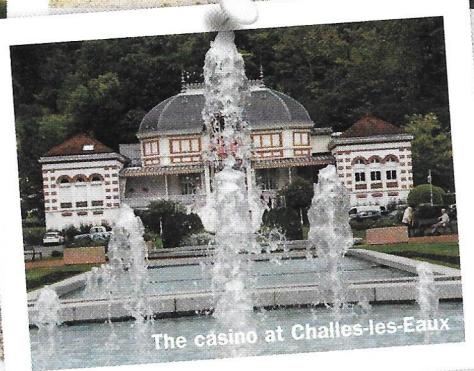




The small lake near the campsite



The casino at Challes-les-Eaux

FRANCE

Camping Municipal Le Savoy, Savoie

Heading south towards the French Alps, we were detained for a few nights in the beautiful area around the Savoie town of Chambéry. This is a locality dominated by stunning limestone crags that tower like castles over the valley towns and the lake. With cycle routes connecting the towns and villages along the flat valleys it proved a good choice.

The municipal site at Challes-les-Eaux is just a few kilometres south of Chambéry and offers an out-of-season discount with an ACSI card. The campsite is perfectly located next to the municipal park – a lovely space to wander around in the evening with a large pond and lovely open views to those limestone escarpments. Being a municipal site, shops and restaurants are just a few minutes' walk, as well as bus routes, making this somewhere that is easy to spend a few days.

The campsite pitches are mostly hardstanding and are a good size, marked with hedges. The main facilities are by reception and are kept clean; there are other smaller sanitary blocks around the site. Looking on a

map you might spot an airport next to the campsite but this small military aerodrome didn't cause us any disturbance during our stay.

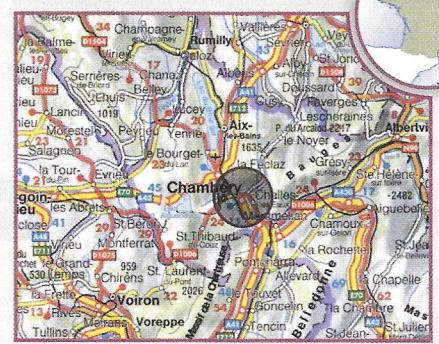
The cycle routes from Challes-les-Eaux are superb. Using a free map from reception, we followed the signed route along quiet roads and dedicated cycle lanes to the centre of Chambéry, which was just over five miles of easy cycling. Chambéry has plenty of sights, notably the Elephant Fountain and the elegant Italianate arcades on Rue de Boigne.

From the site you can see a small chapel set above the woodland on the top of Mont Saint-Michel. We followed the signs from behind the spa to pick up the hillside path. The two-hour walk is steep but easy to follow, with plenty of views through the trees and over meadows. The chapel is a perfect picnic spot with wide-open views along the valley.



Carol Kubicki

PLAN YOUR STAY



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- **Avenue du Parc, 73190 Challes-les-Eaux, Savoie, France**
- en.camping-challesleseaux.com
- **Early April – mid October**
- **Two adults, pitch and electric: From €18 (£15.94)**

Nearest public transport: Few minutes' walk

Nearest pub/restaurant: Within 1km

Directions: From north, leave A43/N201 at junction 18 onto D1006. After small aerodrome and park, turn left following signs for campsite. Take first left, follow road by leisure centre and reception is on left

Lat/Long: N45° 33' 5" E5° 59' 3"