



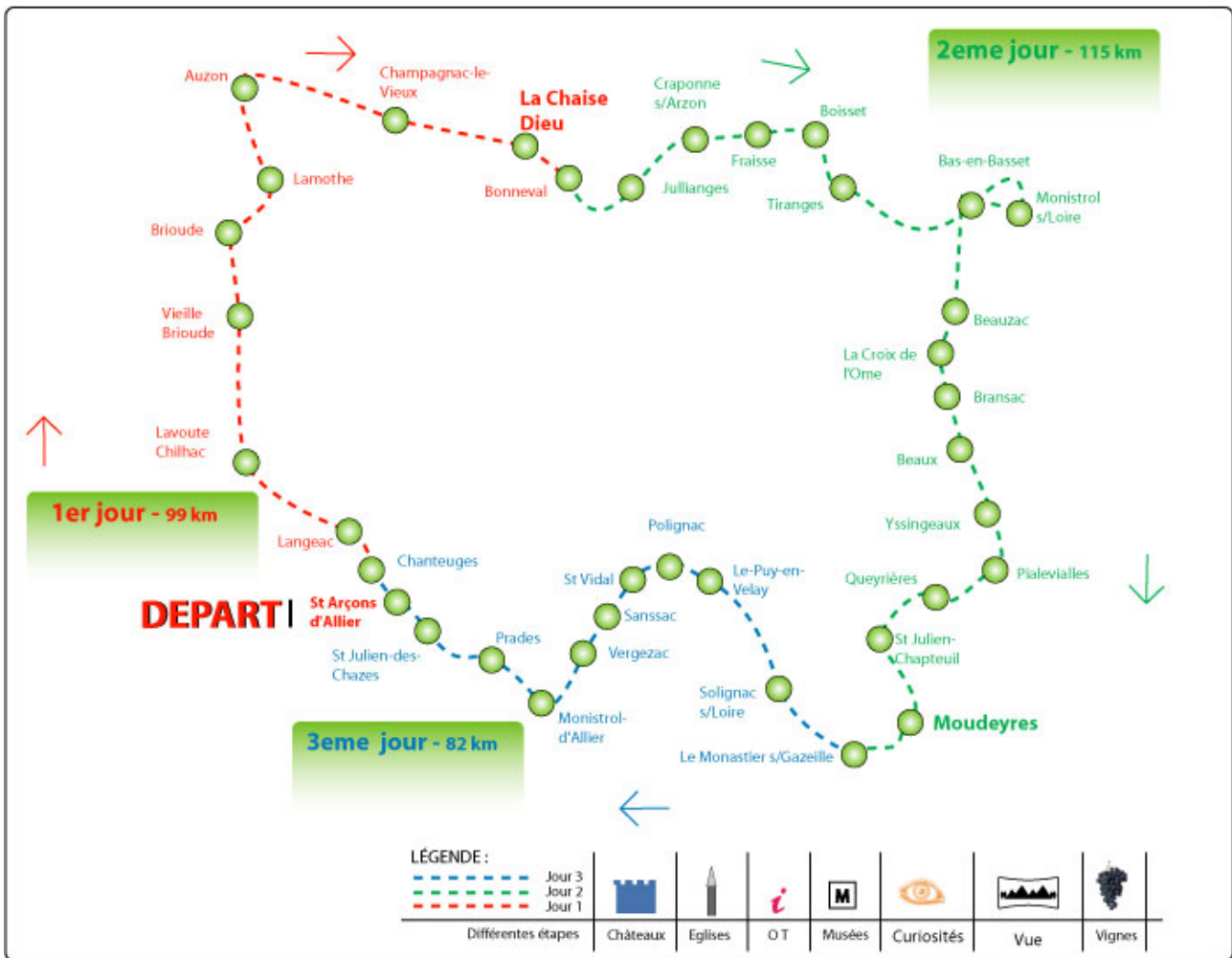
Between the Loire and Allier rivers, le Puy-en-Velay, major centre of Christendom
Circuit N°27



Naturally you will meet pilgrims from the Saint-Jacques-de-Compostelle path on your way, since Le Puy en Velay is one of the most popular starting points for the pilgrimage.

Like them you will cross landscapes punctuated with de full of fish rivers, verdant valleys, hills covered with vineyards and towns rich with medieval heritage.

<i>The travel book recommend the number of minimum days which can be devoted to the itinerary.</i>



Land of volcanoes and castles, Auvergne, scattered with lakes and forests, owns the richest Roman heritage in France and allies its modernity with the Vulcania park.

What to discover : The Medieval strongholds on the Allier river (La Palice castle, Bourbon stronghold, Archambault stronghold), The Cantal Mounds and its numerous Plombs and Puys, (le Puy Griou, le Puy Mary), The balneotherapy and fitness resorts : Vichy, La Bourboule, le Mont Dore, Royat, Chatel-Guyon. Le Lioran, summer and winter sport resort, la Chaise Dieu and its annual sacred musical festival ,St Julien basilica in Brioude, the Puy en Velay Black Virgin, Clermont-Ferrand historical centre.

Wines : Saint-Pourçain, Côtes d'Auvergne

Local Produce/Gastronomy : tripoux (tripes), cheeses (bleu d'Auvergne, Cantal, fourme d'Ambert, salers, saint-nectaire), green lentils (AOC), Mineral waters, Velay verbena, tablets from Vichy.

Traditional Handicraft : knife factory (Thiers) laces (Brioude, Le Puy en Velay), traditional paper mill(Ambert), umbrellas (Aurillac.)



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1 Day 1 :

From the Saint-Arçons castle you will overlook the gorges of the river Allier. In a verdant setting the split hotel of the Deux Abbesses combines a XIIIth century lordly home and restored houses.

A few miles away on a promontory, at the confluence of the rivers Desges and Allier, the roman church of Chanteuges stands out with its dimensions and its warm shades. When crossing Langeac you will notice old houses, salt lofts rebuilt in the XVIIIth century and Saint-Gal collegiate church.

At the bend in a twist of the river you will discover Lavoûte-Chilhac nestled in a bend of the river with its Gothic church.

Further upstream, the valley of Haut-Allier is towered by the ruins of the former citadel of Saint-Ilpize, its surrounding walls harbour a XIVth century chapel.

From villages to helmets you will reach the town of Brioude by following the stream where the salmon from the Atlantic come back to spawn after 800 kilometres of freshwater upstream. In the town the old houses which stand alongside the network of the narrow streets will lead you towards the basilica Saint-Julien, a masterpiece of the Roman art.

Before leaving the Allier river do not miss to distinguish Auzon village and its fortified church on its promontory. The natural conservation area will tell you the story of the men who lived this country during the XIXth century, they shared their work between the mine and the vines.

You will reach la Chaise-Dieu the end of this first journey by travelling along the hills of the Livradois Mounts and by crossing vast forests.

1 Day 1 : Road book

Crossed places and towns	N° of crossed roads	KM	Comments
SAINT-ARCONS-D'ALLIER	D48	0.0	
CROISEMENT	D585	1.0	
CHANTEUGES	D585	1.0	
LANGEAC	D56	4.0	
CROISEMENT	D585	2.0	
REILHAC	D585	0.0	
LAVOUTE-CHILHAC	D585	11.0	
SAINT-ILPIZE	D16	10.0	
VIEILLE-BRIOUDE	N102	9.0	
Brioude	D588	4.0	
LAMOTHE	D16	4.0	
AUZON	D5	12.0	
CHAMPAGNAC-LE-VIEUX	D588	16.0	
CROISEMENT	D499	20.0	
LA CHAISE-DIEU	D499	5.0	

1 Day 1 : The lodgings suggested by french-itinerary.com

. SAINT-ARCONS-D'ALLIER

Les Deux Abbesses (Hôtel) - Le Château - 43300 SAINT-ARCONS-D'ALLIER
 Phone : 0471740308 - fax 0471740530 - @ : abbesses@relaischateaux.com
 Fait partie du Pass'Reve, Consultez la rubrique Bons plans

. CHANTEUGES

La Grande Maison (Chambres d'Hôtes) - 43300 CHANTEUGES
 Phone : 0471740191 - @ : info@la-grande-maison.com

. LAVOUTE-CHILHAC

Hostellerie le Prieuré (Hôtel) - Le Bourg - 43380 LAVOUTE-CHILHAC
 Phone : 0471774790 - fax 0471774790 - @ : hostellerie.leprieure@wanadoo.fr

. BRIOUE

La Sapinière (Hôtel) - Avenue Paul Chambriard - 43100 BRIOUE
 Phone : 0471508730 - @ : hotel.la.sapiniere@wanadoo.fr



. LA CHAISE DIEU

Hôtel de l'Echo et de l'Abbaye (Hôtel) - Place de l'Echo - 43160 LA CHAISE DIEU
Phone : 0471000045 - fax 0471000022

Day 1 : Visits selected by french-itinerary.com

. SAINT ARCON D'ALLIER

Musée du Fer Blanc - 43300 SAINT ARCON D'ALLIER
Phone : 0471740204

. BRIOUDE

Maison du Saumon et de la rivière (Curiosité) - 43100 BRIOUDE
Phone : 0471749143

Hôtel de la Dentelle - 43100 BRIOUDE
Phone : 0471748002

. AUZON

Ecomusée du pays d'Auzon - 43390 AUZON
Phone : 0471761480

. LA CHAISE DIEU

Eglise Abbatiale St Robert (Eglise) - 43160 LA CHAISE DIEU
Phone : 0471000606

Day 1 : The Notebook practises of french-itinerary.com

. CLERMONT-FERRAND

Automobile club AUVERGNE (Automobile club) - 3 rue Nicolas Cugnot - 63100 CLERMONT-FERRAND
Phone : 0473981680 - fax 0473981688 - @ : automobileclub.auvergne@wanadoo.fr

. SAINT ETIENNE

Office de Tourisme - 16 avenue de la Liberté - 42000 SAINT ETIENNE
Phone : 0892700542 - fax 0477493903

Espace Granger (Location de vélos) - 27 rue de la République - 42000 SAINT ETIENNE
Phone : 0477258809

. LANGEAC

Office de Tourisme - Place Aristide Briand - 43300 LANGEAC
Phone : 0471770541 - fax 0471771993

. LAVOUTE-CHILHAC

Office de Tourisme - Place du Monument - 43380 LAVOUTE-CHILHAC
Phone : 0471774657 - fax 0471774011 - @ : ot.lavoute-chilhac@haut.allier.com

. BRIOUDE

Office de Tourisme - Place Lafayette - 43100 BRIOUDE
Phone : 0471749749 - fax 0471749787 - @ : ot.brioude@haut-allier.com

. AUZON

Office de Tourisme - Place de la Bareyre - 43390 AUZON
Phone : 0471761811 - fax 0471761108 - @ : ot.auzon@haut-allier.com

. LA CHAISE DIEU

Office de Tourisme - Place de la Mairie - 43160 LA CHAISE DIEU
Phone : 0471000116 - fax 0471000345 - @ : otcasadei@aol.com



Between the Loire and Allier rivers, le Puy-en-Velay, major centre of Christendom, Circuit N°27

2 Day 2 :

To enjoy entirely the charm of the place you will stay in a very old house which is a part of the enclave in the Chaise-Dieu majestic abbey.

The village stands out from the wooded plateau which links the mounts of Livradois to the mounts of Forez.

The abbey unit with Saint-Robert church built in the XIVth century is absolutely noteworthy. You will discover there real masterpieces : stalls, tapestries and the famous mural painting the macabre Danse. After the immense wood massif in the Dorette valley you will follow a scenic road with unique views to reach the valley of Arzon.

You will cross immense prairies scattered with copses and helmets before reaching the Ance valley. The road rises in corniche and offers superb panoramas over the Velay and la Haute-Loire Mounts. At the confluence of the rivers Ance and Loire you will discover two characteristic towns : Bas-en-Basset for the ruins of its fortified castle perched on a spur towering the river Loire and Monistrol for its houses with decorated eaves standing alongside the medieval streets.

You will cross the gorges of the river Loire at Bransac to reach au pays des succs which revolve around Yssingaux.

From the south exit of the town you will reach the hills of the Meygal massif besides the centennial pine trees, spruces and the fir trees provide a worrying depth.

2 Day 2 : Road book

Crossed places and towns	N° of crossed roads	KM	Comments
LA CHAISE-DIEU	D20	0.0	
BONNEVAL	RF	5.0	
CHAMBONNE	D498	4.0	
JULLIANGES	D498	0.0	
CRAPONNE-SUR-ARZON	D44	12.0	
FRAISSE	D44	0.0	
VOIRAC	D44	0.0	
BOISSET	D24	12.0	
TIRANGES	D44	2.0	
LES ARNAUDS	D44	0.0	
CROISEMENT	D42	12.0	
BAS-EN-BASSET	D42	3.0	
MONISTROL-SUR-LOIRE	D42	7.0	
BEAUZAC	D42	0.0	
CROIX-DE-L'ORME	D42	11.0	
BRANSAC	D42	0.0	
BEAUX	D42	7.0	
YSSINGEAUX	D7	7.0	
CROISEMENT	D42	2.0	
PIALEVIALLES	D18	5.0	
QUEYRIERES	D152	5.0	
SAINT-JULIEN-CHAPTEUIL	D49	7.0	
LAUSSONNE	D	7.0	
LE FRAYSSE	D	0.0	
MOUDEYRES	D	4.0	

2 Day 2 : The lodgings suggested by french-itinerary.com

. LA CHAISE DIEU

Hôtel de l'Echo et de l'Abbaye (Hôtel) - Place de l'Echo - 43160 LA CHAISE DIEU
Phone : 0471000045 - fax 0471000022

. SAINT-JULIEN-CHAPTEUIL

Le Barriol (Hôtel) - 43260 SAINT-JULIEN-CHAPTEUIL
Phone : 0471087017 - fax 0471087419 - @ : lebarriol@aol.com



. MOUDEYRES

Le Pré Bossu (Hôtel) - le Pré Bossu - 43150 MOUDEYRES
Phone : 0471051070 - fax 0471051021

2 Day 2 : Visits selected by french-itinerary.com

. LA CHAISE DIEU

Eglise Abbatiale St Robert (Eglise) - 43160 LA CHAISE DIEU
Phone : 0471000606

. MONISTROL SUR LOIRE

Château des Evêques (Château) - 43120 MONISTROL SUR LOIRE
Phone : 0471051213

. MOUDEYRES

Ferme des Frères Perrel (Curiosité) - 43000 MOUDEYRES
Phone : 0471051213

2 Day 2 : The Notebook practises of french-itinerary.com

. LA CHAISE DIEU

Office de Tourisme - Place de la Mairie - 43160 LA CHAISE DIEU
Phone : 0471000116 - fax 0471000345 - @ : otcasadei@aol.com

. MONISTROL SUR LOIRE

Office de Tourisme - 4 bis rue du Château - 43120 MONISTROL SUR LOIRE
Phone : 0471660314 - fax 0471616195

. YSSINGEAUX

Office de Tourisme - 24 Place Carnot - 43200 YSSINGEAUX
Phone : 0471591076 - fax 0471560312



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3 Day 3 :

The village of Moudeyres has kept numerous typical houses on the Mézenc plateau. Isolated at more than 1200 metres of elevation, you will be greeted in a thatched cottage from the XVIIth century issued straight ahead from a fairy tale.

Your pilgrimage through the major places of Christendom will encounter Monastier abbey-church built in the XIth century. Following the Gazeille valley you will travel along the river Loire in Solignac to reach the summit of one of the most beautiful sites in France.

Le Puy-en-Velay, starting point for one the Saint-Jacques-de-Compostelle paths, greets a great number of pilgrims who revere the Black Virgin of Notre-Dame-du-Puy.

The statues which rise on each hill around the town testify this devotion. One of these rocks is surmounted by the chapel Saint-Michel-d'Aiguilhe one of the jewels of the Roman Auvergnat art.

When leaving le Puy through the valley, you will come across the the knights' castles flanking the towns of Polignac and Saint-Vidal which commanded their fief in Pays de Velay from the height of their spur.

You will find back the valley of Allier in Monistrol. After having driven past the foot of the castle Rochegude your road will rise along a medium corniche above the gorges, before travelling down in a steep-sided site where you will discover the village of Prades. You will drive on the left bank of the river Allier up to Saint-Julien-des-Chazes.

You will find back the right bank of the river which will lead you up to Saint-Arcons d'Allier, the end of your itinerary.

3 Day 3 : Road book

Crossed places and towns	N° of crossed roads	KM	Comments
MOUDEYRES	D361	0.0	
CROISEMENT	D36	0.0	
CROISEMENT	D500	2.0	
LE MONASTIER-SUR-GAZEILLE	D27	9.0	
CHADRON	D27	0.0	
SOLIGNAC-SUR-LOIRE	D54	13.0	
CUSSAC-SUR-LOIRE	D54	0.0	
TAILHAC	N88	7.0	
LE PUY EN VELAY	D13	2.0	
POLIGNAC	N102	3.0	
BLEU	D	3.0	
SAINT-VIDAL	D	0.0	
CROISEMENT	D590	0.0	
CROISEMENT	RF	0.0	
SANSSAC-L'EGLISE	D48	6.0	
VERGEZAC	D48	0.0	
VARENNES	D25	0.0	
SAINT-PRIVAT-D'ALLIER	D589	10.0	
MONISTROL-D'ALLIER	D301	5.0	
VERGNES	D48	10.0	
PRADES	D48	5.0	
SAINT-JULIEN-DES-CHAZES	D48	0.0	
SAINT-ARCONS-D'ALLIER	D48	7.0	

3 Day 3 : The lodgings suggested by french-itinerary.com

. BLAVOZY

Le Moulin de la Barette (Hôtel) - 43700 BLAVOZY
Phone : 0471030088 - fax 0471030051 - @ : lemoulindebarette@wanadoo.fr

. MOUDEYRES



Le Pré Bossu (Hôtel) - le Pré Bossu - 43150 MOUDEYRES
Phone : 0471051070 - fax 0471051021

. SAINT-ARCONS-D'ALLIER

Les Deux Abbesses (Hôtel) - Le Château - 43300 SAINT-ARCONS-D'ALLIER
Phone : 0471740308 - fax 0471740530 - @ : abbesses@relaischateaux.com

Fait partie du Pass'Reve, Consultez la rubrique Bons plans

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Day 3 : Visits selected by french-itinerary.com

. MOUDEYRES

Ferme des Frères Perrel (Curiosité) - 43000 MOUDEYRES
Phone : 0471051213

. LE MONASTIER SUR GAZEILLE

Abbatiale (Eglise) - 43000 LE MONASTIER SUR GAZEILLE
Phone : 0471083776

. SAINT VIDAL

Château de St Vidal (Château) - 43000 SAINT VIDAL
Phone : 0471080368

. SAINT ARCON D'ALLIER

Musée du Fer Blanc - 43300 SAINT ARCON D'ALLIER
Phone : 0471740204

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Day 3 : The Notebook practises of french-itinerary.com

. LE PUY EN VELAY

Office de Tourisme - Place du Breuil - 43000 LE PUY EN VELAY
Phone : 0471093841 - fax 0471052262 - @ : info@ot-lepuyenvelay.fr

Centre P. Cardinal (Location de vélos) - 9 rue Jules Vallès - 43300 LE PUY EN VELAY
Phone : 0471055240