

FOLLOWING THE FOOTSTEPS OF PICASSO



Discover places and atmospheres who influenced Picasso and inspired his work. Each of the cities visited present a close relation with the master, where you will discover a large range of pieces. Aix en Provence, Avignon, Les Baux de Provence, or even Arles are Provençal «classics», discover them through Picasso's eye. Paintings, sculptures, drawings, ceramics or even photography amateurs, attracted by the light and the varied landscapes, will love this artistic journey in the heart of Provence.

DESCRIPTION



AVIGNON

The city of Popes revealed itself to Picasso in 1914. Its history, culture, and numerous museums provided an artistic cradle for the artist. A tender relationship with Provence began in 1912, under the spell of the summer charms of Sorgues, with his friend Braque. This European capital of culture in 2000 is bursting with riches and shouldn't be missed.

A VOIR À AVIGNON

. The Angladon museum shows drawings by Picasso in its collection of 18th-, 19th-, and 20th-century masterpieces

AIX EN PROVENCE

Aix-en-Provence, the town of Cézanne! Baroque architecture, which is highly characteristic of Provence, sparkling fountains and lively terraces outdo each other in beauty. Just a stone's throw away, Mount Saint-Victoire stretches out over Vauvenargues, providing the backdrop of Cézanne's works through the castle windows. This was an essential acquisition for Picasso, who bought the site in 1958. Pablo and his wife, Jacqueline, rest here today.

A VOIR À AIX EN PROVENCE

. Château de Vauvenargues is open to the public from May 25 to September 27, 2009. Advance booking is mandatory (access by shuttle bus).
. Picasso – Cézanne exhibition at the Musée Granet (Granet Museum), from May 25 to September 27. 100 works of art to discover

LES BAUX DE PROVENCE

Perched at the heart of the Alpilles, Les Baux-de-Provence gushes with unique beauty: A huge quarry of chalk-colored rocks fringed with medieval remnants. Picasso spent time in this busy village on the Provence tourist trail. The village also had its first experience in cinema with Cocteau, who illustrated the painter's life in Testament of Orpheus.

A VOIR AUX BAUX DE PROVENCE

. This prestigious site is known as one of the "Most beautiful villages in France" and is home to the Cathédrale d'Images (Cathedral of Images). In 2009, a show at the Cathedral pays wonderful tribute to the artist.

ARLES

A gem of Provençal history! Ancient Arles, with its seven UNESCO World Heritage monuments and sites, roused the passion of Picasso. Reminding him of his Spanish roots, Arles inspired him with its arenas and corridas. His works, including his famous *Arlésienne*, focused on the town starting in 1960. A series of portraits followed. Before he died, he bequeathed 57 drawings to the museum, all of which illustrate his attachment to Arles. When he died in 1973, two further paintings were added to the collection.

A VOIR À ARLES

. You can admire these works of art, including the *Arlésienne* (portrait of Lee Miller) in the Réattu museum

RECOMMENDATIONS

GASTRONOMIC RESTAURANT

La Mirande in Avignon

This ancient cardinal palace has such a peaceful atmosphere, you will feel like in a 18th C Provençal house... creative cooking labelise by Michelin.

BEST QUALITY/PRICE RATIO

L'Apostrophe in Arles

Located right next to the Van Gogh's Café on the ancient Roman Forum, you will enjoy good food cooked by a local chief on a charming plaza...

SUGGESTION

THE CATHEDRAL OF IMAGES

Outside of the village Les Baux de Provence, do not miss the permanent exhibition of the Cathedral d'Image, an audio-visual extravaganza projected onto a 4.000m2 rock-face disguised as a giant movie screen... impressive!

