

CŒUR de BÉARN



Your HOLIDAY
destination, halfway
between the Basque
Coast and the
Pyrenees.

WWW.COEURDEBEARN.COM





SALIES DE BÉARN 17 KMS
PEYREHORADE 29 KMS
HOSSEGOR 70 KMS
BAYONNE 73 KMS
IRUN-ESPAGNE 106 KMS

DAX 38 KMS
HAGETMAU 14 KMS
AIRE SUR L'ADOUR 48 KMS

Compass rose showing North (N), South (S), East (E), and West (O).

- Cour d'eau
- Routes secondaires
- Routes principales
- Route Nationale
- Autoroute
- Chemin de fer
- Lacs
- Offices de Tourisme

NAVARREX 22 KMS

NAVARREX 18 KMS
L'HÔPITAL ST BLAISE 23 KMS

OLORON STE MARIE 11 KMS
VALLÉE D'ASPE 35 KMS
VALLÉE DE BARÈTOUS 20 KMS

PAU 27 KMS
TARBES 62 KMS
LOURDES 75 KMS

GAN 17 KMS



The Coeur de Béarn is a green, hilly region with some beautiful historical monuments (churches, the Pilgrim route to Compostella in Spain, cathedrals, châteaux) and its typical local architecture (stone walls, roman tiles etc).

Béarn is also a region for vineyards with the famous Jurançon wine, rivers flow through its countryside and it is rich walks on the hills and extensive views of the Pyrenees.

In the Coeur de Béarn, you can take time out to try the excellent local products. For your stay you have a wide choice between say, a family gîte offering you free run of a house, bed-and-breakfast or refreshingly different accommodation.

A destination which emerges on your journey or around a convivial table in the shade of sturdy trees or ancient architecture.



SUMMARY

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HERITAGE

The Coeur de Béarn is a verdant hilly country that history has embraced with passion.

Châteaux bear witness to both conquest (that of Gaston Fébus) and royalty (Henri IV) whilst the many Middle Ages bastides and fortified villages off the beaten track show us the character of this country which was once an independent State.

But this little country with its strong character which was once a bastion of protestantism also has a long history of Catholicism with a large number of Romanesque churches.

From village to village, Orthez to Monein, you breathe in history without realising it with their stonewalled houses and Roman tiled roofs.





ORTHEZ

Orthez, the old capital of Béarn...

It was founded in the middle ages and its streets have echoed to some of the great events of French history.

In the very centre of the town, the keep of the Château Moncade stands witness to Gaston Fébus', the 14th century lord and his ambition to turn Béarn into a Pyrenean State. The keep which is 110 m high is the highest point in town.

Walking down rue Moncade on the Chemin de St Jacques de Compostelle, at 14 rue de l'Horloge you'll find the courtyard of the Hôtel de la Lune, a magnificent mediaeval dwelling from the 15th century.

Keep walking through the Old Town and enter the Musée Jeanne d'Albret to have an understanding of the influence that protestantism had over Béarn.

Then follow the road to the Pont Vieux, the old bridge proudly astride the Gave de Pau. Gaston Fébus made this bridge emblematic of his town. His motto: "Touch it if you dare" !

To discover Orthez, ask the Tourist Office the free stroll « Histoire d'Orthez ».

YOU CAN'T MISS

LE MUSÉE JEANNE D'ALBRET

Get to know the life of a famous Protestant: Jeanne d'Albret. The museum presents the fascinating route taken by the Huguenots, from the origins of the Reformation (15th century) to the 20th century.

www.museejeannedalbre.com

LE CHÂTEAU MONCADE

Entering the tower through the ogive door, we are surprised by the thickness of the walls. On the first floor, former guard room, a light and sound recreation evokes the history of the castle.

From the top of the tower, magnificent views of the city and the Pyrenees. Orthez and its flat roof tiles, its hidden gardens...

www.mairie-orthez.fr

MANUFACTURE DE BÉRETS

In her small workshop, Sara makes the real beret from start to finish.

www.manufacturedeberets.fr

TISSAGE MOUTET

Workshop for the manufacture of authentic Basque clothing, specializing in the art of table, for 150 years.

www.tissage-moutet.com



Scan the QR code to get all the information you need to discover Orthez.



MONEIN

YOU CAN'T MISS

Monein is characterised by its varied delights with both a historical centre and rural districts extending over 8000 ha.

Monein's centre reveals the largest Gothic church in Béarn, the church of Saint-Girons.

Jurançon wine was once known as the wine of Monein. You could almost say that Monein is the stronghold of all Jurançon vineyards. What's more, 60% of all Jurançon production comes from Monein. So it's the best place to meet winegrowers. Some of these families have been making wine for five generations. It's not just a history of taste, it's a history of lives.



Scan the QR code to get all the information you need to discover Monein.

TWO DISCOVERY TRAILS IN MONEIN

This village is made for walking with its remarkable footpaths and views. An informational footpath starting from the centre of the village ends at the Mairie after crossing vineyards and hills (1 1/2 hours). Another completely shaded informational footpath concentrating on biodiversity crosses the Laring forest. This one and a half hour walk starts from Maison Ticoulat. To discover Monein, ask the Tourist Office the stroll « Histoire de Monein ».

THE CHURCH OF ST GIRONS AND ITS TIMBER ROOF

Whilst Béarn has a number of Romanesque buildings, Monein has the largest gothic church in Béarn, the church of Saint-Girons. The height of its clock tower is impressive and its isometric double shelled upturned boat roof is unique. It has other peculiarities: just like its roof, it is asymmetrical with a principal nave and one single side chapel; it has no transept.

It took three generations of builders to complete between 1464 and 1530. They say that the cagots made a strong contribution to building this roof. These cagots were excluded from society living in their own community away from the village. It is supposed that most of them were carpenters.

The guided tour presents the architecture of this church and the history of the village. We can then climb the 72 steps of the clock tower to view the roof in son et lumière.

**Guided tours all year long, for more information and reservation, contact the Tourist Office :
+ 33 5 59 12 30 40 -
www.coeurdebearn.com**





BEAUTIFUL LITTLE VILLAGES



COMMANDERIE DE LACOMMANDE

In a village in the Béarn Hills nestles Lacommande and one of the very rare «Commanderies» still in existence, the Commanderie de Lacommande.

Today the Church Saint Blaise and refuge are classified as Historical Monuments.

On this historic 12th-century site, a number of original, fun activities await you on a tour described as “a sensory stroll through your inner Béarn”.

www.commanderie-lacommande.fr

THE CHAPELLE DE CAUBIN IN ARTHEZ-DE-BÉARN

Arthez-de-Béarn is an important stage on the pilgrim route to Compostelle from le Puy en Velay. The chapelle de Caubin is to be found there, the last remains of a commanderie founded there in 1154.

SAUVELADE

Sauvelade Abbey was built in the 12th century.

The church was first mentioned in 1287. It was listed as a historic monument in 1973. Its distinctive feature is its Greek cross plan, topped by a dome, which is quite unusual in Béarn. The church has the simplicity that characterises all Cistercian buildings.

BELLOCQ

Bellocq is the oldest bastide in Bellocq, (13th century) and it has all of the characteristics you might expect: narrow streets set at right angles with a church having a remarkable entrance.

THE CHURCH OF ST VINCENT IN LUCQ-DE-BÉARN

Lucq-de-Béarn and its beautiful houses is typically Béarnais. Its romano-gothic styled church has a palio christian sarcophagus serving as its altar.



Scan the QR code to get all the information you need to discover charming villages.



THE COMPOSTELA PILGRIM ROUTE

Three pilgrim routes cross the Cœur de Béarn :

- The Vézelay route (GR654) passing through Sault-de-Navailles, Sallespisse, Orthez and Lanneplaa
- The Puy-en-Velay route (GR65) passing through Castillon d'Arthez, Arthez-de-Béarn, Argagnon, Maslacq and Sauvelade
- The Arles route (GR653) passing through Lacommande.

VINEYARDS

Wine of kings, king of wines!

The Jurançon vineyard spreads across 30,000 acres, on the hillsides facing the Pyrenees.

It produces a characteristic white wine, which can be enjoyed dry or sweet.

Here, you will not find famous châteaux. Instead, you will be welcomed into wineries, meet the people that work the vines which appear along the country roads.

The grape varieties, ranging from petit manseng to gros manseng, deliver flavours of peach, pear and vanilla.

Jurançon accompanies meals from aperitif to desert and goes beautifully with foie gras or smoked salmon.

Our wine tastes of history and of the riches of a land grown with love and respect.





THE JURANÇON

The region's Indian summer and the warm wind offer an exceptional sweet wine, giving it all the body that made its reputation.

The French certification "Appellation d'Origine Contrôlée" was obtained in 1936 for the sweet wine – making it one of the first in France – and in 1975 for the dry wine. Jurançon wines are sweet and amber-coloured white wines that, depending on the vintage, age beautifully. Here, the harvest begins early in October with the gathering of most of the "gros manseng" for the confection of dry Jurançon wine. Once ripened from the autumn sun, the same vines will be harvested a month later for the production of traditional sweet Jurançon wines.

THE JURANÇON WINERIES

Centuries of expertise to discover Meeting a wine-grower is always a privileged moment. Push the door open and meet the men and women who work their land with pride to bring you the best fruit. Each wine-grower chooses his blend according to the vintage, making the wine unique. Over 60 independent wine-growers will welcome you into their vineyards to unveil their wine-cellars, the wine-making process and tell you of the love they have for their wine.

List available at the Tourist Office



LA MAISON DES VIGNERONS DU JURANÇON

Showcasing Jurançon

Follow the ridgeway across the vineyards: you will reach the Maison des Vins de Jurançon in Lacommande. This shop includes an exhibit and tasting hall where you will discover a wide range of over 130 wine references, some from Madiran, Irouléguy and Bearn.

What will it be for you? Sweet or dry?

In 1986, several young wine-growers saw their potential and came together to form an association: the Jurançon Wine Road. In an effort to promote sustainable development and their work, they created la Maison des Vins. Today, the Jurançon Wine Road gathers over 60 wine-growers who produce and sell their own wine.

Open all year long.
www.vins-jurancon.fr



Scan the QR code to get all the information you need to discover the Jurançon.

NATURAL ACTIVITIES



Béarn, the heart of Béarn, breathes deeply!

This verdant rolling countryside crossed by rivers and enfolded in forests is just right for outdoor activities with the Pyrenees as background. This ideal holiday destination on a human scale is ideal for those who love easy walking and families looking for a bit of rest and enjoyment.

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PANORAMAS

The Jurançon vineyards

The Jurançon vineyards offer the best viewpoints for the Pyrenees between Monein and Lacommande following roads and paths the eye is drawn to long stretches of vines, forests and peaks. There is beauty too in the way light and colours change by the hour or season.

Panoramic routes

Taking to the small byways on foot, bicycle or car is another way of discovering the Cœur de Béarn. The countryside unveils itself slowly as you move along whether through small woods or great forests.

Cœur de Béarn is a land of hillsides offering unique viewpoints for the countryside and the Pyrenees.

The gave de Pau

The Gave de Pau flows across the Cœur de Béarn creating its own exceptional biodiversity. Its riverbanks with their lush vegetation are home to migratory birds. Just sit by its side or walk, whatever you like but just listen to the river!



Scan the QR code to find out about hiking trails.



A BEACH IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

The Orthez Biron Leisure Centre is to be found in a truly wonderful environment, on 100 ha of countryside, around a lake of 40 ha bordered by a sandy beach.

This relaxing setting is complete with a playground and other activities to spend a day full of twists and turns!

Everything is planned for your picnic!

For a refreshing swim in fresh water, head to the supervised beach.

There are also plenty of activities here: pedal boats, water skiing, fishing ...

If you still have energy after this busy day, enjoy a walk around the lake on the shady footpath.



Learn more about the Orthez-Biron Leisure Centre.

Animal parks, tree climbing, motor sports, canoe, kayak...

There are activities for everyone!



THE AMAZING TREASURE HUNT !

With Terra Aventura and its 100% free App, set off on an adventure to discover Monein, Mourenx and Orthez !



GASTRONOMY

The Coeur de Béarn welcomes you with open arms in a green landscape. Because the land has been so generous to us, we love to share. A region famous for its Jurançon wine, Roussanne peaches, duck, cheese and other delicacies, Béarn is a land of indulgence.

ROUSSANNE PEACHES

The Roussanne peach is a variety typically grown in the region of Monein.

This variety of peach blossoms in the stony ground of the Bearnais hills, basking in the sun of the Jurançon vineyards, facing the Pyrenees Mountains.

It can be recognized thanks to its round shape, its yellow flesh, speckled with red.

Nothing beats a peach salad with a glass of Jurançon wine!

During the summer months, the producers welcome you to their farms to discover this local gem.

LOCAL PRODUCERS

The Coeur de Béarn spreads from Orthez to Monein and invites you to meet its local producers. From traditional to unique, our enthusiastic producers will welcome you with open arms into their farms or for a chat on a market: duck, cheese, honey, Roussanne peaches, ...

Indulge in the delights of the Heart of Béarn!



Scan the QR code to discover local producers

MARKETS

Cheese makers, butchers, market gardeners, winegrowers and pork butchers await food-lovers at the Heart of Béarn's traditional markets:

- Monday morning in Monein
- Tuesday morning in Orthez
- Wednesday morning in Artix and Mourenx
- Friday morning in Puyoo
- Friday at the end of the day in Monein and Cardesse, from 17h to 20h.
- Saturday morning in Arthez-de-Béarn, Mourenx and Orthez
- Sunday morning in Lucq-de-Béarn

Marchés de Producteurs de Pays

During the summer evenings, the Marchés de Producteurs de Pays will give you a chance to create a 100% farmhouse menu with dishes prepared by your local producers.

A great opportunity to share wonderful local meals with your family or friends in a festive atmosphere.

From June to September

RESTAURANTS

From Orthez to Monein, indulge in the delicious gastronomy of our region. The Heart of Béarn restaurant owners will introduce you to foie gras, Pyrenees lamb, free range veal, local cheese, Roussanne peaches... and let's not forget Jurançon wine!



Scan the QR code to discover the restaurants.





Coeur de Béarn Tourist office

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64300 ORTHEZ

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