

Half Day tour Aigues Mortes & Camargue

Monday 30th of june 2008

AIGUES MORTES



In the heart of a country of ponds and vaguely defined swamps, of canals and salt marshes, of lagoons and sands, a city surrounded by impressive ramparts points its towers towards the sky.

Harbour built by Saint Louis as starting point for the crusades, Aigues-Mortes is an extraordinary war machine of the 13th century, which, men and time have left us practically untouched. The Tower of Constance, the Governor's dwelling and the city ramparts form an exceptional sight...



A cruise on the «Rhône à Sète» canal

The cruise will guide you through one of the most beautiful parts of "La petite Camargue"... Along the water by canals and coastal river "Vidourle", you will discover the wild, protected, unusual and intriguing Camargue...



Schedule:

- 1.30 – 2.15 PM : Departure from Montpellier & pick up to Aigues Mortes.
- 02.30 – 4.00 PM : Cruise on the «Rhône à Sète » Canal.
- 4.00 – 6.00 PM: Free tour of Aigues Mortes village. Visit of the ramparts possible.
- 6.00 – 06h45 PM: Pick up back to Montpellier.

Half day Tour : On the Romans' footsteps

Tuesday 01st of July 2008

Nîmes & Pont du Gard :

The Nîmes Arenas:



This amphitheatre, which was probably built between 50 and 100 AD, was essentially intended for gladiator fights. Although eroded by the weather, the stones of the Arena have resisted very well to the wear and tear of the centuries. Close to 2000 years after its birth, it is the best-conserved monument of the Roman world. With its elliptical shape of 103 by 101 meters, the arena offers a total of 24000 places, divided in 34-tiered levels. The Roman architect built the amphitheatre so as to offer, at all times, the easiest and fastest access to the tiers.

The Square House or Maison Carrée:



This is neither a house nor a square, but a magnificent little Roman temple. Built in the heart of the forum, between 3 and 5 AD, during the reign of Augustus, this sanctuary is dedicated to the "princes of youth". The monument was inspired by the temple of Apollo in Rome. It is also supposed to have influenced the architecture of the Madeleine church in Paris which was built under Napoleon I.

Pont du Gard :

As it bridges the valley of the River Gardon with its three storeys of archways, the Pont du Gard, a 275-metre long and 48-metre high roman aqueduct, has been included on the UNESCO World Heritage list.



You will undoubtedly admire this marvel of Ancient Rome, which represents the most impressive part of the aqueduct, which use to bring the water from the springs near Uzès to the city of Nîmes. This construction, which dates back to just before BC, has remained practically untouched more than 2,000 years later.

Schedule:

- 1.30 – 2.30 PM: Departure from Montpellier & Pick up to Nîmes city.
- 3h30 – 4h30: Visit of the Arenas & the Square House.
- 4h30 – 5h00: Pick up to the «Pont du Gard».
- 5.00 – 6.30: Visit of the bridge & its museum.
- 6.30 – 7.30: Pick up back to Montpellier.

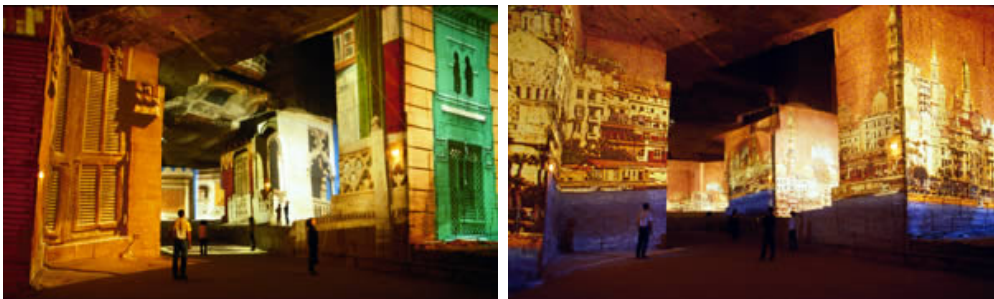
Half day tour: The PROVENCE Thursday 03th of July 2008

The Baux of Provence



A real eagle's nest, which dominates the Provence as far as the sea, the Castle des Baux was built on one of the most beautiful spots of France. Monumental beauty and wilderness, magic shapes, everything about the Baux de Provence is fascinating. Dominated by the castle's towers, the city's vestiges take you back to the Middle Ages: houses, dovecots, hospital, caves... On the rock's summit, the castle rises proudly with its donjon and its many cave dwellings.

The Cathédral of Images



One of the greatest audio-visual experiences of the 20th century! Enormous ancient quarries are a sea of delight to the eyes and ears. The walls, floors and ceilings with huge galleries are used as giant natural screens on which 3,000 different images are projected thus creating a 35-min show.

Schedule:

- 1.00 – 2.30 PM : Departure from Montpellier, pick up to the Baux of Provence.
- 2.30 – 4.00: Visit of the Cathédral of images.
- 4.00 – 5.30: Visit of the Baux of Provence & its castle.
- 5.30 – 7.00: Pick up back to Montpellier.