

Pressfile

2016

extra ARLOS!

Scoops 365°

www.arlestourisme.com

ARLOS^{365°}
Office de Tourisme

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Our « Arles 365° » logo invites you to mix space (360°) and time (365 days a year), and brings to mind the circle of the city built around the Roman arena, flooded with sunlight and rhythm by the rotation of the sun, a city with a panoramic view over our natural surroundings (Camargue, Crau, Alpilles), at its best in its whirlwind of colors, shows and atmospheres 365 days a year, a city with a “little something extra”, those extra 5° (beyond 360°) that make all the difference.

Our catch-line “extra Arles” can be understood in many different languages, and underlines the exceptional quality of what we can offer to tourists.

www.arlestourisme.com

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FUNDAMENTALS

Arles, is the third largest town in the Bouches-du-Rhone in population, but it is the largest township ("commune") in France in surface area, covering 172 500 acres (77 000 hectares). Arles is listed on three different types of **UNESCO** World heritage lists:

- First for its historic center and all the **Roman and Romanesque monuments**,
- Then for the pilgrimage **Route to Santiago de Compostela** in Spain (but also the Rome and Jerusalem Routes). Since the Middle Ages the Arles Route is one of the four trails crossing France and Europe to Santiago de Compostela.
- And finally for its World-renowned nature park: **the Camargue is a member of the World network of biosphere Reserves.**

Arles is the gateway to the **Camargue**, the delta of the Rhône River, among the most beautiful natural sites in Europe. Its fauna and flora, protected by the **Regional Park of Camargue**, are exceptionally rich and varied.

To the north of the city stretches the **Regional Park of the Alpilles**, the second park in the Arles area, with agricultural land and Mediterranean forests, habitat for more than one hundred rare or protected species.

The name of Arles is closely connected with that of **Vincent Van Gogh**. His stay in Arles was the most productive period of his career: more than 300 paintings and drawings done in 15 months. But Arles is also the city of the Gypsy Kings, Chico and the Gypsies, Christian Lacroix, Yvan Audouard, the photographer Lucien Clergue, an inspired city where musicians, authors, artists and designers feel at home.

Our language, dress costumes and traditional festivities make of Arles the capital of **Provençal culture**. Many events take place each season and the city is the annual meeting point for lovers of **photography, music, literature, theatre and bullfighting**.

Arles is proud to be a city of the south where life is pleasant, where local products and multiple landscapes change with the seasons of the year.

The city has an impressive past, but Arles is also turned toward the future with several ambitious projects underway. After the new Vincent van Gogh Foundation, which received 106 500 visitors for its inaugural exhibit in 2014, shovels and cranes are now at work breaking ground for the new Luma Foundation building, designed by Frank Gehry and opening in 2018. The construction of a new home for the ENSP (Ecole Nationale Supérieure de la Photographie) is also starting in 2015 at the "Parc des Ateliers" (land formerly occupied by railway repair shops), to be inaugurated in 2017.

Contemporary artistic, architectural, literary (Actes Sud) and computer (MOPA – Motion Picture in Arles, ex-SUPINFOCOM – school) creation make Arles a dynamic city within the Arles-Crau-Camargue-Montagnette district, in the Bouches-du-Rhône department, the PACA (Provence-Alpes-Riviera) region, France and Europe.

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WHAT'S NEW IN 2016 ?

The exhibitions at the Arles Archaeological Museum.

- until April 30, 2016 : **watercolors by Michel Robin** – an artist's vision of the Roman barge Arles Rhone 3.
- until June 5, 2016 : **Camargue just around the curve** – when the archaeologists rediscover the territory.
- from October 8 to January 22, 2017 : **Knowing and doing at the time of Ramses II, Khaemouaset, the archaeological prince** – exhibition organized in partnership with the Louvre Museum.

The exhibitions at the Vincent Van Gogh Foundation.

The « Fondation Vincent van Gogh Arles » opened on **April 7, 2014** in the Léautaud de Donines townhouse, with more than 1000 square meters of exhibition space on two levels.

Until January 17, paintings by David Hockney : **"The arrival of spring"**, and Raphaël Hefti : **"On core /encore"**

- **from January 29 to April 24 2016**: collective exhibition : **"Très pour trait"**

- **from May 14 to September 11, 2016** : **"Van Gogh in Provence"**, an exhibition of 29 paintings by Van Gogh including numerous works done during his stay in Arles and Saint Rémy, a period often called his « zenith » or « acme ». The period in Arles is often called the "most fulfilling period during the ten years of Van Gogh's activity."

Two exhibits at the Réattu Museum

- **Until June 5th : IMAGO, portrait and photography!** The muse continues enhancement of its fund with an exhibition dedicated to the portrait.

- **From July until end of December 2016 : Untitled icons** – an exhibition devoted to the photographer Katerina Jebb.

Frank Gehry in Arles : the Arles Luma Campus

Construction of the future "Centre d'Art et de Recherche" (Art and Research Center) began at the end of 2014 on land which is part of the old "Parc des Ateliers" (railway repair shops) industrial site. The building, designed by Frank Gehry for the Luma Foundation, will house exhibition space, artists' residences... and will be finished in 2018. The "Grande Halle" (main hall), the "Atelier de mécanique" (mechanics' shop) and the "Atelier des Forges" (blacksmiths' shop) have already been rehabilitated for use as exhibition rooms for the Arles Photography Festival ("Rencontres d'Arles"). Scale models of the project are visible at the entrance to the worksite. Guided tours are proposed every Tuesday and Thursday on reservation.



ARLES IN NUMBERS

The largest township in France : 77 000 hectares – 52 439 inhabitants

3842 beds in hotel accommodations and 6656 in total capacity.

50 hotels including three 5* hotels, the Jules César and the Hôtel Particulier in the old city center and a third at the heart of the Camargue (le Mas de Peint).

106 bed-and-breakfasts, located not only in the Arles city center but also out through the Camargue, the Crau and the Alpilles,

5 camp grounds, including four 3*, with a total of 511 camping spots.

151 restaurants including two Michelin-starred restaurants :

Armand Arnal's La Chassagnette

Jean-Luc Rabanel's L'Atelier, 2 Michelin stars since 2009,

5 Gault&Millau chef's hats since 2012 and the Gault&Millau 2008 chef of the year.

Our French visitors : 45 % (PACA : 31%, Ile de France : 13%, Rhône Alpes : 12%, Languedoc : 9%)

Our foreign visitors : 55% (Italy :14%, Germany : 13 %, USA : 13%, Great Britain : 9%, Spain : 11%, Belgium : 6%, Netherlands : 5%, Canada : 4%, Switzerland : 3%, China : 3%, Japan : 2%)

About **2 million visitors** per year in Arles, **430.000** visitors in the monuments in 2015 and **170.000** visitors welcomed at the Tourism Office reception desks.

ARLES, CITY OF ART AND HISTORY

Excavations have brought to light the existence of a Celtic town on the site of Arles, which was colonized by the Greeks from Massalia (Marseilles). The war between the Massaliotes and the army of Julius Caesar put an end to that colonisation. Most of the great Roman monuments were built at that time (from 46 BC). Under the reign of Augustus (44 BC to 14 AD), the town received the name of "Colonia Julia Paterna Arelate Sextanorum" ("colony of the veterans of the 6th legion founded in Arles by my father Julius Caesar"). When the Emperor Constantine (313) had his palace built here, the city enjoyed an important period of economic and cultural development. At that time the town may have had about 50 000 inhabitants.

Arles possesses 112 sites listed as National Heritage Monuments. In 1981 all the Roman and Romanesque monuments were listed among the UNESCO World heritage monuments. Most of these sites belong to the town, whose small size and limited financial resources are out of proportion to the treasures of its heritage.

Arles, along with thirty other towns, is a member of the European network "Alliance des Villes Européennes de la Culture" (AVEC).

ROMAN HERITAGE

. the Roman Arena

Built at the end of the 1st century A.D., the amphitheatre was a huge oval construction containing 34 rows of stone seating. It is about 20th in order of size among Roman amphitheatres in the world. Nowadays it still provides seats for 12 000 spectators, especially when it is used for bullfights and Camargue games several times a year.

. the Roman Theater, west of the Arena, was built under the emperor Augustus at the end of the first century B.C. In summer it still offers an exceptional theatrical experience.

. the Cryptoportiques of the Forum

These impressive underground corridors, in the city centre, were built in 30-20 BC.

. the Baths of Constantine

Built in the 4th century, they are similar to the Baths of Trier in Germany.

. the Alyscamps

Among the most beautiful of early Christian graveyards, with its famous lane of sarcophagi immortalized by Van Gogh.

ROMANESQUE AND CLASSICAL HERITAGE

. Saint Trophime's church

Dating from the 12th century, Saint Trophime's is characteristic of Provençal Romanesque architecture. Its exceptional portal portrays the theme of Judgment Day, heaven and hell, under the benediction of Christ.

. Saint Trophime's cloister

Built in the 12th century, this cloister is considered the model in Provence for the beauty and variety of its sculptures and capitals.

. the Town Hall

Built in 1657 by Jacques Peytret, based on the plans of Jules Hardouin Mansard, the architect of the palace of Versailles, the Town Hall of Arles is famous for its flat stereotomic vault covering the remarkable entrance hall.

. Town houses

Though often eclipsed by the Roman heritage, the town houses in Arles are splendid examples of aristocratic building tastes. There are about fifty dwellings, among them :

L'Hôtel de Grille (17th century),

L'Hôtel de Luppé (housing an art gallery),

L'Hôtel de Castillon (17th century),

L'Hôtel Quiqueran de Beaujeu, home to the National Photography School,

L'Hôtel Léautaud de Donines, home to the van Gogh Foundation.

. Montmajour Abbey

Located near Arles, on the road to Fontvieille, this exceptional architectural site was founded in the Middle Ages in the middle of swampy land by Benedictine monks. The abbey is made up of a pre-Romanesque building dating back to the 10th century, a Romanesque abbey church and cloister built in the 12th century. The abbey was embellished in the 18th century with the Saint Maur monastery, in the classical style.



THE MUSEUMS OF ARLES

The museums of Arles go beyond simply conserving artefacts and artistic works of past generations, to offer visitors multiple approaches to both traditional and contemporary art and ethnography.

Arles has four remarkable museums :

THE ARLES ARCHEOLOGICAL MUSEUM (Musée départemental de l'Arles antique),

THE MUSEUM'S 20th ANNIVERSARY

To celebrate this anniversary, the museum is organizing an exhibition during the spring of 2015 entitled 'Antiquity and you' (family photographs of people in front of Roman monuments, ruins, an archaeological dig...)

The museum was inaugurated in 1995, in a modern building erected near the city centre beside the remains of the old Roman circus.

The museum is a fine example of contemporary architecture and houses all the collections of archaeological artefacts found in and around Arles.

The "romanization" of Gaul is a main theme illustrated by sculptures, mosaics, an exceptional collection of carved sarcophagi, numerous objects of everyday life and realistic scale-models including a view of the 4th-century city of Arles.

Open space is designed to allow visitors to move freely following either a chronological or a thematic itinerary.

A visit to the museum is crucial to understanding the history of the city, its inhabitants and its monuments. It is a spot that enlightens visits to the major archaeological sites in the city centre, enabling a better comprehension of the evolution of the city.

Cultural programs are regularly organized and renewed every six months with activities for all generations.

In 2012 the museum renewed its collections and placed on exhibit the most important of the new objects discovered in the Rhone River by archaeological divers, of which the sumptuous bust believed to be a portrait of Caesar, and the marble and gilded bronze statues, are the masterpieces.

The collections of the museum are constantly increasing and its reputation expanding. Thus a new wing of 800 m² was added, inaugurated on October 4, 2013, designed to underline the importance of the Roman port of Arles and commercial exchanges between the Rhone River delta and shores all around the Mediterranean. Arles-Rhone 3, a river barge discovered intact, 31 meters long, dating back to the years 50/60 AD, is the major attraction, surrounded by 480 other objects.

The museum has also extended outside its walls with "Hortus", a park inspired by Roman gardens, with an independent entrance, free, open to the public from 10 AM to 7 PM between April 1 and September 30, from 10 AM to 5:30 PM from October 1 to March 31.

The museum renews its cultural programs every six months with a variety of activities.

Presqu'île du Cirque Romain – 13200 ARLES

☎ 04 13 31 51 03 - 📠 04 90 18 88 93 www.arles-antique.cg13.fr

THE REATTU MUSEUM

The City of Arles fine arts museum is located in an exceptional building ; the former Grand Priory of the Knights of Malta.

Built at the end of the 15th century in a magic dialogue with the Rhone River, the Grand Priory of the Knights of Malta owes its current role to Jacques Réattu (1760-1833), a painter from Arles who won the Rome Prize (Grand Prix de Rome) and invested in this building to be his home, his studio and his dreams. The building became a museum in 1868, preserving Reattu's work and his personal art collection, including the extraordinary portrait of Simon Vouet. The museum opened its space to photography in the 1960s (4000 photos today), and has also received several exceptional gifts, its collection thus becoming the first in any Fine Arts Museum in France. In 1971 **Picasso** offered 57 drawings, and this donation was completed soon after with two paintings; **Pierre Alechinsky** gave the museum a large Arlesian canvas and a series of 12 works on paper. The museum has always had a soft spot for sculpture (Germaine Richier, Toni Grand, Bernard Dejonghe...), and in 2008 was created a listening chamber for sound art. It is a true crossroads, a bridge between different artistic disciplines, and by placing regular orders, it is able to offer theme exhibits and renew its collections to give us a new and different look at art.

Since October 2015, **67 haute couture dress designs (1987-2007)** by Christian Lacroix are on loan from the artist. These designs were first exposed in 2008 for the *Musée Réattu* exhibition and they cover his entire career at the head of his *haute couture* house, founded in 1987.

10 rue du Grand Prieuré – 13200 ARLES ☎ 04 90 49 37 58 - 📠 04 90 49 36 97

www.museereattu.arles.fr - musee.reattu@ville-arles.fr

THE ARLATEN MUSEUM (LE MUSEON ARLATEN)

The ethnographical museum administered by the Bouches-du-Rhone Department, is housed in the former Laval-Castellane town house, dating back to the 15th century. The museum was created in 1896 by Frédéric Mistral, a Provençal regionalist writer, and is a "place of memories" for Provençal society. It reflects the pride in their identity of the 19th-century population, and has helped to keep these traditions alive during the following century.

This museum is more than 100 years old but is resolutely turned toward the future. Nevertheless time has left its mark on the buildings. So time has come for the **Arlaten Museum** to get a face-lifting, not only for the building itself, but also in relationship to scientific ethnographical studies (for more information : <http://www.museonarlaten.fr/museon/CG13/pid/255>). When the work now being carried out by the Conseil Général des Bouches-du-Rhône is completed, the museum will have received new furnishings adapted to current needs : presenting the public with a space rehabilitated in view of modernizing Mistral's heritage, but also taking into account the results of ethnographical research and the constitution of new collections and new information currently being undertaken by the museum.

The renovation will thus accompany the metamorphosis of the **Museon Arlaten**, changing from an ethnographical museum inherited from the 19th century into a true museum of society. It will become :

- an indispensable tool for analysing social events and the process of sharing and integrating our collective memory;
- a space for preservation of local resources and the memory of current events, in phase with today's inhabitants of Provence.

Until it reopens in 2017, the Museon Arlaten team has moved outside the walls of the building to introduce the “renovated Arlaten Museum”, with programs and activities designed to promote cultural diversity, and also to introduce local traditions to a wider public.

(to learn more : <http://www.museonarlaten.fr/museon/CG13/pid/28>.)

- Moreover, the former SNCF train wheel repair factory (“L’atelier des roues”), has recently been rehabilitated to create the CERCO (Centre d’Etudes, de Restauration et de Conservation des Oeuvres), which has become a center of museum conservation open to the public. A space devoted to study, treatment and preservation, it includes storage rooms, a reading room, conservation-restoration rooms and workshops. There is even a room for insecticide treatment by freezing and anoxia (deprivation of oxygen). To learn more : <http://www.museonarlaten.fr/museon/CG13/pid/244>.

31 rue de la République - 13200 ARLES

☎ 04 13 31 51 99

museon.arlaten@cg13.fr - www.museonarlaten.fr

THE CAMARGUE MUSEUM

The Camargue museum (Musée de la Camargue) is housed in a former sheep barn at the Mas du Pont de Rousty, and managed by the Camargue Regional Park. Its exhibits follow the evolution of human activities in the Rhone River delta. From agriculture (rice growing, cattle, sheep and horse raising, hunting, fishing, salt harvesting), to industrialization (river dikes, pumping stations and irrigation ditches), the history of the Camargue unfolds room after room.

The museum also possesses rich collections of photographs and films projected in a special space dedicated to imagery.

After visiting the museum, visitors can also follow the 3.5 km-long discovery trail and learn about farm activities, produce, pastures and marshlands and how the different landscapes are put to use.

At the beginning of this nature trail, “Horizons”, a wooden observation deck built by Tadashi Kawamata in February, 2013 allows the visitor to climb up to look out over the landscape, from the rice paddies to the swamps, the reed marshes and the “sansouire” (salty barren land).

Mas du Pont de Rousty - 13200 ARLES - ☎ 04 90 9710 28 - 📠 04 90 97 19 20

musee@parc-camargue.fr - www.parc-camargue.fr

ARLES, IN THE LIGHT OF VAN GOGH

The name of Arles is closely connected with that of Vincent Van Gogh. It is impossible to evoke Arles and its quality of light without thinking of his paintings. It was this luminosity that attracted Van Gogh to the south of France. Vincent arrived in Arles one day in February 1888 looking for the outside daylight but also seeking an interior illumination.

Here he started a period of intense and impassioned work under the bright sunny sky of Provence. His stay in Arles was the most productive period of his life: the more than 300 paintings and drawings done in his 15 months here form one of the most brilliant chapters in the history of art.

Some landscapes which inspired him still remain; others have been brought back to life, such as the Café Terrace at Night, the Courtyard of the hospital (Espace Van Gogh). In May 1889 Vincent left Arles for the Saint-Rémy-de-Provence asylum leaving the name of Vincent Van Gogh linked to that of Arles forever.

Even though there are no original paintings by Van Gogh in the city, the shadow of his presence is everywhere.

VAN GOGH WALKING TOUR

In the city, the places where Van Gogh set up his easel are pointed out by panels representing his works. Ten spots have been thus indicated : The Place du Forum for the "**Evening Café**", the Trinquetaille bridge for the "**Staircase of the Trinquetaille bridge**", the Rhone River quay for the "**Starry Night**", the Place Lamartine for the "**Yellow House**", the Rue Mireille for the "**Old Mill**", the Summer Garden on the Boulevard des Lices for the "**Public Garden**", the Espace Van Gogh for the "**Hospital Garden**", the road along the Arles à Bouc canal for the "**Langlois bridge with washerwomen**", today referred to as the "Van Gogh Bridge". The Arena and the Alyscamps were also depicted in several paintings.

THE VAN GOGH FOUNDATION IN ARLES

The van Gogh Foundation was opened in its new premises on April 7, 2014 at the Léautaud de Donines town house, with more than 1000 m2 of exhibition space on two levels.

The Arles Vincent Van Gogh Foundation was created to promote the artistic heritage of the Dutch painter, as well as to study the repercussion of his work in today's art. By comparing Van Gogh's work with that of contemporary artists, the intention is to create a fertile dialogue inspiring questions and reflections.

The foundation is a dynamic space for exchanges inspired by the lasting ties between the work of Van Gogh and the city of Arles, as well as a spot encouraging discussion and debate about contemporary art and painting.

Exhibit from May 14 to Septembre 11, 2016 : "Van Gogh in Provence : Modernizing tradition"

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contact@fvvga.org - www.fondationvincentvangogh-arles.org

ARLES, CAPITAL OF THE CAMARGUE

Gateway to the delta of the Rhône

Arles is located where the Rhône River splits in two, creating the Grand Rhone and the Petit Rhone. It is a strategic spot, the gateway to the Camargue, where trade and river transportation have always played an important role. Since 1991 the port of Arles can receive river- and sea-going vessels of up to 3000 tons. It is the only port on the Rhone River able to receive boats this large, with a passage to the Mediterranean Sea. The Arles dock is an inescapable stop for the luxurious cruise boats travelling up and down the river (for instance the Rome-Avignon cruise via Arles). Arles is also in a strategic position because it is located at the intersection of two major land routes across Western Europe (the North-South highway along the Rhône River valley, and the East-West road between Italy and Spain).

The Camargue

The Camargue is a windy, wide-open land, a Mediterranean land. Bordered by both salt water, that of the sea, and fresh water, that of the Rhone River that wraps the delta between her two branches. The strong current in the Rhone insures that the Camargue receives plenty of fresh water all year round. The wetlands in the delta change with the seasons : ponds, lagoons, swamps and puddles provide mixtures of more-or-less salty water according to the weather.

The Camargue, formed by the delta of the Rhone River, is the largest tract of wetlands in France, where the forces of nature reign. The national Camargue nature park, covering 13,200 ha within the towns of Arles and Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer is one of the largest protected zones of wetlands in Europe.

With ten inhabitants per square kilometre, ten times less than the national average, nature takes on its true meaning; it is one of the treasures of the Camargue regional nature park (Parc naturel regional), including land in three towns : Arles, Port-St-Louis-du-Rhône and Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer, covering 100.000 ha and 75 km of coastline. **The Camargue**, an “exceptional island”, world-renowned for its **natural landscapes** and its **cultural wealth**, is also a **land where men and women work...** A succession of **swamps, pastures** and **rice paddies** where wild pink flamingos nest beside bull-raising farms... Camargue Rice (Riz de Camargue) is a listed label since 2000, when it received an IGP (Indication Géographique de Production) valid throughout the European Union, and rice growing is an important means of preserving the local ecosystem. Rice has been grown in the Camargue since the 15th century, but it is only since the 1940's that it has been developed on a large scale. Another originality is the “taureau de Camargue”, Camargue bull meat, one of the rare meat products to have received an AOP label (Appellation d'Origine Protégée).

Beside the sea, the dunes and beaches are a natural barrier, but a fragile and constantly changing environment. The town of Arles owns 28 km of fine sandy beaches (Beauduc and Piémanson) : the longest natural beach on the Mediterranean Sea.

Many sites are open to the public and allow visitors to explore nature while at the same time respecting Camargue wildlife. Some of these spots offer regularly scheduled tours with nature or ornithology guides :

LE MUSEE DE LA CAMARGUE (CAMARGUE MUSEUM) (see page 10)

Mas du Pont de Rousty - 13200 ARLES - ☎ 04 90 9710 28 - 📠 04 90 97 19 20
musee@parc-camargue.fr - www.parc-camargue.fr



DOMAINE DE LA PALISSADE

The Domaine de la Palissade covers 702 hectares between Salin-de-Giraud and the seacoast on the right bank of the Grand Rhône. The land is located outside the dikes protecting the lower Camargue from flooding by river or sea water, and is thus home to specific plants and animals that make it particularly interesting from an ecological viewpoint. It is the last space where the natural evolution of the delta can be observed. The Conservatoire du Littoral acquired this former agricultural, fishing and hunting estate in 1976. The estate can be visited on specially designed footpaths or on horseback. The buildings house a nature exhibit and shady picnic grounds are available to the public.

La Palissade

BP 5 CD 36 - 13129 Salin de Giraud ☐ - ☎ 04 42 86 81 28 - 📠 04 42 48 82 11 –
palissade@parc-camargue.fr - <http://www.palissade.fr/camargue/>

THE VIGUEIRAT SWAMPS ("Marais du Vigueirat")

The Vigueirat Swamps are a 1200-ha protected natural site located at the junction between two exceptional ecosystems, the Camargue and the Crau. It is one of the largest tracts of land acquired by the "Conservatoire du Littoral" (public conservation agency) in the Provence-Alps-Riviera region, and has been listed as a **national nature preserve since November 2011**. More than 2000 different species of birds and animals are present, including almost 300 different species of birds, nearly 35,000 ducks, 641 different plants . . . and farms raising bulls and horses, the specifically Camargue "ranches" (manades).

The Vigueirat Swamps are open to the public all year round, and can be visited alone on the "Etourneau" trail (a boardwalk for families), or with a guided tour in a wagon or on foot.

Les Marais du Vigueirat - Mas Thibert -13104 Arles - ☎ 04 90 98 70 91

marais-vigueirat@espaces-naturels.fr- www.marais-vigueirat.reserves-naturelles.fr



LA CAPELIÈRE

The “Réserve Nationale de Camargue” (Camargue national reserve) covers 13,000 hectares in the center of the Camargue, and is one of the largest wetland sanctuaries in Europe. All of this continuous territory, situated in the townships of Arles and Les Saintes-Maries de la Mer, is protected environment. The originality and the international heritage status of the Camargue Reserve result from the diversity of its natural habitats and the different species occupying the area (especially the 276 different species of birds including 258 protected species), as well as the functioning of its ecosystem

Centre d'information de la Réserve Nationale de Camargue

La Capelière – 13200 Arles - ☎ 04 90 97 00 97- 📠 04 90 97 01 44

www.reserve-camargue.org - info@reserve-camargue.org

PARC ORNITHOLOGIQUE DE PONT DE GAU (PONT-DE-GAU BIRD PARK)

Situated 4 km from Les Saintes-Maries de la Mer, the Ornithological park of Pont de Gau offers 7 km of walking trails over 60 ha of natural spaces devoted to the discovery of a large number of species of sedentary or migrating birds.

Parc Ornithologique de Pont de Gau – Route d'Arles - 13460 Saintes Maries de la Mer

- ☎ 04 90 9782 62- 📠 04 90 97 74 77

contact@parcornithologique.com – www.parcornithologique.com

ARLES, TOWN OF PROVENÇAL TRADITIONS

Its language, its dress and its traditional festivities make of Arles the Capital of Provençal culture. Renowned travellers such as Chateaubriand, Dumas, Flaubert, Mérimée have praised «the most beautiful women in the world », the Arlésiennes (Arlesian women). The traditional Arlesian dress costume was “defined” at the beginning of the 20th century and is composed of significant elements that are transferred and preserved from generation to generation while at the same time permitting evolution.

Gardians (Camargue cowherds) and Arlesian women participate in all the traditional seasonal festivals in and around Arles.

The hearts of Arles and its outlying hamlets beat to the rhythm of bull games (course camarguaise). The “Cocarde d’Or” and the “Trophée des As”, are days of glory for the “razeteurs” and “tourneurs” (men trying to grab a red ribbon attached between the bull’s horns), and the stars of the show, the Camargue bulls (“cocardiers”).

Bullfights also resound in the Roman arena : the “plaza” in Arles is one of the major bullfighting venues in France.

THE MAIN TRADITIONAL FESTIVITIES

The « Course de Satin »

The first horse race known as the “Satin Race” took place in 1529.

The Arles “Comité des Fêtes” continues the tradition and organizes this race exclusively for Camargue horses from the best stud farms. The horses are ridden bare-back (with no saddle).

The winner takes away the hotly-disputed gold-embroidered satin scarf of which an old example is displayed in the Museon Arlaten.

He can keep it for a year, and permanently if he wins three consecutive races.

The « Gardian » festival

The gardians (Camargue cowherds) assemble every year on May 1st for their Festival : they group on the Boulevard des Lices and parade on horseback through the city to the statue of Frédéric Mistral on the Place du Forum. A “messo parado” (Provençal mass) is celebrated at the Notre-Dame-de-la-Major church in presence of the equestrian statue of Saint George, the patron saint of the gardians. In the afternoon horse and bull games are organized in the arena. The Gardian Guild (Confrérie des Gardians), founded in 1512, is the oldest organization of mutual assistance still existing in France.

The election of the Queen of Arles

The election of a new Queen of Arles takes place every three years on May 1st (with a pause during World War II). The 22nd queen of Arles was elected in May 2014. The winner, chosen among several candidates, according to rules established by the Festival Committee in 1930 with several changes since, must be born in or near Arles. During her reign, assisted by her ladies-in-waiting, she will fulfill her role as the incarnation of the Provençal culture, dress costume and language. Traditionnally she is crowned during the Festival of Arles, at the beginning of the month of July, in the Roman theater.

The festival of Arles



➤ The Pegoulado :

On Friday evening before the Costume festival, a long evening parade in traditional costumes takes place on the Boulevard des Lices, with more than 1000 participants.

➤ The Costume (Arlesian dress) Festival takes place on the first Sunday in July : an Arlesian dress parade and presentation in the Roman theatre.

➤ The "Cocarde d'or" :

Takes place on the Monday following the Costume festival. It is the most important event of the bull season and the most prestigious of the bull games.

The Rice festival

The end of the summer in Arles brings with it an important event for the economy of the city: the Rice Festival. Just before the harvest, Arles honours this cereal grain grown around the world. Each quarter in the city centre, the outlying hamlets, associations and families prepare floats decorated with sheaves of rice. They parade on a Saturday evening and Sunday morning at the beginning of September.

The Easter Feria

The Easter Feria opens the French bullfighting season and attracts 500,000 visitors including the 60,000 spectators in the Roman arena. Partying is everywhere in the city streets. 30 "bodegas" open their doors after the "corrida" where the "aficionados" (bull-lovers who spend the evening over glasses of "sangria") gather. "Penas" and bands of musicians add to the entertainment around the Arena and throughout the city.

The Rice Feria, the Horse festival and "Camargue gourmande" (Camargue for gourmets).

These events take place on the 2nd weekend in September.

Since September 2005, two new events complete the Rice Feria : "**Camargue Gourmande**", which promotes Camargue rice and local products (olives, olive oils, Arles sausage, AOC bull meat,...)and also arts and crafts of the Arles region, (Camargue boots and saddles, painting with rice, rice paper production of the Camargue) and the **Horse Festival**. That event includes a big free show in the Roman Amphitheatre on Saturday night

CHRISTMAS IN PROVENCE

« Santons » and the Christmas manger scene.

The “**Santons**”, in Provençal “Santoun” (little saint), are **small figurines made of clay**, hand-crafted with loving care.

They can be found in the Christmas cribs or manger scenes where they are part of our Provençal traditions and reflect the life of the inhabitants and families of Provence. At the beginning, the family crèche represented only the characters of the Nativity : Mary, Joseph, the baby Jesus and the three Kings.

To create their santons, **the “santonniers”** (santon-makers) **of Provence** are also inspired by the old traditional activities of the working men and women of Marseilles, or the characters that appear in Christmas plays called “Pastorales”.

But each craftsman fine-tunes his little statues with special attention to the details and postures. The work of each santon-maker can be recognized by these minute details, making his santons different from all others.

Each winter the “**Salon International des Santonniers**” (the international santon-makers exhibition) takes place over two months in the Romanesque rooms of St. Trophime’s cloisters. This year **from 19 November 2016 to 15 January 2017** the Salon will invite Catalonia (Spain) to exhibit its best santons, and two characters will be honoured, the hunter and the fisherman... The exhibit includes santons by professional santon-makers, but also by amateur crib artists, and sponsors a prize-winning competition for the best santon

The Arles **Santon fair** will take place on November 19 and 20, 2016, at the Espace Van Gogh. Santon-makers and craftsmen will offer a variety of activities : creative workshops, working with moulds, santon-painting, demonstrations, music, choral singing... from 9 AM to 7 PM. Free entrance.

Meet the santon-makers of Arles :

Evelyne Ricord : sculptor, santon-creator, rewarded with the title “Best Craftsman of France” in the category “clay santons”.

6, rue du Refuge – 13200 Arles – 06 24 61 71 69 – By appointment only.

Henri Vezolles Santons : hand-made “detached” statuettes in 2, 3 or 4 different colours of clay, natural or dyed with oxides. Decorative details are done with “barbotine” (clay-on-clay diluted in water).

14, Rond-point des Arènes – 13200 Arles – 06 80 34 27 77.

ARLES, TOWN OF FESTIVALS AND CULTURE

Because of its geographical position, Arles has always been a cultural crossroads. The city has always embraced other Mediterranean cultures in all their creations: music, photography, literature. Arles is also the city of the Gipsy Kings, of Chico and the Gypsies, of Christian Lacroix, of Yvan Audouard, of the photographer Lucien Clergue, of the "Rencontres d'Arles", the most important international festival for photographers, of the publishing houses Actes Sud and Harmonia Mundi; an inspired city where editors, creators and artists feel at home.

There are many regional, national or international cultural events:

LES « RENCONTRES D'ARLES » (International Photography Festival) **July, August, September**

Created in 1969 this festival is for photographers what Cannes is for movie stars. The Photography Festival presents eclectic and contemporary photography art shows, with sixty exhibitions in twenty heritage sites in and around the city of Arles (15,000 m² of exhibition space). The "Rencontres" are a meeting point for photography professionals at the beginning of July with an opening week of important events, evening screenings and shows in the Roman theatre.

The festival has also made itself a reputation in photographic education and training, including a symposium, lectures and debates about the evolution of the profession and stakes involved, guided visits of exhibitions, portfolio viewings with international experts, training programs led by renowned professional photographers. The "Rentrée en Images" (back-to-school in pictures) in September offers a full-day visit for 7500 students from 6 to 20 years, including initiation workshops in image interpretation.

ECOLE NATIONALE DE LA PHOTOGRAPHIE

In 1982, the National Photography School opened in the former Quiqueran de Beaujeu town house, in the rue des Arènes. This is the only university-level national photography school in France.

These two organizations have inspired many local photography projects.

Since 2001 Arles has developed **the NUDE PHOTO FESTIVAL**, which exhibits photos by European photographers and honors a local photographer each year.

The Manuel RIVERA-ORTIZ FOUNDATION

The Manuel Rivera-Ortiz Foundation is a non-profit foundation founded in 2010 by Manuel Rivera-Ortiz. It is established in New York, with offices in Paris, Zurich and Arles. The foundation specializes in promoting photography and documentary films. It diffuses and assists photographers and film-makers, young or confirmed, and with a social message, emphasizing the role of under-represented communities in the world. It also provides scholarships rewarding the work of photographers and film-makers, as well as editing services, education programs and exhibitions in its Arles town house, as well as during festivals around the world.

Fondation Manuel Rivera-Ortiz - 18 rue de la Calade - 13200 Arles -
<http://mrofoundation.org/>

**"Les SUDS" in ARLES. (Musics of the South)
World Music Festival during the last two weeks in July**

A week of music from here and there, informal meetings with more than 200 musicians from 10:00 AM to 4:00 in the morning! The lovely city of Arles rediscovers its geography to lead vacationers from a city stage to a cocktail on the Rhone River dike, a musical siesta under the archways of the Espace Van Gogh or a musical salon in the archaeological museum, from a concert on a shady square to a Precious Moment in the courtyard of the former archbishop's palace (Cour de l'Archévêché), majestic southern-music evenings under the starry vault of the Roman theatre, live video-concerts in the surprising atmosphere of the old SNCF locomotive repair depot. . . and practice sessions of song, dance and music, from beginner to professional levels ! To get an inside view of the festival : www.suds-arles.com



ESCALES du CARGO ("one-night stands")

This project is part of the musical programs at the Cargo de Nuit. It was created in 2005 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of this Arlesian night club concert hall. Starting 5 years ago, "Les Escales" invite the best contemporary musicians to the Roman theatre in Arles : a magical site for exceptional open-air concerts. Artists who have "stopped over" during recent years : Bénabar, Gotan Project, Cali, the Rita Mitsouko, Camille, Massive Attack, Yael Naim, Caravan Palace, Peter Doherty, Hugh Laurie . . . Discover the programs scheduled for the coming months on www.escales-cargo.com

"ARELATE, roman Days" and the "PEPLUM (epic) film FESTIVAL"

Last week in August.

For a whole week, Arles is transformed back into the ancient city Arelate and relives its Gallo-Roman past: circus games, chariot races, Roman camps, street performances, Roman taverns, screening of 'peplum' films... The festival "Arelate" is a week full of discoveries of the Roman world for all ages.

The festivities include the one-week festival of peplum epic films: these films, dating back to the 50s and 60s will be projected on a giant screen in the authentic and impressive setting of the Roman Theatre.



PROVENCE PRESTIGE SALON

5 days around the 3rd weekend in November.

Before Christmas festivities, the Provence Prestige salon promotes the Provençal art of living (table decorations, pottery, arts and crafts, home furnishings, gourmet food products, wines, olive oils, rice, sweets). All of the products are “made in Provence”. Each stand is decorated in Provençal colours : ochre, yellow, dark red, green, colours whose different shades create an infinity of contrasts. The stands may be selling food, clothing or decorations, but are specially decorated for the Christmas season, and attract and delight 30,000 visitors each year.

A variety of different local professionals can be contacted during this salon, and sessions of initiation to and tasting of local products are also organized.

Provence Prestige is Christmas in November !

www.provenceprestige.com

DROLES DE NOELS (Christmas fun)

In 2004 Arles created “Drôles de Noël” : a true festival of street performing arts during the Christmas season. Fantastic, fairy-tale, poetic, funny or even crazy lands where Santa Claus has a hard time keeping his cool ! During four days 15 theater companies put on 50 free shows in the streets and other places around the city center : circus acts, puppet shows, songs, musical games, story-telling and light extravaganzas.

www.droles-de-noels.fr

DROLES DE CARNAVALS (Carnaval fun)

Since 2002 the city of Arles has invited street performers to celebrate Carnaval and the arrival of spring. The activities include ; street theater, giant puppets, dancing, music, marching bands, circus acts and the traditional parade in which anyone and everyone can take part, in costume or not.

ARLES, PROVENÇAL LIVING

With more than 300 days of sun per year, Arles is a city of the south where life is easy. The special light of the city rhymes with the quality of life here.

Once the warm weather appears in springtime, Arlesians and visitors gather on the terraces of the cafés along the Boulevard des Lices or on the squares in the old city center. The Saturday market is a ritual : it is not only one of the most colourful markets in Provence, but also one of the largest (two kilometres long). There can be found anything your heart desires : fruits and vegetables, cheeses, flowers and spices, meat and fish, honey, all of the fresh produce and regional products that are such fun to taste, as well as clothing, shoes, fabric, crafts . .

OUR 2016 CALENDAR

January

- « Salon International des Santonniers », (Provençal nativity scene figurine trade show), **until January 10th in the cloisters of St Trophime's cathedral**
- Les « Matinées et Soirées musicales d'Arles » » (Late morning and early evening music sessions) **until June 5th at Méjan chapel www.lemejan.com**

February

- La « Semaine du Son », (Events and meetings dedicated to issues related to sound), **<http://www.lasemaineduson.org>**
- « Arts at Home », actors, dancers ... take over private homes and carry out artistic performances, **<http://www.artsathome.pusku.com/>**
- Les « Matinées et Soirées musicales d'Arles » » (Late morning and early evening music sessions) **until June 5th at Méjan chapel www.lemejan.com**

March

- « Drôle de Carnaval », festival de rue et défilé, **March 13th, street festivities and parade**
- « Salon du vin et des gourmets », (Gourmet food and wine fair), **March 5th and 6th, in the J.F. Lamour gymnasium, www.salonduvin-arles.com**
- **carnival parade, www.arles.fr/carnaval**
- « Espace Toro », **from March 20th to 25th, presentation of the bulls selected for the bullfights of the Easter Feria, and bullfighting related activities at the Gimeaux corrales (bullpens),**
- « Feria Pascale », » (Easter Feria), **from March 20th to 25th, <http://www.arenesarles.com> et www.feriaarles.com**
- La « Semaine Sainte » (Holy Week), **from March 18th to 22nd, concerts held at Méjan chapel, www.lemejan.com**
- Les « Matinées et Soirées musicales d'Arles » » (Late morning and early evening music sessions) **until June 5th at Méjan chapel www.lemejan.com**

April

- « Arles Contemporain », **a week-end dedicated to contemporary art, from April 15th to 17th**
- Le « Marathon des Alpilles » (foot race), **April 24th, <http://www.marathonarleslesalpilles.com>**
- « Foire ovine », Sheep market, April 9, at the Gimeaux corrales.
- Les « Matinées et Soirées musicales d'Arles » » (Late morning and early evening music sessions) **until June 5th at Méjan chapel www.lemejan.com**

May

- « Fête des Gardians », (Herdsman's day), **May 1st**
- « Festival Européen de la Photo de Nu », (European nude photography festival), **from May 6th to 17th, <http://www.fepn-arles.com/>**

- “Van Gogh en Provence”, exhibition **from May 14th to September 11th**, at the “Fondation Vincent van Gogh Arles”, <http://www.fondation-vincentvangogh-arles.org>
- « La Nuit des Musées », (one evening during which museums are open and free from closing time to midnight), **May 21st**.
- « Jazz in Arles », » (Jazz festival), **from May 14th to 21st**, at Méjan chapel, www.lemejan.com
- Les « Matinées et Soirées musicales d’Arles » » (Late morning and early evening music sessions) **until June 5th at Méjan chapel** www.lemejan.com

June

- « Les Fêtes d’Arles », (Annual town festivities): Course de Satin (horse racing and riding contests) **June 5th**, St Jean bonfire **June 23rd**
- “Van Gogh en Provence”, exhibition **until September 11th**, at the “ Fondation Vincent van Gogh Arles”, <http://www.fondation-vincentvangogh-arles.org>
- 11th rendez-vous of the « Création In Situ » Project (European network of artists promoting artistic creation in public space), **In-residence artists’ programs and exhibitions until the end of September**
- Les « Matinées et Soirées musicales d’Arles » » (Late morning and early evening music sessions) **until June 5th at Méjan chapel** www.lemejan.com
- Fête de la Musique, June 21 (Music Day)
- « Forum Lyrique » (International singing competition for young opera singers) from June 8th to 11th

July

- « Les Fêtes d’Arles », (Annual town festivities), **Pegoulado (a torch-lit evening procession), July 1st**, la Fête du costume (parade of women dressed in traditional costume of Arles) **July 3rd**, **Cocarde d’Or (the most prestigious Camargue bull game) July 4th** www.festivarles.com
- « Les Rencontres d’Arles » Festival international de photographie, » **(International Photography festival) Opening week from July 4th to 10th**, www.rencontres-arles.com
- The Rencontres d’Arles photography exhibits, **from July 4th through September 25th** www.rencontres-arles.com
- “Van Gogh en Provence”, exhibition **until September 11th**, at the “ Fondation Vincent van Gogh Arles”, <http://www.fondation-vincentvangogh-arles.org>
- « Voies Off », **photography exhibitions held on the fringe of the official programming of the Rencontres d’Arles, www.voies-off.com**
- 11th rendez-vous of the « Création In Situ » Project (European network of artists promoting artistic creation in public space), **In-residence artists’ programs and exhibitions until the end of September**
- « Convivència », **a week of street music and opportunities for closeness and togetherness.**
- « Les Suds à Arles », **World Music Festival, from July 11th to 17th**, at the **Roman Theater**
- « Les Escales du Cargo », (Live music concerts), **in the Roman Theater, from July 19th to 23th -** www.escales-cargo.com
- « Les Rues en Musique », », **free concerts in the streets : jazz, classical, romantic or quirky music from July 30th to August 20th**

- Les Grands chemins d'Envies Rhône ment, (a travelling festival intermixing culture, art and environment in the Rhône delta), **until August**
- « La Camargue aux arènes » et les « Courses Camarguaises de l'été », traditional bull and equestrian shows, until the end of August <http://www.arenas-arles.fr>

August

- « Rencontres d'Arles » (photography exhibitions), **until September 25th**
<http://www.rencontres-arles.com>
- « Van Gogh en Provence », exhibition **until September 11th**, at the « Fondation Vincent van Gogh Arles », <http://www.fondation-vincentvangogh-arles.org>
- « Les Rues en Musique », », **free concerts in the streets : jazz, classical, romantic or quirky music until August 20th**
- Les Grands chemins d'Envies Rhône ment, (a travelling festival intermixing culture, art and environment in the Rhône delta),
- Summer conferences on Radio broadcasting, www.phonurgia.org
- « Arelate, les journées romaines d'Arles » (family festival introducing the Roman world), **from August 15th to 21st**, www.festival-arelate.com
- Festival du Film Peplum, (Sword and sandals film festival), **in the Roman Theater, www.festivalpeplum-arles.com**
- 11th rendez-vous of the « Création In Situ » Project (European network of artists promoting artistic creation in public space), **In-residence artists' programs and exhibitions**
- « La Camargue aux arènes » et les « Courses Camarguaises de l'été », traditional bull and equestrian shows, <http://www.arenas-arles.fr>

September

- « Rencontres d'Arles » (photography exhibitions), **until September 25th**
<http://www.rencontres-arles.com>
- « Van Gogh en Provence », exhibition **until September 11th**, at the « Fondation Vincent van Gogh Arles », <http://www.fondation-vincentvangogh-arles.org>
- « Espace Toro », **from September 4th through 9th: presentation of the bulls selected for the bullfights of the September Feria, and bullfighting related activities at the Gimeaux corrales (bullpens)**
- Feria du Riz (Rice Festival), Festival du cheval (Horse festival) and Camargue Gourmande (Camargue fine food festival), **from September 9th to 11th**.
www.arenas-arles.com / www.feriaarles.com / www.arlestourisme.com
- Fêtes des « Prémices du Riz », (Rice harvest events and festivities), **from September 16th to 18th**
- Les « Journées européennes du Patrimoine », (European Heritage Days) a whole week-end of free access to historic monuments and buildings, **September 17th and 18th**.
- 11th rendez-vous of the « Création In Situ » Project (European network of artists promoting artistic creation in public space), **In-residence artists' programs and exhibitions.**

October

- « Octobre Numérique » (digital technologies festival) www.octobre-numerique.fr



November

. Les « Matinées et Soirées musicales d'Arles », » (Late morning and early evening music sessions) **at Méjan chapel.**

. Les « Assises de la Traduction Littéraire », (**Conferences dedicated to literary translation**) www.atlas-citl.org

. « Provence Prestige », (**Provençal specialty food and crafts trade fair**) **at the Palais des Congrès, www.provenceprestige.com**

. « Foire aux santons » (Provençal nativity scene figurine fair) **at Espace Van Gogh**

. « Salon International des Santonniers », (Provençal nativity scene figurine trade show), **from November 19th until January 15th in the cloisters of St Trophime's cathedral.**

December

. Les « Matinées et Soirées musicales d'Arles », » (Late morning and early evening music sessions) **at Méjan chapel.**

. « Salon International des Santonniers », (Provençal nativity scene figurine trade show), **until January 15th in the cloisters of St Trophime's cathedral.**

. « Drôles de Noël », **street theater shows and entertainment www.droles-de-noels.fr, from December 21st to 24th.**

Arles and its economic activities

75% of the territory is devoted to agriculture. A lot of companies have chosen to settle in Arles for various reasons : geographical, financial or emotional. These industries devoted to culture and computer technology boost the territory of Arles and move it forward into the future. According to a study conducted by the Arles regional CCI, the cultural economy (culture and heritage) accounts for 4000 jobs, 20.4% of the working population of the Arles region.

ACTES SUD, a publishing house outside of Paris

In 1983, when Hubert Nyssen installed his publishing house 800 km from Paris, tongues wagged in the publishing community. But in 25 years, Actes Sud has received 60,000 manuscripts and boasts a catalog of 5000 titles. The Arlesian publishing house edits 350 titles per year and employs about 100 persons. Within a few years, Actes Sud has become a pillar of Arlesian cultural life, with events instigated or sponsored by the editor: including a yearlong musical concert schedule, a Festival of Sacred Music, a Jazz Festival and Literary Readings in Arles.

CICL et CCL, technology for heritage preservation

Books, drawings and written documents are fragile, easily deteriorated or destroyed with time. The CCL (Centre de Conservation du Livre), book preservation center, and the CICL (Centre Interrégional de Conservation du Livre), regional book preservation center, provide answers to problems involving the safekeeping of our cultural heritage. The CCL carries out expertising, trains and informs professionals working with historical documents, concerning conservation techniques. The CICL proposes a series of techniques for restoration, including transferring onto microfilm or computerizing. Its activities include procedures for preventive conservation, important for libraries and institutional archives. These two companies illustrate how modern technology can be applied to the immense market of protection and preservation of the world's written heritage.

CULTURAL AND HERITAGE INDUSTRIES POLE

The pole is a project created by the CCI, the French government and the city of Arles. It is a tool designed to federate and develop the activities of all of those who intervene successively to promote our territory, its heritage and culture.

Today this dynamic network includes about one hundred companies specializing in the development, preservation, transmission and diffusion of our heritage and culture : our architectural cultural heritage, managing our environmental heritage and our landscapes, imagery, media, shows and events.

<http://www.industries-culturelles-patrimoines.fr/>

MOPA (Motion Picture in Arles), 3D school

SUPINFOCOM, the university-level school specializing in computer graphics, located at the old train repair depot since 2000, has changed its name in 2015 to become MOPA. In 2000 the school produced 30 minutes of animated film; today it produces 3h00 of 3D productions each year, 80 films produced by 195 students.

<http://www.ecole-mopa.fr/mopa-ecole-animation/>

THE ARLES LUMA CAMPUS

The coming Art and Research Center will be the heart of a 10-ha site formerly housing the SNCF repair shops. The new building, 56 meters high, designed by Frank Gehry for the Luma Foundation, and partially covered with stainless steel, will be nine-storeys high and represent a surface of 25 000 m². It will be devoted to exhibition rooms and artists' residences. It is perched on a 15 000 m² base including archiving space and vast exhibition spaces built to international standards. Other buildings on the site have already been renovated : the Main Hall, the Mechanics' Shop and the Blacksmiths' Shop, which are used for photography exhibits during the "Rencontres d'Arles" international photography festival. <http://luma-arles.org/luma-arles/>



YOUR STAY IN ARLES

Where to sleep? Where to eat?

- **50 hotels**, among them two 5-star hotels: one in the heart of one of the old picturesque neighbourhoods of Arles (L'Hôtel particulier) and the other in the center of the Camargue (Hôtel Mas de Peint).
- **144 B&Bs** situated all over the historical center of Arles, in the Camargue, the Crau and the Alpilles within a short drive.

Réserve on line at the Arles Tourism Office website :

<http://reserver.arlestourisme.com/?wos=v2,p,localisation;Arles>

- **5 camp grounds** (among them four 3-star camping sites) with 278 camping spots.
- **151 restaurants** offering a broad range of various culinary delights: Provençal, Basque, Breton and Lyonnais cuisine, traditional cuisine, organic or vegetarian food, delights from all over the world: from the Antilles, from Asia, Spain, Italy or the Orient; burgers or just snacks.

...and **two Michelin-starred** restaurants :

- Armand Arnal's « **La Chassagnette** »  Guide MICHELIN 2016
A huge vegetable garden and orchard surround this former sheep barn in the middle of the Camargue. The chef, Armand Arnal, creates his menus in accordance with the vegetables in his garden and the changing seasons.
- Jean-Luc Rabanel's « **L'Atelier** »   Guide MICHELIN 2016 (since 2009)
L'Atelier has kept his 5 Gault & Millau chef's hats since 2013. Today there are only 16 restaurants in France to be thus highly distinguished.
L'Atelier has a little brother, the "Bistro A Côté" which has received 2 chef's hats, so there are a total of 7 chef's hats in the Rue des Carmes.
The 7 hats are in particular dedicated to Jean-Luc Rabanel's "Salle à manger" a new restaurant just opened by this master chef.

In Arles there are also two restaurants holding the title of "**Maîtres Restaurateurs**", a title which is awarded by the AFMR (Association Française des Maîtres Restaurateurs) and which was created as a result of the common wish of the government and professionals to identify and distinguish restaurant owners who possess the required professional knowledge and skills and are committed to using only raw or untreated and fresh products :

- The Estrambord at Le Sambuc
- The Flamant Rose at Albaron



HOW TO TRAVEL ?

- **From the Marseille Provence Airport :**
 - **A shuttle bus called “Airport Train”** provides a link between the airport and the nearest train station “Vitrolles” in 10 minutes. Tickets can be bought at the airport counter
 - (<http://www.marseille.aeroport.fr/acces-et-parking/acces/trains>)
 - **By taxi** : approx. 140 € from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and 175 € from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.
 - **By car** : car rental

- **Depuis Paris gare TGV (746 km) :**
 - Arrival at the Avignon TGV train station: approx. 90 €; journey time: 2h30-3h
 - **2 direct trains (TGV) per day**

- **Depuis Marseille (90 km) :**
 - **By train** : www.sncf.fr : single ticket for approx. 15 €; journey time: 1h
 - **By taxi** : approx. 165 € from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and 210 € from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.

- **Depuis Avignon (40 km):**
 - **By train** : www.sncf.fr : approx. 9 €
 - **By taxi** : approx. 67 € from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and 85 € from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.

- **Depuis Nice (250 km) :**
 - **By train** : www.sncf.fr : approx. 50 €; journey time: 3h30-4h

- **Depuis Toulouse (314 km):**
 - **By train** : www.sncf.fr : approx. 50 €; journey time: 3h30-4h

More information on the Arles Tourism Office website : **www.arlestourisme.com** and on the press page where you can find press files and free photographs.

The Tourism Office is open 363 days a year and offers many services :

- Purchase combined tickets for the monuments, hiking brochures, guides,
- Rent an audio-guide for visiting the city
- Reserve tickets for concerts and shows.
- Sign up for guided tours and excursions.
- Visit our shop selling local and theme products.

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