

THE CLIFF PATH

→ SITUATION : SAINT-CIRQ MADELON

→ START POINT: St. Georges church

GPS Coordinates : N44°47.498 E01°18.790

DURATION : 1 hr. 30 mins.

LENGTH : 5.3 kms

WAYMARKING : Yellow



Go down between St. Georges Church and the Temple, keeping to the right. At the junction, take the road going down to the right.

1 At the crossroads, take the path on the right which follows the cliff «under the rock». View of the cave, and of the diversity of vegetation on this cliff, comprising a mixture of broadleaved trees and conifers (evergreen oak, pubescent oak, hornbeam, maritime pine, holly...), typical of the luxuriant forests of the nearby Périgord Noir.

2 Go up the D101 towards Saint Cirq Madelon on the right.

3 Once you have crossed the two bridges (over the Melve), turn left towards the hamlet of «Les Monges» and go 100 m. (You pass close to a mill).

4 Go to the left and up to the spring, then continue on the path for another 225 m.

5 At the crossing, take the tarmac path to the right.

6 Then, take the dirt track to the right for about 50 m. and go right again along the narrow woodland track.

7 When you come to the tarmac road, go straight on.

8 Then, after 350 m. on the tarmac road, take the stony-surfaced track which provides a view over the village, and go back down to the village centre. (You pass close to a private bread-oven).

“ You'll love the green woodlands and unspoiled protected landscapes around Saint Cirq Madelon, the gateway to the Bouriane. ”

TO SEE IN THE AREA...

- Payrignac : Cougnac painted prehistoric caves
- Gourdon : Mediaeval town

→ FOOD SHOPS/
RESTAURANTS ETC
Payrignac, Gourdon

→ INFORMATION
Gourdon Tourist Office
05 65 27 52 50
www.tourisme-gourdon.com

THE CHURCH OF SAINT GEORGE

Set on the top of a «pech» (hill) overlooking the forest, the church of St. Georges is remarkable for the wall paintings with which the interior is lavishly decorated. This building, constructed during the Romanesque period (12th–13th C.), built of regular courses of ochre-coloured limestone containing quartz, with a semi-circular quarter-dome vaulted apse has been partially destroyed and rebuilt over the years. This has resulted in a mixture of styles, from the Romanesque choir to the Gothic-style north chapel. It is the same for the 600m² of frescoes painted at different times, giving us a résumé of the varying artistic and religious sensibilities over the centuries : from the 13th C. Romanesque décor of the quarter-dome vault (Christ enthroned surrounded by the Tetramorphs) to the funerary bands painted around the walls in the 16th and 17th C. illustrating ritual practices which consisted of painting the arms of dead lords on the church walls ; to the trompe-l'oeil arches and expensive drapery decorating the chapels, the transverse arches opening on to the nave or the scenes painted by the parish vicar at the beginning of the 20th C. in the south chapel. A real little gem.

