

PRÊT À PARTIR



SUIT YOU SIR

If you want an entirely new take on France's favourite spots, have a look at the France Triptailor service from tourism expert Julien Lalande. With more than ten years' experience under his belt, Julien offers regional and customised self-drive tours tailored to create the ultimate insider's view of France. Browse the website by area, points of interest or map reference, and take your pick from the outlined itineraries – we like the look of the five-night 'Epicure's temptations' trip in Burgundy, including tours of the Abbaye de Fontenay and the Basilique de Vézelay, from €880 per person. Tel: (Fr) 6 62 11 09 11 www.francetriptailor.com

"You can't escape the past in Paris, and yet what's so wonderful about it is that the past and present intermingle so intangibly that it doesn't seem to burden"

American poet Allen Ginsberg

Dish it out



something Gallic to brighten up dinner time, try these John Derian for Astier de Villatte ceramics plates, now available at Liberty department store in London. Prices from £43. Tel: 0207 734 1234 www.liberty.co.uk



GOING POTTY

Opened in 2007 by Anglo-American couple Nigel and Suzy Atkins, Le Don du Fel pottery centre in the Lot Valley's Aveyron *département* was awarded the status of Pôle Européen for ceramics shortly afterwards. Decades of international professional experience have earned them a reputation as expert ceramicists. Alongside exhibitions and an on-site shop, they also run weekend workshops in the building's stunning countryside location near the village of Le Fel. Tel: (Fr) 5 65 44 15 15 www.ledondufel.com



Events

LONDON

Antigone by Jean Anouilh.

1 March

The next monthly English and French reading group discussion at the Institut Français will be on the play *Antigone* by Jean Anouilh, one of the 20th century's most noted French dramatists. Tickets £5 (£3 members), glass of wine included. Tel: 0207 871 3515

www.institut-francais.org.uk



OXFORD

Dancin Oxford – *Danse des Cariatides* 23-24 March

A highlight of this year's Dancin Oxford festival will be the return of Compagnie Retouramont, a Paris-based aerial dance group who were a big hit at the 2011 event. Using Oxford Castle as a backdrop the six performers will stage the UK premiere of a show combining aerial dance, sound and projection. The free shows start at 7.30pm.

Tel: 01865 305305

www.dancinoxford.co.uk

BATH

La Femme en France ou Le Leadership Contemporain

10 March

Pull up a seat at this talk to watch students from the University of Bath present their thoughts on *La Femme en France ou Le Leadership Contemporain* as they compete for the hotly contested Prix de l'Université de Bath.

Tel: 07814 454 520

<http://cercles.alliancefrancaise.org.uk/events/bath.htm>