

THE LARZAC, A UNIQUE COUNTRYSIDE



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As arid and hard as it is, the **Larzac** still holds a varied and specific flora and fauna : newly released birds of prey, over 40 orchid species, feather grass (angel hair in french), poppies and our famous thistle "**Cardabelle**" (carlina acanthifolia), often pinned onto front-doors as a lucky charm or barometer.

Many of the endemic species are endangered and unique and are under the protection of the "**Parc Naturel Régional des Grands Causses**" since 1989.

INTERNATIONAL REKNOWN



© GSMP



The **Larzac** is a karstic massif, culminating at 921 meters. It is a windswept, arid, limestone plateau. For centuries it's inhabitants have adapted to its inhospitability and slowly mowed the terrain to their needs. One of the main challenges has always been water, and various options for collecting it have been devised through the centuries : cisterns and lavognes (circular man made ponds).

This territory became part of **UNESCO** heritage in 2011 as an example of **mediterranean agro-pastoralism**.

Discover LA COUVERTOIRADE !

Remarkably well preserved the fortified medieval city of La Couvertoirade is on the official list as one of the **Most Beautiful Villages in France**. The Templar castle, fortified XVth century walls and meandering streets impact as rare **authenticity** to this site.

Perched proudly on the **Larzac** (UNESCO) with its breath-taking scenery : La Couvertoirade offers you guided tours, many cultural, fun and sporting **activities** adapted to all ages and tastes.

Get away from the crowds and the heat for a day. We are less than an hour away from Montpellier, 5 minutes from the motorway.

ACTIVITIES

- GONE-BY MANUAL TASTES (free)
- GIANT WOODEN GAMES (free)
- LARZAC FAUNA (free)
- ARCHERY (free)
- CLIMBING (free)
- TREASURE HUNT
- ESCAPE GAMES
- NOCTURNAL MARKETS
- FALCONRY
- SHOWS / THEATER / CONCERTS / STORYTELLING / CHOIR-SINGING /

INFORMATIONS

Ticket sale and welcome center "**La Scipione**"
05 65 58 55 59
tourisme@lacouvertoirade.com
www.lacouvertoirade.com

Open from mid-march to mid-novembre*
(Paying car park)
*Village open all year round

FESTIVITIES

- THE FOLLES BERGÈRES
- MUSIC FEAST
- UNCHAINED CHOIRS
- MEDIEVAL MASCARADES
- DOG-TRAINING COMPETITION

Details of programs on our web site :

www.lacouvertoirade.com

WELCOME SPOT

- ACCESS TO RAMPARTS
- GUIDED TOURS
- AUDIO-GUIDES
- NOCTURNAL VISITS

AND...

- SHOPS, HANDCRAFTS, RESTAURANTS.



LA COUVERTOIRADE

Medieval village



Animations

Activities

Festivities

Ramparts

Visits

TEMPLAR AND HOSPITALER LARZAC

A time travel, on the road to a date with History

www.lacouvertoirade.com



AN EXCEPTIONAL HERITAGE



Untouched by time, **La Couvertoirade** is an authentic medieval village. Founded by the knights **Templar**, enlarged, enriched and fortified by the knights **Hospitaller**, who later became the order of the Knights Saint John of Malta.

La Couvertoirade remains unblemished by centuries of history, the 100 years war, religions wars, famine, plague epidemics... It's majestic ramparts, listed "**Historical Monument**" since **1895**, seen as they were six centuries ago and still protect the last remaining **Templar castle** in France.

A LIVELY AND MAGICAL PLACE



Officially listed as one of **The Most Beautiful Villages in France** since **1982**, La Couvertoirade combines history, legends and traditions with futuristic outlook. In and around

it's narrow streets, discover boutiques, medieval celebrations and performances, also cultural and playful activities. For the intrepid there are also sporting activities and liking trails.



- XIIth, XIIIth centuries
- XIVth century
- XVth century

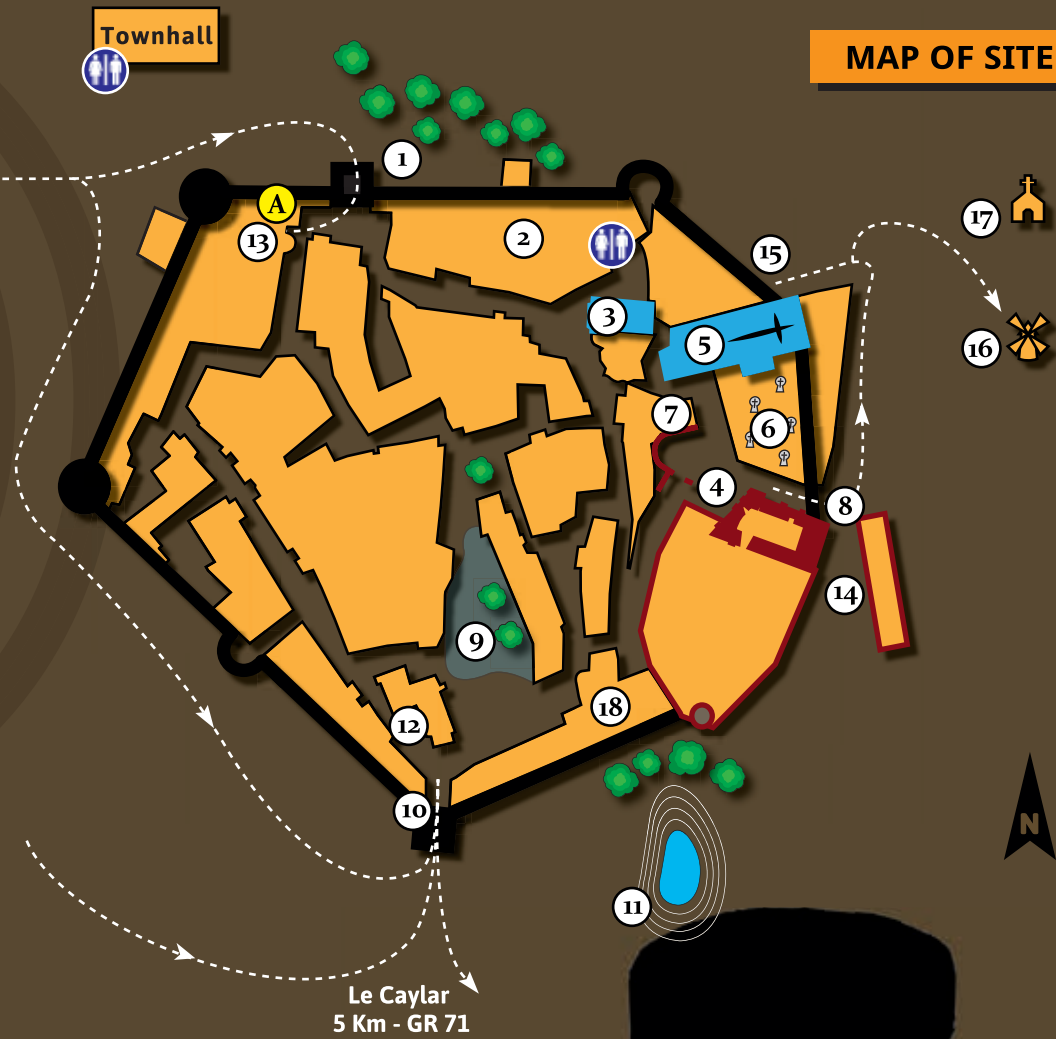


- A Welcome / ramparts
- 1 North gate
- 2 Hôtel de Grailhe
- 3 Communal oven
- 4 Castle
- 5 St. Christopher's church
- 6 Cemetery
- 7 Panorama
- 8 Small exit gate
- 9 Old pond
- 10 South gate
- 11 Lavogne
- 12 Straight street
- 13 The Scipione's house
- 14 Old stables
- 15 Gift of water
- 16 Redounel windmill
- 17 Chapel of St. Christol
- 18 Traveller's lodge

Townhall



MAP OF SITE



Le Caylar
5 Km - GR 71