



## The mouth of the Rhône River

The formation of the Rhône River delta, century after century, has modeled the river mouth. Bad floods in 1711 formed the present Grand Rhone river bed. River boats and sea-going vessels go from the Rhône to the Mediterranean through the Saint-Louis canal locks. You can reach the mouth of the Rhône on foot from Napoléon Beach (Plage Napoléon) by going north-west (2h).

## The "Tour Saint-Louis" (tower)

This four-sided tower measures 15m high and 9.65m wide. It was built out of white limestone from quarries in Beaucaire and Fontvieille that arrived by boat. It has two levels and a roof-top terrace, fortified by a crenelated parapet. It was built in 1737 and contains the largest ornithological collection in the Camargue, with temporary exhibitions and a magnificent 360° view of the Rhône River mouth, the Saint-Louis canal, the town of Port-St-Louis and the salt marshes.



## The wooded river banks

Most of the vegetation in the Camargue is influenced by salt : the riversides with their alluvial embankments are the only spots where luxuriant vegetation can develop. These wooded river banks are composed of white poplars, ash and elm trees. Closer to the water grow indigo bushes, rushes, reeds and swamp irises. Many species of birds and mammals also live in this environment, where they find shelter.

## Emergency numbers

**SOS** European emergency number **112**

Marseilles treatment center for poisoning **04 91 75 25 25**

**15** **18** **17** **3250**

**!** **Caution! Consult the weather forecast before starting and avoid the mistral wind.**

## Along the way

### Bar and restaurant

- Bars and restaurants in Salin-de-Giraud
- Bars and restaurants in Port-Saint-Louis-du-Rhône (Culinary specialties include seafood and shellfish, particularly Carteau mussels. Inquire at the Tourist Information Center)

### Rent a bike

- Bois Sacré Service Station (Salin-de-Giraud) – 04.90.58.93.03
- The Capitainerie (port master's office) (Port-Saint-Louis-du-Rhône) – 04.42.86.39.11
- Port-Saint-Louis-du-Rhône Tourism Office (in summer only) – 04.42.86.01.21

### Don't miss

- Crossing the Grand Rhône on the Bac de Barcarin ferry
- The "Bois François" woods
- The Tour Saint-Louis (tower)
- The canal locks between the Rhone and the Mediterranean

## PORT-SAINT-LOUIS-DU-RHÔNE TOURISM OFFICE

Tour Saint-Louis – Quai Bonnardel  
 13230 Port-Saint-Louis-du-Rhône  
 Tel : 33 (0)4 42 86 01 21/Fax +33 (0)4 42 86 09 77  
 E-mail : [contact@portsaintlouis-tourisme.com](mailto:contact@portsaintlouis-tourisme.com)  
 Website : [www.portsaintlouis-tourisme.com](http://www.portsaintlouis-tourisme.com)

## ARLES TOURISM OFFICE

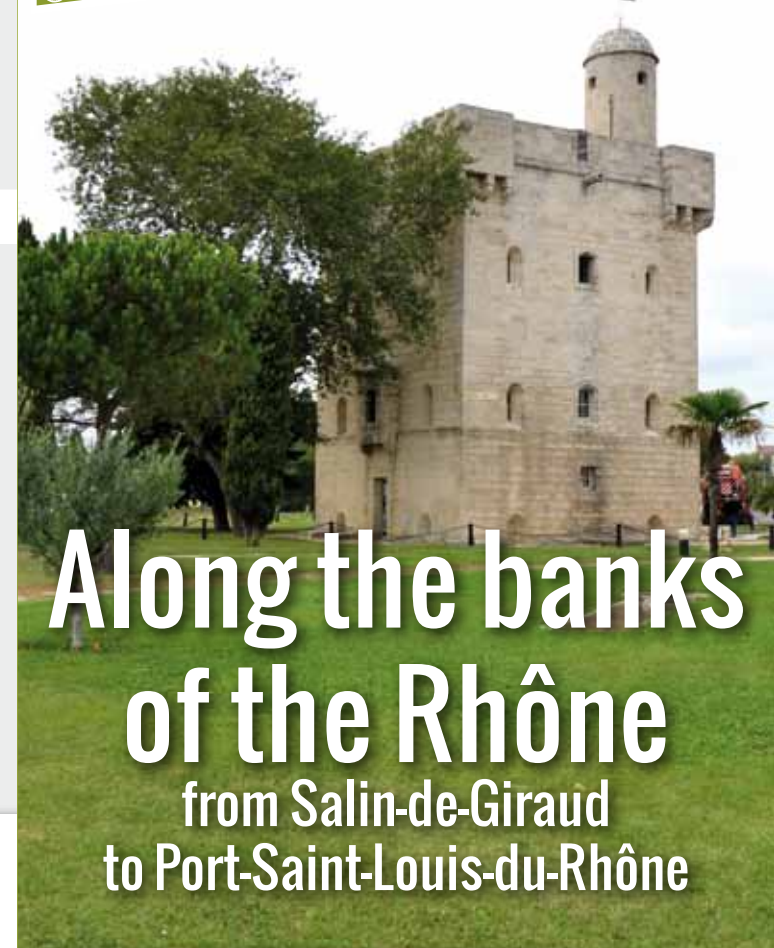
Downtown Arles Information Center : Bd. des Lices – 33 (0)4 90 18 41 20  
 Salin-de-Giraud Information Center : Rue Tournaire – 33 (0)4 42 86 89 77  
 Mailing address : BP 21,- 13633 Arles Cedex  
 E-mail : [ot-arles@visitprovence.com](mailto:ot-arles@visitprovence.com)  
 Website : [www.arlestourisme.com](http://www.arlestourisme.com)



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**11**

Trek  
Bike or foot



# Along the banks of the Rhône

## from Salin-de-Giraud to Port-Saint-Louis-du-Rhône

mountain bike ✓  
 trekking bike ✓  
 city bike ✓  
 1h30 to 3h

✓  
 3h to 4h

**Starting point :**

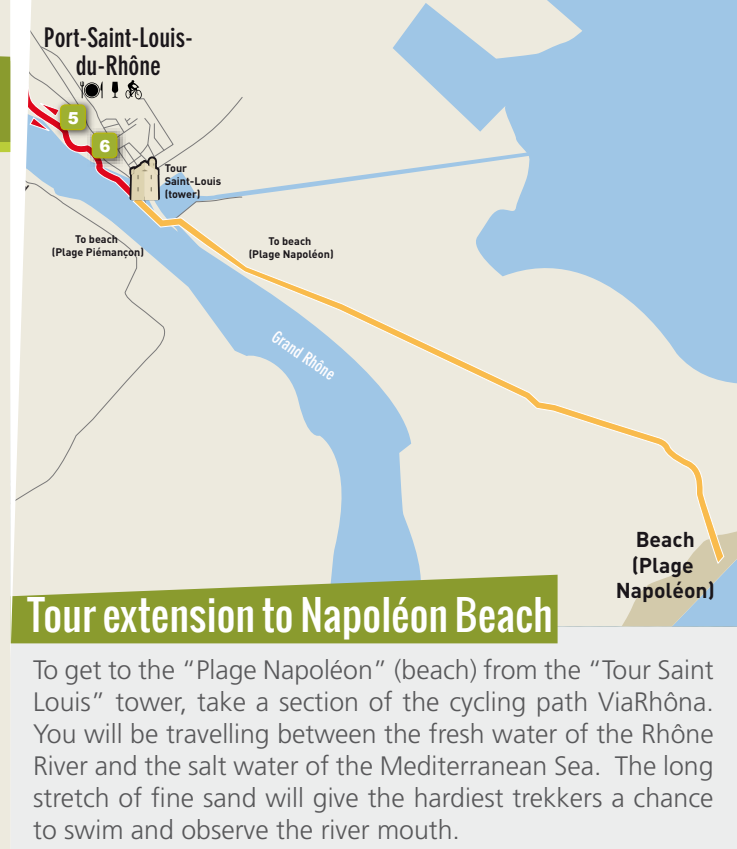
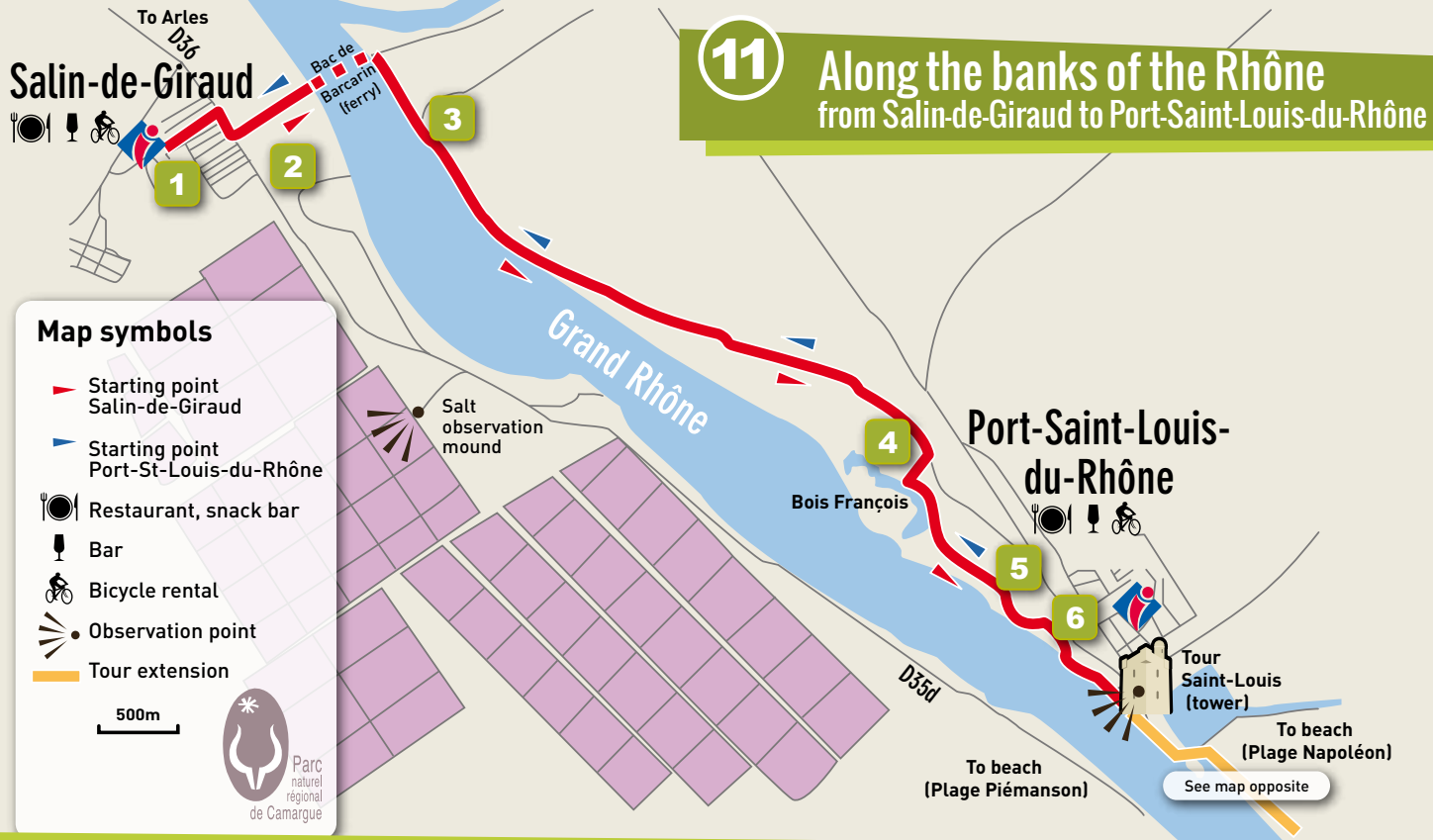
- Salin-de-Giraud Tourism Office
- Port-Saint-Louis Tourism Office

**Distance :** 18 km round trip

**Extension to Napoléon Beach :** +15 km round trip

**Take note :** No particular difficulties





## How to get there

- **From Salin-de-Giraud** : start at the Tourism Office, Place Tournayre
- **From Port-Saint-Louis-du-Rhône** : start at the Tourism Office, Tour Saint Louis (tower)



## From Salin-de-Giraud :

**1** Take the main road, Route D36, toward the Bac de **Barcarin ferry** **2**. Cross the Rhône on the ferry, free for pedestrians and cyclists. On the opposite bank, as soon as you get off the ferry a little path on your right will take you to the dike **3**. Go along the foot of the dike and by the Domaine du Bois François. When you reach **Port-Saint-Louis-du-Rhône**, go through the two red-and-white barriers then take the path on your right which will take you to the city sports trail. Follow this path and the signs on your left "parcours santé" (health course). The path will take you through the **Bois François** sports trail along the banks of

the Rhône. When you reach a clearing of tamarisk trees, turn right and take a little path through the woods. Follow the main trail and when you reach a Y-shaped junction **4**, take the far left path. 250 meters after, you will come out on **the "Abri du Rhône" Port** **5**, where small boats can take shelter before arriving at the river mouth. Continue along the river bank (picnic grounds) until you reach the cycling trail along the Rhône, **"les allées du Rhône"**. Take this trail to the **Tour Saint-Louis tower** where the Tourist Information Center is located **6**.

## From Port-Saint-Louis-du-Rhône :

Follow the above instructions in the opposite direction.