



In Chassenon (16)
Between Angoulême and Limoges

CASSINOMAGVS

MONUMENTAL GALLO-ROMAN COMPLEX



PRESS
BOOK
— 2022 —



SUMMARY



I - CASSINOMAGUS

...P.5

- 1- A CITY FULL OF HISTORY
- 2- THE BEST PRESERVED GALLO-ROMAN THERMAL BATHS IN FRANCE!
- 3- THE SCAR OF A STAR FOR A TERRITORY
- 4- PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

II - AN ANIMATED SITE TO DISCOVER

...P.11

- 1- VISITS AND ACTIVITIES
- 2- NEW FEATURES IN 2022
- 3- 2022 EVENTS

III - PRACTICAL INFORMATION

...P.17

- 1- CONTACTS AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION
- 2- SERVICES
- 3- LOCATION
- 4- THE ALFRAN TEAM AND ITS GOALS



CHAMAUEIPUSA TP LLYLU a Ri.

albanianis. u. Higropullo. s. Lauri. xii. Fletione. V
Pictoria. agrippine. m. Caspurgio. xiiii. Grinibus. v.
Lugduno. ii. Foro adriani. xii. flenno. xviii. Tablis. xii. Vinouino. xi. Tunnaro. xii. Camara.

Besomaco quod nunc Castello Meruptoni. xii. Tenoana. xxi. Hemetaro. xiiii. Teorena. xii. Sammarobriua. xxxi. x. Setu.
Graunum. xiiii. Zimomagi. xvii. adullia. xi. Buroico Regum. xiiii. Ritumagus. xii. Petro.

alaina. viii. Croucia commun. xxi. Augustoduro. xiiii. Brevoduno. xii. Meliolano athen. corom. xii. Comgate. v. Purocassi.
L Cosentia. xix. Legedia. xli. viii. Condate. xvi. Sypia. xvi. Conbarisum. xxi. Julio. xvii. Nobrica. C. xxi.

Coriallo. xxxviii. Regina. xiiii. fanomartis. xv. Vorevop. xxiii. Solor. xx. Bantouitona. xx. Burchie. xxix. Portunanteto. xviii. Segona. xxxiii. Lenovo. xlii. xx. fines.
Sarcoc. xvi. Londate. x. Saarviii. duntonnaro. viii. Brigiosum. xii. Rarauna. xvi. Cassinomago. xiiii. Beturiges. xxiii. Argan.

fines. xv. Vesontia. xxiii. fines. xiiii. dufinto. xiiii. protorio. xviii. denodonum. xx. fines. x.
Toloos. xx. Barnali. xoi. lactora. xxviii. fines. vi. Cosa. xx. Bibona. xv. Varabeto. xi. Carantomago. Segodum. xv. fines. x.

luncaria. xii. Veclana. iii. Insuimo. pvrneo. v. ad centinarium. xii. Illiberre. vii. Rusfione.
Rufuccury coloy. xxviii. Iommio. Municipio. xli. Rusippisii. Municipio.

Tamastani. Municipium. x. Lemelli. presidium. vi. Tamannuna. Municipium et castellum. xvii. Tigisi. xxxii. Syda. Municipium.
Vaccis. xxx. Adoculum. Mar. num. xl. do. sala. Municipium. xxv. ad oliuam. xii. xxx.
xx. Tubonis. xviii. MUSOHIORUM. ad capsa italiam. xvi.

Peutinger Table - Reproduction from the XIIIth century of a map dating back to the IIIrd century

I - CASSINOMAGUS

1 - A CITY FULL OF HISTORY



A GALLO-ROMAN
AGGLOMERATION OF
130 HECTARES

After 51 B.C., all of Gaul is Roman. A unique civilization appears: the «Gallo-Romans». The Lémovices, whose capital was *Augustoritum* (Limoges), took advantage of the Roman peace to develop their territory.

Cassinomagus is built during the first century, a secondary agglomeration (on a surface of approximately 130 hectares), located on one of the major communication axes of Gaul: the *Via Agrippa*, which linked Lyon to Saintes. This city is used as a *mansio* (roadside relay) as indicated by its presence on the Peutinger table. Its name might come from the Gallic: *cassano* «oak» and *mago* «market», literally «the market of oaks».

Today, Chassenon, a prosperous town, is founded on the ancient *Cassinomagus*. The archaeological park of 15 hectares shelters the remains of the thermal baths, the temple and the aqueduct and offers many visits and activities.

CASSINOMAGUS IN A FEW NUMBERS

90 A.D.

construction of the baths begins

12 500 m²

total surface of the baths

1958

rediscovery of the baths

+ 60

years of archaeological research

+ 140

archaeological objects on display

20 000

visitors annually

15 ha

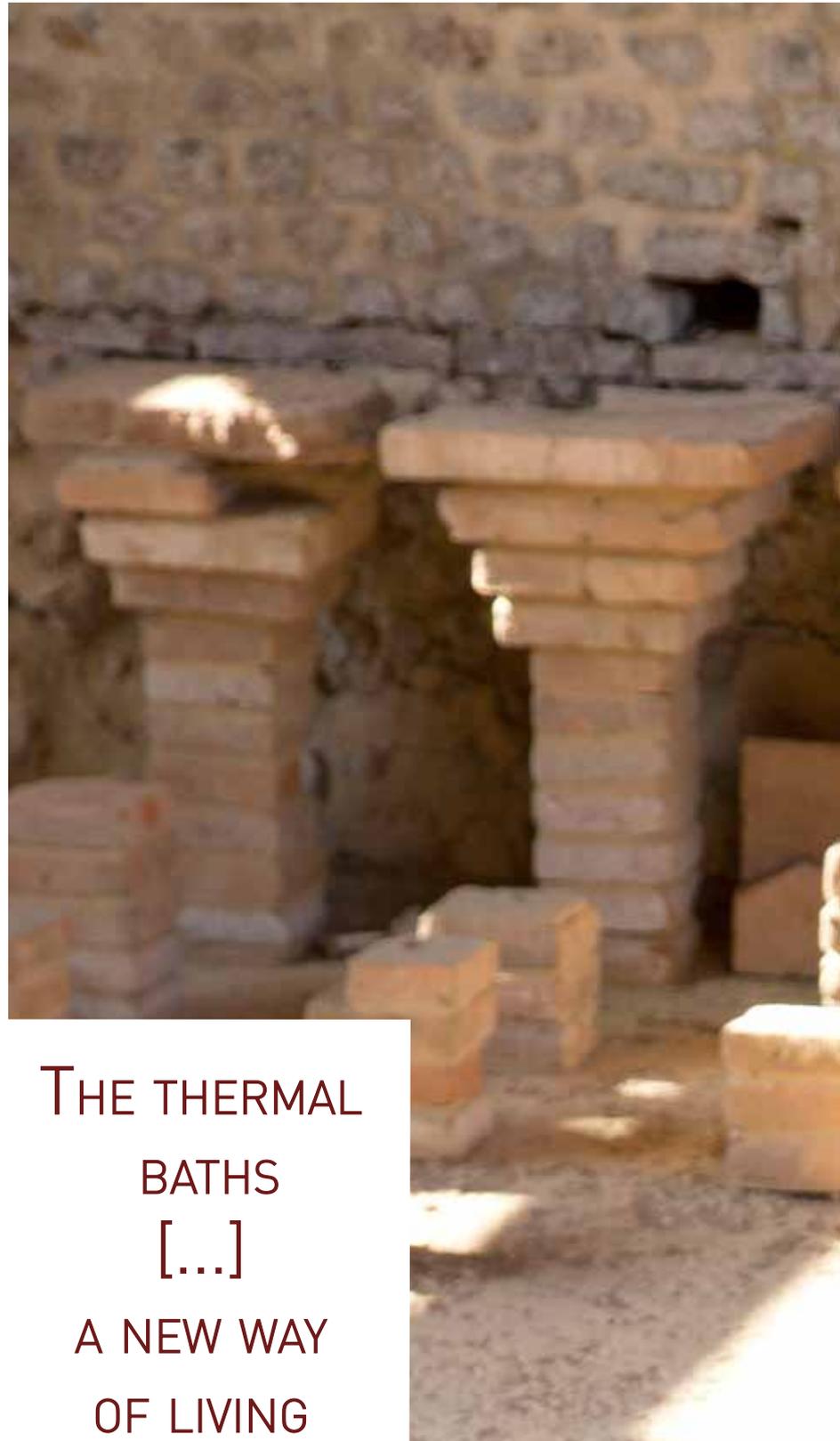
hectares of park to explore

2 - THE BEST PRESERVED GALLO-ROMAN THERMAL BATHS IN FRANCE!

At the end of the 1st century A.D., on the periphery of the city, public buildings with imposing surfaces are built: a sanctuary with a **TEMPLE** and a sacred woodland area, a **BUILDING FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES**, an **AQUEDUCT** and **THERMAL BATHS**. This last monument is today the best known and best preserved structure.

The thermal baths of *Cassinomagus* are an exceptional witness of the Roman way of life. Unknown to the Gauls, they are the expression of a new art of living. They are places of hygiene, sport, culture but also very important meeting places.

The baths of *Cassinomagus* are public and dedicated to the hygiene of the body. They extend over 12,500 m², following a symmetrical plan based on that of Emperor Nero's baths in Rome.



THE THERMAL
BATHS
[...]
A NEW WAY
OF LIVING



The three original levels of the baths are exceptionally well-preserved:

THE BASEMENT with 24 vaulted rooms (three of which are accessible for guided TOURS)..

THE EMPLOYEE LEVEL with its 3 heating yards and 11 ovens that heated the rooms and the water in the baths.

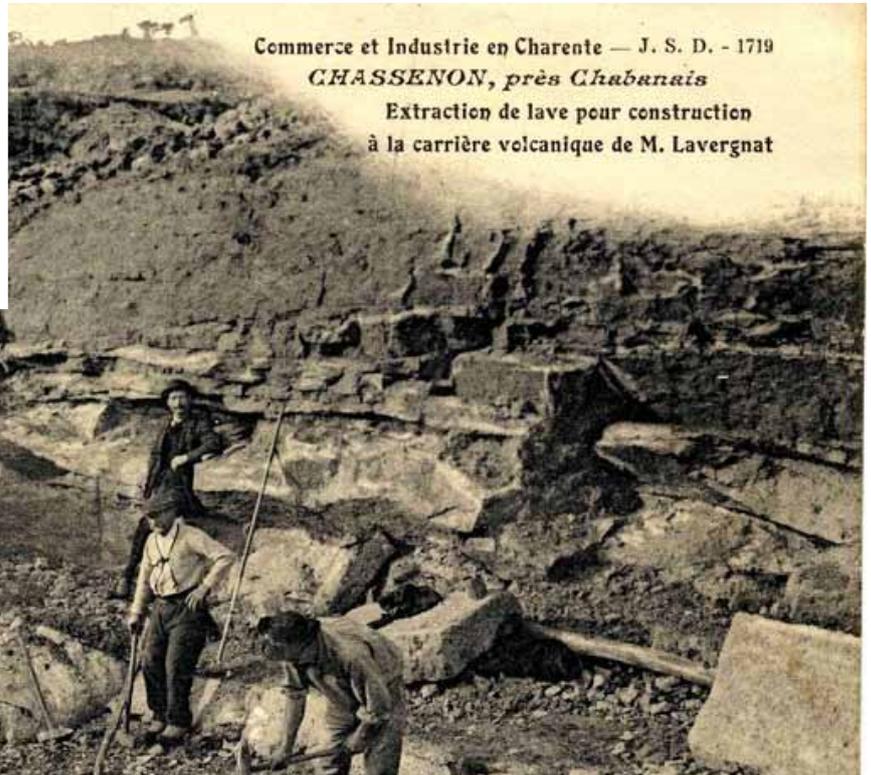
THE BATHER'S LEVEL with 13 rooms for sports, swimming and body treatments.



3 - THE SCAR OF A STAR FOR A TERRITORY

«ROCHECHOUART IS A
NATURAL LABORATORY AT THE
DISPOSAL OF INTERNATIONAL
RESEARCH.»

P. LAMBERT DIRECTOR AND
FOUNDER OF CIRIR



The baths of *Cassinomagus* were built with a stone resulting from an extraordinary phenomenon: the impact of an asteroid of 1,5 kms in diameter, that hit the Earth about 206 million years ago.

The Rochechouart impact or astrobleme is our local «**STAR SCAR**» (term borrowed from R.S Dietz).

In an area of a little less than 20 kms in diameter around Chassenon, geologists have identified this particular rock: the **IMPACTITE** or the impact breach. It is the result of the fusion of ground rocks, following the impact of the asteroid.

The most visible examples of this rock are in ancient structures, such as the baths of *Cassinomagus*. The **QUARRIES** used for the construction site are in immediate proximity of the site and were exploited in the Gallo-Roman period, but also from the beginning to the middle of the 20th century.



4 - ARCHAEOLOGY SOURCE OF KNOWLEDGE

THE OBJECTIVES ?
DISCOVER, STUDY AND
ANALYZE THE CITY OF
CASSINOMAGUS
AND ITS MONUMENTAL
COMPLEX.



As an active centre for archaeological research, *Cassinomagus* has been the subject of **THREE-YEAR RESEARCH PROGRAMMES** since 2011, with the help of a team comprised of archaeologists and specialists. The 2019-2021 programme focused on the birth of the site, its transformations and networks. Several research topics were established: focus is given to fieldwork, archive research but also specific artefact studies.

In 2021, **THREE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS** took place in *Cassinomagus*.

Firstly, in **JUNE** and **AUGUST**, an excavation operation took place in the northern part of the sanctuary. The aim was to uncover the remains of a forge building, which operated at the very beginning of our era.

In **JULY**, a second operation focused on a quadrangular room (apse), located in the southern part of the surrounding wall, in the western courtyard of the sanctuary. The goal was to determine whether this area served as an entrance to the sanctuary: the room seems to have simply been an architectural element of the building.

The last excavation operation took place in **SEPTEMBER**. It also focused on an apse, located in the southern surrounding wall, in the eastern courtyard of the sanctuary. The state of conservation and level of damage suffered by the remains neither confirmed nor denied this hypothesis.

In 2022, the team of archaeologists and specialists will complete their on-going studies, in the hope of producing a summation of the last three years of research.

In the future (2023-2025), the research team plans on publishing a **SCIENTIFIC MONOGRAPH**, which will focus on the baths of *Cassinomagus*. This publication will outline the different chronological phases of the building, as well as the data provided by the artefacts that were uncovered there.





Since 2021, **PROTECTION WORK** has been conducted (shoring of the roof structure of the baths) by the company Renofors. Further work will be done this year: all the framework of the baths must be reinforced.

Renofors has developed technical processes of reinforcement, providing innovative solutions in heritage restoration. In order to protect the pools, bio-sourced materials were favoured and will be reused in future projects.

Preservation of the remains is necessary and vital if we want future generations to bear witness to this exceptional site. Therefore, the ongoing work may affect the flow direction around the building.





II – AN ANIMATED SITE TO DISCOVER

1 – VISITS AND ACTIVITIES



**VARIED
AND HIGH
QUALITY
VISITS**

The entire season

SELF-GUIDED TOUR

Visitors are equipped with an audio guide (in French, English or German) to understand and apprehend the remains at their own pace.

GUIDED TOUR

Thanks to a quality guide, the remains will reveal all their secrets.

Please enquire about the hours of the guided tours (telephone/website). Booking required. For groups, the tour can be conducted in English.

VISIT OF THE TEMPLE IN VIRTUAL REALITY

With virtual reality helmets, enjoy a unique experience and discover the temple that has now disappeared (in French - booking required outside of summer).

In summer

FAMILY TOUR

Visitors are taken back 2,000 years into the past with this dramatized and costumed tour of the baths.

GARDEN TOUR with the gardener once a week in July and August; to learn more about plants, their modern and past uses and our environmentally friendly growing techniques.

The **EXHIBITION** «*Thermae Cassinomagus, the daily life of the Gallo-Romans*» displays Gallo-Roman objects from archaeological excavations, models of the buildings as well as the virtual reconstruction film «*A day at the baths*».

The **GAMES** provide an opportunity for families and friends to learn about the delta, the latrones ...

THE DIGGING AREAS for children are freely accessible. Children can discover the science of archaeology and leave with a junior archaeologist certificate.

AN AREA OF HISTORICAL RECONSTITUTION, the *unctorium* of the baths, is dressed with furniture and objects based on archaeological artefacts, making it a space of cultural immersion and knowledge.

PLINY'S GARDEN, CASSINOMAGUS' LITTLE VEGETABLE PATCH and the **APODYTERIUM GARDEN** offer historical knowledge about the plants used during the Gallo-roman era. In summer, a water mist area is available in Pliny's Garden.





**TO BE
EXPERIENCED
WITH FAMILY,
COUPLES OR
FRIENDS !**

«**DISCOVERING CASSINOMAGUS WITH LIVIA AND CAIUS**» the game book allows children to follow in the footsteps of the Gallo-Romans while having fun. Thanks to this adapted material, young visitors will travel back in time!

FAMILY WORKSHOPS allow you to discover archaeology or the daily life of the Gallo-Romans. During the school holidays, come and create your own oil lamp or mosaic.

THE PATH OF THE GODS will lead you on an adventure, a ludic quest to discover mythology: challenges, manipulations, enigmas to solve with your notebook and access to the **LABYRINTH**.

THE LOST TREASURE OF CASSINOMAGUS: A LIFE-SIZE ESCAPE GAME, is to be experienced with friends, colleagues or family. Full of twists and turns, this game will follow in the footsteps of Julius Caesar's lost treasure, but hurry up, the *imperatores* are after you! From June to September.

2 - NEW FEATURES IN 2022

LEGO®* BRICKS EXHIBITION

«MINIATURE HISTORY»

The famous figurines relive Gallo-Romans history in this exhibition!

GAME AREA EXTENSION

Come and discover new ways to have fun in our extended game area: senet, seega, marbles... Activities for all ages!

ARCHITECTURA

A new workshop is coming to *Cassinomagus*: learn more about architecture and ancient building techniques!.

ANCIENT SUMMER NIGHTS

Two nights of celebration centred around mythology, stars, dance and shows. Ceres and Urania welcome to these joyful celebrations!

SENSORY IMMERSION

The tour of the baths becomes even more lively and vibrant: immerse yourself in the atmosphere of the building thanks to new sound effects!



**HISTORY MORE
ALIVE THAN
EVER**

3 - 2022 EVENTS



EASTER EGG HUNT 16TH-17TH-18TH OF APRIL

RENDEZ-VOUS AUX JARDINS 4TH-5TH OF JUNE

To discover the Garden of Pliny.

EUROPEAN ARCHEOLOGY DAYS

18TH-19TH OF JUNE

Archeology in the spotlight.

DAY AND NIGHT OF CERES 2ND OF JULY

Ceres invites you to celebrate the skies, with a beer festival, dancing and ancient music. Scientists will explain how the sky fell upon us 2000 years ago!

THE GREAT ANCIENT DAYS: THE GALIC WARS

23TH-24TH OF JULY

Witness the clash of arms at *Cassinomagus* between Romans and Gauls!

NIGHT OF URANIA 5TH OF AUGUST

Star-gazing, conference on astronomy and astrology during Antiquity.

ARCHÉO NIGHT 6TH OF AUGUST

Free evening show in partnership with the Charente Department.

THE GREAT ANCIENT DAYS: PAX ROMANA

20TH-21ST OF AUGUST

Peace has returned to *Cassinomagus*, come and take part in the unique festivities that we have planned for you!

EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAYS

17TH-18TH OF SEPTEMBER

Free entrance on the site.

HALLOWEEN AT CASSINOMAGUS

22ND OF OCT.-6TH OF NOV.

During the school holidays, *Cassinomagus* dresses up for Halloween: investigation game on Halloween week-end, theatrical tours and family activities!



III - PRACTICAL INFORMATION

1 - CONTACTS AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION



CASSINOMAGUS
LONGEAS 16150
CHASSENON
05 45 89 32 21

WWW.CASSINOMAGUS.FR

Press contact:

Marie Dreyer, site manager
marie.dreyer@cassinomagus.fr
05 45 89 69 45

Cultural mediation manager:

Charlotte Chalard
contact@cassinomagus.fr
05 45 89 69 44

Dates and opening hours:

From the 2nd of April to the 13th of November

Subject to authorization.

FROM THE 2ND OF APRIL TO THE 31ST OF MAY AND FROM THE 1ST OF OCTOBER TO 13TH OF NOVEMBER
Outside school holidays and public holidays: from Wednesday to Friday from 1.30 pm to 6pm
and Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to 6pm (closed on Monday and Tuesday)
School holidays, long weekends and public holidays: every day from 10 am to 6 pm

FROM THE 7TH OF JULY TO THE 31ST OF AUGUST
Every day from 10 am to 7 pm

FROM THE 1ST OF JUNE TO THE 6TH OF JULY AND FROM THE 1ST OF SEPTEMBER TO THE 30TH OF SEPTEMBER
From Wednesday to Sunday from 10 am to 6 pm (closed on Monday and Tuesday*)

*open Monday the 4th and Tuesday the 5th of July

Prices

Adult	7 €
Reduced prices (unemployed - disabled people - students)	5 €
Children from 6 to 18 years old	4 €
Children under 6 years old	Gratuit
Escape game (from 3 to 6 people)	19 €/pers.

Extras

Guided tour	+ 1 €
«Labyrinth of the gods».	+ 5 €
Family activities <i>facilis</i>	+ 4 €
Family activities <i>primus</i>	+ 6 €
Virtual reality guided tour	+ 5 €

2- SERVICES

Seminars and private events

Meetings, private visits, conferences, events etc.

We are at the disposal of clients who wish to organize an event in an exceptional place. Each request is unique!

Adult groups

Whether you are an association, a company or a tourism professional, we offer **TOURIST TOURS** in partnership with the local tourist offices. Thematic documents can be downloaded on the website.

Booking only.

School groups and children

Cassinomagus offers a **SELECTION ADAPTED TO SCHOOLS AND ACTIVITY CENTRES.**

A thematic document can be downloaded on the website, where teachers and group leaders can create their own programme. Booking only.





**EACH REQUEST
IS UNIQUE!**

A birthday party at Cassinomagus

COME AND CELEBRATE YOUR BIRTHDAY AT CASSINOMAGUS, FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE PARTY!

Emperor/Empress package:

1 supervised activity of your choice + afternoon snack 20€ per child.

Gallo-Roman package:

1 supervised activity of your choice + lending of a room for the afternoon snack 15€ per child.

Hero/Heroine package:

Free activity «The path of the gods» + lending of a room for the afternoon snack 10€ per child.

Reception and service areas

The **SHOP AREA** offers a variety of products: well-being products, toys, books about Roman and Gallo-roman history, local crafts and produce.

PICNIC TABLES are at the disposal of the public outside the park.

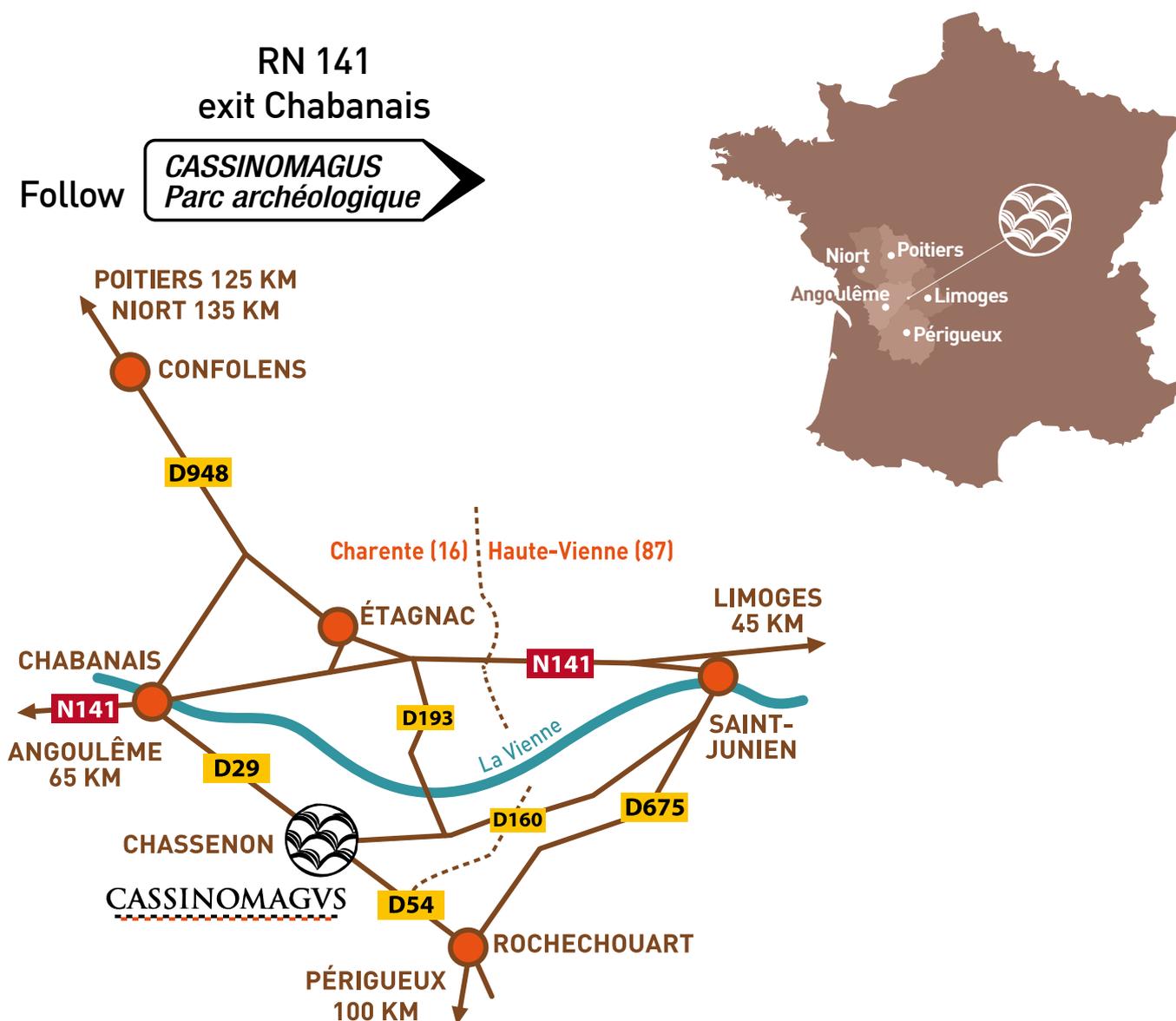
Large **PARKING AREAS** and a bus parking make it possible to welcome many visitors.

The **SNACK** is open on weekends and during school holidays. Picnic baskets and hot dishes are served on site.

3- LOCATION

Access

On the N141 between Angoulême and Limoges, take the Chabanais exit and follow the signs for «*Cassinomagus* - parc archéologique».



Press pictures

To illustrate your articles, you can request pictures of the remains, visits, workshops, etc. in digital format... Copyrights must be respected.

Pictures © Alfran, Association of the Friends of Chassenon, Department of Charente, Novo 3D, Pico Entertainment Interactive, Glen Recourt, Sébastien Laval.

4 - THE ALFRAN TEAM AND ITS GOALS



**A QUALITY
PROCESS !**

ALFRAN is a private cultural and entertainment operator, part of the Aurige family group, now the leader in France in the restoration of historic monuments.

ALFRAN's missions are organized around three points: tourism advice and communication, management of cultural and entertainment sites.

The **ALFRAN TEAM** of Cassinomagus is specially recruited for the management mission assigned by the Department of Charente since 2017. With a variety of skills, it successfully fulfills its mission in collaboration with local and institutional partners.

OUR OBJECTIVE: to give *Cassinomagus* an unprecedented tourist influence and to continue our quality approach (obtaining the quality tourism label in September 2018).

Cassinomagus must become a must-see site at regional level and be recognized at national level.

The historical interest, the scientific discoveries and their development, reaching a very large public, will allow us to achieve our goals in a durable way.

COVID-19
THE STRICT SANITARY
MEASURES TAKEN AT
CASSINOMAGUS ARE
VALIDATED BY THE
AUTHORITIES AND ALLOW
US TO GUARANTEE AN
ENVIRONMENT OF DISCOVERY
IN «SANITARY SAFETY»

My NOTES



My NOTES





CASSINOMAGVS



HEALTH MEASURES :
follow our news...

FLASH-ME!



  @CASSINOMAGUS

MONUMENT



HISTORIQUE

ALFRAN 

CHARENTE

LE DÉPARTEMENT



QUALITÉ
TOURISME

CLUB  DÉPARTEMENT
CHARENTES
COUPS DE CŒUR



CASSINOMAGVS

Parc archéologique
Longeas - 16150 Chassenon
05 45 89 32 21 / contact@cassinomagus.fr
WWW.CASSINOMAGUS.FR