SELF-GUIDED WALKING HOLIDAY · 8 DAYS

France's Most Beautiful Villages

Les Plus Beaux Villages de France walk

8 days · from £965

"Seven of France's most beautiful villages (Autoire on the day 7 walks), joined by quiet paths through the Corrèze and the Lot."

Cassie

A week on foot through seven of France's officially most beautiful villages (Autoire is on the day 7 walks), all members of the Les Plus Beaux Villages de France association, from the red sandstone of Collonges-la-Rouge to the clifftop lanes of Loubressac, with a characterful, often family-run hotel and a good dinner waiting at the end of the day.

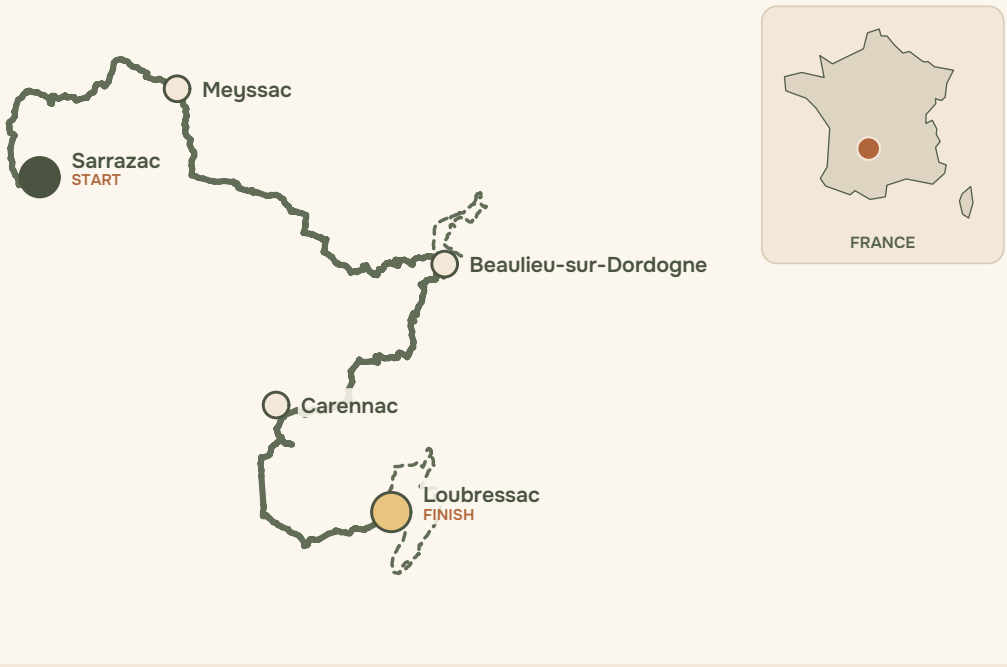
THE ESSENTIALS

Key facts

DURATION	8 days (7 nights)
WALKING EACH DAY	15.5–23 km (10–14 miles) Optional walks on days 4 (14.6 km (9.1 miles)) and 7 (20.3 km (13 miles))
ACTIVITY LEVEL	Moderate, with a few short steep climbs
DAILY CLIMB	Up to 560 m (about 1,850 ft) Measured from our GPX tracks
START AND FINISH	Sarrazac to Loubressac
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 any day except Friday or Sunday (some restaurants on the route close on those days)
HOTELS	Often family-run 2-star and 3-star hotels
MEALS	7 breakfasts, 6 dinners
LOCATION	Corrèze 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.

What are the Plus Beaux Villages de France?

France's most beautiful villages

An independent association founded in 1982 to protect and promote small rural villages of outstanding heritage. Villages must have fewer than 2,000 inhabitants, apply to join and meet strict criteria.

PER PERSON

2027 prices

	8 DAYS 7 nights	9 DAYS 8 nights	10 DAYS 9 nights	11 DAYS 10 nights
Per person, sharing a double or twin	**£965**	**£1,080**	**£1,190**	**£1,300**
Single room supplement	+£280	+£315	+£345	+£375
Travelling solo (on top of the per-person price)	+£340	+£390	+£460	+£530

Prices are per person, sharing a double/twin room. The 8-day holiday (highlighted) is the one described here. The longer versions add extra nights along the way, starting with a free day at Loubressac for circular walks to the Château de Castelnau, Autoire and its cirque. We'll send the full day-by-day with your quote.

In US dollars	about US$1,280	about US$1,430	about US$1,580	about US$1,720
In Canadian dollars	about C$1,820	about C$2,040	about C$2,250	about C$2,460
In Australian dollars	about A$1,880	about A$2,100	about A$2,310	about A$2,530
In New Zealand dollars	about NZ$2,300	about NZ$2,580	about NZ$2,840	about NZ$3,100
In euros	about €1,150	about €1,290	about €1,420	about €1,560

Approximate amounts at the 12 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

Seven of France's officially most beautiful villages in a single week on foot, and the holiday our guests book more than any other. Every day ends at a characterful, often family-run hotel with a good dinner waiting.

Highlights

- Seven members of Les Plus Beaux Villages de France: Turenne, Collonges-la-Rouge, Curemonte, Beaulieu-sur-Dordogne, Carennac, Loubressac and, on the day 7 walks, Autoire
- Hilltop Turenne and Collonges-la-Rouge, built entirely of red sandstone, on the same day
- A rest day by the river in Beaulieu-sur-Dordogne, reached down an ancient cobbled mule track
- The Gouffre de Padirac, an immense chasm where visitors take a boat along an underground river
- Clifftop Loubressac to finish, with optional walks to the great red Château de Castelnau and the cirque of cliffs above Autoire
- Dinner included on six of the seven nights

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. Keen walkers who want the finest of the region's villages and countryside. Moderate, 15.5 to 23 km (10 to 14 miles) a day.

Meyssac

Beaulieu-sur-Dordogne

On the way to Collonges-la-Rouge: Cassie, arms out, on a woodland path

YOUR HOLIDAY

At a glance

DAY	ROUTE	DISTANCE	CLIMB	OVERNIGHT
1	Arrival in Sarrazac	–	–	Sarrazac · La Bonne Famille
2	Sarrazac to Meyssac	17.9 km (11 miles)	↑ 390 m (about 1,300 ft) ↓ 410 m (about 1,350 ft)	Meyssac · Relais du Quercy Hotel
3	Meyssac to Beaulieu-sur-Dordogne	23.0 km (14 miles)	↑ 560 m (about 1,850 ft) ↓ 610 m (about 2,000 ft)	Beaulieu-sur-Dordogne · Hotel Le Beaulieu
4	Rest day in Beaulieu-sur-Dordogne	Optional 14.6 km (9.1 miles)	↑ 210 m (about 700 ft) ↓ 210 m (about 700 ft)	Beaulieu-sur-Dordogne · Hotel Le Beaulieu
5	Beaulieu-sur-Dordogne to Carennac	19.4 km (12 miles)	↑ 420 m (about 1,400 ft) ↓ 440 m (about 1,450 ft)	Carennac · Hotel Fenelon
6	Carennac to Loubressac	15.5 km (9.6 miles)	↑ 350 m (about 1,150 ft) ↓ 160 m (about 500 ft)	Loubressac · Le Cantou 354 (or Le Relais de Castelnau, depending on availability)
7	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 (or Le Relais de Castelnau, depending on availability)
8	Departure	–	–	–

Climbs shown where we've measured the route.

IN DETAIL

Day by day

DAY 1

Arrival in Sarrazac

Dinner included

Arrive in the quiet village of Sarrazac and settle in at La Bonne Famille, a 3-star Logis hotel whose cellar was once the village smithy. If there's time, have a dip in the pool before dinner.

Tonight: Sarrazac · La Bonne Famille

DAY 2

Sarrazac to Meyssac

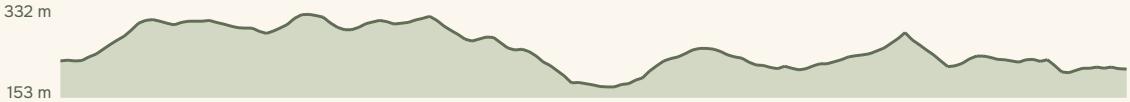
17.9 km (11 miles) · ↑ 390 m (about 1,300 ft) ↓ 410 m (about 1,350 ft) · Dinner included

Two of the Corrèze's Plus Beaux Villages in one day. First comes hilltop Turenne, the perfect stop for lunch, then lush country lanes lead you to Collonges-la-Rouge, a medieval village built entirely of red sandstone. Both villages are on the Voie de Rocamadour, a pilgrim route to Santiago de Compostela.

Tonight: Meyssac · Relais du Quercy Hotel

Kev and Cassie, toasting Collonges-la-Rouge

ELEVATION



DAY 3

Meyssac to Beaulieu-sur-Dordogne

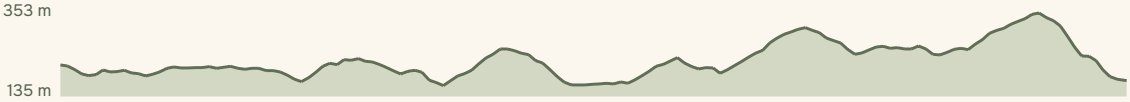
23.0 km (14 miles) · ↑ 560 m (about 1,850 ft) ↓ 610 m (about 2,000 ft) · Dinner included

The longest walk of the week takes you through Curemonte, a remarkably well-preserved hilltop village with wide views over the countryside. You finish with a lovely descent down an ancient cobbled mule track into Beaulieu-sur-Dordogne, another of France's Plus Beaux Villages.

Tonight: Beaulieu-sur-Dordogne · Hotel Le Beaulieu

Curemonte on its hilltop, one of Les Plus Beaux Villages de France

ELEVATION



DAY 4

Rest day in Beaulieu-sur-Dordogne

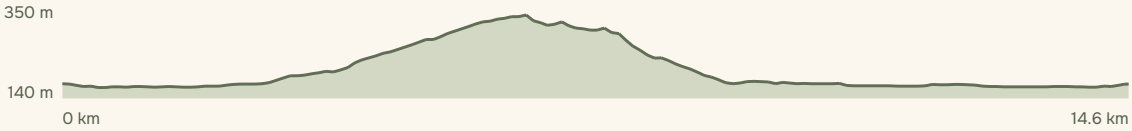
Optional 14.6 km (9.1 miles) · ↑ 210 m (about 700 ft) ↓ 210 m (about 700 ft) · Bed & breakfast, dinner out

A day off by the river. Stroll around the old town, have lunch at a bustling pavement café, or follow the circular walk in your route notes. Tonight is bed and breakfast, so you can choose from the local restaurants.

Tonight: Beaulieu-sur-Dordogne · Hotel Le Beaulieu

Beaulieu-sur-Dordogne, one of Les Plus Beaux Villages de France

ELEVATION



DAY 5

Beaulieu-sur-Dordogne to Carennac

19.4 km (12 miles) · ↑ 420 m (about 1,400 ft) ↓ 440 m (about 1,450 ft) · Dinner included

A climb through woodland, past three nature information posts, leads to sweeping views across the countryside. You then cross the Dordogne to Carennac, where it's worth taking your time in the winding streets. There's a swimming pool for a cooling dip.

Tonight: Carennac · Hotel Fenelon

Carennac

ELEVATION

DAY 6

Carennac to Loubressac

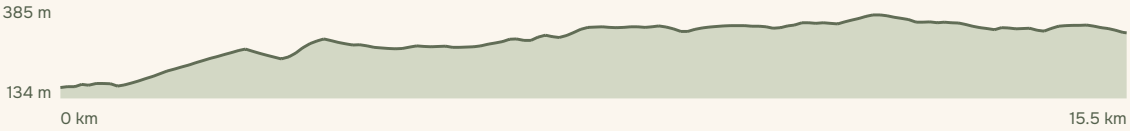
15.5 km (9.6 miles) · ↑ 350 m (about 1,150 ft) ↓ 160 m (about 500 ft) · Dinner included

Across the high limestone plateau of the causse to the Gouffre de Padirac, an immense chasm where you can take a boat along an underground river among the stalactites. Then on over the causse to Loubressac, a fortified village perched high on its clifftop.

Tonight: Loubressac · Le Cantou 354 (or Le Relais de Castelnau, depending on availability)

Loubressac, one of Les Plus Beaux Villages de France

ELEVATION



DAY 7

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 (or Le Relais de Castelnau, depending on availability)

Château de Castelnau

ELEVATION

DAY 8

Departure

All good things come to an end. After breakfast, you continue with your onward travel.

FOR THE LONGER VERSIONS

Optional extra days

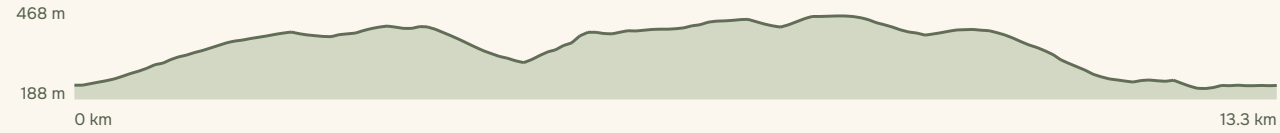
These walks are only on the longer versions (9, 10 or 11 days): add one or more of them. We'll fit them into your itinerary and send you the full day-by-day with your quote.

Circular walk from Meyssac

Optional 13.3 km (8.3 miles) · ↑ 450 m (about 1,500 ft) ↓ 450 m (about 1,500 ft)

A loop from Meyssac, the red-stone market village, through the countryside around it.

ELEVATION



Loubressac to Rocamadour

Optional 21.3 km (13 miles) · ↑ 250 m (about 800 ft) ↓ 410 m (about 1,350 ft)

From Loubressac across the limestone causse to Rocamadour, the pilgrimage town clinging to its cliff above the Alzou gorge.

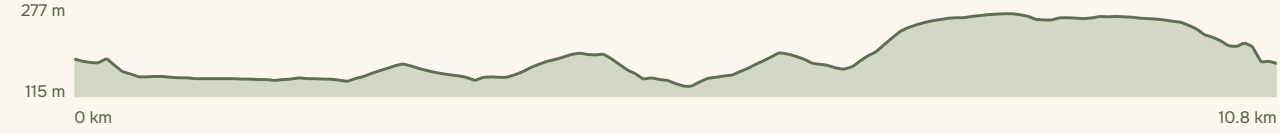
ELEVATION

Circular walk from Rocamadour

Optional 10.8 km (6.7 miles) · ↑ 280 m (about 900 ft) ↓ 280 m (about 900 ft)

A loop from Rocamadour, with time to explore the town and its sanctuaries built into the rock.

ELEVATION



WALK ALL DAY, EAT VERY WELL

Food along the way

Meyssac

Beaulieu-sur-Dordogne

Carennac

NO SURPRISES

What's included

Included

- ✓ 7 nights' accommodation, sharing a double or twin room
- ✓ 7 breakfasts and 6 dinners
- ✓ 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/plus-beaux-villages

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.

IN THEIR WORDS

What our guests say

"Thank you so much for giving us a fantastic holiday walk – probably the best we have had in 25 years of trekking and cycling in France. The route was superb, through wonderful countryside, and the accommodation/meals couldn't have been better, or the owners and staff more friendly and helpful. The route instructions were certainly the best we've experienced. The fact that we went on this year from the Dordogne to stay in a lovely gite in the Auvergne certainly made this one of the most perfect holidays we've ever had in France. Again, thank you."

Ian & Sue, Somerset · Plus Beaux Villages of the Dordogne Walk