

béarn des gaves tourism  
**countryside.**  
autrement

**The essentials**  
**the tourist** guide

2026 edition  
"autrement" otherwise

# The best of both worlds

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**Between mountains and ocean flows our countryside.**

Heading for Bearn des gaves, our destination,  
open and rejuvenating, both calm and energising.  
The best of both worlds,  
autrement\*.

\*otherwise.



béarndegavestourism  
**countryside.**  
autrement



# Salies-de-Béarn

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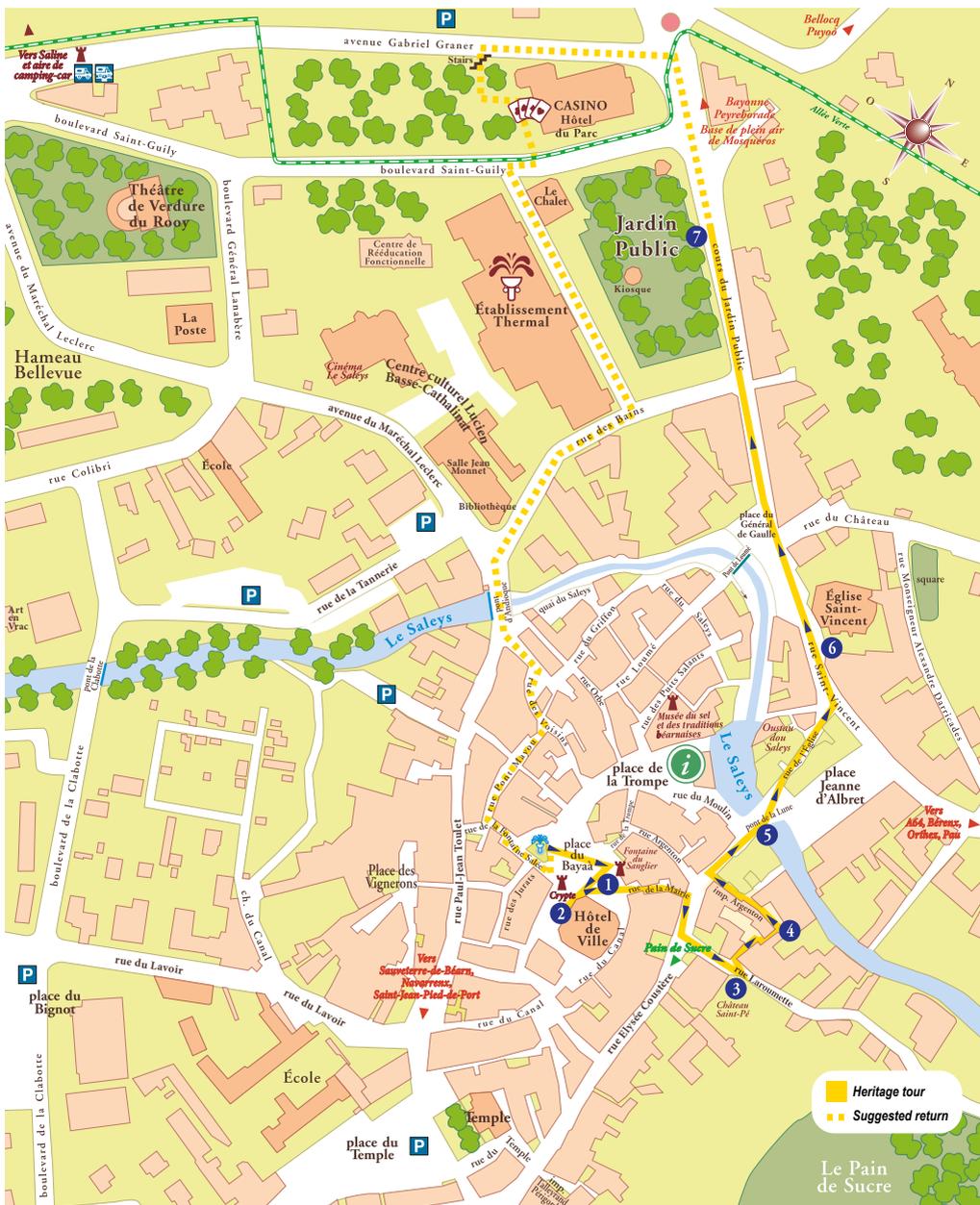
## The city of salt



## **This small town owes its fame to alt and salt has shaped its history.**

Its discovery was attributed to a wild boar that was found next to a spring with its bristles covered in salt. Since then, Salies has looked after its treasures. It is an inexhaustible spring of salt water which provides health and well being. It still belongs to 500 Salisiens known as Part-Prenants. This tradition has carried on since 1587.

There are two quarters; the oldest like the shape of a snail's shell unfolds from the salt well. Here you can find typical houses of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries and narrow streets decked with flowers. In these streets, you'll discover the Museum of Salt and Béarnais Tradition. Nearby, the Thermal quarter has a totally different feel. You are immersed in the Belle Epoque era with the Moorish style Spa, the band stand and the splendid Hotel du Parc, which houses the Salies casino. Together they ooze an old-fashioned charm which appeals to visitors.



## 1-hour self-guided heritage tour of Salies-de-Béarn

The rich and fascinating history of the city of salt

Follow the Viscountess of Béarn, Jeanne d'Albret, and let yourself be guided by the sound of her voice or by reading the texts provided at each point of interest. Stroll through the city, where nearly 600 years of history will be revealed to you, from the legend of the boar to the Thermal quarter.



# Salies Guided tour

Departure from Place du Bayad. At the foot of the arcades of an imposing traditional house with a balcony, find **the boar fountain** 1. Lying in a pit, this work of art by Marc Benard evokes the wild boar of the Salies legend. The animal, wounded during a hunt, was discovered dying, white with salt, in the saltwater marsh. According to the legend, the town was then built around the healing spring. The town's motto is engraved on the fountain wall: "si you nou y eri mourt arès n'y bibéré" (if I hadn't died there, no one would have lived).

Let's meet under the covered market of **the town hall** 2, which used to be the Maison Populaire (1537). Take a look at the explanatory panel where a fun video tells you all about the history of Salies. The ground floor of the town hall was a major centre for the butchers' trade in the Middle Ages and regularly hosts exhibitions. In the centre of the square, imagine the salt spring converted into a pool. It was covered in 1865 with a vault like a church crypt. It was here that, for centuries, the inhabitants, who became Part-Prenants, had the right to draw salt water to bring back to their homes to make salt for salting. On the corner of the rue de la mairie stands the Maison de la Corporation des Part-Prenants (coat of arms with 2 tiradou carrying a sameau). Even today (in June), the Part-Prenants meet there to receive their "sauce", once equivalent to 26 sameaux of salt water for the men.

At the end of the rue de la mairie, turn right up the rue Elysée Coustère to find the rue de Laroumette on your left. Nearby, admire **the Château Saint Pé** 3. This residence, entirely restored by its owner, is one of the first castles in Salies. Leaning against the town's now destroyed ramparts, the building was frequently altered. In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, it was the seat of a court for witches.

Retrace your steps and turn right into a small square surrounded by typical houses. Hidden away at the end of the square, a narrow passageway (galère or carrerote) leads to **the house of Michel Bergeres** 4. This master carpenter was a cabinetmaker in the Salies school, which developed over three generations in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. He is said to be a descendant of the cogots, pariahs of the Pyrenees until the French Revolution.

Leave the cul-de-sac and turn right to find **the Pont de la Lune** 5. As you cross the Saleys, admire the half-timbered houses on stilts: the Oustau dou Saleys (contemporary art exhibition centre) on the right bank, and on your left, the emblematic Maison Marrou and its bread oven leaning against the outside wall. Note the red brick and white stone building overlooking the river: built on the ruins of a medieval mill, this former power station was

used primarily to power the lights in the new spa district. Beyond the bridge is the Place Jeanne d'Albret, formerly known as Le Clauson (Salies' first market town). Imagine the covered houses: the upper storey supported by arcades was used to protect the shops, which are no longer there. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the square was lined with tall houses, some of them hotels, with terraces full of travellers. It was one of the strategic locations for the foreign colony until the station was built in 1884. Here, people taking the waters would get off the horse-drawn omnibuses, exhausted after several hours' travel.

Go up the street on your left to discover a fortified church. Salies actually has 2 churches: Saint-Martin on the heights and Saint-Vincent. Protecting the town, **the church of Saint-Vincent** 6 (late 15<sup>th</sup> century) adjoined the old ramparts. The loopholes and other defensive systems can still be seen here and there. It was here that the jurats debated the laws to be included in the town's Black Book.

Continue towards the public gardens and **Thermal quarter** 7, where French and European aristocrats and bourgeois stayed for several seasons (19<sup>th</sup> century). Opposite you, before the construction of the thermal baths that you can still visit, was the first industrial salt works. Required to produce 500 tonnes of salt a year, the Salisiens Part-Prenants built the town's first industrial site (1842), protected by a 3-metre-high wooden fence and guarded day and night. Destroyed by fire in 1888, the factory was relocated to the station area a short distance from here.

As the press railed against the insalubrious state of the town, a wave of sanitation work and town planning reorganisation was launched! With boulevard-style avenues framed by plane trees, a public garden planted with unique species of trees and buildings in keeping with Haussmann-style architectural criteria, Salies had all the infrastructure of a health resort worthy of the name: the bandstand (1887), a casino set up in the café cercle du chalet and then in the Hôtel du Parc, a railway station (1884)...

A bathing establishment, whose Hispano-Moorish architecture you can still admire (1888), was built on the ruins of the first saltworks. Around the public garden, the ghosts of the great luxury hotels sit enthroned: the Hôtel de la Paix on your left, frequented by Marcel Proust; on your right, the Hôtel du Parc, which you can still reach by crossing the Boulevard Saint-Guilly; at the Sanglier roundabout, the ruins of the Hôtel de France et d'Angleterre.

600 years of history! As you retrace your steps back to the heart of the town, don't hesitate to extend your visit to the **Salines** and its salt shop, the **Musée du sel et des traditions béarnaises** and the **Place de la Mude, the crypt** (former salt water basin), **the Hôtel du Parc** (Historic Monument), **the Protestant temple** and the charm of the little streets around **the Pont Loumé** and **the Pont Mayou** (a real bend in the road at no. 8). En aban!

# Museum of Salt and Béarnaise Tradition

15 rue des Puits Salants  
SALIES-DE-BÉARN  
Tel. 05 59 65 84 98  
museedusel64@orange.fr  
www.museedusel.fr



Set in the « Darremoudine », a typical 17<sup>th</sup> century house, the museum offers a unique visit tracing over 4000 years of history. A museum for all the family, with touchscreen displays and videos!

Learn about the salt's origin and underground wealth of Béarn, the archeological discoveries, the "Part-Prenants" history and their unique management of the salt waters, the "Belle époque" spa therapy and the salt works of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The "Part-Prenant" house features a 17<sup>th</sup> century salt maker's workshop, illustrating the unique skills that shaped a way of life.

Traditional salt working demonstration on Sunday during the Salt Festival.

**Open Monday to Saturday: 2pm to 5pm (9 February to 4 April and 2 November to 28 November) and 1.30pm to 7pm (7 April to 31 October).**

**Last entrance: 45 minutes before closing time.**

**Prices: €6 - Reduced price: €5 - Children (aged 7-12): €2 - under-7s.: free - Extra guided tour: €1.50**



Salt-production in Salies was industrialised in the nineteenth century, and the Saline (Salt Works) now produce 2,000 tonnes of salt a year. The salt from Salies is the only salt allowed in the production of genuine Bayonne ham ("Jambon de Bayonne").

**Self-guided tour:** You will be provided with boards which tell you everything you need to know about the plant and the processes involved in the crystallisation of the salt water. At certain times you can also see the harvesting of salt by hand (Opening times vary according to production schedules).

**Museum area:** with an audio guide in English you will learn about the history of the Saline (the wild boar legend, growth of the town, etc.). The visit ends with a tasting of Bayonne ham, salted with Salies salt.

## Les Salines

1 avenue du docteur Jacques Dufourcq  
SALIES-DE-BÉARN - Tel. 05 59 38 96 90  
boutique@selsaliesdebearn.com  
www.sel-salies-de-bearn.com



**Open from 9.30am to 12pm and 2.30pm to 6pm (last admissions at 11am and 4.30pm): January and February: Open Tuesday to Saturday; in March, April, November and December: open Monday afternoon to Saturday; from May to October: open Monday to Saturday.**

**Prices: €4.50 - Children (6-12 years old): €2.50**

**Guided tours from June to September.**

**Prices: €6.90 - Children (6-12 years old): €3.50**

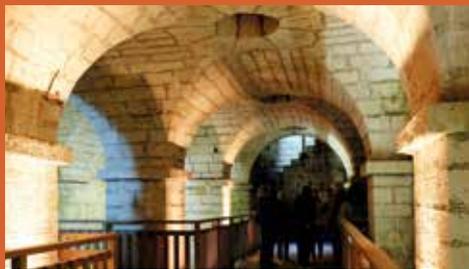
## The crypt

### Place du Bayaà - SALIES-DE-BÉARN

The Bayaà crypt, constructed in the 1860's covers the source of salty water, exploited since the Middle Ages. The elegant stone are tastefully floodlit to highlight their beauty.

**Visits (in French) on reservation from April to October.**

**Details and reservations at the Tourist Office - SALIES-DE-BÉARN - SAUVETERRE-DE-BÉARN - NAVARRENX - Tel. 05 59 38 00 33 or on [www.tourisme64.com](http://www.tourisme64.com)**



## Hôtel du Parc - Casino

**Boulevard Saint-Guily - SALIES-DE-BÉARN  
Tel. 05 59 38 31 31  
[hotelduparc@partouche.com](mailto:hotelduparc@partouche.com)  
[www.casinosalies.com](http://www.casinosalies.com)**

Step inside this Art Nouveau architectural gem to admire its magnificent glass roof and interior, which dates back to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Although the building, most of which is listed as a historic monument, is a true heir to the Belle Époque, it is now home to a thoroughly modern casino.

**Open from Sunday to Thursday from 11am to 1am, on Friday, Saturday and the days before bank holidays from 11am to 2am.**



## Treasure hunt



Discover the geocaching trail with your smartphone, using the free **Terra Aventura** app: «**Salies, the salt town**»



## The Little Tourist Train

On-board, the passengers discovered the beauty of the salt city: its medieval houses, its bridges and its majestic thermal quarter, during a free, fun half-hour tour.

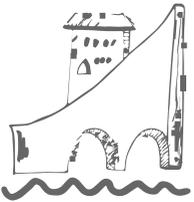
**Circulates during school holidays.**

**Free - Information at the Tourist Office  
SALIES-DE-BÉARN - Tel. 05 59 38 00 33**





10 km further on...



# Sauveterre- de-Béarn

## The medieval city



## «Here you will find some of the most beautiful countryside in France...

... The works of man ooze with force and nobility amongst the splendour of nature. The dreams and reflections of travellers know no limits.” This is how Léon Bérard (academician and Mayor during the thirties) described the “pearl of Béarn”.

Welcome to a land fashioned by legends. It is a land of mystery that invites discovery. Let your curiosity carry you away for an hour, a day or even longer. Here the slightest detour tells a tale.

This is an ancient moated camp strongly defended inside its stonewalls. Over the centuries it contributed to the maintenance of the sovereignty of Béarn. The gateway to Spain at the foot of the Pyrenees, Sauveterre is surrounded by picturesque countryside.

Since the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> centuries pilgrims passing through here have always been greeted with hospitality.



## 1-hour self-guided heritage tour of Sauveterre-de-Béarn

Enter the legend...

Follow Queen Sancier, Viscountess of Béarn, and let yourself be guided by the sound of her voice or by reading the texts provided at each point of interest. The most beautiful heritage sites of Sauveterre-de-Béarn are revealed... A lovely stroll full of poetry!

# Walk in the medieval city

Start your walk on the esplanade of **the Town Hall** ① against the backdrop of the magnificent Pyrenees mountain range. This Renaissance-style building belonged to the powerful Marquis de Nays family, Counts of Salette in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. It was bought by the town in 1972.

In front of you stands **S<sup>t</sup>-André church** ② built at the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Here, architectural styles mingle. The imposing semi-circular apse framed by two chapels harmoniously supports the building. The Romanesque influence dominates, with beautifully restrained facades in which only three long, narrow windows pierce the wall. The north side is well worth a visit, with its inverted Christ, corner tower and rose window. Saint-André church is unusual in that it was fortified, as evidenced by its beautiful bell tower, which was once crenellated. It played a key role in the defence of the town.

On the south façade, overlooking the river gave, is the door of the cagots, also known as crestaia. Mystery surrounds the origins of this community, rejected by the rest of the population. Were they descended from lepers, Visigoths or Saracens? Finally, above the main entrance, the tympanum features magnificent stonework. It features a majestic Christ surrounded by the four evangelists in symbolic form. The interior illustrates the transition between the Romanesque and Gothic styles. The central nave is vaulted with beautiful ribbed vaults. Note the two historiated capitals. The first, at the transept crossing, depicts lying and gluttony. The second, in the north aisle, depicts the Nativity.

Below the Place des Salières is **the Monréal tower** ③. It owes its name to the family who bought it in the 19<sup>th</sup> century to save it from destruction. This 13<sup>th</sup>-century defensive tower, 33 m high, is built in the same fine Bidache stonework as the church. Its facades are punctuated by a succession of archways and large bays to the south. It now houses an impressive model of the town, as well as an exhibition on Sauveterre in the Middle Ages.

After taking the stairs, at the foot of the tower, turn right onto the path that runs alongside the gave. Let yourself be guided by the flow of the river, in the shade of the trees. Walk under the arches of the Pont de la Légende to the footbridge leading to **the île de la Glère** ④, opposite the campsite. Classified as a sensitive natural area, the île de la Glère is Sauveterre's 4<sup>th</sup> flagship site, with its protected flora.

Retrace your steps until you reach the fortified bridge known as **the Bridge of Legend** ⑤. Built under Gaston VII de Moncade in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, then remodelled under Fébus in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, it is the gateway to the kingdom of Navarre. Originally equipped with a drawbridge, it provided access to the île de la Glère. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, a violent flood swept away part of the bridge, giving it its current appearance. It takes its name from the legend of Queen Sancie. In 1170, she was subjected to the terrible judgment of God in the presence of 3,000 people. Accused of having killed her newborn son, she was thrown, bound hand and foot, into the river gave. The crowd anxiously waited for the sovereign to be swallowed up. But nothing happened. Sancie rises to the surface and the current gently carries her to the bank. Sancie, exonerated, is cheered by the audience, who are overjoyed.

At the entrance to the bridge, the Chambres du Pont de la Légende, now guest rooms, were once **the pilgrims' hospital** ⑥. This is where pilgrims could rest at the end of a long day's walk before crossing the bridge and continuing on their way to Compostela.

Go back up through **Lester's Gate** ⑦. The upper part of this medieval gateway no longer exists, having been replaced by a footbridge. The thickness of its walls nevertheless bears witness to the city's fortifications.

Then take rue Pléguignou as far as **the fortified house** ⑧. Well placed at the very top of the lane, it offered soldiers a highly strategic location. On the left is **the former arsenal** ⑨. Now converted into a dwelling house, it was used as a weapons store. It is linked to **the beautiful fortified gateway of the Datter** ⑩, which opens up the city to the west. It still retains its ogival shape. At the time, its upper corbels supported the parapet walk and the manoeuvring chamber of a drawbridge needed to cross the moat surrounding the town.

Venture outside the city and you'll immediately see on the left, the remains of the imposing **ramparts** ⑪.

Go back the way you came and take rue des Innocents via rue Léon Bérard. At the end of this alleyway are the remains of **the Viscount's castle** ⑫ and its barbican. Separated from the castle walls, this artificial stone motte formed the entrance to the castle. Probably built by Gaston VII Moncade, the castle was restored by Gaston Fébus and became his hunting residence. The polygonal ashlar castle was largely destroyed in the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

Go back up the rue des Innocents to find a charming little tower opposite you, once used as a **dovecote** ⑬. Many feathered companions still watch over the city today...

# Sauveterre-de-Béarn



## Montréal Tower



SAUVETERRE-DE-BÉARN

Tel. 06 70 36 79 05

[amis-sauveterre@orange.fr](mailto:amis-sauveterre@orange.fr)

[www.amis-sauveterre.fr](http://www.amis-sauveterre.fr)

In the majestic setting of Montréal Tower, travel through the Béarn in medieval times, thanks to a modern, recreational display.

In the centre, there is a model of the town, created by using thousands of stones, beams and joists on a scale of 1:100. It invites you to discover spaces explaining the great moments of history of Sauveterre-de-Béarn, its heritage, the history of Béarn, of Navarre, of France...

**Open from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31 October:**

**Tuesday to Saturday, 2.30pm to 6.30pm in April,**

**May, June, September and October;**

**Tuesday to Sunday, 10.30am to 12.30pm**

**and 2.30pm to 6.30pm in July and August.**

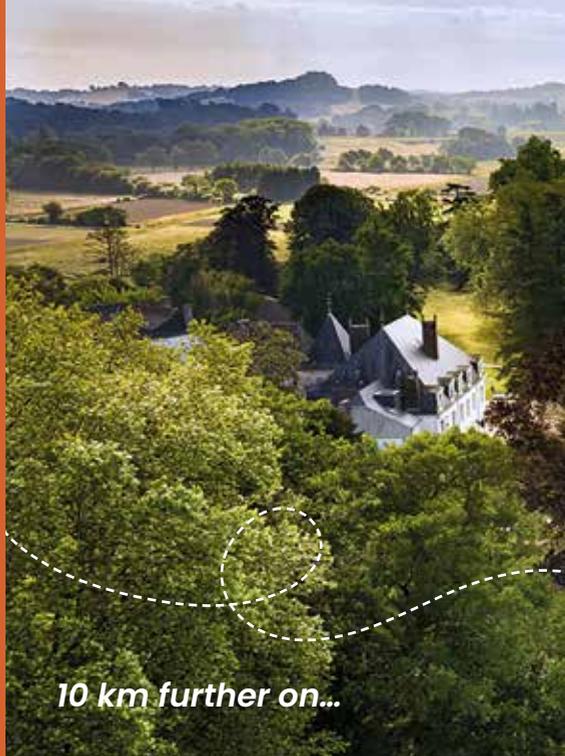
**Open by appointment all year round for groups of 5 or more.**

**Prices: €4 - Self-guided tour: €3 - Young people and students (aged from 12 to 21): €3 - Children (under 12 years old): free**

## Treasure hunt



Discover the geocaching trail with your smartphone, using the free **Terra Aventura** app: «**Saving Sancier**»



*10 km further on...*

# Laàs



## Passion & audacity

### Is Laàs a principality?

You'll be surprised to find a customs post at the entrance to the village (and at the exit)! Don't worry, the gate is always open. Take your time to visit this unusual little village, starting with its castle and its castle of enigmas and the 3 rooms of Escape Castle. Follow the Laàs-Vegas Boulevard and its circuit of stars which pays tribute to the artists who performed at the Transhumances Musicales festival. In the central square, sundials and signs directing you to major cities prove that Laàs is the centre of the world!

The village church is now home to an Escape Church and an interpretation circuit (see opposite page). In summer, the principality's grand prix is held in this same square: a 3-hour wheelbarrow race!

Laàs, an unusual principality!



## Interpretation circuit «From the year 1000 to the present day»

**Church of Laàs – Place de l'église – LAÀS**

Equipped with a system of multimedia terminals, the interpretation circuit allows visitors to discover the history of the village of Laàs on their own, tracing it from the year 1000 to the present day. Light and sound effects accompany the immersive historical projections.

**Open all year.**

**Prices: €4 (a terminal is located at the entrance to the church; by credit card only)**



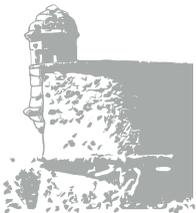
## Treasure hunt



Discover the geocaching trail with your smartphone, using the free **Tèrra Aventura** app: «Viva Laàs Vegas!»



10 km further on...



# Navarrenx

**The bastion city**



## **Navarrenx's tranquil appearance belies a rich and powerful history.**

The town has a very important strategic position. Marguerite de Moncade gave it the status of Bastide in 1316.

In the 16<sup>th</sup> century Henri d'Albret, grandfather of the future king Henri IV, decided to fortify the town. He wanted to protect Béarn from the greedy clutches of Spain and France.

An Italian architect, Fabricio Sicilano, built here the first fortified town in France, based on the Italian model. The recently completed ramparts proved themselves in 1569 during an attempt to annex Béarn by the French troops of Charles IX.

Thanks to the resistance of Navarrenx, ever loyal to Jeanne d'Albret under the command of Baron d'Arros, Béarn was able to maintain its sovereignty. The fortifications are still intact and take you on a journey through time.

Along your walk, you can admire "the most beautiful visages of France": caricatures of the town's shopkeepers and inhabitants.



## ■ 1-hour self-guided heritage tour of Navarrenx

**The medieval village with a wealth of historical evidence**

Follow Fabricio Siciliano, architect of the city walls, and let yourself be guided by the sound of his voice or by reading the texts provided at each point of interest. Stroll through the medieval village in the heart of one of the oldest cities in Béarn.

# The first fortified city in France

Leaving the **Tourist Office** (i), you can see **S'-Antoine casernes** (1), former military barracks built after the fortifications to house up to 500 troopers. The central building is the guardhouse of the **Porte S'-Antoine** (2). The only surviving gateway of the town's two former entrances, it is protected by an orillon, typical of its rounded shape. It cannot be bombarded or attacked head-on. Part of the fortifications of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, it was originally fitted with a drawbridge. The slots for the chains are still visible. Under the porch, on either side, you can visit 2 rooms: a reconstructed guard room and a room displaying objects from bygone days.

As you return to the square, note the former military prisons on your left. Take the staircase to the left of the Porte S'-Antoine to reach the **terrace** (3), overlooking the gave d'Oloron. From here, you can see the 13<sup>th</sup>-century bridge, originally topped by a toll tower. Directly to your right, you can make out the foundations of Castérasse, the former castle of the Viscounts of Béarn. In the centre, the defensive well is used to operate the arms of the drawbridge. Facing the gave and above the orillon, a watchtower illustrates its surveillance and defence function.

Leave this part of the ramparts to reach the **half-bastion de la cloche** (4), just a few steps away. Protecting the bridge and the Porte S'-Antoine, it offers an excellent viewpoint. The copy of one of Navarrenx's cannons is a reminder of the bastion defence system. This cannon bears the name of the town's motto: "**Si you ti baü**". This exclamation in Bearnais means "Si moi j'y vais!".

Head for the **powder magazine** (5) which is the only «gunpowder shop» in the square. It was built in 1580 to free up the sides of the church, which until then had been used for storage. It can hold up to 25,000 pounds of explosives. We invite you to go inside: you'll find a small exhibition explaining the history of gunpowder. Inside, the beautiful stone vault allows sound to circulate diagonally from one corner to the other. **A must-try!**

Then take rue St-Antoine, where you will find the **Jeanne d'Albret House** (6). It is a fine Renaissance residence with a basket-handle door topped by a triangular pediment. In 1555, Jeanne d'Albret became sovereign of Navarre and Béarn. She adopted the Calvinist religion and brought Béarn into the small group of Protestant states.

Continue on to **S'-Germain church** (7) which has had an eventful history. Completed in 1562, Jeanne d'Albret converted it into a Protestant temple the following year. In 1620, Louis XIII returned it to Catholic worship. The interior of this late Gothic church is well worth a visit. In particular, the vaults and arches are decorated with sculpted heads, including that of a Compostela pilgrim, illustrating the importance of the route from Le Puy to Navarrenx. At the entrance are beautifully crafted copies of three paintings by Murillo, Dubois and Carracci, donated by Emperor Napoleon III on his visit. Tradition has it that the church has a door reserved for the cagots, of whom there are many in the Navarrenx area.

On leaving the church, walk up the rue des Échos to the **bastion des contre-mines** (8). This bastion is unusual in that it has an underground gallery. It can be visited, and goes down and around the base of the bastion (bring a torch). Follow the path around the bastion to reach the **Mont Livet bastion** (9), home to the Pierres et Vestiges Theatre, which protects the Porte S'-Germain, now destroyed. It is an example of a primitive fortification, with no orillons or withdrawn flanks. The narrow staircase on the right leads to the Poterne de l'Abattoir, which provides an emergency exit in the event of an assault.

Turn right into rue des Échos and continue as far as the **Fontaine Militaire** (10). Built at the same time as the ramparts, it was the city's only water source at the time. It was an essential asset in the event of a siege. Filled in after a typhoid epidemic in 1952, it was reopened and restored in 1989.

Finally, walk along the rue de la Fontaine towards the **Arsenal** (11). This former residence of the Kings of Navarre was extensively converted to store weapons, munitions and supplies. Today, this historic building houses the Interpretation Centre which can be visited.

## Treasure hunt



Discover the geocaching trail with your smartphone, using the free **Terra Aventura** app: **«The tortoise of Navarrenx»**



## “Au fil de l’histoire” tour

At the “Arsenal”, “the powder magazine” and the “porte S'-Antoine”

Tel. 05 59 66 10 22

[accueil@ville-navarrenx.fr](mailto:accueil@ville-navarrenx.fr)

Exhibition spaces **2**, **5** and **11** on our map on pages 18 and 19, showing several models, mannequins, old tools and plans to take you back in time.

**Open from 15 April to 15 November, 10am to 6.30pm.**

**Free participation**



## The model of the fortified city of Navarrenx

At the Tourist Office in Navarrenx

Tel. 05 59 38 00 33

[contact@bearndesgaves.com](mailto:contact@bearndesgaves.com)

**Model** with commentary on the history of Navarrenx and presentation of the important figures who shaped the life of the town. 20 minutes of commentary in several languages: French, Spanish, English, German and Bearnese.

**Open during Tourist Office opening hours.**

**Free**

## The Gurs camp

**GURS**

Tel. 05 59 38 00 33

[contact@bearndesgaves.com](mailto:contact@bearndesgaves.com)

A French internment camp created in March 1939 to hold fighters of the Spanish Republican army, notably the Basques.

Later used as a prison for “undesirables” during the Vichy regime and a deportation point for foreign Jews who had taken refuge in France.

Visit the reception building, National memorial, tribute stele for the Righteous among the nations, memory path and an historical path which passes through a shack reconstituted exactly as it was in 1939. Walk the Internees’ Path, where 27 granite columns that pay tribute to each category of internee.

Located at the historical entrance of the camp, which is on the way to L’Hôpital-Saint-Blaise.

Film on the history of the camp shown on large screen (duration 12 mins).

**Open all year - Free**

**Individual visits: signs in the camp, and a QR Code tour “La force de l’art au-delà des barbelés”, free admission.**

**Guided group tours, ask at the Tourist Office.**



**8 km  
further on...**



**+ about  
the Gurs  
camp**



Classified as a Category 1 Tourist Office, certified **Qualité Tourisme™**, labeled **Tourism & Handicap**, Béarn des Gaves Tourist Office is committed to **Destination d'Excellence**, dedicated to providing high-quality, responsible and accessible reception services.

**Give us your opinion!**

## HERE ARE A FEW SIMPLE THINGS YOU CAN DO TO MAKE YOUR STAY AS PLEASANT AND RESPONSIBLE AS POSSIBLE!

- White water activities** Sunscreen, closed and non-slippery shoes to go in water, hat and sunglasses.
- Crypts and fortification visits** Closed and non-slippery shoes, take a torch to see in the dark!
- Salt water pool** Protect any cuts; it is compulsory to wear a bathing cap and regulation swimwear.
- Pool** Do not forget to shower there before entering and after leaving the pool.
- Any activity in warm weather** Make sure to bring drinks and/or hats and sunglasses.
- When I leave my accommodation** I turn off the heating or air conditioning.
- On-site for short trips** Opt for a walk or cycle ride. If it's raining, car-sharing and on-demand transport are the solution!
- After the picnic** I sort according to the instructions at my holiday destination. Each waste has its colour.



**289 route d'Orthez  
64 270 SALIES-DE-BÉARN  
Tel. 05 59 38 30 46**

**For further information on waste management, please contact the Community of Municipalities.**

The services presented to you in this guide are collaborators of the tourism office and do not represent the complete offers available in the area. You can find it on our website [www.tourisme-bearn-gaves.com](http://www.tourisme-bearn-gaves.com). **Despite our efforts, some services are not accessible to people with reduced mobility.**

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 All the information of this guide have been collected before the publication.



## ACCESS

### By train

TGV Orthez or TER Puyoô  
 Connection bus by line 523  
 or by transport on demand  
*En aban !* or taxi

### By car

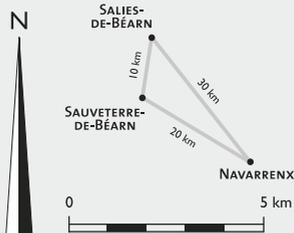
Motorway A 64 Exits  
**7** Salies-de-Béarn  
 or **8** Orthez  
 Motorway A 63 Exit  
**9** S'-Geours-de-Maremne

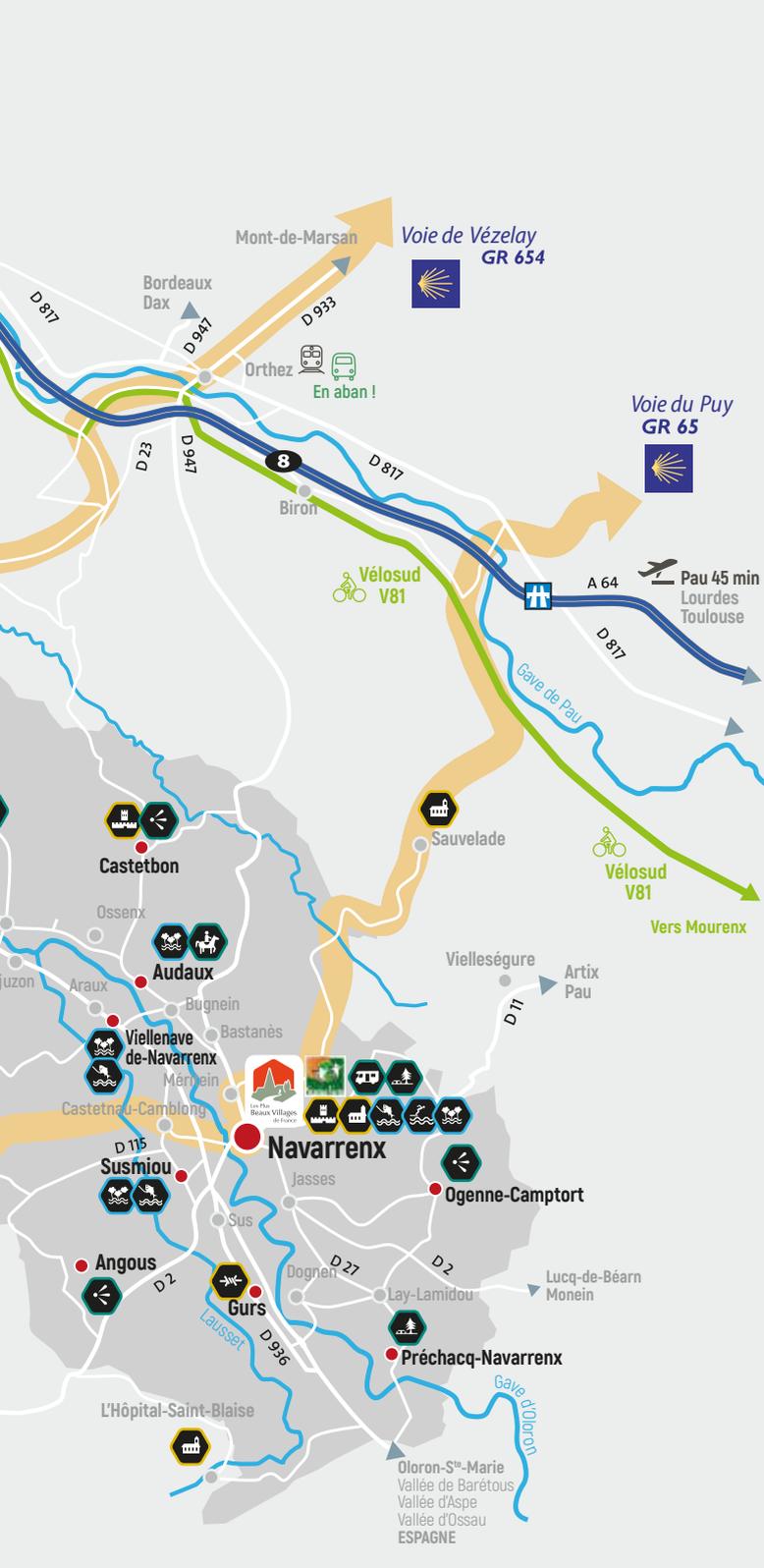
### By air

Airports of Pau and Biarritz

Practical information, connections  
 and transport solutions at  
[www.tourisme-bearn-gaves.com](http://www.tourisme-bearn-gaves.com)

See the  
 interactive  
 map! ↘





-  Picnic
-  Raft-Canoë-Kayak
-  Horse-riding Center  
Pony club
-  Leisure park
-  Camping-car site
-  Golf
-  Panorama
-  Garden
-  Place to fish
-  River  
and lake access
-  Health spa
-  Swimming pool
-  Religious edifice
-  Château of Laàs
-  Local history
-  Memory site
-  Cultural site
-  Vineyard
-  Green road
-  Ways of  
Santiago
-  Plus beaux villages  
de France
-  Holidays  
green station
-  Petites Cités  
de Caractère

béarn des gaves tourism  
**country side.**  
autrement



**Navarrenx**

2 place des casernes  
64190 Navarrenx

**Salies-de-Béarn**

2 place de la Trompe  
BP 26 - 64270 Salies-de-Béarn

**Sauveterre-de-Béarn**

Place Royale  
64390 Sauveterre-de-Béarn

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contact@bearndesgaves.com

[www.tourisme-bearn-gaves.com](http://www.tourisme-bearn-gaves.com)



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