

SELF-GUIDED WALKING HOLIDAY · 14 DAYS

The Great Dordogne Walk

14 days · from £1,995

"Two of our walks joined up in one fortnight, from the caves of the Vézère valley to the cliffs of Rocamadour."

Cassie

Two weeks on foot from the prehistoric Vézère valley to the cliffs of Rocamadour: painted caves and clifftop castles, medieval Sarlat, the pilgrimage town of Rocamadour, the Gouffre de Padirac and the clifftop villages of the Lot, with a characterful, often family-run hotel waiting at the end of each day.

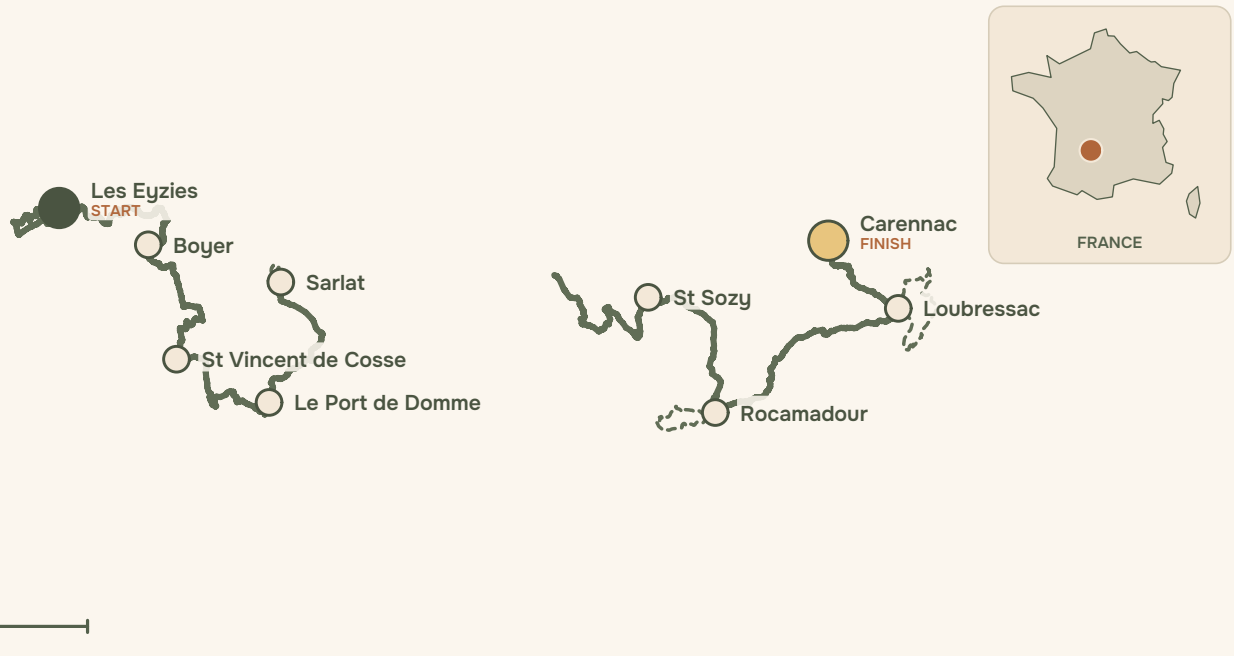
THE ESSENTIALS

Key facts

DURATION	14 days (13 nights)
WALKING EACH DAY	11.2–20.1 km (7–12 miles) Optional walks on days 7 (8.3 km (5.2 miles)), 10 (10.8 km (6.7 miles)) and 12 (20.3 km (13 miles))
ACTIVITY LEVEL	Moderate, with a few short steep climbs
DAILY CLIMB	Up to 450 m (about 1,500 ft) Measured from our GPX tracks
START AND FINISH	Les Eyzies to Carennac
OWNED AND RUN BY	Cassie at Dordogne Experience
HOLIDAY STYLE	Self-guided, inn to inn, with your luggage moved for you
SEASON AND START DAYS	April–October Start days on request
HOTELS	Often family-run 2-star to 4-star hotels
MEALS	13 breakfasts, 10 dinners
LOCATION	Dordogne, Vézère and Lot, France

WHERE YOU'LL GO

The route



Drawn from our own GPX tracks (optional walks dashed). We email you these tracks as GPX files for your phone. Town positions © OpenStreetMap contributors.

The Vézère Valley

Its prehistoric sites and decorated caves have been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1979. Rock shelters, cave art and the National Museum of Prehistory are all within easy reach of Les Eyzies.

Rocamadour and the pilgrims

The Camino de Santiago: the Way of St James, or le chemin de Saint-Jacques

Since the Middle Ages pilgrims have climbed to Rocamadour's sanctuaries, built into the cliff above the Alzou gorge. Rocamadour's Basilica of Saint-Sauveur and the Crypt of Saint-Amadour are part of the UNESCO World Heritage listing "Routes of Santiago de Compostela in France". Two pilgrim routes come through the town: a detour off the Le Puy route (the Via Podiensis, GR 65), which pilgrims leave at Figeac to walk here on the GR 6 before heading on towards Cahors on the GR 46, and the Voie de Rocamadour, which links the Vézelay route to the Le Puy route by way of Collonges-la-Rouge, Turenne and Martel.

Our holiday isn't a pilgrimage, but you arrive in Rocamadour on foot, as pilgrims have for centuries, with your luggage carried and your hotels booked: a taste of the Camino, not the whole thing.

PER PERSON

2027 prices

	14 DAYS 13 nights
Per person, sharing a double or twin	**£1,995**
Single room supplement	+£545
Travelling solo (on top of the per-person price)	+£745

Prices are per person, sharing a double/twin room. The 14-day holiday (highlighted) is the one described here.

In US dollars	about US$2,640
In Canadian dollars	about C$3,760
In Australian dollars	about A$3,890
In New Zealand dollars	about NZ$4,770
In euros	about €2,390

Approximate amounts at the 13 November 2026 exchange rate. Prices are set in pounds, and you can pay in any currency you prefer.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT

What to expect

Two of our great walks in one fortnight, from the prehistoric Vézère valley to the cliffs of Rocamadour: painted caves and clifftop castles, medieval Sarlat, the pilgrimage town of Rocamadour and the clifftop villages of the Lot.

Highlights

- The caves and cliff shelters of the Vézère valley around Les Eyzies
- Beynac and Castelnaud, and a night at the 4-star Hôtel Le Périgord
- A free day in medieval Sarlat
- Two nights in Rocamadour, the Gouffre de Padirac and clifftop Loubressac
- A finish at Carennac on the Dordogne

What we look after for you

A family business. Dordogne Experience has been creating self-guided walking and cycling holidays here for over 40 years. It's owned and run by Cassie, and every route has been walked or cycled by our family.

Hotels we know personally. Small, characterful hotels, many of them family-run and many with a pool, chosen for their welcome and their cooking. On our Dordogne and Lot holidays, Cassie knows every one of them.

Luggage moved for you. You carry only what you need for the day. Your bags are taken on each time you change hotel and are waiting when you arrive.

Easy to follow. Our own detailed route notes, plus GPX tracks for your phone, so you can explore at your own pace with confidence.

Support throughout. Cassie is a phone call or WhatsApp message away for the whole holiday, in English or French, with real local knowledge.

Flexible and private. Just you and your party, with no groups and no fixed departures. Holidays can start on most days from April to October, and we can add extra nights or rest days, upgrade hotels or make a longer version.

Every booking handled personally. Cassie books every hotel, luggage transfer and included taxi herself, and before you go you'll have a welcome letter with everything you need.

Who it suits. Walkers who want a longer, deeper holiday and the highlights of both regions. Moderate, 11.2 to 20.1 km (7 to 12 miles) a day.


Les Eyzies


Beynac


Sarlat

YOUR HOLIDAY

At a glance

DAY	ROUTE	DISTANCE	CLIMB	OVERNIGHT
1	Arrival in Les Eyzies	–	–	Les Eyzies · Hotel Cromagnon
2	Around Les Eyzies (circular walk)	12.8 km (8 miles)	↑ 220 m (about 700 ft) ↓ 220 m (about 700 ft)	Les Eyzies · Hotel Cromagnon
3	Les Eyzies to Boyer	16.8 km (10 miles)	↑ 450 m (about 1,500 ft) ↓ 350 m (about 1,150 ft)	Boyer · Domaine de la Rhonie
4	Boyer to St Vincent de Cosse	15.7 km (9.8 miles)	↑ 310 m (about 1,000 ft) ↓ 400 m (about 1,300 ft)	St Vincent de Cosse · Domaine de Monrecour
5	St Vincent de Cosse to Le Port de Domme	13.8 km (8.6 miles)	↑ 130 m (about 450 ft) ↓ 130 m (about 450 ft)	Le Port de Domme · Hôtel Le Périgord
6	Le Port de Domme to Sarlat	14.2 km (8.8 miles), 15.1 km (9.4 miles) if you're staying at La Verperie	↑ 210 m (about 700 ft) ↓ 140 m (about 450 ft)	Sarlat · Hotel La Couleuvrine
7	Free day in Sarlat (optional circular walk)	Optional 8.3 km (5.2 miles)	↑ 180 m (about 600 ft) ↓ 180 m (about 600 ft)	Sarlat · Hotel La Couleuvrine
8	Sarlat to St Sozy, via Souillac	17.2 km (11 miles)	↑ 390 m (about 1,300 ft) ↓ 370 m (about 1,200 ft)	St Sozy · Hotel Grangier
9	St Sozy to Rocamadour	14.1 or 14.8 km (8.8 or 9.2 miles)	↑ 290 m ↓ 140–220 m	Rocamadour · Hotel Bellevue
10	Rocamadour circular walk	Optional 10.8 km (6.7 miles)	↑ 270 m (about 900 ft) ↓ 280 m (about 900 ft)	Rocamadour · Hotel Bellevue
11	Rocamadour to Loubressac	20.1 km (12 miles)	↑ 320 m (about 1,050 ft) ↓ 240 m (about 800 ft)	Loubressac · Le Cantou 354
12	Optional circular walks from Loubressac	Optional 20.3 km (13 miles)	↑ 390 m (about 1,300 ft) ↓ 390 m (about 1,300 ft)	Loubressac · Le Cantou 354
13	Loubressac to Carennac	11.2 km (7 miles)	↑ 250 m (about 800 ft) ↓ 430 m (about 1,400 ft)	Carennac · Hotel Fenelon
14	Departure	–	–	–

Climbs shown where we've measured the route.

IN DETAIL

Day by day

DAY 1

Arrival in Les Eyzies

Dinner included

Arrive in Les Eyzies-de-Tayac for the first two nights of your fortnight, a village tucked beneath overhanging limestone cliffs on the banks of the Vézère. Look up and you'll see the statue of a caveman marking the caves where Stone Age people lived, and the National Museum of Prehistory is here too. Your hotel has a swimming pool.

Tonight: Les Eyzies · Hotel Cromagnon

DAY 2

Around Les Eyzies (circular walk)

12.8 km (8 miles) · ↑ 220 m (about 700 ft) ↓ 220 m (about 700 ft) · Bed & breakfast, dinner out

An easy circular walk with lovely views of the cliffs and grottos above the Vézère. It's worth a short detour to the Grotte de Saint-Cirq, set beside a little house built into the rock, and you can combine the walk with a visit to the National Museum of Prehistory.

Tonight: Les Eyzies · Hotel Cromagnon

ELEVATION



DAY 3

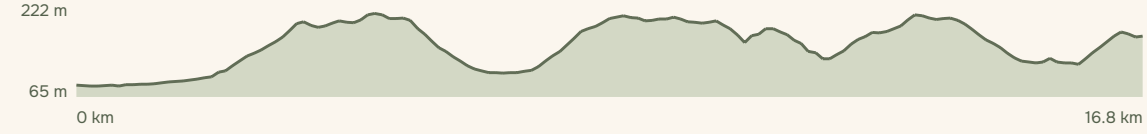
Les Eyzies to Boyer

16.8 km (10 miles) · ↑ 450 m (about 1,500 ft) ↓ 350 m (about 1,150 ft) · Dinner included

You leave Les Eyzies through woods and quiet valleys to the Château de Commarque, on its rocky outcrop above the Beune valley. Hidden beneath undergrowth for centuries and only rediscovered in the 20th century, it's still being restored, and you can climb the tower for superb views. Tonight's hotel has a swimming pool.

Tonight: Boyer · Domaine de la Rhonie

ELEVATION



DAY 4

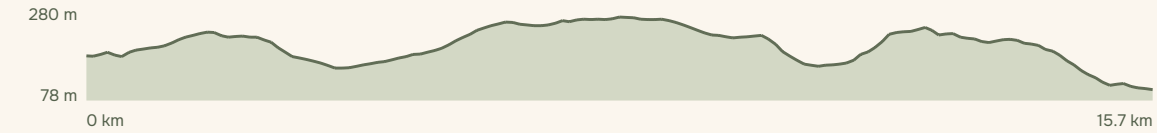
Boyer to St Vincent de Cosse

15.7 km (9.8 miles) · ↑ 310 m (about 1,000 ft) ↓ 400 m (about 1,300 ft) · Dinner included

An undulating walk through shaded woods and fields brings you to the hamlet of St Vincent de Cosse, close to the Dordogne, and the lovely Domaine de Monrecour, which has a swimming pool. An alternative route today takes you to the 12th-century Château de Beynac, perched on its crag above the river and the medieval village below, one of France's Plus Beaux Villages. This alternative ends with a short stretch along a busy road to St Vincent de Cosse, so take care.

Tonight: St Vincent de Cosse · Domaine de Monrecour

ELEVATION



DAY 5

St Vincent de Cosse to Le Port de Domme

13.8 km (8.6 miles) · ↑ 130 m (about 450 ft) ↓ 130 m (about 450 ft) · Dinner included

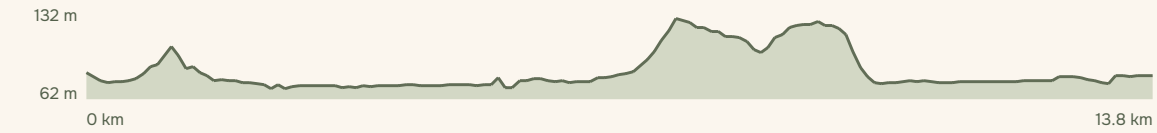
A day of highlights. From Domaine de Monrecour you walk through Beynac, then along the river to the medieval Château de Castelnaud, home to a fine collection of medieval war machines, with an optional detour to the hanging gardens of Marqueyssac. You carry on through St Julien and Cénac and over the bridge to Le Port de Domme, where tonight's hotel sits in a quiet, tree-lined park with indoor and outdoor pools.



The Château de Beynac

Tonight: Le Port de Domme · Hôtel Le Périgord

ELEVATION



DAY 6

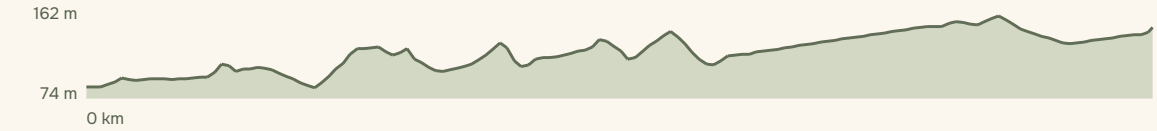
Le Port de Domme to Sarlat

14.2 km (8.8 miles), 15.1 km (9.4 miles) if you're staying at La Verperie · ↑ 210 m (about 700 ft) ↓ 140 m (about 450 ft) · Dinner included

Quiet farm lanes lead you through Vitrac and beneath the Château de Montfort, high on its rock above the river. Destroyed and rebuilt four times, it has 800 years of turbulent history behind it. Then the Voie Verte, a car-free greenway on an old railway line, carries you into Sarlat, whose medieval streets and golden stone facades are protected by law.

Tonight: Sarlat · Hotel La Couleuvrine

ELEVATION



DAY 7

Free day in Sarlat (optional circular walk)

Optional 8.3 km (5.2 miles) · ↑ 180 m (about 600 ft) ↓ 180 m (about 600 ft) · Bed & breakfast, dinner out

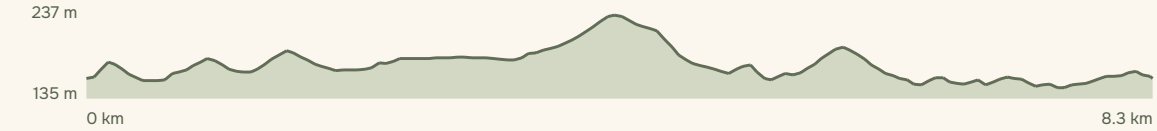
A day to enjoy Sarlat. There's a produce market every Wednesday and Saturday, and on Saturdays it's the largest in the region. Take the glass lift up the Sainte-Marie bell tower for panoramic views, or simply watch the world go by from a street café. An optional circular walk is in your route notes.

Tonight: Sarlat · Hotel La Couleuvrine



Sarlat

ELEVATION



DAY 8

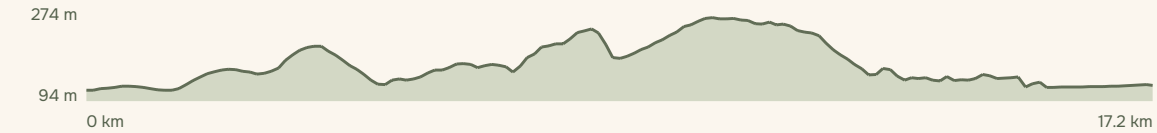
Sarlat to St Sozy, via Souillac

17.2 km (11 miles) · ↑ 390 m (about 1,300 ft) ↓ 370 m (about 1,200 ft) · Dinner included

An included taxi takes you from Sarlat to Souillac, with its domed Romanesque abbey church. You walk high above the river with views of the châteaux of La Treyne and Belcastel, then down to a riverside path past prehistoric cave dwellings to the timeless old village of St Sozy.

Tonight: St Sozy · Hotel Grangier

ELEVATION



DAY 9

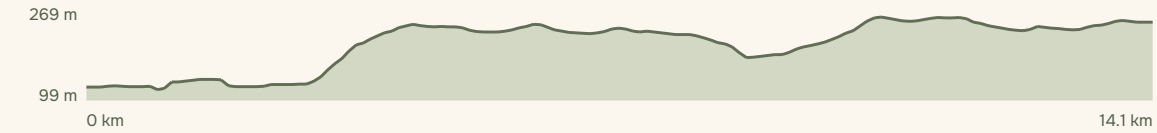
St Sozy to Rocamadour

14.1 km (8.8 miles) · ↑ 290 m (about 950 ft) ↓ 140 m (about 450 ft) · Dinner included

Through pleasant woods and fields, with glimpses of the Auvergne mountains on a clear day, to Rocamadour, spectacularly set in its rocky valley.

Tonight: Rocamadour · Hotel Bellevue

ELEVATION



DAY 10

Rocamadour circular walk

Optional 10.8 km (6.7 miles) · ↑ 270 m (about 900 ft) ↓ 280 m (about 900 ft) · Bed & breakfast, dinner out

Today's suggestion is the circular walk from Rocamadour in your route notes, shown on the map below. Or skip it and take the whole day to explore Rocamadour, an important religious site since its beginnings and a stop for pilgrims on their way to Santiago de Compostela. Tonight is bed and breakfast, so you can choose where to eat in Rocamadour.

Tonight: Rocamadour · Hotel Bellevue

ELEVATION



DAY 11

Rocamadour to Loubressac

20.1 km (12 miles) · ↑ 320 m (about 1,050 ft) ↓ 240 m (about 800 ft) · Dinner included

The route follows the Combe Molière valley to the little village of Gaule and on to Padirac, where the underground river and caverns of the Gouffre de Padirac are well worth a visit. Pleasant sandy paths then lead you to the dramatically sited fortified village of Loubressac.

Tonight: Loubressac · Le Cantou 354



The countryside near Loubressac

ELEVATION



DAY 12

Optional circular walks from Loubressac

Optional 20.3 km (13 miles) · ↑ 390 m (about 1,300 ft) ↓ 390 m (about 1,300 ft) · Dinner included

Three circular options today: a walk to the magnificent Château de Castelnau, with lunch at its restaurant, Les Remparts; a walk to Autoire, with its gentlemen's houses and a climb up the cirque, the rock amphitheatre above the village; or, for the energetic, one that takes in both. It's up to you on the day: the castle, Autoire, both, or a shorter, easier day. The map shows the walk that takes in both; your route notes have all three.

Tonight: Loubressac · Le Cantou 354

ELEVATION



DAY 13

Loubressac to Carennac

11.2 km (7 miles) · ↑ 250 m (about 800 ft) ↓ 430 m (about 1,400 ft) · Dinner included

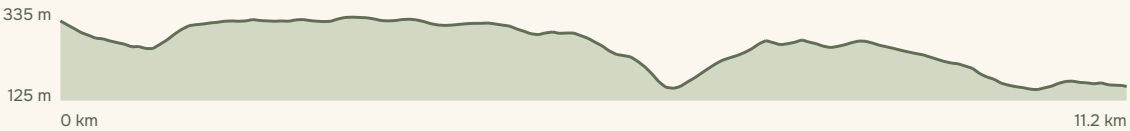
From clifftop Loubressac you walk down to the Dordogne at Carennac, one of France's most beautiful villages. Take your time in its winding streets, and there's a swimming pool for a cooling dip. Dinner tonight is at the Fenelon, which is known for its cooking.

Tonight: Carennac · Hotel Fenelon



Above the countryside near Carennac

ELEVATION



DAY 14

Departure

Your holiday ends after breakfast. For the journey home, your hotel can book you a taxi to the station at Brive or Souillac.

WALK ALL DAY, EAT VERY WELL

Food along the way



Les Eyzies



A chocolate tart with chocolate sorbet at Hôtel Le Périgord



Loubressac

NO SURPRISES

What's included

Included

- ✓ 13 nights' accommodation, sharing a double or twin room
- ✓ 13 breakfasts and 10 dinners
- ✓ The taxi from Sarlat to Souillac on day 8
- ✓ Your luggage moved on each time you change hotel
- ✓ Our detailed route notes
- ✓ GPX files by email, with simple instructions for using them on your phone
- ✓ Support by phone and WhatsApp throughout your holiday

Not included

- — Travel to the start and from the finish
- — Lunches and drinks
- — Entrance fees (châteaux, caves, gardens and museums)
- — Travel insurance (we strongly recommend it)
- — Personal expenses

FROM KEV AND CASSIE

Welcome

Thank you for reading. We plan every holiday ourselves, from the routes to the hotels, and we'd love to help you plan yours. Send us your dates and any questions you have, and I'll be in touch within 24 hours.

Cassie
A family business, owned and run by Cassie.

This route has been walked by our family, and every hotel is one we know.

Ready when you are

Tell us when you'd like to travel and we'll check availability and send you a quote, with the full details of your holiday.

Enquire: dordogneexperience.com/book-holiday
Call or WhatsApp Cassie: +44 7476 205 325
Email: hello@dordogneexperience.com
This holiday: dordogneexperience.com/great-dordogne-walk

Scan to enquire about this holiday

Booking and cancelling: A 25% deposit secures your holiday. The balance is due 8 weeks before you travel (book within 8 weeks and the full price is due when you book). Cancelling, in writing: more than 56 days before departure, 25% of the holiday price (your deposit); 56 to 29 days, 50%; 28 to 15 days, 70%; 14 days or less, 100%. Prices are set in pounds, and you can pay in any currency you prefer. Book early for May, June and September. Our hotels are small and often family-run, and they fill first in those months, so the earlier you book, the more choice of dates you'll have. Read the full Terms: dordogneexperience.com/terms-of-service.

Dordogne Experience has been organising walking and cycling holidays in the region for over 40 years.