

Day One – Tuesday, May 12, 2015

Our first full day started with a rehearsal, of course. Scheduled for two hours starting at 10:00 a.m., everyone showed up on time and we were finished by 11:30. It was unclear whether this was because the quality of singing was so high or that the men's choreography in Babethandaza badly needed attention. Anyway, the ladies were sent away and the men were given personalized dance lessons by the soloists!

We were given the afternoon off to study our music and everyone went off to either catch up on sleep or do some sightseeing.

The concert in the evening was at l'Église Saint-Barthélémy located in the centre of Cahors. The church dates from the 13th century and was built and rebuilt over the years. Note the combination of brick and stone in the photo at the bottom of the page as we wait for the concert to start (the traditional ten minutes late.



The concert itself went very well with a standing ovation by the small but very enthusiastic audience. The acoustics were as promised – wonderfully clear with very long reverberations. The format of the concerts is identical to the one performed at WVUC in April with the choir doing three sets and the soloists performing two. A very satisfying start.