

Pyrénées-Orientales

Welcome in French Mediterranean Pyrenees



www.tourisme-pyreneesorientales.com



SUMMARY

4



**MEDITERRANEAN
SEA**

7



**IN THE CITY
PERPIGNAN**

8



THE LANDS

10



**THE CANIGÓ
MOUNTAIN**

12



**A LAND OF
MOVEMENT**

13



**PYRENEES
MOUNTAINS**

14



**PYRENEES MOUNTAINS
IN WINTER**

15



**MOUNTAIN
ACTIVITIES**

16



**PYRÉNÉES-ORIENTALES,
WATER HERITAGE**

18



**A LAND OF HISTORY
AND PATRIMONY**

22



**A LAND OF
MEMORIES**

23



**A LAND OF
INSPIRATION**

24



**ROUSSILLON
WINES**

26



A LAND OF TASTES

28



**A LAND OF
TALENTS**

30



**A LAND OF FESTIVITIES
AND TRADITIONS**

PYRÉNÉES-ORIENTALES

The Mediterranean. The Pyrenees mountains. The Catalan Country

11 NATURAL RESERVES - **5** PROTECTED
NATURAL AREAS (10% OF THE TOTAL IN FRANCE)
3 REGIONAL NATURAL PARKS

**AN OUTDOOR
HERITAGE
EQUIVALENT
TO 2 'LOUVRE'**
(ROMAN,
GOTHIC,
BAROQUE,
MILITARY, CIVIL,
RELIGIOUS...)

**10 SEASIDE RESORTS
9 MARINAS**

1st FRENCH AREA
IN SWEET WINES
AND FRENCH
TERRITORY
IN TERMS OF
SURFACE AREA
OF ORGANIC
FARMING

2 **UNESCO**
CLASSIFIED SITES

2 TOURIST TRAINS
(YELLOW TRAIN
AND RED TRAIN)

7th
**LARGEST TOURIST
« DÉPARTEMENT »
IN FRANCE**

8 **SKI RESORTS**
5 **SPA RESORTS**

THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA

a coast which stretches out lazily in the bright sunshine



◀ 10 SEASIDE RESORTS

40 km of long sandy beaches

Port-Barcarès / Torreilles / Sainte-Marie / Canet-en-Roussillon / Saint-Cyprien / Argelès-sur-Mer.

20 km of rocky inlets with unashamed beauty

Argelès-sur-Mer / Collioure / Port-Vendres / Banyuls-sur-Mer / Cerbère.

A PRESERVED COASTLINE ▶

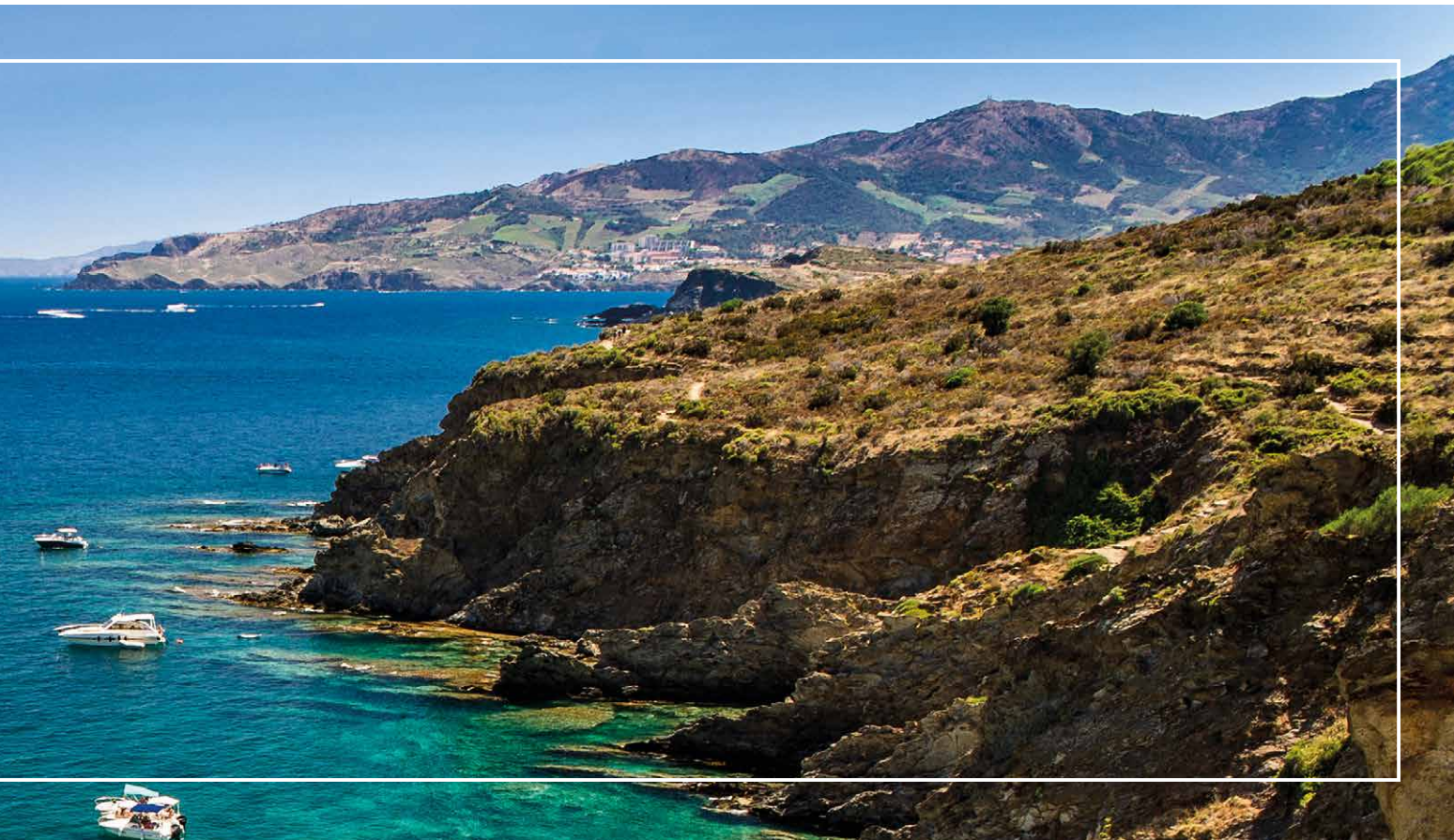
The Cerbère Banyuls natural marine reserve

The Paulilles cove

The Mas Larrieu natural reserve (Argelès)

Classed as a Natura 2000 and the Salses-Leucate lakes and Canet-Saint-Nazaire





▲
9 MARINAS

AT THE HEART OF THE GOLFE DU LION 'PARC NATUREL MARIN'

4,019 km² of marine space / More than 100km of coastline / More than 1,200 animal species and 500 plant species.



▲ THE PYRÉNÉES-ORIENTALES, CRUISE DESTINATION

Port-Vendres.

THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA

An amazing playground



COASTAL PATHWAYS

From the Racou beach (Argelès-sur-Mer) to Banyuls sur Mer, with breath taking views, 24.4km.

Cycle/Mountain bike rides :

EuroVelo 8 : all along the coast, from Port-Barcarès to Argelès-sur-Mer, 40km.

The Agly Greenway : from Port-Barcarès to Rivesaltes 15km.



GOLF in Saint-Cyprien, between sea and lake, an area of 200 hectares.

UNDERWATER SPORTS

Scuba diving : introduction, diving exploration or wreck discovery, 18 approved diving centres, all along the coast.

Snorkeling : snorkelling in the bay of Paulilles or along the underwater trail of the Cerbère Banyuls-sur-Mer Natural Marine Reserve.

BOAT TRIPS OUT TO SEA

Sailing, Catamarans for beginners or experienced.

Kitesurf, Skyfly, Windsurf, Stand-Up Paddle, Sea Kayaking : to the delight of riders of all kinds, spots where the tramontana wind reigns. Water skiing or Wakeboarding at Port Barcarès - Parc des Dosses



BEACH RESTAURANTS, WITH YOUR FEET IN THE WATER

Both beach clubs and quality restaurants, small oases, often hidden by the dunes, little corners of paradise, for a change of scenery, with the sea as far as the eye can see.

IN THE CITY PERPIGNAN

The heart of the south and a spicy accent. An eye on its past and a smile towards the future



Plane trees and palm trees cohabit along wide avenues flooded with sunlight.

Their shadow makes Maillol's beauties dance, naked and proud in a courtyard or some square where a marble fountain gently sings.



The majestic grandeur of the Kings of Majorca castle dominates the busy streets full of spices, fruit or fish, a thousand flavours and scents from elsewhere.



It is said that Perpignan lives in the present, combines every moment, here and there, yesterday and tomorrow.

THE LANDS

*Vineyards, orchards, olive groves, market gardens, the garrigue...
On the Roussillon plain, in the numerous valleys and foothills
there are traces of the work of man*



In springtime, the peach, apricot and cherry orchards are bedecked with all the shades of white and pink ...

Further afield, on pungent striped hills, low walls built of dry stones, used where man was unable to bring water, you will find the realm of vines and olive trees, almond trees as well as the powerful aroma of plants, such as rosemary and thyme, growing on the scrubland.



Near the river beds, the market gardeners have dug into the soft, silty land to make vast rectangles of artichokes, lettuces, or the colourful tomato plants that blend with the large buildings in « cayrou » stones and white pebbles.





THE ALBERA MASSIF (NATURAL PROTECTED AREA - 7000 HA) AND THE MASSANE NATURAL RESERVE

A cross-border massif for walks and hikes

Between Pyrénées-Orientales and Catalonia, neighbouring the Catalonia Albera National Park, which reaches 1256 m at Puig Neulós.

A thousand-year-old role

A true passage and link between the people of northern Europe and those from the Iberian Peninsula and North Africa. From pre-history to modern times, numerous vestiges are the witnesses of this past : Megaliths, ceramics, the creation of the Via Domitia, the development of the vineyard, roman abbeys, signal towers (as Massane and Madeloc...), castles and fortifications... Castles were destroyed (Montesquieu, Les Cluses ...) Many fortifications (Collioure, Salses, Perpignan ...) - Conflicts between France and Spain and Treaty of the Pyrenees in 1659. The Albera became a border. A historic passage.

Preserved nature

The beech woods, the oak forests and the maquis make up this area, which has been recognised Europe wide by its inclusion in the Natura 2000 network. Two reserves testify to the great ecological wealth of this massif: Massane and Moixoses.

THE CORBIÈRES-FENOUILLEDÈS REGIONAL NATURAL PARK

The new Corbières and Fenouillèdes Regional Natural Park (RNP) covers more than 179,000 hectares. A protected area, with a remarkable heritage and natural sites, straddling the Aude and the Pyrénées-Orientales « départements » (provinces).

Spectacular landscapes, varied, preserved (peaks, gorges, cliffs, points of view ...)

A remarkable botanical wealth (241 species of heritage interest on nearly 2000 currently listed, endemic species such as birds of prey and Mediterranean sparrows).

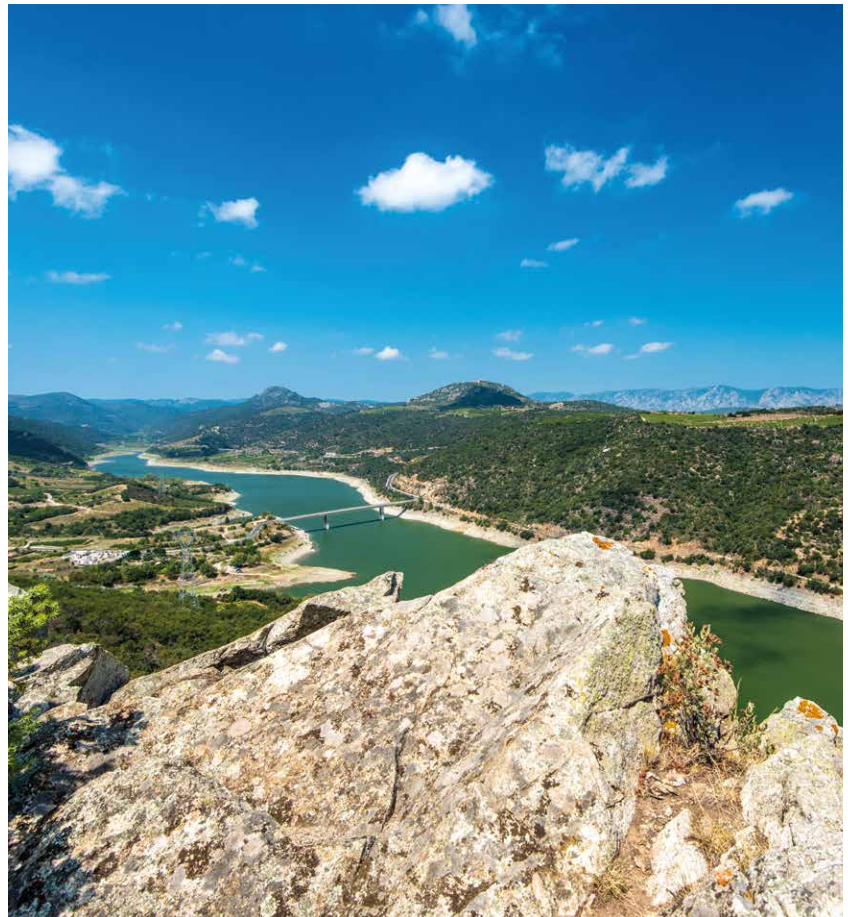
A shared history as a meeting place, transition, passage from Prehistory to the creation of french « départements » (provinces).

Many heritage sites (royal citadels and many castles)

Some forty listed or classified sites (Galamus, « Défilé » de Pierre-Lys, Orbieu gorges...)

So many historical monuments (castles, churches, aqueducts...)

An ideal territory to hiking, climbing (via ferrata ...) and many other sports such as canyoning.



The GR10 or « Grande Traversée » from the Mediterranean sea to the Atlantic ocean, linking Banyuls-sur-Mer to Hendaye, for mountain lovers, walking, and great roaming.

THE CANIGÓ MOUNTAIN

And, watching over all these treasures, the imposing silhouette of the Canigó Mountain with its snow-capped peak that can be seen from afar



THE CANIGÓ MASSIF, « GRAND SITE DE FRANCE » (QUALITY LABEL), « GRAND SITE RÉGIONAL » (QUALITY LABEL)

A natural lighthouse between the Pyrenees and the Mediterranean, the sacred mountain of the Catalans

A unique massif, a real stone giant which culminates at 2784.66m, guardian of the border between Pyrenees-Orientales (catalan area) and Catalonia, and protector of the passage between two worlds : the plains and the mountains.

This mountain literally arose from the land from the primary era to the tertiary era, pushed by the pressure of the layers deep below the surface. The massif is at one of the end of the Pyrenees chain where it opens onto the Roussillon plain, on the French side of Catalan country, and the Empordà plain in Catalonia, abruptly ending its race towards the Mediterranean.

Visible from the sea, it has become a natural lighthouse.

Feel the Canigó experience

500 km of marked trails to discover on foot, or accompanied by donkeys or on horseback.

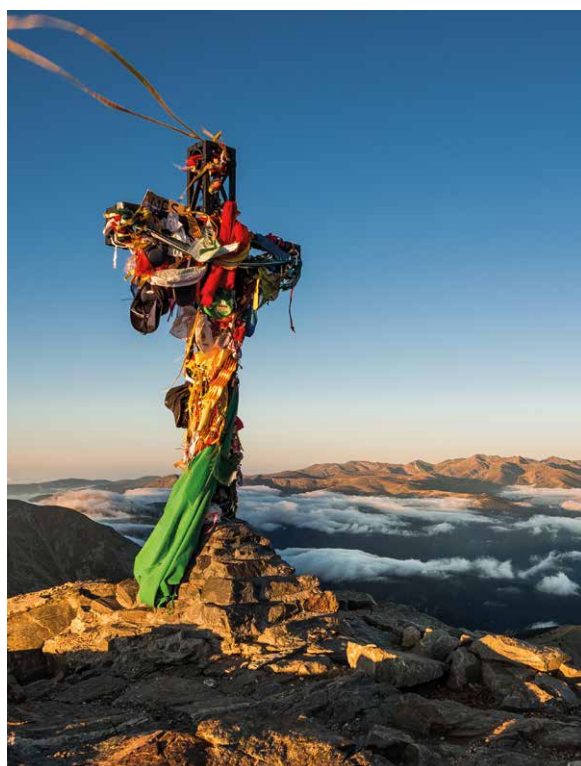
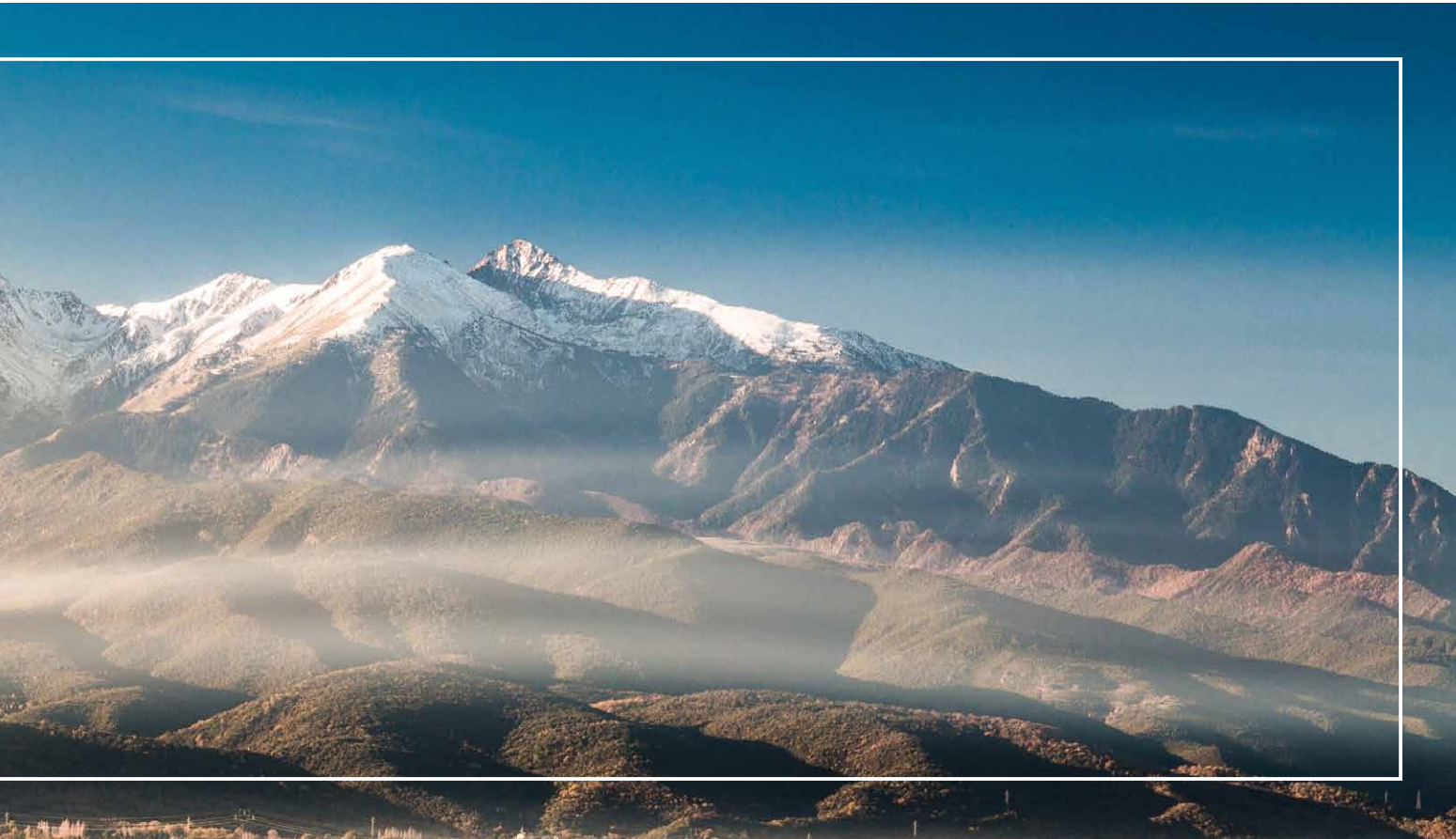
200km of marked trails for mountain bikers and those who enjoy registered longer hiking trails.

3 longer hiking trails, criss-cross the massif.

In winter, snowshoes and skis leave traces in the virgin snow alongside the tracks of a herd of chamois, climbing back up to the Roc that bears their name.

These routes are linked, meaning you can hike over several days: the Tour and the Ronde of the Canigó, and stop-overs in the 5 mountain refuges, where you will find a welcome, warmth and a friendly atmosphere.





The natural reserves of Py and Mantet / Nyer, Prats-de-Mollo/La Preste.

The Coronat Massif, and the natural reserves of Jujols, Conat and Nohèdes.

Catalan Mountain

It is the cradle of the Catalan country and Catalan identity. It is the key symbol of this culture and all Catalans should climb to the summit at least once in their life.



LAND OF MOVEMENT

*Move, on land or even underground,
In the water, in the sky, in every season!*



HIKING

The main long routes : GR10, GR36, GRT83... Tour of the Canigou, of the Carlit, of the Capcir...

Maintained refuges : around Canigó (5), in Capcir (3), in Cerdagne (1)

The Pyrénées-Orientales region have many other marked routes on the rocky coast (« Côte Vermeille »), Albera mountains and Vallespir, Canigó (Conflent / North Slope, South Canigó), in the Pyrénées-Catalanes Regional Natural Park (High-Conflent, Capcir and Cerdagne), Corbières and Fenouillèdes.



FISHING

in torrents, rivers, mountain lakes, managed lakes, everyone has their own favourite fishing spot.



CYCLOTOURISM AND MOUNTAIN BIKING

Cyclotourism - 5 Greenways : Argelès-sur-Mer/ border at La Jonquera, Le Boulou/Arles-sur-Tech, Port Barcarès/ Rivesaltes, Perpignan/Sainte-Marie-la-Mer, Perpignan/Thuir.

Mountain biking : Cerdagne, Capcir, Haut-Vallespir, Canigó, Madres-Coronat – 88 circuits.



HORSE RIDING AND LIVESTOCK TRAILS

Rides that are a few hours long, or guided routes over several days... Movement of the Mérens horses from the sea to the peaks of the Pyrenees in springtime and to the plain in autumn.

THE PYRENEES MOUNTAINS

Cerdagne and Capcir, the high lands of the Sun God !



2 PLATEAUS, SO CLOSE TO EACH OTHER AND YET SO DIFFERENT

Le Capcir, on the border between Aude and Ariège « départements » (provinces)
La Cerdagne, looking towards the south.

THE PYRÉNÉES-CATALANES REGIONAL NATURAL PARK

7 nature reserves : Conat, Jujols, Py and Mantet, Nohèdes and Nyer, and the Eyne Valley.

6 classed natural sites : Bouillouses lake, Carlit massif, the Camporells lakes cirque, Lanoux lake, the gorges of Carança and the Canigó massif (the Rotja and Cadi Valleys).



THE YELLOW TRAIN

Symbol of the Catalan Pyrenees, 63km from Villefranche-de-Conflent to Latour de Carol.



SOLAR ENERGY

The tame sun

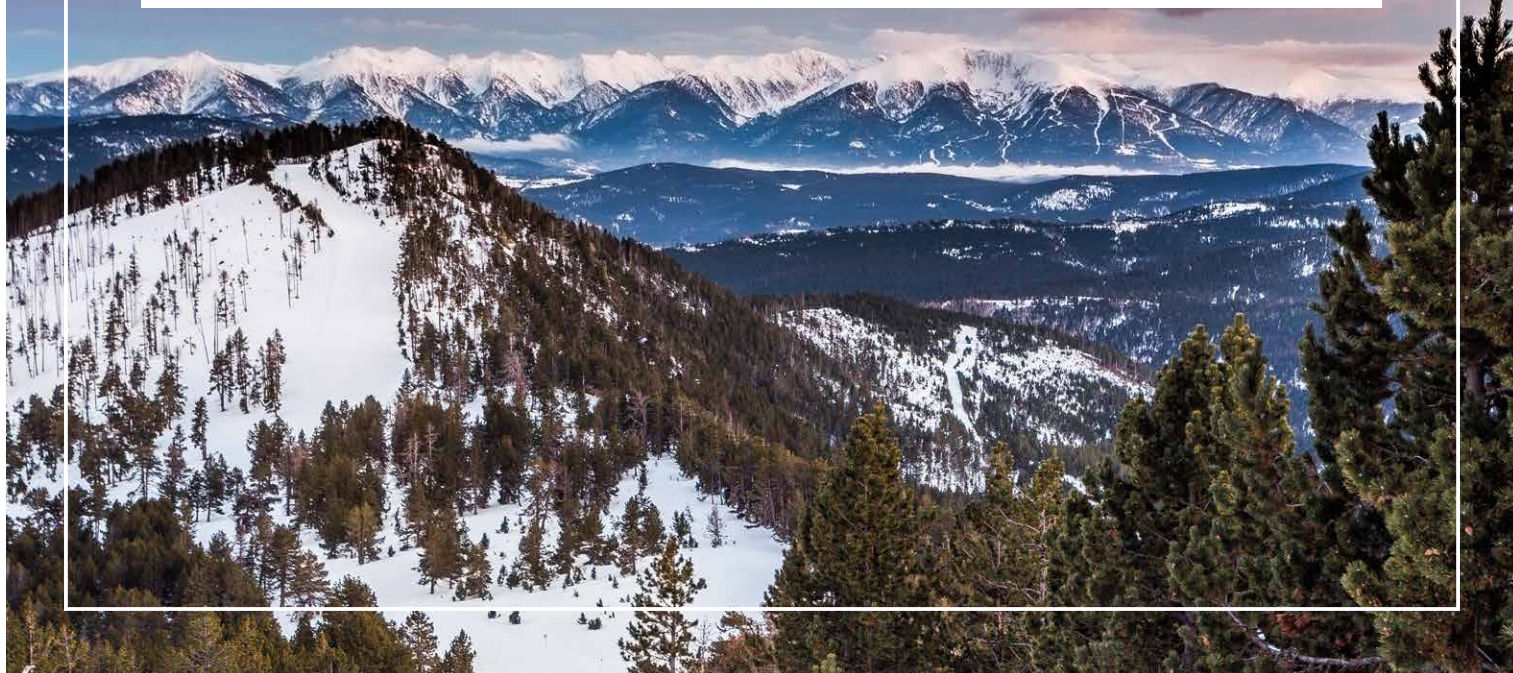
Mont-Louis, the world's first solar oven built in 1949.

Odeillo, the largest solar oven in the world, experimental center

Thémis, the solar power plant in Targasonne (both French CNRS « Centre National de Recherche Scientifique »)

THE “NEIGES CATALANES” AREA

Immense landscapes for every winter sport



DOWNHILL AND CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

In the heart of the “Pyrenees Catalanes Regional Nature Park” are eight ski resorts, situated at an altitude of between 1500 and 2700 metres, collectively known as the «Neiges Catalanes».

Quality ski slopes, an exposure suitable to a good snow coverage, an exceptional panorama of the Pyrenees,

(Cambre d’Aze, Font-Romeu-Pyrénées 2000, Porté Puymorens, Les Angles, Formiguères, Puyvalador-Rieutort, La Quillane, Station Nordique du Capcir).



More than 180km of downhill runs

Nearly 100 mechanical lifts

More than 1250 snow canons

250 km of cross-country skiing

Almost 340 instructors

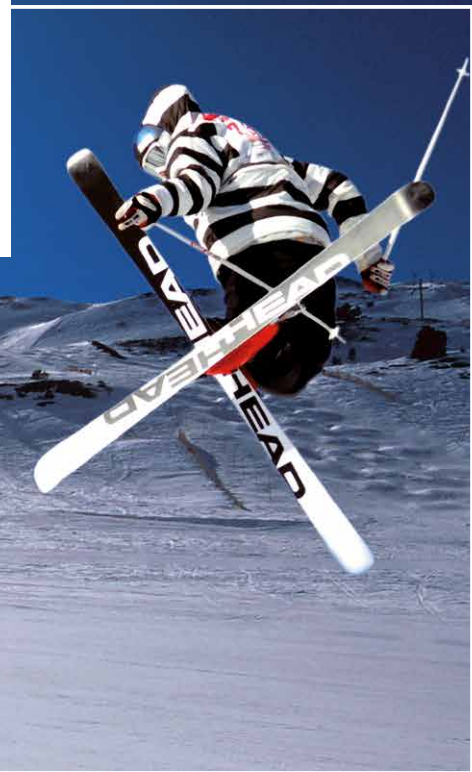
14 ski academies

More than 120km of snowshoe trails

One pass for all 7 downhill ski resorts.

MOUNTAIN ACTIVITIES

An avalanche of activities, a whole load of adrenalin!



Snow UFOs

Snowscoot : scootering inspired by BMX and Mountain Biking
Air Board: inflatable ring in a bobsled style
Snowtubing: inflatable ring with handles to turn and link curves
Tourism skiing, using ski skins on the way up and off-piste descents.



Between Snow and the Sky

Snowkite : a winter version of kitesurf
Paragliding to Egat and Formiguères
Gliding in La Llagonne
Free fall: tandem parachute jump from up to 5000m altitude



Everyone head for the « Park »

Some ten snowparks: big-air, step-up, half-pipe, rails and box, boardercross, etc.
And for those who love 'free-ride', the woodparks: fun, managed areas in the trees with plenty of natural snow

Slides for all !

Laser biathlon which mixes cross country skiing and rifle shooting
The snake-gliss: group sledge controlled by a guide to hit the slopes



Between Fire and Ice

Unique attraction in Europe: canyoning in naturally hot water at more than 40°.
Diving under the ice of the Balcère lake.
Ice climbing for those who love verticality and technicality.
Downhill skiing (beginners on a 300m snow corridor).

Quadbiking

A combination of Quad and Mountain biking, it's driven like a buggy with no engine, in « eco » mode!

PYRÉNÉES-ORIENTALES, WATER AS HERITAGE

The local Water Odyssey



Ponds, lakes, canals, rivers, springs, thermal waters...

Water in all its forms has shaped and developed our region, giving us an exceptional built and environmental heritage.



UNDERGROUND AQUIFERS, THE TREASURE OF THE ROUSSILLON PLAIN

The largest renewable water reservoir in the South of France : several hundred million m3 of drinking water. The exploitation of deep aquifers goes back to the beginning of the 19th century. Today, 80 million cubic metres are taken every year from the Roussillon plain to supply drinking water to 90% of the population, agriculture and tourism.

WELLNESS AND HEALTH

Thalassotherapy : Banyuls-sur-Mer / Canet-en-Roussillon.

Balneotherapy : in Mont-Louis

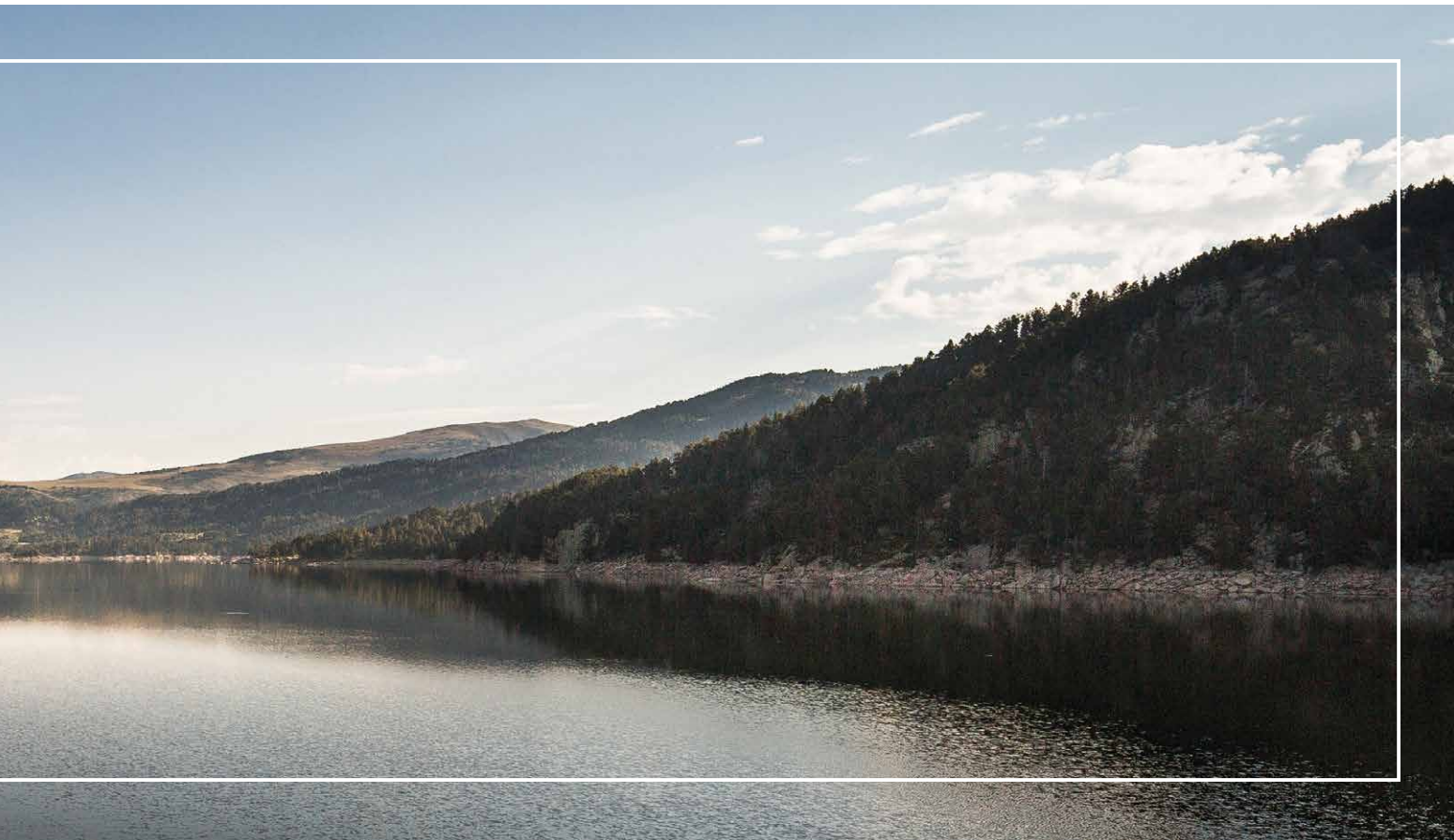
Hydrotherapy : 5 thermal spas (around 45,000 patients per year). Amélie-les-Bains / Le Boulou / Prats-de-Mollo/La Preste / Molitg-les-Bains / Vernet-les-Bains

Natural hot springs : Bains de Saint-Thomas, Dorres, Llo.



CENTRE FOR UNDERSTANDING WATER, NEW IN 2018

A unique site in France, with an educational, cultural, scientific and fun mission, to understand the water cycle.



LARGE DAMS... SITES WITH VARIOUS ROLES.

Matemale and Puyvalador (the Aude watershed); Bouillouses; Vinça (the Têt watershed); Lanoux (the Carol watershed); the Agly (the Agly watershed) and the Raho reservoirs (the Réart watershed) near Perpignan. In addition to their main function, these water reserves are real centres designed for tourist leisure activities (boating, fishing...)

LAKES AND PONDS, A PRIVILEGED FISHING POTENTIAL

More than 60 lakes located between 1800 and 2500m above sea level (1485 ha of water), 1085 km of rivers with 1st category fish, 231km of rivers with 2nd category fish. Among the most iconic lakes are: Lanoux / Bouillouses / Puyvalador / Matemale / Vinça / Caramany / Villeneuve de la Raho.

On the coast: the lakes at Sales and Canet-en-Roussillon - Saint-Nazaire.

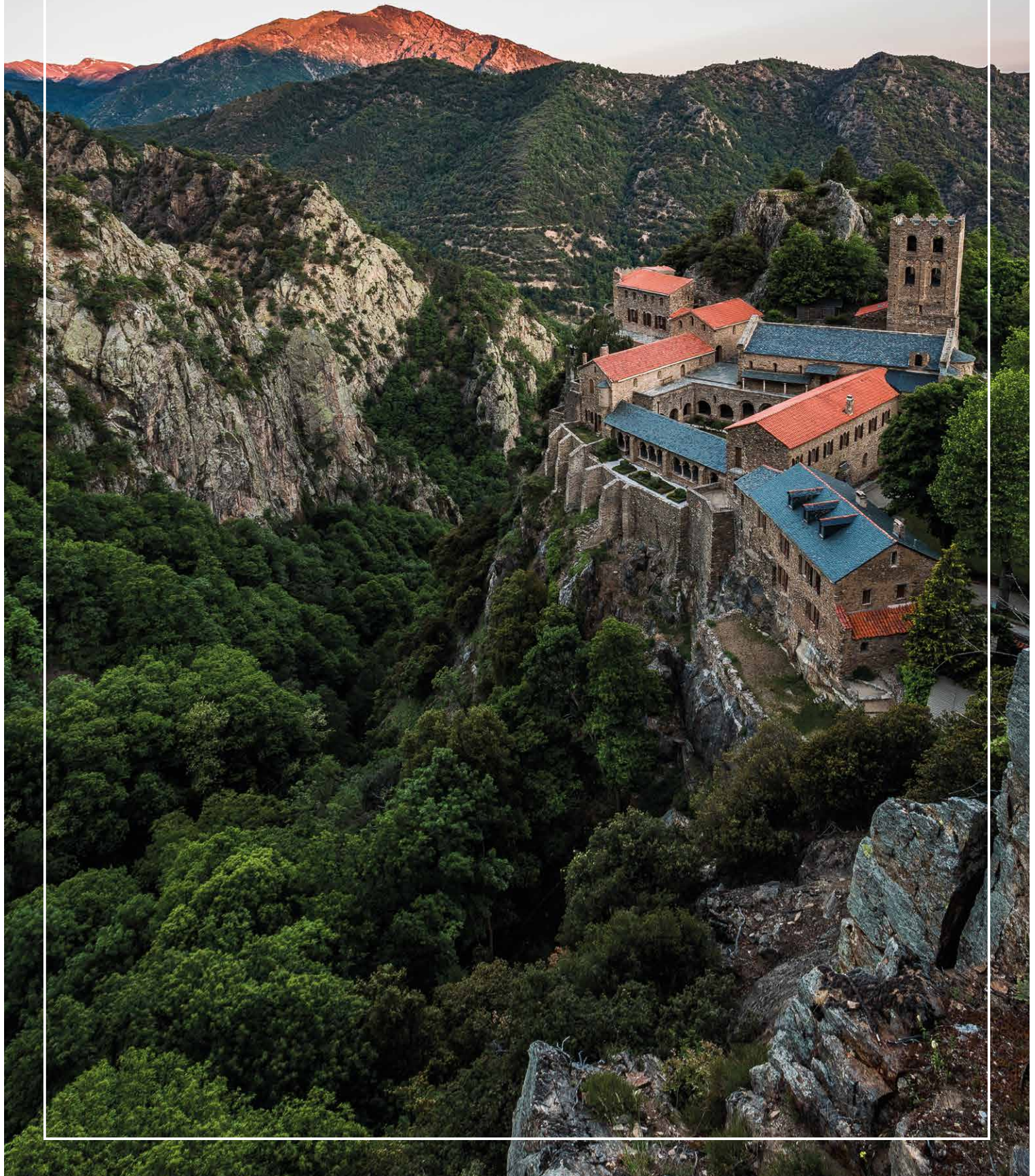


WALKS ALONG THE IRRIGATION CANALS

The 250 canals stretch over nearly 3000km, with more than half in the mountains. On the plain, the Corbère, Thuir, Estagel, Perpignan and Pia canals were built in the 12th century. Other works, sometimes a thousand years old, have provided water to villages and their territories such as Fenouillèdes, the Ansignan Aqueduct (between 220 and 270 AD), or the canals of Vernet-Les-Bains and Ceret, which date from the 9th century.

A LAND OF HISTORY AND PATRIMONY

From pre-history to the 17th century, all the ages of talent



From the stone of the monasteries to that of the castles, from the language of the poets to the peculiarity of the Sardana, everything here bears witness to a prestigious past and an original culture, nourished by Catalan roots and French influences.



PRE-HISTORY

A human presence dating to around a 1 million years ago: prehistoric remains and sites still visible, for all to see.

Some dates :

450 000 BC: The Tautavel Man, confirmed as one of the oldest Europeans.

218 av J.C. : Hannibal and his elephants crossed the Pyrenees (between Le Perthus and Prats-de-Mollo).

ANTIQUITY

From the 5th century, there have been many changes in the population: Sordes, Ceretes, Iberians, Celts, but also Phoenicians, Etruscans and Greeks.

121 BC, the Roman colonisation.

Towards 260 AD, Frankish armies.

In 462 AD, the Visigoths, who stayed for nearly 3 centuries. Arrival of Christianity. Birth of 'Castrum Helenae', formerly Illiberis (Elne) founded in the 5th century, capital of Roussillon in the 6th century.



MIDDLE AGES

First abbeys and monasteries, Signal towers, Fortifications, Roman art, Gothic art

In Roussillon in 778 AD, the Carolingians with Charlemagne established the great territory called « Marca Hispanica » divided into counties.

Start of the construction of the large abbeys which continued until the 12th century.

Through a game of successions, arrival of the Crown of Aragon (12th to 14th century): existence of the Kingdom of Majorca (Pyrénées-Orientales and Balearics) from 1276 to 1344. Establishment of the network of signal towers, fortifications (city of Perpignan, Collioure, etc.)

Religious architecture: the most beautiful examples of Romanesque art from the 12th to the 14th century and jewels of Gothic Art.



BETWEEN 15TH AND 17TH CENTURIES

Vauban network sites, Baroque art...

The Kingdoms of France and Spain fought over this territory until the signing of the Treaty of the Pyrenees. The Pyrenees-Orientales now became part of France. The Pyrenees then become the border between the two kingdoms: construction of many strongholds.

Once upon a time Vauban !

(classified sites as World Heritage by UNESCO) :

The Citadel of Mont-Louis, the Ramparts, Fort Liberia and Cova Bastera in Villefranche-de-Conflent.

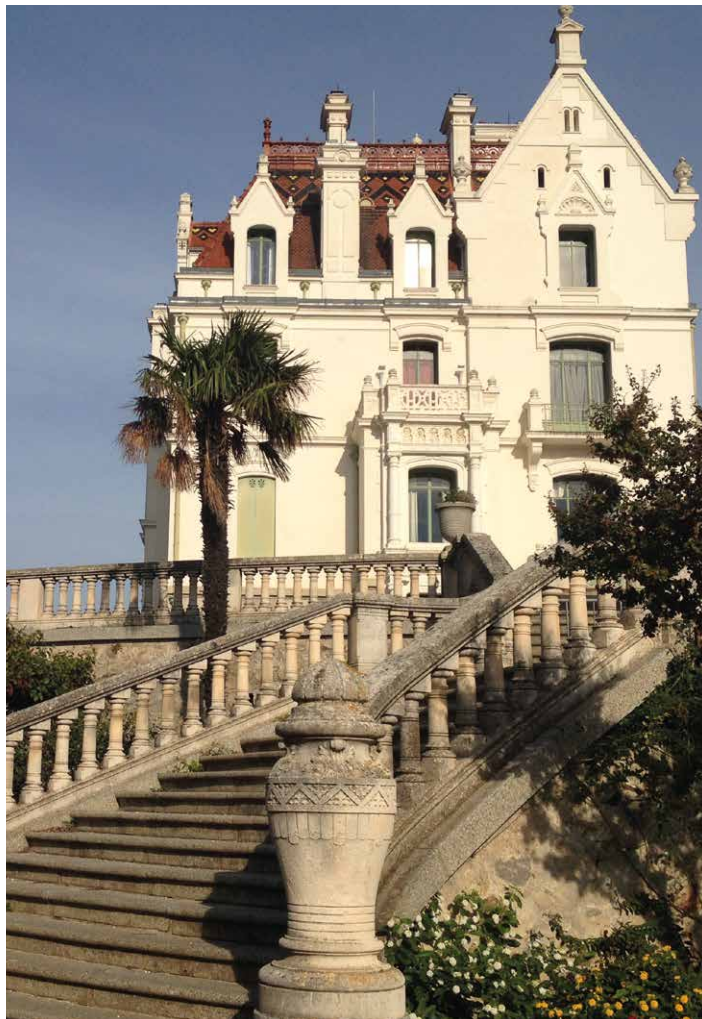
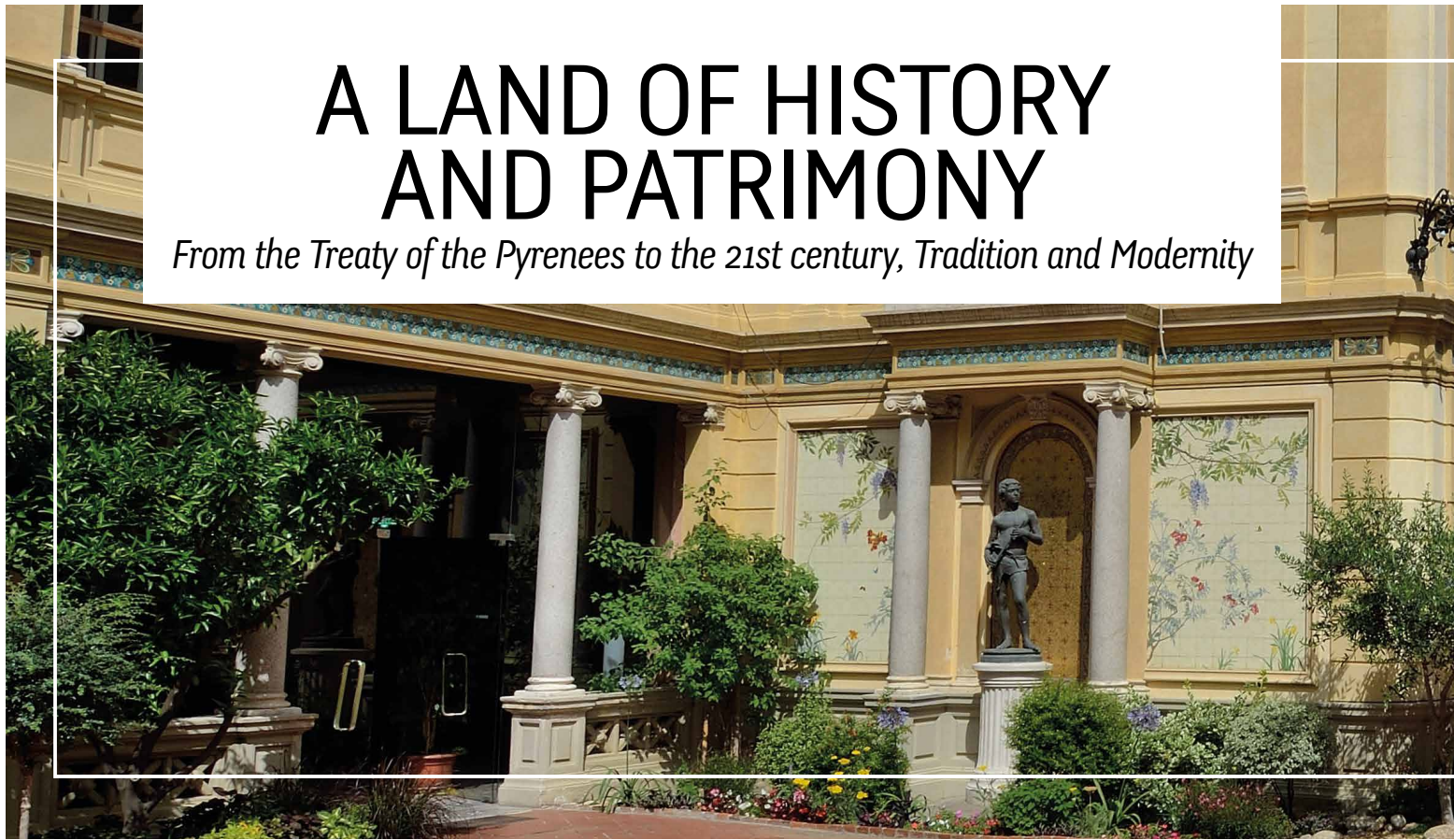
Other Vauban network fortifications : The Fort de Bellegarde at Le Perthus, Le Fort Lagarde in Prats-de-Mollo.

Baroque art

Numerous exchanges between artisans from northern and southern Catalonia were then behind the arrival of the rich period of Baroque art (numerous altarpieces: Collioure, Baixas...)

A LAND OF HISTORY AND PATRIMONY

From the Treaty of the Pyrenees to the 21st century, Tradition and Modernity



THE BELLE EPOQUE

The economic and cultural energy of the Industrial Revolution in the Pyrénées -Orientales, notable influences in tourism, art, industry, architecture...

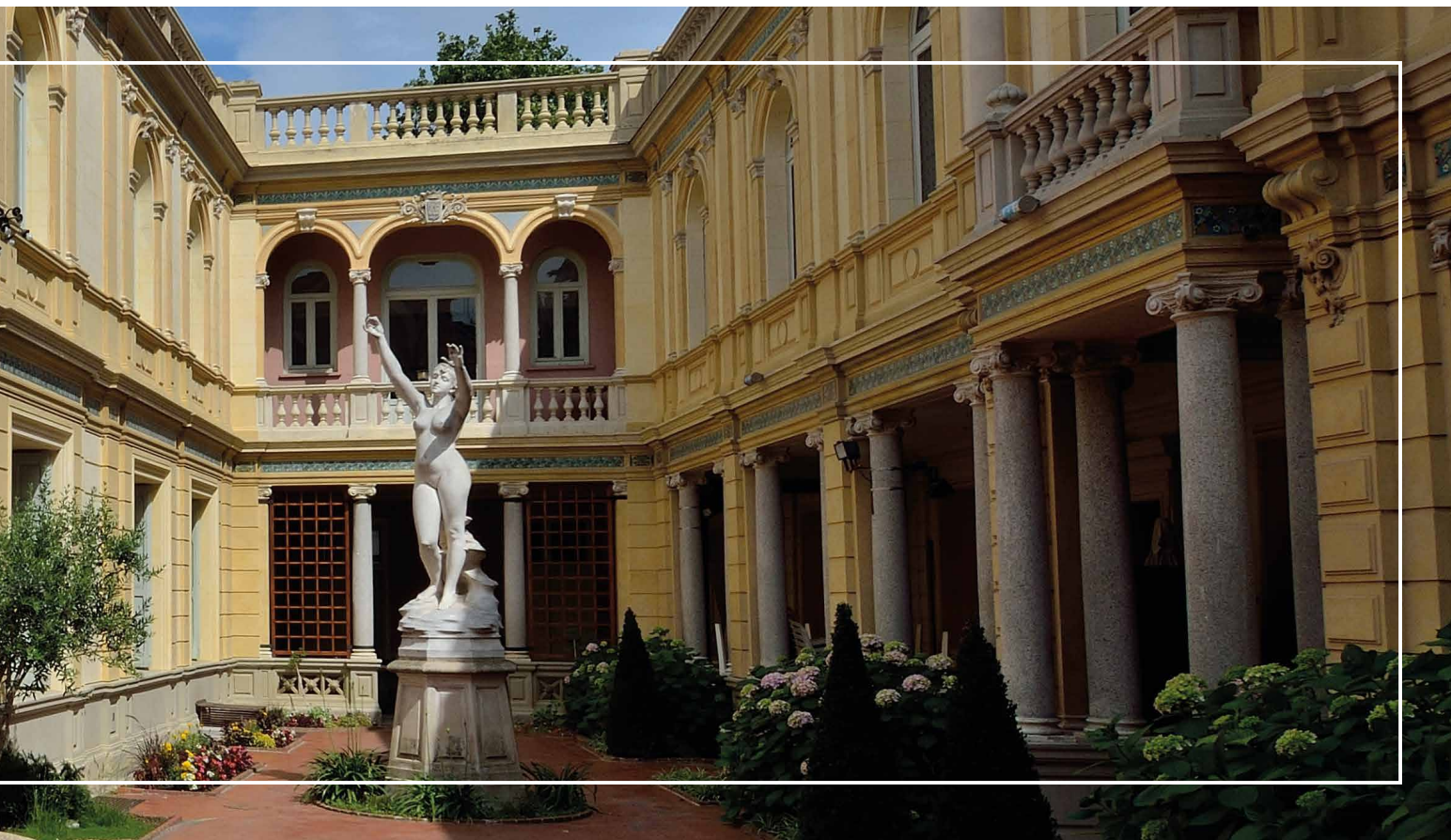
1858 : arrival of the railway in Perpignan: economic boom (wines, market gardening ...)

Powerful men created a new product that they introduced to the national and then the world market: Jean Bardou, with the JOB brand of cigarette paper, Simon Violet (BYRRH aperitif brand).

Construction (1903) of the Yellow Train railway line.

This was also the time of the great growth of the thermal spas (Vernet-les-Bains, Molitg les Bains, Le Boulou, Amélie-les-Bains, La Preste).

The bourgeoisie from the business world built many châteaux and mansions. But the iconic architecture of the Belle Epoque is that of the Dane Viggo Dorph-Petersen, in the last years of the 19th century his work was as abundant as it was diverse: The Hôtel du Portugal in Vernet les Bains, Aubiry in Ceret, Valmy in Argeles, Ducup in Perpignan, l'Esparrou in Canet, the Rosiers in Thuir, etc.



PERPIGNAN,

« THE » ART DECO TOWN « PAR EXCELLENCE »

Their number is quite breath taking. The city has several totally '1930s' districts where most the buildings will be of interest to fans of Art Deco: *The train station district and those of Clemenceau, Jardin d'Enfants, Mercader, Palace of the Kings of Majorca, Saint-Jacques, Bas-Vernet ...*



DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN
LANGUEDOC ROUSSILLON OR
MISSION RACINE 1963 – 1983



PERPIGNAN AND THE
PYRÉNÉES-ORIENTALES,
A STORY OF THE FUTURE

LAND OF MEMORIES

Because looking at the past is building the future...



Sites that reflect the major conflicts of the past 80 years:
Spanish Civil War, Second World War, Shoah, Algerian War, etc.

THE SWISS MATERNITY HOSPITAL IN ELNE

In December 1939, thanks to the perseverance of Elisabeth Eidenbenz and young volunteers from humanitarian associations, nearly 600 children of a dozen different nationalities were born there, a thousand women and as many children were welcomed there, after having been interned in the camps of Argelès, Saint-Cyprien and Rivesaltes, in unsustainable conditions.



THE CHEMINS DE LA MÉMOIRE

Memorials of the Rivesaltes and Argelès-sur-Mer camps, routes taken by the Spanish Republicans during the Retirada, in 1939, Port-Vendres 1962 for the arrival of those returning to the mainland... A civic, educational and cultural mission, circuits with firm goals: the transmission of our history.

THE RIVESALTES CAMP MEMORIAL

The main internment camp in the South of France in 1941 and 1942, for Gypsies and tens of thousands of excluded people, of different origins; Inter-regional collection centre of Jews in 1942 (nine organised convoys left the camp for Auschwitz via Drancy), transit camp for Spanish Republicans. A unique architecture, a monolith (more than 1000 m²), both buried and rising from the earth, and the presence of barracks strongly testify to this tragic story.

PORT- VENDRES. ALGERIAN WAR, 1962.

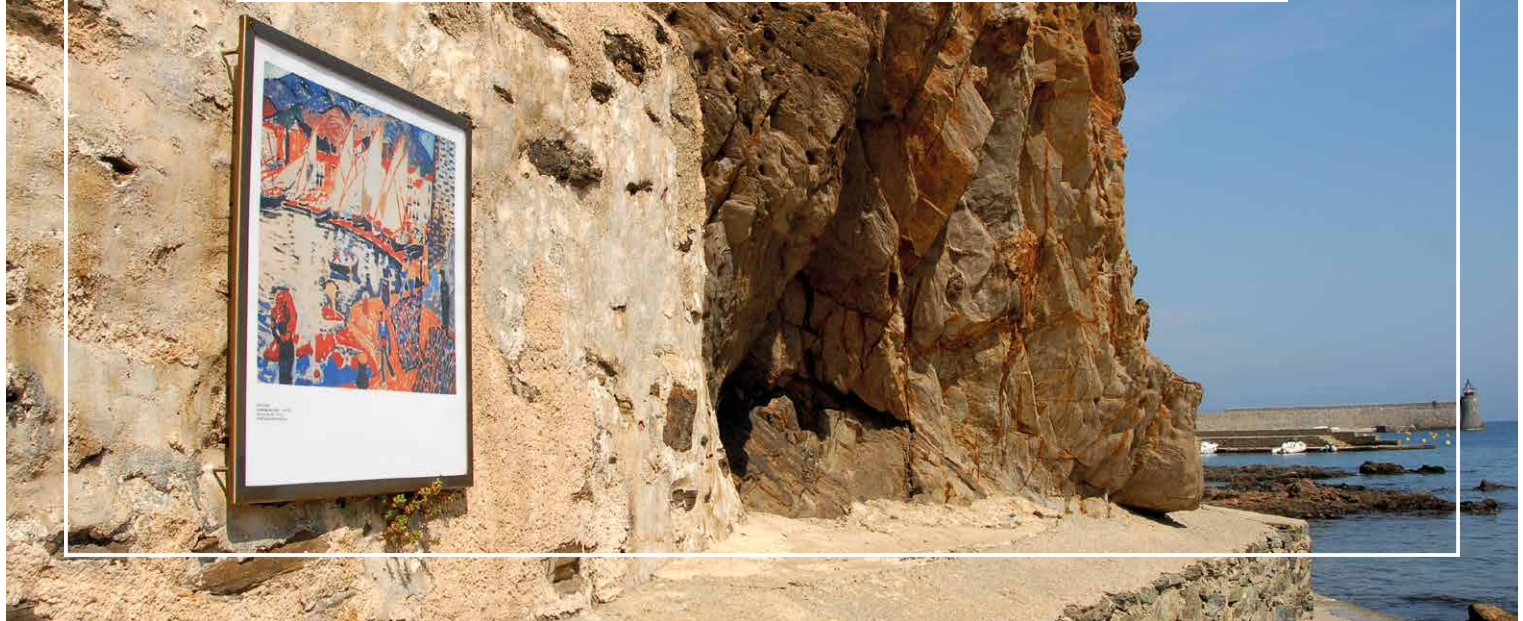
A story often avoided, a long time dead. Places and exhibitions tell the story of this exodus.

THE ARGELÈS-SUR-MER CAMP MEMORIAL

1936-39 - Spanish Civil War: nearly 500,000 people crossed the Pyrenean border, in terrible conditions. It was an unprecedented exodus... Camps were quickly set up. This was the « Retirada ».

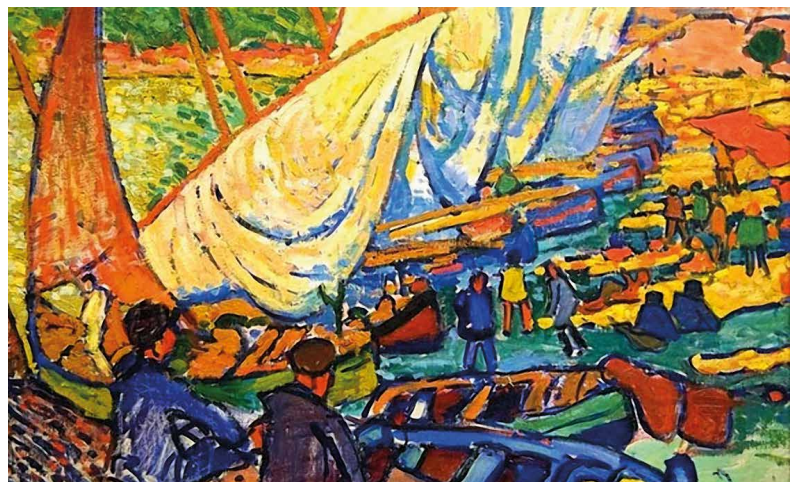
LAND OF INSPIRATION

The strong and invisible breathe of inspiration has always blown across the Catalan soil...



The Pyrénées-Orientales were the birth place of, or has drawn the greatest names such as Pau Casals, Salvador Dali, Claude Simon, the Nobel Prize for Literature, Matisse and Derain in Collioure, Aristide Maillol in Banyuls-sur-Mer...

A fabulous heritage for the delight of museum visitors.



THE MUST-SEES

Fauvism Route - Collioure

In the foot steps of Henri Matisse and André Derain, relive the summer of 1905.

Museum of Modern Art - Céret

Works from the greatest 20th century artists who stayed in the town and surrounding areas: Picasso, Braque, Gris, Soutine, Chagall, Herbin, Matisse, Masson, Krémègne then Miró, Tàpies, Viallat, Toni Grand, Bioulès...

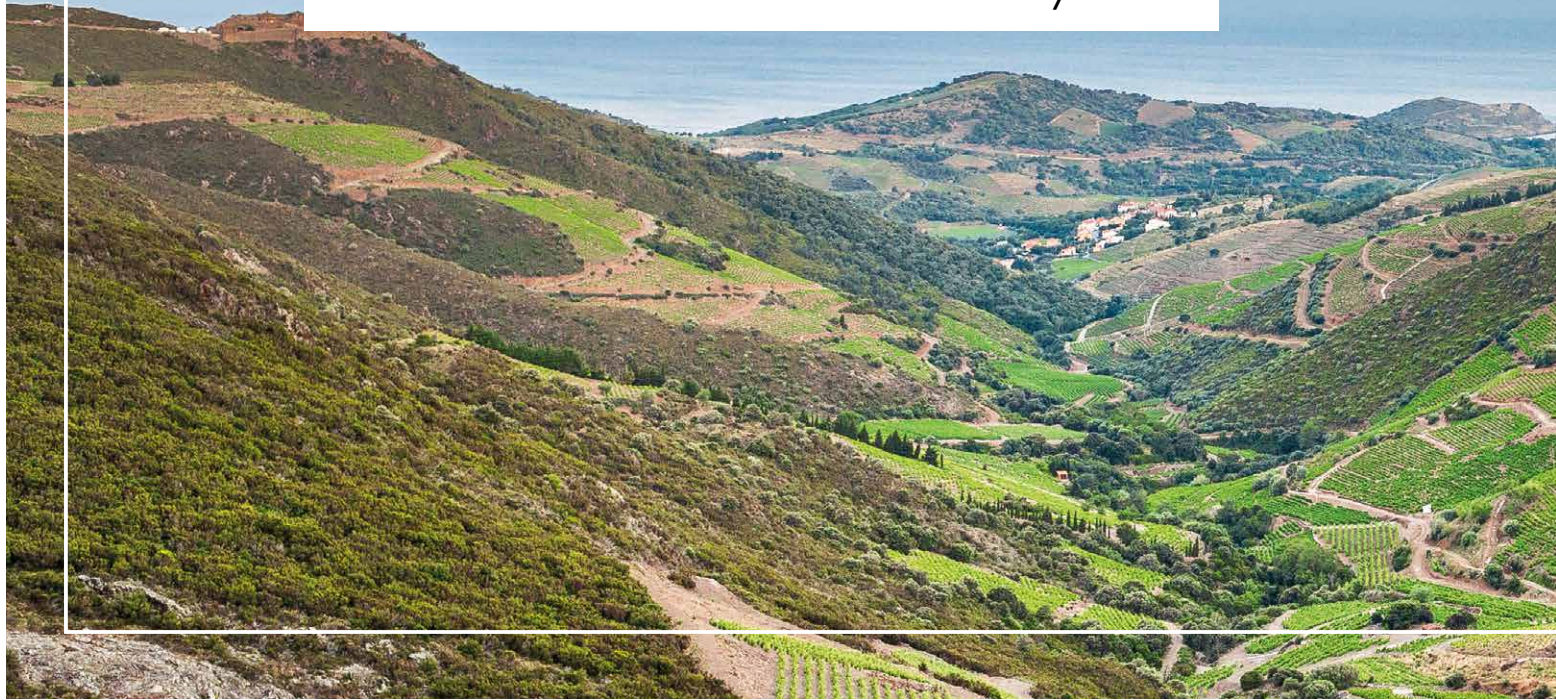
From Cubism, to the Paris School, new styles ...

Rigaud Art Museum - Perpignan

Collections which present a panorama of Perpignan's history from the 15th to the 20th century. Works by Rigaud in the Baroque period, Maillol in the modern era, but also Pablo Picasso, Raoul Dufy, Jean Lurçat and many others ...

ROUSSILLON WINES

When excellence reveals its identity



In a sunny climate, between land and sea, the Pyrénées-Orientales is home to a very varied vineyard, with 2400 wine growers, 24 cooperative cellars, 14 PDO, 2 PGI, and 23 grape varieties.

A veritable amphitheatre, open to the Mediterranean Sea to the east, it is bordered by three massifs : the Corbières in the North, the Pyrenees with Canigó in the West and the Albera in the South. The plain is drained by three rivers: The Agly, The Têt and The Tech, which mark out the areas, each with their own characteristics.

Great wines, because of the excellent conditions offered by the Mediterranean climate, but especially the diversity in the soil, micro climates, altitude.



PDOS

(PROTECTED DESIGNATION OF ORIGIN)

Dry Wines : « Remarkable palette of colours and flavours »

Collioure (white, rosé, red)

Côtes du Roussillon (white, rosé, red) to which the denomination is added, in red only.

Côtes du Roussillon Villages (red)

Maury sec (red)

Sweet wines : « The king of the party table », the great originality in catalan wine production

Rivesaltes (Ambré, Grenat, Tuilé, Rosé, Hors d'Age, Rancio)

Maury (White, Ambré, Grenat, Tuilé, Hors d'Age, Rancio)

Banyuls (White, Rosé, Rimage, Ambré, Tuilé, Hors d'Age, Rancio)

Banyuls Grand Cru (Tuilé)

Muscat de Rivesaltes (White)





DOMINANT GRAPE VARIETIES WITH POETIC NAMES

Red: grenache noir, carignan, lladoner pelut, mourvèdre, syrah and cinsault.

White: grenache blanc, macabeu, malvoisie du Roussillon, muscat à petits grains, muscat d'Alexandrie, marsanne, roussane, vermentino.

Gris: grenache gris.



PGI (PROTECTED GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS)

PGI of the Côtes Catalanes (white, rosé, red)

PGI of the Côte Vermeille (white, rosé, red)

WINETOURISM AND TOURIST ROUTES OF ROUSSILLON WINES

A network of winemakers and professional actors, engaged in quality initiatives, open their winery and guide the public on their vineyards.

They accompany and guide the neophytes, connoisseurs or simple curious in a world of tastes, flavors, aromas and inside the specificity of our productions.

Discovering the vineyards in Roussillon is a treat for your senses. Côtes du Roussillon, Maury, Banyuls, Rivesaltes... follow one after another along the numerous wine routes in the region. Roam amongst the famous vineyards any way you like : on foot, by bike, by boat, etc.



A LAND OF TASTES

Land of flavours, garden of Eden



Mediterranean produce, (wines, fruits and vegetables) alongside those of the Pyrenees (farming, farmproduce, cold meats) feature in delicious Catalan recipes, accompanied by the wide range of important PDO wines.

MEAT

Signs of quality : organic beef, PGI project « Vedell and Rosée des Pyrénées Catalanes » (veal fed only on its mother's milk and mountain grass) and the Red Label « Catalan Lamb / El Xai »



THE CHEFS « TOQUES BLANCHES DU ROUSSILLON » AND « MAÎTRES RESTAURATEURS ».

For the love of cooking and the « terroir »

Cuisine of the land, the plains, the sea, riches highlighted by these great chefs who vibrate with heart and passion and create the grammar of the catalan culinary heritage everyday.



CATALAN COLD MEATS

A timeless expertise: white or black pudding, mountain ham, catalan sausage ...



FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Leading French producer of peaches, 5th largest producer of apricots, but let's not forget the other produce too (apples, cherries, olives...)

Quality produce from small holders: lettuce, artichokes, early potatoes, cucumbers and tomatoes.

PDO « Roussillon early potatoes » and « Béa du Roussillon », PGI « Roussillon Artichoke », organic fruit and vegetables, PDO « Roussillon Red Apricots », PDO « Roussillon Olive Oil »...



PRODUCERS COMMITTED TO QUALITY NETWORKS

Driven by a constant desire for excellence, producers work together in quality networks : Bienvenue à la Ferme (Welcome to the Farm), CIVAM Bio (Centres of Initiative to Add Value to Organic Agriculture and the Rural Environment), Pyrénées Catalanes Natural Park, « Tourisme de Terroir » ...

SEAFOOD AND SEAFOOD AUCTIONS

Anchovies from Collioure, sardines, mackerel, sole, whiting, monkfish and seafood (razor clams, oysters, mussels ...)



PRODUCE FROM THE « PYRÉNÉES CATALANES » NATURAL PARK

Apples and fruit juices, red fruits, pears, vegetables and « Cerdagne turnip », saffron, potatoes grown at altitude, farm pork, duck, poultry ...

Cheese (cow, sheep, goat), milk and dairy products ...

Honey, « touron » ...

A LAND OF TALENTS

*Craftsmen and women, passionate people
who reinvent traditions and extend the experience...*



CATALAN DELICACIES, SIMPLE PLEASURES !

« Pas d'ous, braç de gitano, meli mató, bunyetes, pastissets, cremacatalana, rosquilles... », the names of these traditional desserts and catalan sweets are full of poetry.

There are so many sweet things, so we can only talk about the most iconic here.

Expertise developed by master craftsmen bakers, confectioners of the Pyrénées-Orientales, association of « Coques Catalanes », Brotherhood of Catalan Chocolatiers ...

« Rosquilles »

Delicious, soft biscuits in the shape of a little crown. The most famous ones come from Vallespir.

Mel i Mató

Honey and « fromage blanc », goat or sheep milk cheese curd with a drizzle of honey.



« Pa d'ou »

An egg custard perfumed with vanilla and orange blossom, topped with caramel.



« Coques catalanes » or pastries (sweet or savoury)

They are a key element on the eve of a festival.

« Crema catalana »

Crème brûlée, scented with cinnamon and an orange zest.

« Braç de gitano »

Catalan version of a Swiss Roll.

« Panellets » (almonds, hazelnuts, whole or ground pine nuts, coated with a sugar and honeypaste and scented almond paste); « Croquants de Saint-Paul », recorded in Fenouillèdes history, delicious almond biscuits...

WEAVING, IRONWORK, POTTERY, FAMOUS FOR CENTURIES ...

All an expertise inherited from the past, constantly revived, to which each day something new is added...

The Garnet Brotherhood of Perpignan

Garnet, the mythical catalan stone, deep and intense red. Garnets are carefully selected and then assembled by hand, in the 18th century tradition. The brotherhood continues this unique expertise.

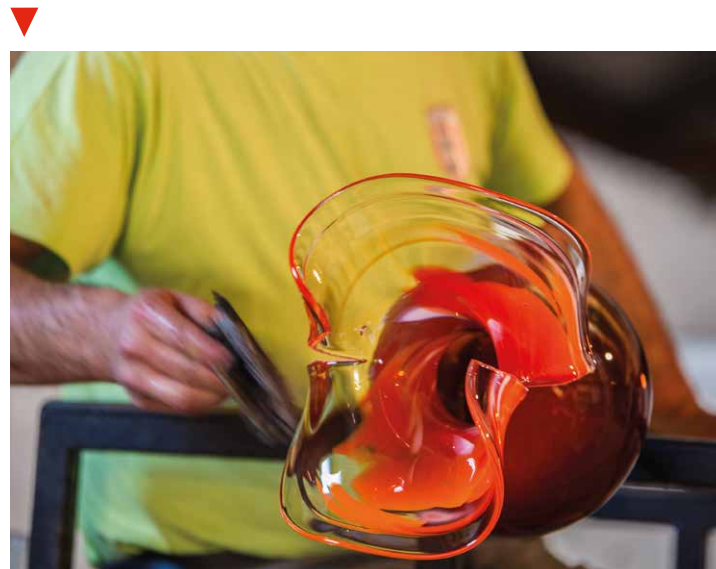


Catalan fabrics

Made in Vallespir, table cloths and napkins with typically catalan patterns and colours have long adorned the tables. Today, the factory, renamed « Les Toiles du Soleil » (The Canvas of the Sun), continues in the tradition of combining authenticity and renewal in their fabrics. Colourful stripes and shimmering tones, the multi-coloured patterns have become the must-have and are exported all over the world.

The Art of Glassblowing

Glassblowing, or the art of mastering molten materials, is an ancestral expertise.



Catalan Ironwork

There are many places that bring iron to mind, its mining and its transformation. It is iron, fire and the love of a job well done that has motivated catalan iron workers from generation to generation. Working together, they share, exchange their techniques and participate in the evolution of the art of ironwork.



The « Vigatana »

The typically catalan espadrille, closely linked with sardana dancers, brings lightness, grace and flexibility. Now with multi-coloured versions, it has become « cool ».

The Nettle Tree for leather goods

This very hardy tree, with its very smooth bark and straight bole, is very flexible and ideal for the production of sticks, whips and canes.

A LAND OF FESTIVITIES AND TRADITIONS

Sacred or secular, they beat the rhythm of passing time...



Through out every season, whether serious such as the Procession of the Sanch or joyful as a Sardana gathering or the Fires of St. John, these are festivals and ceremonies that go back to the dawn of time.



APLECS, SARDANAS AND COBLES

« Aplecs » or commemorative gatherings, local pilgrimages, take place during key times in the liturgical and/or cosmic calendar, where communication with the heavens is the most effective, and include many songs and dances.

The Sardana, one of the liveliest catalan traditions

Symbol of union, fraternity, affirmation of belonging to a culture, it is also a way of life, a philosophy. All though complex because the steps and points are counted, any age can join in. Mixing groups of friends or entire villages in the squares, it is not a folk dance but the expression of a deep feeling.

La Coblà : a group of 11 musicians and 12 instruments (oboes, flutes, « fiscorns » ...) accompany the sardana and also perform jazz or classical music.



THE CASTELLERS OR « HUMANTOWERS »

XV OR XIII, THE LAND OF 2 RUGBYS !

The USAP, and the « Catalan Dragons », rugby teams, supported by a whole people, hoist the proud colours of the Catalan Country and carry its fame far and wide.



THE SAINT JOHN AND THE « TROBADA DU CANIGÓ »

On the summit of Canigó, the sacred mountain of the Catalans, on the summer solstice, there is the opportunity to renew the fraternity that has always existed on both sides of the Pyrenees. A flame is maintained all year and regenerated on 22nd June with fire wood from all the Catalan countries. On the night of 23rd June, it ignites thousands of fires in all the villages and Perpignan.

THE SANT-JORDI

Sant-Jordi (Saint George in English is the patron saint of Catalonia). This festival is marked by being World Book Day. It marks the arrival of spring, but is also linked to the legend of Saint-Georges laying the dragon, representing the victory of learning and knowledge over obscurantism. It is the custom on that day to give a book and red rose to someone. In 1996, it became a UNESCO « Diada Internacional » (International Day). It is a very important festival in all the Catalan countries, in Perpignan and the Pyrénées-Orientales: giants, Sardana dance, huge open-air bookshops... they really celebrate it.



EASTER - PROCESSION OF THE SANCH AND HOLY WEEK

The Processions

An extraordinary and spectacular Procession of the Sanch, on Good Friday in Perpignan, but also torch lit processions in the streets of Collioure, Arles-sur-Tech, Bouleternère and Elne. Other processions, on the morning of the Resurrection of Christ, on Easter Sunday, at Ceret and Ille-sur-Tet.

The Réginas

In Ille sur Têt, choristers and musicians accompany the statue of the Risen Christ and the Virgin : moving and surprising songs, to which both believers and non-believers will fail to remain indifferent.

The Goigs

Collective songs in Catalan, uttered standing, a veritable dawn serenade, which takes place during Easter night. They mix praising the Virgin and praising the hospitable welcome a teach house, where the singers will beg for eggs and pudding for their baskets, which will be the essential parts of the Easter meal.



FESTIVALS OF BEARS

Celebrated in three villages of Upper Vallespir, this is a festive, bestial carnival when the animal comes out of its pair. Dressed in sheep's skins and stained with soot and black oil, bear-men roam the village and 'chew' the women in their path. Pursued by hunters, they are finally captured and 'shaved' to reveal their human form. The bear's ability to walk on two feet, its stature and its strength have made it a powerful and dark alter ego, which populates myths and tales in all the cultures that have lived a long side it.

Prats-de-Mollo-la Preste, Arles-sur-Tech and Saint-Laurent-de-Cerdans.

They are in the process of being listed as an intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity (UNESCO).

A LAND OF FESTIVALS

Festivals for every season !



Classical or contemporary music, sacred music, jazz, cinema, photography and photo-journalism, dance, theatre, folklore, there are many festivals throughout the year in Pyrénées-Orientales.

◀ « **Electrobeach Music Festival** » - Port-Barcarès (electronic music).



◀ « **Les Déferlantes** »
Argelès-sur-Mer
(July, French song
and rock)

Confrontation Film Festival
Perpignan (spring)

Jazzèbre Festival
Perpignan and
surrounding areas
(all year)



Ida y Vuelta Festival
Perpignan (early June)

◀ **Festival Pablo
Casals - Prades**
(end of July /
mid-August)

**International
Folklore Festival**
Amélie-les-Bains
(early August)

Ciné-Rencontres Festival - Prades (2nd half of July)



▲ **Visa pour l'Image / International
Festival of Photo-journalism**
Perpignan (September)

Festival of Sacred Music
Perpignan (Holy Week / Easter)

◀ **Summer 66 Festival «The Festival of
every Talent** » - Perpignan

F

 **TWITTER 'PRESSE'**

@infotourisme66

 **SITE WEB**

www.tourisme-pyreneesorientales.com

Hashtag to use for you publications

#PyrénéesOrientales



FRANCE

www.tourisme-pyreneesorientales.com



j.folcher@cdt-66.com
+33(0)7 70 19 41 27

catherine.gillot@cdt-66.com
+33(0)6 49 80 17 24

