



PROVENCE-ALPES-CÔTE D'AZUR

# WHAT'S NEW?

OUTDOOR & NATURE  
NEWS & EVENTS

2026

#PROVENCE  
#ALPES  
#COTEDAZUR



| PROVENCE



| ALPES



| CÔTE D'AZUR

**F**rance's leading region for tourism, flying the flag of three international destination brands - Provence, Southern French Alps and Cote d'Azur -, the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region is pursuing its commitment to excellence, innovation and the environment in 2026.

A little corner of France home to 5 million inhabitants, our region welcomes tourists from the world over every year, come to savour our rich heritage, exceptionally diverse scenery between sea and mountain, buzzing cultural scene, fine food and the unique sense of hospitality that has become our trademark.

But today, more than ever before, being a top tourist destination also means being an example to all.

Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur has demonstrated its resolute commitment to the ecological transition by voting Europe's first "100% green" budget. In 2026, we are going a step further by accelerating the decarbonisation of transport, boosting the cycling sector, developing rail tourism and providing massive assistance to help our travel professionals shift to more sustainable models. Our ambition is clear: to make Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur a European ambassador for the fight against climate change.

2026 is also a pivotal year for the upcoming 2030 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games in the French Alps. We are not just welcoming a sporting event, we are building a genuine legacy, with sober, useful and innovative Games that prioritize existing amenities and accelerate the positive transformation of our alpine territories. "Passion Montagne 2050" is our roadmap for the future, ensuring our mountains offer a lively, attractive, accessible and preserved place for families and future generations to live all year round.

Bring on 2030!

President of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur  
Regional Tourist Board



# OUTDOOR & NATURE

THE “DESTINATION  
PARCS” REGIONAL  
NATURE RESERVE  
PLATFORM

ALL ABOARD  
THE “TRAIN  
OF WONDERS”

WARMING UP FOR  
THE 2030 WINTER  
GAMES

A YEAR OF  
PASTORALISM

CYCLING  
BETWEEN  
MOUNTAIN  
AND MED

EXCEPTIONAL  
SHORES



# NATURAL AREAS

## THE “DESTINATION PARCS” PLATFORM

The slogan adopted by our Regional Nature Reserve is “A new life begins here!” A new life you say? Yes indeed... A life that is more respectful of plants, insects and animals; that is more in tune with nature, the seasons and passing time. So how about sharing that new life with us for a few hours or few days?!

The new “Destination Parcs” platform, developed for Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur’s Regional Nature Reserves, offer a comprehensive selection of meaningful travel experiences in the region’s nine reserves - soon to be joined by the Maures area. The platform offers a fantastic choice of escapades, nature activities and cultural discoveries in harmony with the natural environment, curated by 360 local ambassadors, most holders of the “Valeurs Parc” quality label.

[www.destination-parcs.fr](http://www.destination-parcs.fr)



© B. Soulage - ADT 13 - V. Beaume

### EVENT

## “Valeurs Parc” celebrates its 10th anniversary!

The “Valeurs Parc” label, designed to support travel professionals committed to working hand in hand with our Regional Nature Reserves, is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year.

The Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur region is home to over 360 “Valeurs Parc” providers including around 200 accommodation providers, as well as local artisans, tour guides and experience providers.

You’ll find the exciting “Valeurs Parc” offering featured on the new destination-parcs.fr platform.

[www.destination-parcs.fr/valeurs-parc](http://www.destination-parcs.fr/valeurs-parc)



© Flaccomio - WeGo Production

## “LES RENDEZ-VOUS NATURE” LOOK, LISTEN AND MARVEL

Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur is France’s leading region for biodiversity, home to 71.5 % of the country’s plant and animal species - a wealth of natural beauty you can now explore thanks to the new nature excursions, talks, information points, trails and other “Rendez-Vous Nature” curated by the Regional Agency for Biodiversity and the Environment, along with a diary and interactive map.

[www.arbe-regionsud.org/57392-les-rdv-nature.html](http://www.arbe-regionsud.org/57392-les-rdv-nature.html)

[@lesrdvnature](https://www.instagram.com/lesrdvnature)



Parc Ornithologique de Pont de Gau - © Stefano Frigieri

## OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Discover our vast panel of outdoor activities: hiking, walking, plant and animal observation.

[provence-alpes-cotedazur.com](http://provence-alpes-cotedazur.com)

## MUST-LISTEN

## Podcast – “Les chemins nous parlent”

“*Les chemins nous parlent*” (The Trails Talk) podcast promises a full immersion in Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur’s beautiful Regional Nature Reserves. A genuine audio journey, the podcast leads listeners along the region’s trails, where nature mingles with history, traditional skills and the voices of mountain inhabitants. Deeply rooted in the landscape, each episode is an invitation to roam, pause, tune in to our preserved natural legacy and let the trails speak for themselves...

Available on YouTube Music:

[music.youtube.com](https://music.youtube.com)



**Les CHEMINS nous parlent...**

Une série de podcasts des  
PARCS NATURELS RÉGIONAUX  
de Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur

Une expérience sonore immersive pour explorer les  
patrimoines de ces territoires d’exception.

En écoute sur : **Acast**      

 @parcsnaturelsregionauxsud

Map labels: Camargue, Apollon, Sainte-Baume, Iuberon, Baronnies provençales, Mont Ventoux, Verdon, Préalpes d’Azur, Queyras

## THE “TRAIN DES MERVEILLES”

Ideally accessed by train, the aptly-named Vallée des Merveilles (Valley of Wonders) has lent its name to our most iconic railway line – formerly part of the Paris-Lyon-Méditerranée railway network. After a year of refurbishment work, the Train des Merveilles (TER ZOU 22991) between Nice and Tende is up and running again. The ride begins at sea level, then climbs to 1,000 metres across viaducts and through tunnels, offering awe-inspiring panoramic views over Mercantour National Park and the valleys of Paillon, Roya and Bévéra. The terminus is in Tende, but you can hop off at Breil-sur-Roya, Fontan-Saorge or Saint-Dalmas-de-Tende. In winter, a shuttle bus runs from Saint-Dalmas to the Nordic resort of Castérino.

The icing on the cake? A tour guide accompanies the 9.32 am departure from Nice every day from June to September, or on weekends and public holidays in other months.

[www.menton-riviera-merveilles.fr](http://www.menton-riviera-merveilles.fr)



© DR

© A. Brusini

# A YEAR OF PASTORALISM

The UN has declared 2026 the “International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists”: a great way to shine a spotlight on this ancient – and still very much alive – farming tradition. In December 2023, “Transhumance, the seasonal droving of livestock” became part of the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.



© P. Domeyne

© P. Domeyne

## AN ANCIENT SEASONAL TRADITION IN PROVENCE-ALPES-CÔTE D'AZUR

More than half of the Earth's land area consists of natural vegetation grazed by livestock or wildlife, known as rangelands. Rangelands represent 18% of mainland France's surface area and support 18% of livestock farms (approximately 60,000 farms). They are mainly located in mountainous and Mediterranean areas.

Rangelands make up around one-third – 2.5 million acres – of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region. According to the Regional Livestock Centre based in Manosque, nearly half of our 3,500 registered livestock farmers raise sheep, in particular the Mérinos d'Arles, Préalpes du Sud and Mourérous breeds. The region is also home to 400 goat farmers, primarily smallholders, with small flocks of around 50 goats. Among the 900 cattle farms located in the mountains and Camargue, around one hundred are dedicated solely to the Camargue and Brave breeds.

Every year, as soon as the high-altitude snow melts, sheep, cows, goats, donkeys and horses are relocated to new grazing grounds during the traditional transhumance, when they leave the southern plains – particularly *Plaine de La Crau* – and journey to the region's mountain pastures. Over 300,000 ewes, representing half of the region's sheep, make their way to the high valleys accompanied by farmers or shepherds: an age-old practise that supports the rural economy, safeguards open environments by limiting forest fires and helps maintain mountainous agricultural land.

Pastoralism enjoys an excellent public image, especially in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, where shepherds and shepherdesses form an essential part of the regional identity and are celebrated, in particular, during the Christmas period and at local transhumance fairs.

Everyone loves hearing the sound of cowbells echoing through the valleys, but many challenges lie ahead for our shepherds, forced to anticipate the effects of climate change, share grazing land with other users and live alongside predators such as wolves. It is our job to ensure they continue to benefit from adequate working conditions and hand down their skills.



© P. Domeyne

## GR®69 LA ROUTO®

Spanning nearly 540 km, the GR®69 La Routo® long-distance hiking trail runs from Arles to Borgo San Dalmazzo along the old transhumance routes. More than just a trail, the route walks in the footsteps of shepherds and their flocks, fostering encounters, traditional farming events and the discovery of ever-changing pastoral landscapes through the seasons. It takes about thirty days to complete the entire route from France - Plaine de La Crau - to Piedmont, but you can of course opt to walk just a few sections. The name “La Routo” comes from the Occitan phrase “far la routo”, meaning to set out, now intrinsically associated with the ancient art of the transhumance...

[larouto.eu](http://larouto.eu)



© P. Fabre

### EVENT

## International Transhumance Convention

📍 MUCEM - MARSEILLE

**April 21 - 23, 2026**

On the theme of “The Transhumance as part of Intangible Cultural Heritage: a springboard for the future?”

Under the patronage of the French National Commission for UNESCO.

[www.transhumance.org](http://www.transhumance.org)



© C. Chillo

## Numerous fairs and events celebrate the transhumance every year

[transhumance-patrimoine.fr](http://transhumance-patrimoine.fr)

📍 LES BAUX-DE-PROVENCE

**March 27 - 29, 2026**

On Place Saint-Vincent: sheep shearing demonstrations, exhibitions, guided tours, transhumance and a narrated hike between Fontvieille and Les Baux-de-Provence.

[lesbauxdeprovence.com](http://lesbauxdeprovence.com)

📍 SAINT-MARTIN-DE-CRAU

**May 9 - 10, 2026**

Also called the “Fête du Printemps”, this fair symbolizes the start of the transhumance, when the flocks set out on their journey to the mountain pastures. Regional traditions, local produce and cultural heritage are in the limelight, with a great line-up including folk groups, old haymaking equipment, a colourful Carreto Ramado parade, old trades, a shepherds’ vigil on the Saturday night, Sunday market and Camargue Races.

[www.lecoeurdelaprovence.fr](http://www.lecoeurdelaprovence.fr)



© P. Domeyne

**EVENT**

📍 SAINT-RÉMY-DE-PROVENCE

**May 25, 2026**

A magnificent heritage event, with hundreds of ewes, lambs, rams and shepherds in traditional costume parading round the town centre in the morning. The day-long flea market and cheese fair are must-dos too.

[destinationalpilles.fr](http://destinationalpilles.fr)



© Adobe Stock

📍 CASTELLANE

**June 12 - 14, 2026**

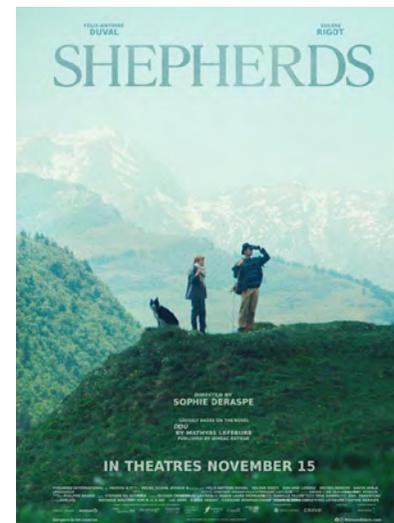
A warm and welcoming whirlwind of pastoralism-related workshops, get-togethers and know-how celebrating local traditions in a delightfully festive atmosphere.

[www.castellane-verdon.com](http://www.castellane-verdon.com)



© P. Domeyne

**MUST SEE**



**SHEPHERDS**

Filmed in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur

Awarded the prize for Best Canadian Film at the 2024 Toronto Festival



# EXCEPTIONAL SHORES, A MEDITERRANEAN TREASURE

## CLEAN PORTS IN PROVENCE-ALPES-CÔTE D'AZUR

The gateways to the region, and major springboards for tourism, France's 488 marinas are busy tackling the many challenges of the ecological transition, with sustainable management of maritime waste and pollution, resilience to the effects of climate change and carbon footprint reduction at the core of today's priorities.

The "Union des Ports de Plaisance de Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur" brings together 147 marinas, i.e. over a quarter of the French total. It has drawn up a "Clean Ports" certification based on the ISO 18725 norm for responsible management, rewarding marinas that are committed to an exemplary environmental policy, in the aim of reconciling nautical activities, environmental protection and preservation of our ecosystems. Today, 75 regional marinas already sport the "Clean Ports" label and 8 are going the extra mile with the "Clean Ports Committed to Biodiversity" distinction, making Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur France's leading region in terms of certified marinas.

[www.ports-propres.org](http://www.ports-propres.org)



Port de Saint-Raphaël - © Var Tourisme - T. Sandrock

### EVENT

#### Les Voiles d'Antibes #31

📍 PORT VAUBAN ANTIBES

May 27 - 31, 2026

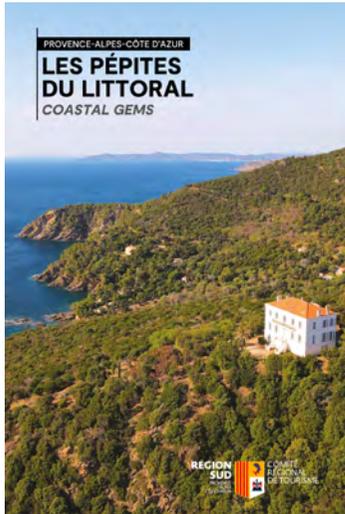
Les Voiles d'Antibes marks the start of the Mediterranean heats of this fabulous traditional regatta, welcoming Classic Yachts from the four corners of the world in an easy-going sporting atmosphere where adventure meets luxury.

[www.voilesdantibes.com](http://www.voilesdantibes.com)



© D. Vincendeau

## COASTAL GEMS



**How can we reduce current pressures on the Mediterranean Sea? As the United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC) recalled in Nice in June 2025, the Med is bearing the brunt of climate change and other environmental challenges.**

Teams from the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Regional Council, Regional Tourist Board and Coastal Protection Agency, in conjunction with the Parliament of the Sea and Region's Climate Plan, have inventoried coastal sites of major interest that are not currently at risk of overcrowding: the list spans remarkable natural sites and architecture, museums, gardens, artisans and know-how. These hidden gems, stretching from Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer to Menton, are featured on a special tourist map and in articles published on the Tourist Board website.

[provence-alpes-cotedazur.com/les-pepites-du-littoral](https://provence-alpes-cotedazur.com/les-pepites-du-littoral)



Fort Saint Nicolas - © DR



Marais du Vigueirat - © T. Seray

**“LA MAISON DES ILES ET DU LITTORAL”, FRIOUL ARCHIPELAGO, DEDICATED TO ISLAND BIODIVERSITY.**

📍 MARSEILLE

Visible from the shores of Marseille, the Frioul archipelago comprises the interconnected islands of Pomègues and Ratonneau. Every year, 500,000 visitors hop on board at the city's Vieux-Port for the 20-minute crossing to this stunning site, nestled in the heart of Calanques National Park. The new Maison des Îles et du Littoral (Island and Coastal Centre) – a joint venture by the Conservatoire du Littoral (Coastal Protection Agency) and City of Marseille – is designed to increase awareness of the archipelago's rich heritage. The centre is set inside the aptly-named Villa Marine, originally a military construction erected on a rocky platform in the 1880s. The building still boasts its original rustic charm and now features a small museum space and outdoor information panels.

[www.calanques-parcnational.fr](https://www.calanques-parcnational.fr)



Ile du Frioul - © C. Chillio

## SPOTLIGHT ON THE CAPE CAMARAT LIGHTHOUSE

📍 RAMATUELLE

Built in 1836, Phare de Camarat is welcoming the public this year after decades of closure. Perched 130 metres above sea level, it is France's second highest lighthouse. Its location at the easternmost tip of the three capes forming the Saint-Tropez peninsula is of rare beauty. After climbing the historic spiral staircase, visitors are rewarded with breathtaking views spanning Pampelonne beach, the Golden Islands, Maures and Estérel hills, Mediterranean Sea and Alps. The ground level museum space offers fascinating insights into lighthouses and their history. Guided tours hosted by Ramatuelle Tourist Office.

[www.ramatuelle-tourisme.com](http://www.ramatuelle-tourisme.com)



Phare de Camarat - © JL Chaix

## VILLA MARITIMA IN SAINT-CYR-SUR-MER: THE TAUROENTUM GALLO-ROMAN SITE REBORN!

📍 SAINT-CYR-SUR-MER

The Tauroentum archaeological site has just reopened after extensive restoration work. Spanning 4,800 m<sup>2</sup>, this listed monument harbours the unique and remarkably well-preserved remains of a Villa Marina, testifying to the Roman occupation of La Ciotat's bay from 1 to 4 AD. The new building, adorned with expansive bay windows, showcases superb mosaics, amphorae, coins, glassware and tombs. The legend of Tauroentum, the talk of the town under Louis XIV, adds a unique flavour to the gorgeous views over the gulf of Les Lecques: the site is thought to have been a Greek town - Taureis in Greek and Tauroentum in Latin - submerged by the waves in the 3rd century, whose ruins still lie under the water. The restoration work was performed by the Sud Sainte-Baume metropolitan council in conjunction with Saint-Cyr-sur-Mer town council.

[www.museedetauroentumsaintcyrsumer.fr](http://www.museedetauroentumsaintcyrsumer.fr)



© Inês Da Fonseca

## CAVALAIRE-SUR-MER, MAISON DE LA NATURE AND MAISON FONCIN

📍 CAVALAIRE-SUR-MER

Perched high above the sea, the remarkable white house you can admire as you drive along the Corniche des Maures coast road towards Saint-Tropez was once the home of geographer and Alliance Française founder Pierre Foncin. Today, you can reach it on foot from the Maison de la Nature, a former household waste treatment plant whose sober architecture blends seamlessly into the scenery of the Maures hills. The Maison de la Nature is part of the Sustainable Mediterranean Buildings initiative and a two-times winner of the "gold" certification.

The building is also an exhibition space, with "Océans, une plongée insolite" (Oceans, An Astonishing Dive) and "We Are Mediterranean" on show until March 31st, 2026. Nature and history tours are available on Wednesdays and Thursdays, and history tours on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Tour length 2.5 hours.

[lusine.org](http://lusine.org)



© Soliver

# CYCLING BETWEEN MOUNTAIN AND MED

## LA MÉDITERRANÉE À VÉLO EUROVÉLO 8

“La Méditerranée à vélo” cycling route spans 850 km, stretching from Perthus to Menton in France, and connecting Spain and Italy. Venturing off the beaten track, the route mainly crosses quieter inland areas, with some sections along the coast. “La Méditerranée à vélo” is the French stage of the EuroVelo 8 route, set to run from Cadiz in Spain to Izmir in Turkey over a total distance of 7,500 km.

26 municipalities in the Occitania and Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur regions have joined hands to develop “La Méditerranée à vélo” and make it today’s must-do, while contributing to sustainable mobility.

In its role as project coordinator, the Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur Regional Tourist Board is flying the flag of this ambitious joint initiative in conjunction with Vélo Loisir Provence and local partners.

[www.lamediterraneeeavelo.com](http://www.lamediterraneeeavelo.com)



© O. Octobre

MUST-READ

### Our new Press Kit



© O. Octobre

## VIARHÔNA, BRAND-NEW MAPS

Stretching 815 km from the Alps to the beaches of the Med, the ViaRhôna promises cyclists an unforgettable history-packed adventure along the Rhône River, from the Gallo-Romans to current day.

Three smaller maps go to complete the general route map:

- Lake Geneva – Lyon (250 km),
- Lyon – Avignon (290 km),
- Avignon – Mediterranean, up to Sète via Camargue (170 km) or up to Port Saint-Louis-du-Rhône (110 km).

Either way, you’re sure to come across our pink flamingos! The must-have ViaRhôna maps are available from tourist offices, accommodation providers, hire firms, tour guides, restaurants and more.

Maps available in English, French, German and Dutch.

[www.viarhona.com](http://www.viarhona.com)



© C. Martelet

## LA DURANCE À VÉLO, AT THE WATER'S EDGE

Now continuously waymarked from Monétier-les-Bains to Manosque, the “*La Durance à Vélo*” cycling route is getting longer and more beautiful every day!

Spanning 485 km, the route follows Provence’s longest river, the Durance, from its source in the hills above Montgenèvre in the Southern Alps to its confluence with the Rhône in Avignon, Provence.

After the Sisteron-Manosque stage, cyclists now enjoy a new 10 km section connecting Pertuis and Villelaure in the southern Luberon, partly on dedicated cycle lanes. The section between Mallemort and La Roque d’Anthéron is now signposted.

Various train stations allow cyclists to join the route at any stage, by road, gravel or mountain bike.

[laduranceavelo.fr](http://laduranceavelo.fr)



© C. Tempier

## TOUR DE FRANCE 2026: SOUTHERN ALPS STAGES

Ever-loyal to its origins and mythical mountain passes, the 2026 Tour de France (July 4th-26th) will be crossing the Champsaur-Valgaudemar, Dévoluy, Gapençais, Briançonnais and Oisans areas, with three spectacular stages on the menu.

### - Stage 18, July 23rd: Voiron-Orcières-Merlette (185.5 km)

The peloton will be taking to the Route Napoléon, with climbs to Chauffayer, La Fare-en-Champsaur, Chabottes, Saint-Léger-les-Mélèzes and Pont-du-Fossé, before ascending to the ski resort of Orcières-Merlette in Champsaur valley.

### - Stage 19, July 24th: Gap-L’Alpe d’Huez (128 km)

After Gap, the start line for the 28th time this year, the route will tackle the ascent of Col Bayard, Col du Noyer and Col d’Ornon, with its 21 forbidding hairpin bends.

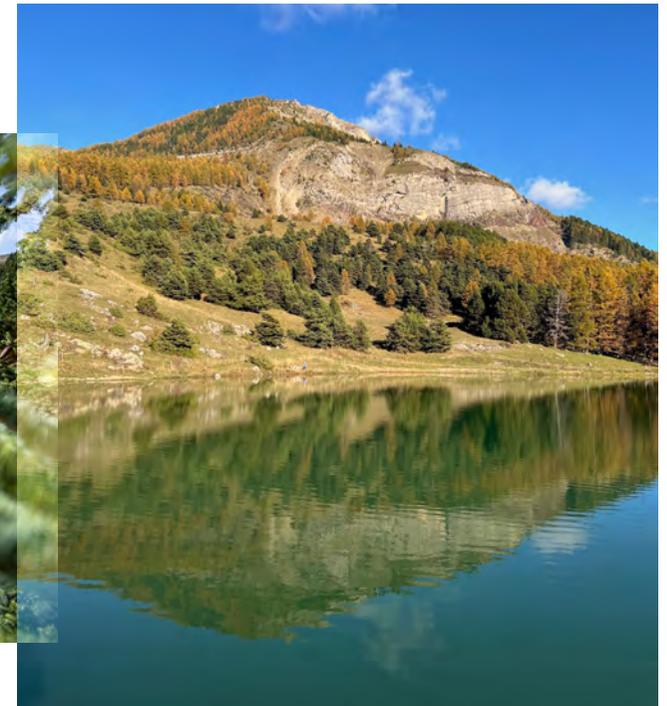
### - Stage 20, July 25th: Bourg d’Oisans - L’Alpe d’Huez (171.5 km)

Crossing Villar d’Arène and La Grave beneath the majestic slopes of La Meije, before tackling Col du Lautaret and Col du Galibier - the highest point of the 2026 race, with a total elevation gain of 54,450 metres.

[www.letour.fr/en/overall-route](http://www.letour.fr/en/overall-route)



Dévoluy - © K. Kestler



© A. Celindano

## TOUR DE FRANCE AU FÉMININ

Celebrating its 5th edition this year, the Tour de France Femmes, a multi-stage road cycling race reserved exclusively for women, will be featuring three stages in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, including a triumphant finish on the Promenade des Anglais in Nice – the stunning Mediterranean venue for the men's finale just 2 years ago. Divided into 22 teams of 7, the 154 riders will be competing over a distance of 1,175 km, with a total elevation gain of 18,795 metres. The race kicks off on August 1st in Lausanne, Switzerland.

### – Stage 7, August 7th, Mont Ventoux (144 km)

Departing from La Voulte-sur-Rhône, with the peloton pedalling along the hilly roads around the Dentelles de Montmirail before the ascent of Mont Ventoux, the Giant of Provence, from Bédoin (15.7 km, 8.8% slope).

### – Stage 8, August 8th, Sisteron – Nice (175 km)

The longest stage of this year's race along the Route Napoléon encompasses the stunning heritage and natural treasures of Sisteron, Entrevaux, Lake Castillon and the Durance and Var valleys.

### – Stage 9 (final stage), August 9th, Nice–Nice (99 km)

The Nice loop will feature a whopping four ascents of the Col d'Èze (7.7 km, 5.9% slope), plus a detour via Chemin du Vinaigrier and Col des Quatre Chemins (6 km, 7.6% slope) on the last lap, i.e. a total elevation gain of 2,175 metres before the finish on the Promenade des Anglais!

[www.letourfemmes.fr/fr/parcours-general](http://www.letourfemmes.fr/fr/parcours-general)



© R. Van Rijn

## TOUR DU VENTOUX REVISITED

Mont Ventoux isn't just a playground for champions! Designed with slow tourism in mind, the Tour du Ventoux invites cyclists to enjoy a more leisurely tour of the "Giant of Provence", basking in the heart of the Mont-Ventoux Regional Nature Reserve. The route – signposted both ways and with its own logo – spans 120 kilometres with an elevation gain of 1,950 metres and takes 2–3 days to complete. New cycle paths running from Carpentras, Beaumes-de-Venise and Vaison-la-Romaine train stations make eco-friendly access easier.

[www.provence-cycling.co.uk](http://www.provence-cycling.co.uk)



© A. Hocquel

## “C’EST TON TOUR”

In addition to the legendary **Mont Ventoux**, the Vaucluse area is inaugurating a new cycling route inspired by the **2021 Tour de France** called “**C’est Ton Tour**” – a **62 km route with an elevation gain of 1,495 metres**, crossing the remarkable hilly landscapes of Vaucluse and the Luberon to the southern slopes of Mont Ventoux. Marked out in yellow and white, “C’est Ton Tour” invites cyclists to revel in a piece of La Grande Boucle at their own pace.

[www.provence-cycling.co.uk](http://www.provence-cycling.co.uk)



Oppède-le-Vieux © OTLCDP - Travelblog

## GRAND TOUR OF THE PRÉALPES D’AZUR

What goes up must come down! This 257-km loop spanning the Southern Alps and Côte d’Azur, along the banks of the rivers Loup and Siagne, crosses the arty villages of Cabris, Saint-Cézaire-sur-Siagne, Gourdon and Gréolières, and offers breathtaking glimpses of the Mediterranean Sea. Difficulty? A 3,722-metre elevation gain, altitudes ranging from 400 to 1,200 metres and mostly shared lanes on secondary roads.

Connecting routes:

- La Méditerranée à Vélo – EuroVelo 8 in Peymeinade, Le Tignet with a connection to Grasse.
- La Route des Balcons d’Azur (coastal cycle path) in Châteauneuf-Grasse.
- P’tites Routes du Soleil (unmarked route): between Roquestéron and Coursegoules.

[www.francevelotourisme.com](http://www.francevelotourisme.com)



Gréolières-les-Neiges – © A. Fraticelli

## EVEN MORE CYCLE PATHS!

### 📍 MANDELIEU-LA-NAPOULE

A hub of no less than 42 different sports, Mandelieu is surrounded by hills perfect for road, gravel, MTB or e-biking. A French-English bilingual brochure on sale at Mandelieu Tourist Office (€5), provides details on the 15 most beautiful routes on offer around the town, together with 5 free gravel bike routes, i.e. a total of 5 road bike, 8 mountain bike and 7 gravel bike adventures.

[www.mandelieu-tourisme.com](http://www.mandelieu-tourisme.com)



Mandelieu © Activimages

# THE 2030 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC WINTER GAMES HERE IN PROVENCE-ALPES-CÔTE D'AZUR

“A silent revolution is brewing in our Southern Alps: that of a mountain range preparing for 2050, a mountain range that is diversifying its economy, marrying tourism and energy, heritage and innovation, with sustainable development at the core of its rebirth.”

**Renaud Muselier**

President of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Regional Council  
Deputy President of Régions de France



**ALPES FRANÇAISES 2030**

Hôte des Jeux Olympiques  
et Paralympiques d'hiver



**PROVENCE-ALPES-CÔTE D'AZUR**  
Région hôte

## THE 2030 WINTER OLYMPICS, HISTORY'S MOST SOBER WINTER GAMES

Passion Montagne 2050, a clear vision:

- **Unifying Games**, reconciling present and future,
- **Sober Games**, prioritizing existing amenities and reuse,
- **Useful Games**, transforming the challenges of the climate transition into springboards for innovation and attractiveness.

The 2030 Winter Games are a milestone and an accelerator.

A structuring, concrete and sustainable legacy project to:

- **Reinforce** transport and service infrastructures,
- **Support** family relocation to new mountain homes,
- **Energize** employment and training in mountain trades,
- **Enhance touristic** and sporting attractiveness across the four seasons.

## PUBLIC TRANSPORT: A REVOLUTION SERVING INHABITANTS AND THE GAMES ALIKE

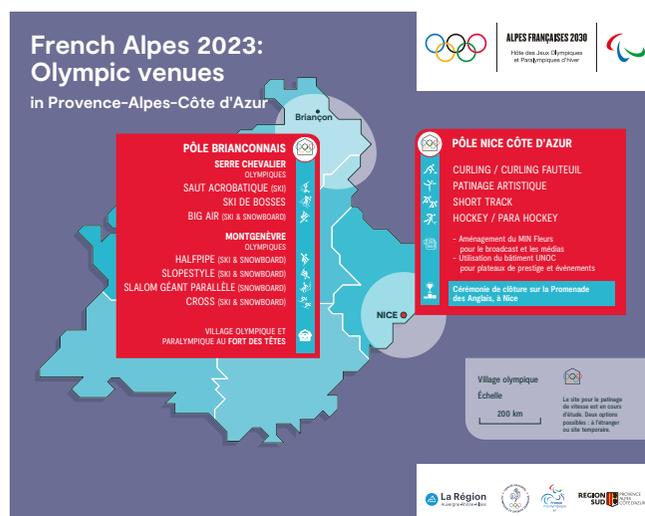
The Winter Olympics are accelerating the “rail revolution”. Since 2016, rail travel in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur has already doubled and the objective is clear: 1.5 million passengers in 2030.

Public transport is enjoying an overhaul thanks to the Games:

- **The Provence Côte d'Azur Ligne Nouvelle** (New Line), featuring an airport station unique in Europe, is scheduled for delivery in 2029, in time to welcome the Olympic Games in Nice.
- **Modernisation of the Chemins de Fer de Provence**, including a maintenance site and eight new hybrid trains.
- **Salvaging of the Nice-Breil-Tende line**, regeneration of the Côte Bleue service, and four Metropolitan Regional Express Service projects in Marseille, Avignon, Toulon and Nice.
- **Modernisation of the Marseille-Briançon line**, connecting the mountains to Marseille in 3 hours 40 minutes.

Read more:

[www.maregionsud.fr](http://www.maregionsud.fr)



Serre-Chevalier - © J. Dupieux

# SOUTHERN FRENCH ALPES, HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO OUR SKI RESORTS!

## 120 CANDLES FOR THE CHAMPION, MONTGENÈVRE

📍 MONTGENÈVRE

The world's first international ski jumping competition was held in Montgenèvre in February 1907 – a historic event that marked the birth of France's oldest ski resort. In honour of its champion status, Montgenèvre will naturally be hosting some of the upcoming Winter Olympics events in 2030.

[www.ledevoluy.com/hiver](http://www.ledevoluy.com/hiver)



© Alpes Photographies

## 90 CANDLES FOR THE PIONEERS: SEIGNUS D'ALLOS, LE SAUZE AND VALBERG

📍 LE SEIGNUS HAUT 📍 LE SAUZE 📍 VALBERG

With the advent of ski lifts, paid holidays and the Winter Olympics, 1936 was a landmark year in the world of skiing. As far back as 1934, the visionary mayor of Le Sauze installed a ski lift at the resort, soon to be followed by the Valcibière lift in Seignus d'Allos. In Valberg, a Téléluge was used to pull wooden sleds up Croix du Sapet, later replaced with a ski lift. The days of climbing the slopes on foot were officially over... Finally, alpine skiing (downhill and slalom) became part of the official Winter Olympics sports in 1936.

[www.seignus-allos.fr](http://www.seignus-allos.fr) • [www.sauze.com](http://www.sauze.com)

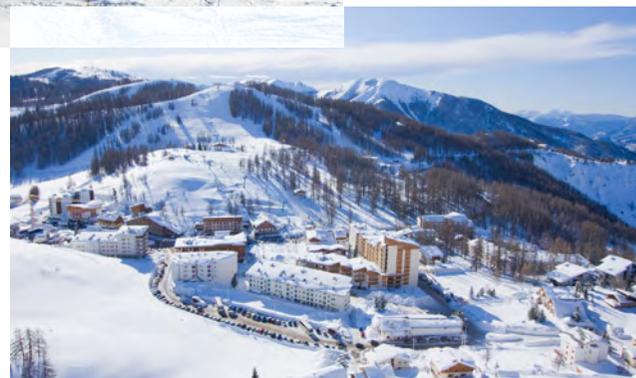
[www.valberg.com](http://www.valberg.com)



Le Seignus - © R. Palomba



Le Sauze - © UT D. Daout



Valberg - © P. Behar

## 60 CANDLES FOR SUPERDÉVOLUY, THE INTEGRATED RESORT

📍 SUPERDÉVOLUY

Superdévoluy is a delightfully well-organized ski-in/ski-out resort, with amenities located in two buildings boasting remarkable contemporary architecture: Le Bois d'Aurouze and Les Issarts, both ranked as 20th-century heritage. Ten years after its inauguration, the first chalets were built in the neighbouring village resort of La Joue du Loup.

[www.ledevoluy.com/hiver](http://www.ledevoluy.com/hiver)



© OT Le Dévoluy

## 40 CANDLES FOR RÉALLON, THE FOUR-SEASONS VILLAGE RESORT

📍 RÉALLON

Gazing out over Serre-Ponçon lake, Réallon is the last municipal ski resort created in France, designed with all four seasons in mind. It has just been awarded the “Flocon Vert” quality label, and is considered as one of the most affordable winter sports resort in Europe

[www.serreponcon.com/en/reallon/](http://www.serreponcon.com/en/reallon/)



Réallon - © F. Thibault

### MUST-SEE

## Southern French Alps resort map

[provence-alpes-cotedazur.com](http://provence-alpes-cotedazur.com)



### MUST-READ

## Special edition What's New in the Southern French Alps

Winter Season



Spring-Summer-Autumn Season



## KEY FIGURES, EVENTS, CONTACTS & PHOTOS



**36.6** million stays in the region



**237.7** million nights spent, including **150.8** million by domestic visitors



**86.8** million nights spent by overseas visitors.



**32.7** million nights spent by first-time visitors



**6.5** days spent on average



**70.8** euros average expenditure per person per day



**16.8** billion euros direct economic spinoffs

Source: Regional Tourist Board 2023 customer survey / Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Regional Council and local partners

[Observatoire du Tourisme Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur](#)

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SPORTING EVENTS

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N.B. Although great care is taken to ensure the information provided in this kit is correct, it is non-exhaustive and cannot be guaranteed.

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