

# Camping la Venise Verte

## France



The pitches are level with plenty of shade and the statics don't intrude



An hour or two on the waterways is a must



**W**e were looking for somewhere to break our journey on our way south and having previously spent time in the Venise Verte, the idea of stopping for a couple of nights and hiring a canoe to explore

the waterways appealed to us.

We chose this site as it is only a short walk to the town of Coulon. The friendly receptionist spoke good English and we were free to choose our pitch which was flat, a good size, shaded and hedged. Half the pitches have free WiFi and there is a dedicated WiFi area. Electricity is 10 amp and the pitches conveniently have water and drainage provided. The site is very peaceful and one of the attractions is the many and beautiful trees of different varieties. There are some static caravans dotted around the site, but they are tasteful and unobtrusive.

The facilities are plentiful and clean, there is a launderette with iron and the grey water area is easy to access – something that always makes life easy for motorhomers. We didn't sample the on-site restaurant but it looked pleasant with its red and white check tablecloths and is open all season apparently serving traditional fare, takeaways and snacks. Worth noting if you've had a long drive.

Bread and croissants can be ordered from reception for the following day and barbecues are allowed. There is a number plate recognition entrance barrier. The site has a European Eco Label awarded for water conservation energy saving and waste management.

There is a smallish childrens play area,

boules court, a volleyball court plus a swimming pool that is open in peak season. They also offer table tennis and an indoor games area, as well as lots of activities for kids at peak times, ranging from archery to craft classes. Normally, they have bikes and canoes for hire although unfortunately the canoes were stolen the night before we arrived!

Pet owners will be pleased to learn that dogs are allowed. The site is just across the quiet road from the river Sèvre Niortaise, one of the larger waterways and at dusk one evening we had the thrill of watching Ratty (from Wind in the Willows), swimming purposely across the water towards us and down one of the smaller channels.

Coulon is a small town, but judging by the number of the distinctive flat-bottomed boats for hire, gets very busy in season. Having, previously hired a boat, this year we had a canoe for two delightful hours on the waterways, which are very beautiful. Or you can hire a crewed boat but whichever you do I'd thoroughly recommend that you spend an hour or so on the water. This area is sometimes referred to as the Green Venice and it's not hard to see why.

If you plan to use the campsite as a base for exploring the area, then a trip to the Roman harbour town of La Rochelle is well worth it. They have lots of motorhome-friendly parking spaces in the centre of this town, too, and you can explore many historic buildings and the town's rich naval history. When occupied, the German U-boats used to sail from here.

If you want to explore the Marais Poitevin by road, bike or water I thoroughly recommend this campsite.

*Recommended by Lesley Jackson*

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### SITE INFORMATION

- **LOCATION:** Coulon, Marais Poitevin
- **LONG /LAT:** N46° 18' 52" W0° 36' 32"
- **ADDRESS:** 178 Route des Bords de Sèvre, 79510 Coulon
- **TEL:** 0033-549-359036
- **WEB:** [www.camping-lavenseverte.fr](http://www.camping-lavenseverte.fr)
- **EMAIL:** [accueil@camping-lavenseverte.fr](mailto:accueil@camping-lavenseverte.fr)
- **OPEN:** 1 April – 31 October
- **Charges (2012):** Motorhome with two adults and electricity from €19.30-€35.50 (€16.40-€30.20). ACSS accepted.
- **Nearest public transport:** In Coulon 1 mile.
- **Nearest pub/restaurant:** On site.
- **Directions:** From A83 exit junction 9 on to D148. Take D1 to Coulon and in the town turn right on to D123, site signposted. From A10 exit 33 and join N11. Then take D1 and turn left in town.

Every effort is made to ensure accuracy, but you're advised to check details in advance with the site.



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