



# AIX-EN-PROVENCE


## City of water, city of Art

### « In the footsteps of Paul Cézanne »

**Historical capital of Provence**, Aix-en-Provence is a human-size city, a place wherever you look at that's steeped in history, each narrow street, each fountain tells visitor the fascinating story of this ancient city founded in 123 BC by Romans.

**Aix is definitely a cultural city.** The centennial anniversary of Paul Cézanne's death was celebrated at the Granet museum. The museum also houses great permanent exhibitions: Rembrandt, Cézanne, Giacometti, Picasso to name of few. The Grand Theater of Provence and the International Festival of Lyric Art that is a 'must'.

**Aix-en-Provence is a lively elegant happy town** with charisma but still cosy. Aix is a place where to enjoy strolling along its large Provencal market, discovering art galleries, shopping in the historical pedestrian center and of course tasting its typical products : sweets like the famous Calissons !



Feel the colors, the fragrances, surrounded by fountains and plane trees; enjoy the sweetness of life, the art of living in a city with over 300 days of sun per year...

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Your route in Provence as you see fit !

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# Your route

## Aix-en-Provence & the Sainte Victoire

Around 9:00 pm - You will be welcome at the place you'll stay by your English speaking driver-guide there the last details of your route will be set.

**Departure for Aix-en-Provence** where we will visit the historical center, its stone-paved streets, its fountains, its tree-shaded squares its colorful markets; its shops and some of its lovely café terraces.

**Aix-en-Provence is a place for shopping**; indulge in its so many shops and boutiques! No to mention the art galleries.

There you can also buy Marseille soap, Provencal household linen, art works, lavender, olive oil and many other Provencal souvenirs.

**Then we will set off in the footsteps of Paul Cézanne**, visiting his family house located in « Jas de Bouffan », his studio, the church where his marriage was celebrated. Then we will go from the famous Fountain of the Rotonde emblem of the city of Aix. Then walking along the Cours Mirabeau lined with plane-trees we will reach the « Deux Garçons » a local 'institutions', where Paul Cézanne and his dear friend Emile Zola used to meet to talk...

**The time to discover the city surroundings and the countryside will come, getting us closer from the Sainte Victoire mountain**, Paul Cézanne favorite subject, a place a light...

This route, yours, will have you discover the beauty of this magnificent place visiting the different viewpoints Cézanne chose to paint from: **the quarry of Bibemus, Tholonet and Vauvenargues villages**. Places from where you could admire this symbol of Provence, this awe-inspiring view of a maquis-shrouded rocky-mountain.

Around 6:00 pm - Back to your accommodation.



### *Le Clos de La Violette (Aix)*

*The gastronomic restaurant of Aix. Jean Marc Banzo cuisine is modern and daring, always a success. A great selection of regional wines.*

### *Le Carton Rouge (Aix)*

*A little wine bar in the center of Aix with its tiny terrace is the place to discover taste and enjoy great wines, they have been selected by the owner and they are proposed with a cuisine as delicious as creative. Booking necessary!*

### *Café des Deux Garçons (Aix)*

*An Aix 'Must-see' with its Empire style decor and terrace giving onto the Cours Mirabeau, this large walk built in 1792 was the place where writers and painters such as Zola and Cézanne and many more were delighted to meet.*

### *Le Relais Cézanne (Le Tholonet)*

*Two really good addresses at the bottom of the Sainte Victoire, to savor regional products greatly cooked or just taste a glass of wine under the shade of plane tree with cicadas singing.*



## Don't miss...

### *Cézanne's Studio :*

*Built upon his request in 1897, he lived there until he died in 1906, The studio of the Lauves is the place where Cézanne created many of his paintings. This well-preserved studio-museum is a shrine to the master.*

*There his personal belongings are shown and give a the special atmosphere to the place. Exhibitions happen all year long.*

### *Granet Museum:*

*Permanent collections of French and Italian works 17th and 18th century, and other works from the Dutch and Flemish schools 14th and 17th century, but most interesting an entire room is dedicated to Cézanne where about ten of the master's works can be admired.*

*Temporary exhibitions according to themes.*

### *Château La Coste (Le Puy Ste Réparate):*

*Located 15min from Aix center in the countryside, the new owners of the vineyard developed a plan to create a sepcial place where land and Art came together. A great occasion to enjoy the work of contemporary artists and architects nestled in the heart of an authentic provencal vineyard producing an excellent organic wine. Visit of the cave and wine tasting.*