

Auvergne Eco Lodge

Amidst the pristine, wild and beautiful nature between Lake Pêcher and the Forest of Pinatelle, in the middle of France, Laurence Costa and Daniel Siegel have built their dream. An Eco-Lodge with simple yet sophisticated luxury. A place to rest in solitude in a wide-open space in the volcanic region of Auvergne where the majestic mountains of Cantal rise above the beautiful Plateau of Cézallier. The perfect get-

away-lodge, sitting amongst a reserve of rich and delicate biodiversity, and completely in tune with the seasons and in communion with the elements.

–To accept what happens in the moment, to take the chance when it appears and to dare to open doors to unknown paths, that is what “L’Instant Absolut” is about, say the owners.

–We are sharing the idea of eco-tourism in Auvergne’s wilderness. It is fantastic to be part of these green treasures, says Daniel.





Local material and community engagement

After many years in the hospitality business in Megeve, one of France's most luxurious ski resorts, Laurence and Daniel decided to visit Chavagnac where it was love at first sight. They then decided to follow their dream and convert the run-down old barn into a lodge. All the time being receptive to local opinions and tastefully constructing to blend with the surroundings. For them it was the natural choice to renovate and build in stone, wood and glass.

- We have had the local carpenters and roofers build in material from, for example, the local Maurice Nailier company in Cantal, enthuses Laurence as she proudly shows the property. They used artisans and material from the neighbourhood and now source produce for their kitchen from as close as possible. One of Daniel's and Laurence's great pleasures is arranging special events in the nearby villages. They are also constantly busy around the Lodge with routine daily life. Daniel is serving me a delicious black coffee on the terrace - in one hand the coffee pot and in the other he has a screwdriver ready to fix a broken table. When he turns I see a spatula in his back pocket. Laurence takes care of the reception, the communication, marketing and bookings. She is also very involved with the different treatments that they provide at the Lodge.

- We have all kinds of guests. There are people who come with burnout and some need a wi-fi detox. The reason we don't provide wi-fi, except in the lounge, is because we want to provide our guests a chance to relax and experience calm moments offline. That is exactly how I feel in this extraordinary place.

