

# THE SOUTHERN LUBERON



This is the living Luberon, where everything goes back to **man's** relationship with the basic element, earth. The dry stone walls, the imposing **bastides**, villages perched on the sides of hills between church and château. Get into this unique Atmosphere with your driver starting in Ansouis, and his beautiful medieval castle from the 12Th century. Continue the road until Cucuron, with a point of view over the village's roofs. You will see also this charming and simple village of Vaugines before arriving in Lourmarin, the Highlight of your day.

## THE CITIES DESCRIPTION



### ANSOUIS

Ansouis, sheltered from the Mistral, is full of tiny streets dotted with boutiques and artists' workshops. As you walk about, you can admire the village square shaded by the indigenous plane trees or take in the local atmosphere at the terrace of the café. Inside the castle is a magnificent collection of 17th and 18th Century furniture as well as splendid tapestries.

### CUCURON

You can admire the fabulous vegetation abundant in colour and fragrances, and as you turn the corner, the panorama is revealed in front of you. Here there are more than 200 farms producing cherries, melons, olives and the Cotes de Luberon wines. The activities program, chamber music, opera, theatre exhibitions, and various celebrations.

### VAUGINES

Vaugines is situated in the foothills of the Grand Luberon. It is a very old village, simple and charming far from the main routes. It has kept its original Provencal identity, witnessed by its peaceful streets ornamented with pretty traditional houses. Here the landscape is wild and authentic.



### LOURMARIN

Lourmarin nestles in the middle of vineyards, olive groves and almond trees. A very animated village in the summer due to its numerous cafe terraces, restaurants and boutiques. You will notice the typical Mediterranean architecture in its winding narrow streets, lovely old restored houses, and well shaded public squares.

### WHAT TO SEE IN THE SOUTHERN LUBERON

- . Art galleries and summer festivals in Lourmarin.
- . Renaissance style houses (La Capitainerie) in Vaugines.
- . The old village roofs from the St. Michel Dungeon in Cucuron.
- . Chateau d'Ansouis (Sabran family home).
- . Tuesday morning market in Cucuron.
- . Friday morning market in Lourmarin.
- . Thursday morning market in Ansouis.

## RESTAURANTS RECOMMENDED

### GASTRONOMIC RESTAURANT

*L'Horloge* in Cucuron, In the old village, the olive oil mill has been changed into this authentic restaurant. Local dishes for a good price.

### BEST QUALITY FOR REASONABLE PRICES

*Le Bistrot* de Lourmarin in Lourmarin, will be the place for a good French meal. In themiddle of the village, you will enjoy the atmosphere and the dishes ...

## SUGGESTION FOR YOUR DAY

### CHATEAU VAL JOANIS

The Val Joanis Castle is built on the site of a former Roman villa. The French-style garden, designed in 1978, is made up of vegetable patches, orchards and flower gardens. This characteristically Provencal edifice also has an olive tree orchard, a central basin and a wide square courtyard. You can taste the estate wines and olive oil every day.

