

VIENNE	CHURCHES
<p>L'Abbaye de Ligugé St Martin South of Poitiers</p>	<p>The parish church of St Martin is XIVc, but it is above a VI/VIIc church/crypt where St Martin was venerated. A XIc church was built but was almost entirely destroyed during the One Hundred Years War. Only the base of the bell tower and the North transept wall remain.</p> <p>See special booklet and 'The Pilgrim's Guide' pages 222 and 223</p>
<p>L'Abbaye de Reau North-east of Ruffec</p>	<p>Founded in the XIIc as an Augustine abbey, the monastic buildings are now a private dwelling and the church is a ruined shell on their South side. The church has a flat ended apse with three windows and a stepped West door below a large Gothic window. There is a single nave leading to the transept where there are two side chapels. The Chapter House has been incorporated into the house but part is visible.</p>
<p>Angles sur L'Anglin St Jean East of Poitiers</p>	<p>Of the original Romanesque church only a fine two storey square tower and elements of the two transepts remain. The remainder is XVc or later.</p>
<p>Antigny South of St Savin de Gartempe</p>	<p>This small rectangular church has a stepped west door, XIIc style windows that are set high on the North wall of the nave and a flat ended apse. There is a 'Lanterne des Morts'.</p>
<p>Arçay South-west of Loudun</p>	<p>The XIIc church is in a hamlet to the east of the village of Arçay. It is an attractive church but it is almost derelict. There is a single nave with a west door that has patterned stone work which is similar to stone work over the door of Saix church. There is a square tower</p>

	<p>over the crossing and a rounded apse. On the South side of the apse is a sacristy that was built later. On the South wall of the apse there is a lot of graffiti that includes circles and two fish. There is a small south door with a blessing cross to the right of it.</p>
<p>Aulnay South of Loudun</p>	<p>This small church is of XIIc origin. It has a small rounded apse with modern modillions and a single nave that has a bell wall. The nave has been rebuilt and the apse has been heavily restored, leaving a building that has little character.</p>
<p>Availles-Limouzine South-east of Vienne</p>	<p>Of XIc origin, very little remains of the original church. It used to have three aisles. Only four pillars remain at the east end of the present nave; two are large and two slim. The remainder is XVc or later. There is a XVc crypt below the apse.</p> <p>See leaflet</p>
<p>Beaumont St Blaise North-east of Poitiers</p>	<p>The original church had a single nave and a rounded apse. It has been extensively rebuilt with Gothic vaults and side aisles. The vaults over the crossing are Gothic style but rest on pillars that are 'grouped' and have capitals that are similar to those at Jauny Clan.</p>
<p>Beuxis North of Poitiers</p>	<p>This XIIc church has a single nave with plain west and south doors. The North wall has been rebuilt and includes a very low archway. Over the South door is a thin line of interlacings. On the South wall are modillions depicting heads. The tower and apse are recent. By the South door are graffiti and on the base of the South side of the tower there a lot of stars and flower patterns.</p>

<p>Bonnes St André East of Poitiers</p>	<p>This church has a long XIIc apse which is rounded and a XIIIc Romanesque style nave. At the crossing is a cupola on trompes, but the tower above is XIXc. The choir is similar to that at Bonneuil (86), with windows and blind arches that have short columns topped by capitals. Also like Bonneuil, there are two decorated columns; but these have two more columns above them that rise up to the roof vaults. The West door is decorated and it is set between columns with capitals; there are modillions above.</p> <p>See leaflet</p>
<p>Bonneuil- Matours St Pierre East of Poitiers</p>	<p>The apse and crossing, with the tower, are XIIc. The nave was entirely rebuilt in the XIXc. The apse is long and rounded with capitals on the windows, one of which depicts a head uttering foliage. The interior of the choir has blind arches and windows with small columns and capitals; these mostly depict foliage but there is one with a masque uttering foliage. At the crossing are larger columns topped by capitals of beasts and birds. There is a cupola on trompes. Half way along the choir are two short, older looking, patterned or twisted columns with worn capitals of foliage. The columns resemble those in the choir at Bonnes.</p> <p>See leaflet</p>
<p>Le Boucher North of Poitiers</p>	<p>This church has a single nave. The West door is XIVc in style. The apse is rounded and there is a huge fortified tower over the crossing; it is probably from the XIVc.</p>
<p>Bouresse South-east of Poitiers</p>	<p>This church is of XIc origin and it retains its basic original plan. It has a large nave with side aisles. There are short transepts and a rounded apse. There is a stepped South door between worn capitals. These</p>

	<p>depict foliage and there is a thin frieze of interlacings to the side. The West door has a 'billet' pattern on the arch and there are two capitals of horses (?) and lions. The nave has circular columns topped by worn capitals of foliage. There is a square tower over the crossing.</p>
<p>Bourg-Archambault St Laurent North of Conflens and L'Isle Jourdain</p>	<p>This church has a single nave with a stepped West door. The door is between four foliage capitals. The nave, short transepts and apse appear to have been rebuilt.</p>
<p>Brux St Martin South of Poitiers and North of Ruffec</p>	<p>This is a small, somber XIc church with a single nave and rounded apse. There is a South door with graffiti above it. There is a square tower at the crossing. It is roofed with lime-scale tiles.</p>
<p>Chalais South of Loudun</p>	<p>This church has a XIIc flat ended apse that has three slim windows. There is a long single nave. The West door was rebuilt in the XVII c when small foliage capitals were added to the sides; one has a small animal head.</p>
<p>Champagne le Sec South of Poitiers</p>	<p>This church has a narrow rounded XIc apse with three windows between short pillars topped by foliage capitals. The single nave is wider and has a stepped west door between four capitals that depict foliage and a large monsters face (one of each design each side of the door). There is a square tower over the crossing. The roof is covered with lauze tiles.</p>
<p>Champagne St Hilaire</p>	<p>This church, which dates from the XIIc, is rectangular with a single nave and flat ended apse; there is a XIIc</p>

<p>St Gervais & St Protais</p> <p>South of Poitiers</p>	<p>rectangular chapel on the North side and a XVc one to the South. It was severely damaged in the Wars of Religion. The West façade has a central door between two blind arches. The main door has decorated arches of foliage and winged dragons. The capitals to the sides also depict dragons (to the right) and lions (left). There is a re-used thin frieze of two horses (?) in the right arch. Above is a line of modillions of heads and two intertwined snakes (similar to the one at Vaux en Couhé).</p> <p>See leaflet</p>
<p>La Chapelle Morthemmer</p> <p>South-east of Poitiers</p>	<p>This church has a XIIc rounded apse. The nave has been rebuilt. Around the top of the apse wall are large capitals and modillions. One capital has two shepherds. The modillions include another shepherd, a goat's head and a lamb's head. There are a number of tacherons: a 'Z' on its side, '=' on its side, three 'U's and a cross through a loop.</p>
<p>Champiers</p> <p>St Martin</p> <p>South of Poitiers</p>	<p>This is a very small church with a single nave, a rounded apse which has a cul de four vault. A second aisle was added to the South side, the West door was remade and the nave frescoed, all in the XVc.</p>
<p>Charroux</p> <p>St Sauveur</p> <p>North-east of Ruffec</p>	<p>This abbey, which had been one of the largest and most beautiful in Western France, was almost totally destroyed after the Revolution. Only the outline of the base of the apse and the inner 'lantern' tower from the crossing remain; the latter is over the former crypt. The abbey was built between 1065 and 1075. The tower of three storeys has particularly fine capitals that provided models for many later sculptures. They depict interlacings in the main.</p> <p>See 'Haut Poitou Roman' pages 134 to 139, 'Poitou Roman' page 33 and 'Les Eglises Romanes en Poitou-</p>

<p>Château Larcher Notre Dame South-east of Poitiers</p>	<p>Charente' page 72</p> <p>This was the former château chapel and it was inserted into the North side of the château walls. The North wall was built in the XIc and has three bays. In the XIIc the church was converted to a two bay nave with side aisles separated by pillars and with a rounded apse and two rounded side chapels. The choir and North chapel were later destroyed; the South chapel is ruined. The West façade was built in the third quarter of the XIIc. It has a stepped door with the arches sculptured with foliage. A gloved hand (on the left side) and rabbit-like animals. There are fine capitals each side and a narrow frieze with small heads. Above is another frieze, a line of modillions and two plaques with sculptures of beasts. There are lots of scaffolding holes on the west and south walls. There is a XIVc castle tower on the South-west corner of the church. In the cemetery is a needle-like XIIIc 'Lanterne des Morts'.</p> <p>See 'Poitou Roman' pages 33 and 34</p>
<p>Chaunay St Pierre South of Poitiers</p>	<p>The nave of this church is XIc and has a couple of original windows. On the South wall are two reused sculptured stones; one is of a lamb, the other has two birds. The West door is stepped and between worn capitals; one has a 'bogomil' type man. Above is a line of modillions including a horse with a billet. Inside are four columns with large, very simply carved capitals similar to those from St Hilaire, now at Ste Croix, Poitiers. There are two doors on the North wall, one to the tower and one to the exterior. Both are decorated. There is a XVc flat ended apse and an octagonal tower that replaces an earlier one.</p>
<p>Chauvigny Notre Dame East of Poitiers</p>	<p>This was the parish church. The apse and transepts are Romanesque. The apse has fine blind arches and decorated windows – simple patterns. Above are fine modillions. The lower part of the tower, which is above the crossing, is Romanesque. At the chancel are fine sculptured capitals. The remainder of the church is</p>

<p>Chauvigny St Pierre East of Poitiers</p>	<p>XV/XVIc.</p> <p>See 'Haut Poitou Roman' page 332</p> <p>This former abbey church has some of the most interesting Romanesque sculpture in Poitou outside Poitiers. The church dates from the XIc when the choir and transept were built; it is possible that the East bay of the nave is also from that period. The rest of the nave is from the second half of the XIIc. The apse is rounded. There are three radiating chapels off the ambulatory. The nave has side aisles. The more interesting sculptures are the capitals of the ambulatory. These depict biblical scenes. The capitals of the nave are of foliage. There are many sculptures on the apse. There is a record of the builder: 'Gofridus me fecit'.</p> <p>See 'Poitou Roman' pages 93 to 123 and 'Haut Poitou Roman' pages 206 to 231</p>
<p>Chenevelles East of Poitiers</p>	<p>Only the base of the tower and the west door are XIIc. The remainder is XVc or later. The West door is stepped with four decorated arches and two pairs of columns topped by simple foliage capitals. Each side and slightly above the door are two deeply recessed windows. On the outer edges of the base of the tower are thick columns topped by worn capitals.</p>
<p>Chiré en Montreuil West of Poitiers</p>	<p>This is a small church with a single nave. The West façade has a stepped door. The apse is rounded. The walls have been raised in the XIVc to provide a defensive area.</p>
<p>Chouppes Between Poitiers and</p>	<p>This XIIc church was built with a single nave and a South door. The apse is short and rounded. It has a frieze around the top of the apse. There is a large</p>

Loudun	<p>XVIIc South chapel and a North side aisle. There are lots of graffiti on the apse: circles, a horseman, a fish etc.</p>
<p>Civaux St Gervais & St Protais South east of Poitiers</p>	<p>The church is on the South edge of a Gallo-roman temple complex. That complex comprises a Fanum (temple), Cella (central room), a Merovingian baptismal font and a grave-yard, all dating from between the I and VIcs. The church has a rounded apse from the VIc, with fragments of a stella in the choir wall; This is inscribed with a Chrism, alpha, omega and 'Aeternalis et Servilla'. The nave was built in the XIc with side aisles separated by round pillars with fine sculptured capitals that are modeled on those to be seen at St Pierre, Chauvigny. There is a fine tower over the crossing. The West façade is plain. Nearby is a huge Merovingian cemetery.</p> <p>See 'Les Eglises Romanes en Poitou-Charente' pages 75 and 76, 'Poitou Roman' page 34 and 'Haut Poitou Roman' pages 72 to 77</p>
<p>Civray St Nicolas South of Poitiers</p>	<p>The main interest is in the facade of this former Benedictine abbey. However, it should be noted that the entire façade was rebuilt in the mid XIXc and that it was not rebuilt in accordance with its earlier state. The façade was originally from the second half of the XIIc. There is a stepped door with two wide arches to the sides. The door has a tympanum, which is XIXc and not XIIc. The arches of the door have a multitude of scenes: Christ with angels, Wise and Foolish Virgins, the Assumption, Signs of the Zodiac, Angels playing instruments, Vices and Virtues Wise Men of the Apocalypse....Above is a line of modillions and then three broad bays. The left one has a damaged horseman, the central one has a window and the right one has a number of statues.</p> <p>See booklet, 'Les Eglises Romanes en Poitou Charente' page 77, 'Poitou Roman' pages 34 and 35 and 'Haut Poitou Roman' pages 332 to 334</p>

<p>Claunay North of Poitiers</p>	<p>This church has a short, rounded apse with a band of decorative 'studs' between the windows. There are graffiti crucifixes on the buttresses. There is a square tower over the crossing and a single nave with a re-made West door and a modern South door.</p>
<p>Colombiers Notre dame North-east of Poitiers</p>	<p>The single nave is XIIc and the choir is late XII/earlyXIIIc in Romanesque style. The West door is stepped with geometric patterns on the arches. The North door, also with geometric decoration, has been largely obscured by a XVc buttress. The rounded choir has modillions and some worn capitals. Inside, the main interest lies in the two large sculptures in bays at the East end. To the left, the Angel Gabriel; and to the right, Mary. There are a number of good capitals including depictions of sirens and lions.</p> <p>See special leaflet, 'Haut Poitou Roman' pages 333 and 334 and 'Les Eglises Romanes en Poitou-Charente' page 78</p>
<p>Dangé St Romain North-east of Poitiers</p>	<p>This XIIc church had a single nave and a rounded apse. A side aisle was added to the South side and restoration has destroyed the original character of this church.</p>
<p>Doussay North of Poitiers</p>	<p>This XIIc church has a XVc side aisle. The North wall was rebuilt in the late XXc. It has a fine square tower with blind arches at roof level and pairs of windows above. There is a flat ended apse and small transepts. The West door is XVc.</p>
<p>Fontaine le Conte West of Poitiers</p>	<p>This is a former Augustine abbey and is large and austere. The West façade is almost plain. The nave is high and broad. The rounded apse has seven large</p>

	<p>windows. Off the very large transept are two chapels. There is no interior decoration.</p> <p>See 'Poitou Roman' page 35 and 'Haut Poitou Roman' page 335</p>
<p>Frontenay sur Dive South of Loudun</p>	<p>This church has a long, rounded apse with the remnants of a frieze depicting a zig-zag pattern. There are modillions. Over the crossing is a truncated tower. The original nave has XIIc side aisles. The West door is stepped with worn capitals and a frieze of interlace to the right. Inside the church there are capitals that have simple foliage patterns.</p>
<p>Gençay Notre Dame South of Poitiers</p>	<p>This church is of little interest. Of XIIc origin, it has been extensively rebuilt. It has a single nave, transepts and a rounded apse.</p>
<p>Genouillé Notre Dame North-west of Ruffec</p>	<p>Only the West façade is of real interest. There is a fine decorated doorway below a line of modillions. There are sculptured scenes of biblical figures: Moses, Eli, David with a harp, Christ giving a blessing and, to the sides, a frieze with lions and griffins. There is an octagonal tower.</p>
<p>La Grimaudière North-east of Poitiers</p>	<p>This is a small XIIc church with a single nave. There is a stepped West door but there are neither columns nor capitals. Above is a small bell wall. The apse is short and rounded and without decoration.</p>
<p>Ingrandes North-east of Poitiers</p>	<p>The West and North walls are XIc and are built of small, even stones. The West door is simple with an arch with a gentle zig-zag decoration. Above are vestiges of two original windows and the remains of a</p>

	<p>small sculptured plaque that has been defaced, but which appears to have depicted Christ between two angels. The North wall shows the outlines of three old windows high up. The apse is rounded. The South wall appears to have been rebuilt, using large blocks in the XIIIc. There is a XIIIc/XIVc door in it and a tacheron on a buttress: an X below a line.</p> <p>See 'Haut Poitou Roman' pages 78 to 81 and 'Les Eglises Romanes en Poitou Charente' page 80</p>
<p>L'Isle Jourdain St Paixent South-east of Poitiers and North-east of Ruffec</p>	<p>The church is in the old (upper) town. It is in a poor state of repair (2001), but the façade, apse, transepts and tower appear to be XIIc. The West door has four polylobed arches. It was a priory church from 1110. Inside there is one sculptured capital on the North side of the crossing. It depicts an unusual capital of two snakes talking to two heads; one head has a fish beside it; the other has a lion's body.</p> <p>See leaflet</p>
<p>Jardes East of Poitiers</p>	<p>This church has a rounded apse, a single nave and an octagonal bell tower. The tower is above the West door which is plain. There are two modillions on the tower depicting twins and an animal's head and one, a barrel, on the apse.</p>
<p>Jazeneuil St Jean Baptiste South-west of Poitiers</p>	<p>This was formerly a priory church that was a dependency of Chaise Dieu. The church was heavily restored in the XIXc; as the result it is not clear what is Romanesque. The pillars down the side aisles are. The West façade has a central door between blind arches; all have carved capitals and look to be authentic. The North transept collapsed in the XVIIc. The outside of the apse is attractively decorated and in the choir there are decorated windows above blind arches. At the crossing is a cupola on pendentives.</p> <p>See 'Les Eglises Romanes en Poitou-Charente' page82,</p>

	<p>'Poitou Roman' page 36 and 'Haut Poitou Roman' pages 335 and 336</p>
<p>Jaunay Clan St Denis North-east of Poitiers</p>	<p>This is a former Benedictine priory that was a dependency of Bourgueil. Of the XIc church only the base of the tower remains. It is at the crossing with a cupola on trompes that fall onto clusters of three pillars, topped with simply carved capitals depicting lions, foliage, etc. They are similar to those at Beaumont. The single nave is XIc. The West door is late XIc in style and it is between pairs of columns that have very worn capitals of fluted foliage. The apse is XIc (1871).</p>
<p>Latus St Maurice North-east of L'Isle Jourdain</p>	<p>The West end of the nave is XIc. The Eastern bay of the nave is XIc, but it is Romanesque in style except for the roof vaults. The chapel is rounded and the apse is polygonal. Over the crossing there is a cupola. There are two Romanesque altars, both recently restored.</p> <p>See leaflet</p>
<p>Leigné les Bois East of Poitiers</p>	<p>Only the square tower over the West door is XIc. It has blind arches with small columns and simple capitals. There are some modillions on the tower. The West door is XIc.</p>
<p>Lencloitre Notre Dame North of Poitiers</p>	<p>This is a 'daughter' foundation of the abbey of Fontevrault and it dates from the early XIc. It largely retains its original form except for the defensive towers at the West end. It has a nave with side aisles, transepts with a rounded side chapel on the North side and a rounded apse. There is a square tower over the crossing. Because of the poor quality of the stone that was used it weathered poorly and much has been refaced or, in the case of the interior sculptures, largely replaced. The West façade is therefore undecorated. There are modern modillions on the North wall of the nave and around the apse. The capitals in the nave are not interesting, but those in the choir windows are; they</p>

	<p>depict foliage and a head uttering foliage. There are also capitals at the crossing. There is a cupola on pendentives. There is a good North door which is stepped and a sealed South door that led to the cloisters.</p> <p>See 'Haut Poitou Roman' page 36 and leaflet</p>
<p>Leugny North-east of Poitiers</p>	<p>This XIIc church has a single nave, a short, rounded apse, transepts each with a rounded side chapel and a square tower with a spire over the crossing. The tower has pairs of blind arches below pairs of windows and scallop-patterned stonework. The South door was remade in the XXc and overall the church has been heavily restored.</p>
<p>Loudun St Jean North of Poitiers</p>	<p>Only the shell remains of this XIIc chapel. It is roofless and without a West wall or apse. There is a three bay nave and a square tower over the crossing. It was the property of the Knights of St John of Jerusalem and later of Malta.</p>
<p>Lussac les Châteaux South-east of Poitiers</p>	<p>Originally a XIIc church, it has been almost entirely rebuilt. The façade around the West door, which is plain, is of XIIc character with two tall flat buttresses.</p>
<p>Lusignan Notre Dame and St Junien South-west of Poitiers</p>	<p>The apse, which is rounded with large windows, was constructed in the XIc on the crypt. The crypt has squat columns and simply carved capitals that divide the three aisles. Over the crossing of the church is a cupola on trompes. There is a single nave and an attractive north door. The South door is XVIc. The nave and North transept are XIIc</p> <p>See 'Les Eglises Romanes en Poitou-Charente' page 84, 'The Pilgrim's Guide' pages 36 and 37, 'Poitou Roman' pages 36 and 37, 'Haut Poitou Roman' pages</p>

	336 and 337 and leaflet
Marigny North-east of Poitiers	This church has a single nave and a rounded apse, but it has been extensively restored. The nave is very low and the West door is also remarkably low; it is between two short columns. There is a square tower over the crossing. As a whole this church is too restored to be very interesting.
Marnay South of Poitiers	The church probably dates from the late XIIc. It has a single nave and a rounded apse. The West façade has three flat buttresses and a small, plain door in the North of the two bays. Right across the façade above the door is a line of modillions interspersed with sculptured plaques, each different: interlacings, flowers etc. The modillions include a musician with a lute, a pig eating a large object, a sheep's head etc.
Mauprevoir South-east of Poitiers	This was originally built in the XIIc, but since then it has been mostly rebuilt. Elements of the rounded apse and North wall of the nave are Romanesque; but the mid sections of the South wall are modern. It is of little interest.
Mazerolles South-east of Poitiers	This is a small chapel with a single nave and a flat ended apse. There is a bell wall over the West door. It has been much restored. Over the door are tacherons: 11 x ^, 1 x b.
Mazeuil North-west of Poitiers and south of Loudun	This XIIc church has a rounded apse and a single nave; but it has been entirely rebuilt. There are two XIIc modillions on the South wall. Otherwise the church is of little interest.

<p>Mignaloux South of Poitiers</p>	<p>This XIIc church has been almost entirely rebuilt. The only original elements are the arch over the West door and two short friezes of interlaced leaves each side of the door.</p>
<p>Millac St Grevais & St Protais North of Conflens</p>	<p>This church has an apse that was built in the XIIc. It is rounded, but it has no feature of interest inside or out. The nave, tower and West door date from the XVc.</p>
<p>Montcontour North-west of Poitiers and South-west of Loudun</p>	<p>This is a XIIc church. It has a rounded apse with modillions round the top of the wall. The transept has a modern spire over the North transept. The single nave is long and has a stepped door on both the North and West sides. The North door has capitals with foliage and lions, whilst the West door has foliage capitals. There is a small blind arch each side of the West door.</p>
<p>Monthoiron East of Poitiers</p>	<p>The nave of this church has been destroyed. The remainder is mostly XIIc. It comprises a long apse, transepts and a tower over the crossing. The apse is rounded and it has a line of modillions; these depict heads of men and beasts. There are also the remains of modillions on the South transept. The interior is of little interest as the result of over-restoration.</p>
<p>Montmorillon Notre Dame South-east of Poitiers</p>	<p>The rounded apse and side chapels off the transepts are late XIc. They are significantly out of line with the single nave, which is mostly XIIc. The West façade is XIVc. The crypt is dedicated to Ste Catherine. It has fine late XII/earlyXIIIc frescos of Ste Catherine's life.</p>
<p>Montmorillon</p>	<p>See leaflet, 'Poitou Roman' pages 38 and 39 and 'Haut Poitou Roman' pages 337 to 339</p> <p>This is part of a XIc monastic hospital that was founded by Robert le Pieux. The 'chapelle' has a fine</p>

St Laurent	<p>façade with a frieze depicting the childhood of Christ. The tower is XIIc; it has two blind arches on the west and South faces below two windows in the octagonal upper storey.</p> <p>See 'Haut Poitou Roman' pages 337 to 339 and 'Les Eglises Romanes en Poitou-Charente' pages 85 and 86</p>
<p>Montmorillon</p> <p>'The Octagonal'</p>	<p>This was formerly the funereal chapel. Until 1854 it was frescoed. The building appears to be influenced by the design of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, Jerusalem. There are figures of four men, an angel and four women over the West door. There are many modillions.</p> <p>See 'Les Eglises Romanes en Poitou-Charente' pages 85 and 86, 'Poitou Roman' pages 38 and 39 and 'Haut Poitou Roman' pages 337 to 339</p>
<p>Monton</p> <p>Northern extremity of Vienne</p>	<p>The XIIc church was built over a spring. There is a single nave and a flat ended apse. The bell tower is at the South-west corner of the church. There is no external decoration and it appears to have either been rebuilt or very heavily restored in the XIXc.</p>
<p>Morthémer</p> <p>South-east of Poitiers</p>	<p>This church is on a cliff and adjoins the château. It has a small XIc crypt with a main aisle and two tiny side aisles divided by squat columns with simple patterned capitals. There are XIIIc frescos that show Christ with an angel and the symbols of St Mark and St Luke. The apse of the church is short and of XIIc origin; it has been much restored. The nave is XIIIc; it, too, was heavily restored in the XIXc. There is a square, squat tower and lots of modillions.</p>
Mouterre-Silly	<p>This church has a XIIc flat ended apse that has three slim windows. There is a square tower over the North</p>

South of Loudun	transept. The single nave was rebuilt in the XV/XVICs.
Notre Dame du Pin	This former abbey is now in private hands. The monastic buildings are post-XVIIc. The church was built in 1120 by Cistercians and it was ruined by Huguenots in the Wars of Religion. It was rebuilt in 1649 but was ruined again after the Revolution. Only the outer walls of the church remain.
West of Poitiers	
Nouaille-Maupertuis	This is a large abbey church. Within a XIVc fortified wall and moat about two kilometres from the site of the battle of Poitiers (1356). In 830 the body of the hermit, St Junien (520-587) was buried in the crypt below the present church. His tomb with original frescos is behind the main altar. St Junien founded the order of 'Ste Marie d'Evescault'. The high nave with two narrow side aisles is XIc as is the transept. The West bay of the four bay nave is XIIc, as is the tower. The choir was rebuilt in the XVIIc. The North wall of the nave outside has fine bays on three levels. See 'Les Eglises Romanes en Poitou-Charente' page 87 and 'Haut Poitou Roman' pages 82 to 87
St Junien	
South of Poitiers	
Ouzilly-Vignolles	This is a small XIIc chapel with a modern bell wall over a plain West door. There is a single nave that has flat buttresses on the North side and a large XIXc building on the South side. The apse is short, rounded and without decoration.
St Martin	
South-west of Loudun	
Oyre	This church dates from the late XIc. It has a rounded apse with two rounded side chapels. There is a single nave with a large porch area on the South-west sides of the church; it has some similarities with the porch at Avon la Roche (86). The West door is plain; There is a XVIIIc South door and a fine square tower over the
St Sulpice	
North-east of Poitiers	

	<p>crossing; it has blind arches in trios below pairs of windows. On the apse are a number of replacement modillions including an exhibitionist, an upside-down man and heads of people and animals. The main interest is in the capitals in the nave which include images on a series of non-religious themes.</p> <p>See 'Haut Poitou Roman' page 339</p>
<p>Payroux South of Poitiers</p>	<p>Originally a XIIc church, it has been significantly altered. The flat apse is XVc; the square tower is probably XIXc. There is a single nave which is reached by descending several steps. It has engaged columns of XIIc origin, but with XIXc capitals. The stepped door is between two blind arches each badly obscured by huge buttresses. There is one good capital of a quadruped. There are six modillions depicting heads over the door and two on the North wall depicting a monster's head and a coiled snake. The walls of the nave have been raised in the XIVc.</p>
<p>Plaisance Notre Dame North east of L'Isle-Jourdain</p>	<p>This church dates from the XIIIc but it is Romanesque in character. The West door is between two large damaged capitals – lions and the Pascal Lamb. Above are two sculptures – a dancing maid and a soldier. Above these is a line of modillions depicting birds, heads of men, animals, an acrobat etc. There are bosses to support beams on the West and South walls. A XIXc house is attached to the flat ended apse. The interior of the church is without character.</p>
<p>Poitiers Notre Dame la Grande</p>	<p>Its size does not live up to its name. The building of the church was begun in the XIc; the last two bays of the nave and the West façade are XIIc. The cloisters which used to be on the North side of the church were destroyed in 1859. The façade is of special interest; the central window was not in the original plan. At the top is Christ within a mandorla. Below are the twelve apostles with St Peter top left. Below are a number of scenes: the Garden of Eden (left), Old Testament</p>

	<p>figures, the Annunciation, the Visitation (centre right), the Nativity and Christ being bathed (right). The nave has nine bays and two narrow side aisles. The South door and the porch are XVc. The interior frescoes date from 1851. The choir is rounded with an ambulatory separated by columns that have fine capitals; these depict foliage in a 'Corinthian' style. There is a small crypt which has some XIIc frescoes of four saints.</p> <p>See booklet, 'The Pilgrims' Guide' pages 276 to 283, 'Poitou Roman' pages 63 to 91, 'Haut Poitou Roman' pages 187 to 192 and 'La Fresque Romane' page 148</p>
<p>Poitiers St Germain</p>	<p>This XIIc church is now an auditorium for the nearby music school. The apse and the North side chapel are rounded and are from the XIIc. The former retains its modillions and a capital that has finely carved foliage.</p> <p>See 'The Pilgrims' Guide' page 280</p>
<p>Poitiers St Hilaire la Grande</p>	<p>This large XIc church was a centre for pilgrimage in the Middle Ages. The 'old' part comprises the small crypt with the reliquary of St Hilaire, the choir with an ambulatory, the four radiating chapels and the base of the former bell tower. The remainder was rebuilt between 1850 and 1875 in Romanesque style. The choir is divided from the ambulatory by old wrought iron-work and large pillars that have simply carved capitals. There are a few 'historic' capitals; these depict the death of St Hilaire, The Flight into Egypt and Daniel (?) with lions. The apse and exterior of the chapels are very attractive with fine capitals and modillions, including one capital of foliage inscribed 'UGO MONEDARIUS' (Hugo the Treasurer, who worked 1067-90). The modillions include heads of horses. On the South transept are some tacherons: I, V, T and a burial niche with short pillars and good capitals and a fine lid to a tomb. By the South side chapels is a plaque to 'SALOMAN' from the Xc. On the side of the</p>

<p>Poitiers</p> <p>St Jean's Baptistery</p>	<p>remains of the bell tower is a frieze that includes a dromedary.</p> <p>See 'Haut Poitou Roman' pages 173 to 183, Poitou Roman' pages 47 to 61, 'La Fresque Romane' page 148 and 'The Pilgrims' Guide' pages 278 and 279</p> <p>This is one of the oldest places of Christian worship in France. It is of Merovingian origin and its foundations are IVc. It is essentially rectangular, with a small Southern niche chapel. Above this, on the exterior, are a number of friezes. Over the West door is a line of modillions that include interlacings, a ram and a horse with a billet. There is a small bell wall (but no bells). The interior is frescoed There is a central baptismal font.</p> <p>See 'Poitou Roman' page 41, 'The Pilgrims' Guide' page 277 and 'La Fresque Romane' pages 147 to 148 and 103 to 104</p>
<p>Poitiers</p> <p>St Jean de Montierneuf</p>	<p>The West façade of this church has been rebuilt incorporating decorative stones from elsewhere. The church was a Benedictine priory. It has a wide nave with side aisles leading to transepts each with a rounded side chapel and a choir with an ambulatory; this has three radiating chapels. The choir has large pillars and is XIIIc (Gothic), but the chapels and ambulatory are XIc. Around the sides are arches with short columns and capitals; some are modern copies; they include a pair of elephants. The exterior is attractive with fine capitals and modillions.</p> <p>See leaflet, 'Poitou Roman' pages 41 and 42, 'Haut Poitou Roman' pages 199 to 201 and 'The Pilgrims' Guide' page 280</p>
<p>Poitiers</p>	<p>Destroyed in the 1880s, it once stood between St</p>

St Nicolas	<p>Hilaire le Grand and St Porchaire. It had a rounded apse and a rounded side chapel. Inside were large columns and Corinthian style capitals. Outside were slim columns and foliage capitals. The apse had a line of modillions round the top edge and a further ring over the top of the choir.</p>
<p>Poitiers St Porchaire</p>	<p>Only the bell tower over the West door is XIc. It is square and of four storeys. Each side of the door are pairs of columns and capitals; the depict Daniel in a mandorla between lions, beasts and birds. On the North side is a frieze with interlacings and a crocodile. There are also a number of modillions depicting heads. In the choir is the plain sarcophagus of St Porchaire. There is a tiny crypt.</p> <p>See 'Poitou Roman' page 42, 'The Pilgrims' Guide' page 281 and leaflets.</p>
<p>Poitiers Ste Radagonde</p>	<p>Of the Romanesque church two elements remain; both date from the XIc. The apse is rounded with side chapels over the crypt and the tower at the West end, though the door of this is in 'flamboyant' style with statues that were remodeled in the 1850s. The crypt comprises a central bay with the XIc sarcophagus of Ste Radagonde and a low ambulatory with three radiating chapels. The tower is four storeys high with fine bays and arches. In the porch are two bas-reliefs, probably from an earlier doorway. One is of Christ in Majesty, the other is of Ste Radagonde or Mary. In the choir are some large columns topped by broad capitals; these are of Daniel and lions and the Garden of Eden.</p> <p>See Poitou Roman page 41, 'Haut Poitou Roman' pages 187 to 192 and 'The Pilgrims' Guide' pages 280 and 281</p>
Poitiers	<p>Built early in the XXc, this site houses early Middle Age sculptures. It also contains a small subterranean</p>

Hypogée des Dunes	chapel.
Poitiers 'Trois Pilliers'	One of three pillars that were recorded on the site in 1750 remains. They were part of the domain of St Hilaire to which offenders found guilty by ecclesiastical courts were sent to be pilloried. The column has a foliage capital, one of pigs and one with a pair of birds.
Pouillé St Martin East of Poitiers	A small village church, it has a flat ended apse with three tall windows. There is a low, square tower over the crossing; it has pairs of windows. Below the tower is a cupola supported on arches. The nave is short and has been extensively rebuilt with a modern North door. On the North wall are two re-used plaques; one is of a snake in a tree between two crosses; the other is of a seated figure between two men with hunting dogs. In the choir, on a buttress on the North wall, is an inscription between two crosses.
Pressac St Just South of Poitiers	This church was built in the second half of the XIIc. It has a stepped West door with blind arches each side. The arch to the right is obscured by a large XVc buttress; the left has been destroyed. The arch of the door has a rim of small lions. To the sides of the door are two capitals including one showing a lion eating a man. There are two bas-relief plaques of heads spewing foliage. The exterior of the nave has, on the North wall, a number of large blind arches below a fortified area. There are modillions on this wall and on the West façade. The nave has six bays; it is broad and leads to a narrower, flat ended choir; the choir is XIIIc. The nave has large columns topped by simply carved capitals.
Princay	The apse is Gothic. The nave is XIIc, but the West door below the porch is probably XVIc. The North wall of

St Gervais & St Protais North of Poitiers	the nave has been rebuilt as has part of the South wall. There is a cupola on pendentives at the crossing and a square bell tower. Just West of the tower is a broad, low arch.
Raslay Northern extremity of Vienne	This is a small chapel outside the present village. It has a rounded apse with some large modern windows. There is a single nave with a bell wall over the west end. The West door has decorated arches and a frieze of interlace to the right of the door. There is graffiti on both sides of the doorway.
La Roche Posay East of Poitiers	This church is perched on a cliff above the river Creuse. Most of the church has been rebuilt. It has a single nave and a flat apse. The tower over the crossing is XIIc. It has blind arches, a sloping roof and a number of modillions.
Roiffe At the Northern extremity of Vienne	Only the West bay of this church is Romanesque; the remainder was built in the XV/XVIIcs. The west bay contains the South door and one small XIIc window. The door has an arc of geometrically patterned stone work above it.
Romagne St Laurent South of Poitiers	This church has a XIc rounded apse with a huge XIVc buttress that obscures part of the window; the window has a capital with two small figures. The East part of the nave is also XIc. The tower and West end were rebuilt in the XVIIIc. A North aisle was added in the XIVc. There are some modillions depicting heads including one of a horse.
Rossay North of Poitiers	This XIIc church has been extensively altered. The apse is XVc; the nave South wall has been partially rebuilt; the West door below a porch is late

<p>St Benoît St André South of Poitiers</p>	<p>XIII/earlyXIVc.</p> <p>The church is dedicated to St André, but it is named after St Benoît de Quincay. The church is of XIc origin, a Benedictine Priory built on the site of a VIIc church. It has a four bayed nave, a rounded apse and two side aisles There is no interior decoration, but there is a fine West façade with a stepped door which has fine capitals and two blind arches. To the South are the remains of the cloisters, which retain some good capitals showing two doves with a chalice, the Annunciation etc</p> <p>See ‘Les Eglises Romanes en Poitou-Charente’ page 90 and ‘Haut Poitou Roman’ pages 339 and 340.</p>
<p>St Chartres South of Montcontour</p>	<p>This church has a rounded apse and a single XIIc nave with a XVc South door and aisle. On the South wall some XIIc modillions have been re-used; they include one depicting twins. There is a modern tower over the crossing.</p>
<p>St Léger de Montbrillais North-east of Thours</p>	<p>Only the short, rounded apse and the west façade are Romanesque. The apse is without decoration and it appears to have been heavily restored. The West façade may have been rebuilt, also; however it retains the Romanesque character. The door is stepped with four decorated arches. There are three capitals remaining. They depict figures and animals in scenes that warn of the evils that may befall man.</p>
<p>St Martin l’Ars South of Poitiers</p>	<p>This church dates from the XIc. It has a single nave and a plain façade with a couple of worn capitals. There is a square tower. It has all been rebuilt.</p>

<p>St Maurice la Clouère</p> <p>South of Poitiers</p>	<p>This is a former priory church that was a dependency of St Cyprien de Poitiers. It is strikingly wide and there are no right angles! The nave has two broad side aisles; the floor of the North one is about a metre lower than the remainder of the floor. The aisles are divided by large columns with fine, but simple sculptures. The choir is rounded with a cul-de-four vault and the transept arms are rounded (see Marignac (17)). There are two side chapels. The South transept has a XIIIc graffiti of boats setting off for the Crusades. Outside, the West façade has a plain door and three large windows. The North door is stepped and it has a fine arch depicting animals (winged horses) and good capitals. The apse and transepts have finely decorated windows, interesting arches and fine capitals and modillions.</p> <p>See 'Les Eglises Romanes en Poitou-Charente' page 91, 'Poitou Roman' pages 42 and 43 and 'Haut Poitou Roman' pages 340 and 341</p>
<p>St Pierre d'Exdeuil</p> <p>South of Poitiers</p>	<p>This is a small church of XIc origin. It is similar to that at Champiers. There are modillions including 'images of lust' on the rounded apse. There is a small bell wall over the XIc West door.</p>
<p>St Pierre lès Eglises</p> <p>South-east of Poitiers</p>	<p>This church is isolated in a cemetery by the river Vienne outside Chauvigny. It is of Carolingian origin. The church, except the North wall which may have been rebuilt, has been built using small even stones. It has a rounded apse and a broader nave. Inside are frescos. Against the South wall is what appears to be a Roman mile-stone.</p>
<p>St Sauvent</p> <p>St Sylvain</p> <p>West of Poitiers</p>	<p>This church has been altered since it was built in the XIIc. There are two XIIc rounded side chapels; the South one has been heavily restored. Between them, the apse has been extended in the XVc. Over the Gothic West door is a square tower; it is above a porch that has a cupola on trompes.</p>

<p>St Savin sur Gartempe East of Poitiers</p>	<p>This is a huge church of a former abbey. It dates from the XI/XIIcs. Much of it was built between 1070 and 1075. It has a high barrel vaulted nave with side aisles. These are divided by tall columns with fine capitals. The choir is rounded and has an ambulatory with radiating side chapels. Below it is a crypt. Throughout the church and crypt are frescos that are amongst the finest in Europe for that period. They were restored during the last few years of the XXc.</p> <p>See booklet, 'La Fresque Romane' pages 152 and 153 (and others) and 'Haut Poitou Roman' pages 116 to 133</p>
<p>Saix Ste Radagonde Northern extremity of Vienne</p>	<p>Only the apse and door remain from this Romanesque church. The remainder was rebuilt, probably in the XIXc. The apse is rounded and without decoration. The door has patterned stonework over it that is similar to that at Arçay.</p>
<p>Saulge North-east of l'Isle Jourdain</p>	<p>This church has a single nave with a West door that has been rebuilt. There is a small sculpture each side of the door; to the left, an animal uttering foliage and to the right an angel. The nave has large XIIc windows. There are transepts; on the North one there is a weathered sculptured plaque depicting Christ in a mandorla that is supported by two angels. There is a fine octagonal tower over the crossing.</p>
<p>Savigny sous Faye St Pierre North of Poitiers</p>	<p>This church has a single nave, a flat ended apse and stepped West door with a foliage pattern on the arch. There is a square tower with modern modillions on the top of the stairway and more near the top of the tower; they depict heads.</p>

<p>Sommière du Clain St Gaudent South of Poitiers</p>	<p>This church has a rounded apse with one original window; it lacks side columns and capitals. There are two engaged columns with simple capitals of bare foliage outlines. These are similar to those at Vernon. The West door is stepped with capitals; at least one has been re-used from elsewhere; they depict lions, a fish, foliage and a head that is within a hachetting pattern. There are two friezes with interlacings. Above is a line of modillions.</p> <p>See leaflet</p>
<p>Thuré North-west of Châtellerault</p>	<p>This church retains a XIIc apse and transepts; the nave dates from the XVc. The apse is rounded and there is a rounded chapel off each transept arm. The windows have small capitals that depict lions, Greenmen and foliage. Above is a line of modillions that have heads. Inside the church, at the crossing and high up, are capitals of lions, foliage and, on the North side, a Greenman. The choir is long and it has two tall engaged columns; on these and on the windows are foliage capitals.</p>
<p>Usson du Poitiers St Pierre South of Poitiers</p>	<p>This church was built in the XIc. It was a Benedictine priory and a dependency of St Cyprien de Poitiers. It has a single nave with two narrow side aisles. The south aisle was widened in the XIVc and side chapels were added to the transepts. The apse is rounded. There is a cupola on trompes over which is a squat, square tower with blind arches. The West façade has good capitals by the door; they depict a leopard, a lion and winged monsters. Above the door are two capitals depicting men and a bas-relief. The capitals in the aisle are very similar to those from St Hilaire le Grand and which are now at Ste Croix, Poitiers.</p>

<p>Vaux en Couhé South of Poitiers</p>	<p>Over the West façade are two lines of modillions, including one of intertwined snakes that is similar to one at Champagne-St Hilaire. The West door is stepped with a capital of a man holding two snakes, two lions uttering foliage, a wrestler between the Devil and a person, a man with a palm and a man holding an object in each hand and having a 'towel' under each arm. The modillions depict a horse with a billet, heads including one of a pig. There is a single nave and a rounded apse with two horrid, large windows.</p>
<p>Vaux sur Vienne North-east of Poitiers</p>	<p>This XIIc church has been heavily restored. The nave has side aisles; the choir is rounded and there is a square tower with a modern spire over the crossing. Little of the original character remains.</p>
<p>Vendeuvre du Poitou St Aventin North of Poitiers</p>	<p>This is a large church in the shape of an irregular rectangle. It has a large nave that ends in a flat ended apse with a similar side aisle. The main nave and apse are from the early XIIC and the side aisle is late XIIc. Dividing the nave and side aisle are some original short, stout columns topped by capitals that have simple carvings of foliage, people, a man chasing an animal (perhaps a dog). On the South wall is a very worn stepped door; (it was being restored in 2005). At the West end is a tower over a narthex that leads into the nave. The vaults of the choir and side aisle are XV/XVIIc.</p>
<p>Veniers North of Poitiers</p>	<p>This former XIIc church has a rounded apse and a single nave with a XVIc South door. It is of little interest.</p>
<p>Vernon</p>	<p>Only the apse of this church is Romanesque. The remainder is XIXc. The apse is rounded with columns</p>

South of Poitiers	and capitals that are very similar to those at Sommière du Clan.
Vezières	This church is XIIc, though there are bands of 'petit appareil' stonework at the base levels of the nave; these may be XIc. Below a XIVc porch is a plain door from the XIVc. There is a remade, rounded apse, a North side aisle and a rectangular tower that are all post XIIc.
St Pierre & St Paul	
North of Poitiers	
Vicq sur Gartempe	This XIIc church has a single nave with a simple West door that is between two pairs of columns with capitals; one has a small head, three depict foliage. There is a rounded apse with a line of modillions and a fortified space above it. Over the crossing is a square tower topped by a modern spire.
East of Poitiers	
Le Vigean	This church has the appearance of a Romanesque church. It has a small polylobed West door.
South-east of Poitiers and South of L'Isle Jourdain	
La Villedieu du Clain	Of XIIc origin, this church has been extensively rebuilt. The nave with two narrow side aisles is divided by modern pillars. There is a fine West façade with a stepped door with good capitals. Above is a line of fine modillions, a central window and three headless statues and a face.
South of Poitiers	
Villesalem	This is a former Benedictine priory with a nave and two side aisles. The apse is rounded and there are two side chapels. There is a fine West façade that is largely obscured by a more recent building. This has a fine decorated door and two side arches that also have good sculptures. The North wall of the nave is also decorated with high quality sculptures. The South wall is also decorated.
Notre Dame	
East of Poitiers	
	See leaflets, 'Poitou Roman' page 43 and 'Haut Poitou

<p>Vivonne St Georges South of Poitiers</p>	<p>Roman' pages 341 and 342</p> <p>This was formerly a priory church. It has been greatly restored. The North transept is the oldest part of the building; it dates from the mid XIIc; the choir and South transept are from the late XIIc. The nave is XIIIc and the tower by the South transept is from the XIVc.</p>
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