WHY GO THERE

Lourmarin, is a tiny, medieval village huddled under the southern Luberon’s gently folded landscape, The region is resplendent with vineyards, olive groves, abundant fruit trees, timeless perched villages and in the summer, endless fields of fragrant lavender. A magical place of meandering, cobbled streets lined with crumbling clay tiled, golden stone buildings. Lourmarin is full of vibrant cafes and restaurants, a handful of chic shops and every Friday host to a bustling market, colourful stores packed with locally grown produce, table cloths, baskets and all the treasures of a Provencal marché! A tour round Lourmarin’s mystical 15th century chateau should not be missed nor an evening at one of its’ lavish music concerts. The nearby enchanting perched villages are well worth exploring, especially Bonnieux, Roussillon and Gordes & despite Lourmarin itself not being ‘perched’ its’ mesmerizing beauty has won it the honor of being one of ‘des plus beaux villages de France.’ Just 68km to the north lies the stunning wall city of Avignon, 25km south is the vibrant university town, Aix-en-Provence and a short drive further the coastal towns of Bandol and Cassis and the sparkling Cote d’Azur. It is no surprise that Lourmarin is where Peter Mayle was inspired to write; ‘A Year in Provence’, ‘A Good Year’ for Lourmarin exudes charm and ambience, its’ timeless beauty reaches into the soul, it is utterly captivating.

HOW TO GET THERE

The nearest major airport is Marseilles (MRS) 60km a way, where there are numerous international connections into Paris, London, Frankfurt, Munich and many other major European cities. If driving, Lourmarin is about 20km from the A7 autoroute traveling north & the A51to the A8 is 20km to the south.
WHAT TO DO IN LOURMARIN

Lourmarin is in the Luberon Valley in the Vaucluse department of Provence, in south eastern France. A small enchanting area of sprawling vineyards, olive trees, sunflowers, shuttered, limestone buildings and medieval villages. Stunningly beautiful, people come to stay in Lourmarin to just ‘be’; to spend long, lazy days under cornflower blue skies, lavender perfuming the air and crickets chattering through the night. It’s intoxicating, a place of artists and authors, a place to dream about and yearn for when you are far away.

THE LOURMARIN CHATEAU

A part of Lourmarin since the 12th century, it now hosts many wonderful performances and exhibitions and every summer is home to artists, writers and musicians.

THE MARKET ~ every Friday 8.30am -1.00pm the streets are bursting with a vibrant collection of wonderful local produce & all things Provencal!

LOCAL WINERIES ~ sample the vintages & renowned local rosés from the many terrific local wineries. These are just a few favourites:

**Château Canorgue** The Route du Pont Julien 84480 Bonnieux Tel: 04 90 75 81 01 (Famous for being Chateau La Siroque in ‘A Good Year’)

**Château Fontvert** Path Pierrouret 84160 Lourmarin Tel: 04 90 68 35 83

**Château la Verrerie** 84360 Puget-sur-Durance Tel: 04 90 08 32 98

**Domaine de La Citadelle**, Cavaillon Road, 84560 Ménerbes, Tel: 04 90 72 41 58

**Domaine de Marie** 400 chemin des Peirelles, 84560 Ménerbes Tel : +33 (0)4 90 72 54 23
WHAT TO DO NEAR LOURMARIN

THE LUBERON VALLEY ~ resplendent with orchards, vineyards & olive groves where the scent of lavender fills the air and enchantment fills your soul.

BONNIEUX (13km north) the closest perched village to Lourmarin, visit the Bread museum and Chateau Canorgue (Chateauu Sirroque in the movie ‘A Good Year’).

GORDES (31km north) the most well known of the Luberon's perched villages, stop for a photo shoot as you approach and don’t miss a visit to Abbaye de Sénanque.

ROUSILLION (26km north) famous for its incredible red ochre earth which for sentries was mined for its rich pigments and still defines this little town.

OPPEDE (28km north) known for Oppede-le-Vieux, the ancient abandoned village on the hill with the ‘newer’ Oppede lying on the valley floor.

FACTORY OCCITANE (60km north west) learn the fascinating story of this now world famous company & their impressive commitment to sustainability & ‘giving’.

MARSEILLES (59km south) France’s largest city after Paris. Rich in history dating back to the Greeks who bought the first vines to Provence.

AIX EN PROVENCE (35km south) Provence’s sun-drenched university city, serenely beautiful, a favourite of the artists; Cezanne, Gaugin & Van Gogh,

BANDOL (109km south) famed for its vines, a quaint little fishing town on the Med.

CASSIS (89km south) take a boat tour & discover its renowned finger like coastal inlets, Les Claques, then dine on its picturesque quayside.

ST REMY DE PROVENCE (50km south east) A charming very Provencal town, packed with shops and restaurants, with fantastic Wednesday & Saturday markets, Combine a visit here with Les Baux de Provence.

LES BAUX DE PROVENCE (58km south east) An ancient perched village, the tour of the chateau ruins is well worthwhile. Do NOT miss the Carrières de Lumières (5 minute walk away) a lazer video art show projected onto the walls of 100 foot tall bauxite caves showing the art of the masters; Van Gogh, Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, Gaugin, Chagall, each year someone different, utterly breathtaking!

AVIGNON (68 km north) A stunning medieval, walled city most famous for Les Palais des Papes - the home of the Popes for 100 years and the Pont D’Avignon, the tour of both is fascinating!

CHATEAUNEUF DE PAPE (80km north) France’s first wine appellation where the wines of the Popes were grown and made!

FURTHER AWAY ~ NIMES, ARLES, AIGES MORTES & COTE D'AZUR, for more information download the Uzès PDF.
WHERE TO STAY

Renting a property There are many options available. Typically it is more expensive to rent in the village center and parking can be problematic but being able to walk to restaurants and the market is a great plus! Renting out in the countryside will probably get you more space and a pool. Walter manages a great selection on Rent our Home in Provence, he will meet you with a warm smile and offer invaluable local advice. Also check out homeaway.com and https://www.airbnb.com

LE MOULIN DE LOURMARIN

Location: In the center of town Contact: Rue du Temple, 84160 Lourmarin Tel: +33 (0)4 90 68 06 69 Price: €110 - €186 per night (breakfast buffet €18.00 per person) Closed: mid January - February Comments: A gorgeous, boutique hotel with 17 rooms and 2 suites, set within an old olive mill, full of ambience and character. Fabulous restaurant, beautifully presented food, excellent service with delicious, regional ingredients.

MAISON COLLONGUE

Location: 2.9km from the center of town Contact: 44 Chemin de Collongue 84160 Lourmarin Tel: + 33 (0)6 76 86 76 65 + 33 (0)4 90 77 44 69 Price: from €150 per room Closed: beginning of the year, check website for details. Comments: 5 luxurious modern bedrooms, within a traditional Provencal Mas. Breakfast included, brunch on request €27. On Tuesdays, a fabulous dinner is served in the garden, €75 per person Lovely pool and gardens to relax in, on site massages can be arranged.

COTE LOURMARIN

Location: Center of town Contact: Impasse du Pont du Temple, 84420 Lourmarin Tel: +33 (0)6 09 16 9180 Price: €170 - 250 Comments: A beautiful, historic mansion, just two elegant rooms. Exquisitely decorated taste by your charming hostess, for whom nothing is too much trouble. Breakfast included, brunch on request, €18

MAS DE LA LOMBARDE

Location: 3km from the center of town Contact: Puyvert BP 32 84160 Lourmarin Tel: +33 (0)4 90 09 97 40 Price: from €160 Closed: November – March, check website Comments: An exceptional place offering varied options. Stay within the honied walls of an old Mas or at the neighbouring old domaine, both minutes from Lourmarin. Rent the newly renovated, chic apartment in the village. Enjoy the pool and the gardens from the shade of the old truffle oaks, it will be hard to tear yourself away!

HOTEL AUBERGE DE LA FENIERE

Location: 2.4km Lourmarin Contact: Route de Lourmarin [D943] 84160 Cadanet Tel: +33 (0)4 90 68 11 79 Price: €110 -€186 enquire from website (breakfast buffet €18.00 per person) Closed: mid January - February Comments: A wonderful 4 star boutique hotel set within 3 charming buildings with 16 rooms and 2 suites. One exceptional, gourmet restaurant (closed Mondays and Tuesdays) with renowned chef Reine Sammut and an equally delicious but more casual Bistro (closed Wednesday and Thursday)

BONNIEUX

A pretty perched village, seemingly hanging on the hillside a mere 15 minutes from Lourmarin

DOMAINE DE CAPELONGUE

Location: 1km from Bonnieux, 10km from Lourmarin Contact: Chemin des Cabanes, Les Claparèdes, 84480 Bonnieux Tel: + 33 (0)4 90 75 89 78 Price: From €140 check website (breakfast buffet €18.00 per person) Comments: A luxurious boutique bastide, a ‘Relais & Château Hotel’ and gastronomic, michelin star restaurant from renowned chef Edouard Loubet, a real treat. Do not miss La Ferme de Capelongue the delightful bistro in a former sheep bergerie where it also possible to stay & dine.

LES TROIS SOURCES

Location: 1km from Bonnieux, 15km from Lourmarin Contact: Chemin de la Chaîne - 84480 Bonnieux Tel: +33 (0)4 90 75 95 58 Price: 3 charming spacious rooms from €80-140 and 1 suite for 4 people €140-200; all with en-suites and internet access, breakfast included Comments: A warm and inviting building with large rooms and stone stair cases set within 8 acres of rolling cherry orchards and vineyards just below Bonnieux. Great location for exploring the Luberon Valley.
WHERE TO EAT  many delicious choices in Lourmarin and the nearby here are our favorites

LE MOULIN DE LOURMARIN Rue du Temple, 84160 Lourmarin, Tel: +33 (0)4 90 68 06 69 Price: from €35.00 per person Closed: mid January - February Fabulous restaurant, (also a boutique hotel) in an old olive mill, full of ambience, beautifully presented food, excellent service with delicious, regional ingredients.

No 9 LOURMARIN Rue du Temple, 84160 Lourmarin, France +33 (0)4 90 79 00 46 (no web site) Price: from €35.00 set menu You will almost certainly be introduced to some new flavours here! No 9 consistently serves some of the best food in Lourmarin.

AUBERGE DE LA FENIERE Route de Lourmarin [ D943 ] 84160 Cadanet, Tel : +33 (0)4 90 68 11 79 Location: 2 miles from the center of Lourmarin Closed: mid January - February Price: Restaurant, approx: €80.00 Bistro, mains from €30.00 Comments: One exceptional, gourmet restaurant (closed Mondays and Tuesdays) with renowned chef Reine Sammut and an equally delicious but more casual Bistro (closed Wednesday and Thursday. Also a wonderful, 4 star boutique hotel

LA LOUCHE A BEURRE (Route Apt, 84160 Lourmarin, Tel: +33 (0)4 90 68 00 33 Price: Lunch and dinner (same menu) mains €12.00 - €30.00 Comments: One of our favourite spots for a delicious, thinly sliced steak smothered in a rougfort, mustard or shallot sauce, the most wonderful 'frites' & a crisp salad. Also does terrific crêpes, & good daily specials

PIZZERIA NONI 2 Rue Albert Camus 84160 Lourmarin, Tel: +33 (0)4 90 68 23 33 Price: From €12.00 Best pizzas in Lourmarin, cooked to perfection in the 'feu de bois', (take away available). Serves other delicious Italian dishes, booking essential

NEARBY VILLAGES

CUCURON ~ PETITE MAISON CUCURON Place de l'Étang, 84160 Cucuron Tel: +33 (0)4 90 68 21 99 Price: from €40 set menu Closed: Mon and Tues One Michelin star, pretty wonderful!!

VAUGHINES ~ LE RESTO VAUGHINES 32 Place de la Mairie 84160 Vaugines Tel: +33 (0)4 90 77 11 08 Price: €32 set menu Closed: Sunday and Mon & Tues lunchtime A warm welcome awaits at this charming delicious bistro, booking essential

LAURIS ~ LOU PEBRE d’ AL (no website) 78 avenue J. Garnier, 84360 Lauris, Tel: +33 (0)4 90 08 27 00 Price: From €28.00 - 4 courses. A 6 minute drive from Lourmarin. Incredible value, a set menu with 3 - 4 choices for each course, each one beautifully prepared and mouth watering Casual, country atmosphere, friendly service, booking essential.

ANSOUIS ~ LA CLOSERIE Boulevard des Platanes, 84240 Ansouis, Tel: +33 0)4 90 09 90 54 Price: Set menus from €28.00 -€65.00, also a la carte. A 15 minute drive from Lourmarin in the quaint village of Ansouis. An Elegant, restaurant, contemporary decor and pretty terrace. Wonderful food, must book!

GRAMBOIS ~ Moulin du Pas, 84240 Grambois Tel: +33 (0)4 90 77 93 11 Price: Set menus from €34.00 - €58.00, lunch €26.00. Delightful family run restaurant in a lovely traditional setting. After the meandering 25 minute country drive from Lourmarin this is a special place to enjoy a long, lazy lunch in the pretty garden in charming Grambois, booking essential!

MERINDOL: ~ LE BASTIDE DU GRAND TILLEUL 1 Avenue des Bruillères, 84360 Mérandol, Tel: +33 (0)4 32 50 20 82 Closed Mon and Tues lunch People hesitate to write a review about this as they want to keep it a secret! Booking advisable

BONNIEUX ~ DOUAMINE DE CAPELONGUE Contact: Chemin des Cabanes, Les Claparèdes, 84480 Bonnieux Tel: + 33 (0)4 90 75 89 78 Price: from €42.00 for mains; 7 course menu €140.00, 11 course menu €190.00 A 20 minute drive from Lourmarin, a gastronomic Michelin star restaurant from renowned chef Edouard Loubet. Dine more casually in LA BERGERIE, within the gardens & orchards & spectacular views of the Luberon.

BONNIEUX ~ LE FOURSIL 5 Place Carnot, 84480 Bonnieux, Tel: +33 4 90 75 83 62 Price: from €42.00 Wonderful, Mediterranean cuisine oozing character uniquely situated in a natural troglodytic cave, formerly the village bakery its modern décor contrasting brilliantly with ancient rock walls. Now One Michelin star, booking essential

BONNIEUX ~ L’AROMA BONNIEUX 2 Rue Lucien Blanc, 84480 Bonnieux Tel: +33 (0)4 90 75 88 62 Closed Wed, Thurs & Mon and Tues lunch 1 Michelin star combining flavours form across the globe with freshest of local ingredients Booking advisable

GOULT: ~ LA TERRASSE (no website) Rue de la République, 84220 Goult Tel: +33 4 90 72 20 20 Price: From €24.00 for 3 courses A 30 minutes from Lourmarin Each course here is more scrumptious than the last, home cooked food at its best with delightful service! Great place to plan to eat whilst touring the beautiful villages of the Luberon.