

Chemin de CLUNY : GUYENNE - GASCOGNE



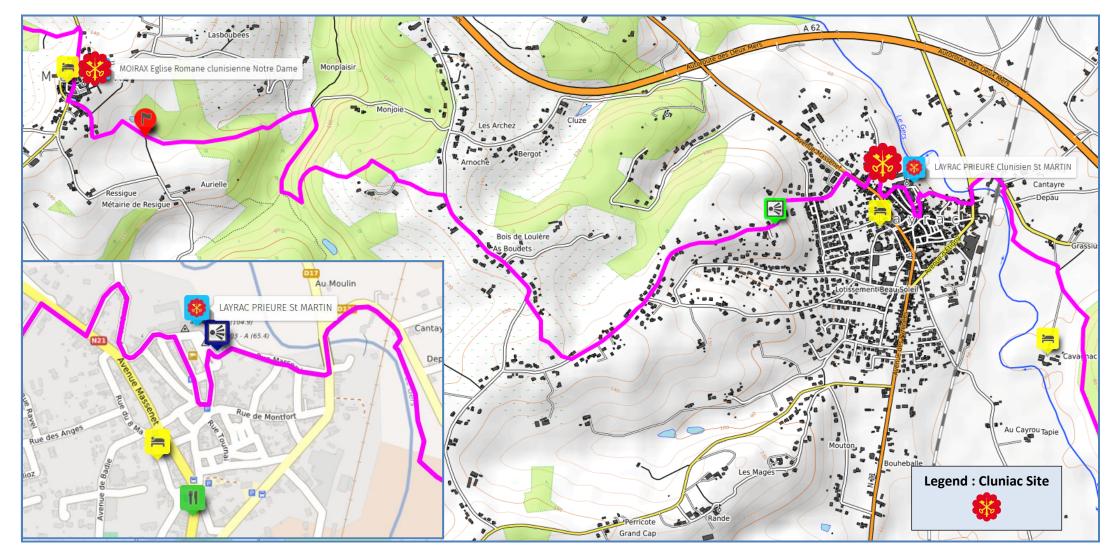




STAGE 11 A: LAYRAC - MOIRAX



Section length: 6,8 km Allow: 2h15mn Height difference: + 228m / - 137m Difficulty: Medium



From Layrac until 500m under Moirax (red flag on map) waymarks are red and green.



From red flag to Moirax waymarks are red and white (GR652)

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Layrac is 13km from Agen and 56km from Moissac.

Park as close as possible to the Place de la Mairie. (and on the place du Royal)

The walk starts here.

Leave the Place de la Mairie by the rue **Salangro**, towards the basilica. Turn left beside the basilica and follow the waymarks between the colombage house and the basilica. Turn right along the wall of the priory (a large building on your right). An old brick wall is ahead. Turn left (this detour is to avoid walking along the main road). At the main road **(N21)** turn right, direction Agen.

Opposite the entrance to the cemetery, turn left (rue de Mazère). Walk up this road and, where the tarmac ends, turn left uphill (tarmac first, then grass track). Where the track meets more tarmac turn right and pass between houses. Leave this road (C6) and continue uphill on C7. Keep on this road and just after the large cedar of Lebanon on your right, walk down onto a grassy footpath (right).

Keep alongside the mesh fence, turning right along a wooded hedge to an access drive to houses. Turn right when you reach the road and continue, passing several roads to right and left.

After **700m** leave the road where the chemin de Jean Boé (non-tarmac road) joins from left. Follow this non-tarmac road, and where it turns downhill on a bend go right, onto a beaten track. Almost immediately the track divides. Take the right fork.

Keep ahead. The broad and winding track leads downhill to the stream in the valley. At the stream and ford there are several way-marks. Keep right, alongside the stream till you reach the road.

Cross the small road bridge and walk uphill along the road to the first right-hand bend. Leave the road here, then climb up the path ahead which eventually leads towards the village. Where the track ends, turn right onto the tarmac access road. Keep ahead. Pass the school (on left), and at the STOP (near the pond) turn right on the village street towards the priory.

LAYRAC

Cluniac St Martin's church - 11th and 12thC with its Romanesque mosaic - is a classified monument and one of the largest Romanesque-domed churches in France. Note also the 13th-14thC gothic bell-tower porch, the remnants of the ancient parish church of Saint Mary with its first-floor room with Renaissance chimney-piece and town arms. In the center of the old towns are many colombage houses in good condition.

MOIRAX

The Chemin de Saint Jacques de Compostella passes through the village. Part of this section follows the GR652.

Houses and ramparts dating from the Middle Ages can be seen. The church of Our Lady (ancient Cluniac priory) Saint Mary, founded in 1049, in the romanesque style, a monument classified in 1846. 130 exceptional nave capitals are worth admiring.

The engraved inscription at the Fontaine de Navarre:

Fons de Navarra-un copiera sus ma peira-Dona Jeanne sobeirana-del Brulhes s'assetet-Alavetz se miret- dins l'onda prigonda-la Reina armada ai refrescada. « Once, the lady Jeanne du Brulhois rested on this my stone and looked into the deep water. I refreshed this much-loved queen. »

This story is about Jeanne III of Albert, Queen of Navarre. The memorial is not original. It was engraved and put in place in 1988.