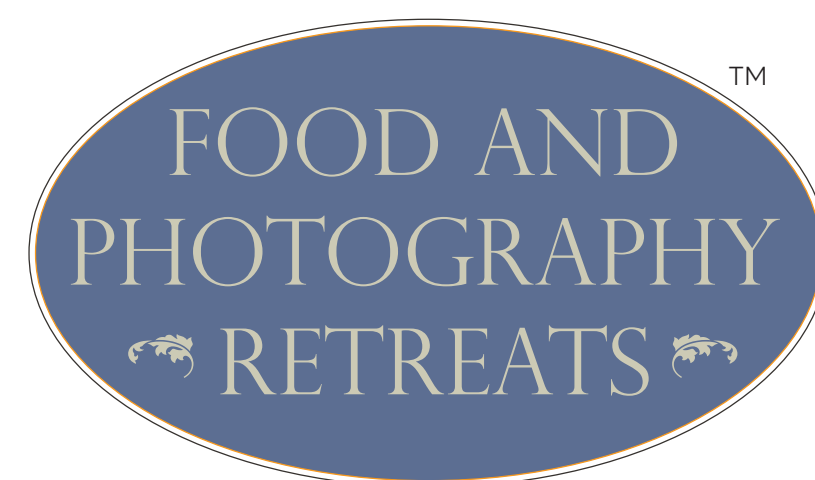


Chez-nous

A NEW SORT OF PHOTOGRAPHY RETREAT
FOR TWO FRIENDS OR COUPLES.



with the Benries



Chez-nous

INTRODUCING A NEW SORT OF RETREAT WITH THE BENVIES

The full Retreat experience, but with just two of you,
at our place in rural France.

Spring, summer, autumn and winter.

The same care.

The same great food.

The same helpful tuition.

Your own space.

Your own schedule.

Your own photographic focus.

www.foodandphotographyretreats.com | info@niallbenvie.eu

We're surprisingly easy to reach

BY TRAIN

London St Pancras Eurostar to Paris: **2 hours 15 minutes.**

Bruxelles-Midi to Paris: **1 hour 30 minutes.**

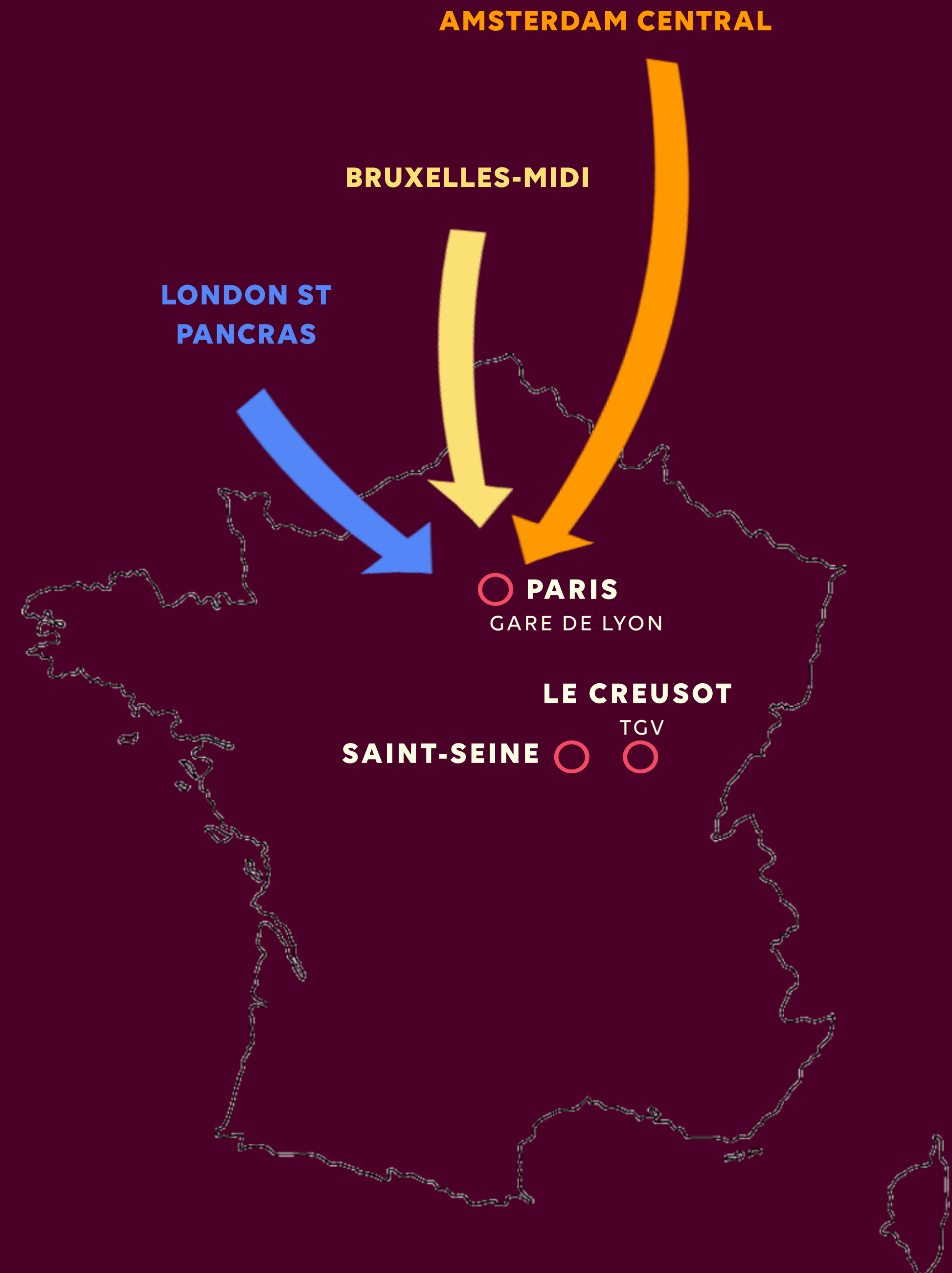
Amsterdam Central to Paris: **3 hours 10 minutes.**

Paris Gare de Lyon - Le Creusot TGV: **1 hour 20 minutes**

Le Creusot TGV (where we collect you) to Saint-Seine (home), **1 hour 10 minutes drive.**

BY PLANE

Come from most countries of the world to Paris Charles de Galle. Take a *Vers Paris, RER B Paris* train from Terminal 2 to Gard du Nord, a taxi rank taxi across Paris to Gare de Lyon, then join your TGV service to Le Creusot TGV.



WINTER

Chez-nous



Once you're here...

WHEN IT COMES TO THE PHOTOGRAPHY part of your holiday, it's an *à la carte* menu. If you want to shoot from dawn to dusk, we'll do that. Or just **at** dawn and dusk, if you prefer. We can fill all day, every day for you but maybe you'd prefer to spend some time exploring our library of photography (and cookery) books. Or getting some lessons from Niall. Or just walking the quiet lanes through the traditional *bocage* landscape that surrounds our house and meadow. You, or your travel companion, may even want to pass an hour or two with Charlotte in her kitchen, learning chocolate or patisserie skills - indeed any dish you'd like help to master.

We have two hides (blinds) overlooking well-stocked feeding stations (including one for making white background photographs). Jays, great spotted woodpeckers, nuthatches and goldfinches visit regularly, while there more occasional appearances by hawfinch and brambling. Keep your ears open, too, for cranes flying overhead on their way to and from the Loire, just 20 minutes away.

On chilly nights (and we might get snow!) we like to light the fire pit in the meadow and enjoy the very dark skies we have here. If you've never photographed the Milky Way properly, you have a good chance of doing so here.

Going a little further afield, we can take you to mediaeval villages, spooky abandoned châteaux, the UNESCO World Heritage sites of Hospice de Beaune and Vezelay and into the enchanting forests our region is known for.

So, the choices are yours. We will have a chat before your visit so that we can create a programme and discuss menus, just as you want them- to make a Retreat to remember.

PHOTOGRAPHY

You take the pictures, we take care of the rest

WITH MANY YEARS OF HOSTING EXPERIENCE BEHIND US, we've become pretty adept at ensuring everyone is happy and has what they need. But for us, there is no better venue to extend our particular brand of hospitality than in our charming home and secluded meadow here in rural Nièvre.

When you stay with us, you have the use of the top floor of our house - about 50 sq. m- which comprises a bedroom with two single beds fixed together, a lounge area with a comfortable double bed, and a shower room with toilet. A wall and curtains separate the bedroom from the lounge. There is a 55" Sony OLED screen to which you can connect your laptop to view your photos. Of course, you're welcome to come downstairs and be with us while we get things ready for dinner, even if it's just to relax in front of our woodburner. This is where we eat together, often joined by French or Dutch friends, some down from Paris, others who live in Saint-Seine year-round. We think it makes conversation more interesting and wide-ranging.

This is your home-from-home- except that we take care of things for you so you can concentrate on the important business of relaxing and creating. It's hard to do one without the other.

You needn't worry about driving either; Niall will take you to all the locations you want to visit as well picking you up from Le Creusot TGV and returning you there at the end of your Retreat.

HOSPITALITY

Questions, answered

This all sounds great but one-to-one service like this never comes cheap. So, how much for a week, "Chez-vous"?

Per person, GBP 2250, regardless of the season.

And that includes everything you mention here?

Yes, except your travel from home to Le Creusot and back, and alcohol.

I like the sound of these holidays, but to be honest, I'm not much of a photographer. I'd like to learn though, but is this ok for beginners?

Yes. We have the time to figure out what you want to learn and which teaching method suits you best. During a 30 year career, Niall has had lots of practice at teaching to all skill levels and is famously open about how he creates his own work.

Where can I learn about availability?

From our website, mail shots and on the next page.

I don't have much faith in our rail services these days. Can I just drive to you instead?

Yes, of course. The journey from Calais (avoiding Paris) takes about 9 hours. From Cambrai, about 6.

Can you take more than two guests at a time?

For Chez-nous Retreats, we take only two guests. But for our others, we can take up to 10.

I have quite specific dietary needs. Is that going to be a problem?

Charlotte has wide experience of producing delicious food for those with allergies and intolerances. Just tell us beforehand

WINTER

Chez-nous



AVAILABILITY

2023

February 4 - 11 **GBP 2000 per person***

February 11- 18 **GBP 2000 per person***

February 18 - 25 **GBP 2000 per person***

April 1 - 8 **GBP 2250 per person**

Spring and summer schedules to follow.

*** discounted introductory price.**

GALLERY



WINTER

Around Les Saumais





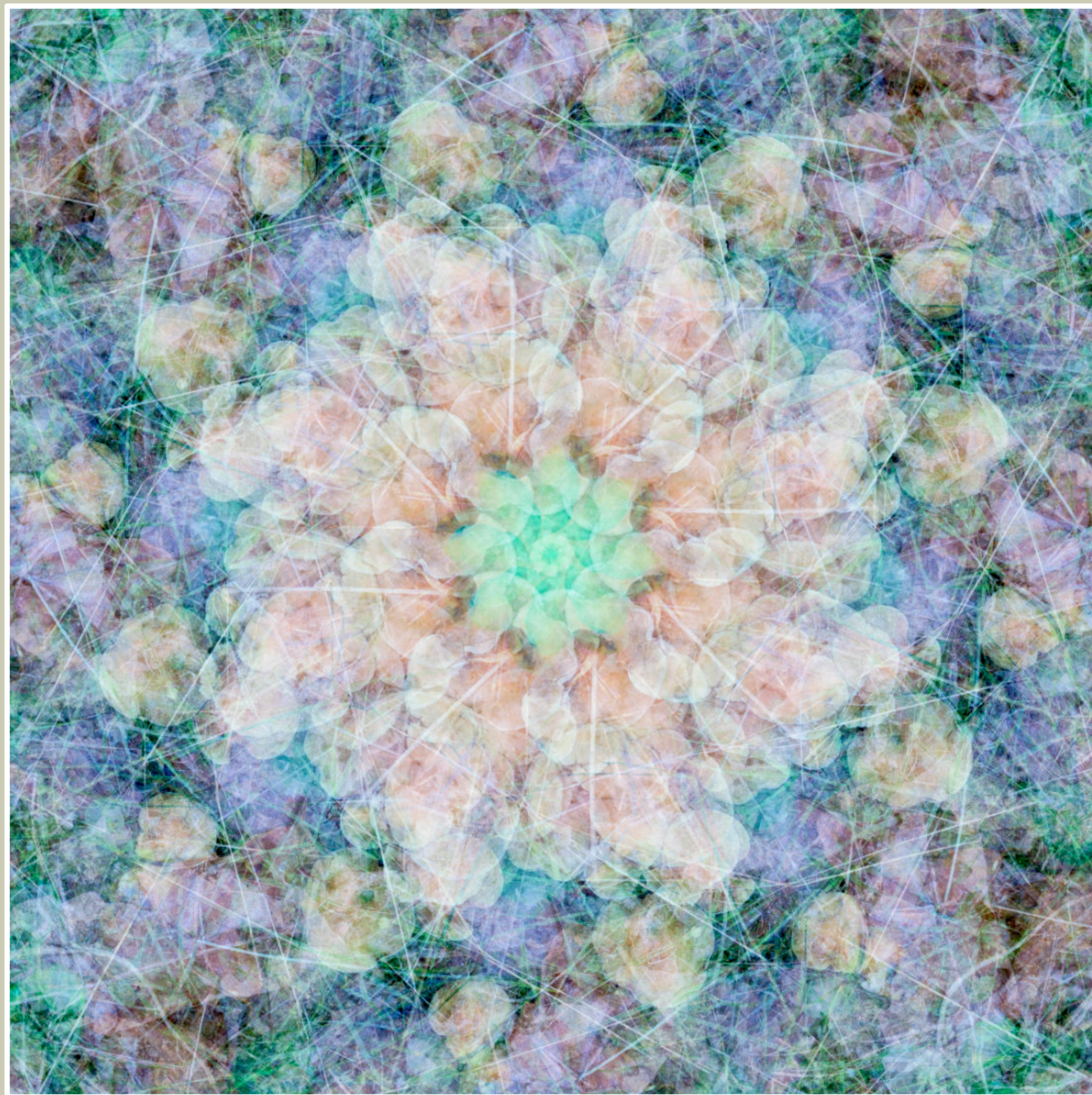
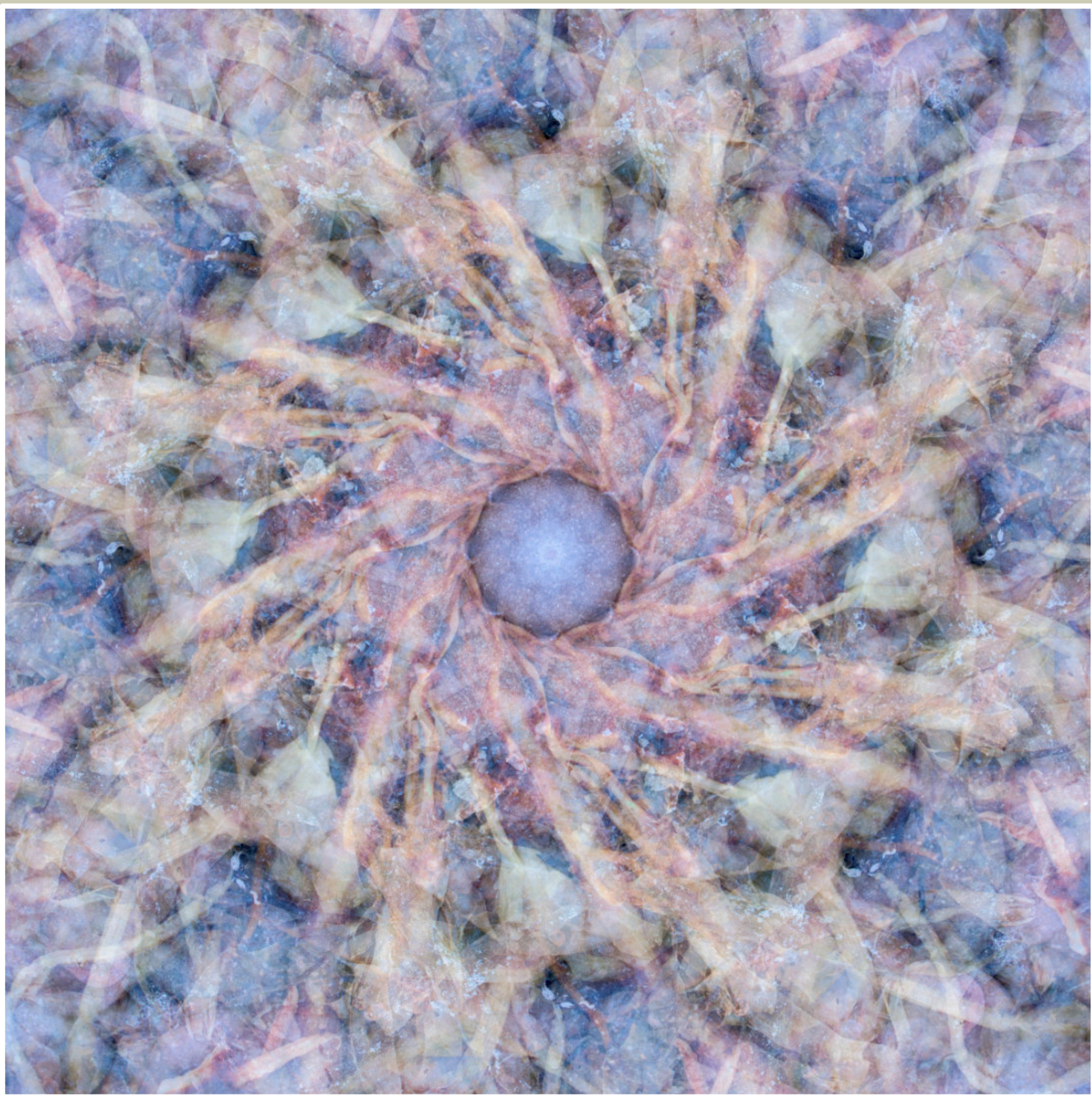




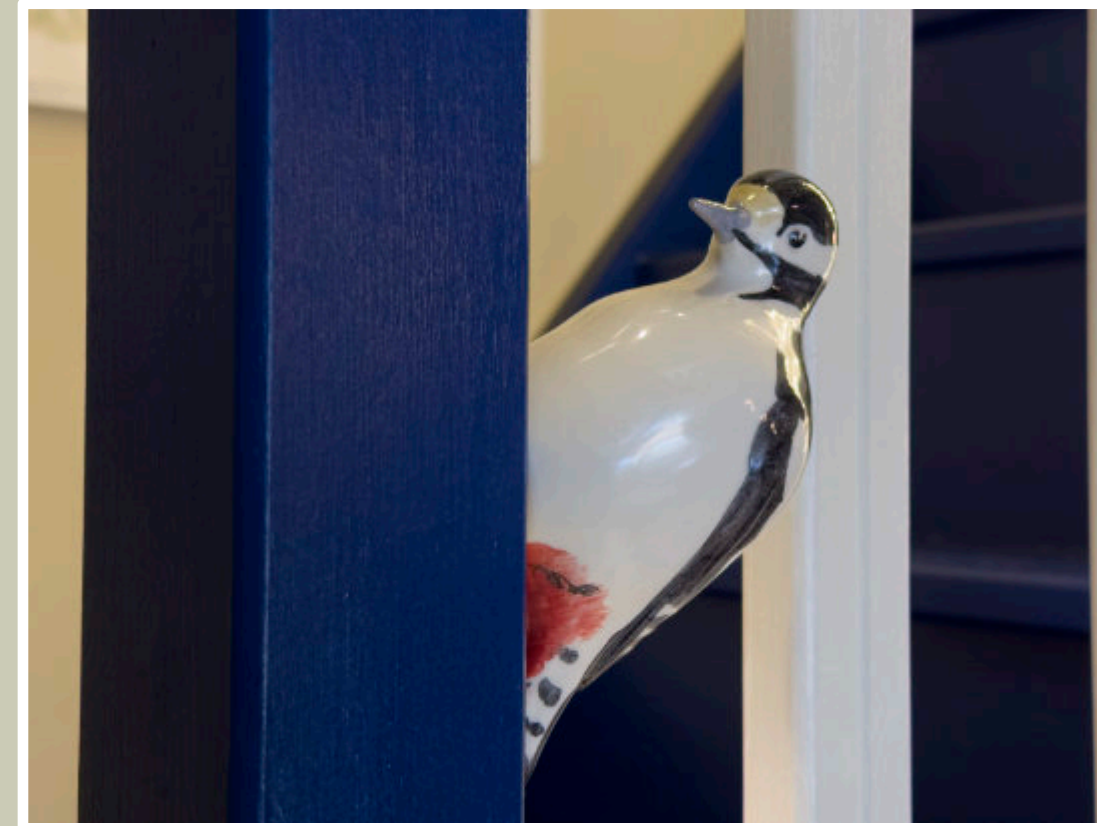












Chez-nous - Les Saumais





E-mail us at info@niallbenvie.eu to arrange a Zoom meeting so we can discuss what we can do for you.

Charlotte and Niall Benvie
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