



A visit to the Abbey of Cluny and the wall paintings at Berzé-la-Ville

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Visits to other Cluniac sites always put Lewes Priory into perspective. The priory of St. Pancras put Lewes at the heart of a vast European family and a visit to Cluny reminds us of Lewes's standing in the European world nearly a thousand years ago.

A tour to Cluny is planned for September 2019 *Sat. 21st. – Wed. 25th. September*

Highlights

Day 1 (GB → France)

Lewes → Three Bridges/Gatwick/Ashford [Kent] → crossing to Calais → Auxerre

Day 2

Auxerre → Bibracte → Autun → Cluny

Exploring the background: Iron Age Gaul – Romans – settlement by Franks etc. – feudal and royal France, the papacy, crusade and Cluny, to 12th. century.

Cluny and the Cluniac Order: tour of abbey of Cluny

Day 3

Cluny → Berzé-la-ville → country churches tour

“Le bourg abbatiale” / town and abbey: a walking tour of parts of the town exploring the relationship between the bourg and the abbey: Romanesque houses – town defences – abbey fortifications

“Le domaine de l’abbaye de Cluny” / Cluny and its doyenné bulwark: countryside drive to one or more doyennés (Cluny’s granges and administrative centres, sometimes fortified) and visit to Berzé-la-Ville (for early 12th. century wall paintings at the Chapelle des Moines).

Plus background talks on Cluny in Italy, on Cluny and the Reconquista and on the work of the Federation of Cluniac Sites.

Day 4

Cluny → Tournus → Vézelay → Auxerre

The wider picture: the Cluniac family / art and architecture / pilgrimage / crusade / Cluny – Cîteaux: a controversy.

Day 5 back to UK

Auxerre → (Lens) → Calais → Gatwick (South) set down → Lewes

The wider picture: getting Christianity right: orthodoxy and heresy – Germanus of Auxerre comes to Britain's help (short visit to the Saint Germain Museum, Auxerre) plus

The wider picture: western civilisation (time permitting, at the Louvre Museum, Lens).

2019: Visit to Cluny

If you are interested in participating in this tour to Cluny please contact Anthony Freeman
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