

SCENIC ROUTE FROM THE DORDOGNE REGION

Appreciating that the Dordogne is a substantial region, many guests travel to us from Sarlat so this is where our directions commence. If driving directly (without stops) allow 3.5hrs.

THE ROUTE

From Sarlat and take the D704 via Gourdon and then follow directions from there for the A62/E72/A20 and join this main autoroute in the direction of Toulouse.

Stay on this road and look for **exit number 61a** (there are quite a few junctions in quick succession as you skirt around the city of Montauban). **Exit here on the D115** and follow directions for **Negrepelisse** (this will be a very straight road and eventually, probably 20/30 mins, bring you to the river-side village of Montricoux (this is the river Tarn from where our Department takes its name).

You can cross the river for a wander around this village or continue on where you will **bare right onto the D964** and head to Bruniquel (this is a lovely old Medieval village that has seen better days, however stretching your legs by wondering up the steep cobbled street to the castle ruins is worth it!).

You will then **continue on the D964** and, shortly after the village, will physically have to turn right in the direction of Puycelsi which is worth a visit and shortly after Castlenau-de-Montmiral (both of these villages are signed to the left and just a very short drive off the main road). There are a few restaurants



for lunch in both villages – Puycelsi's eateries, in particular Le Jardin des Leys, have a great vista. When you reach Castlenau – look at your watch and see how you are doing for time, if you continued onto Mazamet without stopping you are around 90 mins away so judge it from here as to the rest of your journey.

Continue on the D964 towards Gaillac and again stop and walk through the streets down towards the river to see the church and ancient bridge suggested lunch stops La Table du Sommelier & Vigne en Foule

From Gaillac, **head on the D964 towards Graulhet** and pick up **the D83 signposted for Lautrec & Castres**. Stop at Lautrec which is a lovely medieval village, walk up to the old

windmill (if the weather is good) for a stunning view towards the Montagne Noire and beyond to the Pyrenees. Have a coffee in Café Plum or, if arriving at lunch time, a great little restaurant Le Close d'Adèle

(Both Gaillac & Lautrec are popular locations on our Self-Drive Day Tours if you wanted to leave a visit for another day)

From Lautrec, **take the D83 in the direction of Castres** and after 10/15 mins you will reach a roundabout above a major road and you want to take the slip road onto this **(N112)** in the direction of Mazamet. Stay on this road for about 10 mins until you reach a roundabout with some sports fields on your right, **take the second exit signposted Mazamet (this is still the N112 but sometimes the D621 also)**.

Continue on this road (about 10 mins) until you reach a set of traffic lights with an "Aldi" supermarket on your left, this is the "K Junction" described on our website's downloadable directions which you can view & print from this [link](#) (following the directions for the last few minutes to La Villa)

