The golden triangle of bio-diversity

The land of Arles is blessed with three exceptional protected landscapes: the Alpilles regional nature Park, a true “Provence in miniature” with its countryside shaped by man, its old villages and its traditional art of living; the Crau Nature Preserve, the last steppe-like plain in Western Europe with traces of numerous Roman sheep farms, and the Camargue regional nature Park, a vast wetlands within the Rhone River delta with its wealth of wildlife and its strong cultural identity.

Emergency numbers

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

Along the way

Bar and restaurant
- Bars and restaurants in Arles, Fontvieille and Raphèle
- Ferme-auberge (Farm-inn) (Barbegal): +33 (0)4 90 54 63 69
  Reservation necessary
- Rent a bike
  - Europbike (Arles): +33 (0)6 38 14 49 50
  - Hôtel Régence (Arles): +33 (0)4 90 96 39 85
  - Véloc (Arles): +33 (0)7 68 21 76 68
  - Holiday Bikes (Arles): +33 (0)4 90 52 07 27
  - Taco and Co (Arles): +33 (0)6 50 29 60 00

Don’t miss
- Daudet’s windmill (exterior only)
- Roman aqueduct at Barbegal and remains of Roman gristmill
- Château de Barbegal (room rental)
- Mas Baracan (wine from the Arles region): +33 (0)4 90 96 40 05
- Storks’ nest at the Haras d’Anibert (stud farm)
- Van Gogh bridge

Alpilles Crau Camargue
The diversity of our natural landscapes

Starting point: Fontvieille Tourism Office
Distance: 59 km
Take note:
- The trip is long
- Several dangerous roads must be crossed
- Difficult in the mistral wind

ARLES TOURISM OFFICE
Downtown Arles Information Center: Blvd. 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@arlestourisme.com
Website: www.arlestourisme.com

The diversity of our natural landscapes

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Alpilles Crau Camargue
The diversity of our natural landscapes
Alpilles, Crau, Camargue
The diversity of our natural landscapes

How to get there
From Arles take Route N570 toward Avignon, then turn onto Route D17 to Fontvieille. In Fontvieille take Route D33 toward Raphèle. The Tourism Office is located on your left, 200m further on. You can park in the Tourism Office parking lot.

From the Tourism Office 1 continue up Route D33 toward Raphèle and Mouës, as far as Daudet’s windmill 2, 400m further on. Go on to the top of the hill and then down to the junction with Route D82 3 at km 2.5. Turn left to visit the Roman aqueduct at Barbegal and the remains of the Roman gristmill 3bis. Come back to Route D33 (toward Raphèle-Mouës) and go by the Château de Barbegal (on your left). At km 3.9 just after the château, take Route 33b toward Pont de Crau and Arles. At km 6.6 take Route VC46 “Draïlle du Mas de Fallout” 5 toward Mas Baracan (wine from the Arles region). 500m further on and just after Mas Baracan (km 7.3), turn right on Route VC45 “Draïlle de Baracan”. After 600m of a nice dirt path and then 800m of gravel track, at the Stop sign, go straight ahead, to the west. At km 9.3 continue on your left (leave the Chemin du Pin on your right). At km 9.7 you will go by the foot of the television-relay antenna. After 2.8 km you will meet the Chemin de Margallan. Take this road to the intersection 7 with the Chemin de Fallet at km 10.5. Go toward Pont de Crau, then, after 200m, take a left-hand hairpin turn to rue de l’Agasse. 200m further on cross Route D83 (km 11) and take Route VC54 “de Servannes” across on your left. At km 12.3, at the “Yield” sign at the junction with the “CR de l’Ormeau”, go straight ahead on the V54 “de Servannes”.

At km 13.1 at the junction with the “CT de Bigard”, turn right onto the paved road. At km 13.7 cross Route VC55 de Boussicaud. At km 14.2 continue on Route VC54 “de Servannes” on your right (do not take the “CR de Soulier”). Between km 14.5 and 15.5 take advantage of the magnificent view of the Alpilles hills as you go through the pastureland of the irrigated part of the Crau. At km 15.7 cross Route D33 and continue straight ahead on the other side. At km 16.5 you will cross the Servannes bridge. After crossing the bridge keep right and go 300m then turn right (to the south) on Route VC58 “de Bellombre” toward Raphèle. After 2km you will meet Route N453 at km 18. Turn right and cross the whole village of Raphèle toward Arles-Pont de Crau. At km 20 after about 2.5km you leave the village, go by the church and turn left on Route D33-D83d, “Route de la Gare”, toward Mas-Thibert. Take the bridge across Route N113 and continue straight (dangerous road). 500m after the bridge on your right, on the corner near the Haras d’Anibert (stud farm) (km 20.9), stop to observe one of the rare storks’ nests in the Camargue. After the stud farm, go 2.5km further (on your right you will have a good view of the swamps where there are always bulls and Camargue horses). After the “Petit Beyne” at km 23.4 turn right on VC 66. At this crossroads you will notice a large sign saying that you are entering the territory belonging to the Camargue regional nature Park. Go almost 4km by Mas l’Espinard, Blanc, Tapie, St-Léger and L’Hoste farms. At km 27.2 turn right on Route C65 du Calada toward Arles. 300m after the Mas l’Hoste, at km 27.2, turn right (north-west) toward the Pont du Poissonnier (bridge), then you will cross successively three bridges. Immediately after the third, called “Pont de Mollegès” (at km 28.9) which crosses the Arles-Bouc Canal, you have two possibilities:

• Either you turn right and go to Arles passing by the Van Gogh bridge 18, 6.5km away. When you reach km 35 it will take you 12km to get back to Fontvieille.
• Or you turn left and head for Mas Thibert, located 9.4 km away, and the Vigueirat swamps.

To return to Fontvieille see other side of this page...