

# The Mother of All Bridges

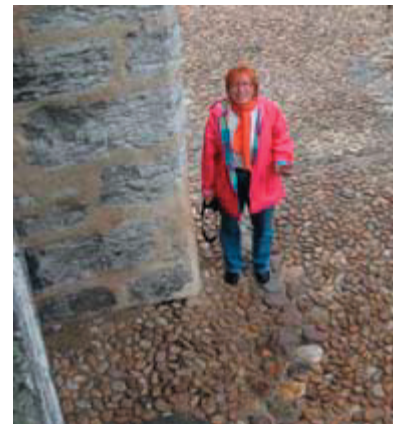
Neither the rain or the Romans can ruin our day

Monday, April 28, 2008

We awoke to a fine mist on Monday and decided to visit a few indoor sights in nearby Cahors, our largest city and capital of the Lot region. This allowed us to make our first art museum visit, the Henri Martin Museum. Henri was one of the lesser known impressionists, but was greatly influenced by the pointillist Seurat which was evident in several of his works.



The highlight of today's sights was the tour of the Pont Valentre Bridge in Cahors across the Lot which was built in the 1300s to keep the English out. It took a century to complete, but worth it as the most the English ever took was a few good words back to London. Hard to believe that car traffic inhabited this bridge until 1996. The slits in the walls of the bridge are just wide enough for the skilled archer's bow and a knave to heave out some boiling oil – a pretty successful defense.



We spotted an intriguing restaurant north of our residence named for Romulus, one of those twin kids that was raised by a wolf and later founded Rome (if my sketchy mythology is right). The site is on an old ruins of a mill that looks like it could have been built by the Romans. Alas, our waitress could not shed light on the history. A great three course meal was our reward.

