




Alet-les-Bains Abbey

Our magnificent ruins are listed as Historic Monuments and perfectly epitomise the talent and skill of their builders. After the visit, make sure you immerse yourself in the beauty of our town. Parents will love getting to know our well-preserved heritage and **children will enjoy a walk in the countryside and all the fun facilities on offer.** An abbey, a village, a visitors' area... 3 good reasons to come and see us.

Open every day In July and August In June and September	10am-1pm and 2pm-7pm 10am-midday and 2pm-6pm
Open Monday to Friday In April, May and October	2pm-6pm
Open at weekends In April, May and October	10am-1pm and 2pm-7pm
Open Tuesdays and Thursdays From January to March and November, December	2pm-5pm
Open Saturdays From January to March and November, December Closed on 1st January Final entry 30 minutes before closing	10am-midday

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Tél. +33 4 68 69 93 56 - +33 6 89 77 20 42
accueilabbaye@aletlesbains.com
www.aletlesbains.com






Aguilar Castle

Come and see Aguilar, a 5-minute walk from the car park. The castle was once owned by the Termes family. In the 13th century it became one of the «five sons of Carcassonne», defending the border between the kingdoms of France and Aragon. Today, the fortress keeps watch over the Tuchan and Paziols vineyards. **Continue your visit on the family footpath, Aguilar 360°**, and see the castle from many different angles, the striking landscapes and preserved biodiversity.

Open every day In July and August In May, June and September In April and October	10am-7pm 10.30am-5.30pm 11am-5pm
Open at weekends From mid-February to the end of March and from 1st to 15th November (and banks holidays) Final entry 15 minutes before closing	11am-4pm

11350 Tuchan
Tél. +33 6 80 44 64 25 - +33 4 68 45 51 00 (hors saison)
chateaudaguilar@tuchan.fr
www.tuchan.fr







Arques Castle

Situated on a plain, the castle conserve an intact keep. The entrance ticket includes access to the Catharism museum called Déodat Roche's house, located in the village centre, and open from mid-June to mid-September (the site is open to groups on reservation all through the year). **Try out the very first Escape Game in a Cathar castle!** «The Treasure of the Cathars»: reservation required on +33 6 72 73 81 20.

Open every day In July and August In May, June and September In April and October In February, March and November Closed in January and December Final entry 30 minutes before closing	10am-1pm and 1.30pm-7pm 10am-1pm and 1.30pm-6pm 10am-1pm and 2pm-6pm 10am-1pm and 2pm-5pm
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11190 Arques
Tél. +33 4 68 69 84 77
site.arques@gmail.com
arques.wixsite.com/arques-chateau






Castle and Ramparts of the walled City of Carcassonne

Occupied as early as the 6th century BC, Carcassonne was a Roman town, fortified during the Lower Empire, before becoming a medieval city. It boasts 1000 years of military architecture and 2600 years of history. We propose a rich varied visit which includes many exclusive areas: ramparts, hoardings, lapidary museum, digital immersion «Ellipse» exhibition. Book your tour and buy your ticket online. **This summer the kids can take a pony ride around the castle moats before heading inside for a tour.**

Open every day From April to September From January to March and October to December Closed on 1st January, 1st May and 25th December Final entry 30 minutes before closing from October to March and 45 minutes from April to September	10am-6.30pm 9.30am-5pm
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11000 Carcassonne
Centre des monuments nationaux
Tél. +33 4 68 11 70 72
carcassonne-information@monuments-nationaux.fr
www.remparts-carcassonne.fr





Caunes-Minervois Abbey

The abbey spans twelve centuries of history with its Romanesque apse, Maurist cloister, underground archaeological remains. **In partnership with the Comics Art Museum in Brussels, the 2021 exhibition will be dedicated to the famous comic book «Les Carnets de Cerise», a big hit with young and old alike!** Around the abbey, discover the Medieval village and paved alleyways, the hiking and climbing routes, the vineyards and craftspeople, and the unmissable «Marbre et Terroir» ecomuseum.

Open every day In July and August In June and September In April, May and October In February, March, November and December Closed in January, on 24th, 25th and 31st December Final entry 30 minutes before closing	10am-7pm 10am-6pm 10am-midday and 2pm-6pm 10am-midday and 2pm-5pm
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11160 Caunes-Minervois
Tél. +33 4 68 78 09 44
abbaye.caunesminervois@orange.fr
www.caunes-minervois.org






Fanjeaux, Medieval City

The village of Fanjeaux has been inhabited since Roman times. It was a centre for preaching against the Cathar heresy in the 13th century. Fanjeaux has preserved a large number of traces of its rich past. Loïc Teller's sculptures can be seen all over the charming little town. They will take you to heart of our history. From the development of Catharism to the Crusades against the Albigensians via the birth of the Dominican order... And children are not left out with the game booklet, «Fanjeaux et le Mystérieux Sortilège» («Fanjeaux and the Mysterious Spell»).

TOURIST OFFICE In July and August Open every day In July and August Open Monday to Friday From January to June and from September to December Closed from 20th December to 2nd January	10am-1pm and 2.30pm-6.30pm
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11270 Fanjeaux
Tél. +33 4 68 24 75 45
tourisme@ccplm.fr
collinescathares.com







Fontfroide Abbey

Fontfroide Abbey is one of the biggest Cistercian abbeys in Europe. The historic site dating from the 12th century is exceptionally well preserved and has some magnificent gardens. Concerts, special activities and exhibitions are part of life at the abbey all through the year. Several options are on offer for visitors: guided tours, visits with a digital tablet or leaflet, themed visits. **Young and old alike can have fun exploring the abbey during a treasure hunt!**

Open every day In July and August From April to June, September and October From January to March and from November to December Closed on 1st January and 25th December Final entry 30 minutes before closing	9.30am-7pm 10am-6pm 10am-12.30pm-1.30pm-5pm
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11100 Narbonne
Tél. +33 4 68 45 11 08
info@fontfroide.com
www.fontfroide.com






Lagrasse Abbey

Known for its elegance and refinement, the abbey of Lagrasse has demanded respect since the 13th century. Divided into two during the French Revolution, the public section includes primarily medieval buildings. The eleven areas which you can visit have been restored, lit up and are open to the public, offering a stunning architectural range and exceptional painted décor. **Easy access to the ground floor with a pushchair.** Enjoy a refreshing break at the Café Littéraire in the shade of a lime tree.

Open every day From 14th June to 12th September From 1st April to 13th June and from 13th September to 31st October From January to March and November, December Closed on 1st January and 25th December Final entry 1 hour before closing	10am-7pm 10am-6pm 10am-5pm
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11220 Lagrasse
Tél. +33 4 68 43 15 99
abbayedelagrasse@wanadoo.fr
www.abbayedelagrasse.com





Lagrasse, Medieval City

Classified amongst the "Plus Beaux Villages de France" (The Most Beautiful Villages in France), the narrow paved alleyways of the medieval city boast numerous 14th and 15th century architecture: the Saint-Michel Church, the covered market, the bridge, the city walls, the beautiful stone façades. Medieval style ceilings and painted décor from Languedoc can be seen at the «Maison du Patrimoine». Lagrasse is in an amphitheatre with the River Orbieu flowing through it, the heart of the small town is filled with arts and crafts workshops and boutiques.

TOURIST INFORMATION POINT In July and August Open Monday to Sunday morning From June to September Open Monday to Friday From January to May and October to December	10am-1pm and 2pm-6pm 10am-1pm and 2pm-5pm
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11220 Lagrasse
Tél. +33 4 68 43 11 56
info@lagrasse.com
www.lagrasse.com





Lastours Castles

Visit of the four castles (Cabaret, Tour Régine, Surdespine, Quartineux) and of the Cabaret castrum (vestiges of the fortified village). A visit introducing you to 4,000 years of history in breathtaking scenery with the castle, the former mines and incredibly rich fauna and flora. A visit going through a new natural cave. A new panorama over the site from the Belvedere. Archaeology exhibition. **Fauna, flora, geology exhibition.**

Open every day In July and August From April to June and September In October and during the winter, All Saints and Christmas school holidays Open at weekends In February, March, November and December Closed in January	9am-8pm 10am-6pm 10am-5pm
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11600 Lastours
Tél. +33 4 68 77 56 02
chateaux.lastours@orange.fr
www.chateauxdelastours.fr






Mazamet Catharism Museum

Immerse yourself in the heart of the Middle Ages and explore the human realities of the Cathar faith and history. Follow in the footsteps of the «good men and women» who deeply marked medieval society in Occitanie. Simply and without concessions, the richly illustrated museum staging brings the Cathar religious back to life: men and women have their names restored to them, their words recover their meaning. An informative visit to understand the Cathar tragedy. **Children can enjoy a fun visit with our game booklet.**

Open Monday to Friday From 12th July to 22nd August From 6th April to 11th July and from 23rd August to 31st October Open Tuesday to Friday From 1st February to 5th April Open Saturday From 12th July to 22nd August Closed in January, November and December Closed on bank holidays (except 15th August)	10am-12.30pm and 2pm-6pm 10am-midday and 2pm-5pm 10am-midday and 2pm-5pm 1.30pm-5pm
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81200 Mazamet
Tél. +33 5 63 61 56 56
contact@museeducatharisme.fr
www.museeducatharisme.fr






Montségur Castle

Standing at an altitude of 1,207 m, at the top of its "pog" (rocky spur), the castle of Montségur, encircled by the "castrum" from the medieval period, offers an exceptional view over the Pyrenees mountain range. In the village, the Montségur museum, classified as a Museum of France, presents a collection of archaeological objects dating back to the Middle Ages. Entrance ticket to the castle permits access to the museum.

Open every day In July and August From Mars to June and September, October In February, November and December Closed in January and the 25th and 31st December	9am-6pm 10am-6pm 11am-4pm
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09300 Montségur
Tél. +33 5 61 01 10 27
montsegur@orange.fr
www.montsegur.fr





Peyrepertuse Castle

For a journey back in time with all the family, set off to conquer the biggest castle in Cathar country: Peyrepertuse! At an altitude of 800 metres, look down over all the plain with an exceptional view as far as the Mediterranean. This remarkable castle was strategically located to keep watch over the old French border facing the Kingdom of Aragon (Spain). You will be amazed by the qualities of the building and its architecture. **A visit with castle characters and storytellers in summer.**

Open every day In July and August From April to June and September In March and October In February and November In January and December Closed on 1st January and 24th, 25th and 31st December Final entry 20 minutes before closing	9am-8pm 9am-7pm 10am-6pm 10am-5pm 10am-4.30pm
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11350 Duilhac-sous-Peyrepertuse
Tél. +33 4 30 37 00 77 - +33 6 71 58 63 36
info@peyrepertuse.com
www.peyrepertuse.com





Puilaurens Castle

Puilaurens Castle is a citadel standing 697 metres high on a rocky spur in unspoilt mountain scenery. It is an outstanding example of military architecture and its development down the centuries. You can see the first stones right from the reception! At the end of the entrance path is the impressive defensive staircase, then the main gate. **New: on the way up to the castle, walk along a botanical path.** This summer, guided tours are organised on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings. Reservation recommended.

Open every day In July and August In May, June and September From 27th March to the end of April and from 1st October to 14th November Closed in January, February, March and from 15th November to the end of December Final entry 20 minutes before closing	9am-7pm 10am-6pm 10am-5pm
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11140 Lapradelle-Puilaurens
Tél. +33 4 68 20 65 26 - +33 7 85 63 63 72
contact@chateau-puilaurens.com
www.chateau-puilaurens.com





Quercorb Museum at Puivert

Set off to the sound of the flute, drums and Occitan chants with the chance to get to know medieval music in the time of the Troubadours and arts and crafts in the Quercorb region in the 19th and 20th centuries. Sound atmospheres, videos, objects and costumed characters will take you from the rooms to the garden, from the Middle Ages to today. **This year, get to know the secrets of musical instruments, and especially the flute with Pierrol, an instrument maker and musician. Musical and craft demonstrations.**

Open every day In July and August From 14th July to 22nd August Open Wednesday to Sunday From 4th April to 13th July and from 23rd August to 26th September Closed the rest of the year Final entry 30 minutes before closing	10am-7pm 10am-1pm and 2pm-6pm
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11230 Puivert
Tél. +33 4 68 69 81 51
museeduquercorb@orange.fr
www.museequercorb.com






Quéribus Castle

Standing at an altitude of 728 m, the castle offers an exceptional 360° view, from the Mediterranean to the Pyrenees. Located on the former defence line with Aragon, Quéribus is an excellent example of a royal, military fortress. The ticket to the château also provides access to a free screening at the Espace Audiovisuel Achille Mir in Cucugnan. Also visit the Omer Windmill and the statue of the pregnant Virgin in the village church. **Several free family activities, including two Cluedo games, which you can ask for at the reception.**

Open every day In July and August In May, June and September In April In March In October In January, February, November and December Closed on 1st January and 25th December Final entry 15 minutes before closing	9am-8pm 9.30am-7pm 9.30am-6pm 10am-5.30pm 10am-6.30pm 10am-5pm
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11350 Cucugnan
Tél. +33 4 68 45 03 69 - +33 6 71 72 64 01
communication@cucugnan.fr
www.cucugnan.fr






Saint-Hilaire Abbey

Former Benedictine abbey housing the famous «sarcophagus» by the Master of Cabestany. The visitor will appreciate the serenity of the Gothic cloister adjacent to the Romanesque church, the abbey residence, the refectories, the pantries and the fortified part. This is where monks invented Blanquette sparkling wine in 1531 according to the legend. **Wine makers' walks and paper chases will delight the children during an unforgettable family visit.**

Open every day In July and August From April to June and September, October From 2nd January to 31st March and November, December Closed for a variable week in January and December, 1st January and 25th December Final entry 30 minutes before closing	10am-7pm 10am-6pm 10am-5pm
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11250 Saint-Hilaire
Tél. +33 4 68 69 62 76
abbayedeshilaire@orange.fr
saint-hilaire-aude.fr






Saint-Papoul Abbey-Cathedral

The Benedictine abbey became a bishopric in 1317. The age of the bishops followed the crime of heresy for their support of the last Cathars still resisting in Montségur in 1244. The fortress stands at an altitude of over 945 metres and boasts a unique view over the valley. It is a flagship for the historic heritage of the Ariège Pyrenees. **A wide range of activities and guided visits, medieval displays, bird-of-prey flights, a treasure hunt, stargazing, stories and conferences about Catharism...** It takes 10 minutes to walk to the castle. Dogs allowed on a lead.

Open every day In July and August From April to June and September, October Open every day (except Sunday morning) During the winter and November school holidays Open at weekend (except Sunday morning) In March, November and from 4th to 12th December (and bank holidays) Closed in January and from 13th December Final entry 30 minutes before closing	10am-7pm 10am-midday and 2pm-6pm 10am-midday and 2pm-5pm 10am-midday and 2pm-5pm
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11400 Saint-Papoul
Tél. +33 5 61 02 75 98
accueil@abbaye-saint-papoul.fr
abbaye-saint-papoul.com







Saissac Castle

Vestige of cathar history, in the heart of the Montagne Noire, the castle of Saissac spreads out its terraces over more than 115 metres in length in front of exceptional view reaching out to the Pyrenees mountain chain on the horizon. It shows how the medieval castle was transformed into an artillery fortress in the 16th century. **Two rooms have been restored to house the museum dedicated to the Saissac monetary treasure composed of 2000 coins dating from the 13th century.**

Open every day In July and August From April to June and September In October and during the Winter, All Saints and Christmas holidays Open at weekends In February, March, November and December Closed in January, 13th July and 25th December Final entry 30 minutes before closing	9am-8pm 10am-6pm 10am-5pm 10am-5pm
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11310 Saissac
Tél. +33 4 68 24 46 01 - +33 4 68 24 40 22
chateausaissac@orange.fr
www.saissac.fr







Termes Castle

A wide footpath overlooking the village, forests and spectacular gorges, with an easy access to the castle ruins in just 15 minutes, **with partial access for pushchairs.** Use the visitor materials to imagine what the castle and castrum once looked like. You can find out about the epic resistance against the crusaders in 1210 and the massive building project that made Termes «one of the 5 sons of Carcassonne». The Termes Castle site is regularly excavated by archaeologists and restored by qualified masons. Visitors can explore a little more at each visit.

Open every day In July and August In May, June and September, October From 1st to 15th November Open at weekends In March Closed in January, February and from 16th November Final entry 20 minutes before closing	10am-7pm 10am-6pm 10am-5pm 10am-5pm
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11330 Termes
Tél. +33 4 68 70 09 20 - +33 6 47 66 20 77
chateau.termes@gmail.com
www.chateau-termes.com







Usson Castle

The Ariège castle is perched on a rocky spur at an altitude of 920 metres. The residence of the lords of Cerdagne and Foix kept watch over the Aude valley and protected the Donezan region from enemy incursions. Usson also has 700 m² of exhibition areas in the heritage house, a memorial site with plenty to explore... **Visit adapted to children.** A wide range of activities in summer. New: access to the castle keep with a magnificent view. It takes 15 minutes to get to the top. Dogs allowed on a lead.

Open every day From 4th July to 31st August Guided tours on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays from 2pm to 4 pm Open at weekends and bank holidays in May From 13th to 16th May and from 22nd to 24th May From 19th to 27th June Open from Saturday to Monday From 4th to 19th September Open Wednesday, Friday, Sunday From 20th to 31st October From 22nd December to 2nd January Closed on 1st January and 25th December	11am-1pm and 2pm-7pm 2pm-6pm 2pm-6pm 2pm-6pm
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09460 Rouze
Tél. +33 4 68 20 43 92 - +33 4 68 20 41 37 (Office du Tourisme)
chateau.ussou@cc-hauteariege.fr
www.patrimoines.hauteariege.fr







Lordat Castle

One of the last Cathar refuges. The castle knights were accused of the crime of heresy for their support of the last Cathars still resisting in Montségur in 1244. The fortress stands at an altitude of over 945 metres and boasts a unique view over the valley. It is a flagship for the historic heritage of the Ariège Pyrenees. **A wide range of activities and guided visits, medieval displays, bird-of-prey flights, a treasure hunt, stargazing, stories and conferences about Catharism...** It takes 10 minutes to walk to the castle. Dogs allowed on a lead.

Open every day From 3rd July to 31st August Freely accessible From 17th April to 2nd July From 1st September to 10th November Closed the rest of the year Final entry 30 minutes before closing	9am-6pm 9am-5pm
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09250 Lordat
Tél. +33 5 61 02 75 98
chateau.lordat@cc-hauteariege.fr
www.patrimoines.hauteariege.fr






Villelongue Abbey

What immediately attracts visitors to the Cistercian abbey is the **confidential and family aspect**, its peace and deep solitude. The charm of the cloister, the romantic church ruins, the fine restoration of the chapter room, sculptures that are surprising to see in a Cistercian abbey and an original and restful garden. Visitors are moved by the intimacy, the atmosphere and the poetry of the site, the architecture and the timeless and typical «southern Languedoc Gothic» sculptures.

Open every day In July and August Open from Wednesday to Sunday From April to June and September, October Closed the rest of the year and from 6th to 8th August Final entry 30 minutes before closing	2pm-6pm 2pm-6pm
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11170 Saint-Martin-le-Vieil
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ass-des-amis-de-labbaye-de-villelongue@orange.fr
www.abbaye-de-villelongue.com





VilleroUGE-Termenès Castle

The castle has been fully restored in a medieval village. Audio-visual guide in 3 languages (F, GB, SP) around Belibaste, the last Cathar Perfect, who was burned at the stake in 1321. From 15 July to 15 August, 3.30 pm to 5.30 pm, guided visit to the church and the 16th century altarpiece (single ticket €8 castle + church). **All through the summer, family activities including calligraphy, jousting, jugglers and other surprises.**

Open every day In July and August From April to June and September, October (non-stop at weekends) Open at weekends In March and from 1st November to 15th December Closed in January, February and mid-December Final entry 30 minutes before closing	10am-7.30pm 10am-1pm and 2pm-6pm 10am-5pm
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villeroUGE.fr

