

# Uzès

## Languedoc Roussillon France



### WHY GO THERE

Uzès is a magical bastide town 45km west of the medieval walled city of Avignon, 40km north of Roman Nîmes & just 13km from the world UNESCO heritage site, Pont du Gard. It boasts a rich and ancient history, dating from the Romans and is home to the first duchy of France, (the direct lineage to the Royal family) its' glorious Ducal Castle is still occupied by the family today. Its' cobbled streets spill out onto elegant squares, shaded by gently worn, stone, shuttered buildings, there are many grand renaissance mansions, the Cathédrale Saint-Théodorit d'Uzès and fascinating Fenestrelle tower. At its heart is Place-aux-Herbes, dominated and sheltered by the broad leaves of long ago established sycamore trees. Fringed with its splendid golden arches, one could sit for hours listening to the soft splutters of the fountain, perhaps enjoying a refreshment from one of the many enticing restaurants, becoming immersed in the local bustle. Place-aux-Herbes plays host to carnivals, an annual truffle fare, art & antique fares & exhibitions, and well renowned twice-weekly marchés, the most vibrant in Provence. Smiling locals selling linens, ribbons, baskets, and flowers, cheese makers, olive growers, and an abundance of fresh produce. Uzès, has a unique, beguiling atmosphere has a unique, beguiling atmosphere one which having visited will leave you feeling as if you've spent a moment, back in time.

### HOW TO GET THERE

The nearest international airport is Marseilles (MRS), 120km south with numerous international connections from Paris, London Frankfurt Munich and many other European cities. Several regional European airlines fly into Nîmes (40km south) and Montpellier (80km south). If driving, 20km west of the A9 autoroute, just 25km south of the major A7/A9 autoroute interchange near Orange.





## WHAT TO DO IN UZÈS

If your stay in Uzès was spent entirely within this delightful, historic town your experience there would encapsulate the very essence of this magical part of France. Uzès oozes charm and ambience; its cobbled streets, enticing boutiques, wide variety of restaurants and wonderful markets are all part of its enchantment. There is much to explore to within the town itself and should you wish to venture further the surrounding area beckons!

**THE CHATEAU** The château in Uzès, Le Duché d'Uzès, is known by the locals as 'Le Duchy' and is where the original ducal family still reside. Tours are available, check for times

**THE CATHEDRAL** Cathédrale Saint-Théodorit d'Uzès dated from the Middle Ages and was the former Bishops' seat.

**FENESTRELLE TOWER** ~Uzès' most famous landmark, an incredible Rapunzel tower of windows!

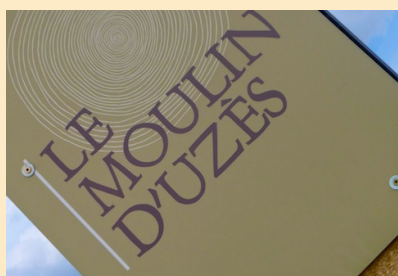
**THE MEDIEVAL GARDEN** originally part of the castle but then abandoned it was restored in to a medieval garden in 1995, captivating!

**THE MARKET** held twice a week in Place aux Herbes. 8am -1pm. Wednesday is mostly fresh produce including flowers, cheese, wine, olive oil, honey and soaps. Saturday is a much larger affair tumbling out of Place-aux-Herbes onto the surrounding streets.

**PONT DU GARD** A visit to this incredible World UNESCO heritage site should not be missed. Just 6 miles from Uzès, towards Avignon, for 2000 years it has spanned the River Gardon. Built in 50AD as part of the Roman aqua-duct of Nimes it was used until the 6th century. A breathtaking marvel.

**WINERIES** there are many great wineries, tastings are mostly free and the local vintners are more than happy to share their knowledge and proudly show off their vintages.

**OLIVE OIL MILLS** as in much of southern Europe, where there are grapes growing







**WHAT TO NEAR UZES** There is a rich Roman heritage in this area reflected in the many ruins which include amphitheatres & arenas especially in:

**NIMES** (25km south) Once the most important city of Roman Gaul much of which remains in evidence, in particular its arena, the finest in France and still in use today.

**ARLES** (60km south east), sun kissed and golden, on the banks of the Rhone, nestled by the Camargue, infamous for its majestic white horses and bulls. It is a Roman city much painted by Van Gogh, who lived here for a year.

**ORANGE** (55km north east) Founded in 35BC, Orange exudes Roman splendor. Its' stone theatre is the best preserved in western France and still provides an atmospheric setting for productions today

**AVIGNON** (45km east) The stunning, medieval, walled city is perhaps most famous for Les Palais des Papes which was the home of the Popes for 100 years and the Pont D'Avignon. A tour of both should not be missed.

**CHATEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE** (47km north east) France's first wine appellation, where the wine for the Popes were cultivated and produced.

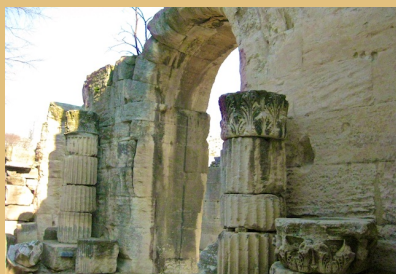
**MONTPELLIER** (80km south west) Capital of Languedoc Roussillon, a grand Medieval city well worth spending a day exploring

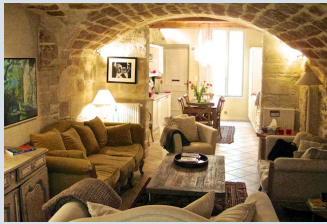
**ST REMY DE PROVENCE** (55km south east) St Rémy-de-Provence is a charming, very Provencal town packed with shops and restaurants, with a fantastic Wednesday Market. Whilst there combine a visit to the perched village of Les Baux de Provence.

**LES BAUX DE PROVENCE** (65km south east) just a fifteen minute drive from St-Rémy-de-Provence is the stunning perched medieval village of Les Baux-de-Provence. The self-guided audio tour around the château ruins is fascinating and do NOT miss the spectacular video art extravaganza Carrières de Lumières. Set to music and projected onto the walls of one hundred foot high bauxite caves the art of the Masters is profiled; Van Gough, Michelangelo, Gauguin, each year someone different, it is utterly breathtaking!

**AIGUES MORTES** (71km south) with its roots dating back to 102AD this fortified wonder is the most well preserved medieval city in Europe. Walk the walled rims of this fortress city & gaze out across the salt flats, salt has been mined here since before the Romans. Tour the factory Saunier de Camargue whose salt is considered the 'Rolls Royce' of salt.

**THE LUBERON** (75km south east) explore this beautiful region resplendent with vineyards, olive groves, abundant fruit trees, and in the summer, endless fields of fragrant lavender. Explore its timeless perched villages **Menerbes**, **Gordes**, **Roussillon**, **Oppède-le-Vieux**, **Bonnieux** and my favorite **Lourmarin** (not perched), magical!





## WHERE TO STAY

**Renting a property** There are many properties available, this option can provide a tiny snapshot of what it is like to actually live here; having more space to relax and shopping in the local stores and markets to cook at home. Typically it is more expensive to rent in the town center and parking can be problematic but being able to walk to restaurants and the market makes it worth it! If you rent out in the villages you will probably get more space with a garden and a pool. Check out **Home Away** and **airbnb**

### LA MAISON DE LA BOURGADE

**Location:** ~Uzès center, seldom closed, parking available for €7 a night. **Price:** €100 -€130 per night, breakfast included. **Comments:** Exquisite but simple rooms, you will be charmed by Elizabeth who opens up her home & her heart to her guests. Stylish and charming a delightful place to stay!

### L'HOSTELLERIE PROVENCALE

**Location:** ~Uzès center Closed: mid February to early March Contact: 1 Rue de la Grande Bourgade, 30700 Uzès Tel: +33 (0)4 66 22 11 06 **Price:** €110 -€186 per night parking €15 a night (breakfast incl from mid January-mid March) **Comments:** A lovely 9 room hotel, all ensuite and air-conditioned with its own restaurant, La Parenthese. In addition there is a recently renovated guest house across the street.



### LA MAISON D'UZES

**Location:** ~Uzès center, Closed: mid February to early March Contact: 18 Rue du Docteur Blanchard, 30700 Uzès Tel: +33 (0)4 66 20 07 00 **Price:** €190 -€530 per night **Comments:** This wonderful Relais Chateaux hotel, tiny and discreet (just 4 rooms and 2 suites) but luxurious and divine, is a splurge, complete with a spa and fabulous restaurant. A lunchtime special menu is an incredible bargain. Book well in advance.

**HOTEL D'ENTRAIGUES** ~ Uzès, opposite the Fenestrelle Tower **Contact:** l'Evêché, Place de l'Évêché, 30700 Uzès **Tel:** +33 (0)4 66 72 05 25. **Price:** €160 -€320 per night **Comments:** A former 15th century mansion, superbly renovated in 2013 into a luxurious but unpretentious, hotel, also has an excellent gastro bistro (Closed Weds & Sundays)

### LA MAISON ROUGE

**Location:** town center Contact: 6 rue de la Perrine 30700 Uzès Tel: +33 9 50 25 91 06, Philippe JUNOD Closed: normally closed during winter months **Price:** From €110 -165 breakfast included, unsuitable for children. **Comments:** In a renovated listed building from 1830, offers 5 delightful suites

### LA BEGUDE ST PIERRE



**Location:** 6 km east of Uzès on D981 leading to Uzès, 2 minutes from the Pont du Gard Contact: Chemin des Bégudes, 295, 30210 Vers-Pont-du-Gard Tel: +33 (0)4 66 02 63 60 **Price:** €85 -€260 per night breakfast €15, parking free on site, gourmet restaurant. **Comments:** This former 17th century coaching inn was beautifully restored in 2013 offering 4 star luxury in one of its 23 rooms and suites. All rooms are air-conditioned with flat screen TV's, mini bars and safes. It is worth paying extra for one of the rooms with its own oversized private terrace. The spa services available in your room are highly recommended!

**L'ARTEMISE** **Location** ~ 10 minute walk from center of Uzès **Contact:** Chemin de la Lauze, 30700 Uzès **Tel:** +33 (0)4 66 63 94 14 **Closed:** normally closed during winter months **Price:** from €200 per night **Comments:** A 16th century Provencal mas, 8 exquisite suites, decorated with soft Belgian linens & each room with its' own kitchen facilities. L'Artemise offers a spa and gastronomic restaurant. A luxurious, laid back spot, just a 10 minutes stroll from Uzès, gorgeous!

**CLOS DU LETHE** **Location** ~ 6km from Uzès center **Contact:** Chemin de la Lauze - 30700 Uzès, **Tél :** +33 (0)4 66 74 58 3 Closed: normally closed during winter months **Price:** from €200 - €320 per night **Comments:** A sister hotel to L'Artemise, 5 rustic, spacious rooms with sitting areas, iPod docking stations, plasma TVs and espresso machines, most have a terrace or small outdoor area. Like L'Artemise, luxurious & thoughtfully designed within the limestone walls of an ancient building. Also a gym, a library and a steam room, pretty special!

**MAS D'AUGUSTINE** **Location** ~ 10km from Uzès center **Contact:** Mas d'Augustine, Rue de Ravel, 30580 La Bruguière **Tél :** +33 (0)4 66 72 71 61 **Price:** from €125 - €160 per night. Closed during winter check website **Comments:** Enjoy the fabulous hospitality of this delightful British couple, Jane & Gary in this former silk mill which they lovingly converted. There are five luxurious ensuite rooms, price includes a delicious breakfast. 3 nights a week it is possible to book bistro style suppers from €15 p.p. or great value 3 course s table d'hotes at €45







**WHERE TO EAT** whether you want a pizza, to sit under Uzès' golden arches of Place aux Herbes, or a really gourmet experience there are many great choices, some of our favorites are:

**LE ZANELLI** ~ Uzès center **Contact:** 3 Rue Nicolas Froment, 30700 Uzès  
**Tel:** +33 (0)4 66 03 01 93 **Price:** Pizzas from €14.00 **Comments:** Excellent pizza & other Italian food. Love sitting on the gorgeous terrace as the sun drops behind the roof tops, reservations recommended!



**PIZZA DU DUCHE** ~ Uzès center **Contact:** 14 Rue Jacques d'Uzès, 30700 Uzès  
**Tel:** +33 (0)4 66 22 30 42 **Price:** Pizzas from €14.00 **Comments:** Excellent pizzas, 'feu de bois' Cosy on a winter nights or outside in summer watching the world go by! Excellent steaks & kebabs, reservations essential.

**LES TERROIRS** ~ Uzès center **Contact:** 5 Place aux Herbes, 30700 Uzès

**Tel:** +33 (0)4 66 03 41 90 **Price:** small plates from €11.00 **Comments:** Also a wonderful delicatessen, right on the Place aux Herbes serving morning coffee, lunch and dinner, small plates & tartines a fabulous place to sit & enjoy tasty food & watch the world go by open all year.



**BEC à VIN** ~ Uzès center **Contact:** 6 Rue Entre les Tours 30700 Uzès, **Tel:** +33 (0)4 66 22 41 20 **Price:** mains from €28.00 **Comments:** Follow the cobblestones to dine in candlelight under the domed limestone ceiling, the food is wonderful, booking essential.

**RESTAURANT D'ENTRAIGUES** ~ Uzès, opposite the Fenestrelle Tower **Contact:** l'Evêché, Place de l'Évêché, 30700 Uzès **Tel:** +33 (0)4 66 72 05 25 **Price:** 3 courses about € 38.00 per person. A former 15th century mansion, superbly renovated in 2013 into a luxurious but unpretentious, hotel & gastro bistro! Closed Wednesdays & Sundays.



**TEN** ~ Uzès center **Contact:** 110 place Dampmartin 30700 Uzès **Tel:** +33 (0)4 66 22 10 93

**Price:** Mains from about €18.00. Opened in 2016, she a delightful lady from Devon, he a charming Frenchman. Interesting & delicious menu ~ brunch, lunch, tapas & dinner. Dine on the front patio or under the warm curved ceiling inside or in the rear garden patio, gorgeous

**RESTAURANT PARENTHÈSE** ~ Uzès center (also a hotel) **Contact:** 1 Rue de la Grande Bourgade, 30700 Uzès **Tel:** +33 (0)4 66 22 11 06 **Price:** €18.00 -€40.00 per person

**Closed:** mid February to early March **Comments:** Great restaurant, with delicious, locally



sourced ingredients.

**LA MAISON D'UZES** ~ Uzès center **Contact:** 18 Rue du Docteur Blanchard, 30700 Uzès **Tel:** +33 (0)4 66 20 07 00 **Price:** €47.00 -€90.00 set menus. Lunch from noon to 2 pm, Dinner from 7:30 to 9 pm **Closed:** For Sunday dinner and all day Monday, annual closure - mid February to early March **Comments:** Fabulous Relais Chateaux hotel & gastronomic restaurant. The lunchtime special menu is an incredible bargain but book well in advance as it is hard to secure a reservation in this special spot.



## OUTSIDE UZES

**LA BEGUDE ST PIERRE** ~ 6 km east of Uzès on the D981 2 minutes from the Pont du Gard

**Contact:** Chemin des Bégudes, 295, 30210 Vers-Pont-du-Gard **Tel:** +33 (0)4 66 02 63 60 **Price:** mains from €27.00 **Comments:** Great food in the new gourmet restaurant of this recently renovated, sumptuous former 17th century coaching inn.



**L'ARTEMISE** ~ 10 min walk from Uzès center **Contact:** Chemin de la Lauze, 30700 Uzès **Tel:** +33 (0)4 66 63 94 14 **Price:** from €55.00 set menu **Closed:** winter **Comments:** 16th century Provencal Mas with excellent gastronomic restaurant, a modern vibe within ancient exposed limestone walls.



**LE TRACTEUR** ~ 10 minute drive from Uzès **Contact:** Boregre neighbourhood, 30700 Arglliers **Tel:** + 33 (0)4 66 62 17 33 **Price:** €€€ call **Comments:** You need to know how to find this delightful country restaurant, set in old farm buildings but modern and chic inside. Great local food menu frequently changing & getting better!

**HOSTELLERIE LE CASTELLAS** ~ Location: 8km south east of Uzès **Contact:** 30 Grand rue - 30 210 Collias **Tel:** +33 (0) 4 66 22 88 88 **Price:** 2 or 3 course Lunches €25-35 Dinner Thursday to Monday evening, from €45~120 May to September also on Wednesday evenings. **Comments:** A Gastronomic restaurant at this lovely boutique hotel.

