



La gare de Sos
47170
Sainte Maure de Peyriac
France

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Lee & Tracey "Green for Go France" Newsletter

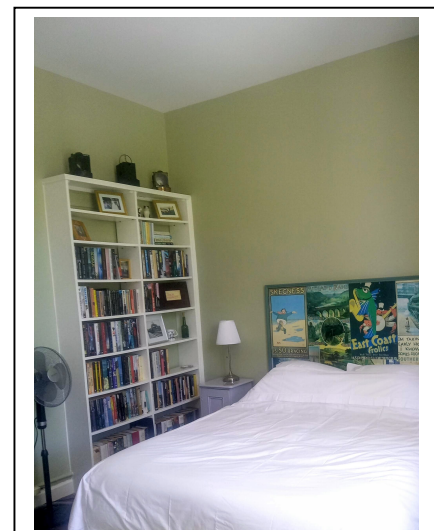


Balmy & Very Green,
Bank Hols & Builders - it's May-a-go-go...



The builders have been flat out at la gare, laying the concrete floor inside the old toilet block - right - the old squat holes in the ground now filled in and extending the external area which will be another bike / storage shed when the "abri" is built over it. Above, the concrete pour for the pool patio extension. We've had no luck sourcing matching tiles and in the end have gone for a stone (which turns out to be cheaper than terracotta clay tiles anyway). The builders have also started building a low wall along the catalpa tree side of the pool to provide a wind break / leaf barrier come Autumn. The plan is to keep the pool running from April to October next year. It was 27° in the shade on 31st May & after a day of cleaning for Tracey & a day smashing up a bathroom for Lee, we would have loved a swim at the end of the day but patience is required - once this work is complete, we can open the pool & start to get the water cleaned up.

The other picture, right, is the station ready to go, just waiting for a family to sit round & enjoy a meal together. Room 158 is complete too (that's a bridge plate number, now on the bedroom doors!)





We seem to have been enjoying perpetual public holidays in May - we've had 4 or 5. Two caught us completely by surprise - Labour Day & Victory Day - both on Saturdays and not a shop open anywhere! We've also had some damp days this month but always lots of sun after the rain & everything is green & tripled in size.

Above you can see Tracey's fresh picked salad veg, straight to plate, delicious. When the tomatoes, potatoes & peppers come, that'll be 9 things on the plate grown at la gare and we have loads of herbs to sprinkle on too. Never had this much growing luck in the UK. The melons & grapes are just showing signs of fruit too, it's all very exciting (to Tracey at least!)

Locally, shops & markets have mountains of big fat cherries & strawberries for sale and they are lovely. Our fruit & veg chap handed Tracey 2 free artichokes a couple of weeks ago saying "one for you & one for your husband". A quick "googliez" later & Tracey was attacking them - we concluded that it was an awful lot of work for a suck on a bit of leaf. In other news, we are happy to report that we've had our first Covid jabs. We went to the incredibly beautiful town of Nerac - a proper Gascon place with medieval architecture & a 12th century chateau of Henry IV right in the centre of town. It's the inspirational town for Joanne Harris's book "Chocolat". Down by the riverside, there's a cultural space now in the hands of the health staff, happily jabbing away in a-typically-bit-chaotic-French fashion. Second jabs planned for June.

So celebrations in order - Friday night is now take-away night, there's Lee with our shared Bellucci pizza, Pyrenees salad & of course a Grandes Frites & local red. **bon appétit!**

Daphne, at a local village called Arx, looking at the squirrel and wild boar metal artwork. Close to Arx, in the forest, is a memorial stone to identify where an RAF Halifax crash landed with a Polish parachute crew in Aug 1943; Evacuated to the Pyrenees and Andorra by the Resistance, they all managed to return to England. A more positive memorial story.



Thanks for reading, stay protected and we hope to see family & friends when it's safe to start travelling again, with our best wishes from Lee & Tracey, staying safe in la gare de Sos

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