

# LA GUIMARDERIE

## CHINON, LOIRE VALLEY, FRANCE

The farmhouse is set halfway between the two historic towns of Chinon and Richelieu. They are two of the most beautiful towns in France being built mainly between the 13th and 17th centuries. This area renowned for its' châteaux, is approximately 200 miles due south of Caen or Le Havre and the same distance south-west from Paris.

The property is a beautifully restored farmhouse dating back to the 14th Century. It has 3 double bedrooms, a large lounge, large kitchen and 2 bathrooms - one with a shower, the other with a bath. In it are 2 double beds, 2 single beds and a cot. The house has been restored to its original splendour with oak beams and exposed stonework in every room.



The house is in very good order with a comprehensive inventory of everything you will need including washing machine, TV, DVD, some Sky channels, Video and CD Player. Barbecuing is a delight, overlooking the château from the back garden. Long lunchtimes can be spent eating outside under the pergola in the garden with bunches of grapes hanging down. Unless you prefer to sit beside the large 16 metre heated swimming pool situated at the other end of the farm amongst one of several landscaped gardens which are maintained by local gardeners.



The farm is set in the countryside with beautiful views all around. These change with the seasons and vary from golden fields of corn to millions of sunflowers. Spectacular sunsets with hot air balloons overhead can often be seen.

For more details please ring **Heather or Nigel Palmer** on +44 (0)20 8287 8169 or email [nigel.palmer@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:nigel.palmer@blueyonder.co.uk)

# ***La Guimarderie***

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# *La Guimarderie*

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## **Directions from Caen and Calais**

Over the last 10 years roads have changed enormously in France making detailed directions almost impossible until you are within 10km or so of our property. You are therefore well advised to buy an up-to-date map of France with the new motorway connections listed or take your SatNav. Alternatively the website <http://maps.google.co.uk> is very useful and up-to-date.

## **Motorway Instructions**

Using Google, ask for directions from Ouistreham (the Caen port) or Calais or other port depending on your route. The destination is La Guimarderie, Lémeré, France. You may be directed from Le Mans either on the motorway towards Angers (A11/A85) or Tours (A28/A10), there is little in it, although the Angers route is currently about 12 miles shorter.

### *Angers route:*

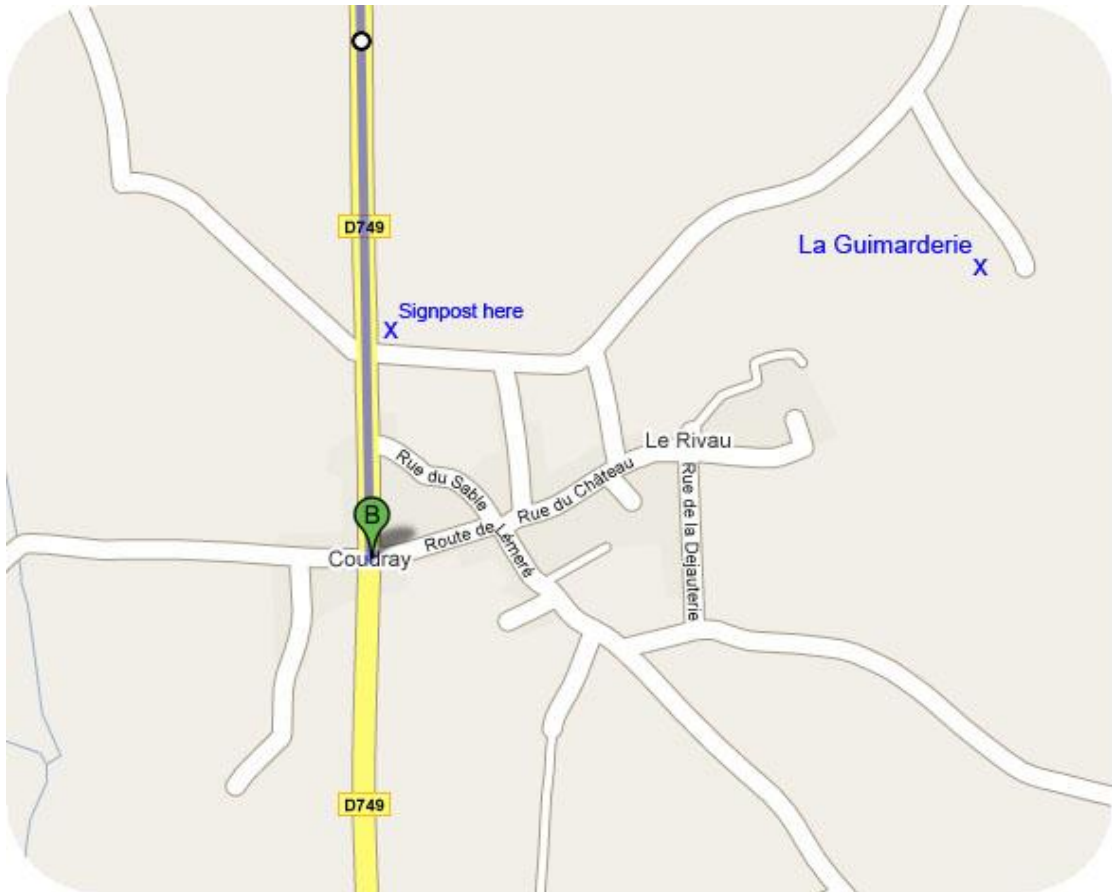
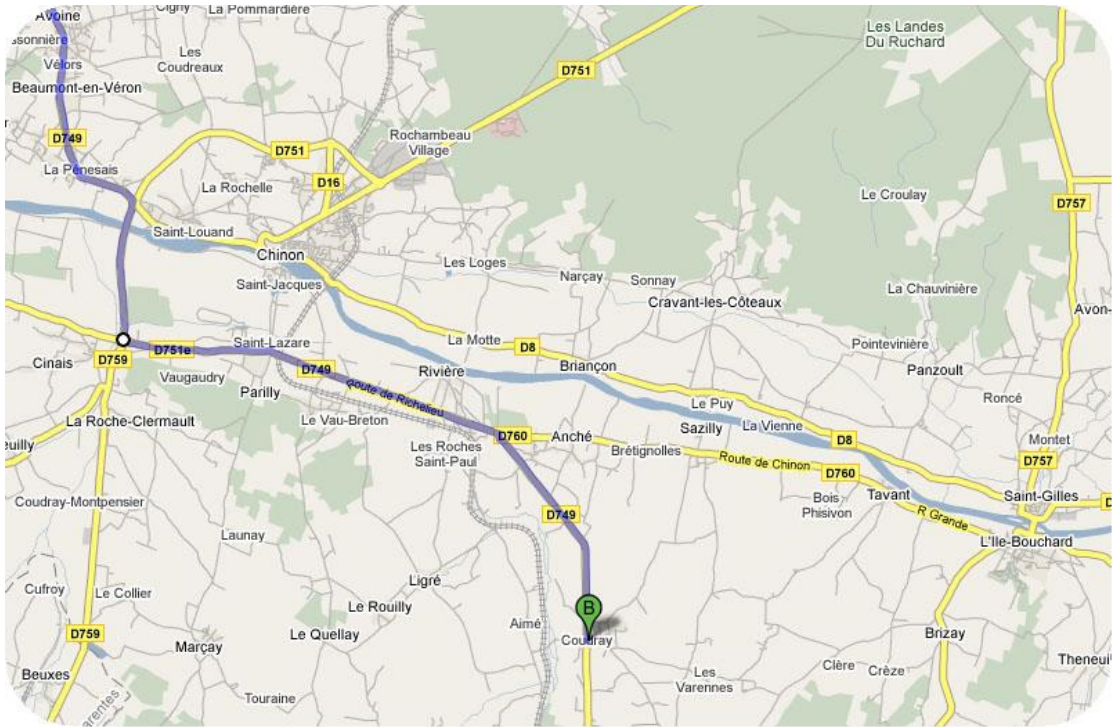
After reaching Chinon (don't go into it) on the south side of the river you follow the D749. After 3 miles turn right at the large roundabout towards Richelieu.

### *Tours route:*

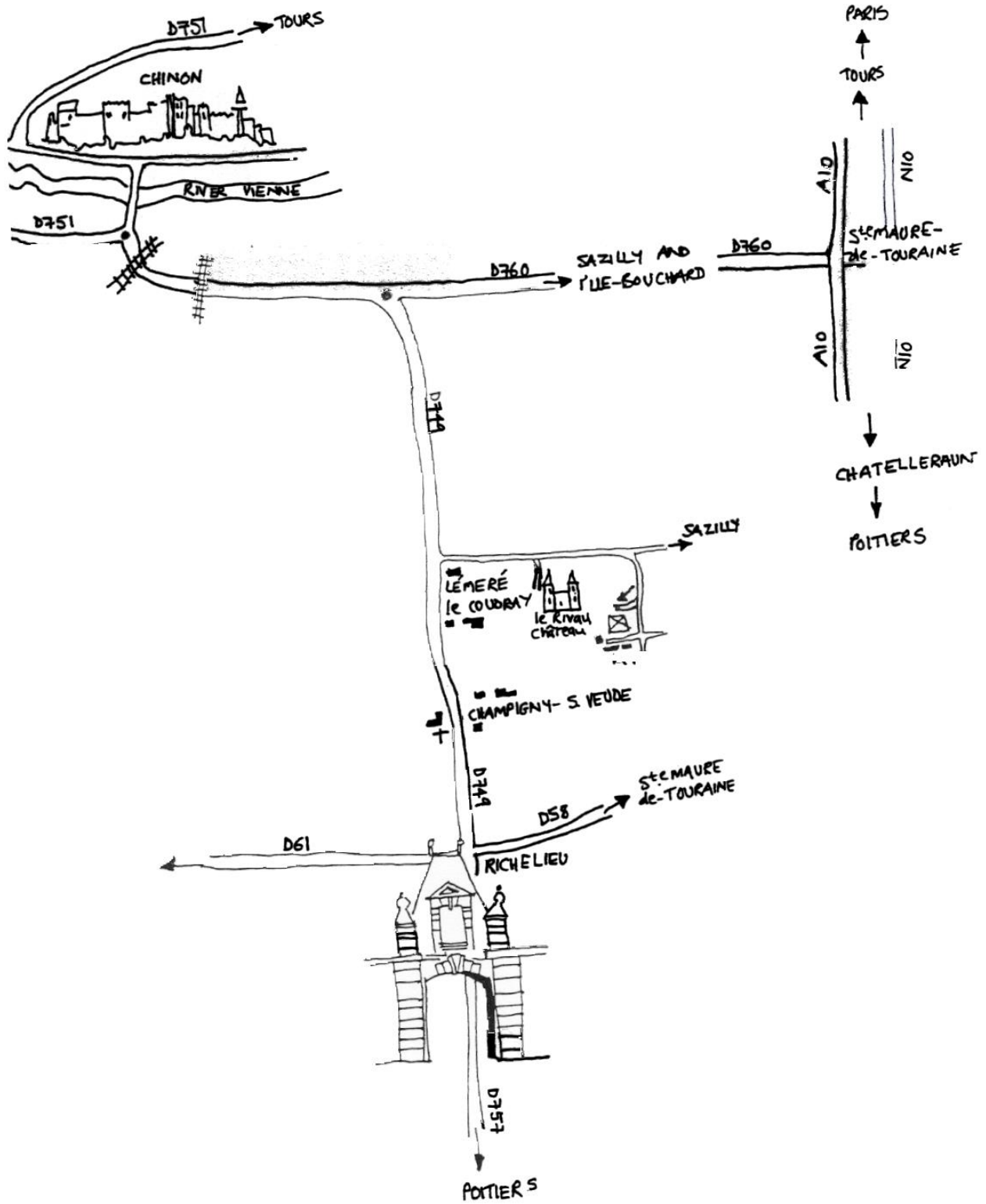
After reaching l'Île Bouchard cross the 2 bridges then follow the D760 for about 7 miles until you turn left at the large roundabout towards Richelieu D749.

After another 3 miles as you descend a hill, take the road to the Left signposted 'La Guimarderie'. Take second Right after about 1km (not including farm tracks!) signposted 'La Guimarderie'

Take the first Right. After unloading please leave cars **outside** the Green Gates under the screened parking area. Go through and your house is the **First one on the Right**. You're there!



Heather & Nigel Palmer  
la Guimarderie  
Lémeré  
37120  
Richelieu  
tel: 47 95 71 75





# *La Guimarderie*

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## **Arrival Instructions**

### ***Electricity***

We have a housekeeper who is responsible for making sure the house is ready for your arrival. You may therefore find many of the instructions below are unnecessary, as she has already done it for you.

The house itself has an independent power supply with two fuse boards. The main one is located under the stairs and controls downstairs electricity including water heating. The switch for heating should be turned on to the 'middle' position. This will heat the water during the night and at lunchtime (off-peak hours). If you require more hot water, the switch can be pushed to the 'down' position. It will return to off-peak automatically. The other fuse board is halfway up the stairs but you should not need to touch this one.

### ***Water***

There is a tap 10 meters behind the large lime tree near to the gate in the fence. It is underground inside a concrete chamber, and should already be turned on when you arrive. There are 3 'taps'. The one with one band around it supplies water to your house.

### ***Heating***

There is very little in the way of heating, as we do not let the property over winter. However, if it is cold there are 2 electric radiators upstairs and a large open fire with a plentiful supply of wood outside under the hangar. Do check that the chain in the fireplace is detached and the 'damper' in the chimney is open before you light the fire. When you leave please make sure there are no embers still burning, the fireplace is cleaned out and then pull the chain and close the damper.

### ***Swimming Pool***

See separate instructions on enclosed sheet.

## ***Rubbish***

Rubbish must be tied up in plastic bags and placed in the large green 'wheelie-bin' under the hangar opposite the kitchen. There are spare bags in the kitchen drawers. **The dustmen will not remove rubbish unless it is tied up in plastic bags and properly sorted.** There is a note above the bins explaining what goes into which sacks! The 'wheelie-bin' (or rubbish bags if there's only a couple) should be put next to the post boxes (these are at the crossroads to our hamlet). Don't leave bags by the postboxes earlier than **Thursday night**, as field mice will eat through the bags. Please remove the last occupant's bags also and hopefully the next will remove yours! The rubbish is collected early Friday morning. Please keep the wheelie bin clean and hygienic. Bottle banks are located in many places in all nearby towns.

## ***Food and Drink***

Champigny-sur-Veude is the nearest village for fresh bread (halfway to Richelieu). There are two very good supermarkets above Chinon, Intermarché and LeClerc, as you follow the road past the Château towards Tours. On Sundays (but not Mondays) both the 'Super U' supermarkets are open in the morning. One is in L'Ile Bouchard; the other is on the left as you approach Chinon.

Please help yourself to goods already in the house, as it is obviously impractical for everybody to buy herbs, washing powder, etc. However please replace those items near the end, or which have run out, or anything that gets broken, for the next occupants.

## ***Miscellaneous***

Tool shed keys are on a rack in the kitchen.

Please keep children away from the 'pigsties' (at the end of the wall holding the entrance gates). In addition to dangerous chemicals stored for the pool, the buildings themselves are starting to subside and should be avoided.

The telephone and fax is on the side table in the lounge. If you use it much, please let us know when you return as we get a weekly statement over the Internet.

A scrapbook of places we have seen should be on the table in the lounge. Many of these are well worth a visit. Please feel free to add to it if you recommend anywhere.

# *La Guimarderie*

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## **Information**

### ***What you need to take***

We have provided duvets and pillows and bed linen so the beds should be made up on your arrival. There are towels and hand towels too. The house has 2 double beds and 2 single beds and a cot. There is a highchair and stair gates also. There is a DVD/VHS and CD player, if you want to take any cassettes or CD's with you.

### ***Parasols***

These are expensive and easily damaged if left out in the rain or wind. Please leave them in the down (closed) position when they are not in use. If not in use you may find them under the hanger

Please avoid hot drinks or food on the pool wooden table unless using a 'hot plate' and please use plastic glasses only around the pool.

### ***Light Bulbs and Fuses etc.***

There are normally some of these in the drawer inside the dining table in the lounge along with some basic tools and vacuum cleaner bags.

### ***Flowers***

If you have put out cut flowers during your stay please dispose of them before you leave unless they are newly picked and someone is following your stay. If you do have the opportunity to water any plants, particularly any in pots, it would be much appreciated.

### ***Neighbours***

As we are only one of six dwellings on the hamlet please respect the privacy of our neighbours and keep noise to the minimum especially in the evening. They are very tolerant of children but not noisy adults! ... and we'd rather not fall out with them!

### ***Mosquito Plugs***

There is one in each bedroom and spare cartridges are easily available in local supermarkets. You need to put them in each evening before you go to bed. They are completely effective and you can even leave windows open. Please do not swat mosquitoes on white walls!



## ***Buying Wine***

If you are interested in buying wine to take back there are 2 places we use regularly and details should be in the folder in the lounge. Both are very good local vineyards where you can taste red and rosé wines and buy in bulk, handy 10 litre vacuum packs or single bottles.

GAEC La Garnauderie, L'Ile Bouchard (02 47 58 52 88) (As you approach L'Ile Bouchard from the farm you go over the two bridges and turn Left. Follow the road for about 1km and it's on your left. 2012 price was about €30 for 10 litres.

Philippe Pain, La Commanderie, 37220 Panzoult (02 47 93 39 32). Follow above directions to GAEC La Garnauderie, continue past it and turn left following the road to Chinon for a couple of miles. It's on your right.

Some of the very best wine in Chinon is sold within a km of the house. You can taste and buy wine from 10€ to 40€ per bottle. Turn right from the farm (opposite direction to main road) and follow the winding single lane road. Just before you enter Sazilly they are on the right. Well worth a visit if you like red wine!

Charles Joguet. La Dioterie, 37220 Sazilly. 02 47 58 55 53

## ***Firewood***

There is firewood underneath the hanger opposite the kitchen door. Please help yourself if it's cold. Electric fires are in various rooms throughout the house. Don't light the fire without undoing the chain inside the fireplace, or you'll get smoked out! Please put the chain back afterwards.

## ***Cleaning***

**As with most gites, it is essential that the outgoing family cleans the property before they leave.** This is because there is insufficient time between one family leaving and another arriving. There are cleaning materials beneath the kitchen sink and a vacuum cleaner in the kitchen or under the stairs. We have a housekeeper who comes in to check the property at the end of each visit. If she is required to come back and clean the house, the extra cost of this will be taken out of your deposit.

## ***TV & Video***

We have basic Sky TV with terrestrial English Channels. There is also a video player with some videos available. You can take your own sky card to receive more channels but don't leave it there!

There are as always a few remote controls. One is TV only, another DVD only, but there is a 'One for All' which can operate TV, Satellite and Video.

If you're not sure what to turn on first:

Re-insert the plug from the extension lead into the wall socket.

### **To turn on the TV:**

Check that the TV is on, if not press the On/Off button on front of the TV or use its controller.

### **To turn on the Sky Satellite receiver:**

Press 'Sat' on the 'One for All' then the 'Power' button. Numbers then can be used to select a channel (try 101 for BBC1 or 102 for BBC2).

Alternatively Press the top button LH side of Sky receiver. Then top button RH side of Sky receiver a couple of times to move up to channel 101.

### **To use the Video Cassette Recorder:**

Press 'VCR' on the 'One for All' then '1'  
or press 'Standby' on the VCR itself.

Put in your video and press the 'Play' button. If ever you lose sound or have other problems, it is best to unplug from the wall and start again!

# *La Guimarderie*

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## **Waste Collection**

### ***Recycling:***

Only plastic bottles, cartons and tins go in yellow sacks

### ***Other rubbish:***

All other rubbish goes in normal bin liners

### **Important:**

- All rubbish must go in a bin liner and be securely tied or it will not be taken away by the dustmen. Black for general rubbish, Yellow/Clear for recycling.
- Each sack should be placed in the large wheelie bin under the hangar opposite the kitchen.
- Every Wednesday evening, wheel the bin up the road and place it next to the letterboxes
- It will only be emptied some time Thursday morning. Please bring the empty wheelie bin back to its usual location.

*Many thanks!*

August 2012

## Wireless Internet

As in the UK Internet access can be difficult to access in someone else's home. The following should be tried to get access on your laptop or smartphone.

### **1. When things go smoothly ...**

In the lounge you will see a small table with a phone on it. Below this is an extension lead which should be unplugged. Connect this and the 'Livebox' will start up; this is the modem for Orange Internet. The Livebox itself is on the table or in the table drawer.

It will take up to 5 minutes before it establishes a good connection and the lights are green.

Once this is done you should be able to locate the wireless network on your laptop or smartphone with the name "Livebox – E839". Then as usual with laptops, connect using a security key or password (Clé de sécurité Wifi) which is:

**landirani**

There are no spaces and all the letters are lowercase.

Please keep children away from it and any leads as it is quite fragile. If possible please unplug it now and again when not needed, especially when you leave as it needs to cool down periodically.

### **2. When things don't go smoothly ...you cannot connect to the Livebox**

If you cannot 'see' the Livebox and link to it this is usually a problem with entering the security key so please try again.

- You can try connecting manually using the Ethernet cable in the drawer
  - To do this, you need to connect an Ethernet cable side to one of the ports numbered 1-4 of the Livebox. Both devices will of course be connected and turned on.
- As a last resort you can telephone Orange on 3900 from the house phone or +33 (0)800 100 740 from a mobile. Our internet account no. is 210 065 588

If that fails please ring me on +44 (0)7770 670000.

# *La Guimarderie*

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## Swimming Pool

### **Precautions**

Swimming Pools can be dangerous especially for children. Simple precautions can make pools safer. These include:

Don't let children near the pool when the cover is on. The cover may wrap around a person who accidentally falls in.

Keep the pool gate shut and **bolted**.

Don't allow children near or in the pool unsupervised.

Don't allow objects to be thrown in the pool such as stones.

Keep glass away from the pool area. Use plastic glasses instead. (In the kitchen cupboard and on a rack above the kitchen sink)

Although special purpose non-slip paving is around the pool, it still becomes slippery when wet. Don't run near the pool.

Avoid diving as the pool is only 1.5m deep and very shallow at one end.

### **Cover and Heating**

The pool has an isothermic cover, which keeps heat from getting out. Unfortunately it is fragile and gets easily torn. **Please always put it on or take it off the pool carefully**, trying to keep it uncreased and straight on the roller. Two people will be needed otherwise the cover will tear, one at each side. It should be over the pool at the end of the day to avoid temperature loss at night. **Always zip the blue outer cover on the roller during the day** after rolling up the isothermic cover as the material perishes in the sun if not in contact with water.

It also is heated. Please do not alter any of the settings.

### **Maintenance**

The pool is normally in operation from May to September. A swimming pool company called 'Au Plaisir de la Piscine' in Chinon maintains it. They usually come every Friday to add the appropriate chemicals and ensure the pool is correctly balanced and clean. Please let us know by telephone if you have any concerns. If there are storms or it is very hot, pools can often turn green quite quickly. However they are still safe to swim in and will return to their normal condition after 2 or 3 days following treatment. Please do not add any chemicals or adjust the time or electrical settings which are automatic. Please keep children away from the 'Pig sties' to the North of the pool as they contain pool chemicals and electrical circuits and are starting to subside.

# *La Guimarderie*

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## **Useful Telephone Numbers:**

Nigel and Heather Palmer (England) +44 20 8287 8169

Nigel Palmer (mobile) +44 7770 670000

Heather Palmer (mobile) +44 7798 695287

Nigel and Heather Palmer (email) [nigel.palmer@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:nigel.palmer@blueyonder.co.uk)  
[heather.palmer@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:heather.palmer@blueyonder.co.uk)

This telephone number: (La Guimarderie) 02 47 95 71 75

.....from England +33 2 47 95 71 75

Our Housekeeper, Christine Audouard (femme de ménage) can be contacted in an emergency but she does not speak English:

+33 6 72 10 20 33

+33 2 47 58 79 18



# La Guimarderie

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## Emergency Telephone Numbers:

|                                                   |     |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----|
| <b>Emergency Services (for all EU countries):</b> | 112 |
| <i>These still work too:</i>                      |     |
| <b>Police:</b>                                    | 17  |
| <b>Ambulance (SAMU):</b>                          | 15  |
| <b>Fire Service:</b>                              | 18  |

More details worth reading are at this link: [Emergency numbers in France](#)

|                             |                |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Centre anti-poisons:</b> | 02 47 66 85 11 |
|                             | 01 40 05 48 48 |

|                                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Doctor</b> (English speaking): | 02 47 93 48 13 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|

*Docteur Arthur Belayche  
28 Rue Gabriel Richaud  
37500 CHINON*

Usually available until 7.30 pm.

|                                  |                |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Hospital</b> (with Casualty): | 02 47 93 75 15 |
|----------------------------------|----------------|

*Hopital St. Benoit la Forêt  
Route de Tours  
CHINON*

Situated on the long road between Chinon and Tours, 5 minutes from Chinon.

|                                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Vet</b> (some English spoken): | 02 47 93 00 12 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|

*Clinique Vétérinaire Saint-Jean  
Route de Tours  
CHINON*

Situated on the long road between Chinon and Tours, 1 minute from Chinon. On the LH side just after ALDI before you reach LeClerc.

# *La Guimarderie*

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## **Departure Instructions**

### ***Important***

Please leave dirty linen on the kitchen table for cleaning.

Please lock up in the reverse order you entered! Check all keys are on rack as per photo. Lock the entrance gate and return the key to the rack. Lastly lock the kitchen door and return the key to the key safe. Leave by the garden gate.

Please clean the house and leave it as you found it, ready for the next occupants.

### ***Shutters***

The shutters for the main doors 'hang' onto the doors. They can only be fitted when the doors are open. They are usually stored under the hangar opposite the kitchen door. They do not need to be fitted unless we ask you to. All other shutters should be closed, unless new occupants are arriving the following day.

### ***Rubbish***

Please make sure any rubbish you are leaving is properly sealed in plastic bags and left inside the 'wheelie-bin'. Please leave the bin in a clean condition.

### ***Swimming Pool***

The pool bubble-wrap cover needs to be on the pool at the end of each day, and when you leave. Please be very careful when rolling and unrolling the cover as the edges are easily damaged. It needs two people to keep the rolling action straight.

## ***Miscellaneous***

If you have used the barbecue **please clean it** for the next occupants. Please lock the shed if you have opened it. Keys go back on the rack by the kitchen door.

The parasols should be in the closed position, and tied up where possible.

Please make sure you have left no perishable food or cut flowers behind.

Please leave the scrapbook on the dining table in the lounge.

*Hope you had a great time!*

March 2018

# *La Guimarderie*

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## **Disclaimer of Liability**

If something goes wrong, or you are not happy with some aspect of the property on your arrival or during your stay, do ring us and let us have the chance to put things right.

Just like at home, machines can break down, people leaving may not leave the property in the condition you expect. But if you don't let us know, we cannot put things right. Also, if you do not give us the chance to put things right, we won't be able to resolve things when you get back.

In terms of information provided, every effort has been made to offer the most current, correct, and clearly expressed information possible. Nevertheless, inadvertent errors in information may occur. In particular, but without limiting anything here, we disclaim any responsibility for typographical errors and accuracy of the information that may be supplied.

We will not be held liable for any errors, omissions, misunderstandings or claims arising from any booking. We cannot be liable for any special, indirect, incidental or consequential damages, in any way arising out of or related to the booking provided. We disclaim all liability and responsibility for any direct or indirect loss or damage which any person staying at the Guimarderie may suffer.

Your attention is drawn to this disclaimer in the booking letter, therefore by accepting this booking you agree to follow as far as possible the guidance given in the Information pack and in particular with this disclaimer.

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## **Travel Insurance**

It is a condition of the booking that you have taken out travel insurance which includes adequate personal liability cover, to cover you for any damage which you might cause to our property. Although in 20 years we have never had such an incident, it is a stipulation in France that all guests have an adequate travel insurance policy. Your insurance should cover any major damage (flood, fire and such like) to the property during the rental period, as our own insurance may not cover these risks if caused by a third party.