

Press Kit

Destination Luberon Cœur de Provence

Isle sur la Sorgue Tourisme



ISLE S/LA SORGUE
TOURISME



DESTINATION
LUBERON
CŒUR DE PROVENCE

Editorial

An outstanding destination
within easy reach of the main
tourist sites of Luberon,
Monts de Vaucluse and Pays
des Sorgues



Follow our visitors at the
whim of the seasons and
their desires!



Luberon Cœur de Provence is a territory clinging to the mountain ranges of Luberon and Monts de Vaucluse. Two of France's most beautiful villages (Gordes and Lourmarin), a host of other villages, some perched on hilltops and others nestled amid a landscape of vineyards, white oak or olive groves, and the town of Cavaillon offer an array of attractions.

Not far away, Isle-sur-la-Sorgue, a corner of Provence where life is good. Stroll or cycle amid orchards and vineyards, immerse yourself in the past when you visit villages replete with antique and bric-a-brac shops, delight in markets with colourful and tasty products, see built and natural heritage and discover the traditions and know-how that forged the character of the territory and its inhabitants...



A destination

Get your bearings in Luberon, Monts de Vaucluse and Pays des Sorgues

Located an hour from Marseille Provence Airport and 45 minutes from the TGV train stations in Avignon and Aix de Provence, we are alongside the A7 motorway to the west and the A51 motorway, heading towards Pertuis, to the south. Luberon Cœur de Provence is situated within the territory of the Luberon Regional Nature Park, not far from where the Pays des Sorgues and Avignon meet. As a destination, Luberon offers a quality tourism product where it is well worth taking things slowly and soaking up every magical moment in the area: a cycle outing, a small farmers' market, a village square with shady oldgrowth trees where you can enjoy an aperitif with friends, an evening under the stars at an open-air concert or a hike through breathtaking scenery....

Welcome!



1 hour from Marseille Provence airport



45 minutes from TGV Avignon & Aix en Provence stations



A7 / A51
 > Avignon : 35'
 > Marseille : 1h
 > Nice : 2h30



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Simply Luberon...



Take the time to enjoy all four seasons and meet some people who will inspire you and accompany you on your trip. Feel free to read through their experiences and reports... The following pages contain testimonials from our visitors who have thoroughly enjoyed their trip to our destination and simply want to share their sincere impressions with you.



Spring

The landscape takes on a new lease of life

Spring is a magical season. It's pleasantly mild in the foothills of the Luberon and the sun shines all year round. As the weather gets warmer and the days longer, you realise that spring is bringing everything back to life.

This is the perfect time to:

- Recharge your batteries with a bit of end-of-winter pampering.
- Do the rounds of the markets searching for the first strawberries and asparagus.
- Go rambling or cycling.
- Explore a hilltop village: in April and May the villages' tiny streets are decked with flowers.



Céline, Marc, Mia et Joan

FUN-FILLED FAMILY HOLIDAYS

Go camping for a week at Easter.



● OUR TOP FAVOURITE THING!

An outing with donkeys!

● WHAT WE BROUGHT HOME:

Artisanal cakes and jam.



Charles et Happy

A DOG-FRIENDLY STAY

A three-day adventure on the trails of the Luberon.



● OUR TOP FAVOURITE THING!

A morning ride on the cycle route amid the springtime scenery.

● WHAT WE BROUGHT HOME:

Essential lavender oil.

Looking for nature?

Breathe, walk, run or pedal... You're free to choose!

There is a **PRESERVED NATURE**, iconic sceneries, trails, peaceful and revitalising places, sweet fragrances, the blue of lavender and the white of omnipresent stones (walls, bories, cliffs)... and on both sides rivers (Sorgue & Durance).

Inhabited rural territory of outstanding beauty, recognized for the quality of life, heritage and scenery. The park covers 1,850 km²; altitude varies from 70 meters to 1,125 meters at the peak of Mourre Nègre in the Greater Luberon range. The **LUBERON REGIONAL NATURAL PARK** is one of 7 natural regional parks in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur.

Walking in the Luberon and the Monts de Vaucluse is a great way to experience both nature and history. Hiking paths criss-cross the region in all directions. There are marked hiking trails conducive to challenging hikes, and to walks with the family and among friends. If you are up for a longer hike, you can cross the Luberon/Monts de Vaucluse area from north to south or east to west in two days.

Follow the **GR** (grande randonnée hiking trails) **6/91/97**, the GR for the **MONTS DE VAUCLUSE** area and the «**SENTIER DE LA PESTE**» (trail along the Plague wall) to explore the countryside here. Pilgrims on the **SAINT JAMES'S TRAIL** also follow a path through the plains...



A MAGICAL SITE : FONTAINE DE VAUCLUSE

In ancient Roman times, as shown by recent archaeological discoveries which point to a major cult of water here. The Sorgue de Vaucluse, the most beautiful river in Vaucluse, surges forth from the depths of the earth at the bottom of a steep, eroded cliff, which blocks the end of a narrow green canyon. Nearby lies the picturesque village which is named after the closed valley.

A paradise for cyclists

Cycling along the winding roads and trails in Provence is sheer pleasure to be enjoyed with friends, family or on one's own. Timeless scenery unfolds before your eyes, stunning villages lie close at hand, perfect for a visit or a refreshing drink. Crystal-clear air and good weather 300 days a year!



CYCLING THE LUBERON

The 236-km «**Luberon à vélo**» touring itinerary winds 63km through the Luberon/Monts de Vaucluse area along beautiful country roads that meander from village to village.

👉 www.veloloisirprovence.com

THE CALAVON VELOURTE

This bike path, known as the «**Véloroute du Calavon**», is perfect for families. It is an 8-kilometre greenway on the former rail road tracks between Robion and Les Beaumettes. The trail continues in the direction of Apt for a total of 36km reserved and secured for bicycles and roller sports.

MOUNTAIN BIKE

Mountain-biking: the **GREAT CROSS-VAUCLUSE TRAIL** goes through the Gordes area, and the **GREAT CROSS-LUBERON TRAIL** includes several villages in Luberon Coeur de Provence. These are technical itineraries for those looking for a challenge.

Hiking in Luberon

The Luberon Regional Nature Park offers no end of trails suitable for walking, horse-riding and donkey-riding. Explore our region in leisurely fashion...

At your own pace... There are many different trails here, including GR footpaths and GR regional routes («GR de Pays»), so you can go for all sorts of walks. The shorter routes are marked out in yellow, whereas the GR routes are marked out in red and white; together, they cross the territory in every direction. Choose and adapt the route to your own particular pace and experience, from easy rambles in the foothills to multi-day sports hiking. Remember, though, to take the heat into account.

THE GR FOOTPATHS

The destination is criss-crossed by numerous «**GR DE PAYS**», which are regional GR footpaths. They provide an opportunity to walk in the footsteps of history (along «Plague Wall» or the «Spinners' Path»). **TWO PATHS WERE CREATED** in the area around Gordes, with the aim of following in the footsteps of the Resistance: one goes through the Sénancole Valley, connecting Gordes and the Abbey of Sénanque, while the other, between Gordes and Joucas, goes into and around the Gorges de la Véroncle. Lastly, in the **CALAVON VALLEY**, pilgrims on the Way of Saint James cross Cavaillon and walk alongside the Calavon cycle route, taking the same route as the ancient Roman road, the Via Domitia – GR 653D.

THE PARKS PATH

(Through the Regional Nature Parks, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, trail descriptions compiled in partnership with the local tourist offices). Go to www.cheminsdesparcs.fr and choose your path. Then print it out or download the GPX or KML files and view it in 3D before setting off, so you know exactly what to expect along the way.



CYCLING ROUTE AROUND L'ISLE-SUR-LA-SORGUE

The «**From the Source to the Comtadine Venice**» cycling route is an easy 20km loop along the water. Setting off from L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue and riding to Fontaine-de-Vaucluse by way of the hilltop village of Saumane-de-Vaucluse, take the opportunity to admire the landscapes carved out by the Sorgue, a unique Provençal river. This route intersects with the connection leading to the **Véloroute du Calavon** (Calavon Cycle Route).



Walking in Luberon Coeur de Provence means feasting your eyes on sweeping views of Provence's best-known mountains (**LUBERON, MONTS DE VAUCLUSE, ALPILLES AND VENTOUX...**). Your walk will take you through vineyards, holm oak and olive groves, and past limestone cliffs that provide shelter for many different birds. Watch out too for ancient grey-blue cedar trees dotted here and there, as you go.



Summer A festival of colours

In summer, the bright colours of nature are all around: in the lavender fields, in plates full of sun-kissed fruit and vegetables, and in the evening light as dusk falls on the outlines of the villages.

This is a wonderful time of year for:

- Visiting the Lavender Museum at Coustellet and taking part in the five senses' workshop.
- Sampling the delicious local cuisine at a restaurant or enjoying a picnic.
- Going to a concert under the stars at an open-air theatre.
- Visiting Lourmarin Château.



Lisa, Mélanie, Paul, Léo et Maé

HOLIDAYS WITH FRIENDS

Five days with plenty of daytime activities and lively evening action!



Oppède-le-Vieux



● OUR TOP FAVOURITE THING!

An improvised picnic on the banks of the Sorgue.

● WHAT WE BROUGHT HOME:

Delicious Provençal recipes in sunny colours and made with local products, such as tapenade and olive oil. Great for sharing!

Looking for sensations?

Landscapes as far as the eye can see. From easy to harder trails. Luberon offers many outdoor activities, some more common such as canoeing, biking, hiking or running and some for the extreme sports addicts like via ferrata, treetop adventure, or mountain biking...



VIA FERRATA IN CAVAILLON

The Via Ferrata in Cavailon can be reached on foot from the city centre. The Via Ferrata has two separate itineraries - La Via Natura, designed for people who are not subject to dizziness and who are over 1.30 meters tall, and the Via Souterrata, a more athletic itinerary strong on sensations as you go through caves and cliffs in an original way

FROM ON HIGH

Fly like a bird over Durance and Luberon in a glider plane... absolutely unforgettable... you can also choose to fly in a hot air balloon! These are two unforgettable experiences.



A VINTAGE EXPERIENCE IN 2CV

The famous Deux-Chevaux is the emblematic French car made by Citroën. With a driver, or on your own - two companies offer the possibility of exploring the area in a colourful 2CV for an unforgettable experience just the two of you, with the family, among friend, or as team-building ... A must! Lots of fun and laughter come along for the ride.



Looking for great food?

We could explain to you how good our lovingly nurtured products are... or how enthusiastic and friendly our producers are... or how you can spend time on some of our farms... and how you can buy everything you need at our markets to make delicious meals in an ambience worthy of the real Provence. We could... but instead we decided to let you find out for yourselves. Abundant fruits and vegetables, olive oil, honey, flowers and wine (all three colours!): a lot to taste, savour, to lay a beautiful table and remember these simple and magic moments. Cooking with a chef will encourage you to discover colourful flavours and unexpected but delicious combinations!

MEET THE FARMERS

The short supply chain and eating local are a permanent feature of Luberon and Pays des Sorgues. Throughout most of the year, you can buy produce from farmers' markets or direct from the farms. Look out for asparagus and strawberries around April time and squash in September or October. But don't expect to find tomatoes in December because that's the season for potatoes, leeks and apples... Here, you can learn about nature all year round!

SUNSHINE CUISINE

Our fields are overflowing with Provençal vegetables that are practically begging to be turned into culinary delights. Fresh tomatoes, tender courgettes, tasty aubergines and sweet red peppers; how well they go together! From the iconic ratatouille and the famous vegetable tian to Provençal-style veal paupiettes... your taste buds will think they've died and gone to heaven. Our olive oils provide the crowning glory for all of these delicious dishes.

One star Michelin restaurants:

- LES BORIES
Gordes
- LE CHAMP DES LUNES - Lauris
- LE VIVIER
Isle sur la Sorgue
- LA FENIÈRE
Cadenet

OUTDOOR MARKETS

The flawless sunshine in Provence is one of the reasons behind the flavourful fruits and vegetables you can find on all the markets - evening farmers' markets, the Coustellet market on Sunday morning and Wednesday evening in the summer, the market of Isle-sur-la-Sorgue on Thursday and Sunday... - directly at the farms, and of course in the restaurants! Fruits and vegetables picked that very morning, or perhaps the evening before, to be ready to for the first shoppers. These are fruits and vegetables with lots of flavour. Velvety juicy peaches, firm bright cherries, lovely picked-when-ripe strawberries. Here, the flavour is on a par with the beauty. The bigger farmers' markets run from April to late December.



Meetings with...

A NATURE GUIDE

Discover the Luberon through the eyes and knowledge of those who have made the region their daily recreation ground.

A CHEF

Discover their vision of Provençal cuisine, favourite food and wine pairings, and inspirations. A moment to savour!

AN OIL PRODUCER

Stroll through the olive groves, and learn how oil is made, the different olive ripening periods, and more.

AN ART CRAFT PERSON

A craftsman talks about how they make their material speak, working it by drawing their inspiration from the Luberon.

A LECTURER-GUIDE

The history of Provence, especially the Luberon, is extraordinary and wide-ranging, and it's a joy to talk to someone with a passion for it...



Autumn

The Indian summer

The frantic pace of the summer season has eased and it's time to get back into the fields and start harvesting grapes and olives. Chefs around the region are thrilled to rediscover their autumn menus!

This is a wonderful time of year to go walking in the quiet little villages, do some window shopping and wait with bated breath for the splendidly colourful sunsets. While exploring the destination's main attractions, such as the hilltop villages and the museums, why not treat yourself to a delicious cup of tea or invigorating coffee? Of course, there are all the shimmering hues of the vineyards dotting the landscapes and alongside the cycle paths...



Sylvie et Jérôme

AN AUTHENTIC AND PEACEFUL STAY

Late September, early October, we treat ourselves to a midweek break of three or four days at a boutique hotel.



● OUR TOP FAVOURITE THING!

Our final dinner at a Michelin-starred restaurant.

● WHAT WE BROUGHT HOME:

Some olive oil and truffle oil for our next culinary adventures!

Looking for discoveries?

One very special feature of the **VILLAGES IN THE LUBERON** range is that they are built on the hilltops or into the slopes of the **LUBERON** and the **MONTS DE VAUCLUSE**. Whatever village you may decide to explore, you will find yourself with a panorama over the valley or amidst olive groves, vineyards and shrub oak. The views from the perched villages are unique. They take your gaze to the most celebrated ranges in the south of France: the Luberon, Mont Ventoux, the Dentelles de Montmirail, Alpilles, and Sainte Victoire mountain...

In its own way, each of our villages has preserved its historical heart and characteristic architecture. Bourgeois houses in the village centre or farmhouses and bastides in the countryside alternate with narrow cobbled streets and floral gardens, moving ruins and hilltop churches, canal and old wells, mullioned windows and old portals...



● Castles listed as Historic Monuments:

● **Lourmarin:**
all year round

● **Gordes:**
opening during the high season only



Must-sees museums:

● **Lavender Museum Château du Bois**
www.museedelalavande.com

● **La Filaventure**
(Brun de Vian Tiran's fabric)
www.lafilaventure.fr

● **Museum Pierre Salinger**
Located on the property of Pierre Salinger's last home in Provence, the Pierre Salinger Museum retraces the steps in career of this remarkable man. Visit by appointment all year long.

● **Campredon Museum**
This former city mansion from 1746 is now home to an art centre. Frequent exhibitions of painting and sculpture throughout the year.

● **Olive oil Museum**
To know all the secrets of the famous Mediterranean oil.
www.royere.com

Olive & the oil

The olive: growing, tasting and the Mediterranean diet learn about olive growing by walking through olive groves in summer, fry olives out all year round with special tasting courses and visit the olive oil museum to learn about the different olives and cultivation methods found throughout the Mediterranean. Visit the oil mills, drink in the fragrance of freshly pressed oil, stroll through the olive groves, taste tapenade (the Provençal specialty of ground olives with garlic, anchovies and capers)...



AGRITOURISM & OLIVE OIL

In Provence, olive growing is an ancient activity. From cultivation through to the health benefits afforded by these little green gems, our region offers many opportunities to learn about their history, taste and culture. Seeing at first-hand how the oil is done, it's now possible. La Ferme les Callis, le Mas Honorat offer some new experiences among olive trees.

Olives are picked in November and December. They go to the mill to make oil or they are prepared for eating. It takes between 5 and 8 kg of olives to make 1 litre of oil. The olives gathered in early November make oil with a green taste, known as «**LE FRUITÉ VERT**».

Olives picked late in the season give oil with a ripe, or black-olive taste, known as the «**FRUITÉ NOIR**». The Aglandau variety of olive is the most widely grown in this area. Olive oil made from the Aglandau is pungent and powerful, yet mild.



Olives also go into making tapenades, brined olives and other delights for apéritif and picnic time. Many different varieties of olives go into making these specialties, including **PICHOLINE**, **TANCHE** (olives from Nyons), **SALONENQUE** (Salon de Provence), **GROSSANE** (Baux-de-Provence)...

River & Antiques

L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue



THE SORGUE

L'Isle sur la Sorgue: originally a small fishing village, is called la «**VENISE COMTADINE**» (The Comtadine Venice). As of August 8 1467, washing clothes was prohibited in the Sorgue river, under penalty of a fine of 25 sous. The river itself is a vital part of present and past life in L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue. The very banks of the river, the crystal clear waters and the history they made possible are all an integral part of the town's heritage. The original fishing village grew into a town called Saint Laurent, today the «**Ville vieille**» neighbourhood. The river contributed to prosperity through the development of countless industrial plants and workshops, and fishing.



ANTIQUE DEALERS

A true paradise for antiques lovers and browsers, L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue is the biggest centre in all of Provence for professional antiques and collectibles markets. It is a European-scale centre which has continually grown since the creation of the first antique dealers' village in 1978. Today, open from Saturday to Monday, there are 300 dealers offering furnishings, paintings, art objects, fabrics, jewelry, books, records, wrought iron and other wares in the different dealers' villages, and during the major international fairs, over 500 exhibitors fill the city. Furniture professionals, informed collectors or simply browsers with a flair – everyone is sure to find the treasures they are looking for in L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue...



Winter Peacefulness and discoveries

The crisp winter days, embellished by the sunshine, are ideal for enjoying the Luberon's pure fresh air.

The star of the winter markets is the truffle. In the restaurants, the chefs prepare them in all sorts of ways, using freshly pressed olive oil! Winter in the Luberon is very quiet and peaceful. It's the perfect time of year if you enjoy recharging your batteries in cosy and welcoming accommodation and spending your time alternating between the hilltop villages and the local cafés. And you can also enjoy the boutiques, which are open all year round, as well as exhibitions and more.



Myriam

A STAY TO PAMPER YOURSELF

A long weekend away during the All Saints holiday week.



- **MY TOP FAVOURITE THING!**

The outdoor yoga class

- **WHAT I BROUGHT HOME:**

Natural cosmetics.



Julia et Maxime

A COUPLES' GETAWAY

A peaceful three-day city break.



- **OUR TOP FAVOURITE THING!**

The art galleries in Lourmarin.

- **WHAT WE BROUGHT HOME:**

Craft beer.

A Provençal Christmas

Every year, the Luberon's towns and villages come alive with a unique atmosphere as everyone gears up for Christmas: farandole dances, santon figurines, illuminations, Christmas markets and carol-singing... Traditionally, **SAINTE-BARBE** (4 December) marks the beginning of the season and it is celebrated by a symbolic planting of wheat to determine whether the coming year will be a prosperous one.

THE CHRISTMAS MARKETS

In December, Christmas markets pop up all over the region. Many towns and villages organise Christmas markets, all of them magnificently decorated and extremely warm and welcoming. Here, you can buy all sorts of seasonal items as well as enjoying a hot drink and a tasty treat. If you are looking for some great Christmas presents or some local products for your New Year's Eve dinner, these markets are the ideal place to find them.

PROVENÇAL SANTONS

The first days of December are also the ideal time to set up your nativity scene. In Provence, they traditionally portray local life, with a few essential pieces such as the well and water from the mill, the communal oven, pine trees and so on. Nativity scenes also need figurines and here they are called «santons» (from the Provençal word «santoun», meaning «little saint») and are hand-crafted in clay.

ZOOM

The Nativity Scenes at the Hotel d'Agar

Every Christmastime, the Hotel d'Agar mounts an outstanding set of Provençal and Neapolitan nativity scenes from the 18th and 19th centuries that are sure to delight you. Over 200 Provençal figurines made of wax and papier-mâché and dressed in period costume, and a hundred or so earthenware Neapolitans are exhibited along the route of the guided tour of the house, as well as few wooden Genoans.

The 13 desserts

This dessert has a religious symbolism: it represents the Last Supper, Jesus Christ's last meal taken in the company of his 12 apostles, hence the number 13 for the 13 guests. According to tradition, the desserts should be served on a table covered with three white tablecloths. Served at the end of the meal on Christmas Eve, the desserts are supposed to remain on the table for three days. To be polite to their host, guests are expected to sample all of them. (Here is the list of the 13 Christmas desserts: walnuts or hazelnuts; dried figs; raisins; almonds; olive oil brioche; white nougat; dates; black nougat; red nougat; calissons d'Aix (Aix almond paste); oranges or clementines; water melon; and an exotic fruit.)

Looking for relaxing moments?

You need some time off. You are looking for peaceful moments? Luberon can be your haven of rest. Yoga classes, spas, swimming pools, relaxation and nature, here you will find all you need to chill.

Take the time to relax peacefully and recharge your batteries as you make the most of our spa centres, with their facilities dedicated to pure pampering. Spas, massages, relaxation areas are available throughout the Luberon.



COFFEE TIME...

Exploring the many small villages that make up our area is a must. Here you absorb the lifestyle and the rhythm of Provence. Visiting the villages is also the opportunity to discover several sweet boutiques and sidewalk cafés and tea shops, to turn your day out into a very special discovery. Visit the villages on market day, or any day of the week, for a real discovery.

CONTEMPORARY DESIGN...

Many accommodations have deliberately opted for resolutely contemporary architecture and decoration in the heart of Provence. A great way to experience total immersion in Provence in chic contemporary style.

Truffle

What is the black diamond of Vacluse?

Some truffle producers of Vacluse gathered and created a label to promote the best truffles, a "savoir-faire" and be a 100% transparent. The tuber melanosporum. The best truffle one can find.



3 COMMITMENTS:

Freshness

A fresh truffle will be way more powerful and full of aroma. To guarantee the freshness of their products these producers decided to date all their products and sell only one week old truffles.

Ripness

Black truffle isn't black from the start. It's white, grey, dark grey and then turns a little purple before becoming fully black when it reaches ripness. The taste depends on the ripness of the truffle, the riper the stronger. For this reason, the Black diamond collectif will only sell really black truffle, and will show the inside to prove it.

Quality

Through the « **DIAMANT NOIR DU VAUCLUSE** » label the producers guarantee the best quality possible.

VAUCLUSE, THE LAND OF TUBER MELANOSPORUM

Truffle as a production was born in Vacluse. Still today Vacluse is the biggest truffle producer. Mediterranean climate, limestone and stony grounds, the soil of Vacluse is ideal to grow tuber melanosporum. If tuber melanosporum is commonly called « truffe du Périgord », do not be fooled, the truffle as a culture was born in Vacluse.

➤ <https://diamantnoirvacluse.fr/>



ZOOM

Rugby World Cup 2023

In 2023, the Rugby World Cup is happening in France. Put the dates in your diary: **8 SEPTEMBER TO 28 OCTOBER**

The matches will be played across nine venues in nine cities and 20 national squads will be flying the flags for their countries. This tournament will be the 10th Men's Rugby World Cup and the second to be staged in France!

COMMITMENTS

The organisers of the 2023 Rugby World Cup in France are determined to set new standards in social and environmental responsibility, inclusion and legacy for this major sporting event. With this in mind, they are targeting four key pillars:

- **Fostering a circular and sustainable economy;**
- **Committing to education, training and employment;**
- **Respecting and protecting the environment;**
- **Ensuring inclusion and sharing.**

Essential values that our destination fully identifies with. More than a quarter of the competition matches will take place in the Provence-Alpes-Côtes d'Azur region, less than an hour's drive from the Luberon. Why not use the event as an excuse to come and explore this territory, this veritable jewel in the South of France?

TAKE A BREAK IN LUBERON...

The Luberon is a multifaceted destination that is blessed with an outstanding terroir and an incredible wealth of heritage and nature. This is a destination that you can explore at any time of year. Whether you're a sporty type, a foodie or a history buff, there are plenty of activities on offer to keep you happy here. Not only will you be surrounded by nature in a regional nature park but it is also one that has been classified by UNESCO in two different categories.

THE "SPRINGBOKS"

South Africa's Springboks will be staying in Toulon and have two matches scheduled for Marseille, less than an hour's drive away. Geographically, you couldn't find a better place to while away your time between two of the Rugby World Cup matches in 2023.

ZOOM ACCOMMODATION

Quality accommodation set in pristine natural surroundings:
The Luberon boasts a vast array of charming accommodation offering high quality service throughout its outstanding territory, including villa and cottage rentals amid the vineyards, boutique hotels, Relais & Château, and more.





A remarkable historical heritage

In the Luberon, you will find a multitude of authentic little villages connected by small country roads.

THE LUBERON, A LAND OF HISTORY

The Luberon's history as a welcoming land dates back over 2,500 years and many different peoples and communities have settled here, including Waldensians, Jews and Catholics. Take the opportunity to discover this rich heritage dating from Roman times to the modern day...

THE WALDENSIANS IN LUBERON

The Waldensians began settling in the Luberon in 1399, when over a thousand Waldensian families from the Alps were invited to move here. They brought with them their culture and, above all, their faith, inherited from Pierre Valo, a late-12th-century preacher from Lyon.

It was in 1528 that Jean Nicolai, the bishop of Apt, instituted proceedings for heresy. In 1540, the Edict of Mérindol condemned the Waldensians but, needing the support of Charles V, François I pardoned them. However, once Charles V had left the area, the persecutions began and, in April 1545, the Waldensian villages were pillaged, their lands confiscated and their goods plundered...

Following the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, in 1685, 400 Waldensians from the Luberon, descendants of those who escaped, left Provence to move to South Africa.

Ideas for stays...

- Guided tours to the most beautiful villages of Luberon;
 - Walks and hiking tours at the heart of the National Regional Park of Luberon;
 - Themed daytour (gastronomy, wine, culture);
 - Many activities, sports, well-being...
- So much more on demand!



WELL-BEING & NATURE:

Follow your guide to discover local flora and fauna. You will be amazed by the diversity of landscape, woods, bushes, Garrigue, really dry or really green. Each and every path has its own history, anecdotes and mysteries. You will reload your battery and disconnect for a while. After nature, well-being, enjoy an outdoor yoga class, to relax body & soul... After that you'll be ready for new adventure!

91€/pers

THE BLUE GOLD OF PROVENCE:

In the morning, only few kilometers from Lourmarin enjoy the visit of a farm growing all the typical flowers and plants of Provence. You will know more about their origins, their uses and how to cook with them. Then you will have a lunch at the farm. In the afternoon, discover everything you need to know about the most popular flower of Provence: Lavender! Its history, its uses, how to obtain the precious essential oil... The blue gold of Provence will share all its secrets with you!

75€/pers

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INCOMING SERVICE

We organise tours for groups or individuals.

Tailormade packages are possible on demand.

Licence number : IM084170001

✉ www.luberoncoeurdeprovence.com

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