice site under pine trees by lake; very good for kayaking. Lots of woodpigeons and collared doves.

L'Isle-Jourdain; Motorway around Toulouse (as far as Foix), St-Rome, Nailloux, Pamiers, Foix, Quillan, Axat, Gorges de St-Georges, Puyvalador, Formigueres, Matamale [164 miles].

24th June. Matamale. 2 nights. Camping du Lac. At 1500m. Great village restaurant. Wonderful grassy site with sweet smelling conifers, nesting redstarts and good views. Near lake. Nearby swimming pool. Great walks and bike rides.

Mont-Louis, Prades, Rodez, Corbere, Thuirs, Elne, Taxo d'Aval, Argeles-s-Mer [125 miles; + 50 miles to Perpignan airport and back].

26th June. Argeles sur Mer. 5 nights. Le Soleil. Wonderful pools and large site. Good bars, shop and excellent Restaurant. Next to beach. Bee-eaters, hoopoes and nightingales. Good bike rides. Good local restaurants.

St, Cyprien, Canet-Plage, St-Laurent-de-la-Salanque, past Rivesaltes, Estagel, Paziols, Tuchan [50 miles].

1st July. Tuchan. 3 nights. Excellent site near village responsible for Fitou wine. Nice pool and excellent small bar and restaurant. Very friendly. Saw first wryneck in my life. Watched European cup final in bar.

Durban-Corbieres, Ripaud, Gleon. [18 miles].

4th July. Gleon. 1 night. Chateau Gleon-Montanie. France-Passion site in Corbieres, near Villesques des Corbieres. Excellent. Bought 3 cases of super wine. Nice walks. Friendly. Monsieur Monastier showed me round. He was a French Navy pilot based in Scotland.

Portel-des-Corbieres, to Motorway past Narbonne, Beziers, to Sete, Frontagnan, Les Tamaris [74 miles].

5th July. Les Tamaris 2 nights*.** Large expensive site. Good pool. Excellent walks and bike rides. On beach which has breakwaters making sea swimming good. Good for birds. Big bar with karaoke sessions etc. Local restaurants.

Frontagnan, Gigean, Villeveyrac, Gignac, Anlane, St-Martin-des-Londres, Ganges, Le Vigan [73 miles].

7th July. Le Vigan, Le Val de l'Arre. 2 nights. Good very friendly site on banks of the river Arre, small pool, shop, snack restaurant.

L'Esperou, Mont Aigoual observatory, Cabriac, Meyrueis, La Parade, Mas-de-Val, Causse mejean [58 miles].

9th July. Causse Mejean. 2 nights. Wild camping. Best wild camping in France (their description is 'Camping Sauvage' which is perfect for this place. Overseen by vultures. Good bike rides and walks.

St-Chely-du-Tarn, Ste-Enimie, Sauveterre, Le Bec, Mende, Badaroux, Laubert, Chateuneuf-de-Randon, Baraqu-de-la-Motte, Col de Croix de Bor [60 miles].

11th July. Col de la Coix de Bor. 1 night. Wild camp. In Margeride hills, Excellent site. Up long track away from road. Great views, walks and bike rides. A good restaurant is about a mile to west. Stonechat, Mistle thrushes, skylarks, Montagu's harrier.

St-Alban-sur-Limagnols, oast St-Chely-d'Apcher, Fournels, Chaude-Aigues, Pont de Lanau, La Belvedere (Neuveglise) [45 miles].

12th July. Neuveglise*. 1 night.** Good friendly terraced site. Nice small pool. Lovely views. *St-Flour, Murat, Riom-es-Montagnes, Trizac [58 miles].*

13th July. Trizac. 1 night. Nice municipal site on edge of wonderful village. Surrounded by good walking on plateau or cycling. Good restaurants.

Riom-es-Montagnes, Antignac, Bort-les Orgues, Thalamy, Aix, Courteix, St-Remy, La Courtine, La-Mas-d'Artigues, Feniers, Gentioux-Pigarolles, Vauveix, Val de Vassiviere [86 miles].

14th July. Lac de Vassiviere. 1 night. Best of many sites on edge of huge lake. Nearby restaurant. Sailing etc. Swimming in lake. Good walks and bike rides. Terraced and access for kayaks ok but a bit distant.

Peyrat, Bourganeuf, Pontarion, Gueret, Bretouillis, Bonnat, Aigurande, Le Fey, Argenton-sur-Creuse, St-Gaultier, Ciron, Port de la Brenne, Rosnay [119 miles].

15th July. Rosnay in La Brenne. 1 night. Wonderful municipal site on edge of lake by very small village. Whole area has many lakes, some of which are bird sanctuaries. Grey and Purple herons, Night heron.

Mezieres-en-Brenne, Azay-le-Ferron, Le Peti-Pressigny, Ligeuil, Bournan, Ste-Maure-de-Touraine, L'le-Bouchard, past Chinon, Candes-st-Martin, Saumur [90 miles].

16th July. Saumur. 1 night. Good large site on island in Loire. 20 min to town. Disappointing; it now has its own small pool. The large adjacent municipal pool has been closed down. Nice walk to town with good restaurants.

Longues-Jumelles, Bauge, La fleche, Sable-s-Sarthe, Evron, Villaines-la-Jouhel, Pre-en-Pail, Carrouges, Putanges-Pont-Ecrepin, Falaise [147 miles].

17th July. Falaise. 1 night. Municipal site at base of the castle and an easy stroll to the mediaeval town with many restaurants.

St-Pierre-sur-Dives, Troarn, Herouvillette Escoville, Ranville, Ouistraham [20 miles]. Portsmouth

18th July. Ouistraham, Portsmouth, Home [22 miles].

France 2011 Itinery

Thursday 16th June – Monday 18th July. Liz + Chris + Hugh in our Campervan Kon-tiki.

Ferry Portsmouth to Caen (Ouistraham). Hugh flew back on 3rd July from Avignon [Flybe].

Total: 1,953 miles; 3,125km.

***New campsite. **Wild. ***France Passion**

Ouistraham by motorway [mainly] Falaise, Boussac, Poinsouze; past Vichy, Chaise-Dieu, to Vorey; Yssingaux, past Valence, Crest, Die to Lus la Croix Haute; [past Barcelonette to Larche; past Digne les Bains to St. Laurent du Verdon; to Avignon; past Arles to Saintes Maries de la Mer; to Le Vigan; past Nant to Randals Bison [Causse Noir]; past Meyrueis to Causse Mejean; to Ste. Enimie; past Mende and Chateaufort de Randon to Col de la Croix de Bor; past Chaudes aigues, St Flour, Riom es Montagnes to Trizac; by Ussel, La Courtine, Auzances to Evaux les Bains; past Montalgut, by Montmarault and Sancerre to St. Satur/St Thibault; by Aubigny s Nere, Beaugency to La Ferte Bernard; By Vimoutiers, Troarn to Ouistraham, Portsmouth, Southampton.

Ouistraham. By motorway [mainly] Falaise, Alencon, Le Mans, Vierzon, past Bourges, St Amand Montrond, Boussac, Poinsouze [340 miles].

17th June. Fri. Boussac/Poinsouze. 3 nights.]. Le chateau de Poinsouze . A les Castels site. Excellent. By its own lake (kayaking etc) near chateau. Good pool. Excellent restaurant.

Montalgout, past Past Gannat, Vichy, past Thiers, Ambert, Chaise-Dieu, Vorey[173 miles].

20th June. Mon. Vorey* 2 nights. Excellent site in good walking country with nice pool. Local restaurants.

Yssingaux, Tence, St Agreve, past Valence, Crest, Die, Chatillon-en-Diois, Grimone, Lus la Croix Haute [155 miles]. NB: The interesting route by the col de Grimone includes nasty tunnel where we were damaged by a giant German van. Avoid if nervous.

22nd June. Wed. 2 nights. Lus la Croix Haute. Excellent friendly site with good restaurant. Near nice village with more restaurants. Many good walks. On the road to Grenoble. Wonderful area.

Veynes, Gap, Barcelonette, Larche [92 miles].

24th June. Fri. 4 nights. Larche. One of our top sites. About 1800m. Excellent restaurant on site and also in village. Very many high mountain walks. Crag martins in village.

Barcelonnette, Seynes, Digne les Bains [deviation], Les Mees, Bras d'Asse, Riez, St. Laurent du Verdon [138 miles]. Had puncture [sorted by RAC] in Digne.

28th June. 4 nights. St. Laurent en Verdon. By lake near Verdon gorge. Huge friendly site under pines. Great kayaking in lake and gorge. Nice pool, shop and restaurant. Excellent restaurant in village. RAC [pronounced Rack] arranged for 2 new rear tyres.

Greoux les Bains, pont de Manosque, pont de Pertuis, around Cavaillon, D7, around ring road to Avignon [103 miles]

2nd July. Sat. 1 night. Avignon. Was Municipal site. New owners. Good. They said it may be full but it was only 25%. Hugh flew home next morning from Avignon airport. Easy access with parking for van. Enjoyable airport.

Noves, Graveson, Arles, Saintes Maries de la Mer [76 miles].

3rd July. Sunday. Saintes Maries de la Mer. 3 nights. Le clos du Rhone. Wonderful pools and large site. Good bars, shop and excellent Restaurant. Next to beach for good swimming.

Aigues-Mortes, Nr. Lunel, Sommieres, Quissac, Ganges, Le Vigan [75 miles].

6th July. Wed. Le Vigan*. 2 nights. Good very friendly site, small pool, shop, snack restaurant.

Aveze, Alzon, Nant, Revens, Randals Bison [nr Languejols on Causses Noir] [41 miles]

8th July. Friday. Randals Bison*.** 1 night. France Passion site on top of wild Causses Noir. Good restaurant for eating their bison.

*Meyrueis, Causse Mejean**, La Parade [25 miles].*

9th July. Saturday. Causse Mejean.** 2 nights. Wild camping. Vultures, deer, choughs.

Down the hill to St. Enimie [13 miles, nearly 1 hour].

11th July. Mon. St. Enimie*. 1 night. Nice little town on Tarn packed with restaurants [20 minutes from site]. Good small pool and shop. Good swimming in Tarn. Slightly difficult access for kayaks.

Sauveterre, Balsieges, Mendes, Laubert, Chateauneuf de Randon [nice hill village with good shops] Col de la Croix de Bor [50 miles].

12th July. Col de la Croix de Bor.** 1 night. Excellent wild site in the Margerides. We had huge thunderstorm/hail in the night. Local villages damaged by hailstorms the size of billiard balls.

St. Alban, Termes, Fournels, Chaudes aigues, St Flour, Murat, Riom en Montagnes, Trizac [102 miles]. Beautiful drive through Margerides and Auvergne but bit spoilt by the wettest drive in my life.

13th July. Trizac. 2 nights. Wonderful village surrounded by good walking on plateau or cycling. Good restaurants.

Riom es Montagnes, Bort les Orgues, by Ussel, La Courtine, Felletin, by Aubusson, Auzances, Evaux les Bains [111 miles].

15th July. Sat. Evaux les Bains*. 1 night. Site Ok. Village very nice.

Montalgut, Montmarault, Cosne, Ygrande, Sancoins, La Guerche, Cours, Herry, St. Bouize, by Sancerre, St. Satur/St Thibault [128 miles]

16th July. Sat. St. Satur/St Thibault. 1 night. Our usual 'Sancerre' site on banks of Loire.

Henrichemont [deviation], Aubigny s Nere, Clemont, La Marolle, Beaugency, Binas, St. Calais, La Ferte Bernard [168 miles].

17th July, Sunday. La Ferte Bernard. 1 night. Ok site. Very nice small town with excellent restaurants.

Belleme, Mortagne au Perche [deviation]; Vimoutiers, St Pierre, Troarn, Ouistraham [118 miles; 4 hours].

18th July. Ferry home from Ouistraham.

Our 2010 Itinerary

Copied direct from Website *New campsite. **Wild. ***France Passion

Ouistraham, past Saumur to Airvault; to Le Bugue; past Dax to Azur; to Sauveterres de Bearn; to Lescun; past Lourdes and St Gaudens to Oust; past Quillan to Matamale; past Prades to, Argeles-Plage; Perpignan Airport; past Tuchan to Gleon; past Beziers on A9 to Stes-Maries-de-la-Mer; past Quissac to Lanuejols (Causse noir); past Meyrueis, to Causse Mejean; past St. Enemie and Chateauneud-de-Randon to Col de la Croix de Bor; past Chely-d'Apcher and Riom-es-Montagne to Trizac; past Aubusson to Boussac; past Issoudun to Belleme; to Ouistraham, Portsmouth.

CAEN. Ouistraham, Ouistraham, Thury-Harcourt, Flers, Mayenne, Monsurs, Sable, La Fleche, Saumur, Thouars, Airvault [220 miles].

29th May Sat. Airvault* [1 night]. Camping de Courte Vallee. Good site. Few facilities open; small pool was closed. English. 20 minute walk to nice small mediaeval town with good restaurants.

Parthenay, St-Maixent, Lezay, Ruffec, La Rochefoucauld, Marthen, Nontron, Perigeux, Le Bugue [200 miles]

30th -31st May. Sunday. Le Bugue [2 nights]. Camping Les Trois Caupain. Good site. Excellent restaurant***.

Bergerac, Marmande, St. Justin, Mont de Marsan, Dax, Magescq, Azur. [184 miles].

1st – 4th June. Tuesday. Azur [4 nights]. Camping Azur'Rivage*. Excellent large site beside large lake (Etang de Soustons). Good kayaking. Small shop. Good cycling area. Nothing in nearby villages [restaurants etc].

Souston, St. Vincent, Peyrehorade, Labatout, Bellocq, Sauveterres de Bearn. [54 miles]

Saturday 5th June. Sauveterre de Bearn [1 night]. Good municipal site by the Gave d'Oloron. Mediaeval town. In season some restaurants. River excellent for swimming and kayaking (some flat, some almost white).

Navarrenx, Oloron-Ste-Marie, Lescun. [49 miles].

6th – 7th June. Sunday. Lescun [2 nights]. Camp du Lauzart. One of our favourite campsites in France. Spectacular views of mountains with great walks and cycle rides. Near nice small village.

Lurbe-St-Christau, Arudy, Lourdes, Bagneres-de-Bigorre, St. Laurent-de-Neste, St Gaudens, Figarol, St-Girons, Lacourt, Oust. [156 miles].

8th June. Tuesday. Oust [1 night]. Camping les 4 Saisons*. 400m from nice village. By river. Excellent restaurant.

Masat, Tarascon, Lavelanet, Quillan, Axat, Matamale [110 miles].

9th – 11th June. Wednesday. Matemale [3 nights]. Camping du Lac. At 1500m. Great village restaurant. Wonderful grassy site with sweet smelling conifers, nesting redstarts and good views. Near lake. Nearby swimming pool. Great walks and bike rides.

Mont Louis, Olette, Prades, Thuir, Elne, Taxo d'Avall, Argeles-Plage. [70 miles].

12th – 15th June. Saturday Argeles-s-Mer [4 nights]. Le Soleil. Wonderful pools and large site. Good bars, shop and excellent Restaurant. Next to beach. Nesting Hoopoes and nightingales. Good bike rides.

Perpignan Airport; Estagel, Tuchan, Durban-Corbiere, Gleon [66 miles]

16th June. Wednesday Chateau Gleon*** [1 night]. France-Passion site in Corbieres, near Villesques des Corbieres. Excellent. Bought 3 cases of super wine. Nice walks. Friendly.

Portel-des-Corbieres, Les Mattes, A9; Beziers, Montpellier, Gallargues, Aigues-Mortes, Stes-Maries-de-la-Mer [130 miles]

17th June. Thursday. Ste-Maries de la Mer. (Camargue) [3 nights]. Le clos du Rhone. Wonderful pools and large site. Good bars, shop and excellent Restaurant. Next to beach.

Aigues-Mortes, Sommieres, Quissac, Sauve, Ganges, Le Vigan, Saucieres, Nant, Revens, Lanuejols (Causse noir). [190 miles]

Sunday 20th June. Randals Bison* on Causse Noir** [1 night]. France Passion. High, windy and cold. Good restaurant but closed at night. Sold bison stew. Great walks. Nearest town is Millau [to the West].

Meyrueis, Carnac, Causse Mejean [26 miles]

21st June. Monday. Causse Mejean [2 nights]**. Wild camping. Best wild camping in France (their description is 'Camping Sauvage' which is perfect for this place. Overseen by vultures. Good bike rides and walks.

Mas-St-Chely, St. Enemie, Sauveterre, Balsiege, Chateauneud-de-Randon, Col de la Croix de Bor [61 miles]

23rd June Wednesday. Col de Croix de Bor [2 nights]**. Wild camp. In Margeride hills, Excellent wild camp site in. Up long track away from road. Great views, walks and bike rides. A good restaurant is about a mile to west.

St. Alban-sur-Limagnole, St-Chely-d'Apcher, St. flour, Murat, Riom-es-Montagne, Trizac. [92 miles]

25th June Friday. Trizac [1 night]. In Auvergues. Nice municipal site on edge of village. Small restaurants may not be open. Excellent easy walks over the high Auvergne plateau.

Nr. Riom, Antignac, Bort-des-Orgues, Ussel, La Courtine, Felletin, Aubusson, Chenerailles, Gouzon, Boussac. [114 miles]

26th June. Saturday. Bousac-Bourg [1 night]. Le chateau de Poinsouze *. A les Castels site. Excellent. By its own lake (kayaking etc) near chateau. Good pool. Restaurant [take away].

Ste-Severe-sur-Indre, Le Chatre, St. Chartier, Issoudun, Vatan, Valancay, Contre, Blois, Vendome, Savigny, St-Calai, Vibraye, Belleme. [199 miles]

27th June. Sunday. Belleme [1 night]. Camping Municipal "le Val" . Neat campsite in the interesting small town. Good Cambodian restaurant. Excellent alternative to La Ferte Barnard.

28th June. Monday . Mortange-au-Perche, Moulins-la-Marche, Gace, Livarot, St-Piere-s-Dives, Troarne, Ranville, Ouistraham. [95 miles].

Itinerary 2009

CAEN: Ouistraham, Flers, Thury-Harcourt, Dom, Mayenne, Sable, La Fleche, Saumur [185 miles]

1. 22nd August. [Saumur](#). Good large site on island in Loire. 20 min to town. Disappointing; it now has its own small noisy pool and we have to pay to go to the large adjacent pool which is now rather run-down and it has lost its bar. But nice walk to town with good restaurants.

Loudun, Mirebeau, Poitiers, Bellac, Tulle, Argentat [222 miles]

2. 23rd-27th August. [Argentat](#). On bank of Dordogne. Excellent rapids. Very friendly. Small pool. 30min walk to Argentat. Good restaurants. Great walks and bike rides.

St. Privat, Peaux, Mauriac, Trizac [49 miles]

3. 28th August. [Trizac](#) in Auvergues. Nice municipal site on edge of village. Small restaurants may not be open. Excellent easy walks over the high auvergne plateau.

Riom-es-Montagne, Murat, St. Flour, St Cheley d'Apcher, St. Amans, Rieutort de Ranson, [Plateau du Palais de Roi] - Laubert, Chadenet, Le Blymard, Col de Finiels, Finiels. *Wonderful drive* [131]

4. 29th August. [Finiel](#) nr. Pont de Montvert. In Cevennes. Simple site. No shop or restaurant. Great walks. Louis Stevenson walked here with his donkey.

Pont de Montvert, Genolhac, Ales, Uzès, Pont du Gard, Beaucaire, St. Remy de Provence, Cavaillon, Pertuis, Greoux le Bains, Allemagne, Montagnac, St. Laurent [180 miles]

5. 30th August - 4th Sept. [St Laurent](#). By lake nr Verdon gorge. Huge site under pines. Nice pool, shop and restaurant [closed!]. Excellent restaurant in village.

Montmeyer, Salernes, Draguignan, Montferrat, Bargemont, Col du Belhomme, Seranon, St. Vallier de Thiey, Col de Ferrier, Plateau de Caussols, Gourdon, Magagnosc, Bar du Loup. [7 hours wonderful high drive; 118 miles].

6. 5th Sept. Bar du Loup*. Small steeply terraced site. Not suitable for us; v. difficult to negotiate. Tourettes sur Loup, Vence [49 miles]

7. 6th Sept. [Vence](#)*. Large well-shaded site with good pool and restaurant. Drove Hugh to Nice airport from here. Motorway was full and very slow. 40 minutes. Bad journey back to camp site - more than 2 hours cos of traffic and lack of road signs.

Carros, Madone d'Utelle, St. Sauveur de Tinee, St. Etienne de Tinee, Col de la Bonette [2,800m], Jausiers, Meyronne, Larche [104 miles]

8. 7th - 11th Sept. [Larche](#). One of our top sites. About 1800m. Excellent restaurant on site and also in village. Very many high mountain walks. Crag martins in village.

Jausiers, Barcelonnette, Le Lauzet-Ubaye, Savine le Lac, Gap, Col Bayard, Laye [73 miles]

9. 12th Sept. [Laye](#)*. A *France Passion* site. In car park of a fromagerie and its restaurant. Nice little village and good walks with views of distant mountains. Dinner was very cheesy.

Gap, Veyne [lovely small town], La Faurie, Lus la Croix Haute [41 miles]

10. 13th - 15th Sept. [Lus la Croix Haute](#). Excellent friendly site with good restaurant. Near nice village with more restaurants. Many good walks. On the road to Grenoble. Wonderful area.

Grimone, Chatillion en Diois [lovely village], Die, Saillans, Crest, Privas, St. Sauveur de Monagut [103miles]

11. 16th Sept. [St. Sauveur de Montagut](#)*. North of Privas. 8km to camp along good road in gorge. Dutch site.

Le Cheylard, St. Agreve, Tence, Yssingeaux, Retournac, Vorey, Chaise-Dieu, Baffur [102 miles]

12. 17th Sept. [Baffour nr La Chaise-Dieu](#)*. A *France Passion* site. In a farmyard. Nice country walks.

Arlanc, Ambere, Thiers, St. Remy, Col de la Plantarde, Le Mayet, Chatel Montagne [camp closed], Arfeuilles [95 miles]

13. 18th Sept. [Arfeuilles](#)*. Municipal site. Empty, out of season. No open restaurants. Nice site.

Lapalisce, Chaligny, Dompierre, Beaulon [nice village], Garnat, Decize, Fleury sur Loire, Chevenon, La Grenouille, Cuffy, Beffes, Sancerre, St. Thibault, St. Savur [124 miles]

14. 19th Sept. [St. Satur](#). Near Sancerre on La Loire. Empty. Near village with open restaurants.

Sancerre, Vailly, Aubigny, Lamotte-Beuvron, Chaumont, Beaugency, Cravant, Binas, Moree, Epuisay, Mondoubleaux, La Ferte-Barnard [camp closed], Belleme [180 miles]

15. 20th. Sept. Belleme*. Interesting small town. Good Cambodian restaurant.

Mortagne-au-Parche, Moulins-la-Marche, Gace, Vimoutiers, St. Pierre-s-Dives, Troarn, Ouistraham [96 miles]

Camping in France 2008

12th June – 11th July. Portsmouth night to Caen arriving next morning. With Chris, Liz, Hugh.

HUGH FLIGHT Mon 30th June. Perpignan to Soton. Flybe 13.50 [check in by 12.50] arr 14.55.

Ouistraham, Richelieu, Argentat, St. Cricq, Matemale, Egat, Argeles - s - Mer, Touchan, Rieumontagne, Causses Mejean, Crox de Bor, Trizac, Le Bourg d'Hem, Le Ferte Bernard, Caen.
Total distance, 1,701 miles.

CAEN

Ouistraham, Flers, Domfront, Mayenne, La Fleche, Saumur, Chinon, Richelieu [225 miles]

1. 13th, 14th June. Richelieu. Simple municipal site 20 min. walk from nice small town and near huge park. Very good restaurants.

Camping Municipal. 7, route de Chatellerault. 47-58-15-02

Chatellerault, Chauvigny, Nr Limoge, free motorway to South of Tulle, Argentat. [4.5 hrs, 188 miles]

2. 15th – 18th June. Argentat. On bank of Dordogne. Excellent rapids. Very friendly. Small pool. 30min walk to Argentat. Good restaurants. Great walks and bike rides.

Camping Europe Le Chambon 05 55 28 07 70. Le Chambon 19400 Monceaux sur Dordogne camping-europe@wanadoo.fr;
www.camping-europe.fr

Beaulieu, Gramat, Motorway past Cahors to nr Montauban, to near Cologne [West of Toulouse] [4.5 hours; 144 miles].

3. 19th, 20th June. Lac de Thoux, St. Cricq. Wonderful site by lake. Pool was cold. Kayaked illegally in lake [no problem; maybe more difficult in full campsite].

Camping Lac de Thoux Saint-Cricq. +33(0)5 62 65 71 29 contact@camping-lacdethoux.com
<http://www.camping-lacdethoux.com/uk/camping-caravaning-france.php>

St. Lys, Muret, Le Fossat, Foix, Quillan, Axat, Matamale [6 hours; 157 miles].

4. 21st – 23rd June. Matamale. In Pyrenees. At 1500m. Great village restaurant. Wonderful grassy site with sweet smelling conifers, nesting redstarts and good views. Near lake. Nearby swimming pool. Great walks and bike rides.

Camping du Lac. 04 68 30 9449 <http://www.camping-lac-matemale.com/index.html> near Les angles www.lesangles.com
Mont Louis, Egat [16 miles]

5. 24th June. Egat. Mountainside site. Terraced. A few good walks. No challenge to Matemale.

Las Clottes, 4 rue de la Nalga 66120 Egat. 04 68 30 26 90 <http://camping.mon-guide.info/camping.ville-egat>
Mont Louis, Prades, Thuir, Elne, Argeles-s-Mer [73 miles].

6. 25th – 29th June. Argeles Plages Wonderful pools and large site. Good bars, shop and excellent Restaurant. Next to beach. Nesting Hoopoes and nightingales. Good bike rides.

Le Soleil rte du Littoral 66700 ARGELES SUR MER 04 68 81 14 48

<http://www.eurocampings.net/nl/europa/frankrijk/languedoc-roussillon/pyrenees-orientales/camping-le-soleil-104068>

Perpignan airport, Estagel, Paziols, Touchan [52 miles].

7. 30th June. La Peiriere, Touchan. Simple site very near village. Nice small pool. Simple good restaurant. Home of Fitou wine. Near MontAuch.

Camping La Peiriere. 0033 468 454650 lapeiriere@caramail.com www.lapeiriere.com
<http://www.caravancampingsites.co.uk/france/11/peiriere.htm>.

Durban Courbieres, Olonzac, St. Pons de Thomieres, La Salvetat, Rieu-Montagne [94 miles].

8. 1st, 2nd July. Indigo, Rieu-Montagne. Lac du Laouzas, Haute Languedoc. Nicely separated plots with great views of lake. Small pool, restaurant and shop. Friendly staff.

Camping Indigo RIEUMONTAGNE. 81320 Nages. 33 56 33 72 471. <http://www.camping-indigo.com> [this is general site can't find this particular site].

Nages, Lacauze, Belmont, St. Affrique, Millau, Le Rozier, Meyrueis, Armand. Drigas, Nivoliens [105 miles].

9. 3rd, 4th July. June Causse Mejean. Best wild camping in France. Overseen by vultures. Good bike rides and walks. A long way to civilisation so need to take plenty of water and food.

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Causse_M%C3%A9jean

Mas-de-Val, St. Enimie, Sauveterre, Batsiege, Mende, Badaroux, Pelouse, Laubed, Rietort de Rendon, Estables, la Villedieu, [69 miles].

10. 5th, 6th July. Col de Croix de Bor. Excellent wild camp site in Margeride hills. Up long track away from road. Great views, walks and bike rides.

St. Denis-en-Margerides, St. Alban-s-Limagnole, St. Chely-d-Apcher, St. Flour, Andelat, Allanche, Condat, Riom-es-Montagnes, Trizac [104 miles]. NB This was an exploration. The direct route would be via St. Flour, Murat & Riom.

11. Le Pioulat, Trizac in Cantal. Small lake for swimming. Nice views. Excellent walks over the plateau and long bike rides. Nice small shops. Restaurants in village rarely open but good when they do open [we tend to go out of season]. The mayor got the restaurant to open and we had pigs cheek and other wonderful stuff.

TRIZAC Le Pioulat 04 71 78 64 20 mairie.trizac@wanadoo.fr <http://www.frankrijkgek.nl/dep/15/Trizac%20-%20Camping%20Municipal%20le%20Pioulat.php>

Mauriac, Neuviac [NB v. good campsite by lake here 20 mile S of Ussel], Meymac, Millevaches, Aubusson, Jarnages, Chatelus Malvaleix, Bonnat, le Bourg d'Hem [136 miles].

12. 9th July. Le Bourg d'Hem. D940. In Creuse region/Limousin. Great wooded site on side of lake. Good swimming. No restaurant. There is a 'Grand Meaulnes Chateau hidden in the forest.

Camping Municipal de l'Age. 23220 Le Bourg-d'Hem. 05 55 62 84 36. info@les3lacs-creuse.com
<http://www.frankrijkgek.nl/dep/23/Le%20Bourg-d-Hem%20-%20Camping%20Municipal%20l%27Age.php>

Bonnat, La Chatre, St. Aout, Issoudun, Vatan, Valencay, Selles, Blois, Vendome, La Ferte Bernard [193 miles]

13. 10th July. La Ferte Bernard. Great site & restaurants. Town is interesting and near campsite.

Camping le Valmer 02 43 71 70 03 <http://www.la-ferte-bernard.fr/fr/Camping-le-Valmer-501.htm> camping@la-ferte-bernard.com

Belleme, Mortagne, Vimoutiers, Livarot, Troarn, Ouistraham. [140 miles].

CAEN.

Camping in France 2007

25th June – 23rd July Portsmouth/Caen, overnight ferry. With Chris, Liz, Hugh. Hugh returned 13th July from Avignon by flybe. Total distance = 1945 miles.

CAEN

Ouistraham, Bonneval, Patay, Meung s Loire, Laurotte-Beuvron, Aubigny, Sancerre, St. Thibault, St. Salut. [297miles]

1. 26th – 28th June. St. Satur. A very nice riverside site near Sancerre with excellent restaurants in village and nice bike rides.

CAMPING RENE FOLTZER*** 0248 540467 www.sancerre.net/saint-satur

La Charite, Nevers, Decize, Digoin, Roanne, St. Etienne, Vienne, St. Jean de Bournay (by D522). [242 miles].

2. 29th June. Meyrieu les Etaings. Dull stopover lakeside site. In Isere region.

Base de loisirs du Moulin. Camping ***0474 593034 www.camping-meyrieu.com

Bourgoin-Jallieu, Chambery, Albertville, St Gervais, M. Blanc tunnel, Courmeyer, St. Pierre, Cogne, Valnontey. [171].

3. 30th June – 2nd July. Valnontey. Paradiso National Park Italy. High in the mountains with great views and walks. Very friendly site. Good restaurant nearby.

Campeggio Lo Stambecco. Village Valnontey 11012 Cogne, Vallée d'Aoste, Italie Tel. +39 0165 74152 campingstambecco@tiscali.it

Aosta, Pont St Martin, round Torino, Cuneo, Col de Larche [Colla della Maddalena]. [218 miles].

4. 3rd – 6th July. Domaine les Marmottes La Larche. At about 6000'. Our favourite mountain campsite. set amongst larches on the banks of fast river. Fieldfares, lesser whitethroated warblers. Excellent restaurant in site, run by the owners, and also in nearby village. Magnificent long walks.

Les Marmottes 04 92 84 33 64 64 <http://www.camping-marmottes.fr> georges.durand25@wanadoo.fr

Barcelonette, St, Vincen, Col de Labouret, Digne, Riez, D11 to St. Laurent. [112miles].

5. 7th – 11th July. La Farigoulette. St. Laurent. Lake nr Verdon Gorge. Nr Lac de St. Croix. Good lake for swimming and gorge for kayaking. Large site amongst pines. Small pool, and camp restaurant good. Very friendly. At bas of long steep. Nice walks and rides around the lake.

LA FARIGOULETTE lac du St Laurent. 04 92 74 41 62 <http://www.campings-alpes-de-haute-provence.com/camping-alpes-de-haute-provence-ang/alpes-de-haute-provence/clients/farigoulette/fl.html>

For map: http://www.camping-la-farigoulette.com/contact_an.htm info@camping-la-farigoulette.com

Greoux, Vinou, Pertuis, Avignon. [95 miles].

6. 12th July. Le Port d'Avignon. Avignon. Site ok for short stay. Crowded but near town.

Camping Municipal du Pont d'Avignon 33 (0) 490 806 350 http://www.camping-avignon.com/home_fr.html info@camping-avignon.com

Arles, Saintes Maries des Mers[169 miles],

7. 13th – 17th July. Clos du Rhone. Saintes Maries des Mers. Big dry site on edge of beach. Great walks and rides in the Camargue. Nice pool and small restaurant. 20 minute walk to Saintes Maries which is filled with tourists and every sort of restaurant.

Clos du Rhone. +33 (0)4 90 97 85 99 leclos@saintemaries.com <http://www.avignon-et-provence.com/camping-sainte-marie-mer/clos-du-rhone>

D998, St. Gilles, Nimes, Ales, La Grand Combe, Le Pont de Montvert, Finiel (on D20). [110 miles].

8. 18th – 19th July. Camping La Barrette, Le Pont de Montvert. Near Finiel on D20 Cevennes. Wonderful simple and wild. Excellent long walks. No restaurant or pool. Small. 04.66.45.81.82. or 04.66.45.82.16. http://www.cevennes-montlozere.com/detail-prestataire.php?id_annu=535

Col de la Tourettes, Laubert, Plad de Palaïd du Roi, Samans, St. Chly, St. Flour, Murat, Riom, Trizac. [130 miles].

9. 20th -21st July. Le Pioulat, Trizac in Cantal. Simple site in mountain village. Excellent walks and long bike rides. Restaurants in village rarely open but good when they do open [we tend to go out of season]. Small lake for swimming. good views. Wonderful sunsets.

TRIZAC Le Pioulat 04 71 78 64 20

mairie.trizac@wanadoo.fr<http://www.frankrijkgek.nl/dep/15/Trizac%20-%20Camping%20Municipal%20le%20Pioulat.php>

By D978 to Mauriac then A89 [57 miles, 2 hours], Uzerches, Limoges, Argentan, Chateauroux, Vierzon, La Ferte St. Auban, Meung S. Loire, Ouzouer, St. Calais, Vibraye, Ferte St. Bernard. NB good plage site at Muraillac la Croisille. [373].

10. 22nd July. La Ferte Bernard. Great site & restaurants. Town is interesting and near campsite. Camping le Valmer 02 43 71 70 03 <http://www.la-ferte-bernard.fr/fr/Camping-le-Valmer-501.htm>
camping@la-ferte-bernard.com

Belleme, Mortagne, Vimoutiers, Livarot, Troarn, Ouistraham. [140 miles].

CAEN.