



AVIGNON
TOURISME

CRÉATEUR D'EXPÉRIENCES

Press KIT 2024 AVIGNON



20
TERRE
DE JEUX
24

AVIGNON
TERRE DE
CULTURE
2025

www.avignon-tourisme.com

AVIGNON
Ville d'exception



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AVIGNON

at a glance

The papal city basks in a warm climate all year round on the edge of Provence, between Italy and Spain.



AN EXCEPTIONAL HERITAGE

The city's best-known landmark is the Palais des Papes, the biggest Gothic palace and home to the popes in the 14th century.

A stone's throw from the Palais, Pont d'Avignon (or Pont Saint Bénézet) is another medieval landmark whose famous song has put it on the world map.

Both sites are part of a group of monuments listed as UNESCO World Heritage since 1995.

A CITY OF HISTORY

The historic centre is surrounded by the original city walls and is the perfect place for a stroll. The shady little squares and terraces buzz with life and are the perfect place for a glass of Côtes du Rhône, craft ale or Provence's very own lemon cordial (ask for a «pac à l'eau»!)



FREE MUSEUMS!

Art is everywhere: Avignon is an open-air museum playing host to an incredible array of collections.

Visitors can explore Avignon's 5 council museums for free all year round!

Indulge your inner culture vulture and pick up the Avignon city pass to visit more, for less



A FESTIVAL KNOWN THE WORLD OVER

Avignon Festival was founded in 1947 by Jean Vilar and hosts the best in contemporary performing arts every July.

Its support act, the Off Festival, turns the city into a huge joyful stage with over 1500 plays.

Watch performances at the opera, national orchestra, theatres, associations, galleries and third places to experience all forms of art throughout the year.

ARABLE LAND

Major events bring the seasons to life including Cheval Passion in winter, Printemps des Créateurs in spring, Tremplin Jazz and the Grande Exposition at the Palais des Papes in summer, Parcours de l'Art art trail in autumn.

Avignon is a hotspot for food, drink and wine tourism. The city is jam-packed with secret spots and Michelin-starred extravaganzas where chefs showcase their talent and celebrate their trade.



AVIGNON

deep in provence

You can take a high-speed TGV train from Paris to Avignon in 2 hr 40 or from Roissy Charles de Gaulle in 3 hours. There are daily train services between Avignon and the biggest European cities such as London with connections in Lille and Paris. Frankfurt, Madrid and Barcelona (on Renfe AVE high-speed trains), Geneva and Lausanne (Lyria TGV high-speed trains) are also within easy reach.



BY CAR

Motorway: : N7 / A7 / A9 / N100



BY BUS

The PEM (multimodal transport hub): view regional bus services to neighbouring towns on:

www.pemavignon.fr

All transport methods in the city and Greater Avignon on:

www.orizo.fr



LES PARKINGS D'AVIGNON-CENTRE

Palais des Papes, Halles and Gare Centre car parks: great deals for everyone whether you're a local, visitor or work in the city centre. Open 24/7

<https://avignon-parkings.com>

Browse all Avignon's car parks on:



Close to the city centre 2 free car parks are served by shuttle buses: Parking de l'île Piot and parking des Italiens.



BY PLANE

Marseille-Provence Airport is a 45 minute drive from the city with 121 destinations in summer and 100 in winter. Thirty airlines fly into the airport covering thirty countries and domestic flights.

Direct TER regional train services: Vitrolles (Marseille Airport MP2) to central Avignon.

Shuttle bus between Marseille-Provence Airport and Vitrolles-Marseille-Provence Airport TER train station.

www.marseille.aeroport.fr



BY BIKE

ViaRhôna (see page 29).

For more information, visit

www.avignon-tourisme.com

or www.viarhona.com



BY BOAT

Compagnie des Grands Bateaux de Provence operates the Halte Nautique harbour at the foot of Rocher des Doms, on Quai de la Ligne.

The Halte Nautique is open from April 1st to October 31st: for further information:

+33 (0)7 60 71 82 15

bateaudeprovence.fr





BY TRAIN::

2 STATIONS

The TGV station puts Avignon within 2 hr 40 of Paris, 3 hr of Roissy Charles de Gaulle and 1 hr of Lyon on the TGV Méditerranée high-speed train (30 min from Marseille).

Connections to Madrid, Barcelona, Frankfurt, Geneva, Brussels and Amsterdam.

Gare Centre station: full Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur regional train timetables available to view at

www.sncfconnect.com



GOOD TO KNOW

Several daily train services to the city centre.



OUR TOP PICKS for 2024

New addresses, new market, unmissable events!

THE GRANDE EXPOSITION AT THE PALAIS DES PAPES

The Grand Chapel has hosted major contemporary art exhibitions every year since the landmark opened to visitors. Some artists bring several pieces to the visitor experience to make it their own, and the latest offering is no exception.

In 2023, visual artist Eva Jopsin exhibited a dozen works along the visitor route, some of which were created by the monument itself.

MISS.TIC

«A la vie, à l'amor»

27 JUNE 2024 - 5 JANUARY 2025

For the second year running, the major exhibition at the Palais des Papes will feature works by a woman artist, stencil artist and emblematic figure of street art.

«The exhibition A la vie, à l'amor», the first monograph by Miss.Tic, who died in May 2022, celebrates all the poetic power of her work.

A pioneer of French urban art, she was above all a poetess in the city. Her work, written in spray paint on walls, canvases and metal sheets over more than forty years, is a veritable literary, societal and philosophical project. @Camille Lévy Sarfati

<https://palais-des-papes.com/>

NEW!

THE SUMMER NIGHT MARKET

The summer night market comes to Place du Palais des Papes for three weeks in August so you can stock up on local crafts, food and drink between 5pm and 10pm.



A la vie à l'amor @Atelier Miss.Tic

NEW!

THE CONFLUENCE

entertainment centre has moved into a wooden structure opposite Avignon TGV station. The modular showroom can accommodate up to 1650 people and has a free car park with 400 spaces. The unique venue has an eclectic schedule hosting every genre from live music and stand-up to circus shows.

Scheduled to open on February 15th 2024

www.confluencespectacles.fr

2024'S BIGGEST SPORTING EVENT!

OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY

WEDNESDAY JUNE 19TH 2024

The Vaucluse département is listed as a Land of the 2024 Games and a stage in the 2024 Olympics and Paralympics. The cauldron lighting ceremony for the Olympic Torch will take place in Avignon and end the relay in the papal city before a party in front of the Palais des Papes.

<https://avignon-tourisme.com/offres/passage-de-la-flamme-olympique-a-avignon-avignon-fr-4293262>



GRAINES DE PIMENT

This eatery opened in 2022 and serves honest, hearty dishes made using local and mainly organic ingredients. The dishes are great value for money and are made and served by a team of young people who want to get into the workplace and community.

4, place de la principale - Avignon

<https://grainesdepiment.com>

LE BARYUM 56,

cocktail and tapas bar in the city centre. This fabulous bar serves cocktails with 80% of the ingredients from France and the region.

21, rue des trois faucons - Avignon

<https://baryum56.fr>

HÔTEL DE CAMBIS***

Hôtel de Cambis is a stop on the wine route. It's home to L'Orsan wine bar in the old town, right next to Tourist Information.

89, rue Joseph Vernet - Avignon

www.hoteldecambis.com



AVIGNON

unesco world heritage

Avignon has been listed as UNESCO World Heritage since 1995 and attracts visitors from all over the world to experience centuries of unspoilt heritage. The city of Avignon is the owner of 49 listed historic buildings, and boasts a rich heritage.

www.avignon-monuments.com



THE PALAIS DES PAPES

Nine popes lived in Avignon between 1305 and 1429. The city was the Capital of Christianity. Both a colossal fortress and opulent palace, its contemporaries described it as «the most beautiful and strongest house in the world» (Froissart).

With 15,000m² of flooring and the size of 5 cathedrals, it took 20 years to build the Palais, between 1335 and 1352. Two popes were the driving forces behind it: Benedict XII, who had an extravagant and impressive papal palace built (Palais Vieux or Old Palace), and Clement VI, who had the Opus Novum built (Palais Neuf or New Palace).

25 rooms are open to visitors: large staterooms, treasuries, chapels, private apartments and their fabulous fresco interiors by Italian artist Matteo Giovannetti.

PONT D'AVIGNON (SAINT-BÉNEZET)

The bridge was originally 920m long with 22 arches (there are only four left now).

Building work began in the late 12th century and it was a construction site for hundreds of years. At the time it was the biggest structure on the Rhône and the only bridge across the river between Lyon and Mediterranean. It was damaged several times and rebuilt until the 17th century due to the effect of climate change on the Rhône's hydrology features at the end of the Middle Ages.

A walk on the bridge gives you incredible views of Tour Philippe le Bel, Fort Saint-André (Villeneuve lez Avignon), Palais des Papes, city walls and Petit Palais.



GOOD TO KNOW

Pont d'Avignon is the first and only medieval site with disabled access!

AVIGNON CATHEDRAL

It was built to the north of the Palais des Papes in a Romanesque Provençal style in 1150.

The great Italian artist Simone Martini painted the entrance hall murals in 1343. You can now see them at the Palais des Pape



PLACE DU PALAIS DES PAPES

From Place du Palais, you get a view of the Palais des Papes, Avignon Cathedral, Petit Palais Museum and Hôtel des Monnaies' baroque façade.

RAMPARTS

Among the best preserved and largest in France, they encircle the old town. They are 4.3km long and were built in 1355 during Innocent VI's time as pope to withstand attacks from the free companies. Building was completed in 1370 by Urban V. The listed section leads to the Doms Garden through the Pont d'Avignon entrance via a wall walk.

DISCOVER THE FILM
TO PROMOTE
UNESCO SITES IN PROVENCE
PRODUCED IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH ATOUT FRANCE



Venture further

PROVENCE UNESCO SITES

The Avignon area is home to as many as 8 UNESCO World Heritage sites.

What makes them unique is that they're all within a 2 hour drive of each other:

- Arc de Triomphe, Roman Theatre and its surroundings in Orange
- Roman and Romanesque monuments in Arles old town

- Pont du Gard
- Avignon old town: Palais des Papes, Pont d'Avignon, ramparts, Avignon Cathedral, Doms Garden, Petit Palais Museum
- Saint Gilles Abbey
- Chauvet Cave 2 – Ardèche
- Cité Radieuse by Le Corbusier in Marseille

The 8 UNESCO sites in Provence have joined forces to promote their listed landmarks to international visitors.

www.avignon-unesco.fr

NEW!



The Maison Carrée in Nîmes was listed as UNESCO World Heritage in September 2023 and joined the UNESCO sites in Provence network in October 2023.

3 ways to visit AVIGNON

Here are 3 great ways to squeeze every last drop out of your trip to your papal city.

1

WITH A TOUR GUIDE

Year-round schedule of themed, quirky and exciting tours to suit everyone!

View the full schedule of regular tours available all year round on: www.avignon-tourisme.com



2

WITH A DIFFERENCE

Whether you take a double decker bus, segway, canoe or boat and join us on a foodie tour or party, our partners introduce you to another side of Avignon.



3

ON YOUR OWN

With the City Pass Whether you choose 24 or 48 hours, with or without transport, the pass provides free or discounted admission to the must-see landmarks and sites in Avignon and Villeneuve lez Avignon plus reduced rates at the Palais des Papes car park! There are several routes available with a map/guide available in 5 languages from Tourist Information.

The 10km city walk. This heart-thumping hike covers the entire city, from the best-known landmarks to the secret spots only the locals know about.



FAMILY-FRIENDLY *adventures*

Avignon is jam-packed with cultural and outdoor activities for children and adults: it's the perfect place for a family holiday to remember!

HERITAGE AND CULTURE

Young visitors can explore the Palais on a treasure hunt using an interactive tablet called the Histopad.

SCAVENGER HUNT - PALAIS DES PAPES MYSTERY KIT

The «Mystery in the City» kit from the Palais des Papes is a fun-filled way for everyone to explore the landmark (exc. grounds)

The museums in Avignon host workshops for children all year round.



GOOD TO KNOW

Ask for the special «Avignon Family Guide» booklet at the Tourist Office.



YEAR-ROUND PERFORMANCES AND EVENTS

Countless Avignon theatres host family-friendly performances and children's events (workshops, storytelling etc.).

The HiverÔmomes (children's festival during Les Hivernales) sets the stage alight every February.

Festo Pitcho is a children's festival celebrating performing arts in spring. Le Totem is now a benchmark for performing arts, public-funded theatre, children and youth art with lots on in July and events throughout the year.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Suggestion: there are play areas for all ages in the city centre parks. The Urban V Garden's play area brings to mind the Palais des Papes and the Rocher des Doms playground has incredible views!

ÎLE DE LA BARTHELASSE WITH THE FAMILY

The biggest river island in Europe is the perfect playground for families. Visitors can take a bike ride to stock up on fresh seasonal produce on the island's farms, play a round of mini golf and enjoy a picnic or snack on the towpath.

Cool off at the pool or set sail on a canoe on the Rhône in summer.



GOOD TO KNOW

Stop at the Maison du Parc visitor centre on the Rhône riverbanks for fantastic views of the papal city, ramparts and Mont Ventoux. A free ferry takes pedestrians and cyclists across the Rhône from Pont d'Avignon to Barthelasse Island all year round (times on: www.avignon-tourisme.com)



In Avignon's COLLECTIONS

Avignon may be small in size, but it's big on history! The monuments and museums capture the papal city's exciting history. Take a trip back in time and gaze in wonder at the showcase brought to you by the city's free museums or private collections.

MUNICIPAL MUSEUMS

PETIT PALAIS MUSEUM

The Palais des Archevêques has been turned into a museum where visitors can explore how art has brought Avignon and Italy together since the Middle Ages. The museum plays host to an outstanding collection of early Italian paintings from the Louvre.

REQUIEN MUSEUM

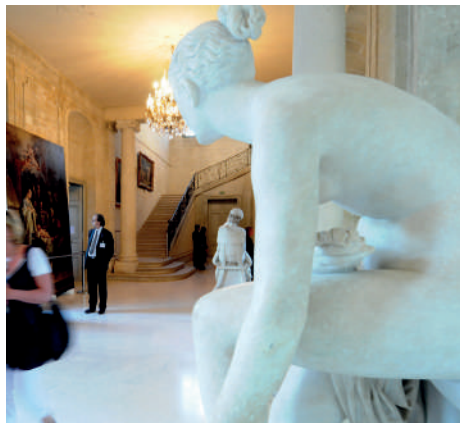
The natural history museum is named after the Avignon naturalist who founded it in 1840: Esprit Requien. Its collections present Vaucluse's geology, history and paleontology to provide an overview of its biodiversity, flora and fauna.

CALVET MUSEUM

The Calvet Museum stands in a regal 18th century manor. Esprit Calvet left his collection of 15th-20th century paintings, sculptures and decorative arts to the museum in 1810.

LAPIDAIRE MUSEUM

The 17th century baroque-style Jesuit chapel is now the Lapidaire Museum. It exhibits archaeological items from the Esprit Calvet collection. Visitors can explore a wide array of Celtic, Greek, Etruscan, Roman and Egyptian items on a deep dive into the history of Mediterranean cultures.



LE PALAIS DU ROURE

Baroncelli-Javon's 15th century manor became a hotspot for Provençal culture. Jeanne de Flandreysy and Emile Espérandieu moved in and kept the legacy alive. Visitors can now experience their passion for regional culture as they gaze at the pieces that adorned their home and their collection of artworks, items, documents and archives.

MOUNT OF PIETY AND SILK FACTORY MUSEUM AND COUNCIL ARCHIVE CENTRE

The museum displays items, artworks and documents detailing the history of the oldest mount of piety in France (1610) and the silk factory established in 1801.

The council archive centre hosts temporary exhibitions exploring the history of Avignon and its residents.

<https://archives.vaucluse.fr>



UNLOCKING PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS AND COLLECTIONS

ANGLADON MUSEUM - JACQUES DOUCET COLLECTION

The haute couture pioneer's art collection. 18th, 19th and 20th century masterpieces live together in a manor: Van Gogh, Cézanne, Degas, Manet, Sisley, Picasso, Modigliani, J. Vernet, Chardin... Period salons and Orient studies.
www.angladon.com

LOUIS VOULAND MUSEUM

A beautiful manor with garden views, home to a fascinating collection of decorative arts reflecting the 17th and 18th century (Parisian furniture, earthenware from the South of France, Moustiers, Marseille, goldsmithery, tapestries, painting) alongside a collection of 19th and 20th century Provençal paintings.
www.vouland.com

LA MAISON JEAN VILAR

Exhibition and archive centre for Jean Vilar's work (1912-1971) and the history of the Avignon Festival since its foundation in 1947. With a branch of the French National Library. Free (exc. certain temporary exhibitions).

<https://maisonjeanvilar.org/>

LAMBERT COLLECTION

The art trader and collector Yvon Lambert donated a collection of 2000 major pieces to the French government. The museum's permanent exhibition now displays the best from his collection from the 60s to the present day. There are also original temporary exhibitions showcasing current artists and an exciting cultural schedule for visitors of all ages

www.collectionlambert.com

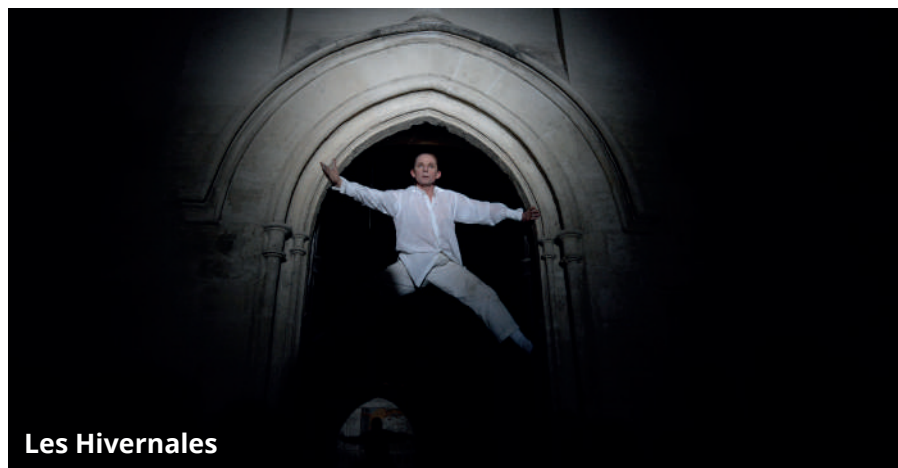
AVIGNON 2025 LAND OF CULTURE



To celebrate Avignon's 25th anniversary as the European Capital of Culture, the city and its attractions want to bring culture to the masses. New cultural and heritage sites will open to boost Avignon's cultural identity and appeal to tourists.

FESTIVAL(S) & venues

Avignon has been famous for theatre and performing arts ever since Jean Vilar founded the Avignon Festival in 1947. The city not only hosts the festival every July, but it's also home to a dozen permanent theatres, countless theatre companies, an Opéra Théâtre, Orchestre National and national stages.



FESTIVAL α-OUT

The Avignon Amateur Theatre Festival brings 3 theatres together.

First week of August

<https://theatredesvents.fr>

LE TOTEM

Public-funded theatre: art, childhood, youth

Alongside its year-round entertainment schedule for young audiences, Le Totem runs theatrical expression workshops and children's festivals: Festo Pitcho in April, Théâtre'enfants Festival at La Maison pour Tous Monclar in July.

www.le-totem.com

OPÉRA GRAND AVIGNON

The Opéra Grand Avignon hosts a wide range of performances to suit any audience: opera, dance, theatre and music. It also gives contemporary pieces pride of place. Its ballet, choir and choirmasters contribute to its reputation and make it a dynamic venue throughout the year.

The opera reopened in 2021 after a 4 year renovation. It hosts artists in residence, free cultural events at lunchtime and a gift shop selling eco-friendly collector items.

www.operagrandavignon.fr

FEST'HIVER

Les Scènes d'Avignon sets the stage for new companies in the region with the annual winter festival. Les Scènes d'Avignon brings 5 Avignon theatres and permanent companies together: Théâtre du Balcon, Théâtre du Chêne Noir, Théâtre du Chien qui Fume, Théâtre des Carmes, Théâtre des Halles and Théâtre Transversal

www.scenesdavignon.fr

LE CDCN LES HIVERNALES

FEBRUARY 14TH-21ST 2024 | LES HIVERÔMOMES
FEBRUARY 22ND-MARCH 2ND 2024 | LES HIVERNALES

Le CDCN-Les Hivernales puts dance culture in the spotlight with performances, artists in residence, events and classes.

www.hivernales-avignon.com

PRINTEMPS DU OFF

Fédération des théâtres indépendants d'Avignon

Avignon Independent Theatre Federation brings together 75 private venues in Avignon. The federation launched Printemps du Off with a line-up of performances for all ages between April and June 2024.

www.printempsduoff.fr

AVIGNON FESTIVAL

JUNE 29TH-JULY 21ST 2024

It's now one of the biggest contemporary performing arts festivals in the world. Avignon has turned into a theatre city every summer for the last 78 years

www.festival-avignon.com

OFF FESTIVAL

JULY 3RD-21ST 2024

All forms of performing arts descend on Avignon at summer's must-see event: theatre, dance, music, circus and more. The Off Festival stages over 1500 shows for 3 weeks.

www.festivaloffavignon.com



GOOD TO KNOW

Avignon Tourist Information compiles all the month's festivals, events and get-togethers for children and adults in Les Rendez-Vous d'Avignon



ORCHESTRE NATIONAL AVIGNON PROVENCE

The Orchestre National Avignon-Provence was founded in the late 18th century and works in partnership with Opéra Grand Avignon throughout the opera season.

The orchestra is invited to the biggest festivals all over the world. Debora Waldman was the first female conductor of a regional national orchestra in France when she was given the role in 2020.

www.orchestre-avignon.com

AJMI

The jazz and improv association champions creative and exciting jazz and hosts a range of concerts all year round: jazz, rock, improv, variety and more.

www.ajmi.fr

CREATIVE SPACES

LE GRENIER À SEL

The listed salt mill hosts an all-encompassing cultural schedule exploring art, science and technology. Exhibitions, shows, workshops, screenings, concerts, talks and more.

<https://legrenierasel-avignon.fr>

AVIGNON ARTS CONTEMPORAINS

The centre strives to become a contemporary art hub and set the benchmark for the subject in our region.

avignon-arts-contemporains.com

AVIGNON ART COLLEGE

Ecole Supérieure d'Art d'Avignon (ESAA) is an art college with four national curation/restoration courses overseen by the Musées de France Board.

esaavignon.eu

MACA

MAC'A (Maison des Arts Contemporains d'Avignon) celebrates contemporary art and brings it to the masses. It holds a major exhibition at Saint Louis Cloister every year. année.

www.mac-a.org

QUARTET +

The council provides artists and cultural associations with free use of churches and chapels such as Église des Célestins, Cloître Saint-Louis, La Manutention, Chapelle Saint-Michel and Eglise des Cordeliers so anyone can experience art in all its forms.

www.avignon.fr/fr/ma-ville/culture/quartet-avignon

THE ART TRAIL

Ten days in October.

Around thirty contemporary artists exhibit their creations throughout the town, exchanging ideas and...

www.parcoursdelart.com



YEAR-ROUND *schedule*

WINTER

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES AND PROVENÇAL TRADITIONS

LATE NOVEMBER-LATE DECEMBER

Christmas markets, fairytale processions and walks, elf's village, Provençal nativities... Children and adults can soak up the wonder of Christmas and experience classic Provençal traditions.

Find out more in December on www.avignon-tourisme.com

CHEVAL PASSION

JANUARY 17TH-21ST 2024

The winter horse festival.

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.

www.cheval-passion.com

L'AUTRE FESTIVAL SAVIGNON BOOK FAIR

FEBRUARY 2ND-4TH 2024

Over 60 authors come to the festival every year.

Book signings, conferences, workshops throughout the city and literature awards.

www.lautre-festival.fr

SPRING

MOTOR PASSION

MARCH 22ND-24TH 2024

Avignon Tourist Board would like to introduce you to a major new vintage car event.

Over 100 clubs, 350 exhibitors and 2000 cars.

motor-passion.com

SPRING FAIR

APRIL 12TH-14TH 2024

Food & drink, wellness, household and garden furniture, social atmosphere. Lots of events.

www.foire-avignon.com

PRINTEMPS DES CRÉATEURS

2 DAYS IN MAY

Designers and artisans exhibit and sell their pieces on the city's squares and streets. Stands, workshops etc.

www.avignon.fr



FESTIVAL RÉSONANCE

SUMMER

LES ESTIVALES DU RHÔNE

THURSDAYS IN JUNE

*please see tickle your tastebuds page

compagnonscotesdurhone.fr/les-estivales-du-rhone

ID-ILE FESTIVAL

JUNE 7TH AND 8TH 2024

Contemporary music festival on île de la Barthelasse. Music, food, experiences and more on the island.

www.id-ile.com

FESTIVAL D'AVIGNON

JUNE 29TH-JULY 21ST 2024

*please see festivals page

OFF FESTIVAL

JULY 3RD-21ST 2024

*please see festivals page

FESTIVAL RESONANCE

LATE JULY

Current music from soul and electro to funk, hip hop, house, bossa, dub and more in outstanding locations such as the Pont d'Avignon.

www.festival-resonance.fr

BAN DES VENDANGES

ONE DAY IN LATE AUGUST

*please see lifestyle page

www.compagnonscotesdurhone.fr



ID-ILE FESTIVAL

AUTUMN

MARCHÉ DES POTIERS

ONE DAY IN OCTOBER

Thirty exhibitors showcase their pottery designs in a range of techniques: earthenware, glazed ceramics, sandstone etc.

ART TRAIL

*see page 17 CREATIVE SPACES e.

AVIGNON VÉLO PASSION

3 DAYS IN OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

On the agenda: competitions, events, an exhibitor village, introductions, conferences and an indoor BMX competition with an Open Pro attended by cyclists from all over the world.

www.avignon-velopassion.com

MILLEVIN

3RD THURSDAY IN NOVEMBER

*please see tickle your tastebuds page

www.vins-rhone.com

COMIC STRIP FESTIVAL

ONE WEEKEND IN NOVEMBER

A weekend of signings, events and exhibitions. A dive into the world of comics.

ARTIST STUDIO OPEN DAY

NOVEMBER 16TH-17TH 2024

Avignon's contemporary artists open their doors to the general public and present their work in their studios.

www.avignonateliersartistes.org



AVIGNON VÉLO PASSION



MILLÉVIN

TICKLE YOUR TASTEBUDS

Avignon brings you a taste of the best in Provençal cuisine. Countless chefs here use local produce and put their talent into making real classics. Experience high standard grape varieties and a whole host of wineries in Avignon, the Côtes-du-Rhône capital.

AVIGNON, THE CÔTES DU RHÔNE CAPITAL

Vines have been grown in the Rhône Valley since Antiquity. Vine growing boomed with the papal state in the 14th century on the left bank of the Rhône and with the French Kingdom in the 17th century on the right bank. The Côtes-du-Rhône designation first appeared in 1937. It sets out the production rules and vintages. Avignon became the capital of Côtes-du-Rhône in 1996.

INTER RHÔNE brings together winemakers and merchants from the Rhône Valley, hosts events, guided tastings and courses (at the Palais's Ecole des Vins).

www.vins-rhone.com

CÔTES DU RHÔNE EVENTS

LES ESTIVALES DES CÔTES-DU-RHÔNE

THURSDAYS IN JUNE

Four evenings to taste wine from the local region and meet producers as the music plays in different venues in the city centre!

compagnonscotesdurhone.fr

INTER RHÔNE CÔTES DU RHÔNE WINE BAR

IN JULY

7-11PM, EVERY NIGHT DURING THE FESTIVAL

Rhône winemakers, cellars and wineries introduce visitors to a new selection of Côtes du Rhône and Côtes du Rhône Villages wine.

cotesdurhone.com/bar-a-vins-des-cotes-du-rhone

LE BAN DES VENDANGES

ONE DAY IN LATE AUGUST

There's a Brotherhood parade, harvest mass, papal vineyard harvest, Côtes du Rhône wine tasting, farmer's market at the Halles followed by a picnic banquet at Rocher des Doms and a dance.

<https://compagnonscotesdurhone.fr>

MILLÉVIN

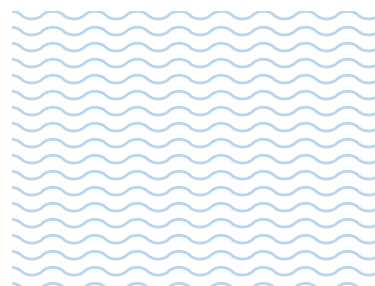
3RD THURSDAY IN NOVEMBER

A Côtes du Rhône event in Avignon to celebrate the vintage: brotherhood parade, tastings, concerts etc.

www.millevin.fr

UN VERRE AUX JARDINS

EVERY THURSDAY FROM THE END OF JULY TO THE END OF AUGUST, (re) discover the region's wines in a musical setting in the majestic Pontifical Gardens!



SHALL WE HAVE A GLASS OF CÔTES DU RHÔNE?

VINOTAGE, WINE BARGE
www.vinotage-avignon.fr

LE VIN DEVANT SOI
<https://www.levindevantsoi.com/>

L'ORSAN WINE BAR AT
HOTEL DE CAMBI
<https://www.hoteldecambis.com/bar-a-vin>



And more...





L'ÉCOLE DES VINS DU CARRÉ DU PALAIS

Carré du Palais is devoted to Rhône Valley wine opposite the Palais des Papes.

It has something for everyone who visits with its wine school, 100% Rhône wine bar, impressive wine cellar and year-round events.

www.carredupalais.fr

Wine school schedule and bookings:
www.vins-rhone.com/ecole-des-vins

A DRINK IN THE GARDENS

Every Thursday from the end of July to the end of August, (re) discover the wines of the region in a musical setting in the majestic Pontifical Gardens!



LE CLOS DE LA VIGNE DU PAPE

This 900m2 vineyard plot is listed as UNESCO World Heritage and gazes out over the Rhône and Pont d'Avignon.

It sets the stage for 500 vine stocks with a dozen Rhône Valley grape varieties.

The Compagnons des Côtes-du-Rhône association is in charge of maintaining and protecting it. This association is made up of winemakers and enthusiasts in equal measure.



DOMAINE SAINT PIERRE D'ESCARVAILLAC

Château Saint-Pierre d'Escarvaillac is the only independent winery in Avignon. The 13th century estate is converting to organic farming and makes red wine, fruit juice and olive oil. Soak up a blend of art, history and vine growing on a trip to the winery.

Please drink responsibly.



VISIT FARMS, MARKETS & PRODUCERS

LES HALLES

The Halles is a large market hall home to forty traders selling fresh local produce.

Open Tuesday-Sunday: 6am-1.30pm

www.avignon-leshalles.com

FARMER'S MARKET

The farmer's market takes to Allées de l'Oulle on Mondays between 5 and 7pm from April to October. Twenty traders and farmers sell local produce including products from nearby Barthelasse Island.

BIENVENUE À LA FERME FOODIE WEEKEND

One weekend in November

Farmers in the Bienvenue à la Ferme network introduce their produce in a warm and social atmosphere

www.bienvenue-a-la-ferme.com

LE TIPI

This is an energy transition hotspot, a pioneering centre and the first of its kind in our region that gives children and adults an all-encompassing insight into permaculture and farming with a whole host of events. s.

<https://lesitedutipi.fr>

FERME LA REBOULE

Reboule is a family-run farm selling fruit and vegetables. It stands on Barthelasse Island. The three brothers have been growing and selling their fruit and vegetables for 3 generations on a 14ha farm and Provençal country house.

www.facebook.com/p/Ferme-la-Reboule-100064489910292/?locale=fr_FR

LA FERME AUX GUS

Micro farm on Barthelasse Island. You can book fruit and vegetable hampers online and stay in a yurt on-site.

<https://lafermeauxgus.wixsite.com/monsite>

Meet the local producers:



AVIGNON AND PROVENCE SPECIALITIES

Papalines: chocolate sweet treat with a Comtat oregano liquor centre and Ventoux herbs. The classic confectionery dates back to 1960 when the Vaucluse master pastry chef union invented it.

You can pick some up from bakeries and sweet shops all over Avignon including **Aline Géhant** and **La Tropézienne**.

Daube Avignonnaise is the city's take on a classic stew. Lamb shoulder or mutton replaces beef and it's all marinated in white wine.

Other regional specialities include Apt candied fruit, Carpentras strawberries and truffle, Sault nougat and spelt, Cavaillon melon, Camargue rice, Aix calissons (almond biscuits), olives, fougasse bread, herbes de Provence, pastis, PAC à l'eau (lemon cordial) and countless craft ales! Local dishes stand out for their garlic, olive oil, tomato sauces and lots of aromats: thyme, basil, onion, rosemary, savory, bay leaf and more.

MADE IN AVIGNON

Avignon is a breeding ground for craftsmen and local talents to showcase their expertise.



GLACIER LA PRINCIÈRE

La Princière makes homemade artisan ice cream in unique flavours without colourants or flavour enhancers.

www.facebook.com/LaPrinciere

LES FABRICATEURS

Les Fabricateurs are a group of twenty-odd artistic, creative and artisan sites in Avignon providing a visitor trail in the city.

www.fabricateurs.com

LES ARTISANS DE LA BARTHELASSE

Craft shop run by an association of several trades: ironmongers, sculptors, painters, designers and more.

www.facebook.com/p/Les-Artisans-de-la-Barthelasse-100078147261373

ALINE GÉHANT CHOCOLATERIE

Artisan chocolatier based in Avignon for over a decade. She makes her Les Balades en Provence chocolate bars with an illustrator, Lululanaïtaise, and local artisan printer.

www.aline-gehant-chocolatier.com

DISTILLERIE MANGUIN

Maison Manguin has been showcasing its expertise and passion for fruit brandy for 60 years on Barthelasse Island. Emmanuel and Béatrice Hanquiez have concocted premium spirits.

www.manguin.com



THE BEATING HEART OF STREET ART

Avignon is alive with a hotbed of talent: painters, street artists, graphic artists, screen printers and more. Feast your eyes as you wander around town, spot artwork on street corners or visit the artists in their studios.

«TROMPE L'OEIL» PAINTED WINDOWS

Artist Marion Pochy worked with the painter Dominique Durand to create painted windows in Avignon as part of a project that began in 1986. Each of the 70 trompe-l'œil windows depict an Avignon Festival milestone since it was founded by Jean Vilar in 1947.

CURRENT ARTISTS

Fifteen artists have made their mark on the papal city streets: **Invader**, the street artist with mosaics all over the world who took over the city when it was the European Capital of Culture in 2000; **Zorm** and his street sculptures including his signature monkey heads; **Mifamosa**, the brains behind over 300 mosaic street signs in over 20 French towns and cities; **Reano Feros** and his own «Calligraffiti» alphabet; **Arkane** who painted a giant mural on the Cowool wall; **Goddog** whose murals reach out to a wider audience to bring art to the masses; **Pablito Zago**, a self-taught and multi-talented artist with a passion for large installations and colour; **Russ**, a painter and graffiti artist with a love for graphic art, fashion and design; **Densoner** who specialises in graphic art and murals; **Andrea Ravo Mattoni**, an Italian artist who crafted a Pierrot based on Antoine Watteau's famous painting.

Ben Sanair is an artist and screen printer influenced by modern literature and art. He now runs La Générale Minérale printing company and co-manages the Turboformat gallery with Goddog and shop where he handles print runs.



Andrea Ravo Mattoni



Space Invader

ARTIST STUDIOS

LE CARTEL ASSOCIATION

The association was founded in 2013 to expand and promote street art and contemporary artistic design to bring them to a wider audience at events like the Artyshop (December) which the artists themselves run with a gallery/shop throughout December on Place des Corps Saints.

www.associationlecartel.com

TURBOFORMAT

Turboformat is a creative space run by La Générale Minérale association since 2018. It promotes art in all its forms in Avignon with a screen print and paint studio, a gallery and shop. . facebook.com/turboformat





Pablito Zago



C215



Marion Pochy

AVIGNON GOES GREEN

Aside from the green lungs that are Barthelasse and the Green Belt, the city is home to 60 parks, squares and gardens plus a sprawling network of bike paths where you can blow away the cobwebs. Our green areas are also social hubs with bars, sports facilities, play areas and bike hire

ILE DE LA BARTHELASSE

Barthelasse Island is next door to the city.

You can walk or catch the free water taxi to the island where you can unwind, walk, go on a family bike ride, run or have a sunset picnic with your friends.

It covers 700ha, 400 of which are farmed, making it the biggest river island in Europe. It's surrounded by two arms of the Rhône: the «grand Rhône» by Villeneuve and «petit Rhône» by Avignon. The islands went with the Rhône's ebbs and flows, with some ending up on the Gard bank and others on the Vaucluse bank. Some of the islands came together to form an archipelago.

Footpaths have now been laid on the Rhône riverbanks. The towpath has fantastic views of the Palais des Papes and Pont d'Avignon.

NEW!

MAISON DU PARC

The Maison du Parc visitor centre opened on Barthelasse Island in 2023. The visitor centre on the banks of the Rhône has a tourist information point and views of Pont d'Avignon. Open June-September.

WATER TAXI

Cross the Rhône for free from the Halte Nautique on Pont d'Avignon to the towpath on Ile de la Barthelasse.

Timetable on [avignon-tourisme.com/commerces/navette-fluviale-bac-a-traile](https://www.avignon-tourisme.com/commerces/navette-fluviale-bac-a-traile)

FOOTPATHS & BIKE PATHS

«Rampart Tour» Heritage trail

4.3km, approx. 45 mins

Towpath greenway ,

A family outing to Parc Chico Mendès

8km return, approx. 30 mins each way.

Île de la Barthelasse

A leisurely ride in a leafy haven near the old town.
approx. 13km, 1.5 hour

For further information about our bike rides, pick up our booklet at Tourist Information or online at



WHERE TO HIRE BIKES?

South spirit bike
www.southspiritbike.com

Provence Bike
www.provence-bike.com

Vélopop
300 self-service bikes available
24/7 from 30 stations in Avignon
www.velopop.fr

NEW!

PASSERELLE DE L'OISELAY

Cycling tourists can hook up with the ViaRhôna from the Maison du Parc visitor centre and ride across the latest suspension bridge for walkers and cyclists which opened in October 2023: Passerelle de L'Oiselay. The 200m long bridge connects the Gard and Vaucluse regions.





VIARHÔNA

The 815km ViaRhôna starts at Lake Geneva, ends at the Mediterranean and runs through Avignon where two stages meet. It's the first major city it reaches after Lyon and puts you on the home stretch to the sea. Visit www.avignon-tourisme.com or www.viarhona.com for further information

PARKS

ROCHER DES DOMS GARDEN

The 29,000m² park is a lovely place to visit with fabulous views of the river and region as well as a large pond bustling with swans, ducks, geese and carp. You can pick up snacks and drinks from the little café.

URBAN V GARDEN

Pope Urban V had it built behind the Palais des Papes in the 14th century and it was restored in 2017. It now has a play area, fountain and shaded orchard terrace.

SQUARE AGRICOL PERDIGUIER

The so-called «Little Garden» has a play area and small café that opens in mid and high season

PALACE GARDENS

The grounds are an integral part of any tour of the monument and have lots of places to relax in. The papal gardens (the 1250m² Benedict XII Garden and 662m² Pope's Garden) were renovated in 2018 and won the city gold in the Remarkable Gardens category at the Victoires du Paysage landscaping awards.

GREEN TRANSPORT

ORIZO - GREATER AVIGNON PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Orizo is the Greater Avignon public transport network run by TCRA which is still Greater Avignon's transport operator. www.orizo.fr

LA BALADINE - FREE

A 100% electric and silent bus with a capacity for 4 seated and 8 standing passengers. Just put your hand out to stop it as it drives around the city centre.

CHRON'HOP

Chron'hop, simpler and faster bus routes. 5 articulated hybrid buses provide the two Chron'hop services: 18m long with a capacity for 155 users.

TRAM

Greater Avignon plays host to a 5.2km tram line.

A tram extension was approved on March 9th 2018 with research into engineering and traffic still ongoing.

www.grandavignon.fr/fr/le-tramway-avignon-des-rails-verts-comme-fil-rouge

THE PALAIS' BEES

The Car Elles Butinent association has been looking after bee hives at Rocher des Doms since April 2021. The project is sponsored and funded by MELVITA which has been battling to protect bees and biodiversity for over a decade.

The Palais des Papes grounds play host to an educational hive.

The honey produced by the hives is available to buy at the Palais des Papes gift shop.

Further information: www.avignon-tourisme.com

LET OFF STEAM

The Papal City has a whole host of sports facilities suitable for all abilities. Its mild year-round climate makes it the perfect place for outdoor activities too.

STREET SPORTS

OLD SKULLZ

Skateboard school for all ages. The club hosts sports and cultural events showcasing street culture. .
www.oldskullzskateboard.fr

ILE PIOT SKATE PARK

The skate park is easy to reach on foot or by bus and you can skateboard, rollerskate or BMX here all year. The Old Skullz club runs the skateboarding classes.

URBAN WAKE PARK

Water sports centre for wakeboarders of all abilities, beginner or expert. Soak up the warm summer evenings at the restaurant area
www.urban-wakepark.fr

AVIGNON ROLLER DERBY

This American roller skating sport is fast-paced and full-contact. Avignon's all-female Rabbit Skulls team plays in the first French championship run by the French Roller Sports Federation. .
www.myrollerderby.com/avignon-roller-derby





SPORTS FACILITIES

LA PLAINE DES SPORTS

The leafy 7ha site is devoted to sports and leisure. It's home to a whole host of leisure and sports facilities: BMX track, skate park, fitness trail, city stadium, football and rugby pitch, climbing wall, play area and more.

avignon-tourisme.com/activites/la-plaine-des-sports

HALLES SPORTIVES GENICOUD

The gym has been renovated, extended and connected to its neighbourhood to become a temple of gymnastics, circus arts in partnership with Cirque du Soleil, parkour and intergenerational sports.

WATER SPORTS CENTRE

This iconic facility has 3 outdoor pools: an Olympic 50m pool, diving pool and paddling pool. Spa with gym, Turkish baths, saunas, jacuzzis and solarium. The building is listed as 20th century outstanding heritage. .

www.avignon.fr/les-equipements/les-piscines

LA PALMERAIE OLYMPIC POOL

Cool off in the heart of the Papal City with views of Pont d'Avignon. An outdoor Olympic pool, 3m and 5m diving boards, paddling pool with water fun for little ones. Enjoy a snack break at La Magie des Pains all year round..

www.piscine-avignon.net

View all the local swimming pools on



GOOD TO KNOW

2024 OLYMPICS: Halles Sportives Genicoud has been selected as a training centre for athletes.



AVIGNON

conference and group destination

Avignon provides facilities and infrastructures to host our business visitors and groups with our comfortable hotel capacity, easy access by road, train or plane, an all-encompassing variety of restaurants and a wide range of things to do.



A CONFERENCE CENTRE INSIDE THE BIGGEST GOTHIC PALACE!

The conference centre, (pending ISO 2021 certification) provides 16 meeting rooms with personality to host 20-536 people.
Total convention area: 1800m2

The convention centre can also host a lot of people.
7 single-storey halls host events with 15,000m2 of indoor space and 50,000m2 of outdoor space just 2 minutes from the Avignon Sud motorway exit

CONTACTS

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Business Club Manager**
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The guide and ticket department provides guided tours all year round.
A regular year-round tour schedule explores a range of themes to introduce visitors to all the papal city has to offer, its outstanding sites and monuments.

The incoming department organises bespoke stays for groups and professionals in partnership with tour operators and event planners.
groupreservation@avignon-tourisme.com
Tel +33 (0)4 90 27 50 50



MAJOR projects

Avignon is constantly changing and major projects pop up to give locals and visitors alike an even better experience.

HOTÊL DES MONNAIES AND CLOÎTRE DES CELESTINS

Two new hotels coming soon!

These two heritage buildings will be home to a boutique hotel and luxury hotel in the next few years.

BAINS POMMER

The 520m² building was listed as a Monument Historique in 1992 and will soon have 12 apartments, a garden and veranda.

COUR DES DOMS

This unique and historical memorial site has been abandoned for 15 years but is now home to residences and is about to become a social hub for people to get together.

GARE CENTRE

The station forecourt will become a green area designed to make

it easier for people to switch between transport methods (train, tram, bus, bike etc.).

The idea behind the project is to encourage intermodal passenger transport by providing the level of service you'd expect of a major regional station. The focus is on green transport.

80 trees and 70 shrubs will be planted and birdhouses will be installed.

Due for completion in 2025.

JEAN-LOUIS BARRAULT MULTIMEDIA LIBRARY

Destined to become a real place to live, a future cultural Mecca outside the city.

Check out the council's major projects on:

www.avignon.fr/avignon-se-reinvente/grands-projets



LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION AVIGNON FILM LOCATION

Vaucluse Council and Vaucluse Provence Attractivité unveiled a **cinema plan** just over a year ago to put Vaucluse in the spotlight. **Three animation studios** have opened in Vaucluse within a year: Station animation, Circus and Duetto.

The département saw 237 days of filming and 56 projects in 2022.

Avignon was honoured to host

Claude Lelouch in July 2023 to shoot his 51st film, with some scenes shot at the Palais des Papes. **A sound and image college** by the 3IS Group is due to open in September 2024 at Agroparc. Avignon Council has had a **cinema department** for years and receives a hundred shooting requests every year.

HELPING *the environment*

Avignon has implemented several urban planning projects that have transformed the city and earned it a whole host of accolades, awards and labels that reflect its commitment to the environment.

LABELS

View full information about these accolades on
<https://www.avignon.fr/ma-ville/labels-et-reconnaisances>



AVIGNON TOURIST BOARD'S COMMITMENT TO HIGH STANDARD SERVICES

The Tourist Board puts its all into making its visitors happy by welcoming their thoughts, suggestions and complaints to constantly improve the standard of our services and the destination.

Webpage about Avignon Tourist Board's quality procedure :

<https://avignon-tourisme.com/demarche-qualite>



TOURISME & HANDICAP!

The state's Tourisme et Handicap accreditation acknowledges a business's commitment to inclusion and guarantees appropriate disabled facilities. Tourist Information is approved for 4 disabilities: mobility, visual, hearing, learning.



FRENCH SERVICE STANDARD - TOURIST INFORMATION

Avignon Tourist Board worked with AFNOR, the French certification leader, to recognise and promote the standard of its services. The certification is renewed every 2 years with annual reviews based on several criteria that you can read about on the webpage.



CATEGORY 1 (TI rating)

The Tourist Information rating scheme is by prefectural decree and applies for 5 years. The Category 1 rating enables the area to rank as a Tourism Resort, a sign of first class hospitality.



Accueil Vélo is a French brand that guarantees hospitality and first class services along bike paths for cyclists on holiday. The label is renewed every 3 years.

Link to the accessibility and comfort guide :



Cycling guide :
Avignon by bike



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The Press Office AND YOU

Are you planning a press trip to Avignon? Get in touch! We're here to support you, advise you, update your information and help you with your filming and photo shoot requests - in short, to make your life easier!

YOUR PRESS CONTACT



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FILMING AND PERMITS

We are at your service for all your filming requirements in Avignon and its monuments. To facilitate the implementation of your project, we invite you to provide us with a detailed presentation and to specify: the number of participants, the proposed locations, your technical requirements and your production schedule.

IMPORTANT: drone filming is not permitted in monuments during public opening hours. Permission must be obtained from the Vaucluse Prefecture

PHOTOTHÈQUE

If you need visuals of Avignon, the city, our monuments or anything else, visit our online photo library!

<http://phototheque.avignon-tourisme.com:8047/Avignon-Tourisme>



AVIGNON
TOURISME

CRÉATEUR D'EXPÉRIENCES

AVIGNON TOURIST INFORMATION

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**OPEN ALL YEAR
SEASONAL OPENING TIMES**

avignon-tourisme.com

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— TOP —
FRENCH CITIES *The best way
to experience France*