

Welcome to Antibes



Antibes Tourist Office

11 Place De Gaulle – BP 37
06601 Antibes Cedex
Tél : 00 33 (0)4 97 23 11 11
Email : accueil@antibesjuanlespins.com
Website : www.antibesjuanlespins.com



Ideally located in the very heart of the French Riviera between Nice and Cannes, just a few minutes from the Nice-Côte d'Azur International Airport, the city of the "Joy of Living" so dear to Picasso has become one of the French Riviera's most coveted destinations.

The Alpes–Maritimes' second largest city is all cities rolled into one, has both a prestigious heritage and a youth and economic dynamism, with the Sophia-Antipolis Science Park and its avant – garde Research and Development enterprises.

Antibes

Because of the protected natural harbor, Antibes has enjoyed a long, rich history of maritime importance. At your arrival at the **Port Vauban**, the largest European marina in terms of tonnage, you can find 1600 mooring posts and contemplate luxurious yachts on the Billionaires' quay. The old city is only at a 5 minutes walking distance from the harbour.

The old walls enhanced by history in this **ancient Provençal town** whose charm and authenticity has captivated Jacques Prévert, Nicolas de Staël and so many other artists.

The old city also houses a famous Provençal Market which offers the infinite diversity of its flavours and Absinthe Bar which also worth a visit. Shopping in the city streets, lunch in the sun or a romantic dinner, is accessible to visitors.

But Antibes is also a **City of the Arts**, in all their modernity and diversity. It features many museums.

The Picasso Museum, the first one dedicated to the artist in his lifetime, houses an exceptional collection of creations he made in Antibes, along with works by the likes of Nicolas de Staël and Hans Hartung. It is a new museum reopened in 2008 the public can discover after two years of works, more accessible. This reopening returns the Museum collection to visitors and makes it possible to schedule temporary exhibition.



The Peynet Museum is also dedicated to another artist who adopted Antibes, Raymond Peynet, who created the famous lovers.

Then **the Archeology Museum** which displays remains of the ancient Greek and Roman town of Antipolis found on land and in the sea. The **Napoleon Museum** and its collections evoking the career of the Emperor who had once lived in Antibes with his family when he was still General Bonaparte, and finally the Musée de la Tour and its folk art, along with the Postcard Museum (Musée de la Carte Postale) and the Bains –Douches exhibition area.



Other interesting tours include the **Fort Carré**, a remarkable defensive complex that evolved over the centuries and was completed by Vauban. Located on the peninsula of Saint-Roch, the Fort is built on a rock culminating at 26 metres above sea level. Its parapet walk, at 43 metres, offers a 360-degree panoramic view.

Juan-les-Pins

Juan-les-Pins is famous for its **sandy beaches** facing the sea, indeed, the legendary sandy beaches stretching along the Bay of Juan-les-Pins is

where waterskiing was born. On promenade du Soleil, stand the sculptor Grebel's Baigneuse, symbol of a happy time of insouciance.

Then, the century-old pine trees, is the temple of **Internatioal Jazz Festival**. The pine grove known as Pinède Gould is for Jazzmen from all over the world comparable to La Scala in Milan for opera singers. Ray Charles and Miles Davis made their European debuts here... The International Jazz Festival in Antibes Juan-les-Pins is in fact the oldest running jazz festival in Europe, and will celebrate its 50th birthday in 2010.

As well as having welcomed the “who’s who” of jazz since 1960, the Antibes Juan-les-Pins festival possesses a double attraction. Firstly a rich and diverse programming, staying faithful to authentic jazz repertoires. But also, and more importantly, it remains a true laboratory reminding us all that jazz remains to date a living & breathing music style: first acts of very high quality, free “off” concerts, hotels bars & streets overflowing with Brass Bands...



Cap d'Antibes

Antibes also has luxuriant estates on **Cap d'Antibes** which is home to great celebrities.

Among these sumptuous villas with their luxuriant gardens, the **Villa Eilenroc**, designed by Charles Garnier, the architect of the opera houses of Paris and Monte Carlo, offers visitors the rare trees in its gardens and its thousands of roses created in Antibes.

The Cap d'Antibes also hosts the **Chapelle de la Garoupe**, the home to Notre –Dame de la Garde et Notre–Dame de Bon-Port, whose nave is full of votive plaques (ex –votos) essentially from sailors, each one an open window on the history of Antibes, great and anecdotal.

La Garoupe lighthouse is one of the most powerful in the region, is located at the Cap d'Antibes.



At the foot of the hill the Bay of la Garoupe, stretches beautiful beaches where the writer Colette loved to stroll, marvelling at the “sand, sometimes cool, sometimes warm under useless feet”.

Finally the **Jardin Thuret**, founded in 1856 by the botanist Gustave Thuret. There, he acclimated many plants unknown until then on our shores, including eucalyptus and palm trees. The headquarters for an INRA research centre, this immense ecological cathedral magnified by the writers Gustave Flaubert and George Sand receives many visitors every year.

French Riviera Cruise Club - 20 Quai Lunel - 06300 Nice - France

Email: cruiseclub@rivieraports.com

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