



Maison Felix

www.maisonfelix.com

A charming holiday cottage at the foot of Cordes sur Ciel

Swimming

The Garrisou water park is before Vindrac at the edge of Les Cabannes. There is plenty of parking, or you can take the lane behind Maison Felix on foot (but it is quite a distance) or by bike. There is plenty of parking, and if you have a car, this is probably easiest. This is a modern water park, with plenty to entertain both children and adults. Men are expected to wear Speedo type trunks, and not the ones which look like shorts.



Our favourite swimming is in the lake near Monesties. This is called the Plan d'eau de la Roucarie, and there is bathing in the lake there with supervisors and a separate area for very small children. It is a twenty minute drive to the lake from Maison Felix. You need to leave Cordes on the road towards Laguepie, past the excellent butcher's shop, Chez Denis, and past the post office, then towards the end

of a long straight, take the right fork and follow the lovely winding road along the river Cerou until you get to Monesties.



Monesties is a beautiful village, worth a stop for a cup of tea when you return from your swim, and good for a stroll through the ancient streets and down along the river banks, but to get to the lake, turn left at the fountain opposite the Auberge, and you will see signs for the lake from here. It is a fine drive up into the hills, and then follow the sign to turn left for the swimming.

There is swimming in the river at Laguepie, and this, too, is worth a visit. It is a similar distance from Maison Felix as the lake is. It is another lovely village overlooked by a ruined castle. There are restaurants and a few shops, and there is a big flea market a couple of times a year. Above the weir there is a pontoon, and the water is deep enough to swim, and below the weir, the river is shallower and there is a grassy river bank.



On a hot day, the most spectacular swimming is in the river at Lagarde Viaur, not far from Saint Andre-de Najac and Montirat on the D239. The village is high up above the river, but there is a good swimming area and a green bank above the weir and bridge. There is also a small café there which does some

food at lunchtimes. If you have a small car, it is fun to drive through the village after swimming, and take the spectacular high road home, but the road through the village is very steep indeed and extremely narrow, so this is not for the faint hearted.