

Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur

TRAVEL GUIDE



Oliver's Travels
— YOUR GREAT ESCAPE —

There's a good reason that Provence-Alpes is so popular among fashionistas and film stars. Firstly, there's the blue sea that gives the Côte d'Azur its name, then there are the glamorous towns along the shimmering coastline. The mountains in the north promise action-filled holidays while the inland towns and cities like Arles, Marseilles and Avignon overflow with culture and history. Then of course, there's the mouth-watering cuisine and exquisite wine.

CURRENCY	EURO	TIME ZONE	GMT +1
ELECTRICAL	TWO PIN ROUND	HIGHEST TEMP.	40° C
LANGUAGE	FRENCH	LOWEST TEMP.	6° C
EMERGENCY	112	PEAK SEASON	MAY - SEPT





TRANSPORT TALK



BY WHEELS

Hire a car for unrestricted access to Provence-Alpes. This will allow you to travel unabated and take diversions into whichever town takes your fancy.



BY BIKE

Cycling can be one of the most invigorating ways of exploring the dramatic countryside of the region. And what's better is you'll get to experience some completely unexplored places.



BY TAXI

Taxi services in and around the Provence area are widely available, in towns and cities at taxi ranks as well as to be pre booked by phone.



BY WATER

Ferry options include a channel crossing followed by a drive down to the French Riviera, or sailing into Santander in northern Spain for a shorter drive to Provence-Alpes.



BY AIR

Main airports in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur are Nice Airport, Toulon-Hyères airport, Marseille Airport and Avignon Airport.



BY BUS OR TRAIN

Bus services along the coast are pretty frequent and reliable but less so as you head inland. TGV trains are the fastest to get to the region, and the SNCF trains run regularly between towns.

TOP PICKS FOR KIDS

Diving & Snorkelling



Kids can appreciate the coast in a whole new way with [Dune Marseilles](#), which is the ideal way to introduce them to snorkelling and the underwater world to be discovered.



Hop on a Horse



The Carmargue National Park is the place to go if you feel like getting back to nature. [Domaine Méjanes](#) is an estate within the National Park that offers tours around the marshes on horseback.



Climb, Roll and Jump



This section of the Alps provides high-altitude activities for more adventurous families. [Les Bois des Lutins](#) is an adventure park with a difference - featuring bridges, zip lines and slides.



Plunge into Gorges



Watery adventures can also be enjoyed on the rivers that run through the Alps. [Base Sport & Nature](#) offer a great range of activities that tackle the white water, as well as canyoning and hiking expeditions.



Undersea Adventures



Monaco's [Oceanographic Museum](#) is a great way to spend a family afternoon! There are plenty of family activity opportunities to get up close with sea life, including a touch tank and the shark lagoon.



Swim with Dolphins



Dolphins seem to capture everyone's imagination, especially children's. Swimming with them is an experience that will stay with them for a lifetime! The [Cala Rossa](#) team ensure the highest likelihood of seeing the animals in the wild.



MAP IT OUT: WHERE TO FIND THE BEST FOR KIDS



Avignon

Undersea adventure

Plunge Gorges ★

Nice

Climb, Roll & Jump ★

★ Hop on a Horse

Cannes

Swim with Dolphins ★

Marseille

★ Diving & Snorkelling



CROWD-PLEASERS: BEST ACTIVITIES

Drive Supercars



If you want to feel like a true film star, hire a sports car and take it for a spin along the coast. [Liven Up](#) give you the chance to drive a Lamborghini or a Ferrari around the Côte d'Azur's stunning landscape.



See the Countryside



There's no better way to see Provence than by bike! If you're looking to hire a set of two wheels, head to [e.bike Tours](#). They'll show you the best places to cycle around the Côte d'Azur's beautiful countryside.



Hit a Hole-in-One



As a playground of the rich and famous, it hardly comes as a great surprise that there's some world-famous golf courses in the region. You must try [Golf du Luberon](#), it's one of the region's most picturesque courses.



Drift Away



[Bleu Evasion](#) can organise trips to navigate the coastal parts of the Calanques National Park. You can hop between caves, go snorkelling and you could even try wind surfing or wake boarding if you're feeling adventurous!



Tour a Perfumerie



If you're looking for a day trip to somewhere with a bit of a difference, try [Maison Galimard](#). It offers tours around the factory as well as a perfume museum, and, as an added bonus, entrance is free.



Take a Private Tour



Such is the size and diversity of Provence-Alpes that perhaps the best way to see the most of it is with a guided tour. [Experience Provence](#) offer curated, private expeditions into the heart of the region.



MAP IT OUT: WHERE TO FIND THE BEST FOR GROUPS



BEST FOODIE DELIGHTS



L'Oustalet

For something a little more representative of rural France try [L'Oustalet](#). You'll be able to sit right next to the garden where the vegetables for your meal were picked!



Alexandre Mazzia



[Alexandre Mazzia](#) is the eponymous chef at this Marseille Restaurant. Mazzia delights in creating unusual pairings of flavours that are as surprising as they are delightful on the palette.



Wines in Provence

There are a good few wine tours available in Provence but if you want something with a personal edge, try [Wines in Provence](#). They can cater your tour so it's exactly what you want!



Les Pastras



If you're a true foodie, it's likely you've tried a truffle or two in your time – but have you ever gone out on the hunt for one? look for you own little nuggets of black gold with [Les Pastras](#), with tastings afterwards.



Dishes to Try

Bouillabaisse is probably king when it comes to the archetypal dishes of Provence. Or try another famous dish, the aperitif **pastis** with its strong aniseed flavour. **Calissons d'Aix** are delicious sweets to try!

Bistro du'O



[Bistro du'O](#) is a Michelin starred restaurant that serves up simple and elegant staples such as pork belly with apple, along with edgier fare like the foie gras ravioli and salmon tartare.



MAP IT OUT: WHERE TO FIND THE BEST FOR FOODIES





We'd like to think we know travel pretty well. Since we first hatched [Oliver's Travels](#) in 2003 it's been essentially all we've talked about. You could call us obsessed.

Our extensive [blog](#), Oliver's Journal has got tons of information and inspiration on locations across Europe and the Caribbean. It's a one-stop shop for family-friendly holiday fun, the best group activities, foodie finds and a good dose of adventure. If you found this travel guide useful, (we hope you did!), you can find a whole host more on the blog, too!

At Oliver's Travels we don't do ordinary. From [luxury chateaux and villas in France](#), and [luxury cottages in the UK](#), to Mediterranean [villas with pools](#) and [Caribbean beach villas](#), we have something for everyone, everywhere.



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