

## The creation of Salin-de-Giraud

At the end of the 19th century Pechiney and Solvay created factories specializing in extracting and commercializing industrial salt, which led to the creation of the town of Salin-de-Giraud. Before that, Cistercian monks had harvested salt here temporarily in the 13th century, but in the middle of the 19th century the company founded by Henri Merle developed 5000 ha of salt flats, and Solvay soon followed. Local workers but also workers from Italy, Armenia and Greece were hired to prepare the land and harvest the salt. Their descendants are still present today and work for the Salins du Midi.

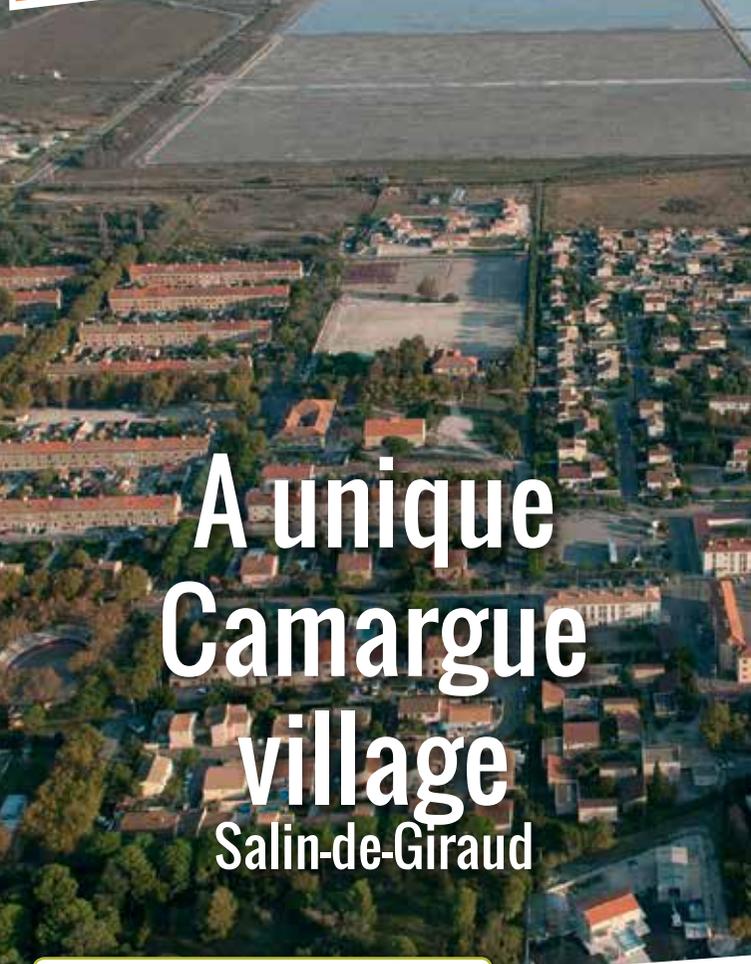
## Emergency numbers

**SOS** European emergency number **112**  Marseilles treatment center for poisoning **+33 (0)4 91 75 25 25**

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

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

 **Trek Bike / Hiking** **10**



# A unique Camargue village

## Salin-de-Giraud

       
**0h30 à 1h** **1h30 à 2h**

-  **Starting point :** Salin-de-Giraud Tourist Office
-  **Distance :** 6 km
-  **Extension to Barcarin Church, Rhône River and gardian's hut :** + 3km round trip
-  **Take note :** No particular difficulties



## Along the way

### Bar and restaurant

- La Camargue Restaurant – +33 (0)4 42 86 88 52
- Les Saladelles Restaurant – +33 (0)4 42 86 83 87
- Bar des Sports – +33 (0)4 42 86 81 15
- Bar de l'amitié – +33 (0)6 82 70 01 58
- Restaurant Chez Germaine – +33 (0)4 86 63 60 05

### Rent a bike

- Restaurant Chez Germaine (Salin-de-Giraud) - +33 (0)4 86 63 60 05
- Bois Sacré Service Station (Salin-de-Giraud) - +33 (0)4 90 58 93 03
- Laurelyne (Salin-de-Giraud) - +33 (0)4 42 86 80 84 or +33(0)6 70 09 68 77

### Don't miss

- The town church
- The Greek Orthodox church
- The Barcarin church
- The Solvay factory-town section
- The Pechiney quarter
- The arena
- The Badin music kiosk

## 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)



## Crossing the Rhone River

The Rhone River has been crossed at Salin-de-Giraud since 1933. The first ferry was powered by a windlass, but was destroyed during WWII. A new diesel ferry was introduced in 1955. In 1957 a railway ferry was added for transporting salt. The fourth Barcarin ferry (Bac de Barcarin) was inaugurated in 1987 and the fifth in 2012. These are the ferries used today to cross the river from one bank to the other.

## The Solvay factory village

Row houses



The Solvay village was built between 1896 and 1902 by the Belgian company Solvay which imported this architectural style, using red bricks, from Belgian mining towns. The buildings reflect the company hierarchy, from the director's residence to the row houses for the workers. This paternalistic company built a hospital, schools, a post office, a movie theater, a stadium, an arena and a club house (Cercle Solvay).

Photo credits : Jean Roché, Onis Species, M. Mercier / Parc de Camargue, J.P. Boeuf

# 10 A unique Camargue village Salin-de-Giraud

## Map symbols



From the **Tourist Information Center 1**, stay on Boulevard Tornayre and cross Boulevard de la Gare. At the Rue de Provence corner **2**, notice the **"corons" totem** ("corons" are factory row houses). Continue along Boulevard Tornayre, then turn right onto Allée des Platanes. Across from the Bar des Sports, turn right onto Boulevard des Arènes, then left onto the Rue des Ecoles and admire the "femme à l'éclipse" totem **3**. Cross the "Place des Gardians" square and visit the Carle Naudot square opposite with its **artistic installation 4** symbolizing the ties between the Solvay and Pechiney quarters. Go by the school and the post office. At the roundabout, head toward the Orthodox church. Continue along Boulevard de la Camargue to the rue des Halles and discover the **"la pêche nous a nourris" totem 5**. Go by the La Camargue Hôtel-Restaurant and its space dedicated to salt. Cross Adrien Badin square. Turn left onto the Rue du Jeu de Mail. At the rue de la Chapelle corner **6** notice the **barracks**, then continue straight ahead to the **Greek orthodox church 7**. Turn back and take the rue de la Chapelle on your right. Go by the children's playground and continue on to the **Catholic church St. Trophime's 8**. Continue on to the arena **9**. Turn left into the Rue des Arènes and continue to the **silhouette of Carle Naudot 10 with the inscription "je suis devenu contremaître"**. Return to your starting point at the Tourism Office or continue on to the **Barcarin church 11**.

## Extension to the Barcarin church, the Rhône, a gardian's hut.

### 3 km round trip

Leave the **silhouette of Carle Naudot 10** and turn right into the Rue de la Victoire. At the stop sign (danger sign), turn left onto the cycling path. At the end of the path (danger sign), cross the road, go by the red light and the bus stop. After the canal turn right onto VG142. At the **Barcarin church 11** turn right along the foot of the dike. Admire the **Rhone River** and the **last true gardian's hut left in the village 12**. After the canal turn immediately right and follow the path along the factory wall. Back at the D36 crossroads, head back to the Tourism Office through the Sacred Wood (Bois Sacré) Park **13** opposite or continue along the bike path.

## How to get there

Start from the Tourism Office in Salin-de-Giraud. In the village at the red light go straight ahead then take the first right toward the city center. The Tourism Office is located on rue Tornayre, 150 m before the arena..



Greek orthodox church



Barcarin church