



Dordogne Activities Guide

Junior Aqualand

Located only 15 mins away in Bergerac is Junior Aqualand - a fun day out - especially for young children. Although relatively modest by international standards, it is convenient and manageable with three large pools of varying depth together with a water slide and plunge pool. It has a café offering drinks and bar meals, as well as an adventure playground. One can hire a 'box' - an enclosure with two chairs, two recliners, table and parasol by the pool.

Directions - head to Bergerac, at the first roundabout (Mercedes garage) turn left, at the second roundabout (La Cavaille, Leclerc, McDonalds) go left again heading towards Bordeaux. After a few hundred metres take the first slip road to the right, signposted Aqualand. Top tip - get there early, especially before midday, in order to secure a box - they are well worth it.

Aquarium du Périgord Noir

Reputed to be the largest private aquarium in Europe, the Aquarium de Périgord Noir comes highly recommended. Well laid out and with a great variety of fish (and turtles), it is ideally suited to kids who get the opportunity to feed carp by hand. There is a café selling drinks and snacks, surrounded by raised glass-sided tanks of carp and sturgeon, as well as a gift shop.

Location: Le Bugue

1 hr

Gite-Les-Roches - the Dordogne's premier holiday villa offering 5 bedrooms with en-suites throughout, heated saltwater swimming pool, sauna and exceptional facilities, set in a stunning location between Eymet and Bergerac. Excellent restaurants, vineyards, chateaux, golf courses & towns of Issegeac, Villereal, Castillonnes Monflanquin, Monpazier all close by.

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www.parc-aquarium.com, tel 05 53 07 10 74

Crazy Golf

Sharing the same complex as Aquarium du Perigord Noir is a great 18 hole crazy golf course - again highly recommended. The likes of Chateaux les Vigiers may derive some cachet with fairways meandering through vineyards - here one is playing under the watchful gaze of all variety of fish in the above-ground tanks. No cheesy windmills here - all 18 holes follow fun but genuinely creative lines - loads of fun for every generation.

Location: Le Bugue

1 hr

Parc-en-Ciel

Literally translating to 'Park in the Sky', Parc-en-Ciel is an adventure playground with a difference. Consisting of high wires running through a stunning forest of oak, there are 7 levels of difficulty - our three year old enjoyed the lowest, whilst the highest was found to be 'challenging' by Stewart. There are death slides, an animal park, a snack bar and numerous points of interest for the visitor. An excellent day out and bonding session for the family.

Location: Lacapelle-Biron, near Villereal

45 mins

www.parc-en-ciel.com, tel 05 53 71 84 58

Village Bournat

Village Bournat is situated on the banks of the Vezere at La Bugue, colocatede with the Aquarium du Perigord Noir, approximately an hours drive away. Another excellent family day out, this park has recreated a village from 100 years ago. There are regular shows of working artisans in full period costume offering a fascinating insight into the lives of yesteryear. Also a fairground of its time, restaurants and picnic sites.

Walibi Land

(Commonly misspelt as Walabi Land!).

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Set in a beautiful 75 acre park with an 18th century Chateau, Walabi Land has a variety of rides to test the most intrepid, together with a great choice of family attractions for the kids. Don't miss the live entertainment 'where dreams and reality collide' (!).

Location: Roquefort (near Agen)

1hr 30mins

www.walibi.com, tel 05 53 96 58 32

Canoeing on the Dordogne

There is no better way to see the Dordogne river and banks closeup than by canoeing down it. There are a number of operators, mainly between Souillac and Limeuil, who offer a package that kits you out with canoe, paddle, lifevest and waterproof container, together with transport that buses you upstream for you to paddle down at your leisure. No end of combination of start and end points, allowing you short trips or multi-day expeditions. Feel free to borrow our dog (Josh, the golden retriever) for extra ballast and challenge - it's his favourite pastime!

Boating Trips

If canoeing isn't for you, another way to see the best of the Dordogne valley is by boat. There are several companies that run Gabarres, the traditional vessel of the area. Trips are combined with a locally produced lunch and visits to special sites along the river. It is a glorious day out. The Gabarre de Bergerac is only 15 minutes away on the Quai Salvette and is one of the more traditional vessels.

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