

MEDITERRANEAN

SIGGY AND HEATHER | TRIP AROUND THE MEDITERRANEAN | WEDNESDAY, 12 JUNE 2013

A Feast for the Senses

Traveling through France is the “holiday” part of our trip. It is very easy to get food, to find a caravan park and to travel the excellent road system. However it is not the norm for anyone to speak English. This surprised us as we assumed being in the EU would necessitate this common language.

We are basically just rambling around. We have no set plan. The criteria we use to determine which “track” we will take are - keep mainly to secondary roads, avoid large cities, look for waterways and keep away from extremely mountainous areas.

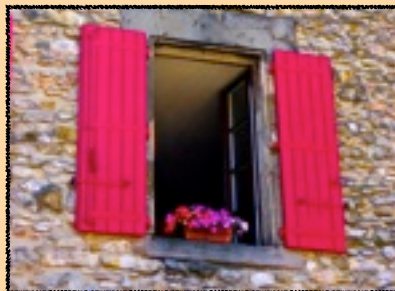
Today these criteria worked a treat. The sun was shining and the country areas we traveled through were magnificent. Only about an hour into our trip we came upon Lautrec. We parked in a great place set aside for vans such as ours and rode up to the town. The intention was to investigate what looked like a windmill on the top of the hill in the centre of town. What we found was one of the oldest medieval towns we have seen to date! We can't even find any information about it in our Lonely Planet book. Most of the houses were half timbered. They looked great.



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DISTINCTIVE ROOF LINE The scenery changes in the Lot area included these strange roofs - very squarish and pointed. Why make a roof more complicated than it could be?



SPLASH OF COLOUR What better way to liven up the grey and fawn coloured buildings than splashing some colour - even if its garish pink.



GRASSY HOUSE? Obviously looks interesting to passer's by but this plant is known to eventually destroy walls. At least there are no concerns about refreshing the paint each year.

SNAPS



TYPICAL COUNTRYSIDE



LAUTREC GARDEN



ANYONE LISTENING?



LET THE LIGHT SHINE ON ME

Our senses are heightened even more when the sun shines brightly.

The central area had a huge covered space and most of the houses were as usual decorated with flowers.

After having lunch back in the van, we continued on our very enjoyable journey through green, rolling farming country.

We rose up and went down numerous times. At one point we just couldn't resist stopping at St Martin Laguepie. It was built on the steep sides of the river valley. The bridge through the centre of town spanned a quite large river. We rode down and went along the river banks and then continued on to investigate their camping area. It was beautiful and secluded but it was

only 4.30 pm and we wanted to continue our enjoyable drive.

At another point we came upon a region that had beautiful houses with grey slate roofs and turrets. The turrets were four sided structures with spires on the top. It was a nice change from the terracotta.

What a lovely feast we have had in one day. We have virtually just happened on these places. What must the rest of this country contain!

One Dutch couple we spoke to, said that they continually have holidays in this particular area. They never feel that they have seen all of it. We think we understand.





PHOTOS



Lautrec's Windmill



St Martin Laguepie



Lautrec

