

2020



AVIGNON, YOUR DESTINATION VIBRANT, INNOVATIVE, MAGICAL

INDIVIDUALS - GROUPS - MICE

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TOP
FRENCH CITIES *The best way to experience France*

Edition réalisée par Avignon Tourisme en septembre 2019 en 2150 exemplaires.

Maquette et mise en page :

Agence Saluces - Avignon

Impression : Rimbaud-

Crédits photos - tous droits réservés :

Empreintes d'Ailleurs / E. Larrue / Coll. Blachère /
F. Olliver / E. Catoliquot / P. Bar / G. Quittard / Aurelio
Rodriguez / VPA - V. Gillet et A. Hocquel/ © D.R.



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UNESCO SITES

DISCOVER

the unmissable

UNESCO world heritage site



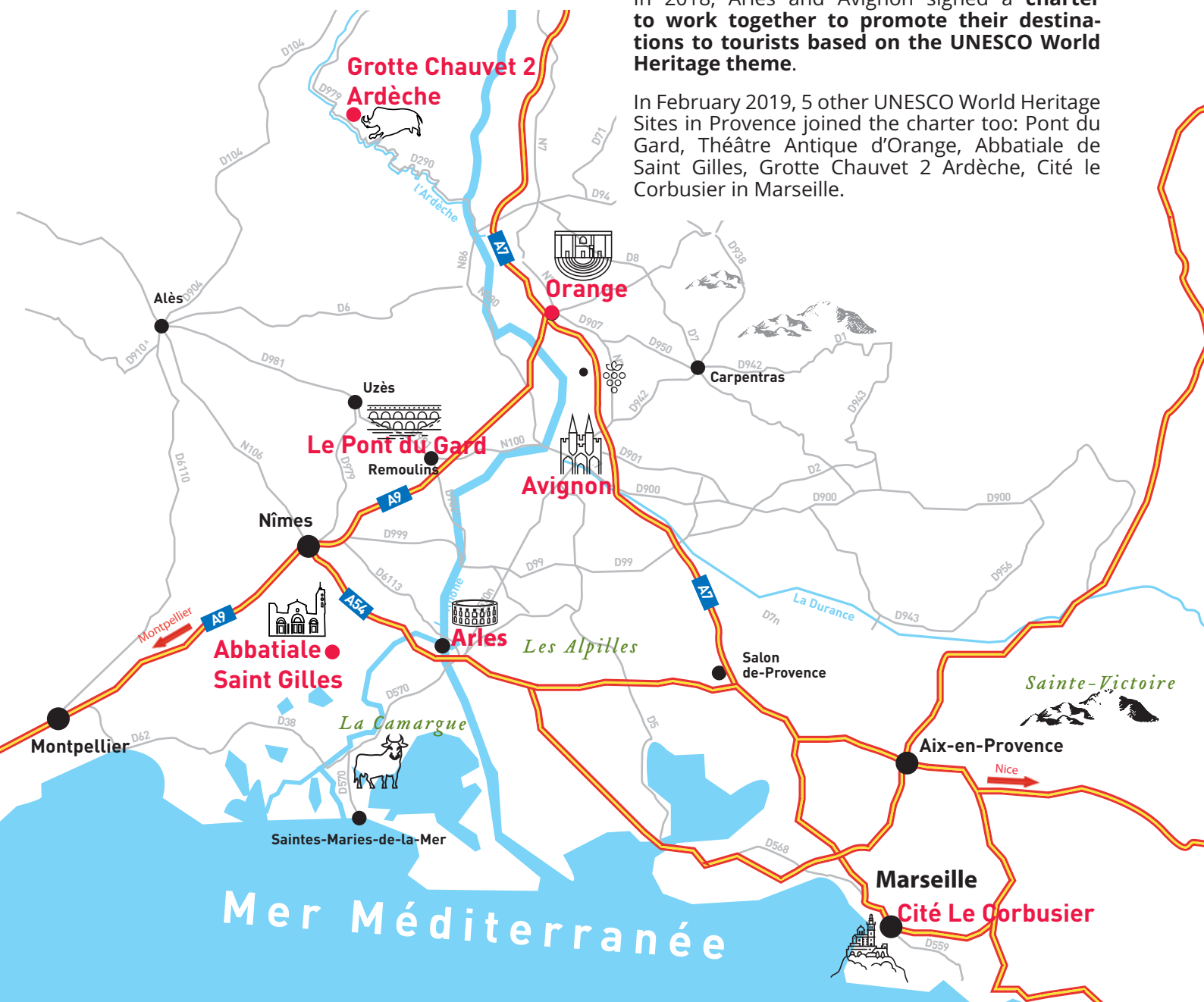
An old town at heart!

Avignon has been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site since 1995 for its Historic Centre home to the Palais des Papes, Episcopal Ensemble with Avignon Cathedral, Petit Palais Museum, Pont d'Avignon and its ramparts, forming a mammoth and unique collection.

UNESCO Charter

In 2018, Arles and Avignon signed a **charter to work together to promote their destinations to tourists based on the UNESCO World Heritage theme.**

In February 2019, 5 other UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Provence joined the charter too: Pont du Gard, Théâtre Antique d'Orange, Abbatiale de Saint Gilles, Grotte Chauvet 2 Ardèche, Cité Le Corbusier in Marseille.



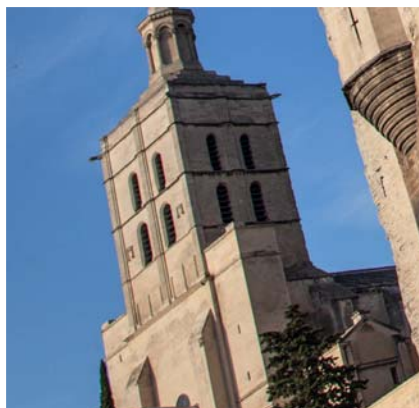
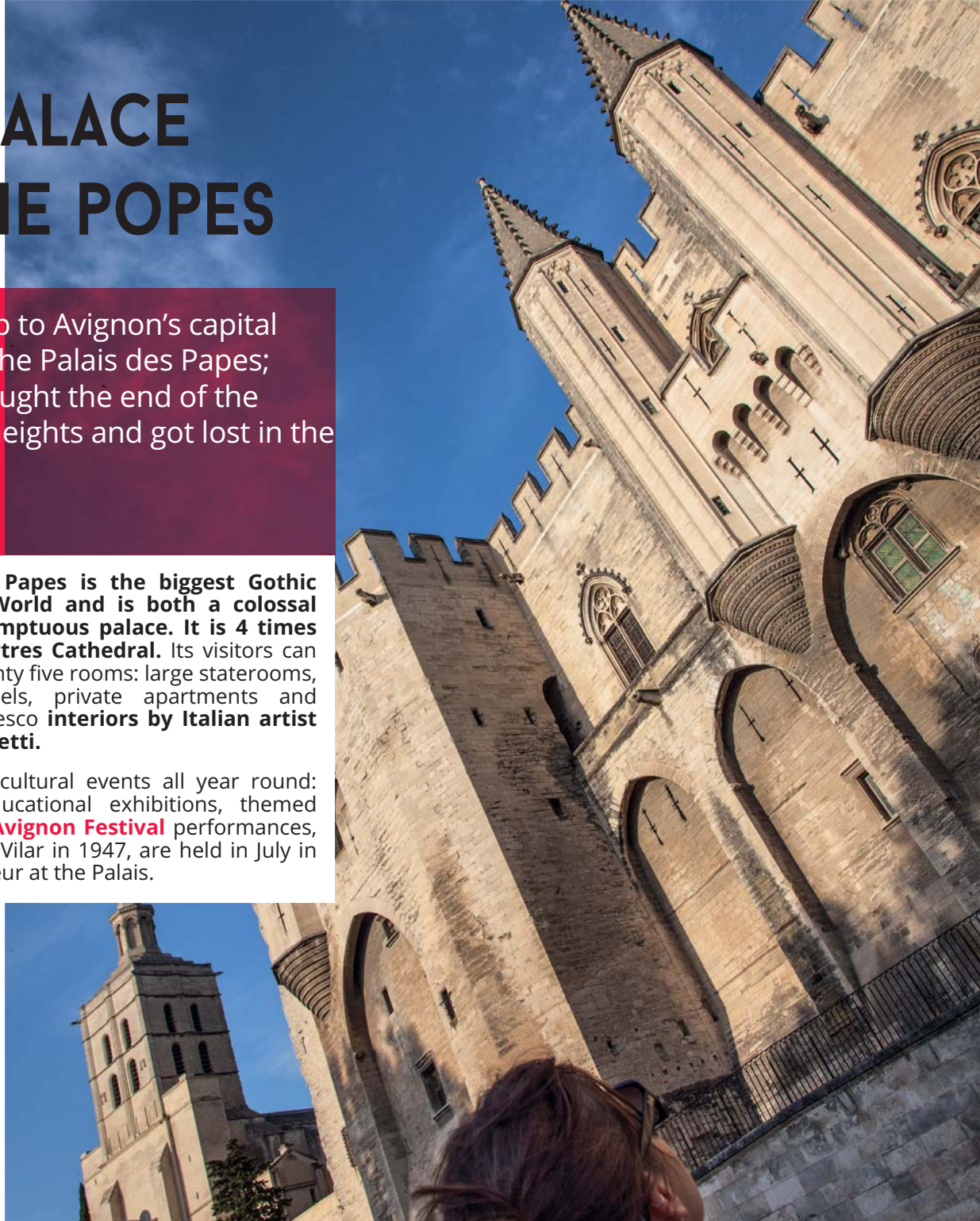
THE PALACE OF THE POPES

They went up to Avignon's capital « A » that is the Palais des Papes; their eyes sought the end of the formidable heights and got lost in the sky... »

Elsa Triolet

The Palais des Papes is the biggest Gothic palace of the World and is both a colossal fortress and sumptuous palace. It is 4 times the size of Chartres Cathedral. Its visitors can explore over twenty five rooms: large staterooms, treasuries, chapels, private apartments and their fabulous fresco interiors by Italian artist Matteo Giovannetti.

It hosts regular cultural events all year round: themed and educational exhibitions, themed tours, concerts. **Avignon Festival** performances, founded by Jean Vilar in 1947, are held in July in the Cour d'Honneur at the Palais.



HISTOPAD

Visitors can now get involved in the action with the interactive **Histopad tablet** that brings them spectacular historical reconstructions designed by a science committee. The Histopad provides a fun-filled interactive treasure hunt for children. The Histopad is available in 7 languages and **included in the entry fee.**



SHOW « VIBRATIONS » Monumental 360° show (mid-August-until early October)

A unique technical performance

Unlike most mapping performances that tend to be screened on a single wall, the monumental Vibrations images are simultaneously projected onto the Cour d'Honneur's 4 walls at the Palais des Papes. A technical feat that makes this monumental show **a unique experience**, totally immersive and means you can watch the show again and again without ever feeling like you've seen it all before.

www.avignon-vibrations.com

To book your self-guided or guided tour: groupreservation@avignon-tourisme.com

THE BRIDGE OF AVIGNON

Sur le Pont d'Avignon, l'on y danse...

« Wherever I go in the world, when I say I'm from Avignon whoever I speak to starts singing the Pont d'Avignon song. I always wondered why. You don't sing the Marseillaise to people from Marseille or a hymn to people from Lourdes... »

quote from an Avignon local

Building work on the famous bridge began in the 12th century. It was damaged and rebuilt several times because of the Rhône's rises in water level.

Reconstruction work ended in the 17th century: the bridge only has 4 of its original 22 arches which gives it its own unique personality...

A walk on the bridge provides incredible views of Villeneuve lez Avignon, the Palais des Papes, ramparts and Petit Palais.



TOUCHSCREEN TABLET

Three points of view in augmented reality, at two different times (1350 and 1650), audio contents, pictures, the film of the crossing as if you were there in 1550, and the testimonies of the archaeologists and historians who attended the researches about the history of the famous bridge.

Tablet 2 € (FR / GB)

AUDIO GUIDES AND FILMS

Visual and audio illustrations available in the **free audio-guide in 11 languages** bring to life the history of the bridge and the legend of Saint-Bénézet.

Audio-guides with buttons for the visually-impaired, audio-guides for children in French and English.



THE MUSEUMS

EXPLORE!

Fancy some Italian paintings, fine arts, sculptures, decorative arts and contemporary art? Avignon's museums are the place to be!



Avignon Municipal museums under the label *Avignon-musées* (n°s 1 to 9) are free for all (except exhibitions).

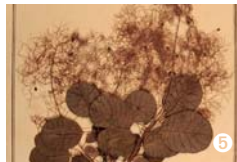


ENJOY
THE DESTINATION
AT LOW COST

thanks to a prepaid card giving access to the main sites of Avignon and Villeneuve lez Avignon

24h/48h

AVIGNON
city pass



① **Petit Palais Museum** *free entry*: built in the 14th century, the Palais des Archevêques is now a museum devoted to tribal and Renaissance art with works of Boticelli - Carpaccio - Martini. *Our must-see*: Boticelli's Venus and Three Putti, a permanent fixture at the Louvre.

② **Calvet Museum** *free entry*: housed in a stunning 18th century mansion, the Calvet Museum is packed with a fine arts collection featuring pieces by Camille Claudel, Bonnard and Sisley. *Be moved* by the heart-wrenching *The Death of Young Bara* depicting the death of a young drummer in the Republican army (school of David - 18th century)

③ **Lapidaire Museum** *free entry*: housed in the Jesuit College's former chapel, the Calvet Museum's antiquities gallery presents Greek, Roman, Gallo-Roman (mainly discovered in the region) and early Christian collection. *We have a special fondness* for *La Tarasque de Noves* portraying a mystical beast from Provençal folklore that sees us in legend.

④ **Palais du Roure** *free entry*: 15th century mansion now home to a museum showcasing Provençal history and local culture. We love its cosy atmosphere!

⑤ **Natural History Museum** *free entry*: the museum's collection is one of the biggest in the Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur region making it the 5th top natural history museum outside the capital. *We're blown away* by Esprit Requien's herb garden home to around 300,000 plants

⑥ **Jean Vilar House** : Resource centre, exhibits, publications on the work of Jean Vilar (1912-1971) and the history of the Avignon Festival since its creation in 1947. Archives (posters, manuscripts, costumes, models...) For any entertainment and festival enthusiast!

⑦ **Angladon Museum**: stunning 18th century building laid out like a house presenting one of the pioneer's of haute couture's art collection: Jacques Doucet. 18th, 19th and 20th century masterpieces: Van Gogh, Cézanne, Degas. *We're enthralled* by the variety of pieces on display!

⑧ **Vouland Museum**: fantastic collection of decorative arts from the 17th and 18th century in a lovely mansion with garden views. Take time out to unwind in the garden after exploring the collections!

⑨ **Lambert Collection**: contemporary art museum. Permanent exhibition of collections from the art trader and collector Yvon Lambert (Sol LeWitt, Douglas Gordon, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Anselm Kiefer, Niele Toroni, Andres Serrano) and temporary exhibitions of contemporary art.

Highlight: have lunch in the magical Violette restaurant in the heart of the museum!



To book your self-guided or guided tour: groupreservation@avignon-tourisme.com

THE WEALTH OF HERITAGE



BE AMAZED

by the wealth of heritage!

A stroll on the streets of Avignon is like a trip around an outdoor museum.

Look up: you'll see mascarons, gargoyles and statues.

The sculpted doors and walls of the mansions will take your breath away.

Chance upon a square or shaded spot and step into a church or cloister... soak up the peaceful and refreshing atmosphere.

Avignon Cathedral ❶

This Roman cathedral topped by a golden statue of the Virgin Mary adjoins the Palais des Papes.

HIGHLIGHT: Visit Avignon Cathedral's grounds and enjoy the unique views of the surrounding countryside.

Saint Pierre Basilica ❷

The flamboyant Gothic-style Saint Pierre Basilica is bursting with treasure on a shaded square.

HIGHLIGHT: Go and see it at night, it's magical!

The synagogue ❸

One of few synagogues in the world to be round.

Saint Véran cemetery ❹

Alongside the Père-Lachaise in Paris, it's one of the oldest cemeteries in France and a real open-air museum showcasing sculpture and funereal art.

The opera ❺

Beautiful 19th century front with two statues depicting Corneille and Molière.



To book your self-guided or guided tour: groupreservation@avignon-tourisme.com

WINE

LEARN

everything there is to know about wine.

The Côtes-du-Rhône vineyard is the second French vineyard to be approved with the AOC (protected designation of origin). Did you know that Avignon is its capital? A tasting isn't about guessing a designation or vintage, it's about analysing the different sensations: sight, smell, taste.

During a fun-filled introduction you'll learn to taste wine and spot its subtleties.



Carré du Palais **Opposite the Palais des Papes**

Here you'll find the Wine School that hosts a variety of workshops and tastings all year round. The Inter Rhône course is designed in partnership with the Université du Vin de Suze-la-Rousse for novices and connoisseurs alike.

Schedule and bookings on www.carredupalais.fr/content/9-ecole-des-vins

Carré du Palais is also a restaurant and tasting venue with over 800 products, open daily 8am-12am.

Foodies, you've been warned!
www.carredupalais.fr



To book your self-guided or guided tour: groupreservation@avignon-tourisme.com

PROVENCAL CUISINE

Go on a culinary voyage in the Halles Awaken your inner chef!

After working in countless restaurants in America and Europe, it's here in this lively and colourful setting that the young chef from California, Jonathan Chiri, decided to settle down and take over the Cuisine Centr'Halles. He provides cookery classes and demonstrations (a carefree and fun alternative to cookery classes) as well as his daily restaurant service in the heart of the old market. Atmosphere, good times and belly laughs are on the menu.

contact@jonathanchiri.com
www.jonathanchiri.com

Experience our Michelin-starred chefs' creativity

Florent Pietravalle: The star at La Mirande

This is a young chef who has recently earned a Michelin star, works with local suppliers where possible, has a menu that changes every 2 to 3 weeks and an entirely vegan offering that have taken this institution into a new era. Lunch at La Mirande is now a very affordable luxury, just what the chef wanted with a 45 € set menu (lunchtime only on Monday, Thursday and Friday). So what are you waiting for?!

mirande@la-mirande.fr
www.la-mirande.fr

Guilhem Sevin who has taken over Christian Etienne's famous Provencal kingdom at the foot of the Palais des Papes.

Guilhem Sevin is always looking for fresh ideas. He seeks out flavours that work together, good honest produce, human relationships, producers and winemakers to bring his palette to life with flavour and enable him to write the next chapter in his tales of good food.

contact@christian-etienne.fr
www.christian-etienne.fr

ENJOY Provencal cuisine

Young chefs such as Guilhem Sevin, who has taken over the famous Christian Etienne, Florent Pietravalle (La Mirande) Julien Gleize (l'Agape), Mathieu Desmaret (Pollen) and many more put their own spin on it and continue to be inspired by local produce to electrify our senses. Visitors to Avignon will find a wide array of (very) good restaurants that turn the world over green with envy.



Avignon is part of the **Vallée de la Gastronomie**. The Vallée de la Gastronomie runs from Dijon to Marseille, from Burgundy to Provence via the Saône and Rhône Valleys, and aims to establish a **major foodie destination on an international scale, the ultimate place for French gastronomy**. With its fantastic local produce, classic recipes and its generosity in terms of passion and high standards, the destination provides foodie experiences in a top quality heritage setting.

A culinary adventure that runs from Dijon to Marseille.



To book your self-guided or guided tour: groupreservation@avignon-tourisme.com

NIGHT OUTINGS

BE BEWITCHED
by a city that never stops

In the Teinturiers area, one of Avignon's prettiest neighbourhoods, the **Fabricateurs collective** brings together twenty-odd artistic, creative and craft sites. Creativity blossoms here in all its forms: design, textile, homeware, fashion accessories, urban stationery, furniture and contemporary art.

Atmosphere and energy guaranteed!

There are countless restaurants, bars and trendy boutiques to unearth in the Saint Didier area and Place des Corps Saints.

The Grand Café Barretta an innovative social project.

The bustling Grand Café Barretta, founded on the site of the first café of the same name, covers 500m² and is open 7 days a week in an art deco setting inspired by the Bouillon Chartier in Paris. Legend has it that Napoleon left a hefty tab of 60 Francs unpaid here. It serves hearty dishes at low prices. Here you'll find a café that gives onto a 120-seater terrace under the hackberry tree, a cosy lounge with woodwork and bookcases, a large dining room seating 150 and bathed in light that turns into a theatre during the famous Avignon Festival.

grandcafebarretta@gmail.com



Have a zen experience at Le Nid, a place to unwind body and mind in the heart of the Papal City.

Le Nid provides yoga classes, massages, workshops (embroidery, weaving, macrame, upcycling etc.) and hosts yoga classes (on request) in iconic Avignon sites (Palais des Papes, museums, private gardens etc.) and in the great outdoors. The on-site Cantine serves wholeheartedly healthy food. A one-of-a-kind space in France!

inspireyogaavignon.fr

VOX POPULI compagnie

Vox Populi, a cabinet of curiosities, showroom and shop by the designer Pascale Palun, is a place packed with poetic pieces exuding subtle power through their designs and materials that tell a tale.

An incredible, amazing, exciting and surprising place... you won't be struggling for adjectives and adverbs to describe how you feel here. One thing's for sure, it's going to stay with you!

35 bis, rue Bonneterie.



To book your self-guided or guided tour: groupreservation@avignon-tourisme.com

DISCOVERY WALKS

GO GREEN on Ile de la Barthelasse

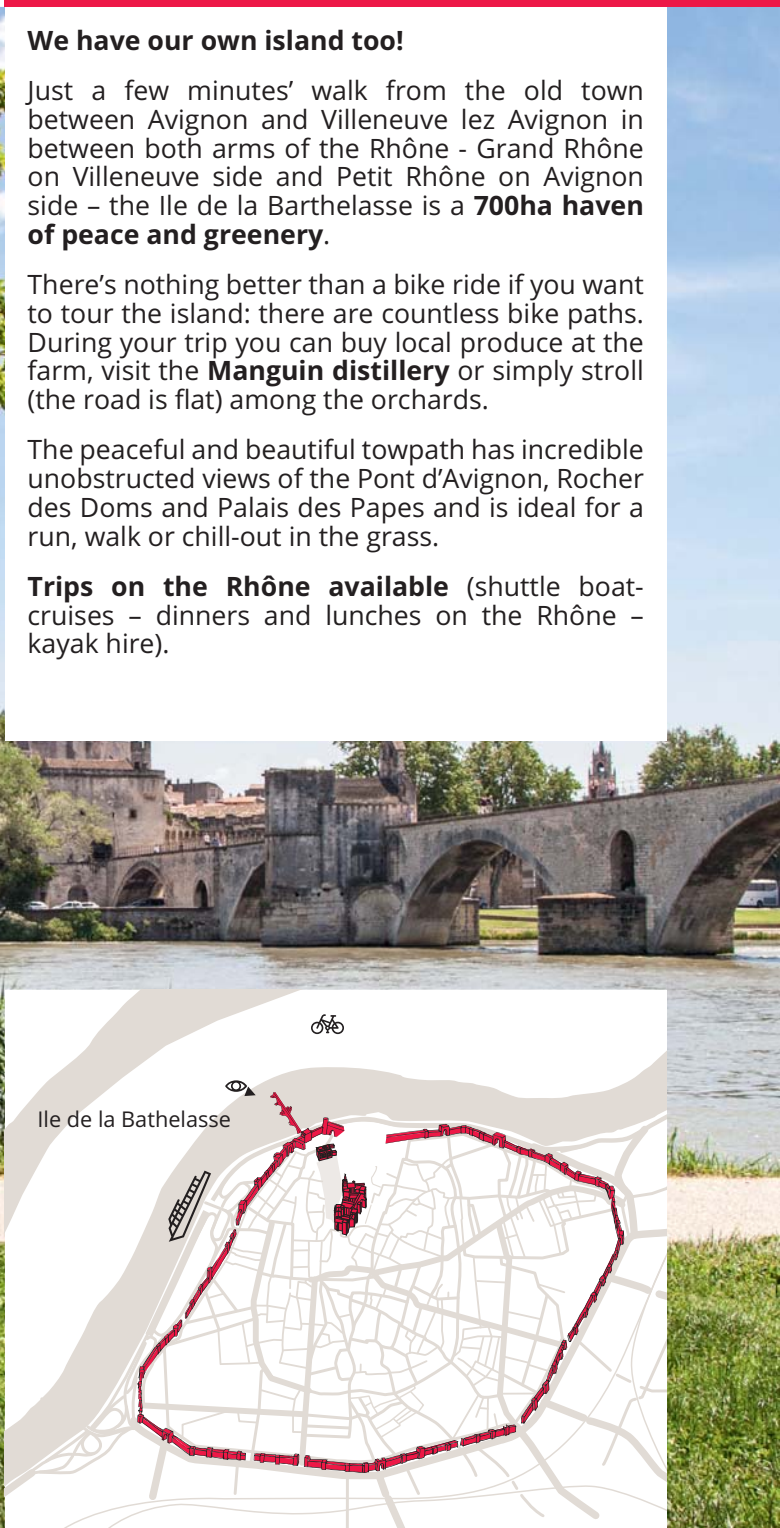
We have our own island too!

Just a few minutes' walk from the old town between Avignon and Villeneuve lez Avignon in between both arms of the Rhône - Grand Rhône on Villeneuve side and Petit Rhône on Avignon side - the Ile de la Barthelasse is a **700ha haven of peace and greenery**.

There's nothing better than a bike ride if you want to tour the island: there are countless bike paths. During your trip you can buy local produce at the farm, visit the **Manguin distillery** or simply stroll (the road is flat) among the orchards.

The peaceful and beautiful towpath has incredible unobstructed views of the Pont d'Avignon, Rocher des Doms and Palais des Papes and is ideal for a run, walk or chill-out in the grass.

Trips on the Rhône available (shuttle boat-cruises - dinners and lunches on the Rhône - kayak hire).



To book your self-guided or guided tour: groupreservation@avignon-tourisme.com

VISITS IN PROVENCE

REACH OUT from Avignon

Use Avignon as your base and in a short space of time you can visit a variety of sites such as Fontaine de Vaucluse, Mont Ventoux, Roussillon's ochre cliffs, the Luberon and its hilltop villages, the Camargue and its Rhône delta, Pont du Gard, Les Baux de Provence and the Alpilles...

FANCY A FOODIE WEEKEND?

DAY 1: Morning **cooking lesson** in the Halles with Chef Jonathan Chiri or oenology workshop at Carré du Palais.

Spend the afternoon visiting the Teinturiers and Saint Didier areas with workshop tours at the Fabricateurs. Take a break at the Café Barretta.

DAY 2: **Oenology course** at Carré du Palais and tour of Châteauneuf du Pape with tasting stops.

HIGHLIGHT: You can do this tour by bike with Avignon Tourisme guides.

FANCY A SHORT BREAK?

DAY 1: Spend the morning visiting the **Palais des Papes** and **Pont d'Avignon**, Place du Palais with the baroque Hôtel des Monnaies, Avignon Cathedral and the **Rocher des Doms**, a stunning park overlooking the Rhône with fabulous panoramic views of the river and region.

In the afternoon visit the **Petit Palais Museum** and famous **Pont du Gard**, a three-storey Roman aqueduct.

DAY 2: Street Art tour and shopping in the Fabricateurs area.

Treat yourself to a spot of pampering at Le **Nid!**

HIGHLIGHT: Cool off in the river with a dip in the Gardon in summer.

DO YOU HAVE 3 DAYS TO SPARE?

DAY 1: spend the day exploring Avignon.

DAY 2: Between Avignon and Arles, the Alpilles...

Your first stop: the Aroma and **Perfume Museum** in the village of Graveson. Delve into this magical place devoted to organic produce and nature deep in the countryside between the Alpilles and Montagnette. Recharge your batteries, spend time gazing at one of the greatest collections of stills in Europe, learn about aromatherapy and have a wonderful experience in the herb garden.

Your travels will then take you to **Maillane**, a quiet little village where the illustrious Provençal poet and founder of Félibrige, **Frédéric Mistral**, was born. Follow in the poet's footsteps! When it's aperitif time, order a glass of rosé or pastis on the village bar terrace. Continue to **Fontvieille** with a stop along the way at Saint Gabriel Chapel, one of the best examples of Provençal Roman art.

Your next step will lead you to the **oil mill at Mas Saint Jean** in the shade of the 11th century Saint Jean Chapel surrounded by over 5000 olive trees. The Sourdon family have been making oil for generations and use local olives in their family-owned 12th century Provençal farmhouse to extract extraordinary AOC oil. Anne and Magali, the daughters and granddaughters of millers, will share their passion and products with you.

DAY 3: Arles and the Camargue

Visit **Arles** in the morning on the **UNESCO** theme or «In the steps of Van Gogh» and continue to the Camargue Nature Reserve. The Camargue is **heaven for birds**: lots of them are settled here and the rest are passing through. This damp area is the perfect place to see great migrations, especially the crane's migration. You can see flamingoes, black-winged stilts, avocets, reed warblers, whooper swans and many more. Visit the Pont de Gau ornithological park, Vaccarès lake and **Saintes Maries de La Mer**, a hotspot for pilgrimage and Provençal traditions. The village between the sea and sky is home to a 9th century fortress-church and a museum exhibiting Camargue traditions.

HIGHLIGHT: You can have lunch in a peaceful setting here in summer in the shade of the age-old plane trees.





DO YOU HAVE 4 DAYS TO SPARE?

Add a day in the Luberon and its most stunning villages to your break.

The Luberon region nestled between the Alps and the Mediterranean brings you an array of landscapes. The village of **Lourmarin** and its 15th century château that was expanded in the Renaissance is your first stop. Hit the Gorges d'Aiguebrun road, cross the Luberon Mountain until you reach the village of **Bonnieux** whose ramparts have breathtaking views of the Calavon Valley.

After lunch in **Gordes**, explore this fabulous village which has welcomed countless artists such as the painter Vasarely and photographer Willy Ronis. Stop at **Sénanque Abbey**: The unassuming abbey was built in the 12th century. It is now listed as a Monument Historique. Take a guided tour to visit the cloister and abbey church.

Spend the day spotting «**bories**», drystone huts that shepherds used as basic shelters and are now integral to the Luberon's signature landscapes.

The village of **Roussillon** stands on top of a hill whose land was farmed for its ochre. These former quarries have sculpted a fantastic landscape with eye-catching colours and there are countless footpaths here.

HIGHLIGHT: in summer, the lavender fields growing all around create a stunning contrast with the abbey's Cistercian style.





**WHAT IF YOU STAYED LONGER THAN 4 DAYS?
ARE YOU HERE IN JUNE AND JULY?
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT LAVENDER?**

The lavender blossom season is fairly short: the best time to gaze at the endless blue fields is the **last week in June and the first two in July** around Valensole, Sault and the Luberon region.

After July 15th, it's time to cut them!

The fields are cut when the lavender is in bloom and the flowers are fresh. Once cut, the lavender is immediately sent to the distillery to get the best essential oil by steam distillation. **You can visit certain distilleries and buy their produce:** Les Agnells Distillery (Apt), Les Coulets Distillery (Apt), The Lavender Valley (Sault), Aroma'Plantes (Sault), Argens Blue Farm (La Mure-Argens), Cotta Farm (Puimoisson), Angelvin Farm (Valensole), Lavender Museum (Coustellet), Lavender Farm and Distillery (Lagarde d'Apt)...

Lavender has been renowned for its **healing and soothing properties** since Antiquity. It is a symbol of Provence and grown for its **essential oil** which is used in fragrance, cosmetics and aromatherapy. We make fine lavender and lavandin in Provence. Lavender fields have been part of our agriculture for centuries.

Seeing the fields in bloom is always a magical experience and you'll be amazed by the fragrance...



To book your self-guided or guided tour: groupreservation@avignon-tourisme.com

César during the famous card game on Marseille's old port:

« Tu me fends le cœur »

HAVE YOU READ THE MARCEL PAGNOL * TRILOGY AND ENJOYED HIS FILMS? WELL, THIS IS YOUR LUCKY DAY!

Let's start this excursion in Provence with a trip to the **oldest city in France: Marseille**. Founded in 600BC by the Greeks from Phoenicia, this city was called Massalia, the «Phoenician City». Marseille, the biggest trade port in France, lies between the sea and summits with **stunning scenery** such as pine forests, limestone rocks, garrigues and wild calanques surrounding the city. We'll guide you through Marseille to show you the **must-see sights** in the Provençal city: **Notre Dame de la Garde Basilica** built in the 19th century at 162m high overlooking the sea and watching over the city; **Marseille Cathedral**; the little fishing port of **Vallon des Auffes**... We'll lead you along the famous **La Canebière** high street to visit the **Old Port** and along **La Corniche** for breath-taking views of the **Iles de Fioul, Ile du Château d'If, Mediterranean Sea and Marseille Calanques**...

To continue this trail in Provence, we take the **panoramic road on La Gineste mountain** pass crossing the **Calanques Mountains in Marseille** to reach the village of **Cassis**. This little fishing port and marina in a **stunning setting** is packed with magical **colourful buildings** overlooking the bay. After free time for a meal, you can meander along the banks lined with shops, cafés and restaurants before treating yourself to a **sea cruise** to visit the **famous Cassis calanques** or a dip in this slice of paradise

*Marcel Pagnol: French author, dramatist, director and producer born on February 28th 1895 in Aubagne and died in Paris on April 18th 1974. His play Marius, first performed in March 1929, made him famous.



DO YOU LOVE THE LIGHT IN PROVENCE?

GRAB YOUR SKETCHBOOK AND EASEL AND HIT THE PAINTERS' ROAD.

**In the steps of Van Gogh:
Arles – Saint Rémy de Provence**

The light is what attracted Vincent Van Gogh to Provence where he spent over 2 years. Follow in his footsteps and explore the places where he set up his easel to paint over 300 pieces. Enjoy your trip in Vincent's light!

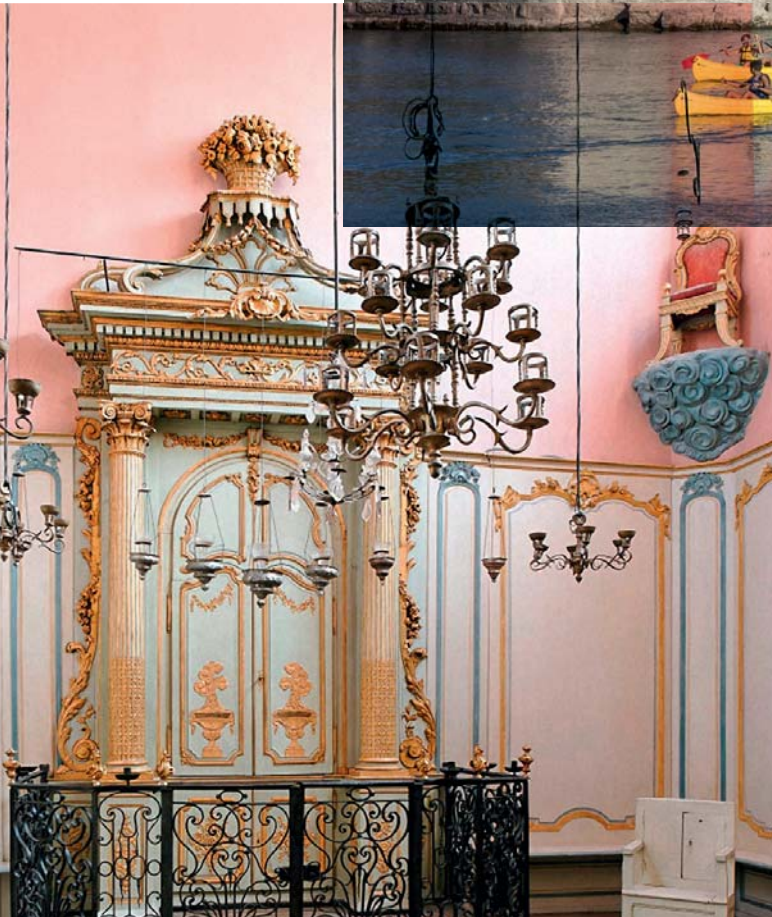
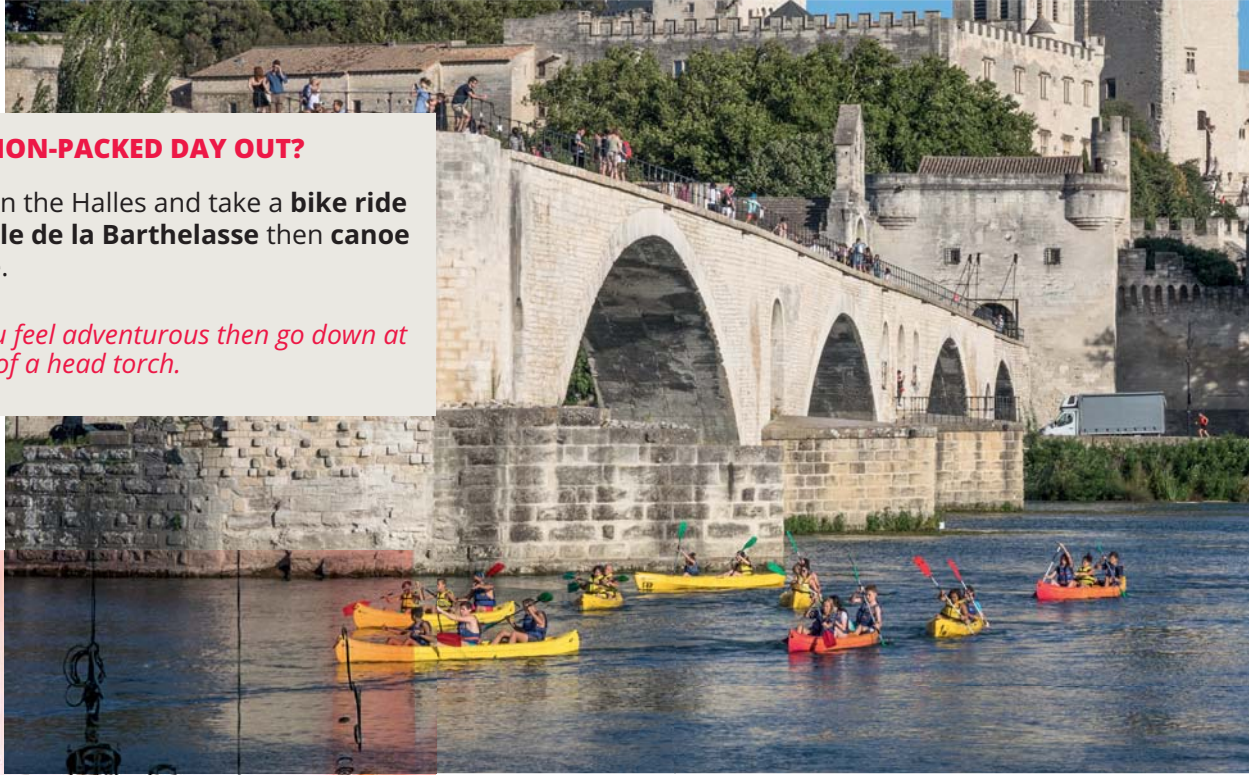
**Paul Cézanne landscapes around
Aix en Provence**

Explore the **landscapes that Cézanne loved** to paint around Aix-en-Provence, the **Bibémus quarries**, the pine trees in **Château Noir forest** and of course the great **Sainte Victoire Mountain**.

FANCY AN ACTION-PACKED DAY OUT?

Buy your picnic in the Halles and take a **bike ride to explore the Ile de la Barthelasse** then **canoe** down the Rhône.

HIGHLIGHT: If you feel adventurous then go down at night in the light of a head torch.



DO YOU WANT TO PAY YOUR RESPECTS? Remembrance tourism doesn't just exist in Normandy.

The county of Provence, Avignon and the Comtat Venaissin, the last two belonging to the Pope, were shelters for Jewish communities living in the South of France until 1501 in Provence and the French Revolution for the papal states. This legacy may not be as well-known as the rest of Provence's heritage but it's just as fascinating. Your tour guide will introduce you to the history of Jewish communities in Provence whether it be Jews in the County of Provence or «the Pope's Jews.»

Jewish heritage break in Provence: Avignon – Cavillon – Carpentras – Pernes les Fontaines – Isle sur la Sorgue – Camp des Milles in Aix en Provence.

FANCY BARGAIN-HUNTING?

L'Isle sur la Sorgue is one of the region's most beautiful villages near Avignon. On Sunday have a walk around the **antique markets**: you'll find textiles, glassware, pottery, earthenware and more. There's also a food market with **local specialities**, cheese, bread, nougat, calissons and seasonal fruit such as cherries grown in the Luberon. You're just a stone's throw from **Gordes**, in the nearby **Luberon**, and **Fontaine de Vaucluse**, where you can continue your adventure.

FANCY TRADITIONS?

We bring you a genuine and extraordinary experience.

After visiting the Palais du Roure in Avignon, head for Sorgues where Marine and Charles-Hubert de Brantes will greet you with open arms in their family château listed as a Monument Historique. The Tuscan-inspired garden is listed as a «Jardin Remarquable».

HIGHLIGHT: its owners can put on your brunches, meals, cocktail parties and concert-tours here.

FESTIVITIES

GET A SURPRISE ALL YEAR LONG

Some big events in 2020

JANUARY

Cheval Passion



The winter horse festival. The 35th Cheval Passion festival sees horses and riders flock to Avignon for an event that's all about horses and having fun. On the agenda: 1200 horses, 250 exhibitors, competitions, 90 hours of entertainment, activities and shows plus the Gala des Crinières d'Or, one of the best horse shows in Europe

JANUARY + FEBRUARY : Ernest Pignon-Ernest Exhibition: the forefather of street art fills the Grand Chapel at the Palais des Papes with almost 400 pieces.

FEBRUARY

Avignon Vélo Passion

Cycling trade fair open to the general public. Competitions, entertainment, exhibitions...

Les Hivernales d'Avignon

Contemporary dance festival, countless shows for all ages, courses for all abilities, installation, screenings etc.

L'Autre Festival - The festival that opens books

Round tables - signings - readings-writing workshops all over the city.

MARCH

LA MACA

Contemporary art exhibition

Ramparts Run

Sports event

APRIL

Avignon Spring Fair

Lifestyle, food & drink etc.

MAY

La nocturne des Papes - Urban trail run

1st weekend in May

Explore the city's landmarks whilst you run as they're open especially for YOU at night: Palais des Papes, Pont d'Avignon, Rocher des Doms... open their doors.

Spring Craft Festival

Designers and artisans exhibit and sell their creations in the city streets and squares.

European Night of Museums

Nationwide event whereby the city's museums open late night.

JUNE

Rendez-vous aux jardins - Garden Festival

Public and private park and garden tours and conferences.

Côtes-du-Rhône Summer Festival

Three evening events to sample wine from the local area and meet producers with music in the background in a lovely garden.

JULY

Festival d'Avignon the famous Theatre Festival

3 weeks in July

The Avignon Film Festival has always hosted the cream of the entertainment crop in terms of contemporary creation from home and abroad. The biggest actors and directors have attended. Olivier Py has been the first director to manage the festival since its founder in 2014. He has stayed true to the militant spirit of the festival and brings audiences «another relationship with the world in which politics, thought and hope come together.»



OFF Festival

3 weeks in July

Over 1000 companies and over 1600 shows from all over the world in all forms of entertainment (theatre, musical theatre, dance, café-theatre, storytelling, circus, clowns, mime, poetry etc.).

Resonance Festival

Current music in amazing sites such as Pont Saint-Bénézet.

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER

Avignon Jazz Festival

Early August

VIBRATIONS

Mid-August until early October

A unique experience – a monumental show: the monumental Vibrations images are simultaneously projected by 14 projectors onto the four walls of the Cour d'Honneur at the Palais des Papes.



Ban des Vendanges - Harvest Festival

Launch of the Côtes du Rhône grape harvest (late August).

SEPTEMBER

Carmes Medieval Festival

As part of the medieval setting in the Carmes area: medieval camp (fights-games-music-dance etc.), medieval market, gathering and medieval banquet.

Avignon 10km Run

Sports event

Chefs' Picnic

One day in September

Exciting foodie treats in a picnic hamper concocted by the «Avignon, tu me régales» association of 15 chefs who wanted to host a popular gourmet festival. This picnic party is hosted on the banks of the Rhône on Ile de la Barthelasse.

OCTOBER

Italian Week

One week celebrating Italian culture in a buzzing atmosphere: shows, exhibitions, food market and more...

The Art Trail

Thirty-odd artists (painters, photographers etc.) spend 3 weeks showcasing their work throughout the city.

Côtes du Rhône Marathon

One Sunday in October

NOVEMBER

Millevin

Vibrant event in the Côtes du Rhône and Avignon to announce the vintage: brotherhood parade, wine tasting workshops etc...

DECEMBER – EARLY JANUARY

Christmas Festivities

santon makers, street parades and shows, Christmas Maze, creative workshops, food and craft markets, Children's Village... Nativities in churches a few days before Christmas, nativity and seasonal traditions at the Palais du Roure, a prime Provençal cultural location.



Full schedule on
www.avignon-tourisme.com



JOURNEY TIMES

- Avignon > Arles : **35 min**
- > Uzès : **35 min**
- > Aix-en-Provence : **1h**
- > Marseille : **1h**
- > Montpellier : **1h**
- > Nice : **2h30**
- > Lyon : **2h30**



40 minutes from Avignon

Mer Méditerranée

BUSINESS TOURISM

CHOOSE AVIGNON

5 GOOD REASONS TO CHOOSE
AVIGNON TO HOST YOUR BESPOKE
EVENTS

Avignon, the strategic hub for your corporate events

A LARGE CAPACITY EXHIBITION CENTRE

2 mins from the Avignon Sud motorway exit: 7 ground floor halls: 15,000m², a total outdoor surface of 50,000m², free car park and 920-seater conference room to host major events: trade and public fairs, conferences, competitions etc.

www.avignon-congres.com

A RANGE OF HOTELS TO SUIT YOUR EVENT PLANNING

4200 rooms including 1700 within walking distance of the Palais des Papes

There are countless hotels in Avignon with function rooms to host your business meetings and seminars.

officetourisme@avignon-tourisme.com

ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES

The Avignon Tourisme Incoming Department provides sports, leisure and cultural activities for the «pleasure» side of your business conferences, meetings and seminars. Tailor-made quotes on request.

groupreservation@avignon-tourisme.com

ADAPTED TRAIN AND AIR TRAVEL CONNECTIONS

(see How to Get to Avignon)

AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE IN THE HEART OF THE PALAIS DES PAPES

A single contact to support you throughout the organisation of your conferences, conventions, seminars and meetings in a unique UNESCO World Heritage site.

The conference centre provides a setting with 16 characterful rooms (20-536 people for meetings, 700 people for receptions and 1800m² of exhibition space).



To book your self-guided or guided tour: groupreservation@avignon-tourisme.com



COMING TO AVIGNON

AVIGNON TGV STATION

Examples of daily train services to Avignon:

Paris Gare de Lyon (2 hrs 38 mins)
17 TGV trains per day
Roissy CDG Airport (3 hrs)
11 TGV per day

Lille (4 hrs 30 mins)
Lyon Saint Exupéry (1 hr 30 mins)
Lyon Part Dieu (1 hr 10 mins)
Marseille (30 mins)

Eurostar London-St Pancras
throughout the year (7 hrs)

Madrid (8 hrs)
Barcelona (4 hrs 30 mins)
Brussels (5 hrs 30 mins)
Geneva (4 hrs)

Rail shuttle "La Virgule"
running between the TGV station and Avignon
central station (6 mins)
70 trips from 6 a.m. to 10.30 p.m.

Taxis
+ 33 (0)4 90 82 20 20

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS

AVIGNON CAUMONT
10 mins from the town centre
Private business flights
Direct flights from the UK
www.flybe.com: Southampton and Birmingham
every Saturday from May to September
London City Airport: July - August

More details on www.avignon.aeroport.fr

MARSEILLE PROVENCE
45 mins from Avignon
(Terminal 1) Numerous national and international
destinations. Direct flights to Seoul, Montreal,
Toronto, Tel Aviv.
Marseille Provence (Terminal 2) – low-cost
terminal

MONTPELLIER
50 minutes from Avignon
Direct flights in France: Lyon, Nantes, Paris Orly,
Paris CDG Roissy
Direct flights in Europe: Amsterdam, Brussels
South Charleroi, Frankfurt Hahn, London
Gatwick, Madrid.

AVIGNON AT YOUR SERVICE

A team here to help you!

GROUPS-MICE BOOKINGS

A single contact to organise your bespoke packages
and stays:

INCOMING GROUP DEPARTMENT

Avignon Tourisme
groupreservation@avignon-tourisme.com
+ 33 (0)4 90 27 50 50
Multilingual staff

BOOKINGS FOR INDIVIDUALS

Contact:
officetourisme@avignon-tourisme.com
+ 33(0)4 32 74 32 74

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PALACE OF THE POPES

Visiting times

Open everyday throughout the year
Ticket sales end 1 hour before closing.
from 01/09 to 01/11: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
from 02/11 to 28/02: 9.30 to 5.45 p.m.
from 01/03 to 31/03: 9 a.m. - 6.30 p.m.
from 01/04 to 30/06: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
from 01/07 to 31/07: 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
from 01/08 to 31/08: 9 a.m. - 8.30 p.m.

Admission (excepting exhibition)

Adults 12 €
Discounts / groups 10 €
Schools 6,50 €

BRIDGE OF AVIGNON

Visiting times

Open everyday throughout the year
Ticket sales end ½ hour before closing
from 01/09 to 01/11: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
from 02/11 to 28/02: 9.30 to 5.45 p.m.
from 01/03 to 31/03: 9 a.m. - 6.30 p.m.
from 01/04 to 30/06: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
from 01/07 to 31/07: 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
from 01/08 to 31/08: 9 a.m. - 8.30 p.m.

Admission (excepting exhibition)

Adults 5 €
Discounts / groups 4 €
Schools 3,50 €

PALACE OF THE POPES + BRIDGE OF AVIGNON

Prices

(excepting exhibition)

Adults 14,50 €
Discounts / groups 11,50 €
Schools 8 €

*Prices include VAT: 10% VAT on admission.
Groups rates for 20 people and over.
Free admission: Adult groups: 1 guide
School groups: 1 adult for every 10 pupils
Children under 8 / Coach drivers*

VIBRATIONS

Times

Mid-August until early October

Sessions: 9.15pm – 10.15pm

Prices

Adults 12 €
Discounts / groups 10 €

for groups: groupreservation@avignon-tourisme.com

AVIGNON GUIDE

PACKAGE PRICES

Prices include VAT 20%.

Admission to monuments not included.

PALACE OF THE POPES OR BRIDGE

Weekdays 120 €
Sundays 140 € - Public holidays 180 €

PALACE OF THE POPES + BRIDGE

Weekdays 160 €
Sundays 190 € - Public holidays 250 €

1/2 DAY (3 HOURS)

Weekdays 160 €
Sundays 190 € - Public holidays 250 €

FULL DAY (6 HOURS)

Weekdays 260 €
Sundays 350 € - Public holidays 380 €

PRICES FOR REGIONAL PACKAGES WITH GUIDE

Tours in French, German, English, Spanish, Italian, Japanese, Dutch, Portuguese, Russian and Ukrainian

Prices include VAT (VAT 20%)

Admission to monuments not included. Full days = guide's lunch to be paid by customers (contact us).

Quote on request.

1/2 DAY (4 HOURS)

week days 185 €
Sundays 230 € - Public Holidays 280 €

FULL DAY (8 HOURS)

week days 350 €
Sundays 400 € - Public Holidays 515 €

ADDITIONAL HOUR

week days 45 €
Sundays 55 € - Public Holidays 65 €

SALES TERMS & CONDITIONS FOR GUIDED VISITS (in 10 languages)

CANCELLATION CONDITIONS

Total amount will be billed for confirmed services without cancellation 48 hours before visit, degressive partial billing up to 8 days before the visit.

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS PER GUIDE

Adult groups: 40 people
School groups: 30 pupils
In the region (by coach): 50 people per guide, including group leaders.

*Prices given in this document are for information purposes only.
They do not have contractual value.*

OPENING TIMES AND PRICES

*** External guides have the right to talk + tour slots for external guides**

Palais tour

Guides with a professional European guide card – an official document from the appropriate authority in an EU member state: 25 € inc. VAT
Special exemption: 60 € inc. VAT

Pont Tour

Guides with a professional European guide card – an official document from the appropriate authority in an EU member state: 25 € inc. VAT
Special exemption: 60 € inc. VAT

Palais + Pont Tour

Guides with a professional European guide card – an official document from the appropriate authority in an EU member state: 40 € inc. VAT
Special exemption: 80 € inc. VAT
The right to speak applies for groups of 9 people or more

Special exemptions (upon authorisation from Avignon Tourism Sales Department): special exemptions are only authorised as an exception and a request must be sent in writing to the Sales Department at Avignon Tourisme.

Tour slots for external guides and activity leaders at the PALAIS DES PAPES - Booking compulsory at the Incoming Department.

January 1st to March 19th – November 1st to December 31st: during opening times at the Palais des Papes.

March 20th-October 31st: 10.30 am to 1pm (1pm is the admission time to enter the Palais) – to 3pm when the monument closes.

Tour slots for external guides and participants at the Pont d'Avignon - Booking compulsory at the Incoming Department.

January 1st to December 31st: during opening times

