



## Languedoc: wine tourism

## IN THE LARGEST VINEYARD IN FRANCE

Between the Mediterranean Sea and the Massif Central, Languedoc is, unarguably, a 'Way of life' destination.

With 245,000 hectares home to the 36 Languedoc Appellations and their 20 PGI (Protected Geographical Indication), no wine is like another, with its constant since ancient times, the Mediterranean. In 30 years, people have transformed the Languedoc vineyard. Focused around its up-to-date vineyards, the rich cultural and architectural heritage, its gastronomic products, its landscapes, and its outdoor sports, it offers a whole range of wine tourist activities.

### www.languedoc-wines.com

### AUDE AND ITS PDO

At the foot of the medieval city of Carcassonne, from the Black Mountains to the Pyrenees, from the Mediterranean to the Lauragais, in the Aude Cathar Country, the key word is diversity.

Here wine is a way of life, with a very wide range of quality products, including 10 protected designations of origin for red, rosé, white and sparkling wines, and 4 regions awarded the 'Vignobles & Découvertes' label, covering the whole Aude vineyard.

### AUDE CATHAR COUNTRY LANGUEDOC VINEYARDS:

Fitou | Corbières | Corbières-Boutenac | Minervois | Minervois-La Livinière | La Clape | Languedoc Quatourze | Cabardès | Malepère | Limoux



## VIGNOBLES ET DÉCOUVERTES

### The label



The Vignobles & Découvertes label (Vineyards & Discoveries) was created in 2009 by Atout France to improve the visibility of the offer and to facilitate the organisation of holidays with a complete and qualitied offering. It is awarded for a period of 3 years to wine tourism destinations and aims to highlight the specificity and complementarity of each labelled region. The offer includes visits to cellars, accommodation, restaurants, visits to sites, events, and activities through which the viticultural identity of the regions can be discovered. In Aude 4 destinations of excellence have been recognised.

## THE 'VIGNOBLES & DECOUVERTES' TERRITORIES IN AUDE: QUALITY AND DIVERSITY!



ICI TOUT DEVIENT EFFERVESCENT

### LIMOUX, VINEYARD OF HISTORY AND LEGEND

The Limoux area is the gateway to the Pyrenees. Traditional hearty cuisine and the frequent and famous festivities come together here to offer the visitor a taste of the iconic Occitanie way of life. Conservation is key: the majority of the Limouxin's vineyards are farmed using either sustainable agriculture or organic agriculture. The Limouxin is particularly renowned for its diverse appellations, including the famous Blanquette, the oldest sparkling wine in the world.

Immerse your customers in our myths and legends, with the mysteries of Bugarach and the enigma of Rennes-le-Château. Encourage them to experience the fun and the sharing in our gourmet food, wine and music festivals at the bubbly Bulles Sonores Festival, the swinging Limoux Brass Festival or the rather unique Limoux carnival, the longest in the world. Arouse their curiosity for Cathar Country history via the rich heritage sites dotted around the area: the abbeys of Saint Hilaire and Alet-les-Bains, Arques Castle and many more.

www.limouxin-tourisme.fr



### GRAND WINES IN GRAND CARCASSONNE

For those who wander around Carcassonne and its medieval fortress... winding along the canal du Midi, the landscapes are truthful to their reputation. This territory has been characterized, for centuries, by the culture of wine. The destination "Grand Carcassonne" shines both by its exceptional heritage with its two UNESCO world heritage sites, which have to be discovered during an oenological excursion... as well as the diversity of its PDO (Protected Designation of Origins) wine labels: Cabardès, Corbières, Malepère, Minervois and PGI (Protected Geographical Indication): Cité de Carcassonne, Coteaux de Peyriac, Pays d'Oc, and Aude...

www.grand-carcassonne-tourisme.fr/la-destination/le-vignoble/



### GRAND WINES IN CORBIÈRES MINERVOIS FITOU

Here the geography has given its name to the Corbières and Minervois appellations and the Fitou appellation, which has carved out a name for itself in the rich massif of the Hautes Corbières. It is also in this territory that two PGIs are deployed: the Torgan Valley and the poetic Paradise Valley... The vineyard has been able to adapt thanks to the constant innovation of the winegrowers who choose a management that respects their culture. They produce organic or HVE wines that reveal the secrets of the different terroirs. Our women and men winemakers will share their passions.

The beauty of our vineyards can also be measured through its villages steeped in history, such as Lagrasse, or from the top of the fantastic citadels of vertigo or along the canal du Midi. Discover the vineyard from the many marked hiking trails, on foot, by bike, or accompanied by a pack donkey. Enjoy a moment of relaxation to linger at the table of our wine bars and restaurants.

Destination Grand wines in Corbières Minervois Fitou, take time!

www.tourisme-corbieres-minervois.com/en/explorer-nos-incontournables/terre-de-vins/vignobles-decouvertes/



### THE VINEYARDS IN CÔTE DU MIDI

From the Mediterranean coast to the Minervois and Corbières lands, the destination extends over 60km around the town of Narbonne. Wines here offer a wide range of tastes and colours enhancing the cuisine of this beautiful area. A wealth of natural landscapes (Regional Natural Park of Narbonne): vineyards, scrubland, beaches, lakes and lagoons allow for various activities, such as mountain biking, hiking, 2CV trips, electric scooter, treasure hunts, and many more.

Add to this an exceptional heritage, from Roman era to the most important modern events of the vine-growing history. Charming or surprising places to stay will welcome the most demanding travellers.

www.cotedumidi.com/le-label-vignobles-decouvertes/

## WHY VISIT AUDE?

Rooted in ancient traditions dating back to Antiquity, the Aude vineyards, between Toulouse and Montpellier can be accessed easily and demonstrate a creativity with many new introductions and discoveries. It recognised the shift towards organic and picks up new trends perfectly.

It is a vineyard on a human scale, made up of meetings and exchanges between the men and women who make the wine. Human adventures to share are a key characteristic of wine tourism in Aude Cathar Country!

The wine is also about the pleasure of tasting, in a region with an exceptional diversity. The tasting experiences are authentic, a source of conviviality, pleasure, and appreciation, particularly when served with regional produce.

THE MUST-SEES

Whether inland or on the coast, Aude has a wealth of exceptional sites. Coastal getaways, small cities full of character or monumental architecture, there is so much to see and explore... the hardest part might be choosing... Here are the 'must-sees', which you absolutely have to discover during a holiday in Aude!

Carcassonne classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, its medieval Cité is reason enough to visit Aude: 3km of ramparts, 52 towers, a truly fortified château within fortress, a basilica, if you please!



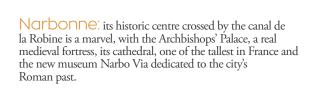
The canal du Midi UNESCO classified, with its locks and bridges, including many original ones, its towpath, perfect location for hiking or mountain biking... And, of course, the canal cruises with pleasant mooring sites for discovering villages, regional producers, wine tasting cellars and restaurants.

The Mediterranean Sea the 'Big Blue', kilometers of fine, sandy beaches. World-renowned spots for boardsports, perfect beaches for family holidays, or for "beach hut" holidays, to enjoy fish, seafood and wine with a 'sea view'!



mountain sentinels and vertiginous citadels, Romanesque abbeys, a score of medieval sites welcome you across Aude. The Middle Ages in all its splendour!







# THE ICONIC OFFERS

These iconic sites present the best of Aude Cathar Country, its history and its magnificent landscapes. They symbolise the best of our region: The unforgettable, the people, the beauty!

### CHATEAU DE PENNAUTIER

The Château de Pennautier, a 17th century Historic Monument and a family house opens its doors ... Built in 1620, visited by King Louis XIII in 1622 ... it is called « the Versailles du Languedoc »! The park « à la française » is classified « remarkable garden » and the estate « Grand Vignoble ». Follow the wine tasting experience at the cellar of the château, and then at the Restaurant La table du château (Receptions, weddings, seminars).

www.lorgeril.wine/visite-du-chateau-de-pennautier-et-parc/



FONTFROIDE ABBEY
900 years ago, the Cistercians planted vines to produce wine for religious services. Expertise and excellent wines from an unusual terroir, in the sumptuous natural setting of the Fontfroide massif. Visits to the abbey are possible all year round with a gourmet restaurant, "la Table" and a tasting cellar, highlighting the abbey's wide range of wines, on site. Events throughout the year bring this timeless place to lite: a Music and History Festival, Orchids at Fontfroide...

www.fontfroide.com

### CHATEAU DE PARAZA

In the Languedoc, overhanging the exceptional canal du Midi, the Château de Paraza is the guardian of a very old wine growing tradition. During the reign of Louis XIV, the Château de Paraza used to be the dwelling of the French engineer Paul Riquet, the man who built the canal du Midi. Nowadays, come to share a great wine experience in this splendid Château and his winery.

www.chateau-de-paraza.com





### MAISON GUINOT IN LIMOUX

A sparkling light-filled visit! Come and discover the secrets and the magic of our sparkling wines. Maison Guinot is the oldest producer of Blanquette and Crémant de Limoux, passing their knowledge down from father to son for five generations since 1875. This is a wine cellar tour like no other: highly original, innovative and created just for you.

https://blanquette.fr/

**FOCUS** 



Hotels, gîtes, beds & breakfasts, wine specialist accommodation is an original way to make the most of wine tourism in Aude.
These are establishments located on estates and in vineyards, where you can sleep comfortably and discover the wine making process.
These vineyard estates with renovated facilities and the greatest care for decoration, often have a particular charm. The tranquility is guaranteed, as they usually offer only a few rooms. The beauty of their position is another of their attractions, as they are in the heart of the vineyard landscape. During the grape harvest, you can enjoy special activities. Come and enjoy this new experience!
More information is available from ADT Aude and its partners!

GASTRONOMY

Aude is a region rich in flavours, between land and sea. Michelin starred chefs, family inns, or gastronomic festivals, the Audois continue to share the tradition and an epicurean spirit.

### THE LANGUEDOC TRUFFLE CENTRE

"Passion, Discovery, Mystery... A dive into the underground world of the black diamond. Come and discover all the secrets of truffles and let yourself be charmed, bewitched, seduced, and amazed forever. A visit to the stop totally dedicated to the most precious mushroom: allow yourself to give in to temptation!"

www.maisondelatruffedoccitanie.com



THE TAP – MAISON BOR
These delightful chocolates shaped like blanquette corks are a symbol of the bubbly Limouxin way-of-life. The « Tap » is always a firm favourite in our range of high-quality products produced in the Limouxin.

The « Tap » is an exceptional product made with grape seeds macerated in chardonnay must which is distilled in Limoux and matured for 4 years in oak casks. The recipe is a secret but it does involve vanilla, honey and chocolate. All you need now are the quantities and the know-how!

These chocolate blanquette corks have been a must-have item on any Limouxin dining table for more than 40 years.

www.maison-bor.com

## CYRIL CODINA'S VINEGAR FACTORY

Languedoc is known for its wine but less so for its vinegar. In the medieval village of Lagrasse, Cyril has been creating over 30 types of vinegar. In his store, taste vinegar and also single grape wines, or olive oils... Come in to discover the Aude gastronomy.

www.vinaigrescodina.com



# THE OLIVE OIL MILL IN BIZE-MINERVOIS Since 1942, the Oulibo cooperative has been producing

high-quality oils and olives with passion. Its speciality: The Lucques of Languedoc (AOP)

On site: guided tours, treasure hunt for children, shop and «tapenade challenge» workshop

www.loulibo.com



THE PRESTIGE OFFERS Hotels of character, historical estates, Michelin starred restaurants...: Aude Cathar Country reveals unique places full of charm. In these exceptional places, which privilege elegance and the sense of hospitality, women and men carry out their profession with passion. They embody the richness of a high quality welcome. CHÂTEAU DE FLOURE \*\*\*\* Looking for a poetic interlude? Discover a unique place, full of history:

Gaston Bonheur's house, a French famous writer who was also winegrower. Enjoy an indoor and outdoor swimming pool, spa, jacuzzi...escape for a while in the heart of the Cathar country, in one of the charming suites, at the gastronomic restaurant. Here, everything is favorable for relaxation, calm and well-being. Who knows, maybe will you become a poet too?

www.chateau-de-floure.com



## CHATEAU DES DUCS DE JOYEUSE\*\*\*\*

This fortified 16th century building in Couiza is a listed historical monument. Its buildings are steeped in history and set in parkland with the River Aude running through. There are tennis courts and a swimming pool for the more energetic visitors. The Château des Ducs de Joyeuse stylishly blends the mediaeval setting of its rooms and suites with the modern comfort of its bathrooms. This clever combination is continued throughout the hotel from the reception rooms to the former chapel converted into a wine cellar, and the dining rooms in which the finest cuisine is served. Chef Paul Guilhem serves meals created with passion, using local produce and everything is of course made in-house.

www.chateau-des-ducs.com

## THE ROAD TO THE AUBERGE DU VIEUX PUITS IN FONTJONCOUSE

twists through Aude, in a wild setting between vines and scrubland, finishing just a few minutes from Narbonne. Here, Gilles Goujon, a distinguished chef with 3 Michelin stars, moves his guests with his strong flavours. On the plates, the contrasts are fascinating. The refinement of the presentation and the playful appearance of the dishes are put together with powerful flavours, rich in character, which are the result of an extraordinary work. To get away from the tumult of cities and everyday life, Marie-Christine and Gilles Goujon have created a few bedrooms, ideal for enjoying the authentic sweetness of life.

www.aubergeduvieuxpuits.fr



### CHÂTEAU CAPITOUL\*\*\*\*

is a 19th century architectural beauty. It houses a hotel sublimated by Art Deco. On the ground floor, the chef Valère Diochet poetises the Languedoc gastronomy in the Méditerranéo restaurant. All year round, the Brasero Asado restaurant warms up the most gourmet palates... Dishes can be accompanied by a wine from the château, which can be enjoyed in front of an exceptional view of the lagoons and massifs. The Spa is open to all those who need a relaxing break.

www.chateaucapitoul.com/en/chateau-hotel-spa-and-luxury-villas-narbonne



**FOCUS** 

Luxury on the water: a number of floating hotels and B&B welcome their guests to a luxurious, calm and original environment, the canal du Midi. They have all the comfort and modernity in an authentic setting.

Docked or on the move, you can choose! The different packages allow you to enjoy the comfort of the barge without worrying about steering, as that is taken care by the crew! The barges are an excellent starting point for excursions along the Canal or into the Aude countryside, through the towns and villages, or the vineyards.

More information is available from ADT Aude and its partners!

Changing habits and doing something out of the ordinary in Aude Cathar Country is possible, and in a thousand and one different ways! To explore a region.

ordinary in Aude Cathar Country is possible, and in a thousand and one different ways! To explore a region, a town, or a site from a different perspective, there is nothing better than choosing an unusual visit that you won't forget. Some examples:

### THE GIANT CHASM OF CABRESPINE

Walk on a glass footbridge or go zip-lining across the giant chasm of Cabrespine. Unique! An adventure park with an acrobatic course deep in the largest room of the giant Cabrespine cave passing, various zipe lines, Nepalese and monkey bridges, via ferrata (easy, good physical condition, above 12 y.o), is you wish to carry on after that adventure you can go navigating along the underground river . . .

If you would rather stay at the top, share a new and original experience: «Vinospeleology». Discover the wines aged in this immense underground cellar. 4 vintages, 4 tasting points, 4 winemakers, for a unique gastronomic itinerary, accompanied by a speleologist guide passionate about wine.

www.gouffre-de-cabrespine.com



### LA MAISON DU RIRE

This is a Wine and Food School in the Corbières created by Emma Kershaw. Emma is convinced that the best way to teach and to learn is with a glass in one hand and a plate in another! Here you will learn not only about the wines of this incredibly diverse region, but about the foods as well and how to prepare them. Life is too short to drink bad wine and not be laughing!

https://lamaisondurire.com



Come and meet Alain on his magnificent wine estate which looks out over some fabulous scenery at the gates of the Upper Aude Valley. Alain will tell you all about his particular way of growing grapes and making wine. He's taken a step back in time and no longer uses tractors or other industrial machinery all the way through the process from the growing to the wine-making, the bottling and even the labelling, which he does with a manually operated machine made of wood. You can also learn about the method he uses for the vinification of his 'Shaman' vintage in which he uses minerals representing the different chakras.

For an even more immersive experience, why not rent his gite which is situated among Alain's vineyards: an ideal spot from where you can visit the whole Limouxin area.

https://alaincavailles.com





### COASTAL CORBIÈRES AND FITOU IN A 2CV

Isabelle tells you about the history of wines, vineyards and winemakers: A beautiful meeting of people centred around a passion, beautiful landscapes and delicious produce (tastings of local wines and produce). A lover of authenticity and the values attached to it, and, therefore, collectors' cars, another French icon had to take its place in the adventure. Isabelle chose the Citroën 2CV, the most legendary and popular convertible, for you enjoy to 2 hours of intense discovery. And discover the old aperitifs like cartagène, the late harvests, vin de pêches and guignolet.

www.vin4heurestour.fr

# SOME EXAMPLES OF PACKAGED OFFERS

If you want to unveil all the secrets of refined terroirs and prestigious local varietals, consider the option to organize hand-crafted wine experience holidays. How to plan wine tours in Aude full package? Wine lovers may need some help in sorting out the most interesting Languedoc wine trails, regions and wines. Let our Incoming Agencies take care of your exclusive wine tasting holidays!

### WINE AND LIMOUX CARNIVAL

2 days/1 night - From €269 Limoux's Carnival plays on mystery and satire since 1604. It is recognized as « the longest » in the world because it lasts 3 months every winter! Watch the carnival bands one morning or one afternoon.

Visit the Guinot winery: a producer of Blanquette since 1875 with its sound and light show, 3D videos and images, a unique concept for a fun and educational visit, followed by a tasting of sparkling wines. To finish: the fortified abbey of Saint-Hilaire, located between Limoux and Carcassonne, dates back from the 7th century. You can admire its magnificent gothic cloister. The first sparkling wine was discovered there!

Aud'Etour I pascale@aude-tour.fr I www.aude-tour.com



### RELAXING SPA AND HOTEL\*\*\*\*\* in the heart of the medieval Cité 2 days / 1 night - From €160/pers

Located in the heart of the medieval Cité in Carcassonne, classed as a UNESCO World Heritage site, the hotel de la Cité offers you a timeless historical experience. You will have the benefit of many things: the beautiful views over the lower town of Carcassonne, the panorama across the Aude plain, the shady gardens at the foot of the Cité s towers, 5-star accommodation and the gastronomic restaurant of chef Jérôme Ryon, 1 Michelin star

Sudfrance.fr | contact@sudfrance.fr | www.sudfrance.fr

## LIVE AN INTENSE GOURMET EXPERIENCE IN THE CORBIÈRES

2 days/1night - From €219/pers

On the programme:

Over a couple of days, discover the Corbières and its exceptional cuisine. Gilles Goujon and his team are committed to enhancing our local products. Mediterranean flavours are in the spotlight, accompanied by the best wines of Corbières, Minervois, Fitou.

Discover the medieval village of Lagrasse, one of the Most Beautiful Villages of France and its well known abbey from the 8th century. Make beautiful dreams in your B&B Gîtes de France 4 épis. Take time and enjoy!

Sudfrance.fr: contact@sudfrance.fr | www.sudfrance.fr



## CORBIÈRES – WINES AND SEA Discover the maritime Corbières between the vineyards and the sea. Here,

the climate benefits from the mildness brought by the sea. The wines are fine and sometimes iodized. An original escapade in the middle of a grandiose landscape.

Les Pépites du Sud I contact@lespepitesdusud.wine I www.lespepitesdusud.wine

# **CALENDAR** OF THE BIG AUDE EVENTS

Limoux traditional Carnival

January to March 2023

Toques & Clochers

Auction sale of Limoux wines and entertainment

Spring of 2023

Sentiers Gourmands in the wine-growing Clape Gourmet Trails in la Clape

Spring of 2023

La balade des 5 sens et Peyri'art Gourmet trails in les Corbières

May 2023

Prom'Aude Gastronomy festival

Pentecost weekend - Lézignan-Corbières

Les Balades Vigneronnes en Grand Carcassonne Vineyard walks around Carcassonne

From June to September 2023

Olive Festival - Bize Minervois

*July 2023* 

Carcassonne Festival - La Cité

July 2023

14 July Fireworks - Medieval Cité of Carcassonne

14 July 2023

Eté des Corbières Wine festival

July and August 2023

Cassoulet Festival - Castelnaudary

August 2023

Las Vendemias - Cote du Midi

September 2023

Tastes in Minervois — Terre de Vins - Villegly

1st weekend of September 2023

Fascinant Week-end - Aude Visits and events in wine domains

October 2022 – 2023

End of October 2022

Foires au gras Poultry markets

November and December 2022

Truffle markets - Aude

From December 2022 to February 2023

and June





## **USEFUL INFORMATION**

To organise your stay, accommodation, visits and activities, several specialist agencies are here to help you, advise you, and make reservations according to what you want. They also offer all-inclusive themed stays. Contact the following...

### **Incoming Agencies**

SUDFRANCE contact@sudfrance.fr www.sudfrance.fr

TRAVEL REAL FRANCE contact@travelrealfrance.com www.travelrealfrance.com/en/

AUD'ETOUR
pascale@aude-tour.com
www.aude-tour.com

LES PÉPITES DU SUD contact@lespepitesdusud.wine www.lespepitesdusud.wine



The association of Guides and Speakers in the Cathar Country groups together some fifteen professional guides, at your service for all types of visit (heritage, nature...). They can lead tours in various languages. To find out everything about Aude and its riches!

www.guidespayscathare.com/welcome-to-guides/

### **Useful addresses & contacts**

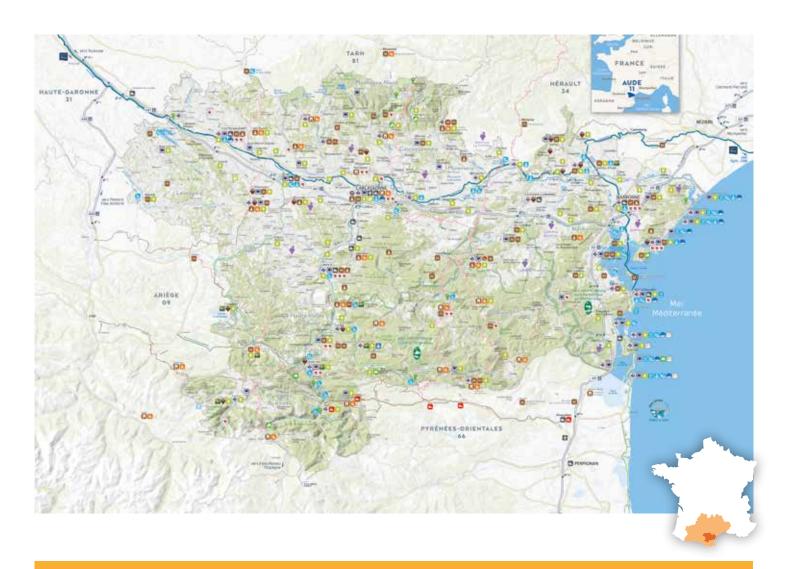
GRANDS VINS EN GRAND CARCASSONNE Tel. +33 (0)4 68 78 58 90 contact@grand-carcassonne-tourisme.fr www.grand-carcassonne-tourisme.fr

LIMOUX VIGNOBLE D'HISTOIRE ET DE LEGENDE Tel. +33 (0)4 68 31 11 82 vignoblesetdecouvertes@cc-limouxin.fr www.limouxin-tourisme.fr/

OFFICE DU TOURISME DE LA COTE DU MIDI Tel. +33 (0)4 68 27 82 95 d.ferrari@cotedumidi.com www.cotedumidi.com GRANDS VINS EN CORBIÈRES MINERVOIS FITOU Tel. +33 (0)4 68 27 57 57 mfranchet@ptcm.fr www.tourisme-corbieres-minervois.com

CIVL (interprofessional centre for Languedoc wines)
Tel. +33 (0)4 68 90 38 32
olegrand@languedoc-wines.com
http://languedoc-wines.com/

AGENCE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT TOURISTIQUE DE L'AUDE Tel. +33 (0)4 68 11 66 00 s.millet@audetourisme.com c.combis@audetourisme.com www.audetourisme.com



## **HOWTO** GET HERE



Autoroute des Deux Mers (A61): Exits at Castelnaudary (exit 21), Bram (exit 22), Carcassonne Ouest (exit 23), Carcassonne Est (exit 24) Lézignan-Corbières (exit 25), Narbonne Sud (exit 38). **Autoroute 'la Languedocienne' (A9):**Exits at Narbonne Est (exit 37), Narbonne Sud (exit 38), Sigean-Port la Nouvelle (exit 39), Fitou - Leucate (exit 40)



TGV Lines Paris and Lille-Europe and major regional lines Madrid Barcelona Narbonne Carcassonne Main SNCF stations

- Carcassonne
- Castelnaudary
- Narbonne



Carcassonne Airport www.aeroport-carcassonne.com

- United Kingdom: London Stansted, Edinburgh, Manchester, East Midlands Ireland: Dublin, Cork
- Belgium: Brussels-CharleroiPortugal: PortoItaly: Cagliari

www.ryanair.com
Toulouse Airport, 1 hour from Carcassonne: www.toulouse.aeroport.fr

Montpellier Airport, 1 hour from Narbonne: www.montpellier.aeroport.fr



### AGENCE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT TOURISTIQUE DE L'AUDE

Allée Raymond Courrière - 11855 Carcassonne cedex 9 - Tél. + 33 4 68 11 66 00 documentation@audetourisme.com - www.audetourisme.com - www.payscathare.org



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