

Reveal
and **FEEL REBORN HERE**



FOR RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

Visitor expectations are changing. Visitors today are looking for more environmentally-conscious tourism, for rewarding encounters with people rather than visits to overcrowded sites, for fair trade on local markets, and for active mobility.

Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Tourism is aware of these emerging societal expectations and has forged a long-term vision to promote France's second most visited region by engaging a path towards consciously considerate and responsible tourism that addresses its economic, environmental and social impacts.

You can find the manifesto online at www.tourismebienveillant.org



"While our ambition 'to make the top 5 destinations in Europe within 5 years' remains unchanged, we do want to build a vision for considerate tourism that addresses not just our economic but also the wider new societal and environmental challenges".

Chairman, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Tourisme

"We need to chart a new heading, to enable balanced resilient development for our territories and local communities and to meet the core aspirations of our visitors".

Lionel Flasseur

Managing Director, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Tourisme

THE TOURISM & HANDICAP BRAND FOR INCLUSIVE TOURISM



Over 450 of the region's tourist-sector professionals (including hotel managers, integrated resorts, tourist attractions, restaurateurs, B&B owners, tourist information offices, and more) have engaged in this inclusive tourism initiative by delivering adaptive solutions to the full spectrum of disability in all its forms—physical, visual, auditory, and mental. You can find all these offers online at auvergnerhonealpes-tourisme.com

FEEL REBORN HERE—IN PICTURES

Three films have been put together to illustrate the "feel reborn here" brand promise and our vision of considerate tourism.

Dance as concept vector expresses a harmonious relationship with the natural elements and other people.

It surfaces sensations and deeper feelings, the need to get grounded, to connect and reconnect, to be reborn... and it is the sheer beauty of our spectacular panoramas that stages the process of letting go and giving the senses scope to really come alive.

Check out the films at rendez-vous.tv



THE AUVERGNE-RHÔNE-ALPES REGION

The Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region boasts a wide array of destinations, with the city of Lyon, France's capital of gastronomy, the Alps and Mont Blanc, Europe's highest point, the Drôme and Ardèche departments preludeing Provence, and Auvergne with its volcanoes.

In winter, tourists from around the world congregate to the renowned ski resorts of the French Alps, including Chamonix, Courchevel, Megève, Méribel, Val d'Isère, Val Thorens, and more.

The Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region, where in 2018 tourists reserved around **167.8 million** overnight stays, continues to strive to improve all that it has to offer its clientele. **1.7 billion euros** have been invested in tourism, including **795 million** on commercial accommodation (hotels, holiday residences, campsites, holiday resorts, and of course the Gîtes de France) and **284 million** on improving and expanding the network of ski lifts.

(Source: Atout France - Tableau de Bord des Investissements Touristiques 2018). ⁽¹⁾ = Total number of nights booked by French residents (including children under 15) + by foreign visitors in commercial accommodation.

AN EASILY ACCESSIBLE REGION

BY PLANE

- Lyon-Saint-Exupéry international airport: www.lyonaeroports.com
- Geneva international airport: www.gva.ch
- Clermont-Ferrand Auvergne international airport: www.clermont-aeroport.com

Two airports for the winter season:

- Chambéry Savoie airport: www.chambery-airport.com
- Grenoble Isère airport: www.grenoble-airport.com

BY TRAIN

International transport services – High-speed trains:

- Thalys and TGV from Brussels to Lyon: 3h45min
- TGV from Geneva to Lyon: 1h45min
- TGV from Paris to Lyon: 2h (30 TGVs daily)

TGV from Paris to ski resorts during the winter season: Moûtiers, Bourg St Maurice, Saint-Gervais and Sallanches.

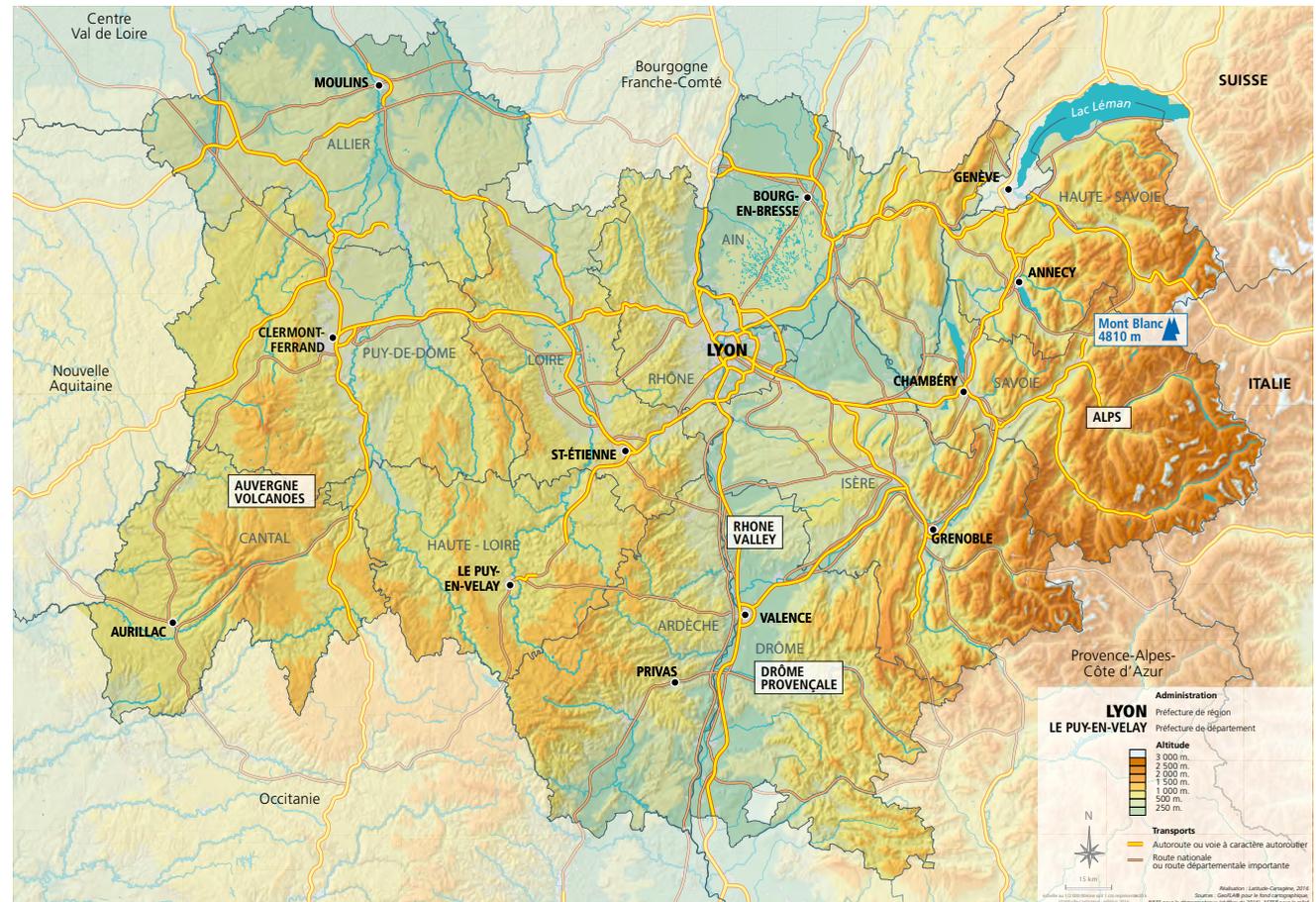
International links: www.oui.sncf

Regional express links: www.ter-sncf.com

BY ROAD

More than 1300 km of motorway make Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes one of the most easily accessible regions in France:

www.viamichelin.fr



BREATHTAKING LANDSCAPES



CHAMONIX-MONT-BLANC

Located at the foot of Mont Blanc, Chamonix is the favoured destination of alpine climbers and other mountain sports enthusiasts. This lively town is also the gateway to unmissable sights like the Mer de Glace, a glacier which can be accessed via the small Montenvers rack railway, or the Aiguille du Midi and Brévant cable cars which climb to the region's two highest peaks. On the Aiguille du Midi terrace, at an altitude of 3,842 m, the "step into the void", Europe's highest tourist attraction, offers visitors a unique experience: standing above a drop of more than 1000 m with panoramic views over the highest summits in Western Europe. www.chamonix.com



LAVENDER SCENTS

In June and July, lavender flowers blanket the fields in the south of the region in an elegant blueish-purple. Originally used by the Romans to keep linen fresh and perfume their baths, lavender is now used for many different purposes. A visit to one of the lavender distilleries is a delightful way to learn more about this plant and its many benefits.

www.dromeprovencale.fr/decouvrir/lavande/

THE GREAT ALPINE LAKES

Lac d'Annecy is among the region's most popular destinations and is now considered to be one of Europe's purest lakes. The town of Annecy, the "Little Venice of the Alps", is home to many picturesque canals. At the water's edge, the old town reveals its narrow streets and arched houses set against the backdrop of the Alps. Visitors can enjoy a cruise over lunch or while soaking up some evening entertainment.

www.lac-annecy.com

Lac du Bourget, France's largest and deepest natural lake, was the inspiration behind Lamartine's famous poem *Le Lac*, drawing prestigious visitors like Queen Victoria, who stayed at the spa resort of Aix-les-Bains. Today's visitors continue to appreciate the calming and healing virtues of the thermal springs, as well as the activities available on the lake, which include boating, swimming and fishing.

www.aixlesbains-rivieradesalpes.com

Lac Léman, known worldwide as Lake Geneva, forms a natural border with Switzerland. On the French side, the spa resorts of Thonon and Evian-les-Bains, and fishing villages like Yvoire, dotted along its shores, give the area the feel of an Alpine Riviera.

www.thononlesbains.com/ www.evian-tourisme.com



ENTHRALLING ALPS

From the northern Alps to the westerly outreaches of the Massif Central, and as far as the foothills of the Jura mountains, the region enjoys extraordinarily diverse mountain landscapes. Dominated by Mont Blanc, this "world up high", as it was known in antiquity, is home to peaks, passes, valleys and alpine pastures, from Chablais to Beaufortain, from La Tarentaise to Belledonne, and from La Maurienne to Oisans. These sentinels shaped by time and by the elements, megaliths of stone and ice, from the Aiguille du Midi to La Meije, beckon people to attempt the most ambitious conquests, up high and close to the sun in the everlasting snow.

www.savoie-mont-blanc.com

www.isere-tourisme.com

AUVERGNE VOLCANOES



The Parc Naturel Régional des Volcans d'Auvergne, a unique jewel in the crown of Europe and home to a **tectonic hotspot in the shape of the Chaîne des Puys and Limagne fault**, was recognised in July 2018 by UNESCO as an exceptional geological site. The Puy de Dôme, the most famous of the sleeping giants and officially awarded "Grand Site de France"® status, tops out at 1,465 m, with unequalled panoramic views across the 80 volcanoes of the Chaîne des Puys. Its summit can be accessed in both winter and summer via the "Panoramique des Dômes" rack railway. And at an altitude of 1,886 m, the Puy de Sancy is the highest point in the Massif Central. Le Puy Mary, another "Grand Site de France"® (1,758 m) in the Massif du Cantal, is also a perfect example of France's natural heritage.

www.auvergnerrhonealpes-tourisme.com

The Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region boasts a rich cultural and natural heritage with UNESCO World Heritage status and an incredible wealth of reminders of the past, from prehistoric times to modernity.



THE CHÂÎNE DES PUYs AND LIMAGNE FAULT A TECTONIC HOTSPOT

has, since 2018, been listed as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**, making it mainland **France's first natural location** to join the prestigious list. At the heart of the Parc Naturel Régional des Volcans d'Auvergne lies the most famous of the sleeping giants, the Puy de Dôme, an official "**Grand Site de France**"[®] that stands at 1,465 m. www.chainedespuys-failedelimagne.com



LYON'S HISTORIC CENTRE

...which includes the "Vieux Lyon", the Colline de Fourvière, Croix-Rousse and Presqu'île, was awarded UNESCO World Heritage status in 1988. Its two rivers, two hills and four riverbanks are what define the magical historic centre of Lyon, whose remarkable urban continuity was recognised by UNESCO as an integral part of the world's heritage. Visitors can take in 2,000 years of history from the Fourvière panoramic viewpoint.

www.lyon-france.com

LE CORBUSIER'S ARCHITECTURAL LEGACY

an exceptional contribution to the modernist movement. 17 sites are testament to the invention of a new architectural language that broke from the past—and two of these are in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes: Maison de la Culture in Firminy and La Tourette convent in Evieux. sitelecorbusier.com



THE MANY ROADS TO SAINT JAMES'S WAY

Throughout the Middle Ages, Santiago de Compostela was the most important of all destinations for countless pilgrims who travelled there from across Europe. To reach Spain, they had to cross France, where the many remarkable historic monuments now listed as World Heritage sites served as milestones along the four trails they followed. Our region is home to the following: the Basilica of Notre Dame-du-Port and Notre-Dame Cathedral in Clermont-Ferrand, and Hôtel-Dieu in Le Puy-en-Velay.



CHAUVET CAVE 2 - ARDECHE

The world's biggest replica!

Going down into Chauvet 2-Ardèche is jumping back 36,000 years to the origins of art on a journey to meet the men, women and children of Chauvet cave. It makes for a fantastic sensory experience. As you visit the site, time comes to a standstill. Amid interplays between light and shadow, surrounded by stalactites, stalagmites, draperies, rimstone pools and hundreds of fossilised bones, you can feel the cool on your skin and the heavy breath of the animals painted and engraved on the cave walls. Lions roar, bears growl, mammoths shake the ground, bison and woolly rhinoceroses charge, and horses stampede. Take a look at the primitive artist's primitive fingerwork.

Round off the visit with the Aurignacien cavern.

Who were our prehistoric ancestors? Where did they come from? How did they live? As you wander through recreated steppe vistas, you can run into a terrifying cave lion, a giant deer, even a woolly mammoth. Our visitors will get to know the environment, flora and fauna of our closest ancestors, Homo sapiens, inside-out. Immersive film clips, interactive information points and themespaces complete the tour. Workshops and prehistory infotainments make learning fun for "little Aurignacians" on school holidays. Note that the site is open 365 days a year.

www.grottechauvet2ardeche.com

4 UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS

Beaujolais (certified in April 2018), Monts d'Ardèche (2014), Chablais (2012) and the Massif des Bauges (2011) are territorial spaces with a geological heritage of international importance.

Explore
and **FEEL REBORN HERE**



In Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, there is no need for a time machine.

Here, ancient remains, mediaeval fortresses, wonderful villages, UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Renaissance monuments and examples of Romanesque art offer visitors the chance to embark on a wonderful journey deep into the region's past.

Contemporary art lies at every turn, with avant-garde architecture, countless museums and the design city of Saint-Etienne.

Definitely do not miss out on the many international festivals that showcase the unique culture of the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region, including the Jazz Festival in Vienne, Contemporary Art Biennale in Lyon, the International Design Biennale in Saint-Etienne, the Chaise-Dieu and Ambronay festivals, as well as the international short film festival in Clermont-Ferrand and the street theatre festival in Aurillac and the Nuits Sonores in Lyon.

Everyone is sure to find something in such a diverse cultural offering!



LYON

Lyon, one of Europe's great meeting points at the confluence of the Rhône and Saône rivers, is a key destination due to its architectural wealth and reputation for fine dining. The city is home to many areas of interest, including its historic centre with UNESCO World Heritage status, plus a wide variety of sites spanning 2,000 years of civilisation, in stark contrast with the avant-garde features of a city undergoing far-reaching changes, as in the Confluence district, the source of much inspiration for leading figures in the world of architecture. The Musée des Confluences, the only one of its kind in Europe, combines knowledge from different branches of science in an effort to understand the history of humanity. Elsewhere, the Institut Lumière, part of the Maison Lumière, is home to the Musée du Cinéma: a delightful visit and one that presents information of great scientific and historical note, looking back at the invention of cinematography in 1895. Located within the Cité Internationale, the Musée d'Art Contemporain is reserved for temporary exhibitions. Lastly, the Gallo-Roman museums in Lyon and Saint-Romain-en-Gal showcase the region's Gaulish heritage: the museums, with their displays of ceramics, jewellery and statues, are integrated into archaeological sites that include thermal baths and Roman theatres.

www.lyon-france.com



MAKE A BEAUJOLAIS GETAWAY AND SEE PEROUGES

Between Mâcon and Lyon lies a region whose name is instantly synonymous with its emblematic wine—the Beaujolais. The Beaujolais recently secured membership of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Network, joining a list of 140 territories worldwide that share exceptional geological heritage significance. The Beaujolais region is also home to stunning landscapes, characterful villages, and men and women who continue to champion hospitality as an art. Great grassroots getaways are always just around the corner, ready to surprise the discerning visitor. Roaming between village signposts is the way to discover the 10 evocatively-named Beaujolais crus, like Saint Amour, Fleurie, Morgon and Chiroubles... and on to the majestic and imposing Mont Brouilly, the historical provincial capital Beaujeu, the picturesque Vaux-en-Beaujolais otherwise known as Clochemerle, plus Villefranche-sur-Saône with its Renaissance courtyards, and back to the 'Pierres Dorées' villages with their butter-coloured stone—villages like beautiful Oingt, officially one of the Plus Beaux Villages de France.

At 36 km north-east of Lyon, in Dombes country, lies the must-see medieval walled town of Pérouges, perched atop a hill overlooking the Rhône plain. A former weaving town, Pérouges boasts outer and inner fortification walls that continue to defend the traces of its medieval past, like 15th/16th-century residences, irregularly cobbled side streets, and the fortress-like church. An exceptional cluster of architectural heritage, thoughtfully staged by modern lighting. www.destination-beaujolais.com / <https://www.perouges.org>

THE CITE INTERNATIONALE DE LA GASTRONOMIE—LYON

First interpretive cultural centre exclusively dedicated to gastronomy



Nine years after being listed by UNESCO as part of humanity's intangible cultural heritage, the 'Gastronomic meal of the French' now takes residence in Lyon, with the first major project celebrating and cementing its long-held reputation and rich history. The Cité Internationale de la Gastronomie—Lyon has just opened to the public, inside the oldest portion of the repurposed landmark Grand Hotel-Dieu. This visionary new cultural food experience destination proposes themed exhibits revolving around healthful eating.

The Cité Internationale de la Gastronomie—Lyon features a permanent 4,000 m² visitor journey to learn all about gastronomy:

- An exhibition, with memorabilia, on the **history of Lyonnaise gastronomy** and the great chefs and Mères that forged Lyon's revered reputation;
- **A digital space presenting the gastronomic meal of the French**, terroirs, and how meals are made;
- **An exhibit area** covering the history of the iconic Grand Hôtel-Dieu;
- A forward-looking space dedicated to addressing the **nutritional challenges of tomorrow**;
- An interactive journey experience in the **world gastronomy atlas' room**;
- An **interactive family-friendly play-and-learn** exhibit called MiamMiam! ("yum-yum!") to educate kids on the pleasures of eating well and starting early.

www.citegastronomielyon.fr



CLERMONT-FERRAND

Auvergne's historic capital nestled against the foothills of the volcanoes, gateway to the Chaîne des Puys and Limagne fault, metropolitan France's first natural site to be awarded UNESCO World Heritage status. The history of Clermont-Ferrand can be traced back 2,000 years and has an abundantly rich heritage to prove it. Its mediaeval and Renaissance architecture dazzles visitors in both the historic centre of Clermont and the centre of Montferrand. The Romanesque basilica of Notre-Dame-du-Port, a gem of Auvergnat Romanesque art, enjoys UNESCO World Heritage status as part of Saint James's Way. The unique Gothic cathedral in anthracite lava stone dominates the city with its imposing form.

The cultural season is particularly busy, with the Comédie de Clermont-Ferrand, which has "Scène Nationale" status, the Coopérative de Mai, one of Europe's most renowned contemporary music halls, and Le Zénith, a hotspot for major cultural events.

The city's industrial past is revealed at L'Aventure Michelin, where the saga of the tyre manufacturer and its world-famous Michelin Man serve as a reminder that this brand was always one step ahead of its time.

Rugby fans can soak up the history of the legendary ASM Clermont Auvergne at ASM Experience, in one of the sport's temples: the Marcel-Michelin stadium.

Rendez-Vous du Carnet de Voyage, Europavox, the international short film festival, the international festival of extraordinary textiles (FITE) and Effervescences are other unmissable events in the calendar of the city on its way to being European Capital of Culture in 2028.

www.clermontauvergneturisme.com

LE PUY-EN-VELAY



With a little Italian zest and a hint of the Renaissance along its sun-dappled narrow streets lined with sumptuous townhouses, Le Puy-en-Velay combines rich and varied influences and heritage which have given it a strong identity that is both fascinating and endearing. It is an exceptional destination, preserved against the passing of time, and a town full of surprises for its many visitors. This pilgrimage site is also the point of departure for the Via Podiensis, one of the four main routes leading to Santiago de Compostela. In 1998, Notre-Dame-du-Puy cathedral, Hôtel-Dieu, and seven segments along the trail between Le Puy-en-Velay and Ostabat were awarded UNESCO World Heritage status.

In May every year, the "Puy de Lumières" event magnifies the landmark buildings along a son et lumière route that weaves through the city's streets and squares, even reaching out to the commune of Brives-Charensac on the banks of the Loire.

With a grand total of 9 monuments and heritage sites lit up, Puy-en-Velay stakes its claim as France's leading light-show destination.

www.lepuyenvelay-tourisme.fr

www.puydelumieres.fr

GERGOVIA : THE WHOLE STORY ON A SET



The Battle of Gergovia Archaeological Museum is an all-new attraction that transports visitors into the Gallic Wars pitting Julius Caesar against Vercingetorix here in his native Auvergne homeland. In a fresh remodel of the Maison de Gergovie, it offers fully refurbished visitor areas and 600m² of exhibition space to bring the storied history of Gergovia plateau to life in an appropriately designed setting. The new Gergovia museum is so much more than just a visit—it proposes an experiential interactive journey. The space combines graphics, scale models, archaeological objects and multimedia animations, and culminating with the main-event audiovisual theatre room where visitors immersively experience the Battle of Gergovia being fought between Romans and Gauls.

The visitor journey also takes in the history of the Gauls in Auvergne and the geological origins of the Gergovia plateau and its spectacular surrounding landscapes, including the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Chaîne des Puys and Limagne fault.

tourism.mondarverne.com



GRENOBLE ALPES-METROPOLE

Grenoble, capital of the Alps, is a high-flyer! Grenoble is an innovation-led city—the university is top in France in 7 academic disciplines—but it also makes the perfect base camp for a sports-led city break: with 15 trail-running routes setting out from inside the city and at just 20 minutes from big-name ski resorts, the metropolitan area opens out to a host of other activities, from mountain-biking to climbing and via ferrata, canoeing, and more.

It is also squarely on a sustainable path, offering 320 km of bikeways! Any visit to Grenoble should also take in the charming historic city centre then take the cable car up to the Bastille site on the Chartreuse slopes to admire all four surrounding mountain ranges. The city also boasts a quality museum programme, modern government-sponsored public theatres, and work by big-name street artists, putting it on the art and culture map too.

www.grenoble-tourisme.com



CHAMBERY

An air of mystery and a delight to discover!

Treat yourself to a stroll through the "traboules" of an ancient and colourful town centre, which basks in the close bond it shares with neighbouring Italy. For six centuries, Chambéry and Savoy, Turin and the Piedmont all fell under the authority of the House of Savoy. As a visitor here, you will come across Turin-style porticos and Italian trompe-l'oeil features, as well as Place des Eléphants, the town's symbol, built in homage to General de Boigne who, having returned with glory and fortune from the East Indies, was a benefactor for Chambéry.

The Musée des Beaux-Arts boasts a prestigious collection of Italian paintings from the 14th to the 18th centuries.

You may also wish to make time for the Maison des Charmettes, a country manor where Rousseau stayed with Madame de Warens.

www.chambery-tourisme.com



ANNECY



Annecy is internationally renowned for the beauty of its harmonious landscape as well as the quality of the water in its lake which, thanks to conservation efforts spanning more than 50 years, is now Europe's purest lake. Against this backdrop, outdoors enthusiasts can make the most of a wide range of year-round sports activities on the lake, in the air and in the surrounding mountains. If it's culture and heritage you're after, you won't be disappointed. The area has a rich and attractive history, and the agglomeration of Annecy has been awarded the much sought-after "Art et Histoire" label. The pure, clear waters of the lake flow into flower-lined canals that run through the old town (historic centre of Annecy), making it delightfully picturesque and earning it a description as the "Venice of the Alps".

www.lac-annecy.com



SAINT-ETIENNE

Saint-Etienne and its neighbouring area are all about broadening horizons. The city is reinventing itself, and it shows: its Cité du Design is a prime example of this renewal and the buzz of innovation.

A packed schedule of major events are hosted here, in the only UNESCO City of Design in France. Why did modern art come to Saint-Etienne? The Musée d'Art Moderne et Contemporain addresses exactly that topic in an upcoming exhibition. Looking forward, the next Saint-Etienne International Design Biennial in 2021 is sure to come up with fresh new innovations. Meanwhile, all year round, the Musée d'Art et d'Industrie looks back at the origins of the city's design approach through absorbing creative design tours and informally mapped routes between the city's projects and street art. Up for a more extensive tour? Get a first-hand look at the avant-garde ideas of Le Corbusier in Firminy, where he completed his biggest project in Europe.

To recharge your batteries, there's the hills of Le Pilat or the Loire gorges, where it's easy to forget you're just a stone's throw from the city centre.

www.saint-etienne-hors-cadre.fr



VALENCE



With its pedestrianised streets and shaded squares lined with inviting terraces and colourful markets, Valence has managed to retain its charm from days gone by. Strolling in the streets, you can admire Saint-Apollinaire Cathedral, the statues and mouldings that cover the facade of the Maison des Têtes, and the city's most famous monument, Kiosque Peynet, the symbol of lovers. In the open air, succumb to the charm of Parc Jouvet, located at the heart of the city. Valence is also home to the Musée Art et Archéologie and the Centre du Patrimoine Arménien. The Valence Romans Agglo's 'Pays d'art et d'histoire' status is fully deserved.

www.valence-romans-tourisme.com



ROYAL MONASTERY OF BROU BOURG-EN-BRESSE

Step back in time to discover this commemoration of love and majesty—there is no other monument like it in France. Commissioned back in the sixteenth century by Margaret of Austria, a princess with an incredible life story, the site is both mausoleum, monastery and princely residence.

Admire the church, a flamboyant Gothic masterpiece with its stone tracery and three dynastic tombs. Explore Margaret's private apartments repurposed into an interpretive space to discover her roles as woman, benefactor and princess. Do not miss an inside look at monastic life in the three high-vaulted cloisters, and browse the museum's works of art spanning 10 centuries. The monastery has a busy year-round schedule of exhibitions, music festivals, and a light show on its facade. It has a story to tell—so look and listen! www.monastere-de-brou.fr





22 VILLAGES AWARDED "PLUS BEAUX VILLAGES DE FRANCE" STATUS

This label is awarded in recognition of the exceptional quality of the heritage in these villages, and is a chance for visitors to get to know their history, culture and inhabitants... 22 of the 159 French villages awarded this label are in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes.

They include **Vogüé** on the banks of the Ardèche, nestled against a cliff with the Château des Seigneurs de Vogüé and its four round towers watching over the village and its narrow semi-circular streets dotted with arcades and arched passageways.

Then there's **Lavaudieu** in the Senouire valley, which came to be known as the "valley of God" due to the presence of a Benedictine abbey established in the Middle Ages and after which the village was named. With its Romanesque cloister and the Byzantine-inspired mural that adorns its refectory, it is one of the jewels in Auvergne's crown of religious heritage. Architecturally the village fits in seamlessly with the abbey, with its vineyard residences built with golden-hued stone and round tiles.

Grignan, in the Drôme department, has just become the latest member. Set between Montélimar and Nyons, it is home to a much-famed château that served as stronghold to the powerful Adhémar family. The former medieval fortress then underwent centuries of transformations, becoming the greatest Renaissance château in the whole of south-eastern France. Grignan today plays host to fabulous after-dark festivals every summer.

www.les-plus-beaux-villages-de-france.org

LA CHAISE-DIEU



Get the inside story on La Chaise-Dieu abbey through an eye-opening 2-hour tour at your own pace with an audiovisual content guide or following a tour guide to keynote the architectural and historical highlights of this prestigious venue.

Admire the cloister and church on the abbey grounds, which houses the tomb of pope Clement VI surrounded by 144 sculpted choir stalls, and the famous mural fresco depicting the *Danse Macabre*.

Be captivated by the 14 Flemish tapestries—all absolutely unique pieces of astoundingly rich iconography. Be taken aback by the acoustic phenomena of the "echo room"—an absorbing experience for kids and parents alike. There are incredible stories from the past at every step and every corner.

For further information and bookings, visit www.chaisedieu.fr

The region's most visited cultural attractions in 2018

Musée des Confluences www.museedesconfluences.fr	680,600 visitors
Grotte Chauvet 2 - Ardèche www.grottechauvet2ardeche.com	343,000 visitors
Musée des Beaux-Arts de Lyon www.mba-lyon.fr/mba	300,100 visitors
Musée miniature et cinéma de Lyon www.museeminatureetcinema.fr	222,300 visitors
Musée de Grenoble www.museedegrenoble.fr	205,100 visitors
Palais idéal du Facteur Cheval www.facteurcheval.com	168,800 visitors
Grand site de l'Aven d'Ornac Cité de la Préhistoire www.ornac.com	149,500 visitors
Château de Murol murolchateau.com	144,000 visitors
Château de Grignan www.chateaux-ladrome.fr/fr/chateau-de-grignan	143,400 visitors
Château-musée d'Annecy musees.agglo-annecy.fr	140,600 visitors
Musée d'histoire naturelle de Grenoble www.grenoble.fr	104,700 visitors
Monastère Royal de Brou www.monastere-de-brou.fr	97,950 visitors
Musée d'Art Contemporain de Lyon www.mac-lyon.com	78,200 visitors

Exquisite
and **FEEL REBORN HERE**

With its gastronomic traditions and local produce, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes is one of France's must-see regions. Its Alpine pastures, orchards and vineyards together make it the country's richest pantry.



GASTRONOMY VALLEY: GOURMET EXPERIENCES THAT FEED THE SOUL



French gastronomy boasts worldwide acclaim. It is a hallmark of French culture, associated with sophistication, luxury, even romanticism. From outside, it is France's leading tourist attraction, but inside it is also deeply tied to a strong French tradition of passing down knowhow from generation to generation. Now listed by UNESCO as part of humanity's intangible cultural heritage, French gastronomy owes much of its renown to the many chefs who have strived to share and defend their knowhow.

Gastronomy Valley[®] is staged in a part of France that rose the ranks of gastronomy over the course of various episodes in French history, and—like any good meal—is nourished by an array of influences: Italian culture during the Renaissance, the Avignon Papacy, imports arriving by river and regional specialities shipped out as the country's regional rail networks took off. The region was always destined to rank among the world's great gastronomic homelands—long before the big-name restaurants opened doors and made its fame.

It is here, in this exceptionally gifted foodscape, that for the first time in the long history of French gastronomy, three big regions—Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, Bourgogne-Franche-Comté and Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur—have joined forces and mobilized their assets to launch a new tourist destination called Gastronomy Valley[®] place-branded around gastronomy, wine tasting, and local terroir produce.

Its ambition is simple: to propose a sensational selection of food-themed offers and experiences designed to showcase the exceptional range and depth found in these 3 regions in a way that connects with today's travellers looking for a sense of authenticity.

Gastronomy Valley[®] in France federates the tourism community around sharing passion and excellence. It will offer quality food and wine experiences to a broad-spectrum audience in a diverse range of natural and built landscapes, helping to drive the local economy and boost territorial attractiveness.

www.valleedelagastronomie.com

A RICH AND VARIED RANGE OF LOCAL PRODUCE

The great many products with the AOC or PDO seal (67 in total) include Bresse poultry, Ardèche sweet chestnuts, Grenoble walnuts, Nyons olives, Le Puy lentils and Fin Gras beef from Le Mézenc, and especially the region's 17 PDO cheeses such as Saint-Nectaire, Cantal, Bleu d'Auvergne, Fourme d'Ambert, Salers, Beaufort, Abondance and Picodon, making Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes France's biggest PDO cheese platter!

And to accompany these delicacies, wine enthusiasts will be spoiled for choice: Beaujolais, Côtes d'Auvergne, Côtes du Rhône, Saint-Pourcain and Savoie wines, served with mineral water from Vichy, Badoit, Châteldon, Volvic or Evian.

ROUTES DES FROMAGES (CHEESE ROUTES)

Saint-Nectaire, Salers, Bleu d'Auvergne, Fourme d'Ambert and Cantal: the Auvergne has a prestigious range of cheeses that are rich in diversity and packed with character! Discover these five stars of the cheese world along the 38 stages of the Route des Fromages. From farm-produced cheeses to milk and cheese houses and cheese refineries, all the variety of the local terroirs, flavours and traditions is on display along this tourist route.

www.fromages-aop-auvergne.com

The proposed itineraries bring visitors to farms, cheese houses and cheese refineries. A journey through Savoie-Mont-Blanc to learn about the area, its local produce and its people. 8 cheeses (Abondance, Beaufort, Chevrotin, Emmental de Savoie, Raclette de Savoie, Reblochon de Savoie, Tome des Bauges and Tomme de Savoie) and 74 destinations to explore all the different stages in the cheesemaking process.

www.fromagesdesavoie.fr





4219 FARMS



33 MINERAL WATERS

(Vichy, Badoit, Châteldon, Volvic and Evian...)



150 MICRO-BREWERIES

putting our region at the top of the national podium



2ND-LARGEST REGION FOR ORGANIC PRODUCE

after Occitanie (source: Agence Bio)



High-quality restaurants

Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes is France's second most important region for gastronomy, with 94 Michelin-starred restaurants listed in the 2019 guide. It is home to 9 chefs with 3 stars:

- Régis and Jacques Marcon in Saint-Bonnet-le-Froid : www.regismarcon.fr
- Paul Bocuse in Lyon/Collonges-au-Mont-d'Or : www.bocuse.fr
- Emmanuel Renaut - Flocons de Sel in Megève : www.floconsdesel.com
- René and Maxime Meilleur - La Bouitte in Saint-Marcel/Saint-Martin-de-Belleville : www.la-bouitte.com
- Georges Blanc in Vonnas : www.georgesblanc.com
- Michel Troisgros in Ouches : www.troisgros.eu
- Anne-Sophie Pic in Valence (the only woman in France to have been awarded three stars) : www.anne-sophie-pic.com
- Yannick Alléno in Courchevel, restaurant « Le 1947 » : www.chevalblanc.com/courchevel/fr/
- Laurent Petit - Clos des sens in Annecy : www.closdessens.com



Restaurants where you can savour regional cuisine

- Bouchons Lyonnais : www.lesbouchonslyonnais.org
- Bistrot de Pays : www.bistrotdepays.com
- Bistrot Beaujolais : www.beaujolais.com
- Les Toques d'Auvergne : www.toques-auvergne.fr
- Les Toques Blanches Lyonnaises : www.toques-blanches-lyonnaises.com

Les Toques d'Auvergne the taste of tradition and gastronomy

This is an association that brings together chefs from Auvergne intent on sharing the authenticity of their local areas and culinary traditions, something they have been busy achieving for nearly 40 years. The association was founded in 1980 and its members continue to display the same vitality today. Their secret? They are all driven by a passion for their profession and their fraternal friendship. Throughout Auvergne they number close to 50, all proudly rooted in their local area with a resolute focus on transmitting the legacy of the past in a context of modernity. Bon appétit!

www.toques-auvergne.fr





AUVERGNE-RHÔNE-ALPES, VINEYARDS AND TERROIRS

From the Alps to Provence via Auvergne's volcanoes, the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region offers exceptionally diverse geographies, with sharp alpine peaks, lush green plains, sparkling lakes and soft lavender fields conjuring up a lyrical set of images. The vines drip with sun-drenched grapes, while the rich range of vineyard soils provide all the minerals the grapes need to develop their characterful aromas. These outstanding assets have lent the region's wines worldwide renown.

Set deep in the beating heart of the region, Lyon is the gateway to three big wine terroirs—the Beaujolais, Côtes du Rhône, and Savoie wines—that have helped forge the city's title as world capital of gastronomy. Further west, around Clermont-Ferrand, several millennia of volcanic activity have surfaced granites, basalts, marls and complex clays that give us volcanic wines—the 5 crus that make up AOC Côtes d'Auvergne.

The region as a whole counts 10 wine-region designations: Vallée du Rhône, Beaujolais, Savoie, Coteaux du Lyonnais, Bugey, Diois, Côte Roannaise, Côtes du Forez, Côtes d'Auvergne, Saint-Pourcain plus **39 wine AOC/PDO wines and 11 PGI wines.**

All along the roads through these vineyards are passionate winegrowers and experienced winemakers ready to share their craft with visitors and talk them through the art of wine tasting!

Eleven of the region's terroirs now carry 'Vignobles et Découvertes' certification guaranteeing that they offer the best in wine tourism service. Everyone in the wine tourism value chain—from wine estates to accommodation, restaurants, cultural venues and more—are mobilized to create the best possible wine tourism experience, whether you are a serious connoisseur or just a regular wine lover.

www.atout-france.fr/services/le-label-vignobles-decouvertes

A rich region for wine-tasting tourism



400 CELLARS COMMITTED

to quality (charter or certification) across the region (source: Unions Interprofessionnelles des Vins)



10 PDO VINEYARDS

including 3 with worldwide renown (Beaujolais, Côtes du Rhône and Vins de Savoie)



11 DESTINATIONS WITH

"VIGNOBLES ET DECOUVERTES" CERTIFICATION

out of a total of 70 in France (source: Atout France)

For all you need to know about vineyards, grape varieties, winemaking and the best vintages, head to one of the many centres open to the public offering information about wine-growing: Hameau Duboeuf and the Château de Pizay's own wine centre in Beaujolais, the Chapoutier tasting school, Cave de Tain in Côtes du Rhône or the Moutine wine estate in the Rhône valley, or even Néovinum, a space for Ardèche wines.



Keep active
and **FEEL REBORN HERE**

From the roof of the Alps (Mont Blanc at 4,810m) to the craters of the Chaîne des Puys, and from lavender fields to a forest of 300-year-old oak trees, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes is a vast playground full of wonder that welcomes visitors for outdoor activities of all kinds: challenging hikes for the energetic and easier trails more suited to families, cycling routes and breathtaking corners of the natural world from which to dive into the water or take to the skies!

The region is a paradise for cyclists, with 12 green cycleways stretching along 2,480 km of itineraries listed on France's Schéma national vélo, 580 km of which are EuroVelo routes, with many iconic mountain passes where the Tour de France has been fought, as well as 6 "Grandes Traversées" for mountain-bikers.

The area is also ideal for hiking, with over 33,000 km of marked trails and legendary routes like the Tour du Mont Blanc, St James's Way, Stevenson's Way, the Grande Traversée des Alpes, or the Huguenots trail.



SAINT JAMES'S WAY

The Via Gebennensis is the route that leads from the east to Le Puy-en-Velay. From its high points, this trail offers magnificent panoramic views over the Alps, the Jura, the Rhône valley and the Parc Naturel Régional du Pilat, before it ends on Mont Meygal and the high plateaux of the Haute-Loire. Beginning in Le Puy-en-Velay, the stages in the Haute-Loire are among the most impressive along the entire route. The temptation to head off on the legendary Via Podiensis is irresistible. If you are short on time, a few wonderful weekends are enough to hop your way through iconic destinations laden with history. Discover the widely-overlooked Via Arverna! Leaving Clermont-Ferrand, this wild trail crosses the south of Auvergne, where you will encounter the region's Romanesque churches. It then snakes its way through Haute-Auvergne, with panoramic sections in the Monts du Cantal at an altitude of 1,700 m.

www.via-compostela.com



GRANDE TRAVERSEE DU MASSIF CENTRAL: A LEGEND IS REBORN

In 2018, the Grande Traversée du Massif Central (or GTMC for those in the know) has a new look to the delight of mountain biking experts and novices alike, not to mention the increasing numbers of people turning to electric-assist mountain bikes. This new version, spanning 1,380 km, is fully marked and has Fédération Française de Cyclisme (FFC) certification. It crosses the entire Massif Central from north to south and is among the longest mountain biking trails in France. It stretches from the great lakes in the Morvan area of Burgundy to the warm sands of the Mediterranean and offers something for experienced riders as well as the uninitiated.

www.la-gtmc.com



TOUR DU MONT BLANC

10 days, moving between France, Switzerland and Italy, stretching 170 km with 10,000 m vertical gain and around 60 hours' walking: the Tour du Mont Blanc GR® trail starts in the village of Les Houches, on the outskirts of Chamonix, and takes you on a 170 km loop that is accessible to any walker accustomed to hiking across varied ground and carrying a heavy backpack.

www.autourdumontblanc.com



GRANDE TRAVERSEE DES ALPES

The Grande Traversée des Alpes via the GR® 5 from Lake Geneva to the Mediterranean is one of the loveliest hiking trails in the world. From the lush green shores of the lake to snow-capped summits, and from the Savoie Alpine pastures to the perched villages of the Alpes Maritimes, this 620 km trail is ideal for exploring the variety of the Alpine landscape. 3 to 4 weeks of walking required to do the whole thing.

www.grandangle.fr/france
www.chamina-voyages.com



SUR LES PAS DES HUGUENOTS

"Les pas des Huguenots" is a European cultural hiking route which closely follows the historic Huguenot route into exile, after the Edict of Nantes (1685-1690) was revoked. The French section of this circuit begins at the Musée du Protestantisme Dauphinois in Poët-Laval, and continues through various valleys before reaching Isère. Between Grenoble and Chambéry, it winds through a section of the Chartreuse massif for a total distance of 374 km.

Source for self-guide holiday ideas: www.safrantours.com

CYCLEWAYS – GREENWAYS

Calling all lovers of the two-wheeler: prepare to explore a "condensed corner of France". With Alpine panoramas, picturesque villages, riverbanks, vineyards, volcanoes and lavender fields, stretching across some 2480 km of itineraries, you will be spoilt for choice.

There is something for everyone, whether it's cycleways via mostly quiet secondary roads shared with vehicles, or greenways dedicated exclusively to cyclists and non-motorised means of transport.



VIARHÔNA, RIDING RHÔNESIDE

The ViaRhôna is a 815 km cycleway, most of which follows the path of the Rhône, taking tourists of all kinds from Lake Geneva to beaches on the Med and offering the chance to explore a whole range of stunning landscapes.

It takes you from Alpine panoramas to the banks of the river and the vineyards bookmarking each section, through amazing cities like Lyon, Valence, Arles and Avignon, crossing cute hilltop villages and on to the lavender fields and olive orchards of Provence. Cyclists will love getting to experience the sights, smells and sounds of a pure distilled-down version of the best of France. The ViaRhôna is about more than just cycling; it is a wonderful family-friendly opportunity to discover the many riches of these areas at your own pace.



The itinerary alternates between two types of thoroughfare: secure greenways or cycleways along mostly quiet secondary roads shared with traffic.

ViaRhôna is essentially a collection of experiences.

The Culture experience: biking the ViaRhôna takes you on a journey back in time to the origins of civilisation, from prehistory on to today.
The Nature experience: biking the ViaRhôna takes you on a discovery of unspoilt nature.

The Food & Wine experience: biking the ViaRhôna takes you on the scent through pungent vineyards to taste some of the great terroir produce.

This cycleway foregrounds the river in all its majesty—its icons, its flora and fauna, its locks, even its most memorable floods are shared heritage etched into collective consciousness, as captured in museums, monuments and works of art dotted along every step of the route.

You can ride at a leisurely pace, just roaming the riverside sections, or book en-route stays with the opportunity to branch further out into the departments via greenways that lead off the ViaRhôna and out deep into new territory.

ViaRhôna is the ultimate rideable holiday destination

www.viarhona.com

www.facebook.com/viarhona



VIA ALLIER (V70)

This 230 km route winds through the Auvergne countryside in tandem with the Allier river, taking you through the pastoral bocage bourbonnais down to hilltop villages and châteaux cresting the dormant volcanoes that lie in the southern Puy-de-Dôme. The V70 also crosses Moulins, Vichy, Clermont-Ferrand, and Issoire, affording ample opportunities for interesting stops. The route will eventually connect Eurovélo 6 (south of Nevers) to the Mediterranean!

Via Fluvia (V73), a cycleway between the Loire and Rhône rivers. A gentle bike route running along 120 km linking the Loire and the Rhône—two magnificent rivers that never actually meet. The segment between Lavoûte-sur-Loire and Annonay features 60 km of fully paved route offering an easy, hassle-free ride for all fitnesses and ages.

Find out more at www.viafluvia.fr

Sillon Alpin cycleway (V62/V63): This 365 km-route connecting Valence to Lac du Bourget and Lac d'Annecy crosses the Chambéry, Annecy and Grésivaudan valleys on its path through the Alps.

La Voie Bleue Moselle-Saône à vélo (V50): is a cycleway linking the Luxembourg border to Lyon along a 700 km route that follows the Moselle river, Canal des Vosges and Saône river. It will eventually connect with the ViaRhôna in Lyon.

www.moselle-saone-velo.fr

VéLoire (V71): Opened in spring 2018, the VéLoire takes cyclists on a perfectly flat run from Roanne harbour on to Iguerande, along 21 km of secure and signposted cycleway closed to motor vehicles. The route accommodates short detours to take in cultural attractions or gastronomic experiences in Roanne, Charlieu, or other spots. This first Loire-valley greenway then extends to Cluny and Paray-le-Monial, and hooks up with Eurovélo 6 to create a long-distance cycling route all the way to the Danube.

leroannais.com



WHITEWATER STREAMS AND VAST LAKES

Home to four vast Alpine lakes (Lac Léman, Lac du Bourget, Lac d'Annecy and Lac d'Aiguebelette) as well as the volcanic lakes of Auvergne, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes is France's finest region for inland swimming. Visitors here can enjoy safe environments for sailing, canoeing and paddle boarding on pristine waters. For people who just love white water, the Gorges de l'Ardèche and Pont d'Arc are among the top destinations for white-water sports, boasting an astonishing 30 km downstream route to canoe or kayak in an exceptionally well-preserved environment. In Auvergne, the Gorges de l'Allier await: in these deep ravines between Le Velay and Margeride lies one of Europe's last truly wild rivers.



VERTICAL AND AERIAL ADVENTURES

Alpine climbing could find no better home than at the foot of Western Europe's highest summit. Dominated by Mont Blanc and its dizzying belt of rocky behemoths, Chamonix has become the world capital for a discipline largely made popular in the Alps, where sheer faces, icefalls and summits to be conquered abound.



For those who want to go even further, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes offers astonishing subterranean excursions in the Fier and Loire gorges, or deep within the Choranche and Balme caves. Thrill seekers can enjoy hanging on a zip line over Lac de Hauteville, 100 m above Anse valley in Livradois-Forez, or simply staring into the void at Les Aravis at the end of an elastic cord, defying the laws of gravity. Even higher above terra firma, paragliders can be seen unfurling their multi-coloured sails to fly above Saint-Hilaire du Touvet and Lac d'Annecy or soar close to the rounded summits of the Chaîne des Puys, in the vain hope of getting closer to the sun, like the passengers of a hot air balloon floating in the sky above the volcanoes of Auvergne. And if it's Alpine valleys you're after, rafting, riverboarding and canyoning enthusiasts can enjoy the tumultuous currents of the Giffre or Arve rivers.



TRAIL RUNNING

Whether on the shores of a lake, deep within the mountains, in the heart of the countryside or even in a city, every trail provides a good reason to slip on your running shoes, get away from it all and discover new playgrounds! Enthusiasts of this ever-more popular discipline can now enjoy a wide variety of dedicated routes whatever their ability or aspirations. The Espace Trail du Puy Mary proposes 23 itineraries and 364 km of trails in the vicinity of Europe's highest volcano. In Saint-Pierre de Chartreuse, home of the first Trail Raidlight destination, and in Haut-Bugey, Haute-Ardèche and Beaujolais, you will find many trails and services tailored for trail runners (showers, maps, changing rooms, etc.).

**OUTDOORS IN AUVERGNE-RHÔNE-ALPES
KEY FIGURES**

54 VTT FFC SITES

24 VTT FFCT BASES

7 CYCLOSPORT FFC SPACES

**33,000 KM OF MARKED TRAILS INCLUDING
16,000 KM OF GR® TRAILS**

12 GREENWAY CYCLEWAYS

819 TRAIL RUNS ORGANISED IN 2018

416 CANOEING ROUTES

321 CANYONING ROUTES

With 52% of stays involving sports activities (against a national average of just 41%), and approaching 20,000 outdoor sports instructors, the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region ranks as France's top outdoors region.

Breathe in
and **FEEL REBORN HERE**

In both summer and winter, the mountain villages and resorts have a wide variety of activities on offer, from the gentle slopes of the volcanoes of Auvergne and the mountains of Jura, Vercors, Pilat and the Ardèche, to the peaks of the northern Alps, with Mont Blanc towering above. Downhill and crosscountry skiing in winter, then hiking and climbing or relaxing and reflecting all provide stays with all sorts of benefits, chief among which are revitalisation and wellness.

**THE LARGEST SKI AREA
IN THE WORLD**

Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes is home to no fewer than 175 ski resorts, and its mountains are its most popular destination, accounting for 74% of all France's mountain-derived economy. With 39.7 million skiing days paid for during the winter of 2018/2019, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes very much positions itself at the top of the list of European skiing regions, ahead of the Tyrol and countries such as Italy, Japan and Switzerland. This brought in more than a billion euros from ski lift passes, which is 79% of France's total (source: Domaines Skiables de France). This top position has been achieved, among other things, by interconnected ski areas, open to all abilities, together with reasonable prices and an ongoing investment policy.

But innovation also occurs in the mountains, which evolve to the requirements of the people who come here, be they skiers or non-skiers, for snowshoeing, walking, tobogganing, or playspaces; all sorts of pastimes for a variety of enjoyment.

TARGETING MORE DISTANT MARKETS

Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Tourisme is pursuing its ambitions worldwide, backed by Atout France and in conjunction with la Compagnie des Alpes, the world's leading operator of ski areas, which brings together France's top 12 resorts under the French Alps umbrella, and which enjoys a high profile in emerging and distant markets including China, Russia, the US, Canada, the Middle East, Japan, India and Brazil.



WINTER SPORTS IN AUVERGNE-RHÔNE-ALPES



THE NORTHERN ALPS

The northern Alps comprise the world's largest ski area, and are seen as the ultimate benchmark with regard to winter sports, as attested to by the Winter Olympics that have been held three times here, in Chamonix (1924), Grenoble (1968) and Albertville (1992).

For all styles, preferences and activities, the resorts of the Alps are the perfect place to head for, whether you prefer your slopes gentle or you're after an adrenaline rush. Some 160 resorts mean everyone can find the perfect winter sports destination. The interconnected ski areas, a French speciality that can be enjoyed without moderation, provide increasingly varied skiing options. With a single ski pass, you can access hundreds of kilometres of pistes and discover a host of sites without ever having to go to the same place twice. This is certainly the case for les Trois Vallées, the world's largest skiing area, with 600 km of pistes open to skiers of all abilities, as well as les Portes du Soleil, Paradiski, and l'Espace Killy.

Village resorts including Chamonix, Megève, le Grand-Bornand and La Clusaz are a draw for those looking for a bit of authenticity and unspoilt wilderness. And when it comes to lively and hip resorts, then Courchevel, Val Thorens, Tignes, La Plagne, Val d'Isère, Les Arcs, Alpe d'Huez and Les Deux Alpes form a wonderful combination of adrenaline, partying and wide-open spaces. On the snow-covered flanks of the Alpine massifs, mountains now come à la carte! Skiing's days of dominance are over, and every winter, new sports and pastimes are being enjoyed, including airboarding, snowscotting, snowshoeing and dog sledding, plus water-based activities, fine food and wellness, which these days form a happy part of people's time here during winter.

www.savoie-mont-blanc.com

www.isere-tourisme.com

SKIING THE VOLCANOES

Auvergne, with its five mountain ranges and its three winter sports resorts (Le Lioran, Le Mont-Dore and Super-Besse) together with a large Nordic skiing area, is the perfect place for a family holiday. Reaching a height of 1,886 metres, Le Sancy is home to around 100 km of downhill skiing.

www.sancy.com

Its protected areas make Auvergne a total paradise for cross-country skiers and snowshoers, with more than 950 km of safe routes on the Aubrac Plateau, the slopes of Le Sancy and the Monts du Forez. The recently refurbished Cap Guéry mountain centre provides a range of Nordic activities.

www.capguery.com



THE MOUNTAINS OF JURA

A countryside break in summer or winter

With its lakes, waterfalls, rivers, forests, hills and grassland, the mountains of Jura are home to a wide range of landscapes. This is the perfect place to head for recharging your batteries in the midst of this protected countryside. With cross-country skiing, skating, snowshoeing and other options, in the mountains of Jura you can choose between a number of major routes with amazing views over the Jura massif.

The Nordic trails take you to the heart of the snow-covered landscapes as you tackle the Grand Nord. Try your hand at biathlon. Take part in a cross-country skiing race! Gain some real altitude at the family resort of Monts Jura! Come and enjoy some downhill and cross-country skiing, use the fun playspaces, and pick a snowball fight!

www.montagnes-du-jura.fr



SPRINGTIME SKIING: there's skiing, sure, but there's more!

Every year, from 20 March through to early May, it's springtime skiing season. Whether you're a seasoned skier or a beginner, spring is a time of year when the most fun is to be had on the pistes. With pleasant temperatures, plenty of sunshine and lots of snow, you're set for a really amazing stay! Enjoy all sorts of skiing in the morning (downhill, Nordic, freeride, freestyle and touring), and then try some new activities in the afternoon (mushing, zipwire, biathlon, sledding or spa).

Springtime skiing season means that most resorts will be offering one-off packages and preferential rates.

www.leprintempsduski.com





DRAWING YOUNGER PEOPLE

The mountains are not just a wonderful playground, they're also a place of contentedness, for snowsports, for meeting up with others and for exchanging. In both summer and winter, resorts are falling over themselves to provide packages that are suited to younger visitors: facilitating access to resorts (carshare, shuttles), organising new activities, festive events and new types of accommodation, plus all sorts of sports activities and preferential rates.

HOSTELS: a look at the growing trend

Hostels that are hip, online and community-focused are arriving at resorts. Rejuvenating the image of youth hostels, they are breaking the mould with their urban whimsy, cool vibe and low prices. Unusual, tasty food prepared before your eyes. A harmony of mismatched sofas. Yoga lessons before breakfast. Veggie, gluten-free and often organic food—codes and styles that attract a young and connected clientele who are often on a tight budget.



THE MOUNTAINS FOR FAMILIES

Mountain destinations have always been family-focussed, with kids' clubs, playgroups and nursery slopes, and even no-snow activities. There are already over 40 resorts sporting the 'Famille Plus Montagne' label—like a 'fabulous for families' standard.

Now, with the 'Génération Montagne' initiative coordinated by Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Tourisme, there is a community-wide move in motion to refresh the mountain-going clientele and reconnect with the younger generation.



THE MOUNTAINS FOR PARTYING

French mountain resorts also play host to festivals and music out on the slopes, featuring Closing by La Folie Douce, Rock The Pistes at the Portes du Soleil, Musilac Chamonix, Jazz à Val Thorens, the International Jazz Festival at Megève, Radiomeuh Circus Festival at La Clusaz, Snowboxx Festival at Avoriaz, the E-Waxx Festival at Valmorel, and more.

Alpe d'Huez - Tomorrowland

The Electronic Music festival.

The winter edition of the festival, called Tomorrowland Winter, is now being hosted in France at Alpe d'Huez.

www.tomorrowland.com/fr/winter/bienvenue

Val d'Isère - La Scara

Since the inaugural event in 1981, La Scara has drawn skiers who would later go on to compete in the world championships. This international race draws the best young skiers aged 12 to 15. Over 4 days, more than 1,500 competitors from 32 countries will be battling it out on the famous "OK" piste for this Junior World Championship race.

www.valdisere.com/agenda/la-scara

Live in Tignes By Francofolies

On the menu: 3 days of free concerts on the pistes and right in the resort, featuring the best of the current crop of artists. Sunshine, soft spring snow beneath your skis and three days of music in the amazing setting of the mountains of Tignes.

www.fignes.net

Les 2 Alpes - Rise Festival

A week of snow and music in the Alps. A mega programme and lots more! An adventure for the senses.

risefestival.co.uk





Close your eyes and imagine holidays made of restful calm and peaceful open spaces... Far from the madding beach crowds, summer in the mountains offer soothing flower-blanketed meadows, birds singing, cool streams bubbling...

Heading out into the mountains means exploring sumptuous forested wilderness, where you can get close to chamois, marmots and all kinds of birds of prey while out hiking, cycling or mountain-biking. Mountains are also a terroir, with their own stories, customs and traditions. The mountains offer a whole new experience—made memorable by meeting the local people who love, live and breathe their peaks.

A PRESERVED NATURE

Protecting the natural environment and biodiversity of the region's mountains is a priority illustrated by the number of nature parks in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes: 2 national and 10 regional parks throughout the region which ensure the protection of these mid- and high-mountain landscapes.

www.parc-naturels-regionaux.fr/les-parcs-en-action/tourisme

Parc Naturel Régional du Vercors

A bastion of limestone. A familiar and perhaps over-used expression, but one which accurately reflects reality here. Synonymous with the French Resistance movement, the Vercors is a unique natural environment, combining four-season family-friendly resorts and protected natural park.

Parc Naturel Régional des Baronnies provençales

The Parc Naturel Régional des Baronnies provençales spans a massif between the Drôme and Hautes-Alpes departments. The terroir is home to lavender, olives, vineyards, and stunning picture-postcard villages that you can discover through all kinds of outdoor activities, from hiking and mountain-biking to climbing and paragliding.

Parc Naturel Régional des Monts d'Ardèche

With an area of around 200,000 hectares, the Monts d'Ardèche comprises an area of extraordinary heritage. Allow some time to stop, listen and watch, and you'll discover some of the cultural and natural highlights of the undiscovered region of Ardèche.

Parc Naturel Régional de la Chartreuse

The Chartreuse massif has a strong identity of its own, with all the features you'd expect for having been awarded regional nature park status in 1995. The Chartreuse massif between Voiron, Grenoble and Chambéry is spectacularly photogenic with its dramatic limestone escarpments, but it also has a gentle-paced side in villages where it's easy to feel at home. The Chartreuse natural park is a vast family-friendly playground that is home to over 2,000 species of plants and flowers, which is a third of all the species native to France.

Parc Naturel Régional des Volcans d'Auvergne

Welcome to Europe's largest regional nature park, stretching over 390,000 hectares and through both the Puy-de-Dôme and Cantal departments. Mainly volcanic, it comprises five mountainous regions, each with their own personality.

Parc Naturel Régional du Pilat

Le Pilat is a land of contrasts, with spectacular panoramas culminating in the 1,432-metre summit of the Crêt de la Perdrix, a place which enjoys both a Mediterranean and alpine climate.

Parc Naturel Régional du Massif des Bauges

Come and explore the Massif des Bauges, its landscapes, its local produce and its local crafts. Learn about the work being undertaken here on a daily basis in all sorts of different areas.

Parc Naturel Régional Livradois-Forez

Spread over more than 320,000 hectares of the Puy-de-Dôme and Haute-Loire departments, the Livradois-Forez is one of France's largest regional nature parks, with a wide variety of natural habitats that are home to all sorts of plants and animals.

Parc Naturel Régional du Haut-Jura

The Parc Naturel Régional du Haut-Jura is a place of natural beauty, well-being and savoir-faire. A mountainous region of contrasts, with a huge range of different environments.

Parc Naturel Régional de l'Aubrac

The Aubrac was given regional nature park status on 23rd May 2018. Positioned to the south of the Massif Central, it incorporates 64 communes, straddling the regions of Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes and Occitanie, and the departments of Aveyron, Cantal and Lozère. The shepherds' huts known as burons are reminders of its agricultural heritage and serve to reinforce the Aubrac's entrenched cultural and rural identity. These served as seasonal dwellings used traditionally for milking and for cheese manufacture.

Parc National de la Vanoise

The Parc National de la Vanoise was established in 1963 in response to the demise of the indigenous ibex population, and is France's oldest national park. Bounded by the Tarentaise and Maurienne valleys, the Vanoise national park counts over a hundred 3,000 metre-plus peaks and a number of glaciers. With its many natural habitats, huge biodiversity and tradition-conscious agriculture (including the renowned Beaufort cheese), the Vanoise national Park works hard to offer something for everyone. With nearly 400 km of trails plus cosy refuges appointed to modern standards, it is also a hiker's dream. www.vanoise-parcnational.fr

Parc National des Ecrins

The Ecrins massif that lies between the northern and southern Alps is a vast high-mountain natural park featuring peaks at over 3,000 m in altitude, culminating in the dizzying 4,102 m-high Barre des Ecrins. This dense and diverse mosaic of summits naturally made the Ecrins one of the original hotspots for mountaineering in the French Alps. The heart of the strictly protected national park can only be explored on foot via a 750-km network of managed paths that adventurous trekkers can walk in 2, 4 or 15 days.

www.ecrins-parcsnational.fr

Be well
and **FEEL REBORN HERE**

Our region is home to 24 spa resorts, some of which are famous all over the world, including Evian and Vichy. These spas have a rich past, but are avowedly future-focused and inclined to position themselves beyond the therapeutic virtues that have made them famous, and to present themselves instead more holistically as havens of wellness and peace for everyone.

By focusing their efforts on developing wellness and better health packages that make a difference, they are responding to people's increasing interest in activities and stays associated with re-energising, and a new impetus towards self-care and wellness.



An active geological past can be discerned in the geography of the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region. Born of mountainous regions with protected countryside, various thermal springs have been at the root of towns reputed for the beneficial qualities of their waters. The history of hydrotherapy goes back to the Gallo-Roman era, with spas being especially popular among the Greeks, Romans, Egyptians and Gauls. After a long period of erring into decline, it first returned to favour from the 16th century, and really took off halfway through the 19th century.



VICHY

The queen of the spa towns partially owes her reputation to Emperor Napoléon III. When he came here seeking treatment for digestive problems, he introduced large-scale developments which profoundly changed the town's image, promoting the emergence of the richest spa heritage of the entire Massif Central, with spas, Grand Casino, opera, eclectically-styled villas, luxury hotels, a race course and golf courses, as well as 140 hectares of grounds linking the Emperor's lodgings to the famous Pavillon des Célestins, alongside Lac d'Allier. In 2019, eleven of Europe's big spa towns—with Vichy flying the flag for France—joined forces to submit as candidates to be listed as UNESCO World Heritage.

In Vichy, wellness-hunters will love the Vichy Célestins Thermal Spa with its five-star hotel, the Vichy Célestins Spa Hotel. Europe's largest medical spa offers, among other things, à la carte services: a Douche de Vichy massage provided by 2 people, facials and body treatments developed by the Institut des Laboratoires Vichy, detox programmes, sports coaching, package stays, and more.

www.vichy-destinations.fr



EVIAN-LES-BAINS

Nestled between lake and mountains, Evian, on the shores of Lake Geneva, is internationally synonymous with its mineral water. Building on its proud high-market spa town past, the city has held onto its history-steeped heritage, which lives on at the Cachat spring and its famous 'Griffon'. Evian also boasts other iconic spaces and cultural attractions: Villa Lumière, Palais Lumière, Maison Garibaldi, funicular railway, theatre and casino.

www.evian-tourisme.com

Treatments are offered that use internationally-renowned mineral water, which eliminates digestive and circulatory disorders and restores vitality. By positioning Evian natural mineral water at the heart of its treatment programme, Les Thermes wellness area provides unique poly-sensory experiences for relaxing, revitalising and therefore preserving youth, with products from the Skinceuticals and Thalgo lines. Les Thermes also has a fitness area as well as water treatments and hydrotherapy for taking advantage of the regenerative properties of Evian water in the Aqua area.

www.lesthermesevian.com





AIX-LES-BAINS / CHEVALLEY THERMAL BATHS

The tourist region of Aix-les-Bains Riviera des Alpes lies beside Lac du Bourget, France's largest natural lake. The moderately-sized town combines a gentle pace of life, dynamism, gastronomy and culture. The Chevalley Thermal Baths provide splendid views over the lake, the surrounding mountains and the luxury 19th century hotels. Tourist office: www.aixlesbains-rivieradesalpes.com

Chevalley thermal baths at Aix-les-Bains boasts cutting-edge know-how allied with avant-garde architecture, with picture windows and open-sky patios. Modern, light-filled and spacious, it forms a haven of peace where you'll be able to recharge your batteries in total peace. The 1,600 m² garden level area has hot water pools, hammams, saunas, a relaxation area and a solarium. At 34°C, the water in the indoor pool is perfect for relaxation, while the outdoor pool, kept at 28°C, means people can enjoy the benefits of warm water whatever the time of year. And on the floor above you'll find the gentleness of personalised treatments, including exfoliation, facials and massages.

Thermes d'Aix-les-Bains : www.valvital.fr

DIVONNE-LES-BAINS

For a relaxing wellness break at the gateway to Switzerland, nestled between the Parc Naturel Régional du Haut-Jura and Lake Geneva, Divonne-les-Bains offers all the benefits of a bustling little town.

The spa town enjoys a combination of a fabulous setting and holiday activities on its doorstep that make it so much more than the regular destination spa. The Valvital centre's relaxation area offers visitors a hot water pool, a play-pool with jacuzzi, sauna, hammam and a whole menu of return-to-fitness treatments and services.

www.divonnelesbains.com

SAINT-GERVAIS MONT-BLANC

Saint-Gervais Mont-Blanc is more than a resort—it is the quintessence of the art of alpine living, with its 4 villages, its bicentennial baths, its 2 ski areas—including 'Evasion Mont-Blanc', the 3rd largest ski area in France with over 400 km of ski slopes—and its famous Mont-Blanc Tramway, the highest cog railway in France and historic access route to Europe's highest point. Saint-Gervais Mont-Blanc is unique, and with really great atmosphere, it makes the ideal place to recharge your batteries and experience new emotions.

www.saintgervais.com

After a long journey lasting more than 6,000 years between the top of Mont Blanc and the bowels of the Earth, from which it draws heat and minerals, the thermal water of Saint-Gervais gushes out at a temperature of 39°C. This extraordinary water is naturally soothing and healing, and has been known about and used since 1806 in hydrotherapy. It is also omnipresent in a new wellness process and lies at the heart of some exclusive signature massages and a wide range of cosmetics.

In a freshly refurbished setting, and within lush grounds at the foot of Mont Blanc, the Bains du Mont-Blanc are open all year round for a half day of wellness, some beneficial and restorative après-ski sessions, or for longer stays.

www.thermes-saint-gervais.com



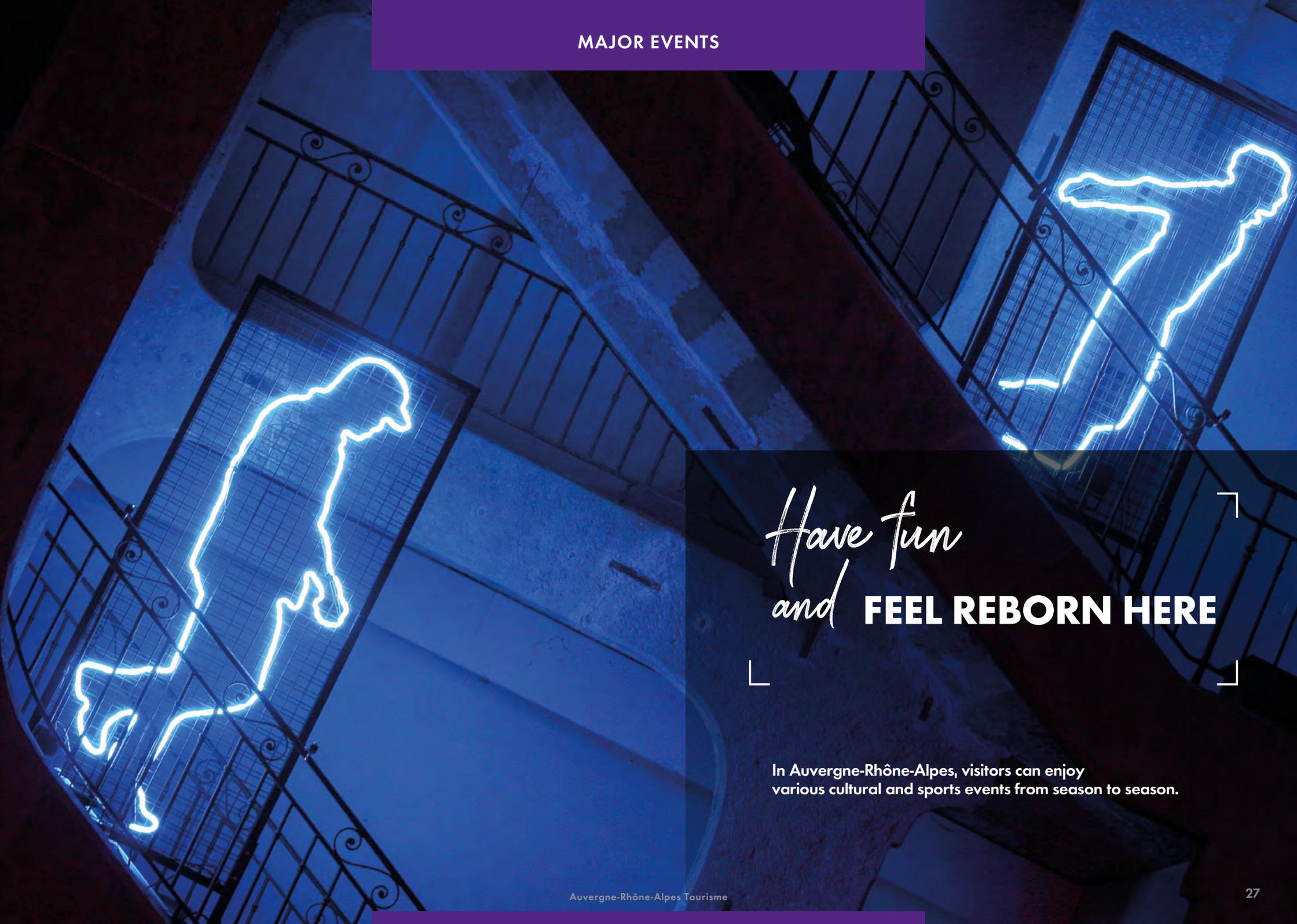
BRIDES-LES-BAINS

At the foot of the Trois Vallées lies Brides-les-Bains, a resort whose thermal waters are well-known for properties used for treating excess weight, and to which local restaurateurs and hotel owners, etc., are all committed. Brides is also a resort that links to the world's largest skiing area, Les Trois Vallées, which provides fans with amazing conditions for skiing!

Wellness enthusiasts can also take advantage of top-class innovative facilities, including the Grand Spa Thermal, with its new 600 m² Aquatic Area, which qualifies as one of the biggest and best in France, offering huge spaces, unparalleled expertise, and cutting-edge amenities. This thermal spa draws on the much-vaunted savoir-faire of the Brides-les-Bains baths to combine slimming with reenergising all under one roof.

www.brides-les-bains.com





*Have fun
and* **FEEL REBORN HERE**

In Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, visitors can enjoy various cultural and sports events from season to season.

JANUARY



SIRHA (Lyon)

(Salon international de la Restauration, de l'hôtellerie et de l'alimentation)

Sirha (every two odd-number years) brings together manufacturers and distributors from all over the world for professionals in the Food Service sector. Specialising in a variety of areas, SIRHA brings together trades, sectors and companies of all sizes.

It hosts 2,984 exhibitors and brand names from 12 sectors, with 21 competitions for all trades, and 5 event stages.

Every two years the Bocuse d'Or gives several of the world's most gifted young chefs the chance to experience two days of intense competition, during which they will have to give their very best in order to win the top prize in the world of gastronomy.

www.sirha.com

FEBRUARY

Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival

Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival is the world's biggest cinema event devoted to short films. Masterpieces of animation, comedies, genre films, documentaries and docufictions, graduation shorts from some of the finest film schools out there: the selection for the 70 programmes of the Clermont-Ferrand festival brings a wide spectrum of films and filmmakers together to intersect.

www.clermont-filmfest.com

MARCH



Saint-Etienne International Design Biennale

Since its first event in 1998, Saint-Etienne's International Design Biennale has continued to evolve and expand, while maintaining its central purpose: to democratise design and make it accessible to everyone, through a broad vision of the role of the designer and of its many applications. www.biennale-design.com

Le Printemps de Pérouges

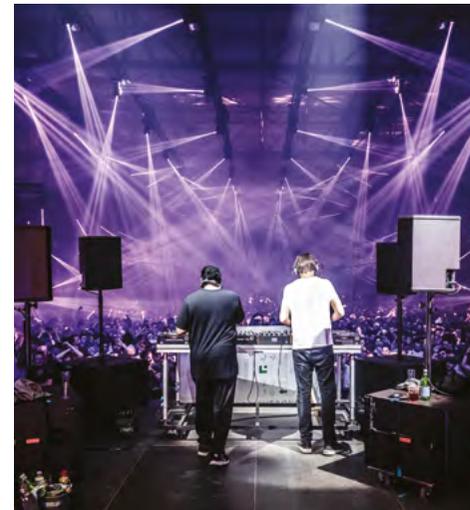
Le Printemps de Pérouges sees itself as the festival of the voice, of cohesion and of amazing things, and is meant for everyone to enjoy. Every year, it sets up home in locations that tend to be distinctive and quirky in Lyon, Côtière or the Ain plain.

www.festival-perouges.org

MAY

The Nuits Sonores Festival in Lyon

This is France's top festival of independent and electronic culture, as well as a major European event. This big electronic music festival sets up home in symbolic locations around of the city of Lyon (from streets and museums to brownfields) and brings together DJs from France and around the world for a 5-day extravaganza.. www.nuits-sonores.com



JUNE-JULY

Les Nuits de Fourvière in Lyon

Les Nuits de Fourvière brings the two Gallo-Roman theatres on the famous hill above Lyon back to life. As used to happen in days gone by, people gather on the terraces to see shows of all kinds, including theatre, music, dance and cinema..

www.nuitsdefourviere.com



Puy de Lumières, every evening Spectacles en Velay

As night falls, see the town's monuments from a new perspective, magnified by a light-show story: the cathedral, Saint-Michel d'Aiguilhe, the town hall, the theatre, the chapel of Saint-Alexis in the courtyard of the Haute Loire department headquarters. The Parcours Lumières is magical. A wonderful thing to enjoy before or after dining in the romantic centre of Le Puy-en-Velay. See its monuments during the day and see them in a whole new light after nightfall.

www.puydelumieres.fr

Anney International Animated Film Festival

Every year, several thousand aficionados gravitate to Anney for the world's leading animation festival. Well-known animated filmmakers and budding artists, directors and producers, teachers and students, graphic designers and artists, enthusiasts and novices and the public at large meet and discuss their shared passion.

www.annecy.org

Jazz à Vienne

This amazing jazz event in France has been held at night during the summer in Vienne for more than 30 years, with more than 250 concerts taking place every year. These are mainly held in the famous Théâtre Antique, where the headline events can be found. Over the years, however, other venues have emerged. Jazz à Vienne with its 200,000 attendees is the top cultural event in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes.

www.jazzavienne.com

The Ardéchoise

L'Ardéchoise is the world's biggest mountain cyclo sportive. There are various options available depending on ability: from racers to touring riders and daytrippers, young or disabled participants, with packages ranging from 1 to 4 days.

www.ardechoise.com

Fêtes Nocturnes at Château de Grignan

For 25 years, the Drôme department has been staging a theatre show over a period of two months in front of the splendour of Château de Grignan. People turn up in droves on the terraces to see a new theatre event every summer.

www.chateaux-ladrome.fr/fr/chateau-de-grignan

Horizons Arts Nature in the Sancy

This life-size contemporary art event offers a novel take as it sets up temporary artwork installations over the summer in the countryside of the Massif du Sancy. Every year, contemporary art awakens the volcanoes of Auvergne and people come here in their droves: art lovers or novices, hiking enthusiasts, old and young or people who are just curious by nature!

www.horizons-sancy.com



Europavox Festival in Clermont-Ferrand

EUROPAVOX has been spotlighting the best of contemporary European music for over 10 years, with around 40 bands featuring rock, pop, chanson, hip-hop and electronic music.

More and more headline acts are appearing, and sharing the stage with bands who rarely get the opportunity to demonstrate their talents outside their homeland.

www.europavoxfestivals.com

Cosmo Jazz Festival in Chamonix

The CosmoJazz festival first emerged in Chamonix in summer 2010, with the idea of sharing an amazing human adventure with contemplators of all kinds, seeking extraordinary settings, vertiginous tracking shots and cosmic sounds in a great community atmosphere.

cosmojazzfestival.com

AUGUST

Festival International du Théâtre de rue d'Aurillac

This, the most famous of Auvergne's festivals, triumphantly celebrates street theatre with integrity. Aurillac and its neighbouring villages soak up the rhythms of the live shows. Classical and contemporary works are staged, as well as puppetry, performance, circus, dance and poetry. The range of performances is as open and eclectic as Aurillac's streets and audiences during the festival. www.aurillac.net



Fête du Lac d'Anney

On the first Saturday in August, the Baie d'Albigny is transformed into the delightful setting for Europe's largest fireworks display... and the lake shimmers under the nighttime light of the Fête du Lac. A non-stop 1-hour-10-minute-long show to really connect with this magical location, a total symbiosis of music and fireworks, entertainment and audience participation.

www.lac-annecy.com

La Chaise-Dieu Music Festival

In late summer every year the Chaise-Dieu Music Festival brings together thousands of music lovers and internationally famous artists on the high plateaux of Haute-Loire, around this little village, with the splendid Gothic monument of the Saint-Robert Abbey standing tall.

An exceptional heritage steeped in spirituality, amazing acoustics, a fantastic lineup and an inviting atmosphere: everything combines to give festivalgoers a wonderful experience.

www.chaise-dieu.com



Festival Au Bonheur des Mômes at Le Grand-Bornand

The cutest festival of the summer! This European youth show event stages any and every kind of show, from theatre and circus to dance and music, and back to puppet shows. 6 amazing days to enjoy with the family!

www.legrandbornand.com

MAJOR EVENTS

SEPTEMBRE

The Lyon Biennales

The Lyon Biennale team designs, produces and organizes two alternating major international events: the Contemporary Art Biennale in odd years and the Dance Biennale in even years.

The Dance Biennale, which is next up, is set to foreground the creativity coming out of Africa and its bubbling young artists. In September, Dominique Hervieu will be inviting 50 established and emerging choreographers from the international contemporary dance scene. As is tradition, this Biennale celebrating creative choreography will take 4,000 amateurs and 40 creators from Africa down into the streets of Lyon.

www.labiennaledelyon.com

Ultra Trail du Mont Blanc - Chamonix

The UTMB® is the ultimate trail running event!

An unmissable occasion for trail runners from all over the world. Every year, the world's trail running elite gather at Chamonix together with around 8,000 of the keenest runners, to take part in the 5 races of the event.

utmbmontblanc.com

Coupe Icare in Saint-Hilaire du Touvet

On the menu for this major event in the world of free flight: daring, dreaming, excitement, creativity, imagination, thrills, fun and high colour! And the constant pleasure of flying plus a shared passion for flight!

www.coupe-icare.org

Ambronay Baroque Music Festival

This festival focuses on ancient music in a venue with exceptional acoustics: Ambronay Abbey, in Ain. festival.ambronay.org

OCTOBER

Lumière Festival in Lyon

This festival is a week-long opportunity to acquaint (or reacquaint) yourself with classic films from all over the world: an unmissable event for film lovers.

www.festival-lumiere.org

Retour des Alpes in Annecy

On the second Saturday in October every year, the Annecy Traditions association holds the Retour des Alpes (the désalpe, the demontagnée and the poya). This major traditional and folk festival features local crafts, demonstrations of traditional skills, processions of herds from the mountains, folk groups and local produce. www.lac-annecy.com

The Castagnades

The chestnut festivals of the Parc des Monts d'Ardèche offer a wake-up call for taste buds. Roasting chestnuts at harvest time is a tradition in Ardèche. In early October and until the middle of November, locals and chestnut growers celebrate this little fruit on the village squares. Welcome to the Castagnades!

www.castagnades.fr

Fascinant week-end

The Fascinant Week-end takes place on the 3rd weekend in October within the 10 regions with 'Vignobles et Découvertes' status.

More than 200 activities will be taking place in the vineyards.

www.fascinant-weekend.fr

NOVEMBER

Beaujolais Nouveau

Every year, the whole world awaits the third Thursday in November to celebrate the arrival of Beaujolais Nouveau, for a pleasant and festive evening event. www.beaujolais.fr

Les Sarmentelles in Beaujeu

Over the years, the Sarmentelles de Beaujeu have climbed to the top of the rankings when it comes to festivals devoted to the arrival of Beaujolais Nouveau. This is a popular and unique event in Beaujolais, which is entirely given over to this youthful, pleasant and lively wine.

www.sarmentelles.com

DECEMBER

Les Glorieuses de Bresse

Bourg-en-Bresse, Louhans, Montrevel-en-Bresse and Pont-de-Vaux: 4 towns in Bresse, all with 'Site Remarquable du Goût' status, which host this competition every year, during which Bresse poultry are identified and classified in terms of quality. They are all home to well-regarded restaurants serving Bresse poultry. Each town has its own way of cultivating an art of living to which they have the secret, providing boat cruises, relaxing or more energetic outings, and tours steeped in history.

www.glorieusesdebresse.com

Les Arcs European Film Festival

The purpose of this festival is to promote the diversity of European cinema by showing independent European films that don't tend to leave their own borders, as well as to work on building a market for European film by holding meetings that bring together the biggest names in the European film industry.

www.lesarcs-filmfest.com

Critérium de la Première Neige

The Critérium de la Première Neige is a race in the downhill skiing World Cup organised by the Club des Sports de Val d'Isère. This event opens the ski season in France.

www.worldcup-valdisere.com

Fête des Lumières in Lyon

Every year, Lyon becomes the City of Light when it holds a one-of-a-kind urban event. For 4 days, artists of all backgrounds set up their works in Presqu'île and Vieux Lyon, creating a magical atmosphere in the streets and squares. .

www.fetedeslumieres.lyon.fr



LEISURE PARKS THAT CATER TO EVERYONE'S KIND OF FUN



VULCANIA

Vulcania is a one-of-a-kind in Europe, a place where you learn things and have fun at the same time. This theme park, located within the Parc Naturel Régional des Volcans d'Auvergne, invites visitors to gain a better understanding of how volcanoes and our planet operate. If you've ever dreamt of soaring over Auvergne on the back of an eagle, of witnessing the reawakening of the volcanoes of Auvergne or of exploring the depths of the oceans, Vulcania is the place to head for.

It also stages shows at different times of year, as well as an astonishing fireworks display during the summer night-time events. Every year, more than 310,000 people come here for an unforgettable adventure!

www.vulcania.com



THE PAL

Set in a 50-hectare natural site, the PAL offers 30 spectacular family-focused attractions, 700 wild animals, and magical animal shows. After the rollercoaster ride of the Yukon Quad and the softer Yukon Wings for all the family, the Yukon Valley is getting even bigger with a new feature space specially for children where you can take your kids on new adventures—the all-new Beaver River, and Yukon Trucks. Hurtle down the rapids aboard little barrels, then drive US-style trucks across Canada: budding adventurers will just love these great new attractions, which they can also share with you.

www.lepal.com

LA FERME AUX CROCODILES

La Ferme aux Crocodiles is fully immersed in a lush area of biodiversity in Pierrelatte, and the largest wildlife park in Europe dedicated to reptiles. Come and see more than 600 animals here, including crocodiles, pythons, iguanas, giant tortoises, birds and exotic fish, in a tropical greenhouse with more than 600 species of plants. Discover species that are often unfamiliar to the general public and in some cases endangered, but always impressive. As a way of raising awareness among visitors in a fun yet educational way, La Ferme aux Crocodiles has set up various daily entertainment activities (feeding times, meeting the animals, interactive entertainment, etc.).

www.lafermeauxcrocodiles.com

SAFARI DE PEUGRES

The Safari de Peaugres, the biggest zoo in the whole Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region, is located near Annonay in the northern Ardèche department, at less than an hour north of Lyon. With primates, carnivores, herbivores, birds, reptiles, insects, and more, all in exceptional natural surroundings, it makes a great day out for the whole family to get up close with over 1,000 animals through all kinds of incredible adventures—most of which are immersive. Set off on a car safari (the only one of its kind in the region) to meet the iconic animals from Africa (like elephants, rhinos, giraffes, zebra, and antelopes) and North America (black bears and bison), most of them roaming free. Wander out on a foot safari to experience a host of immersive and themed spaces (including the 'claws and fangs' tunnel, pygmy primates house, aquarium space, aviaries, and more), often featuring critically endangered species. Add in the many 'zooborns' we get each year, plus daily meet-ups with the keepers, play areas, and more, and you can be sure your day out will be packed with magical moments and high emotions!

www.safari-peaugres.com



LE PARC DES OISEAUX

Set in the heart of the Dombes aux Mille Etangs region in Villars-les-Dombes, its amazing collection of birds living in landscaped areas drawing their inspiration from their natural habitats makes for a real world tour! Your journey will also feature the panoramic tower, 27 metres in height, as well as rainbow lorikeet feeding time and the flight show, deemed one of the finest in the world.

www.parcdesoiseaux.com

WALIBI

With over 32 rides and shows, plus a 13,000 m² water park, Walibi Rhône-Alpes, lying in the commune of Les Avenières-Veyrins-Thuellin, is an amusement park for the whole family where you enjoy some fun times full of new immersive experiences each time you visit. The park has opened 10 new rides in the space of 4 years to stay fresh, but the firm favourites are back each season, by popular demand: opening means Carnival and party atmosphere, summertime after dark keeps the fun going late, and the park closes each season with the big scary Halloween party.

Walibi celebrated 40 years in the business with this event around the thrilling new 'Mystic' attraction—the only ride in France that scales (and drops!) a sensational vertical 31 metres.

A new 'Festival City' zone set to open soon will get your taste buds dancing, with two new restaurants, a savoury snack stall and a sweet snack stall, offering visitors a full-on 'food court' experience themed around Cajun cuisine.

www.walibi.fr





**Auvergne
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Tourisme

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