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Salagou
LE CLERMONTAIS

OFFICE DE TOURISME



Discovering the Clermontois

Octon

Tourisme
Herault



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COMMUNAUTÉ DE COMMUNES  DU CLERMONTAIS

Welcome to the Clermontais, Pays Cœur d'Hérault.

The Communauté de Communes du Clermontais is actively engaged in promoting the heritage which mirrors its historical and cultural identity.

This little guide will help you to discover the natural patrimony and the monuments and buildings of its community members : OCTON

Have a good time and see you very soon !

SOME HISTORY

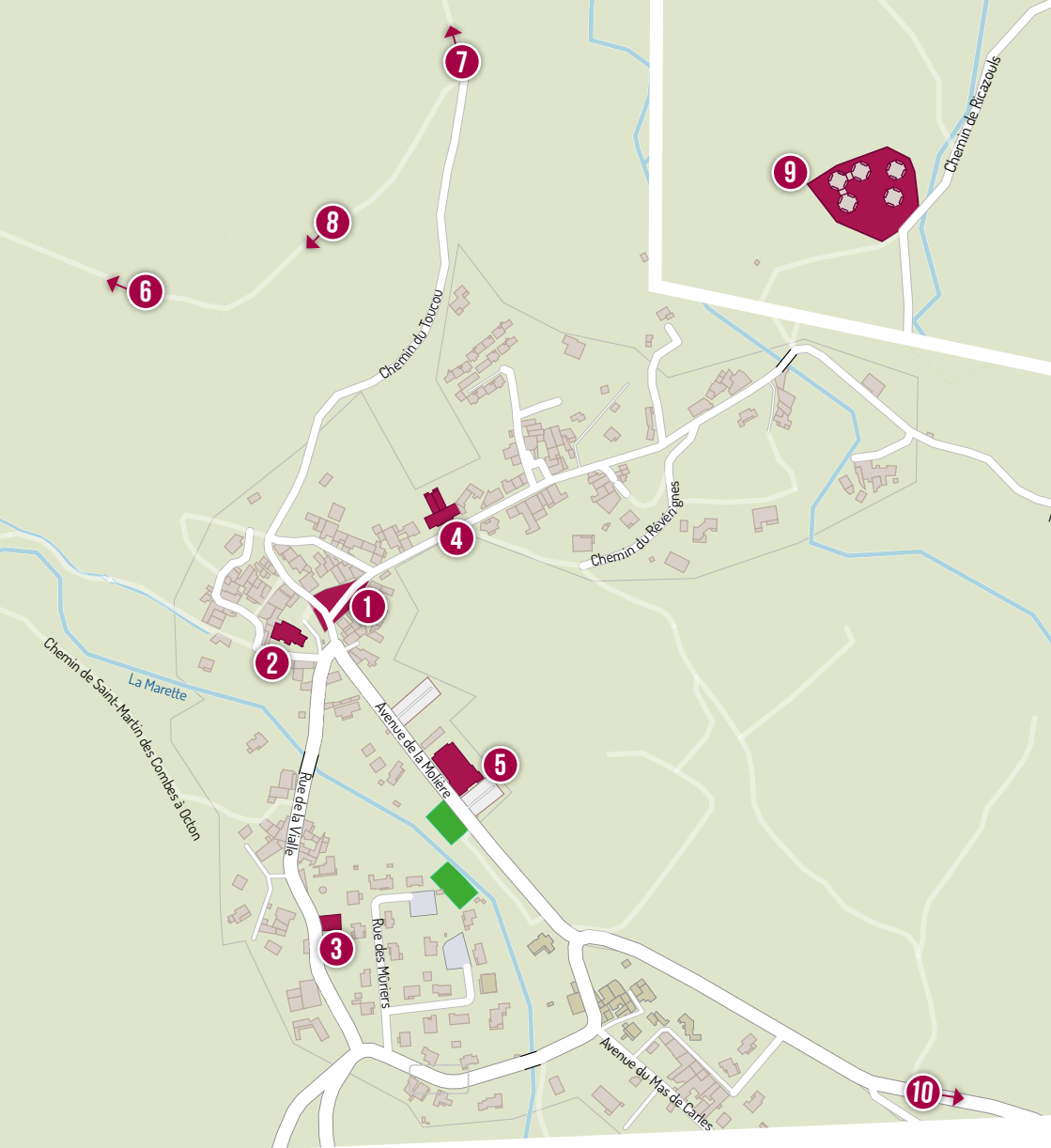
There are two theories as to the origins of the name of Octon: "Octavianum" or "the Villa of Octavius on the one hand, or otherwise a Latin-Gallic form octaviomagos meaning the village market at the 8th Roman milestone. At the time, there were milestones all along the Roman roads placed at equal distances one from another. Vestiges of prehistoric times were also found in a garden in the 1950s, undoubtedly from the Neolithic times, if we refer to other vestiges found in the surrounding villages. There is also a series of 13 dolmens on the plateau of Toucou. In the Middle Ages most of the habitations were near the Castle of Lauzières where the vestiges are still visible today. According to tradition, Saint Fulcran (the Bishop of Lodève in the 10th century) was born near the roman chapel of Lignous. The baptismal fonts in which he was baptized were transported from the church of Mérifons to Lignous in 1950. The present-day village of Octon developed from the inhabitants of the numerous surrounding hamlets and houses around the village.

The general situation

The village, with a surface area exceeding almost 5000 acres has natural boundaries formed by the surrounding hills and various streams including the Salagou and the Lignous. The village is well protected from the wind by the surrounding plateaux. It is gathered around a square with a fountain in the centre. It has several hamlets: Lauzières, Ricazouls, Basse, Toucou, the farm of Arièges, Saint-Martin des Combes, which became a part of Octon in 1963, as well as traditional provençal-style houses and farms: Mas de l'Eglise, Mas de Ruffas, Mas de l'Hébrard, Mas de Carles, Mas de Clergues and Mas de la Vialle. All these hamlets and farms make up the present-day village of Octon. The village is situated between the plains and the mountains, allowing for a variety of crops and food. Today, the village has more than 450 inhabitants.



Village shield, « Aloutou », Octon in Occitanie



BUILDINGS AND NATURAL HERITAGE DISCOVERY CIRCUIT

- 1 The village square
- 2 The church of Saint-Etienne
- 3 The "Castle"
- 4 The school
- 5 The wine cooperative
- 6 Notre Dame de Roubignac
- 7 The megaliths of toucou
- 8 The castle of lauzieres
- 9 The village of artists
- 10 Lake Salagou



1 THE VILLAGE SQUARE

The village square is immortalised by the monument “Le Griffon” built in 1901 by Paul Vigné d’Octon. The fountain is inscribed with the date of its construction. In 2009, the municipality re-named the square “Paul Vigné d’Octon” in tribute to the illustrious man of letters. He was the village’s Mayor for two mandates, General Counsel of the Canton of Lunas and finally a Member of Parliament for the Hérault. The revolutionary calendar was chosen to mark the inauguration date of the monument as Paul Vigné being “progressive” in spirit it was by this symbol inscribed on the fountain that he expressed his political opinions.

Four main streets depart from this square, the first leading to the town hall and the school, the second leading to the old oven (present-day post office) and towards Toucou, the third going to Salasc, and the fourth heading towards Lodève and the lake Salagou.

2 THE CHURCH OF SAINT ETIENNE

The church of Saint Etienne dominates the village from its rocky outcrop. It has a rectangular layout, a Gothic style portal, a stained-glass window shortened on the right, a large *oculus* (relieving arch) on the gable and a square tower acting as a belfry. The old presbytery (now a restaurant) and a modern sacristy complete the building. The first reference to the church in Octon appears in 988 in Saint Fulcran’s will. In 1162, the church is part of the property of the lords of Lauzières and was used as a parish church, as were the churches of Lauzières and Roubignac. Originally, the church was probably much smaller and was situated on the site of the present-day chapel of the Virgin, extending out from the presbytery. It was a church with a single nave comprising three barrel vaults, chapels with flat apses and a cemetery on the side. The square tower serving as the belfry was a defensive function and was used as a watchtower. In the 14th century, the church was equipped with a bell with the inscription “Je vous salue Marie, la voix du seigneur résonne” (Hail Mary, the voice of the Lord resounds). A second inscribed bell was installed in 1603. In the 17th century, the church underwent extension work and has since been supported by the bell tower. Elements from the ancient castral chapel of the Lauzières were removed and transposed



to the church of Saint Etienne : the south portal and the two arches of the nave, as well as the key stones, have oak leaves. The presbytery was again extended in the 18th century. Painted motifs decorate the chapel of the Virgin and cover the vaults and the walls of the nave. As is for most chapels dedicated to the Virgin, the decoration is in a midnight blue background dotted with stars or flowers.

After the Revolution, and at the beginning of the 19th century, the village population increased by more than a third. To which was added the inhabitants of the surrounding hamlets whose chapels had been abandoned in favour of the church of Saint Etienne. At the start of the 19th century, the church was in a poor state of repair and the roof threatened to collapse. Between 1828 and 1834, there was much discussion concerning the extension of the church and subsidies for the work were to be sought after because the town council had another project also which was to build a community hall.

The expansion of the church was to be completed only in 1840. The building was stretched towards the east and the choir moved to the west. At the end of the 19th century, the *oculus* on the eastern gable was fitted with stained-glass windows made by the master glassmaker Mauvernay (the Lapidation of Saint Etienne and the Nativity in the chapel of the Virgin). In 1902, the chapel of the baptismal font was fitted: the three stained-glass lancet windows were also produced in the workshops of Mauvernay. The baptistery in sandstone comes from the old castle of Lauzières.



3 THE "CASTLE"

In 1650, Catherine de Lauzières, the wife of the Duke d'Estrées sold the barony she had inherited, from her brother Charles de Lauzières-Thémines to Antoine Jouglà, the paymaster general of the Bas Languedoc. The barony was intact but the castle of Lauzières was in poor condition. As most castles of that time, its fortifications had been destroyed by order of Richelieu so as to prevent it from being used as a fortress to resist the king's power. Also, the population was little by little abandoning the old insalubrious fortress for villages in the plains, where they built more spacious houses surrounded by large areas of land. The castle and hamlet were abandoned in favour of the neighbouring villages. This transfer probably occurred in the 1630s, it was at this time that the "castle" was built in the village of Octon at La Vialle. The building started with the staircase and the large hall on the first floor which was used as a courtroom for local trials by the lord's bailiff. The date of 1676 is engraved on one of the doors. The castle had its own chapel at the bottom of the park, in which the vestiges of a small apse are still visible. In 1755,

under the reign of Louis XV, the barony changed hands again. After the Revolution, all the family's goods were divided up. The "castle" became national property. From 1792, there were no more lordships or seigniorial jurisdiction. The "castle" in Octon kept nothing more than its prestigious name and was sold to Monsieur Castanier in 1809 who then sold to Monsieur Reynes in 1845. Being a blacksmith, he forged and installed the gates and portal with his initials "F.R.". In 1861, his daughter married the notary, Jules Vigné, the son of Blaise Vigné, husband of Marie Antoinette Desalasc, the eldest daughter of the last lord to own the castle. Following the premature death of his wife, Blaise Vigné remarried and had a son in 1825, Jules, who married Mademoiselle Reynes in 1861, daughter of Fulcran Reynes, the proprietor of the castle at the time. Jules had several daughters, including Madeleine Vigné, who married Paul Vigné of Octon in 1859. On the death of his wife, Paul inherited all the property which he bequeathed to his second wife, who sold it in the middle of the 1950s to the family of the sculptor Dupin.

4 THE SCHOOL

In the first half of the last century, school did not last very long; after the Certificate of Study, children left to find work. Some were able to go on for further education or university. In 1951, the pupils of Monsieur Prades from Nèbian, who has a museum named after him in Lattes, worked on a monograph of the village, taken from archaeological excavations. They thus discovered the vestigial remains of a small gallo-roman temple. The school was innovative in its activities thanks to its dynamic teachers who offered numerous activities, such as archaeology, theatre and cinema.





THE WATER

Flowing from the neighbouring plateaux, six springs pass through the village and empty into the Salagou. Today, two springs supply the village with drinking water, completed by water from a bore-hole in the summer. To counteract drought, attempts were made to channel the water and store it: the aqueduct of Ricazouls, *béals*, wells and cisterns. In 1675, a *béal* (small irrigation canal) was brought to the square and another supplied water to La Vialle.

THE ECONOMY

The village survived for many years from mixed farming. In the 1950s, wine making became dominant with 741.3 acres in the plain and on the hill sides. There were also table grapes, like around Clermont l'Hérault, olive trees which produced 28, 660 lbs taken to the Clermont mill in 1949, chestnuts, wood, and cereals. The village was self-sufficient in food for its inhabitants and its animals. Sheep's wool was sold at Clermont for the textile industry. At this moment in time, all the necessities for daily life were available.

5 THE WINE COOPERATIVE

The Wine Cooperative was built in 1943. Today, it is no longer in service, but is used as a cellar for the sale of wine. It is run by "Les Vignerons de l'Occitane" a grouping of wineries, based in Servian. Five private wine estates open to the public can be found in the village for wine-tasting and purchase.

6 THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE VILLAGE NOTRE DAME DE ROUBIGNAC AND, HAMLET OF VALAREDES

To get to the chapel, follow the hiking trail [PR26] or drive through the hamlets of Basse, Saint Martin des Combes and the village of Puech.

The name of Roubignac comes from “rouvre”, which is a variety of oak found in the vicinity. The vestiges of a gallo-roman estate were found near the present-day chapel. The name of Roubignac can be found in the Gellone cartulary right back in 804. The church is part of the construction work or the listing of numerous churches and chapels done by Saint Fulcran who mentioned the church in his will dated 988. This great Bishop had many religious structures built in his diocese and Roubignac was situated half-way between the village where he was born (Mérifons) and Lodève (the seat of the bishopric). It was a major religious centre in the area and attracted all the inhabitants from the surrounding area. It was a site of many pilgrimages and also miracles. Many Christians from the region and further afield came in large numbers to pray, while others asked for burial. The chapel which was modified in the 12th century has a symbolic iconography on the entrance portal and the interior capitals. On the tympanum, is a Maltese cross surrounded by two figures. Notre Dame used to belong to the Knights Templar and the bell gable still displays a Maltese cross. The building has a rectangular layout measuring almost 56 ft long with a seven-sided apse measuring almost 30 ft wide. A single nave with three bays is facing east. The building's style is said to be composite, because it combines several eras. The entrance door is surmounted by a bas-relief indicating Romanesque architecture from the 10th century, the curving of the southern window reflects the Byzantine influence on the Romanesque style. On the inside, the tribune, with its ribs and the

vault with a double lancet arch, show characteristics from the 13th century. The church is lit by only three little openings on the right and at the left of the choir, one being walled-up. It has a massive square bell tower raised along the entire width of the rear bay. This church was the centre of a parish which included Lauzières, Toucou, Les Valarèdes, the Mas Caudou and the Fourille. Around the chapel there were no villages. In 1308, the church of the castle of Lauzières became the centre of the parish of Roubignac, the hamlet with the most inhabitants. It was at the cemetery of Roubignac that the parishioners were buried up until the Revolution. The parish was abolished in that time and since then is joined to the church of Octon. It was classified as a Historical Monument in 1954. Inside, there was a collection of 19th century painted wood panels.



They were placed there in 1851 following the church's renovation. They made up, with the altar, a neo-Gothic ensemble which reflected a sign of the time. These panels evoked the Virgin. They were commissioned in the context of the revival of the cult of the Virgin Mary in the 19th century marked, in France, by the apparitions in Lourdes and La Salette. These events led to the restoring of many French places of worship some of which had been abandoned since the Revolution. This was the case of Notre Dame de Roubignac, where the aim had been to create a centre devoted to the Virgin Mary in the Lodève region. The chapel was again abandoned and pillaged in the middle of the last century. A pilgrimage and a mass are celebrated every first Sunday in September.



7 THE MEGALITHS OF TOUCOU

The main characteristic of this group of megaliths, which comprises thirteen dolmens and one menhir, is that it is built in basalt. These collective tombs of various types mounted in the 4th and 3rd millenias are called dolmens which comprise massive stone slabs to make a funeral chamber. They are covered by a burial mound of earth and stone. The function of the menhir, formed by a single vertical stone, remains a mystery. Unlike the dolmens, no other archaeological material (pottery, flint, bones, etc.) has been found to allow its role to be identified.

THE FAMILY OF LAUZIERES DE THEMINES

Their motto: "The leaves may tremble, but the trunk does not move"

Lauzières: Lousse or Yeuses, land planted with yeuse, the Holm oak in Celt.

The unwritten history started in 890. Guilhem, Count of Narbonne, nephew of the Count of Toulouse and Charlemagne, gave the land of Euzière to his nephew Oton, who was already lord of Olmet and Villecun. Saint Fulcran (949-1006), the Bishop of Lodève, is said to be of this family. In 1096, Ginalfred de Lauzières is said to have taken part in the first crusade with Pierre, Bishop of Lodève, under the banners of the Count of Toulouse. In the 14th century, Rostaing took Catherine de Penne, daughter of Hélène de Condouilhac of Thémimes, as his second wife. This marriage brought a great heritage into the family, which joined its name to the Thémimes family. At the end of the 14th century, the family name, along with those in Soubès, Ceyras, Lacoste and Saint Guiraud, had formed two branches: the Soubès family, which disappeared in 1744, and the Saint Beaulize family, which disappeared in the 19th century. In the 15th century, the oldest branch settled in Quercy and joined forces with the Thémimes family. The end of the 16th century marked the zenith of the family home, the head of which was Pons de Lauzières, the Marquis of Thémimes. This branch disappeared in 1646. The family was linked with the Guilhem family of Clermont. Moreover, there is a townhouse in Clermont l'Hérault with the name of Lauzières Thémimes, which dates from the 18th century. In 1350, Anglezy de Lauzières founded the Order of the Benedictines of Gorjan in Clermont in their monastery. The church is still visible today and is part of the hospital's retirement home.

In 1650, Catherine de Lauzières, the wife of the Duke of Estrés, sold the barony which she inherited from her brother Charles de Lauzières Thémimes to Antoine Jougla, the paymaster general of the Bas Languedoc, for the sum of 37,000 pounds. In 1650, the barony was still intact, but the castle in bad condition. The Lauzières family was also jointly lord of Mourèze, with the lord of Clermont.

Marshal Pons de Lauzières Thémimes served under the Duke of Montmorency between 1570 and 1588. He took part in the capture of Clermont in 1584, during which the Duke's Protestant troops took control of the town after a long siege. The Duke named Pons the town governor. Pons received the favours of King Louis XIII, who appointed him seneschal of Quercy and later governor of Brittany. He had a huge amount of property in the Languedoc (Lauzières, Ceyras, Lacoste, Saint Guiraud, Soubès, Montesquieu, Pézenes, Bessan, etc.) and in Quercy. Antoine de Lauzières was the captain of Louis XIII's guards and put an end to the life of Antoine Charles Juera, brother of Richelieu, in a bloody duel.

At the start of the 17th century, the family was in decline, with the deaths of the son and grandson of Marshal Lauzières de Thémime. During the Revolution, the property was seized and sold, nothing remained of the family's estates. The last member of the family died in 1869, without an heir, marking the end of the Lauzières Thémimes family.



8 THE CASTLE OF LAUZIÈRES (PRIVATE PROPERTY)

Founded in the 12th century by the Lauzières family, the feudal castle acted as protection for a hamlet built against the fortified structure and also controlled the road. Following which the castle was modified in the 14th and 15th centuries then sold in the middle of the 17th century. The castle was progressively abandoned and the hamlet was occupied until the end of the 19th century. Nowadays, all that is visible are the vestiges of the different eras (especially the Renaissance) which were restored and preserved in the course of the building work. These imposing ruins remind us that the feudal power here in this place was held by the powerful Lauzières family, which exercised its domination over the Salagou plain. Lauzières comes from the word Yeuses meaning «land planted with Holm oaks». Its name and coat-of-arms was given to one of the most ancient families in the Languedoc. In the 13th century, there was a castle with a fortified wall and a wall-walk, which have since disappeared, a result of later modifications. At the end of the 15th century, with the political

context being more peaceful, the heavy fortifications were no longer required. The lords of Lauzières transformed their castle so as to make it more habitable. It was in this time that the cross-bar mullion windows were opened on the southern facade. At the same time, they increasingly occupied prestigious positions and gradually lost interest in their modest castle in Octon, which they abandoned in 1626, before selling it in 1650. An engraving from the end of the 18th century shows that it's still in good repair.

The buildings

The abandonment of the castle was precipitated by the division of land following the French Revolution. Elevated on a small promontory, directly on the *ruffe*, the castle is built with local materials: yellow sandstone for the quoins, door and window frames and black basalt for the walls. The tower shelters the square apse of a chapel (12th century). At the base of the wall, the herringbone structure shows a more ancient foundation. Behind the chapel, the large square

tower shelters a spiral staircase, no longer there today, leading to the lord's quarters. Going around the castle on the right, you will get to a platform facing the entrance. This space was most certainly walled and its access protected by a fortified door. Below the platform, it is possible to see the ruins of the village nestling at the foot of the fortress. The castle was separated in two when the land was divided up at the start of the 19th century and it was occupied up until the middle of the 19th century. It still preserves some nice elevations from the end of the Middle Ages and modern times. Nowadays, all that remains is the lower part of the dungeon and the two towers from the fortified walls, the round path and the vault over the entrance gate, the guardroom and the walls overhanging the abandoned bourgeois houses. To be noted is the variety of colours red, black and yellow sandstone used in the construction of the building. There are still vestiges of the castle's

chapel dedicated to Saint John, which are on the first floor of a square tower. Inside, there used to be a chevet covered with intersecting ribs, as well as a chapel (north). Behind the chapel to the south was a square tower of three levels. This chapel became a parish church in 1335. The castle has been a listed Historical Monument since 1942. The village was definitively abandoned by the Mathieu family in 1906.

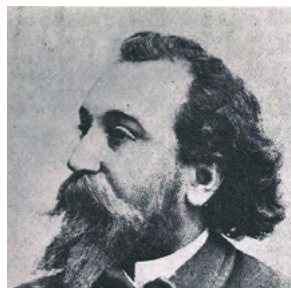
The association in charge of the preservation of the castle of Lauzières is gradually renovating the castle and its hamlet. A meal and a concert are organized on the last Thursday in July. The castle can be visited during the Heritage Days.

NB: The castle and its hamlet are private property, entry is forbidden for security reasons.

A VILLAGE OF ARTISTS AND FAMOUS FIGURES

Since the last century, the village has attracted many nationally renowned artists. The most famous of them is the writer Paul Vigné d'Oceton.

PAUL VIGNÉ D'OCTON 1859-1943



The son of a baker, he was born in Montpellier in 1859, but his family originally came from Oceton.

He lost his father at a young age and his mother, a fervent Catholic, sent him to a seminary school for children. He learned Latin from an old sacristan during youth camps on the Larzac plateau where he also discovered nature and got the inspiration for his future novels and commitments. After completing his

baccalauréat, he studied medicine at University with great success. In 1884 after his doctoral, he travelled to the Antilles and the West Indies, where he served as a colonial administrator and naval doctor, in spite of his handicap: his deafness. He returned home with material for five novels which he wrote between 1886 and 1887. He left the navy for his childhood sweetheart who had been widowed and the couple married in 1888. They settled in Oceton in 1890. Not having much income, he wrote articles for the daily newspapers, such as *Le Figaro* (often with pseudonyms) and it was his director at the time who advised Paul to use the name of Oceton. Between 1889 and 1893, he published ten novels and a collection of short stories.

He enjoyed writing about the habits and customs of the people and countries he encountered during his travels. He soon abandoned medicine for literature and moved with his wife from Octon to Paris where he wrote two novels "Le roman d'un timide" and "L'éternelle blessée", which were a great success and made him famous in Paris in literary circles. He distinguished himself as a doctor in 1893 in Clermont l'Hérault during the cholera epidemic raging in the town (an avenue was named to honour him). The local doctors had abandoned the town, only Paul stayed behind to care for the sick, at the risk of his own life. The disease was eventually eradicated and he was carried triumphantly through the streets on the day of his departure. A few months later, he was elected as a member of parliament (1893-1906) thanks to his programme in which he denounced French colonial expansion, he defended the spinning mills in Lodève, the wine making industry, teaching and the farming world in general. He was also one of the most courageous and determined spokesmen of anti-colonialism during the 3rd Republic. In one of his speeches he declared: "(...) the son of a manual worker, straight out of the working class, I will never lose sight of what I owe manual workers, what I owe the people". However, he was not a very assiduous member of parliament and did not participate in some of the major decisions at the time (law separating the state from the church, law of 1901 concerning associations etc.), nevertheless, he was re-elected member of parliament in the first round of voting in 1902! He was defeated in 1906 by Paul Pelisse, the Mayor of Paulhan. After this, he was commissioned to conduct ethnographic and sociological research in Africa. He refused the Legion of Honour several times. During his political years, he was very prolific and wrote no fewer than ten books set in this area (*Le pont de l'amour*, *Pèlerin du Soleil* etc.). He also wrote some psychological papers. He later retired to the "castle" in Octon, where he led a simple life not being very fortunate. He died at the age of 84 years in November 1943 and is buried in Octon.

His complete works include 29 novels and many political pamphlets. He was a pioneer of naturism in Octon and was the Mayor of the village where the main square is named after him. The fountain was built during his mandate.

Quotation from Paul Vigné

"This land of the ruffe whose undulations fade so far into the distance in a mist of light and this peaceful landscape of its beautiful Octon valley with scrubland fragrant with wild thyme and lavender and the small hills which form a belt with their gentle slopes."

ALBERT DUPIN

Albert Dupin was a French artist and sculptor of low relief carving and abstract mural compositions. He was born in Toulouse (Haute-Garonne) on 29 April 1910 and studied at the city's School of Fine Arts between 1926 and 1928. In 1945, he exhibited his sculptures at the city's Autumn Fair, of which he later became a patron. Following this, he joined the "Montpellier-Sète" group of artists, founded in 1964. This group, established around the artist François Desnoyer, brought together artists such as Gabriel Couderc, Camille Descossy, Jean Milhau, Gérard Calvet and Elie Sarthou. What connected these artists was not quite so much their art as their attachment to the Midi. Dupin is the only sculptor to have joined the group in 1950-1951. He took part in the First Young Sculptor Salon at the Rodin Museum, and, in 1954, he was also present at the May Salon. In Montpellier, at the University of Paul Valéry he left his imprint on the door of the main entrance, as well as an ensemble of sculptures for the Faculty of Science. He settled in the village of Octon in 1957 and bought the "castle", where he died in 2005.

9 THE VILLAGE OF ARTS AND CRAFTS

The Village of Arts and Crafts was created in 1995. It has workshops for artists, an area for running courses and a beautiful exhibition room. It is a place of art and culture which attracts people from all the creative arts who are looking for a place to work. An annual programme is offered by the Association P.A.R.C. There are regular exhibitions with different themes and art forms which finance the place which belongs to the municipality.

10 THE LAKE SALAGOU

When using the hiking paths going in the direction of Lauzières, Notre Dame de Roubignac and Toucou, you will be able to admire the beautiful panoramic view over the village and the lake Salagou.

Created 40 years ago for the irrigation of the wine-making Hérault plain and to limit the damage caused by flooding from the Hérault River, the lake Salagou has now got a tourist vocation. Every year, it receives more than 250,000 visitors, who are amazed at its magical landscapes in shades of red (the *ruffe* which is over 250 million years old), green and white. The lake's multi-coloured waters give it an enchanting appearance. Although it is artificial, the surrounding nature has adapted to this new environment and many protected animal and plant species live there in perfect harmony with the humans. The lake Salagou has been a classified site since 2003. Since 2010, it has been joined by the Cirque de Mourèze in a Grand Site operation designed to protect and develop it for receiving visitors. The Salagou is a small stream, barely 13 miles long, which empties into the river Lergue, a tributary of the river Hérault. The lake covers 1853 acres over a perimeter of 17,3 miles, covering seven municipalities. It holds an average of 3602 million cubic ft of water.



A quote :

"There are white lakes and black lakes everywhere, others dream in the grey mists which hide them, or admire themselves in the opal or emerald reflections which poets, with the brushes of their verse have spread over their waters. The lake Salagou, set in a shimmering landscape, is in the entire image of a rainbow... And, in the background, like a face made-up for an excessively vibrant show, the "ruffe" is powdered in provocative shades of reddish purple".

Gaston Combarrous,
author from Clermont l'Hérault



WALKING

From the village square, several hiking routes will take you to Notre Dame de Roubignac (PR28), castle of Lauzières and the Causse de Toucou

Mountain biking trail

A mountain biking trail departs from the village square and follows an 8 miles route over the Causse de Toucou.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The Federation of the Hérault for fishing and protection of the aquatic environment

It is in charge of promoting and monitoring the fishing area in the Department. It participates in the protection of the fishing heritage. It coordinates the actions of associations, contributes to setting up fishing management plans and participates in development work. It ensures the promotion of fresh water fishing. It initiates information and educational actions and manages the fishing rights it holds. It may be allocated public interest assignments related to its activities.

Contact details :

Address : Mas de Carles 34800 Octon

Tel : 04 67 96 98 55

E-mail : pecheherault@wanadoo.fr,

Internet : www.pecheherault.com

DISCOVER OCTON DIFFERENTLY

■ **The Rando card « Notre Dame de Roubignac »** is a hiking itinerary labelled FF Randonnée34, to use when discovering the history, patrimony and local produce.

Duration : 3hrs

Distance : 4.9 miles

Level of difficulty : average

Available in the Tourist Offices of the Clermontais or download from internet site :

www.clermontais-tourisme.fr

■ **The booklet « These walls that talk to us »**, takes an unprecedented stroll into geological times so as to understand more about the rocks used to build and decorate the habitations, squares and monuments. Making the walls talk is walking in the Clermontais villages while observing the old facades, roads and narrow footpaths, the cul-de-sacs, the way the doors and windows are framed and the engraved porches. It means becoming aware of how useful rocks have been to mankind in the construction of buildings that shelter, protect and house.

On sale in all the Tourist Offices in the Clermontais.

■ **Hiking around Octon.** In July and August, every Tuesday morning from 9.00 am to 12 pm, there are different trails to discover around the village.

Informations : 04 67 96 22 79

■ **Guided tours with the Tourist Office's official visitor's guide.** Explore the richness of the natural patrimony and architecture of the Clermontais and take a plunge into the history of a land that has character.

Information and Reservations:

04 67 96 23 86 or tourisme@cc-clermontais.fr

ALSO TO SEE IN THE SURROUNDING AREA

Villeneuve, the workers' city
The lake Salagou
Clermont l'Hérault



Offices de
Tourisme
de France



OFFICES DE TOURISME

Office de Tourisme du Clermontais

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34800 CLERMONT L'HÉRAULT
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www.destination-salagou.fr



Seasonal Offices

At Mourèze, Octon and the lake Salagou,
the shores of Clermont l'Hérault
and portable phone access at Cabrières, Fontès and Paulhan



INFORMATIONS

Communauté de communes du Clermontais

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