

Top 20 things to see and do on holiday at La Châtaigneraie

Something for all the family!



Markets

The best way to buy a wide selection of local produce. There is a huge market every Tuesday in Prades and a smaller one on Saturday, Monday and Thursday mornings in Vernet.



If you like this you may also enjoy: The markets of the Rotja Valley Gourmand, Thursday evenings in the summer.



Villefranche de Conflent and Fort Liberia

This spectacular medieval town is a UNESCO World Heritage site. Climb the secret staircase in a mountain tunnel to Fort Liberia to see more of Vauban's architecture.



If you like this you may also enjoy: The medieval castle and fortress of Castelnou



Petit Train Jaune

This single-track railway is over 100 years old. It twists up the Têt Valley to the Spanish border, passing over viaducts, through tunnels and over the suspension bridge of Pont Gisclard. Stops include Mont Louis and Font Romeu



If you like this you may also enjoy: Visiting one of the many museums in the area



St Martin du Canigou

Beautifully restored abbey set on a rocky crag of the Canigou. A steep 40 minute climb, or short trip in a 4x4. The resident community of Beatitudes offer regular guided tours.



If you like this you may also enjoy: The immense ruined fortress of Peyrepertruse



Le Racou Plage

If you fancy a relaxing day lying on a beach and swimming in the sea, the Racou is hard to beat. This unspoilt beach is full of character with a beautiful mountain back-drop and views across the bay to Collioure.



If you like this you may also enjoy: A cliff-top walk from Cap Leucate to the windsurfing beach of Llafranqui



Spa Treat

There are several spas offering naturally hot and therapeutic sulphuric waters. The Bains de Llo are particularly recommended, with a choice of jacuzzis, hammams and saunas.

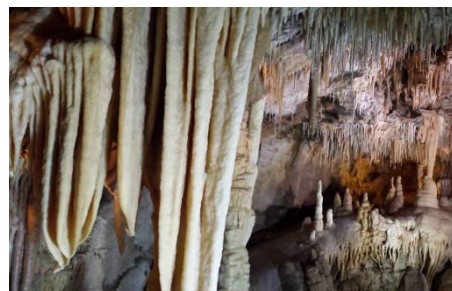


If you like this you may also enjoy: Exploring the spas of St Thomas, Molitg and Vernet les Bains



Les Grands Canellettes

The largest of 3 sets of caves in Villefranche. Follow a self-guided tour underground accompanied by classical music. Concerts are held in the largest cave as part of the Pablo Casals Music Festival.



If you like this you may also enjoy: The impressive rock formations of the Orgues at Ille-sur-Tet



Collioure

This picturesque, fortified, coastal village was made famous by artists including Picasso, Matisse and Dali. It offers a haven of art galleries and quirky back-streets with many tempting restaurants.



If you like this you may also enjoy: The fresh fish restaurants at the working harbour of Port Vendre



Wine Tasting

The Languedoc is a renowned wine-growing region with mile after mile of vineyards. For an educational tour and lunch with wine-tasting, visit Domaine Treloar.



If you like this you may also enjoy: Visiting the olive oil mill at Millas or the Byrrh cellars of Thuir



Animal Parks

See the animals in a natural mountain habitat. Casteil is just 3 miles away, whilst slightly further afield, Les Angles is home to the bears and wolves that were once indigenous to this region.



If you like this you may also enjoy: Tortoise and butterfly parks, or watching our neighbour's cows being milked!



St Michel du Cuxa

This famous monastery hosts many concerts during the Pablo Casals music festival every summer.



If you like this you may also enjoy: The Romanesque Priory of the Serrabonna



Mountain Adventures

There are many places offering Via Ferrata, gorge-walking and mountain adventures. Kap'Oupa Kap in Marquixannes has a range of water activities on the River Tet and an aerial adventure park in the trees.



If you like this you may also enjoy: Exploring the well-marked VTT trails on one of our mountain bikes

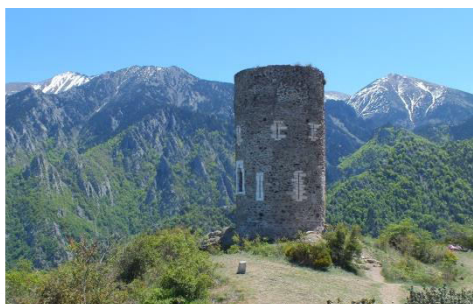


Local Fêtes

No visit to this region would be complete without taking part in a local village fête. You are guaranteed a warm Catalan welcome!

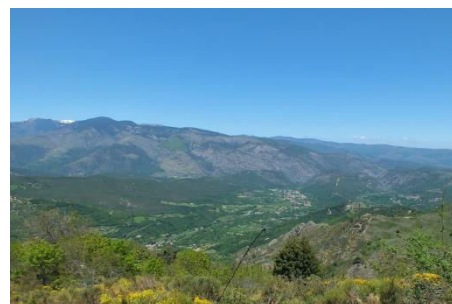


If you like this you may also enjoy: "Jeudi Soirs" in Perpignan. Summer evenings of music, dance & street theatre



Tor de Goa

It is quite a tough 2-hour ascent from our house, but you can drive to Col de Jou and it will only take about 25 minutes to walk up to the tower where you will be rewarded with a stunning view of the Canigou and the Rotja Valley.

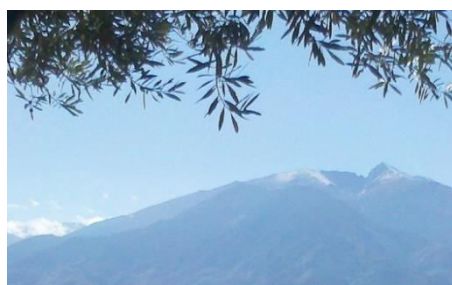


If you like this you may also enjoy: Walking from Mantet to the Tres Estelles to look down on La Châtaigneraie



Climb Mount Canigou

The Canigou dominates this region of the Languedoc. We can arrange for a 4x4 to pick you up at La Châtaigneraie and take you to and from the Refuge des Cortalets to begin your ascent.



If you like this you may also enjoy: Climbing to the Massane Tower or Château d'Ultrera for superb coastal views

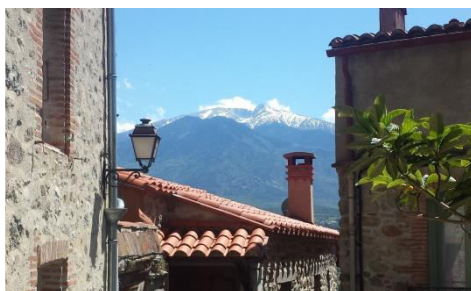


Ski Resorts

Just a 40 minute drive and you can visit resorts including Les Angles, Font Romeu and Formiguerres. Excellent skiing in winter and just as beautiful for walking and cycling in summer.



If you like this you may also enjoy: Wonderfully scenic walks around the mountain lakes at Bouillouses



Eus

Officially one of the country's most beautiful villages, Eus is famous for being the sunniest place in France. We highly recommend both the Bistro de Pays and the fantastic tapas bar, El Lluert – booking essential!

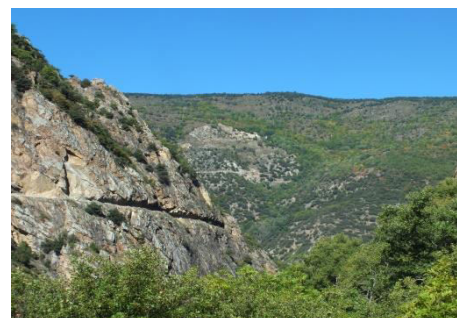


If you like this you may also enjoy: The other “plus beaux villages de France” including Evol and Mosset



The Carança Gorge

This vertiginous and dramatic gorge has a path that will take you across wobbly metal “passerelles” and ladders and along the corniche pathway carved out of the cliffs.



If you like this you may also enjoy: Too many beautiful walks to list – take a guide book and explore!



Sahorre Plage

Why pay expensive entry fees to the aqua-park when you can play in the gorgeous River Rotja, 2 minutes from our garden?! “Sahorre Plage” is just over a mile away with its BBQ area, rope swing and deep rock pools.



If you like this you may also enjoy: The beach at Vinca lake with pedaloes and trampolines



Cave Salies

No visit to La Châtaigneraie would be complete without sampling the wine at the village Cave. Freshly pressed apple juice and local wine for about €2/litre – you may even get an impromptu pottery lesson thrown in!



If you like this you may also enjoy: Produce of the Rotja Valley including cheese, honey, saffron and spirulina