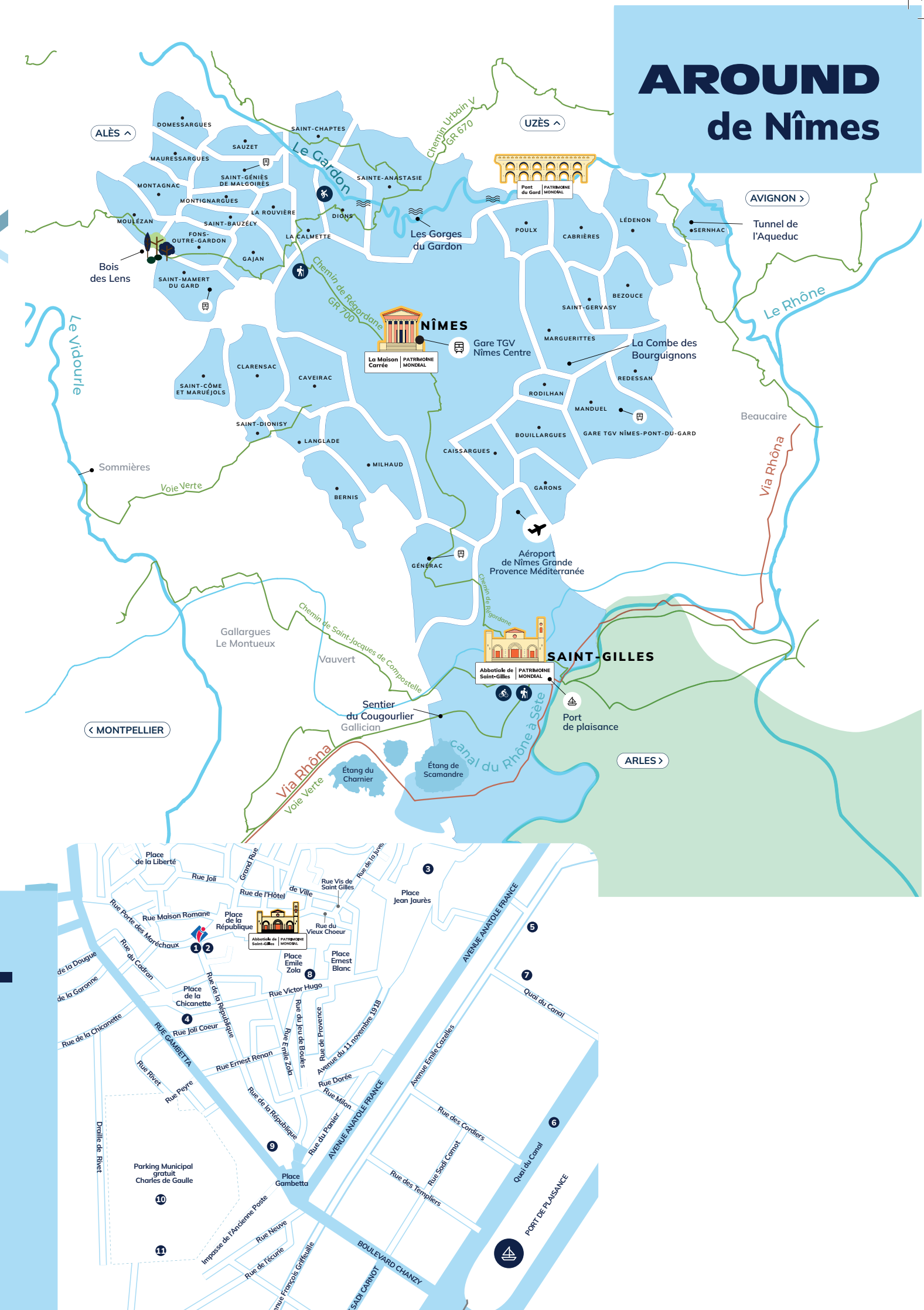






COAT OF ARMS

In 31 BC, Octavian defeated the fleet of Mark Antony and Cleopatra at Actium and established peace in the Roman world. Octavian could then establish the empire and took the name of Augustus. A coin was struck in Nîmes to celebrate the event. On the reverse side was a crocodile chained to a palm tree surmounted by a laurel wreath, symbolizing the conquest of Egypt.

In 1535 they were authorized by king François 1 to adopt the palm tree and the crocodile as the town's coat of arms. Since then the inhabitants have been extremely proud of their crest.

Redesigned in 1986 by Philippe Starck, the coin can be found all over the town, even in the bronze studs set in the paving of the old town (on sale at the Tourist Office shop).

THE ORIGINS OF DENIM CLOTH

Nîmes was famous for textile manufacturing in the seventeenth century. Merchants mainly traded woollen cloth and silk. The range of textile manufactured broadened little by little. Cotton was imported and then indigo, a dye plant grown in Italy that was an economical source of a fine blue colour. Serge de Nîmes, a resistant fabric thanks to its oblique weaving with unbleached and indigo-dyed threads, was created. It differs from other serges by its progressive washing and its blue and white shades. At this time, commercial counters are established all around the world.

The characteristics of this Serge de Nîmes, exported to the United States via the ports of Genoa and Manchester, are very similar to those of denim, a fabric used by Levi Strauss in the 19th century to make his famous jeans, sturdy and cheap trousers for American gold seekers. If this garment has now conquered all continents and has become a symbol of freedom, it is possible that its origins are Nîmoises.



MAISON CARRÉE

PATRIMOINE MONDIAL

Dedicated to Caius and Lucius Caesar, grandsons and heirs of Emperor Augustus, the Maison Carrée, built in the 1st century AD, is one of the best-preserved temples in the Roman world. It captivates with the harmony of its proportions, the elegance of its Corinthian column capitals, and the finesse of its decoration. As a Roman temple dedicated to the imperial dynastic cult, this architectural masterpiece is now listed on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Information and opening hours : arenes-nîmes.com

LES ARÈNES

Considered as being the best-conserved amphitheater of the Roman world, the Arena was built at the end of the 1st century AD, shortly after the Coliseum in Rome. It had a capacity for more than 24,000 spectators who watched hunts and animal and gladiator fights. The amphitheater is now used for bullfights, congresses, concerts and sports events. On the spot, an audiopien will allow you to learn more about the history of this emblematic place!

Information and opening hours : arenes-nîmes.com



TOUR MAGNE

The 'Big Tower' stands above the Roman sanctuary and was part of the Augustan walls that ran for more than 6 kilometers. It was 36 meters high and was built around and over a previous Celtic tower that was 18 meters high and disappeared in the 17th century. It is now reduced to 32.50 meters high. The view from the top is remarkable, running from Mont Ventoux to the Pic St Loup.

Informations et horaires : arenes-nîmes.com



PONT DU GARD, L'AQUEDUC DE NÎMES

PATRIMOINE MONDIAL

Built in the 1st century AD, the Pont du Gard is without a doubt the most spectacular structure of the aqueduct and has been on the Unesco World Heritage List since 1985. The Romans built a bridge of exceptional dimensions to cross the Gardon valley: 275 meters long, 48 meters high (the highest of the Roman world) and three superposed tiers of arches.

Information and opening hours : pontdugard.fr/en



CATHÉDRALE NOTRE-DAME-ET-SAINT-CASTOR

Consecrated in 1096, the cathedral of Notre-Dame-and-Saint-Castor has been modified on many occasions over the centuries. The upper frieze is considered to be a major example of Romanesque sculpture in the South of France. The motifs of the pediment and the cornice - acanthus leaves and lions heads - were inspired by the Maison Carrée.



TEMPLE DE DIANE

In the 1st century BC, this building was part of the Augusteum with the sacred spring, an immense portico, a small theater and a nymphaeum. Although its purpose is not clear and the origin of its name unknown, the rich ornamentation inside is well conserved. The romantic nature of the ruins has inspired many artists, such as the famous painter Hubert Robert.



MUSÉE DE LA ROMANITÉ

16 boulevard des Arènes

Contemporary building designed by Elizabeth de Portzamparc, this new museum with international reputation is a splendid showcase for 5,000 heritage works. An innovative museum, an archaeological garden and a living space, the building has a triple ambition: preserve heritage, share it with visitors and pass this unique heritage on to future generations. The museum also hosts temporary exhibitions.

Information and opening hours : museedelaromanite.fr/en/



FERIA DE NÎMES 2025

DU 20 AU 25 MAI
FERIA DE PENTECÔTE
13 ET 20 AOÛT
COURSES CAMARGUAISES
14 AOÛT
SPECTACLE ÉQUESTRE
21 AOÛT
OLYMPIADES DES GARDIENS
DU 18 AU 20 SEPTEMBRE
FERIA DES VENDANGES
11 OCTOBRE
FINALE DU TROPHÉE DES AS



PORTE AUGUSTE ET PORTE DE FRANCE

The sanctuary of the imperial cult, Porte Auguste (or Porte d'Arles) was one of the main gates of the ancient town. Coming from Beaucaire, the Via Domitia crossed the town via this gate to continue towards Spain. Dating back to the 1st century BC, the Porte de France is, together with Porte Auguste, one of the only two gates in the Augustan walls that can still be seen.



MUSÉE DES BEAUX-ARTS

Rue de la Cité Faulc

With its interior redesigned by the architect Jean-Michel Wilmotte in 1987, The "Musée des Beaux-Arts" presents a rich collection of more than 3600 works characteristic of the French, Flemish, Dutch and Italian schools of painting from the 16th to the 19th centuries. An impressive Roman mosaic, "The Wedding of Admetus", occupies the central part of the atrium. It was discovered in the 19th century on the site of the covered market (les Halles).

Information and opening hours : nîmes.fr



MUSÉE DU VIEUX NÎMES

Place Mère-Teresa

Housed in the former bishop's palace built in the late 17th century, the "Musée du Vieux Nîmes" possesses collections illustrating life in Nîmes since the end of the Middle Ages. Exhibits range from the everyday to the extraordinary, cloth manufactured by the Nîmes textile industry are presented and a room is devoted to 'serge de Nîmes' and jeans. Visitors of the temporary exhibitions and the permanent collection can enjoy a trip back in time.

Information and opening hours : nîmes.fr



ABBATIALE DE SAINT-GILLES

PATRIMOINE MONDIAL

Built at the end of the 12th century, the abbey church is a real architectural jewel. In the past, this major site attracted pilgrims from all over the world. Today, the monument is listed as a World Heritage Site as part of the "Pilgrimage Route to Santiago de Compostela in France" series. Take the time to admire its sculpted façade, an authentic masterpiece of Romanesque art. Among others, you will find a frieze with an iconography dedicated to the Passion of Christ. Discover its monumental crypt, a full-sized lower church. Exceptional in its size and the quality of its vaults, it still contains the tomb of Saint Gilles.

Information and opening hours : nîmes.fr



SENTIER DU COUGOURLIER

Situated in the south-west of Saint-Gilles, the Cougourlier trail allows you to discover the richness and beauty of the Camargue's natural heritage. During this family walk, you can admire a rich and varied fauna and flora! Egrets, herons, horses and bulls will give you a unique welcome to this exceptional landscape! The more curious can climb to the top of the escalassoun to enjoy a magnificent panorama of the whole Camargue Gardoise!



RÉSERVE DU SCAMANDRE

Located in the heart of the Petite Camargue, the "Etang de Scamandre" is a freshwater lagoon covered with reedbeds and home to an abundance of wildlife, including many bird species: herons, falcinella, ibis and of course flamingos.

Follow one of the twenty interpretation trails of the regional nature reserve and discover the characteristic landscape of the Mediterranean wetlands, known here as sanssouires.

MAISON DES GORGES DU GARDON

Hameau de Russan, 2 rue de la pente, 30190 Sainte-Anastase

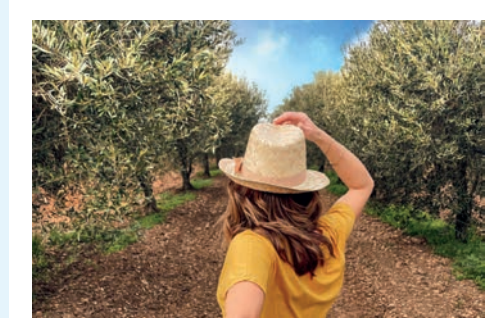
Fun, educational and interactive, the "Maison des Gorges du Gardon", located in the heart of the old hamlet of Russan, will help you discover all the richness of this remarkable environment. Fauna, flora, cliffs and caves are the different themes highlighted in this museum space which will transport young and old to the heart of this natural site that has been inhabited since Prehistoric times!

Information and opening hours : gorgesdugardon.fr

TUNNELS DE L'AQUEDUC

On the Vallon d'Escaunes site to Cantarelles, discover two tunnels dug into the rock dating from Roman times. The marks left on the walls by the tools of the Roman builders are still visible. These tunnels were part of the Nîmes aqueduct, which carried water from the Eure springs, near Uzès, to the Castellum Divisiorum.

Information and opening hours : gorgesdugardon.fr



Visit the JEANJEAN olive grove

2373 chemin des Loubes 30800 Saint Gilles

Are you olive oil enthusiasts or simply the curious? Come and discover our 10,000 organically grown olive trees. Visit our olive mill and taste our oils, tapenades (olives spreads), and olives in our boutique located in the heart of the estate. Choose the option that suits you and explore the secrets of our traditional production.

Information: www.oliveraie-jeanjean.com - 04 66 87 42 43



GORGES DU GARDON

A canyon carved by the crystal clear water of the Gardon: an ideal spot for hiking where you will be amazed by this sumptuous regional nature reserve classified as a "biosphere reserve" by UNESCO. To enjoy a breathtaking panorama of the most impressive meander of the gorges, go to the Castellum belvedere located a stone's throw from the village of Russan, where birds of prey and other birds swirl in the heart of this majestic environment.

Informations : gorgesdugardon.fr

TERROIR DES COSTIÈRES

A kingdom of rolled pebbles deposited by the Rhône and the Duranée, the Costières terroir will surprise you with the diversity of its landscapes! Underfoot you'll see a mosaic of different types of soil: white limestone, reddish pebbles, yellow sand or red clay, you'll be amazed by the many different colours! Now look up and contemplate the vineyards and orchards that reign supreme on the Costières plateau.



LA COMBE DES BOURGUIGNONS

In the heart of the garigue, in the commune of Marguerittes, you will find the "Combe des Bourguignons", an interesting valley that will delight young and old alike! Along a 2 km long interpretation trail, discover the astonishing remains of the construction work of the "rachalons", local farm workers from the 17th and 18th centuries. During your walk, you can admire the famous "capitelles", fascinating dry-stone huts built by these farmers! So, for a walk or even a picnic, you will love this landscape typical of the hinterland of Nîmes!



BOIS DES LENS

A massif composed of several steep hills. Garigue, insects and protected bird species will delight those who are passionate about botany, ornithology or archaeology. It was in the heart of this space that the Romans came to collect the blocks of stone for the construction of the Maison Carrée. An area to discover on foot or by bike.