

## L / Ambrieres, Melleray-la-Vallee, St Loup du Gast 50km, 53'

Ambrieres is home to a very nice small museum, 'le Musee des Tisserands' (Weavers' museum) which tells you something about how people lived in the XVIIIth century and the place occupied by the cultivation and transformation of hemp. For this presentation, three small houses, once occupied by weavers, have been joined and show you weavers' machines, the finished products ... and the living conditions of the weavers and their families.

Very well done !



Address : Place Billard de Vaux Tel : 02.43.04.96.19

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Opening hours : July and August, every day, except Monday, from 2.30 to 6.30pm.

<http://www.jedecouvrelafrance.com/f-3757.mayenne-musee-tisserands.html>



If you need some (moderate) physical exertion, this visit can be combined with the "velo-rail" in **St Loup du Gast**, which is very close (less than 5km, about 5').



This small village has reclaimed a disaffected railroad line and turned it into an original way of discovering the countryside.

The ride will take about an hour (6km back and forth) during which you will cross the river, la Mayenne.

The "velo-rail" starts at 11 am (July and August) and the museum in Ambrieres is open until 6.30pm.

<http://www.st-loup-du-gast.mairie53.fr/index.php?page=article&typer=19&menu=2>

Alternately, you may wish to take a look at the 'Musee du Cidre' (Cider Museum) in Melleray-la Vallee, a 10-minute drive from Ambrieres. Also a small museum, but a very satisfactory visit. The owners still make cider, the fortified 'Pommeau', and 'Calvados', (apple brandy), which you can buy on site. When you leave, you will know all there is to know about making cider, from the varieties of apples you should use to the making of barrels...



The owner likes to make jokes (that he cannot – and perhaps should not! – translate into English), but he can also talk with his hands and you will be surprised how much you will understand from a guided tour conducted in French! There is also a video presentation which will explain the points that you might have missed. And, of course, you get a taste of the finished product !

Opening hours : From Easter to the end of Septembre : Monday to Saturday from 2pm to 7pm

In July and August : every day from 10am to 7pm.

Tel : 02 43 04 71 48

Address : La Duretiere, Melleray-la Vallee (The museum is not located in the village)