



PROVENCE
CÔTÉ *Les belles
escapades*
RHÔNE



Intermunicipal Tourism Office Association of municipalities
Bollène – Lamotte-du-Rhône – Lapalud – Mondragon – Mornas

Welcome





Your great escape starts here!

Provence Côté Rhône* is a territory in a unique location where you can enjoy the rich heritage and natural treasures great for sun-filled adventures and discoveries. Located to the north of Avignon, extending along the river Rhône and the A7 motorway, this part of Provence lies off the beaten track and is where you can enjoy a wonderful getaway in Vaucluse, Gard, Ardèche and Drôme. In the space of a few minutes, you can go from ancient towns to prehistoric caves, from a Côtes-du-Rhône wine tour to a truffle tasting, from a morning spent canoeing to a laid-back afternoon, from an open-air festival to a village feast! And in the evening, you can relax in a restaurant, hotel, holiday cottage or campsite.

We have something for every taste and every age group, for a weekend or a week – welcome to Provence Côté Rhône!

* Provence along the Rhône. The territory of the Federation of Municipalities of Rhône Lez Provence, Vaucluse (Bollène - Lamotte-du-Rhône - Lapalud - Mondragon - Mornas)

Table of Contents

- Location & Accommodation**
STAY AND SHARE! Page 4 and 5
- Heritage & Culture**
VISIT AND DISCOVER! Page 6 and 9
- Nature & Leisure**
MOVE AND BREATHE! Page 10 and 11
- Land & Flavour**
TASTE AND LOOK! Page 12 and 13
- Festivals & Events**
LIVE AND DREAM! Page 14 and 15
- Access & Details**
COME AND STAY! Page 16

Welcome

STAY AND SHARE!

Provence Côté Rhône is an easily accessible destination with a wide range of accommodation options available – all of them great starting points for your adventures. There are no less than 12 hotels with from 1 to 4 stars, some chain hotels and others full of charm, plus 5 campsites and 63 holiday cottages / bed & breakfast rooms ready to welcome you all year round.



Good plan

NOT TO BE MISSED

For a short break, you will find plenty to discover here and will take a real journey through time. For example, from the **medieval fortress of Mornas** to the **André Blondel hydroelectricity power station** (from autumn 2017); nearby is the **Pont d'Arc cavern** and then there are the **ancient towns of Orange and Vaison-la-Romaine**, not forgetting the **papal and theatre city of Avignon**. Thrill-seekers can visit the **Pierrelatte Crocodile Farm** or **descend the Gorges de l'Ardèche** for an unforgettable experience.



Ask for the Provence Côté Rhône tourist map

The Pont d'Arc cavern (Ardèche)

Pont d'Avignon (Vaucluse)

Find out +

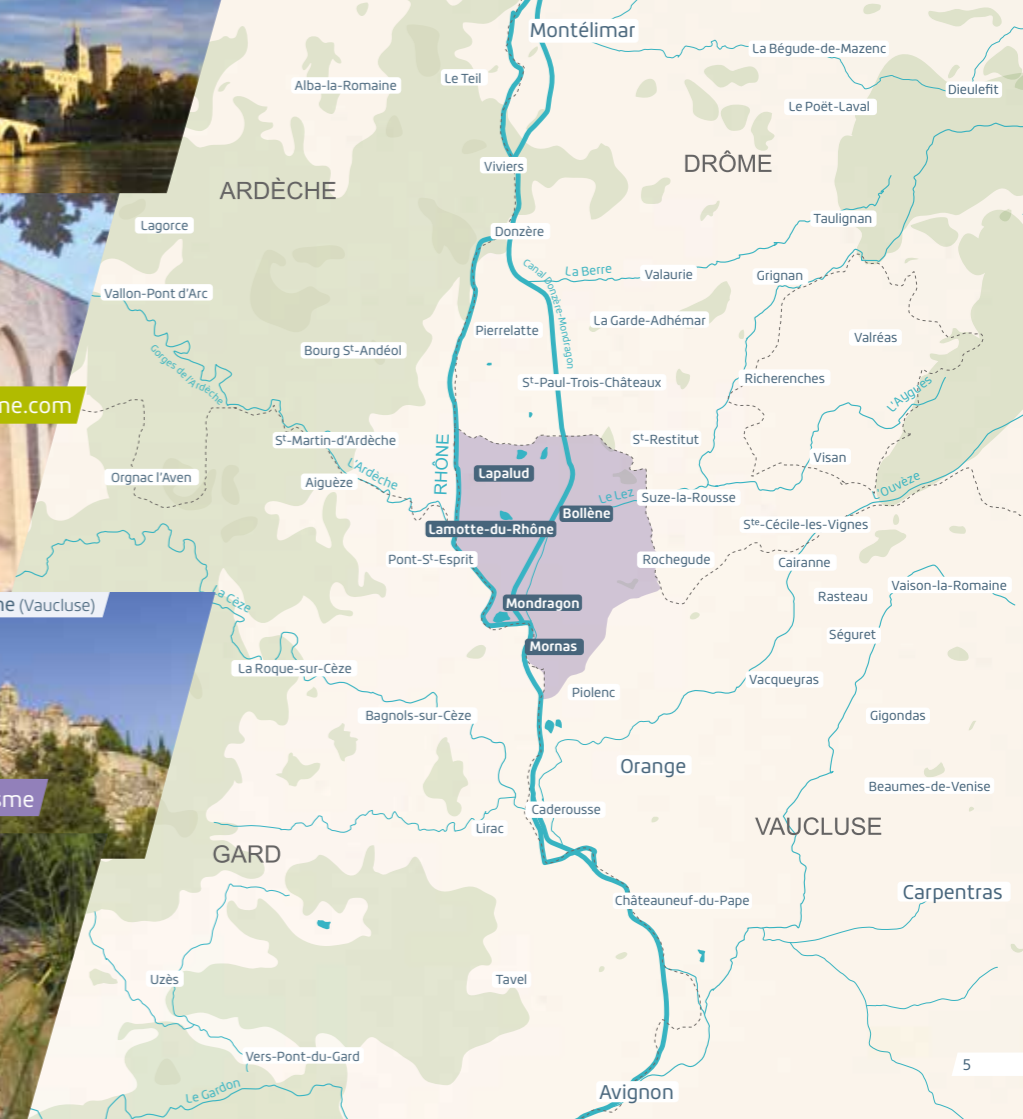
www.provencocoterhone-tourisme.com

Old town of Vaison-la-Romaine (Vaucluse)

Share your adventures on

www.facebook.com/provencocoterhonetourisme

Pierrelatte crocodile farm (Drôme)



VISIT AND DISCOVER!

Provence Côté Rhône is a territory shaped by history: whether ancient, medieval or industrial, our villages and attractions would be glad to see you.

Here

» The **Mornas fortress** welcomes you, perched on a rocky outcrop on the left bank of the Rhône, dominating the valley and the village of Mornas, built at its foot. A lookout point since antiquity, it was abandoned after the Revolution only to be rediscovered in the late 19th century. Since 1978, the association of The Friends of Mornas has been actively helping to restore and revive it.

» The **exceptional troglodyte village of Barry**, hollowed out in a hillside, was occupied

constantly from the Neolithic period until the late 19th century. The prehistoric caves are close to a Roman oppidum and a medieval village.

📌 Due to the fragile nature of the stone, the village of Barry is viewed from a number of pathways around the site.

» **Bollène** is a town with a medieval past, its jewel being without any doubt the **Collegiale Saint Martin**, founded in the 12th century. In the 19th century the town owed its economic development to the exploitation of seams of clay with refractory

properties (brick manufacture), and then in the 20th century to the canalisation of the Rhône and the construction of the **André-Blondel hydroelectricity power station** between 1948 and 1952.

📌 The facade of this imposing building is protected. A fun discovery centre is scheduled for completion in spring 2018.

» On the famous RN7, **Mondragon** also testifies to its medieval past with its imposing castle. Its streets and squares form the setting for the **Drac Festival**.

» Formerly situated right on the bank of the Rhône, there is no doubt that **the village of Lapalud** arose from a Templar building. The church dates from the 13th century. On the plain, Les Girardes lake provides an opportunity for bathing, fishing and sailing. Lapalud is also the setting for an unusual **Broom Festival** held in honour of the broom-making craft which flourished there in the early 20th century.

» Also in the Rhône valley, **Lamotte-du-Rhône** looks across to Gard and the Ardèche thanks to the imposing Saint Esprit bridge built between the late 13th and early 14th century.

» Find out what's on in the area on page 14.

And also at Bollène

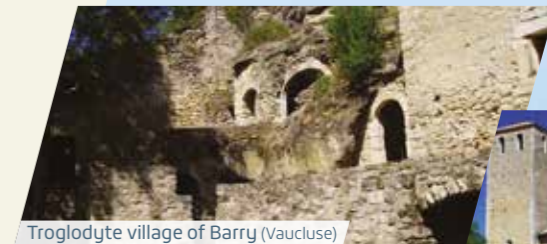
- » Cinema le Clap.
- » Provence Documentation Center.
- » Municipal Library.

Find out +

www.provencecoterhone-tourisme.com



Mornas fortress (Vaucluse)



Troglodyte village of Barry (Vaucluse)



Collegiale Saint Martin at Bollène (Vaucluse)



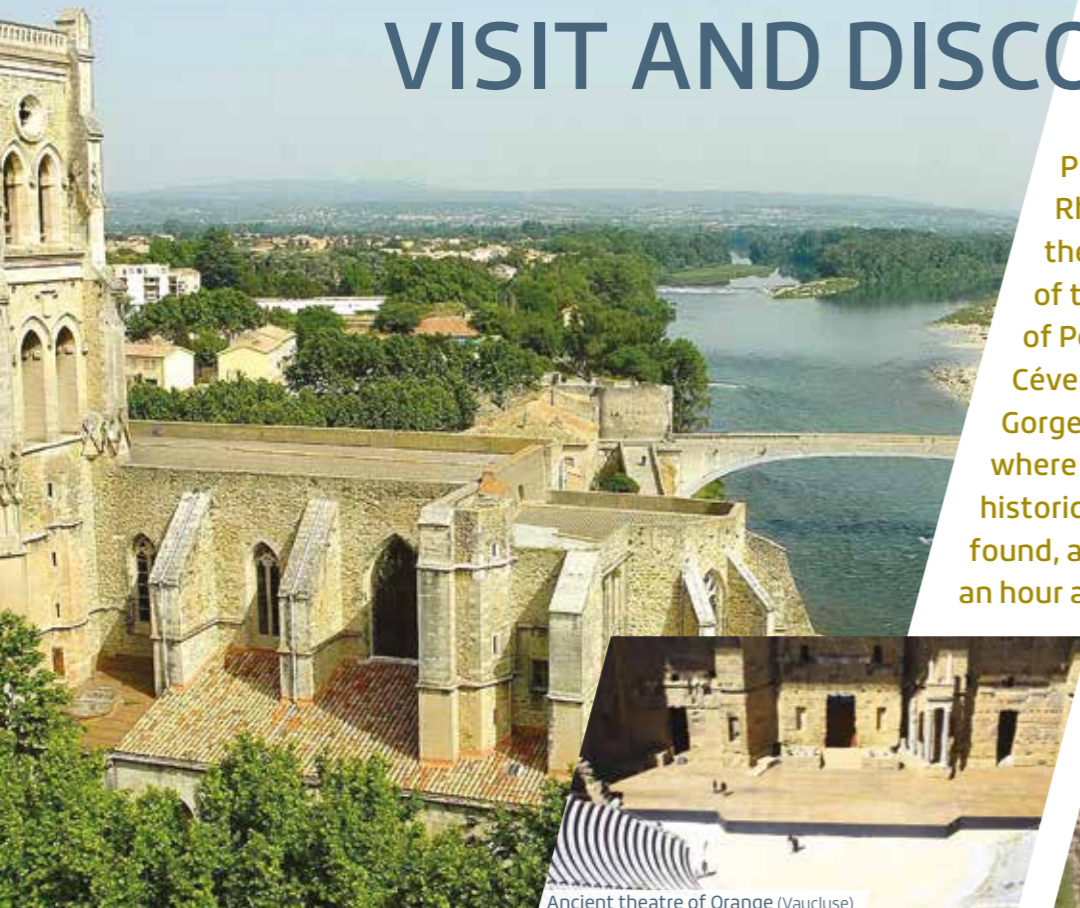
André-Blondel hydroelectricity power station (Vaucluse)



Mornas village (Vaucluse)

VISIT AND DISCOVER!

Provence Côte Rhône stands at the crossroads of the Provence of Popes, Drôme, Cévennes and the Gorges de l'Ardèche where many unique historic sites can be found, all less than an hour away.



Ancient theatre of Orange (Vaucluse)

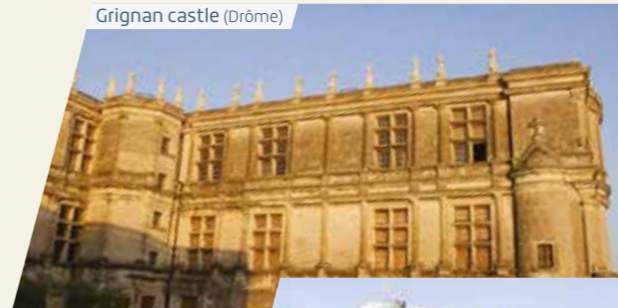
Ancient town of Vaison-la-Romaine (Vaucluse)



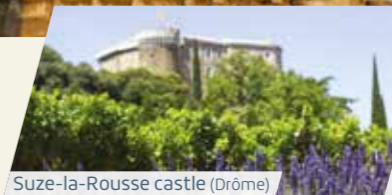
Nearby:

- » The museum of Tricastin nuclear power station ⌚ 10 mins
- » The cathedral cellars of Saint-Restitut ⌚ 15 mins
- » The Saint-Esprit bridge ⌚ 15 mins
- » Saint-Paul-Trois-Châteaux ⌚ 15 mins
- » Orange ⌚ 30 mins
- » The Pont d'Arc cavern ⌚ 30 mins
- » The castles of Drôme :
Suze-la-Rousse ⌚ 10 mins,
Grignan ⌚ 30 mins, Montélimar ⌚ 35 mins
- » Bagnols-sur-Cèze ⌚ 30 mins
- » Vaison-la-Romaine ⌚ 40 mins
- » The Pont du Gard ⌚ 40 mins
- » Avignon ⌚ 40 mins
- » Uzès ⌚ 1 hr

Grignan castle (Drôme)



Suze-la-Rousse castle (Drôme)



Find out +

www.tourisme-en-vaucluse.com

www.provenceguide.com

www.tourismegard.com

www.ardeche-tourisme.com

www.ladrometourisme.com

MOVE AND BREATHE!

Between hills and valleys, Provence Côté Rhône is a showcase of diverse landscapes, crisscrossed by fragrant trails accessible to all: discover unspoilt nature and a whole range of outdoor pursuits.

Here

» **The Bollène water park** and **Les Girardes lake** at Lapalud: supervised swimming, family picnics, sailing school and diving club.

» **Rope park and horse riding** at Bollène.

» **Grèzes Lake** at Lamotte-du-Rhône: **water skiing**.

» **Walking trails** near Uchaux (GR) and Barry (several trails).

» **Cycle trails** with the finish of the **Via Rhôna** and the Provence by **Bicycle circuits**.

» **Fishing in the Lez and Rhône rivers**, or the Trop-Long, Batras and Devès lakes.

Nearby

» **The Gorges de l'Ardèche** and its **water sports** ⌚ 10 mins. (Ardèche)

» **La Cèze and Sautadet waterfalls at Roque-sur-Cèze** ⌚ 30 mins. (Gard)

» **The Dentelles de Montmirail** ⌚ 40 mins. and **Mont Ventoux** ⌚ 1 hr 20 mins. for **walking and cycling** (Vaucluse)

» **Climbing, via ferrata, air sports, motor sport.**

And also

» **The Forest of Games in Saint Remèze** ⌚ 40 mins. (Ardèche)

» **Pierrelatte Crocodile Farm** ⌚ 20 mins. (Drôme)

» **The Alexis-Gruss Park** in Piolenc ⌚ 20 mins. (Vaucluse)



www.provence-a-velo.fr



Water skiing at Lamotte-du-Rhône (Vaucluse)



Les Girardes lake at Lapalud (Vaucluse)



Good plan

FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

All kinds of activities on offer to make your exploration fun. Wannabe knights and princesses can celebrate at **Mornas fortress** (event during the summer), those with a sweet tooth will be drawn to the **nougat of Montelimar**, and acrobats can choose between rope parks and circus acts at the **Alexis-Gruss Park in Piolenc**. Somewhere between a dream and a leisure facility, **the Forest of Games at Saint Remèze**, in Ardèche, will enchant young and old alike. And here, you will find a **myriad of family-friendly accommodation options** where you will really feel at home!

Find out +

www.provencocoterhone-tourisme.com



Climbing in the "Dentelles de Montmirail" (Vaucluse)



TASTE AND LOOK!

Throughout the year, our towns and villages invite you to savour their specialities and to meet local producers and crafts men in a convivial atmosphere.

Here

» Restaurants to suit all tastes and budgets.

» Wine cellars and winerys to visit.

» Producers committed to responsible agriculture.

» Markets and shops all year long.

Nearby

» The Suze-la-Rousse Wine University.

⌚ 10 mins.

» The wine trails of Rasteau ⌚ 30 mins. or the Dentelles de Montmirail.

⌚ 40 mins.

» Montélimar Nougat

⌚ 35 mins.

» The dessert wine of Beauges-de-Venise

⌚ 45 mins.

» The fine wines of Côtes du Rhône: Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Vacqueyras, Lirac, Gigondas ⌚ 40 mins.

» The food markets and events such as the Truffle Festivals at Saint Paul-Trois-Châteaux ⌚ 15 mins., and Richerenches ⌚ 30 mins., the syrups of Eyguebelle in Valaurie ⌚ 30 mins. and olives at Nyons ⌚ 40 mins.

And also

» The Haribo sweet museum in Uzès ⌚ 1 hr.



Good plan

FOODIES

Provence Côté Rhône and the area around it offer a wealth of opportunities to taste local products. You can learn about wine-making in Bollène by visiting its cellars and the winerys of Bastide-Jourdan and Julien de l'Embrique, or the Croix-Chabrières and Gourdon chateaux. To become a real connoisseur, you can even enrol on an oenology course at the Wine University in Suze-la-Rousse.

» Create your own wine-making itinerary at www.vinchaisnous.fr

Alcohol abuse is harmful to health; to be consumed in moderation.

Find out +

www.provencecoterhone-tourisme.com

The truffle market at Saint Paul-Trois-Châteaux (Drôme)



LIVE AND DREAM!

Medieval festivals, partys, gatherings and events punctuate the seasons here.



Chorégies d'Orange (Vaucluse)



Here

»According to legend, a dragon lurked in the river Rhône at **Mondragon** and carried off any young maidens who ventured too close. In mid-May, the villagers ward the dragon off by organising **the Festival of Drac**. Come and join in!

»**The broom festival in Lapalud** is a reminder that in the time of Charles Trénet, brooms were spread out along Route Nationale 7 which our grand-parents took to reach the Mediterranean. The broom festival perpetuates this craft in a joyful atmosphere over the first weekend of June.

»Oyez, oyez! Every year in early July, the streets, squares and walls of Mornas come alive with the memory of the knights, during its **medieval festival**. Craft market, banquet, tournaments, damsels in period costume and street performers will delight young and old alike.

»Les **Polymusicales de Bollène**: throughout the summer until 15 August, a varied programme of events with free admission. Find out more!

Nearby

»Early July: **Avignon festival** ⌚ 35 mins. (Vaucluse)

»July: **International Festival of Dance at Vaison-la-Romaine** ⌚ 40 mins. (Vaucluse)

»June and July: **Chorégies d'Orange** ⌚ 20 mins. (Vaucluse)

»June, July, August: **Night festivals of Grignan** ⌚ 30 mins. (Drôme)

And also

»First two weeks of August: **Creative Forest Festival in La Valbonne**.



Avignon Festival (Vaucluse)

Good plan

FESTIVAL FANS

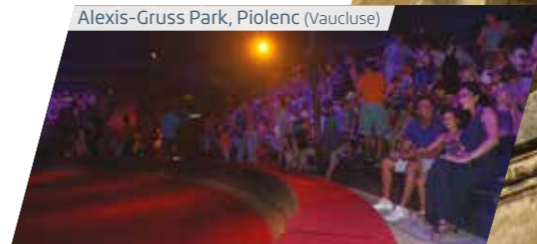
A multitude of cultural events are held in our region: **Grignan, Vaison-la-Romaine, Orange** and the real must-see **Avignon Festival** are all just a few kilometres away! These wonderful old towns love to welcome as many visitors as they can: whether last minute bookings or holidays planned well in advance, **Provence Côté Rhône offers you a diverse range of attractively priced options.**

Find out +

www.provencecoterhone-tourisme.com



Alexis-Gruss Park, Piolenc (Vaucluse)



Papal Palace - Avignon (Vaucluse)

COME AND STAY!

BY ROAD AND MOTORWAY

- A7 motorway – exit 19
- RN7 road

BY TRAIN

- Bollène la Croisière (accessible by car) : ⌚ 6 mins.
- Pierrelatte : ⌚ 10 mins.
- Orange : ⌚ 20 mins.
- Montélimar : ⌚ 35 mins.
- TGV Avignon : ⌚ 45 mins.

BY AIR

- Avignon-Provence Airport ⌚ 30 mins.
- Nîmes-Arles-Camargue Airport ⌚ 1 hr.
- Marseille-Marignane Airport ⌚ 1 hr. 15 mins.

Plan your trip at

www.provencocoterhone-tourisme.com



Tourist Information Office

32 avenue Pasteur
84500 BOLLÈNE

T. 04 90 30 36 83

contact@provencocoterhone-tourisme.com

www.provencocoterhone-tourisme.com

www.facebook.com/provencocoterhonetourisme/

