

Welcome booklet:

Welcome to « l'Abribambelle », You will find in this booklet some practical information to make your stay as pleasant as possible.

"L'Abribambelle ", 80 rue de la Calade, 30700 Vallabrix . (between the « route de Bagnols sur Cèze » and the « chemin de Masmolène). Our house is a new building, that's why it's not possible now, to find it with Google maps.

GPS: 44,06169°N, 4,48137°E Phone number: + 33 6 08 96 87 02. Email: labribambelle@gmail.com Website: labribambelle.com

Summary:

How to find and contact	
usp. 4 Location How to come Contact us	
l'Abribambelle's guidep. 4 Arrival and departure L'Abribambelle's rulesp. Cleaning Linen Keys and beeper Non- smoking rental Furniture Saving energy, saving water Equipment, instructions for use The Air con and heating Garbage and recycling packaging The garden « Zzzzzz »	

An emergency?

p. ź	10
------	----

Chemists, drugstores Doctors Physiotherapists

In Vallabrix	p.12
Shopping Markets Shops	P.13
Some	restaurants
In Saint-Quentin-la In Uzès	a-Poterie
A	particular desire
A pizza An ice-cream A beer A coffee A bar of organic cl	nocolate
Where to park In Saint-Quentin-la In Uzès	a-Poterie
The	"Must-Sees" nearby
Saint-Quentin-la-P Uzès	oterie The Pont du Gard
Typical villages Saint-Siffret / Saint Vers-Pont-du-Garc	

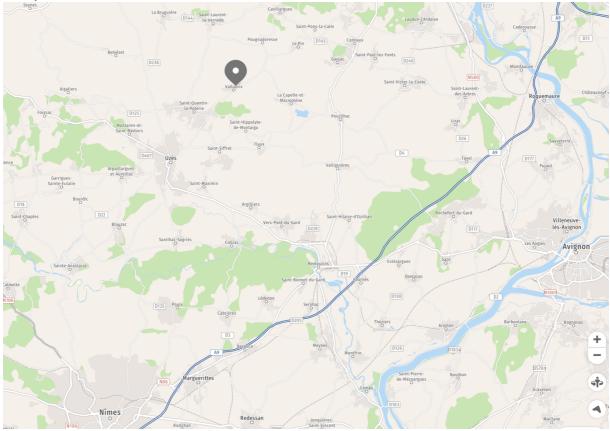
Castillon-du-Gard Collias Arpaillargues Vézénobres

А	little	further
	Anduze and the Bamboo Garden: «La Bambouseraie « Nîmes (30) Avignon (84) Les Baux de Provence (13) Aigues-Mortes (30) The Mediterranean Sea	•
Nat	ure/outdoor activities	o.34

Vallabrix History p 30

4/. How to find us:





By car: Motorway A9, Remoulins exit N°23, 23 km away, it takes about 30 minutes to join us.

Follow the direction Uzès, then Vallabrix. When you arrive in Vallabrix, cross the village following "la route de Bagnols sur Cèze", turn right after the last speed bump, "chemin du reservoir", go down the small streetl'Abribambelle is at your left side, number 80 rue de la calade, with a brown car gate. Then just ring!

By train:

-Avignon T.G.V Station, 38 km, about 45 min.

- Nîmes Pont du Gard T.G.V Station, 39 km, about 55 min.
- Nîmes City T.G.V Station, 33 km, about 45 min.

By plane:

-Nîmes "Grande Provence Méditerranée » Airport, 60 km, 50 min.

-Montpellier « Méditerranée » Airport, 97 km, about 1H15.

-Marseille "Provence" Airport, 123 km, about 1H35.

5/ L'Abribambelle Guide :

WIFI:

« Labribambelle »: Password given on arrival.

Please respect the laws regarding download subject matter and web site use.

Your arrival:

We will be there to welcome you. We live next to the cottage, with our dog and our cat.

Arrival time: from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. Should you wish to arrive after 8 p.m, please contact us. **Departure time**: before 10 a.m.

Access for those with limited mobility:

The cottage is accessible to people with motor disabilities and people in wheelchairs. You will find photos on our website which detail the facilities and equipment we provide.

6/L'Abribambelle rules:

We will check the inventory together on your arrival. We will do the same when you leave, and the deposit will be returned to you immediately if all is well.

In case of an incident, the damage will be repaired and deducted from the your deposit which will then be repaid minus that cost.

Should the damage repair cost exceed the deposit, you will be asked to pay the difference.

The cleaning:

The end of stay cleaning fee is included for tenants, but please leave the house in a normal state of cleanliness and as you would wish to find it.

Garbage and ashtray emptied.

Cutlery, crockery and glassware washed and replaced in the cupboards.

Dishwasher cycle finished and emptied

Plancha cleaned.

Furniture must be in the same place as when you arrived.

Fridge and freezer emptied.

Linen:

Household linen is included in the rental: sheets, duvet covers, pillowcases, towels and tea towels.

You will find all the beds made up on arrival at the cottage.

Household linen is changed weekly should your stay be longer than one week.

Household linen must be returned without any damage, otherwise, we reserve the right to deduct a lump sum of 100 euros from the deposit.

Keys/Beeper:

Please close all windows when you leave the house, and keep the keys and beeper with you.

In the case of a lost key, 50 euros will be charged for each replacement.

You'll find a key box, with spare keys for your use, located outside the property, between the door and the letter box. We'll give you the code number upon your arrival, just in case you need to use the spare keys.

No smoking:

Is not allowed in the house.

Outside, please use the ashtray provided.

We are in a high-risk fire area, so it is important to ensure that all cigarettes are properly stubbed out. If necessary, use the fire extinguisher located above the washing machine.

Furniture:

Do not remove any of the internal house furniture for outdoor use.

Please DO NOT DRINK OR EAT FOOD IN THE BEDS.

Saving energy, saving water:

Please switch off the lights when leaving the house. Thank you for saving water during your stay e.g.when brushing teeth, only turn on the tap to rinse your mouth. Please don't leave a tap running when washing up etc.

Instructions for using the electrical white goods:

You will find instruction booklets for the washing machine, oven and microwave. If you need some help, don't hesitate to call us.

Please let us know as soon as possible if there are any problems, breakdowns or breakages. It's always easier to fix something asap.

The air-conditioning and heating:

The house is equipped with reverse cycle air conditioning. The programmable thermostat controls the temperature in the cottage.

When air conditioning is on, please make sure all the windows and bay window are closed. Please check them again before going out or going into the garden.

The shower rooms are equipped with electric heated towel rails.

Garbage and packaging for recycling:

Garbage is collected on Thursday, early in the morning. So please put out your bags, garbage bag and yellow recycling packaging bag on Wednesday evening in the garbage bin we provide for you.

You can put the peelings and coffee grounds in the small green garbage bin in your kitchen and put them in our composter.

Enjoying the garden:

There's a double hammock, sun loungers, and a parasol all at your disposal to use and have a pleasant rest.

"Zzzzz":

For everyone's peace of mind, please avoid making noise from 10.30 p.m. until 8 a.m.

Last check before leaving:

Are you sure you haven't forgotten your 'phone, 'phone chargers, toiletry bags, or food in the 'fridge or freezer?

10/ An emergency?

Emergency numbers:

Police: 17 Firemen: 18 SAMU: 15 (French ambulance and emergency service). European Emergency Call: 112. Poison Control Center "Occitanie": 05 61 77 74 47. "Marseille » : 04 91 75 25 25.

Chemists/drugstores:

Please note that analgesics etc., are only available to purchase in the chemists' stores.

They are not available over the counter in supermarkets or other outlets.

St Quentin la Poterie : « Pharmacie des Halles » No. 218 avenue du 14 Juillet Tel : 04 66 22 18 15 .

Uzès:

« Pharmacie de la Mairie », No 8 Place Albert Premier (next to the Tourist Office) Tel: 04 66 22 11 20.

« Pharmacie Payan », No 11 Boulevard Gambetta, Tel: 04 66 22 10 74.

« Pharmacie des portes d'Uzès », No 1013 route de Nîmes Tel : 04 66 22 11 68. Should you require a pharmacy after hours or on a Sunday, the on-duty chemist's details should be displayed on the closed chemist door.

Doctors :

St Quentin la poterie : Docteur Grémy Béatrice : 04 66 03 33 94. Docteur Castella Pauline : 04 66 22 25 48. Docteur Besset-Prat Claude : 04 66 22 25 48 . Docteur Mirabel Jean-Luc : 04 66 03 08 08.

SOS Doctors: H24: 3624.

Nîmes' Hospital "C.H.U": 04 66 68 33 44. <u>www.chu-nimes.fr</u> "Grand Sud" Emergency clinic: 04 66 02 56 00.

Physiotherapists:

St Quentin la poterie:

Dehouck Jean-Claude: 04 66 22 65 64. Mathurin Pierre-Alexandre: 06 84 97 54 17. Serban Daniela: 04 66 01 39 45.

Medical laboratory:

Should you need to take a blood test or urine test, there's a lab in Uzès: Inovie Bioaxime, Place des Cordeliers. Tel 04 66 22 30 88.

Open Mond – Thurs 07h00 – 18h00, Closed Friday, Sat 07h00-12noon closed Sunday.

12/ In Vallabrix:

The Abrix Bar:

With:

A grocery with organic products, (eggs, wines, bulk products, organic bread on demand), open from 5 to 7 P.M, next to the media library, with a Renaissance façade.

And a small evening restaurant, with "planchas", "menu of the day", drinks and musical events. (facebook Abrix Bar).

"Crepes" with **"Les Culottés"**, every Thursday evening, next to the party hall. (Pistachio and white chocolate cream my favorite...)

"Les Gourmandises de Chloé": organic pastries, on demand. (07 49 10 65 95.)

A wine grower « Serge Scherrer", Agarrus, "The postman wineyard", red organic wine. (06 70 78 06 66).

L'étrier de l'Uzège:

A riding stable, with horseback and pony riding. (06 71 10 37 37). Flyer at your disposal.

A tree climbing park **"Air de nature"**, with zip line course, for all the family. (06 17 87 79 28). Flyer at your disposal.

If you want to play bowls, you will find a special place next to the church, and a second place "rue des capitelles". Ask us for a bowl game.

Some culinary specialties:

Truffles, "olives tapenades", olive oils, salted "fougasses", a sort of focaccia, honey, jams, wines of course, and the "Cartagène", a local sweet wine.

13/ Shopping:

Opening hours:

Please note that many independent shops in Uzès and the surrounding villages are open at the following times Monday – Saturday 08h30 – 12 noon, closed until 2pm, open again from around 2pm until 18h30/19h00

Some bakeries will close at lunch time and open again around 15h00/16h00

Some produce shops will be open on Sunday mornings until 13h00.

Supermarkets such as the large Carrefour at Pont de Charettes and Intermarché at Montaren stay open all day Monday – Saturdays. They are closed on Sundays.

Hours may differ during the summer holiday season.

Carrefour City markets in Uzès and St Quentin La Poterie are open Sunday mornings until around 12h30.

Open air produce markets:

St Quentin la Poterie:

On Tuesday (produce only) and Friday morning, with produce, gifts, clothes etc Joseph Monier Halls.

Uzès:

On Wednesday (produce only in the Place aux Herbes) and Saturday morning in the Place aux Herbes and stalls set up around the boulevard.

Shops:

In St Quentin la Poterie:

Around the covered market place known as Les Halles, you will find a Carrefour City market, a bakery "le fournil de l'Uzège" (closed on Tuesdays), a butcher "la maison du boucher", a fresh Italian pasta store "aux pâtes fraiches", a wine merchant "la Mère Minard", organic ice-cream at "l'Envie", cheese at "la petite souris".

In Uzès:

Mini markets/supermarkets:

Carrefour City and Spar in Uzès, a large Carrefour supermarket in the shopping mall in the "Pont des Charettes "commercial zone, with "Picard" for frozen products, Aldi market., as well as a variety of other shops.

Bakery/cakes:

"Grasset "Organic Bakery, next to Haribo Museum

In the Uzès historical center, you will find a very good bakery "La fougasse d'Uzès", which won the best French bakery prize in 2018.

"La Nougatine « and "des gâteaux et nous «, bakeries are also my favorites.

Marie Blachère is a regional chain with a good selection of bread, cakes etc. and its situated on the roundabout going out of town towards the large Carrefour supermarket. Closed on Sundays.

If you like macaroons, you'll need your car to go to the famous "les macarons d'Antony", in the area just outside Uzès centre known as "Mayac". His produce of sweet and savoury macaroons are a regional delicacy.

Grocery stores:

For good fresh fruit and vegetables try "Gaiffier Père et fils", in front of "Marronniers" car park which is just behind the Cathedral in the one-way system. You can park free for one hour.

Côté Frais, next door to the frozen foods' specialist, Picard, also sells a variety of fresh fruit and veg, a has a good meat and cheese counter, wines etc.

Provençal'halles near to Marie Blachère has produce as per Côté Frais, fresh fruit and veg a meat and cheese counter etc.

Butchers:

Boucherie d'Uzès, (top quality), Boucherie Martinelli, Boucherie Atlas – the last a Halal butcher, good quality but note no pork on sale.

<u>Fish</u>:

You will find "la Poissonnerie Clément" at the St Quentin La Poterie and Uzès open air markets.

Both Carrefour supermarket and Intermarché have a very good fresh fish counter.

Fresh trout from the Lozère are also available at the Uzès Wednesday market.

16/Some restaurants:

In Saint Quentin la Poterie :

« Le Pèbre d'Aï », (04 66 58 18 22), with local products.

« L'Envie », (04 66 58 96 93), Brunch, Salads, Planchas, Organic Ice cream, musical events each Thursday evening during summer.

"La cuisine du boucher", (04 66 22 35 05), also in Uzès. « Le petit Eden », (04 48 21 21 97).

« Le bar du marché », next to Joseph Monier Halls marketplace.

"2 minutes", coffee shop, breakfast, sandwiches, detox.

"La petite souris", cheese plates and wines, musical atmosphere on Sunday evenings during summer.

Restaurants In Uzès:

"Le ten", place Dampmartin, (04 66 22 10 93).

"Le Barry", 13 bd Victor Hugo, (04 66 81 28 97).

"Le bec à vin", ask for a garden side table, (04 66 22 41 20).

"Le comptoir du 7", 7 bd Charles Gide, (04 66 22 11 54).

« La fille des vignes », Albert 1^{er} Place, (04 66 04 17 46).

« Les terroirs », Place aux herbes, (04 66 03 41 90).

« Racine », No 1 rue Masbourguet, (04 66 63 30 59).

« La Maison Comte », Portalet street, cocktails and events, (06 79 99 18 36). (Check out their webpage for opening hours as they have specific opening times and only during the summer months).

« La tomate bleue », pizzeria, 12 avenue de la gare,(04 66 75 94 42).

« Magari », italian restaurant Place aux herbes, (04 11 71 93 73).

17/A particular desire?

A pizza ?

In Saint Quentin la poterie :

« La petite tomate », take-away or eat in, 5 Place Fourmalin (04 66 75 83 19).

<u>In Uzès :</u>

« La pizza d'Orélie », 8 bd Charles Gide, (07 68 92 25 33). « La tomate bleue », 1é avenue de la gare, (04 66 75 94 42) ; « Le calabrais », 30 bd Charles Gide, (04 66 57 63 21). « La Pizza de Duché » eat in or take away, 14 rue Jacques (04 66 22 30 42)

An Ice cream ?

In Saint Quentin la Poterie :

« L'Envie », organic ice cream home made by Juliette, 2 place du monument aux morts, (04 66 58 96 93).

<u>In Uzès:</u>

"La Glacerie" and "La fabrique givrée », Place aux herbes.

A beer in Uzès?

« Le piège », with Alain a selection of draft beers, and Stéphanie cuisine. 6 rue Paul Foussat. (06 51 27 83 17). "Namaspamousse", a great choice of bottled world beers, 1 bd des Alliés.

A coffee?

<u>In Uzès:</u>

"L'Atelier du café", with the know-how of Julien Hurard, Pont des Charettes Commercial Zone. Torrefaction i.e. roasting is done using an old machine (1905), unique in France. (04 66 57 62 91). Latelierducafe.com

An Organic chocolate bar?

On Wednesday market in Uzès, Nicolas Marchon chocolate Bars (with ginger, I recommend).

19/Where to park:

In Saint Quentin la Poterie :

Joseph Monier Halles, the marketplace, except on Tuesday and Friday morning because of the market.

There's a carpark near the post office, a small carpark facing the bakery "le fournil de l'Uzège", and two other carparks: Avenue Francois Jean and Chemin de la carrierasse.

<u>In Uzès:</u>

Parking around the Boulevards in Uzès is possible, but spaces are limited, and the charges are high if you want to stay longer than 45 minutes. They do this to encourage parking in the designated car parks around the town.

Free parks:

Serre-Bonnet carpark, the closest to Vallabrix, 10 minutes' walk to the historical center.

The Refuge /Stadium park, behind "I'Ombrière" theater, also 10 minutes' walk to the center.

The field carpark just off the Refuge roundabout, with a 10 min walk into the town centre

Paying carparks:

Q Park, Place des Cordeliers, with a wheelchair access, 1h30 free.

Marronniers carpark, one hour free. (Easy place to park when you want to buy your fruit and vegetables at Gaiffier shop on the corner.)

Q Park, 28 Avenue de la Gare (again a certain amount free of charge)

Verdun Place Park, with a wheelchair access too.

Gide – near the Mairie with underground parking

Petrol Stations :

Uzès :

Total, Avenue Maréchal Foch 2 stations;

Carrefour Pont des Charettes,

Dyneff Garage Laborie avenue de la Gare

Montaren:

Intermarché supermarket.

21/The Must-Sees nearby:

<u>St Quentin la Poterie:</u>

As its name suggests, this is a potter's village. If you are a fan of ceramic art, we highly recommend making a detour via this village. You'll be surprised at the sheer number of ceramicists here - there are around forty workshops currently in the village. The activity was first developed here thanks to the nearby clay pits. The development spread way beyond the village, when the Popes of Avignon commissioned a part of the tiles for their palace from the craftsmen of St Quentin la Poterie.

Today, the village bears the French label "Ville et Métiers d'Art". To get the full experience, there's nothing better than visiting a museum and art gallery, in the Musée de la Poterie Méditerranéenne.

This museum is inside an ancient 16th century oil mill, and you can admire almost 500 objects from between the 18th and 20th centuries.

The Galerie Terra Viva, just next door, welcomes exhibitions from resident artists all year around.

The craftspeople inside their workshops throughout the village will be delighted to open their doors to you. Each one has their

own unique technique: porcelain, earthenware, sandstone, raku...

Every year in July, the "Festival Terralha" takes place, when a selection of European ceramicists is invited to exhibit their wares.

Over the Ascension Day weekend, the "Festival l'Acordéon Plein Pot", organized by the cultural office, proposes a varied selection of concerts.

The "Journées des métiers d'art", is a very important event in the village. Meet the craftspeople, watch demonstrations and you can even choose to take classes.

Every year during the Christmas Holidays, the "Tournée du Père Noël" is organized, a tour around the different pottery and arts and crafts workshops in the village.

And if you want a birds' eye view of the surrounding countryside, then climb up the "Tour de l'Horloge", the clock tower.

Uzès:

"The French Tuscany".

You can't miss the town of Uzès, overlooking Eure Valley, a town of art and historic importance. As soon as you enter the town, you'll journey back in time: take a stroll along the narrow medieval streets and admire the architecture of the monuments.

The Romans left their mark here as they channeled the water from the river Eure, which has its source in the Eure Valley just outside the main town centre, all the way to Nîmes. To do so, they built a 49 km long aqueduct, and the most wellknown part of this monument is still standing today, the famous "Pont du Gard" in Vers. You can still see vestiges of the famous aqueduct in the Valley de l'Eure itself As for the town's emblem, that has to be the Duché. Uzès is well-known for having been the 1st Dukedom of France in 1632, and today it boasts the most ancient French "Duché" still standing. Guided tours of parts of the Duché château can be arranged.

Some parts of the town seem to have been frozen in time: The ancient Saint-Theodorit Cathedral with its beautiful organ and highly decorated folding doors; and alongside the Cathedral, the Fenestrelle Tower, a famous round tower; the Renaissance style or classic style manor houses; the medieval streets, the secret gardens (le Jardin medieval with its beautiful collection of medicinal herbs and plants), the church of St Etienne...

Racine himself wrote, while staying in Uzès (1661-1662): "Our evenings are more beautiful than your days".

During your visit, you can also climb the 100 steps of the "Tour du Roi" (entrance in the Medieval Garden) to admire a panoramic view of the town and surrounding area.

If you are interested in craftsmanship, history and archaeology, head for the "Musée Georges Borias".

Currently there is the "César et Chabaud" exhibition in the episcopal palace nearby. (End 15 October 2023).

At the heart of the town, discover the charming "Place aux herbes", with its fountain in the middle of the square surrounded by the medieval archways and walkways where the stall holders used to shelter from the weather. Every Wednesday and Saturday, there is a typical "Provence style" market.

Don't forget a visit to the Haribo Museum, a whole museum devoted to the world of Haribo and their sweets.

For some outdoor exercise in beautiful surroundings just a stone's throw from the centre of town, take time to walk in the Eure Valley, where you'll find some of the Roman aqueduct remains.

If you like to discover the history of horse riding, go to the "Haras national d'Uzès" (stud and school), events are organized all the year.

All year around, the town is brought to life by some unmissable events including the "Fête de l'Olive", le "Weekend de la Truffe" (the third weekend in January each year), Le festival des Nuis Musicales (attracting national and international performers) and Les Médièvales, when the town turns back the clock for some medieval parades, jousting and eating.

For more information:

The tourist office website "Destination Pays d'Uzès Pont du Gard » (<u>www.uzes-pontdugard.com</u>), The tourist office is located in the Capucins Chapel, Place Albert 1er (04 66 22 68 88).

This year, with the "Pass Up", (Découverte or Essentiel), you have access to all the must-see attractions in and around Uzès which also offers certain discounts and advantages; all the details to buy it are on: uzes-pontdugard.uk. (Flyer at your disposal).

The Pont du Gard, a Roman Treasure:

The Pont du Gard, one of the wonders of Antiquity, is the finest remaining example of an ancient aqueduct and was built almost 2000 years ago by the Romans. This architectural gem, listed as a Unesco World Heritage Site, is in a beautiful, unspoilt, natural setting.

Enter the heart of the Roman world and see the secrets of the construction as you visit the museum, view the film and follow a guided tour which brings you to the very top of the bridge where the water flowed to Nîmes in Roman times.

This aqueduct used to transport water from the river Eure source in Uzès to Nîmes, for five centuries. Standing at 50 meters high, over three levels, it is a real symbol of Roman scientific genius, 52 kilometers in length and only descending in height by 17 meters over its entire length!

The Ludo space designed for 5 to 12 years old is a playful approach for kids. In the summertime, the wide banks are like beaches and are a refreshing stop.

During the summer months, the bridge is lit up in the evenings and turns into one giant screen with two fantastic sound and light shows.

Accessibility for persons with limited mobility:

The pathway, the buildings and the museum sites are totally accessible. There are wheelchairs available at the entrance to

the site. Entrance is free for persons with limited mobility as well as their accompanying person.

The restaurant "Les Terrasses", offers a very nice place to enjoy fresh cuisine made from local products. (Reservation recommended by calling: +33(0) 4 66 63 91 37). Save time and book your tickets and guided tours on the online ticket at: <u>www.pontdugard.fr</u>.

If you go to the "Rive droite" or the right bank which is on the Remoulins town side, you can access the swimming areas, the bistro and the restaurant.

If you arrive via the left bank, on the Vers-Pont du Gard side, you can access the Museum and exhibition areas.

Whichever side you choose, all you have to do to get to the other side is cross over the bridge walkway which is on the first level.

This walkway was added to the ancient monument in 1747, by Henri Pitot, an engineer from the age of Enlightenment and a native of Aramon, a nearby town.

Lussan:

One of the most beautiful villages in France. Come and explore this medieval village with a certain air of south of France, perched on a rocky outcrop, surrounded by walls, with its castle dating from the 15th century. Two other castles were built in the Middle Ages, including the "Chateau de Fan", which is still standing today and is wellknown as the former residence of writer André Gide's family. During the 19th century, the village prospered thanks to silk production. At this time, there were three silk spinning mills in Lussan, including the Filature Roux, listed as a remarkable monument. There are superb views of the surrounding countryside from the top of the fortifications.

The" Concluses de Lussan":

Discover the "Concluses", a natural site, perfect for family hiking outings, accessible from the village or from the Concluses car park. There, deep gorges have been shaped over the years by the river Aiguillon, with an exceptional view of the "marmites du Diable".

Overlooking the concluses, is the "Pierre plantée", a 5.60metre-high menhir, proof of the presence of man during Prehistoric area.

The ceramicist Heidi Caillard decided to create a poultry farm out of ceramics: the "Pintade de Lussan" (Lussan Guinea Fowl). You can visit the "Céramiques de Lussan" workshop at route de St Ambroix, at the foot of the village.

(English contact: +33 6 41 69 31 46, <u>englishcontact@caillard-</u> <u>deco.com</u>.)

Restaurants:

"Le Bistrot de Lussan", Place Jules Ferry, open Wednesday to Sunday. (+33 4 34 04 86 85).

"Chez Rosette, auberge de Lussan », Place des Marronniers, (+33 4 30 67 29 46).

28/Some typical villages :

Saint-Siffret/ Saint Maximin:

St Siffret is a medieval village built on the side of a limestone cliff. Two "châteaux" were built in the Middle Ages. While exploring the village don't miss:

The trail along the headland and the orientation tables, the 12th century Roman-Byzantine style church, the two "châteaux", one of which is a former commandery of the Knight Templars, and the 19th century clock tower.

St Maximin, with its "Château Racine", where the famous French writer, Racine, lived with his uncle "le chanoine Sconin". If you'd like to have a wine tasting nearby, go to the "Collines de Bourdic", or to the "Domaine Tardieu-Ferrand" in Argiliers.

Vers-Pont du Gard:

You are now at the heart of a village that was behind the construction of the Pont du Gard, and you can follow in the footsteps of the Romans along the "sentier de la pierre" trail. While exploring the village, don't miss:

The 3 washhouses, St Pierre Chapel, The Vers stone quarries, used in Roman times to build the Pont du Gard, the clock tower.

Different hiking trails including the "Itinéraire Aqueduc", the PR for Petite Randonnée, and the "Chemin des Calvaires". In the center of the village, you can take a break at "La Grange" for a drink or to eat something.

On Saturday morning, there is a small market, less crowded than Uzès market.

Every year, in August, there is the" Vers onion fair ", with huge, sweet onions weighing anything up to 3 kilos...

Castillon du Gard:

This village, perched up on the hilltop, keeps a watchful eye over the majestic Pont du Gard. Castillon with pretty medieval streets, the Pont du Gard view from the battlements (chemin de ronde", the medieval chapels, the market on Tuesday mornings between July and September and last but not least, a nice place to have lunch or dinner.

Collias:

In this village at the heart of the Gorges du Gardon, you'll find everything you need for a relaxing holiday: swimming, visits, lazing about, sport activities...

Collias was a hotspot for silk production until the 19th century, and it's also the birthplace of the "Picholine" olive. Don't miss:

The classified Ermitage site,

The many climbing and via ferrata trails,

Canoeing and kayaking, with a spectacular underpass of the majestic Pont du Gard aqueduct.

The GR63 hiking trail, "La maison du Castor", the beaver museum.

Arpaillargues:

3 km away from Uzès, « Le Musée 1900 », a surprising collection of more than 3700 unexpected objects in 1500 m2 displayed with 8 different themes. (musee1900.com +33 4 66 22 58 64). Next to the museum, there's the "Domaine Deleuze Rochetin" with a good selection of organic wines.

Vézénobres:

A medieval village perched on top of a hill, with an unobstructed view of the Cévennes, the Mont Lozère and the Mont Bouquet. Small, charming streets, and the culture of the fig (House of fig and tourism: maisondelafigue.com). To access the village, you need good shoes and be prepared to climb at least sixty steps. In summer, make sure you have a sunhat and plenty of water.

Don't miss:

The Sabran Gate, Romanesque houses, the Montfaucon hotel, house with "calaberts" (sheltered terraces facing south, allowing the drying of figs), the Castle of Fay-Perault and the St Andrew church. You can eat a good "crêpe" or a "galette" at "La p'tite échoppe".

31/A little further:

Générargues, and its Bamboo Garden "La Bambouseraie":

Listed as one of France's most beautiful gardens, the Bambouseraie en Cévennes offers a unique experience with nature. This outstanding botanical garden is home to more than 1000 varieties of bamboo, as well as amazing trees and plants. The Bambouseraie has been "Tourisme &Handicap" certified since 2004. (bambouseraie.fr) A nice way to go there is to take the "**train à vapeur des**

Cévennes" from Anduze to St Jean du Gard and stop at the bambouseraie. (trainvapeur.com)

Nîmes:

With over 2000 years of rich history, Nîmes has a wealth of Roman heritage.

Discover Nîmes, the "French Rome" visiting:

-Nîmes Roman Arena, the best-preserved Roman amphitheatre.

-The "Maison carrée", built at the beginning of our era. -Climb to the "Tour Magne", the highest tower of the Roman ramparts. -Stoll through the magnificent "Jardins de la Fontaine" and admire the Diane Temple.

-Contemplate the "Castellum", an extremely rare vestige and the vast Roman remparts.

- "La porte d'Auguste".

Contemporary architecture is also part of the Nîmes character, with the "musée de la Romanité", with technical and aesthetic innovations; or "Carré d'Art", home to a contemporary art museum and book and media library.

A little train is a fancy way of getting to know Nîmes.

(nimes-tourisme.com. +33 (0)4 66 58 38 00. Tourist office located: 6 bd des Arènes.)

Avignon, City of the Popes (84):

From its flamboyant past as the capital of Christendom,

Avignon has preserved an exceptional heritage.

Don't miss:

-The "Palais des Papes", the palace of the Popes, monumental residence of the pontiffs.

-The "Pont Saint-Bénezet", better known as the "Pont d'Avignon" the world over thanks to its famous children's song"sur le pont d'Avignon, on y danse, on y danse.."

-The "petit palais Museum", one of Europe's great museums of medieval art.

-The ramparts, 4,3km long, were designed to repel attackers, but also protected residents from the flooding of the Rhône River.

-Notre Dame des Doms Basilica, with a majestic golden-lead Virgin.

Les Baux de Provence: (13)

Perched in splendid isolation on top of a natural plateau, Les Baux has an incredibly diverse architectural heritage including an extraordinarily beautiful citadel that towers over the surrounding countryside.

Don't miss:

-The King's House, now home of the tourist office,

-Eyguières Gate, or Watergate,

-The "Santon Museum", the miniature world of Provence, -The "Hotel de Porcelet" and Yves Brayer Museum, a 16th century mansion, the White Penitent's Chapel and the St Vincent Church.

-The "Château des Baux", with its breathtaking panorama,
-The "Hotel de Manville" Town hall, and the "Hotel de Brion",
"Les Carrières de lumières", the work of the greatest artists projected in the magical setting of Les Baux de Provence former stone quarries. (carrieres-lumieres.com).

From 24 February 2023, The Carrières present two new immersive exhibitions, "From Vermeer to Van Gogh & Mondrian, and "Tintin, the immersive adventure" until 31 October 2023. (+33(0)4 90 49 20 02.

Aigues-Mortes:

Immerse yourself in the 13th century architecture, the castle keep built by Saint Louis, the defence towers and gates, and the covered walkway which dominates the compelling view out over the Camargue and the Salin salt marches. -Discover the medieval town on the little train, -Admire the two chapels, "Chapelle des Pénitents blancs et chapelle des Pénitents gris »,

-The "Salin d'Aigues mortes", a unique attraction between the salt marsh and the sea, jumping aboard the Petit train for a 75minute trip through the salt tables.

-River cruises are also available. (Croisière de Camargue, Péniche Isles de Stel).

(Tourist office: +33(0)4 66 53 73 00. ot-aiguesmortes.com)

The sea:

La Grande-Motte (34), with its "Grand Travers" beach, Le Grau du Roi seaside resort (30) and Les Saintes Maries de la Mer (13).

34/Ideas of nature/outdoor activities:

-Les Gorges du Gardon », for hiking,

-The "Pont du Gard" Greenway" bike tour,

-Mountain bike circuits,

-Canyoning on the Gardon river, from Collias to the Pont du Gard.

-Horse riding and horse -drawn carriage,

-Tree climbing land" Air de Nature", at the entrance of our village Vallabrix,

-"La Bouscarasse", aquatic leisure park,

-The « Green Park » in St Chaptes (recreation park for kids) ...

All flyers are at your disposal in our corridor display.

Radio Fuze is our local radio station, 107.5fm

Every day you at 09h30 and 18h15 you can hear an English broadcast of "What's on" featuring daily events and activities in Uzès and Pont du Gard area.

The full week's events can also be found on the Radio Fuze website.

www.radiofuze.fr

Enjoy your stay with us!

Claudine & Jean-Richard.

36/ Vallabrix,

Also mentioned under the name "Volobrica", takes its name from the Gallic tribe of Volo.

From Prehistoric times onwards, people came to settle in Brugas, on the south side of the village.

According to a Carolingian registry, Vallabrix, the church, outbuildings and domains were handed over to the church of Saint-Théodorit in Uzès in the 9th century.

In the 12th century, the château belonged to the count of Toulouse, Raymond VI, who acquired it from the bishop of Uzès.

The first known lord of Vallabrix, honoured by King Francis the first, was Mathieu de Bargeton in 1533.

From the 17th century, the chateau became a "co-seigneurie" with the Bargeton family and other nobles.

In the 19th century, it was divided into two plots of land, a house and a barn, it is no longer a noble residence.

Today, we can still see the magnificent Renaissance façade of the château which has recently been restored. (In the Abrix Bar).

While exploring Vallabrix, don't miss:

- The Renaissance -style façade in the medieval fort,
- The 11th century Romanesque church, extended in the 19th century,
- Condamine fountain and the washhouse,
- Two "balade des arbres remarquables », discovery trails to see around 30 species of trees,
- The 19th century Clos d'Ozon cross.