

# A Tourist's guide to Grenoble





## In Grenoble, let innovation inspire your events!

Set in a breath-taking natural environment, at the heart of the French Alps, Grenoble has innovation written all over it!



The greater Grenoble area is home to many universities and competitive international research centers. It also stands out for its strong policies in favour of sustainable development.

This means that, like the city's scientific research advances, its companies also shine on the world scene. Enterprises specialized in outdoor activities and especially mountain activities drive Grenoble's dynamic economy.

Grenoble boasts a wealth of exceptional cultural and heritage sites, with two national stages, more than a dozen museums, and numerous festivals.

On top of all this, the city offers three convention centers that can welcome up to 3000 people, 200 meeting facilities, more than 4500 starred hotel rooms, plus several charming and unique venues.

Without a doubt, Grenoble is a top pick for professional event organizers.









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Park your car at a P+R point and travel to the city centre by bus, tram, or bike for  $\leq 2.60^*$  or  $\leq 3.60^*$ .

It's the same price for tween one and five people.





No matter what road you take, the route to Grenoble is inevitably surrounded by mountains. Wherever you look, your eyes are drawn towards the peaks of the Vercors, Chartreuse, and Belledonne mountain ranges. From one heady peak to the next, you try to guess their names. More than 2,000 years ago, the city began its life on the banks of the Isère river and ever since, it has maintained an intimate, sometimes tumultuous relationship with its alpine environment. The mountains have given the city many resources including hydroelectricity and snow, popularly known as "white gold", which have made Grenoble a renowned center for scientific and industrial innovation. Plus, its dramatic location and the amazing opportunities for outdoor activities nearby make it a popular city.

But Grenoble is far more than just picturesque mountains and a thriving economy and university. It's also a city of history, with unique relics dating back to the earliest Christian times and architectural treasures that stretch across the centuries. For the culture vulture, the city boasts many not-to-be-missed museums, festivals, and shows.

Grenoble also has plenty to offer the relaxed strollers, who will enjoy wandering the old streets where Stendhal and the constable de Lesdiguières once roamed. And as you wander through the winding streets, historic squares, and parks to the summit of the Bastille by foot, bike, or cable car, take the time also to tease your tastebuds some of our Dauphinois delights, updated for modern tastes in many restaurants.

## **Enjoy your visit!**



# HIGHLIGHTS



#### THE GRENOBLE MUSEUM OF ART

How about a rendez-vous with Matisse, Picasso, or Soulages? The Grenoble Museum of Art, one of France's finest modern art museums, houses treasures dating from Ancient Egypt to contemporary times.

## THE BASTILLE: A MOUNTAIN IN THE CITY

In Grenoble, you can still storm the Bastille! From the top, enjoy a breath-taking view of the city and the Alps. In the distance, you may even spot Mont Blanc! What's the best way to get there? Suspended in the air on one of the world's first urban cable cars.





#### THE HEART OF THE CITY AND THE PEDESTRIAN STREETS

Strolling, Grenoble-style: Between colorful markets and café terraces, from one treasure tucked away amongst the Medieval streets to the next, enjoy the heart of the city where Stendhal was born.



#### **PLACE** SAINT ANDRÉ

Why not have a drink under the watchful eye of old Court House, with its Renaissance façade carefully guarded by the famous knight, the Chevalier de Bayard? Without the risk of fear or allegations, unlike in the building's past! The best place? The Café de la Table Ronde, one of France's oldest cafés.





## **HIGHLIGHTS**



#### Soup's on!

On the menu: Dauphinois potato gratin, trout, Saint Marcellin cheese, walnut tart, and Chartreuse sorbet! But there's another must: a pitcher of tap water! Here, the tap water is naturally pure and comes from underground springs.

#### **A**RT IN THE CITY

Where? Everywhere (or almost!) Find art works in many of the 50 parks that offer green hideaways in the city.





#### GAM?

This 6th century crypt with 1,500 tombs is a fascinating place that takes guests on a spectacular visit back to the origins of Christianity thanks to a spectacular visit. The GAM—Grenoble Archeology Museum--in the Saint Laurent neighborhood was completely renovated in 2011.



#### **A**RCHITECTURE

Plunge into the city's architectural history, from Gallo-Roman ruins to Renaissance and Modern movement buildings. Then come back to the 21st century at the Bonne district, first eco-neighborhood in France.

#### VIA FERRATA

Get ready for an adrenaline rush! Amateur and expert climbers gather here after a day at the office. The ramparts of the Bastille won't know what hit'em!



# Dauphinois delights

#### THE CHARTREUSE MOUNTAINS

Thick forests, sunny pastures, and the comforting serenity of the Grande Chartreuse monastery—these "emeralds of the Alps" are enjoyable year round!





#### THE LAKES

Nestled at the foot of the mountains. the lakes of the Dauphiné region are wonderful spots for lazing in the sun or enjoying water sports.

#### THE OISANS AND ECRINS MOUNTAINS

Tour de France and mountain climbing hot spots as well as a haven for winter sports fanatics, these high mountains also attract cyclists, climbers, hikers, and nature lovers.

#### THE VIZILLE ESTATE

The French Revolution owes a lot to this site, as does the history of the Dauphiné region. The museum, landscaped park, and animal reserve all await you under the watchful eye of the chateau.





## THE BELLEDONNE MOUNTAINS

A real site to see at sunset! From the 1968 Winter Olympics to long summer hikes today, the Belledonne Mountains have long had a place in locals' hearts.



#### THE VERCORS MOUNTAINS

A long line of rocky ridges runs towards the Mont Aiguille further south. Just over the ridge lies the Vercors. A symbol of the French Resistance, these mountains also offer a natural playground for mountain bikers and cross country skiers.

#### SAINT ANTOINE L'ABBAYE

This magnificent medieval village steeped in colorful history is unique in the region, just like its Gothic abbey.

#### THE TOUVET FUNICULAR

Visitors will not soon forget their climb up aboard the steepest train in Europe! At the top, enjoy a breathtaking view of the Alps and paragliding men and women who soar through the air!





## Visit Grenoble

## with the Tourist Office

Where should you start your visit to Grenoble? At the Bastille, at a museum, in the old town? The Tourist Office can put together a tailor-made program for the duration of your stay depending on what you want to do. There are lots of ideas and surprises in store: Guided visits, good deals, and things to discover in and around Grenoble for all visitors and all budgets. We want you to love our city! Plus, all of our activities have been tested and approved by locals. What better stamp of approval could you want?





## **Guided tours**

#### Discover Grenoble from every angle!

Get to know the city inside and out. A guide will reveal the secrets of this little city once known as Cularo, with juicy gossip on the local 18th century jet set. Science, architecture, and neighborhood visits all have choice spots on the program of visits offered all year long.

## Theatrical visits

#### Become a tourist in Grenoble just for a summer!

Come dusk, what could be better than ending a great day in Grenoble with a show that's half theater, half visit? Blending historic facts and fiction, our theater troupe takes you into some of the secret spots normally hidden from the public.





Join and follow us on **facebook** www.facebook.com/OfficedeTourismedeGrenoble



FIND AND BUY ALL **OUR PRODUCTS ON** 

www.grenoble-tourisme.com



## KIDDIE CORNER

#### **Bite-sized**

all-you-can-enjoy visits!

We haven't forgotten the little ones! They can have fun with one of 45 amusing and educational visits designed just for them. On the Stade des Alpes turf, they'll become footballers. In the counterweight room of the cable car, mechanics. Or why not mayor at city hall or a musician at the MC2 house of culture?

### **Treasure hunt!**

If your kids are adventurers at heart, they just might find the fabulous treasure!

Following Barnaby, last soldier to guard the Bastille, your little treasure hunters will decipher the mysteries of the fort. They can also help the fairy Melusine in her quest for the magic potion that will save her from tragedy. Mysteries, enigmas, and secret codes add a dose of fun to any child's visit of the city.

#### Barnaby & the ammonite trail

An orientation trail for the whole family to enjoy year round as they discover the military history of the Bastille fort.

Ages 6 & up. Discovery booklet on sale at the Tourist Office.





# THE SOUVENIR SHOP

Looking to take home a souvenir of your stay? Why not something tasty from the region? You'll find a wide selection of items in the Tourist Office souvenir shop. And if you're looking for a tee shirt or another souvenir, you'll definitely be spoilt for choice!



FIND AND BUY ALL OUR PRODUCTS ON

www.grenoble-tourisme.com



## An urban cable car

Since 1934, a steel cable has connected Grenoble to the summit of the Bastille. This innovation was a first in Europe and at the time, one would have had to travel to Rio de Janeiro or Cape Town to find another urban cable car. In 1976, the famous transparent cabins of the "bubbles" replaced the original metal cars. 14 million visitors have already left Grenoble with the unforgettable memory of traveling through the air, the city at their feet.



Open year round. Exact opening hours are available at the Tourist Office or directly at the cable car authority's ticket counter.

Closed during 3 weeks in January for annual maintenance.

Tourist Office ( : 04 76 42 41 41

Cable car authority £ : 04 76 44 33 65 www.bastille-grenoble.com



## **History of the fort**

A small watchtower is all that remains from the original constructions built in 1591 by the Duke of Lesdiguières to protect Grenoble. From 1823 to 1848 General Haxo built the great fortifications that we see today, and he preserved the little watchtower. Although the ramparts in the valley were progressively engulfed by the city, the Bastille's fortifications—defensive slopes, dungeons, barracks, strongholds, moats, and firing banks--have survived to the present day. Several paths allow visitors to discover this exceptional military and architectural site.



### **Fun festivities**

Today, the soldiers have left the fort in the hands of the Grenoble locals who have turned the Bastille into a festive venue where bands, dancers, and other artists light up the mountain.





## The Mountain **Troops Museum**

The history of the mountain soldiers has been written on many fronts, both in France and abroad. The museum immerses visitors in the adventure from the creation of these armed forces in 1888 to the present day. 600m<sup>2</sup> are dedicated to the life and experience of these men and women who master the techniques of mountain combat.



An audioguide is available in several languages (French, English, Italian) Admission and opening hours available at www.bastille-grenoble.com/ musee\_troupes

## **Bastille Art Center (BAC)**

A little pink door leads curious visitors to the vaulted rooms at the core of the fortifications. The BAC takes advantage of the unique environment offered by the fort barracks to showcase contemporary French and international artists. Personalized visits, children's workshops, and a high-quality program highlight the art of today in this surprising setting.

#### **▶** HIGHLIGHTS The Mountain Troops Memorial

200 meters above the Bastille, atop the Mount Jalla, stands a memorial to the 150,000 mountain troops who lost their lives in battle. The site, which is easily accessible by a 30-minute walk up a footpath, offers a place to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

## **Disabled-friendly access**

Passageways, elevators, and specially-adapted flooring make nearly 40% of the site—including the lookout--accessible to handicapped visitors.

#### **GOOD TO KNOW**

A snack bar and two restaurants are available at the summit offering quick bites as well as fine dining. Stop by the gift shop to pick up a little souvenir, local delight, or post card for friends back home.







#### **Acrobastille**

Airborne acrobatic paths through the moats and fortifications, a caving labyrinth to explore by headlight, a giant zip line and a witch's grotto are just some of the most recent additions to the Bastille. In a fully secured environment, get views of the Bastille and the city that will send chills of excitement down your spine!



For ages 4 & up, depending on the activity www.acrobastille.fr

#### The "storming of the Bastille" via ferrata

Adrenaline addicts, this one's for you. Just 10 minutes from the city center, the via ferrata climbs up along the rocky buttresses leading to the Bastille ramparts. Two parts of the climb, divided by a footpath, make for 250m of vertical ascent. The second part is more challenging and requires good physical condition.



Security equipment required More information at the Maison de la Montagne www.grenoble-montagne.com



#### **Hike to the Mont Rachais**

A real mountain hike starting right from the city center? It's possible for the whole family by passing through the Jardin des Dauphins park, the Bastille, the Mont Jalla, and finally up to the Mont Rachais, at the beginning of the Chartreuse mountains. 800 meters of uphill climb offer hikers sumptuous views of Grenoble and the Alps as well as a chance to observe local plant life.



Download a trail map at www.bastille-grenoble.com Information panels illustrate the evolution of the city as well as the secrets of the landscape and fortifications.





# VISIT MORE and save more! Grenoble PASS

# Custom build your Pass to discover the city as you like!

Grenoble Museum of Art



Tourist train or guided visit

Stendhal Museum



MORE INFORMATION AND RATES...

www.grenoble-tourisme.com



# A visit to the neighborhoods

2,000 years of history to discover! From the earliest Christian times to the latest architectural works, there's nothing like a stroll through Grenoble's neighborhoods to discover the city's soul.

To the rhythm of your footsteps, the city reveals its secrets...



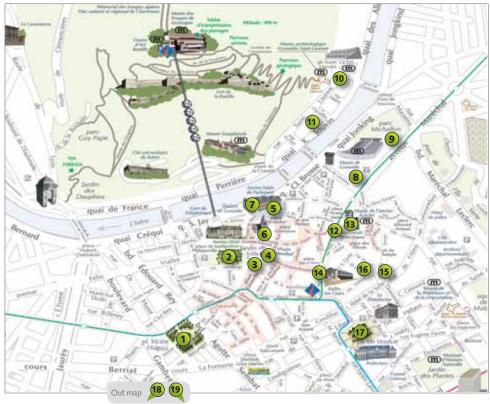


## **Place Victor Hugo**

You'll inevitably walk through this square! With its prime location at the heart of the bourgeois 19th century Haussman style neighborhoods, Grenoblois locals still appreciate Place Victor Hugo today. In summer, its landscaped flowerbeds, green patches, and fountains make for a refreshing, shady place to relax. In autumn, it hosts the Millésime, a muchanticipated wine and music festival. In winter, the bells of the Christmas market ring out across the square. The buildings surrounding Place Victor Hugo with their richly decorated molded cement façades bear witness to the importance of this material in Grenoble's architecture at the end of the 19th century.

## HIGHLIGHTS Saint Louis church

This parish church was founded at the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century by Monseigneur Le Camus, bishop of Grenoble and is dedicated to Saint Louis, patron saint of King Louis XIV. With its cross-shaped floor plan, it is an example of the sober classical style of Claude Mollart, engineer to the king and architect of the city of Grenoble. The church houses a beautiful 18<sup>th</sup> century altar.





## Jardin de Ville park

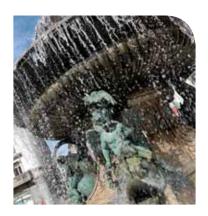
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The ideal place for a picnic, right around the corner from the pedestrian streets. The Jardin de Ville has preserved its original 17th century flower garden and shade trees. The Duke of Lesdiguières commissioned the gardens for his townhouse, which today houses the Maison de l'International. The Grenoblois have enjoyed relaxing in the park since it was opened to the public in 1719. Since it's tucked away from the bustle of the city center, it's also a great place to let children play. Numerous events, such as the Cabaret Frappé music festival are also organized here.

### La Valette water tower



Also known as the dolphin fountain, its real name comes from the Marquis de la Valette, former mayor of Grenoble who inaugurated a new water system for the city. The fountain is decorated with four cherubs riding dolphins, symbol of the Dauphiné region. It was installed in 1826 on the Place Grenette, site of the medieval grain market and the guillotine of the French Revolution. Fortunately, the device was only used twice! Today, Place Grenette is the heartbeat of the city, with its many café terraces that come to life when the sun comes out.



## The Stendhal Museum

This museum includes several sites--the apartment where Stendhal was born, the Gagnon apartment (that of Stendhal's grandfather), and the collection preserved at the Bibliothèque d'études library—to give the public the opportunity to learn more about the literary works of this prolific Romantic author. A historic visit through the old center allows visitors to follow in the footsteps of the author of *The Life of Henri Brulard*, an autobiographic novel that takes place in 19th century Grenoble.



More information The Stendhal Museum-Gagnon apartment *[*" : 04 76 86 52 08 www.stendhal-grenoble.fr





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## **Place Saint André**

The "place du Trib'" so dear to the Grenoblois is also one of the city's student hotspots. The square is dominated by two imposing edifices that played key roles in the city's history, the old courthouse and the Saint André church. It is also home to La Table Ronde, the oldest bistro in Grenoble and one of the oldest in France—it opened in 1739! At the center, the statue of the knight Bayard adds to the historic importance of the site. But don't worry, despite the regal airs of the square, it's always a fun and lively place, especially on summer nights!



The Saint André church was built in 1228 by the dauphin Guigues VI. It is remarkable for its sober plain brick structure, typical of Dauphinois architecture at the time. The Gothic bell tower dates from the 14<sup>th</sup> century and can be seen from the Place de Gordes. This square was created in 1791 where the rectory of the Canon provost once stood.

# The old courthouse 70 and parliament building

The old courthouse was the seat of Grenoble's judicial system until 2002, when the new courthouse was inaugurated at Europole. It's one of the city's architectural jewels, with a mid-section in late 15<sup>th</sup> century Gothic style. To the right, you can see the magnificent Renaissance façade sculpted in bluegray limestone. The left wing of the building was built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, following the model of the Renaissance wing. Up until the French Revolution, it was also home to the Parliament of the Dauphiné, which registered royal laws and made sure they were enforced in the province.



#### The Dauphinois Museum

Located on the slopes of the Bastille, looking over the Isère River and the rooftops of the city, the Dauphinois Museum is housed in the former Saint Marie d'en Haut convent which dates from the 17<sup>th</sup> century. It presents the life and culture of the Dauphinois Alps, with each exhibit as an investigation into history but also a look at modern times.



Open every day
except Tuesday, January 1,
May 1 and December 25.
The Dauphinois Museum
30, Maurice Gignoux

1:04 57 58 89 01
www.musee-dauphinois.fr

### Grenoble the resistant

The Grenoble underground was the theater of one of France's most organized resistance movements starting in 1940. After WWII, the General De Gaulle named Grenoble, as well as four other cities (Nantes, Paris, Vassieux en Vercors, and Ile de Sein) Companions of the Liberation.



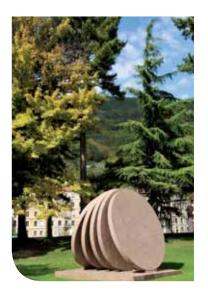


## Grenoble Museum of Art 80

Considered one of the finest museums in Europe for its ancient and 20<sup>th</sup> century art collections, the Grenoble Museum of Art traces the history of Western art from the 13<sup>th</sup> century to today in its permanent exhibit, which includes more than 1,500 works. Each period includes work from some of the greatest painters like Rubens, Canaletto, Gaugin, Picasso and Matisse. Founded in 1798, the Grenoble Museum of Art moved into its current facilities in 1994. The building offers 18,000m<sup>2</sup> of space and a vast sculpture park. Temporary exhibits are regularly organized, notably in the Tour de l'Ile which is a medieval tower that was included in the modern structure. The museum also boasts a remarkable collection of ancient Egyptian, Greek, and Roman art.

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Open every day except Tuesday, January 1, May 1 and December 25 Grenoble Museum of Art 5, place de Lavalette 2: 04 76 63 44 44 www.museedegrenoble.fr



## Albert Michallon Sculpture Park

When the museum goes outdoors, everyone enjoys it! With around 15 works, the sculpture park and François Mitterrand esplanade are natural extensions of the exhibition halls. While Calder's Monsieur Loyal and Di Suvero's Etoile polaire stand proudly in front of the museum, the century-old trees of the park offer a shady haven for other works like Dodeigne's Couple and Rickey's Conversation, which gently waves its stainless steel arms in the breeze.

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## **Gallo-Roman ramparts**

One of the oldest remains of the city, the ramparts were built between 286 and 293 A.D. by the emperor Diocletian to defend his city, then named Cularo. Many remnants of this 1.5 kilometer wall have survived to the present day, including a semi-circle tower on rue Lafayette. As you stroll through the city, you'll come across several small metal plaques on the ground, which mark the exact location of the ramparts that defined the limits of Cularo.



# The Grenoble Archeology 10. Museum at Saint Laurent

A major archeology site, the GAM at Saint Laurent bears witness to nearly 20 centuries of urban, religious, and human history in Grenoble. From the first 4<sup>th</sup> century mausoleums to the 19<sup>th</sup> century church, the site has stood the test of time and built up layers of history since the beginning of Christianity.



Open every day except Tuesday,
January 1, May 1 and December 25
Grenoble Archeology Museum at Saint Laurent
Place Saint-Laurent 2: 04 76 44 78 68
www.musee-archeologique-grenoble.fr



## Saint Laurent neighborhood

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At the foot of the Bastille, the Saint Laurent neighborhood was long the Little Italy of Grenoble. It has held on to its Italian influences and especially its restaurants! The right bank of the Isère River harmoniously brings together artists, galleries, and cafés. Each trimester, the popular traditional rummage sale sets up its stands in the shadows of some of the city's most important historic sites like the 4th century Saint Oyand crypt in the GAM and the Porte de France monument, built in the 17th century by the Duke of Lesdiguières to protect the north entrance into the city. The Saint Laurent neighborhood is easy to get to from the city center—just take the Saint Laurent bridge. It was built in 1837 where a medieval drawbridge once connected the two banks of the Isère River.

#### **CSTIC - La Casemate**

The Center for Scientific, Technical, and Industrial Culture houses exhibits on the latest scientific discoveries in the old military barracks at the foot of the Bastille. This exhibition space also offers public science workshops.



Open every day except Tuesday, January 1, May 1 and Dec. 25 CSTIC - La Casemate 2, place Saint-Laurent : 04 76 44 88 80 www.ccsti-grenoble.org







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### **Place Notre Dame**

Sun-lit surroundings and flavors of the south of France draw people to the Place Notre Dame and the adjacent Brocherie and Chenoise streets. This bustling area also attracts visitors with its café terraces and French and foreign restaurants. And because in Grenoble, history is never far, the Fountain of the Three Orders, built in 1888, reminds passers-by that in 1788, the clergy, nobility, and the common people came together to give birth to the French Revolution. Under the watchful eye of four bronze tritons, this veritable history book of a monument tells the story of the dawn of the Revolution and loudly proclaims the values of the budding Republic: liberty, equality, fraternity, and justice.

## Notre Dame Cathedral 130

Notre Dame Cathedral was the seat of power for bishop of Grenoble, who shared control of the city with the royal dauphin. It was built in the Middle Ages as a response to the Saint André church. The cathedral in its currents state dates from the 13<sup>th</sup> century. It is connected to the Saint Hughes church and the episcopal palace, which today is the Old Bishop's Palace Museum, dedicated to the history of the Isère department. It also houses an exceptional 4<sup>th</sup> century baptismal font, discovered during the construction of the tramway in 1989.

#### The Old Bishop's Palace Museum

The museum housed in the old bishop's palace contains important relics of the city's religious history in its underground area, notably the baptistery from the earliest Christian times. The above-ground floors invite visitors—touchscreen tablet in hand—to discover the history and civilization of the area.



## Grenoble, cradle of the French Revolution

In 1788, the Day of the Roof Tiles mobilized the population, who protected their parliamentarians from attacking royal troops. The Estates of Vizille followed, leading to the summoning of the Estates General in 1789. Two Grenoble citizens, Antoine Barnave and Jean-Joseph Mounier, proved valiant in the events and played key roles in initiating the



The Three Orders watch over the Place Notre Dame from the top of their namesake fountain.



## **Place Sainte Claire**

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Another square dear to locals' hearts! The food and local produce market in and around the food hall bring the city center to life each day. The steel and glass hall, based on similar Parisian-style halls, was built in the 19th century and reigns in the center of the square named after an ancient convent destroyed during the French Revolution. On the façade, a fountain composed of a dolphin surrounded by sun rays and topped with three roses symbolizes the rulers of the city in the Middle Ages: the dauphins, the consuls, and the clergy.

#### Saint Cecile Convent

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This ancient Bernadine convent, built in 1624 and closed after the French Revolution, has been the headquarters of the Glénat publishing house since 2008. Before that, it was a dance hall, a cinema, and a theatre! The building has been completely restored and inside, the cloister, chapel, main staircase, and grand doors have conserved their historic charm. The chapel, which is open to the public, showcases the impressive collection of all the books published by Glénat. Guided tours allow visitors to see the cloister and the main staircase.



More information: www.saintececile.glenat.com



#### Les Editions Glénat



## The Antique District

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Here, where old clocks stand guard in the windows, time seems to stand still. The rues Voltaire and Bayard contain so many antique and ancient book shops that everybody just calls them the Antique District. The calm of this neighborhood, which seems almost suspended in the 17th century that saw their creation, is a perfect place for a meditative stroll. And why not go all the way to the Sainte Marie d'en Bas theater, whose stage sits in the former convent chapel.





## Place de Verdun

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The old Place d'Armes of the Second Empire is still the theater of military parades and serves as an example of particularly sober urban planning. It is especially interesting for its stone façades carved in the styles of a variety of periods like Antiquity and the Renaissance. The old museum-library housed the Grenoble Museum of Art until 1993. Today, it is home to the Plateforme, an information center on the city's urban projects.

# Championnet Quarter

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So close to the city center, yet it has almost a village feel. The Championnet Quarter is built around the namesake square and although it's right in the heart of the city, the quarter has all that its inhabitants need right at their doorstep: small food shops, bars, restaurants, trendy boutiques, and young designers' workshops give this neighborhood a distinctive feel. You'll have to see it for yourself!

## Bonne EcoNeighborhood 190

The creation of a new neighborhood is always an event. But when the neighborhood becomes a European reference for sustainable development, it becomes a historic event! Today, the Bonne neighborhood, located on a former military base, has become an area of the city in its own right, where people like to live, work, learn, shop, and go for a jog. With its landscaped areas around the Jardin des Vallons and a shopping center, people come here from all over the city and beyond. There's not a season that goes by without a visit from a foreign delegation coming to see the project that won the 2009 Grand Prix for EcoNeighborhoods. Architecture buffs will marvel at the different techniques used to reduce energy consumption, such as exterior insulation, solar panels, cogeneration, and more. Even if you're not a fan of architecture, you'll have the pleasure of seeing what the city of the future may look like.

#### **Natural History Museum**

Discover the minerals, animals, and fossils of the Alps. Outside the museum, the botanical garden offers a 22,000m<sup>2</sup> oasis of verdant calm.



Open every day except Tuesday, January 1, May 1 and Dec. 25 Natural History Museum 1, rue Dolomieu 1: 04 76 44 05 35 www.museum-grenoble.fr

## Resistance and Deportation Museum

Discover the story of WWII and the Resistance in the Isère department through the eyes of the men and women who lived them.



Open every day except Tuesday, January 1, May 1 and Dec. 25 Resistance and Deportation Museum 14, rue Hébert : 04 76 42 38 53 www.resistance-en-isere.fr





## The Bouchayer-Viallet district

This old factory site is being transformed as we speak! The immense construction site, commissioned in 2005 by the city of Grenoble, has already begun shaping the landscapes to come, dotted with a mix of contemporary and renovated turn-of-the-20th century buildings. After having been occupied by one of the world's leading manufacturers of penstocks, Bouchayer-Viallet, the district is undergoing a modern renaissance. Housing, office buildings, athletic and cultural centers will make this area one of the liveliest in the city of tomorrow. Just like the Bonne neighborhood, it proclaims its green side loud and proud with solar panels, geothermal heating, rooftop gardens, and more.



## The Drac **Reflections building**

This was the first office building to be created on the Bouchayer-Viallet site. Easy to spot from the motorway, its unique architecture continues to surprise passers-by. The roof and façades are covered in fishnet metal panels. The architect Jacques Ferrier has thus managed to keep the buildings cool in the summer without blocking the sunlight. The 800m<sup>2</sup> of solar panels generate 25% of the energy necessary for the building.





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## The Magasin-CNAC

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Located in a hall built by Gustave Eiffel for the 1900 World's Fair in Paris and then disassembled and transported to Grenoble for the Bouchayer-Viallet factories, Le Magasin is France's second largest contemporary art center. Under the immense umbrella of glass and steel, the center houses temporary art exhibits by world-renowned artists.

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Open from Tuesday to Sunday.
The Magasin–CNAC
155, cours Berriat - Bouchayer-Viallet site \( \infty \): 04 76 21 95 84
www.magasin-cnac.org

## Saint Bruno neighborhood 40

This area has preserved the charm and atmosphere of the working class neighborhoods of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, just outside the city center. The Cours Berriat and tram line run through the area, which has been growing in energy in recent years. This is partly due to the creation of the Europole district and the renovation of the Bouchayer-Viallet site. It's also famous for its daily market, which is a veritable institution in Grenoble. Shoppers can find just about everything in a lively multi-cultural atmosphere. The market is held on Saint Bruno square, at the foot of the 19<sup>th</sup> century neo-Roman church.

#### ARhome Museum

This private museum of innovation in industrial fasteners presents the highlights of the history of the A. Raymond group, inventor of the push button.



Open from September to June the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month ARhome Museum 113, cours Berriat /\*: 04 76 33 49 01 www.museeindustriel.fr



Europole 5•

This business district was built adjacent to the SNCF train station and hosts some of the city's biggest buildings: the court house, World Trade Center, the international school campus and gymnasium, Grenoble Management School, and more. Though the architecture is already modern, the whole district is getting ready to take on another dimension with the much-anticipated reorganization of the train station. Further on, towards the end of the expanding tram line, the Presqu'ile GIANT project is already underway and is destined to create an international campus for IT innovation, health, and renewable energy.



# Justice Courthouse

6

This majestic building is the work of architect Claude Vasconi and brings together the city's various judicial and legal services. They have been housed here since 2002 but were spread across several sites before, including the old Parliament building of Saint André square. The floor plan forms an isosceles triangle to adapt to the available land, but also to represent this symbol of justice. Light and transparency were the architect's guiding principles throughout the project, as is evidenced by the glass façades that allow natural light to flood into the building.

# The road to the future



etween the historic city center to the north and the more recent neighborhoods to the south, visitors can literally see the how the city evolved through the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In this area, from Paul Mistral Park to the MC2 House of Culture, Grenoble expanded in ways that few other French cities have in order to accommodate a rapidly growing population, especially during the 30 years following WWII. Several buildings representing the modern and contemporary architectural style of the period mark the urban landscape of this part of the city. Both architectural examples and symbols of a growing city, they are part of locals' everyday life. By foot, by bike, or by tram, discover these unique buildings while enjoying the shady parks all along the way.

### **Paul Mistral Park**

The International Hydropower and Tourism Exhibition in 1925 led to the creation of Paul Mistral Park, named after the mayor of Grenoble who served from 1919 to 1932. Ever since, this vast green space with its varied atmospheres has never stopped developing. Most recently, it was redesigned by the landscaper Alexandre Chemetoff. The park stretches all the way to the Isère riverbanks, making it one of the city's biggest parks. Throughout the year, it hosts various musical, cultural, and athletic events. Depending on the event, the park becomes a silent nightclub, a concert venue, a beach, or even a ski slope. You could say it's somewhere between Central Park and Paris Plage!

#### The Perret Tower

See 95 meters of finely sculpted reinforced concrete. The boldness of architect Auguste Perret is carved into this edifice, the only remaining trace of the 1925 International Hydropower and Tourism Exhibition. As the first tower built using reinforced concrete, it shone like a lighthouse on the surrounding mountains. Today, it is lit with blue lights every night. Not open to the public.

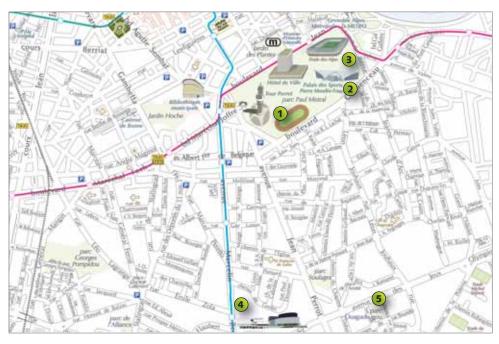
## **Sculptures**

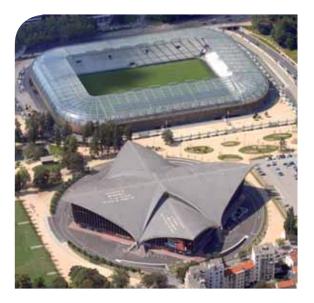
Several sculptures dot the Paul Mistral Park. They remain from the first French sculpture symposium organized by the city in 1967. Several artists worked directly on the park greens. Ever since, public art works have spread throughout the city. One of the most recent works, Resistance by the sculptor Alain Kirilli, was installed in May 2011 near the Palais des Sports arena.



1 •







## **Sports Arena**

The immense arched roof of the Palais des Sports hosted several events during the 1968 Winter Olympics, for which the structure was built. Its shell, made up of two meter-thick veils of reinforced concrete employs the audacious techniques used a few years before in the construction of the Center of New Industries and Technologies at La Défense in Paris. It covers an open space abundantly lit by natural daylight, which, 50 years on, allows the building to continue to host big events like the International Circus Festival, the Six Days of Cycling of Grenoble, and various concerts.

#### ▶ The 1968 Olympic Games

13 days that changed the city forever! Beyond the athletic competitions organized in Grenoble and in the surrounding mountains, the 10th Winter Olympiade completely transformed the urban landscape



## The Alpes' stadium

With its transparent curves, the Stade des Alpes stands out for the way it brings players and spectators close together. The architects of the Chaix and Morel firm created this luminous glass structure to offer views of the surrounding mountains. With more than 20,000 seats, it hosts games, but also national and international conventions and fairs.



#### Visitez le stade!

With the Tourist Office, visit the Stade des

Information: 04 76 42 41 41





### MC2: House of Culture

10

Inaugurated in 1968 by President André Malraux, the MC2: House of Culture was entirely renovated and expanded in 2004 to include two 1,000-seat auditoriums and several dance studios. It has everything needed to put on eclectic theater and music shows, not to forget the MC2: bar, which is dedicated to the electro scene.

5 🗨



MC2: House of Culture 4, rue Paul Claudel / : 04 76 00 79 00 www.mc2grenoble.fr

# Ouagadougou Park

This modern park smiles up at the mountains and contributes to the quality of the city's environment. The

Ougadougou Park, recently created on an old industrial site measuring 9,000 m<sup>2</sup> is not just a nice place to relax and play, it is also set up to collect, filter, and absorb rain water from the nearby neighborhood.



# **▶** Villeneuve & co.

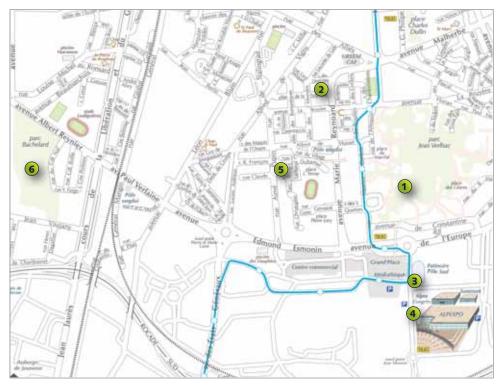


n the southern part of Grenoble, the history of the city has been written around the Villeneuve neighborhood, the Grand'Place shopping center, and the Alpexpo convention center since the 1970s. Over the course of many projects, this former farmland has become an active urban center in the greater Grenoble area, linked to the city center by the tramway and bike paths. It's the opportunity to hop on your bike and discover refreshing sensations at the Pole Sud ice skating rink and the Piscine des Dauphins swimming pool.



Villeneuve 1•

A neighborhood emblematic of 1970s Grenoble, Villeneuve left its mark on the history of urban planning by its desire to bring together all the services and facilities inhabitants could need in a covered street at the foot of the Arlequin buildings. At the heart of the project, the Jean Verlhac park was built around a pond by landscaper Michel Corajoud and is one of the city's largest green areas. In summer it is a favorite playground for children thanks to its refreshing pond. In winter, the children sled down snowy hills. Today, Villeneuve is undergoing a wide-scale urban renewal project with building renovations, improved access to the park and other neighborhoods, and more balanced mixed-income housing.



# The Bike Building2.

Once again, Grenoble proves its dedication to sustainable architecture with this original building from the Herault-Arnod architecture firm. The construction is designed to limit energy consumption, but is all the more remarkable for the way its 56 apartments are organized. From the street, you can access apartment without getting off your bike thanks to outdoor elevators and passageways. They're so wide, you can ride your bike on all floors of the building!



#### **Polesud**

3 🔵

The Polesud ice skating rink is the work of the Grenoble architecture firm Herault-Arnod. Since 2001, it has replaced the former ice rink that was built in Paul Mistral Park for the 1968 Winter Olympics. Its opaque and iceblue outdoor walls house a sports arena that welcomes competitions and ice shows. With a 3,500 spectator seating capacity, it boasts more seats than any other ice arena in France. Polesud is also home to the Grenoble hockey team, the Brûleurs de Loups (the Wolf Burners), who trains and plays here. A second rink is open to the public, and children love to come here to experience the fun of ice skating.



The Tourist Office organizes a visit of the Polesud ice rink, includin the locker rooms and other zones normally closed to the public. Information: 04 76 42 41 41



# **Alpexpo**

4 4

This is where all the great fairs and conventions of Grenoble take place: the Mountain World Exhibition, the International Fair of Grenoble, the Etudiant magazine exhibition, the Mountain Cinema convention, the European Woodbuilding exhibition, and more. The building was constructed in 1969 by the architects Jean and Claude Prouvé, with 30,000 m² of surface area. Together with the Summum, a concert and show venue, the two sites offer a dense program of events.



ALPEXPO - Grenoble's Events Venue Avenue d'Innsbruck (\*): 04 76 39 66 00 www.alpexpo.com

# The Olympic Village

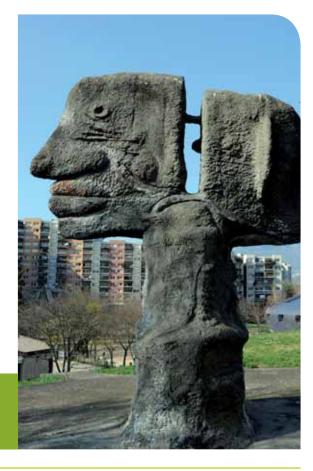
Designed by architect Maurice Novarina to house the athletes of the 1968 the "OV" has since become a livable neighborhood recognized for its modern architecture. At the heart of the complex, the 15<sup>th</sup> century Prémol Tower has been conserved and today houses a children's center.

# Dauphins' swimming pool

Located between the Olympic Village and the Grand'Place shopping center, this pool satisfies demanding swimmers as well as water game enthusiasts. With its two pools, giant waterslide, lazy river, and "massage bench," there are activities for the whole family.



The monumental works created for the 1967 Sculpture Symposium.



# **Bachelard Park**

The ideal spot for a fun or relaxing moment, with a little lake and playgrounds for visitors of all ages. You can also enjoy a ride on the park train, unless the nearby cross country track and Lesdiguières stadium, home of the Grenoble rugby team, inspire you to lace up your running shoes and do a few laps around the 1.5 km track. The park is built on what was once a landscaped estate along the Drac River, created in the 15<sup>th</sup> century by the Count of Médavy, governor of the Dauphiné province.



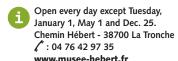


# Surprises galore

Just a few steps away from the city center, the greater Grenoble area is chock full of natural sites, museums, and monuments worth discovering for their history or just out of curiosity. Here are a few ideas to set you on the right track...

#### Hébert Museum

Somewhere between romanticism and symbolism, the former summer residence of the artist Ernest Hébert (1817-1908) pays tribute to the painter and his work. The gardens have been labeled as "Remarkable Gardens" by the French Minister of Culture.





# The Casamaures

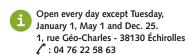
This little middle-eastern style palace with its molded cement façades was built in the 19th century at the foot of the Bastille. The Casamaures was built on an architectural whim and today is a must-see classified historic monument.

Open the first Saturday of the month from February to December. 8 bis, avenue Général Leclerc 38950 Saint-Martin-Le-Vinoux **(** : 09 50 71 70 75 www.casamaures.org



# The Géo-Charles Museum

From the permanent exhibits of the poet Géo-Charles to temporary contemporary art exhibits, this museum aims to unite sports and arts.





# The Viscose Museum

This site preserves the memory of the Isère department's working classes and bears witness to the importance of the sewing and weaving workers who labored in the viscose factories. This artificial silk was created from wood pulp and was used to make lingerie and furniture.

Open from Monday to Friday and the 1st weekend of each month. 27, rue du Tremblay - 38130 Échirolles \( \text{: 04 76 33 08 28} \) www.musee-viscose.fr



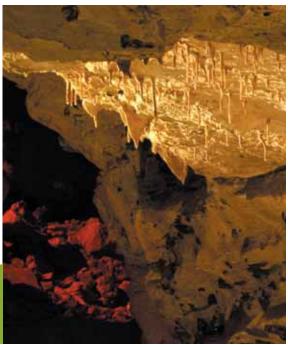
## The Sassenage Cisterns

This underground maze, well known among speleologists, is also a great place for the whole family to discover. Created at the foot of the Vercors, the cisterns capture the mountain's ground water and whisper the legend of the fairy Mélusine, who is said to have found refuge here.



Open from May to October. Ville de Sassenage - 38360 Sassenage ( : 04 76 27 55 37 www.sassenage.fr





### The Grenoble Y

The "Y" is the name given to the site where the Isère and Drac rivers meet and on which the greater Grenoble area has developed. Together, the 28 cities are known as the Métro and include 400.000 inhabitants. Between the Belledonne, Vercors, and Chartreuse mountains, the metropolitan area even stretches up onto the surrounding slopes. This means half of the city's surface area is actually forest land. Grenoble is also France's 2nd largest scientific research center, after the Ile de France region.



# Famous locals

They're famous and you've surely already heard of them, but did you know that they were all from Grenoble or the Daupiné region? Be it in literature, science, politics, or art, here is a non-exhaustive list of a few people who have left their mark on the history of the city and often of France!

### Stendhal 1783-1842

It's in Grenoble that the famous novelist Henri Beyle was born in 1783 and where he spent the first 16 years of his life in a well-to-do family. Deeply hurt by the death of his mother when he was 7, he developed a profound hatred for his tyrannical father and the paternal side of the family. Henri Beyle would spend the happiest moments of his life alongside his grandfather on his mother's side, the respected Doctor Gagnon. This Dauphinois childhood influenced the rest of Stendhal's life and inspired his heavily autobiographical novels, such as The Life of Henri Brulard.

Stendhal also loved traveling and took part in the Napoleonic wars in Italy and Russia, became intendant in Germany, and then moved to Italy where he was named consul in 1830. It was in 1817 that he first used the pen name Stendhal, taken from the name of a German town where he lived and fell in love between 1807 and 1808. Little known during his lifetime, the sociological writer constantly observed and wrote about the world in which he lived. He only saw a few of his works published, including The Red and the Black (1830) and The Charterhouse of Parma (1839).



# The Knight Bayard 1476-1524

"Without fear and without reproach," Pierre Terrail, born in Pontcharra, perfectly symbolizes the ideal knight. An excellent horse rider skilled at wielding a sword, he fought in the service of Charles VIII, Louis XII, and François the 1st, became lieutenant general of the Dauphiné region, and won the battle of Marignan. A statue of the knight reigns over the Place Saint André, not far from the church where he is buried.



### Jacques de Vaucanson 1709-1782

Born in 1709 to a glove maker, Vaucanson was a member of the Academy of Science and invented the automatic weaving machine and tool machines. A genius when it came to invention, he also developed automatons, including his famous mechanical duck, a copy of which is on display at the automaton museum, La Magie des Automates.



#### Antoine Barnave 1762-1793

A lawyer born in Grenoble, Barnave supported the independence of the Dauphiné Parliament during the Day of the Roof Tiles in 1788. Elected as mayor of Grenoble then president of the constituent assembly in 1790, he tried to save the monarchy and was imprisoned in the Saint Marie d'en Haut convent in Grenoble before being guillotined in Paris.



### Jean-François Champollion 1790-1832

Originally from the Valbonais, he moved to Grenoble to quench his passion for hieroglyphics. Considered as the father of Egyptology, he led an expedition to Egypt, translated the mysterious Rosetta Stone, and was later named to the College of France in 1831. The city's acquisitions from this period of Egyptomania can be seen at the Grenoble Museum of Art, where you can also find a statue of Champollion by Bartholdi.



#### ► Xavier Jouvin 1801-1844

Continuing in the glove-making tradition of his family, Jouvin began as an apprentice, studying textile mechanics and industry. In 1838 he perfected a glove-cutting system which he patented and which won him the bronze medal at the Industrial Exhibition in Paris. The "iron hand" was born and the Jouvin glove-making factory became the biggest in the city.



### ► Hector Berlioz 1803-1869

Born in La Cote Saint André, the celebrated composer wrote his famous *Symphonie Fantastique* in 1830, followed by his *Requiem*. After having studied medicine, he decided to devote his life to music and entered the conservatory in 1823. Every summer, the Berlioz Festival in La Cote Saint André pays tribute to this artist who was little known during his lifetime.



### Louis Néel 1904-2000

This scientist born in Lyon spent the majority of his career in Grenoble, where he received the Nobel Prize in physics in 1970. In 1956, he founded the Center for Nuclear Studies of Grenoble on the scientific peninsula and played a key role in developing local university and research programs.





For a business stay or a city break, the hotels of Grenoble & the surrounding area know how to roll out the red carpet

- More than **3,500 rooms**
- 1 to 4-stars

INFORMATION & RESERVATION

www.grenoble-tourisme.com







# **Gourmet** notes

Popular recipes and ancestral secrets, sometimes updated for modern tastes! From the Alpine pastures to the walnut orchards, the diversity of the Dauphiné terroir makes for a concentration of delights with pleasantly surprising character.

# Chef's recipes

# **Gratin Dauphinois potatoes**

#### For 10 people

- 500 g potatoes (Josée, Charlotte, or Binje varieties)
- Whole milk
- Salt, pepper, and garlic
- 15 cl cream
- 30 g butter

Boil the milk, salt, pepper, and garlic. Add the finely sliced potatoes and bring back to a boil. Add the cream and butter. Bake in the oven at 160°C for approximately 20 minutes.



LAURENT GRAS, CHEZ LE PÈR'GRAS Le Glacis de la Bastille 38700 La Tronche **[**]: 04 76 42 09 47 www.restaurant-grenoble-gras.com



on July 12, 1788 for a dinner organized by Charles-Henri, duke of Clermont-Ton-nerre, who was then lieutenant general of

# **Dauphinois duck breast**

with green walnut confit

#### For 4 people

- 2 duck breasts
- 100 g candied walnut syrup
- Salt, pepper
- 1 kg green walnuts
- 1.5 kg sugar
- 1.5 | water
- 2 soup spoons lemon juice
- A few whole cloves and cinnamon sticks



ALAIN GIROD, L'ESCALIER 6, place de Lavalette 38000 Grenoble **?**: 04 76 54 66 16

www.restaurant-escalier.com



Three varieties of Grenoble walnut exist:



For the candied walnuts: Wash and brush the walnuts and soften them in boiling water. Let sit for 48 hours. Make a syrup and add cloves, cinnamon, and walnuts. Drain and let macerate for 24 hours.

Lightly slice the skin of the duck breasts by cutting squares into the skin with a knife. Salt and pepper the flesh side. Pour the syrup in a pan and heat over a high flame. Add the duck breasts, skin side down and cook for 5 minutes. Turn them over to finish cooking the meat. In a pot, make a dry caramel by adding 50 g of sugar and the juice of one orange. Add 25 cl veal stock and make a reduction. Add 50 g of dried walnuts. Mix the sauce and filter.

### Trout à la Grenobloise

#### For 4 people

- 4 trout
- 150 g flour
- 150 g butter
- 1 lemon
- 80 g capers
- 150 g sliced bread



AGNÈS CHOTIN, L'AUBERGE NAPOLÉON 7, rue Montorge - 38000 Grenoble 2:0476875364 www.auberge-napoleon.fr



Use the bread to make croutons and brown them in the butter in a pan. Juice the lemon. Pat dry the trout and roll them in flour. Cook them in a buttered pan for four minutes on one side. Turn them over to cook other side. Depending on how big the trout are, finish cooking them in the oven. Add the capers, croutons, and lemon juice. Serve hot.





# Chartreuse-walnut macaroons

#### For the mixture

- 200 g ground almonds
- 50 g ground walnuts
- 250 g powdered sugar
- 85 g egg whites
- 250 g caster sugar
- 70 g water

Mix the ground nuts with the powdered sugar and liquid egg whites. Cook caster sugar and water at 120°C and pour over the whipped egg whites. Blend this mixture with the first one. Pipe macaroon shells onto a baking sheet lined with waxed paper and bake at 160°C for 12 minutes.

#### For the filling

- 200 g cream
- 200 g white chocolate
- 30 g Green Chartreuse

Boil the cream and add the white chocolate. Mix and add the Chartreuse. Chill 24 hours in the refrigerator before spreading on the macaroons.

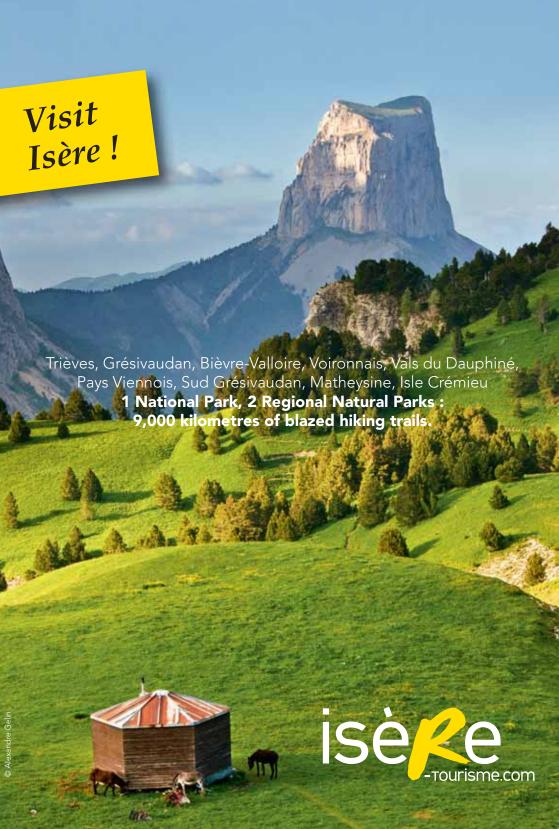
# **Chartreuse**

A precious secret kept by the Carthusian monks for centuries, the origins of Chartreuse go back to 1605. The final recipe was approved in 1737 and includes more than 130 plants and 55% alcohol. Several versions are available, from simple Green Chartreuse to VEP (Exceptionally Extended Aging) Chartreuse.

#### Grenoble water

Since the 19th century, the water of Grenoble has been directly extracted from the top level of the underground water table of the Drac river, at the Rochefort site. After having been filtered through hundreds of meters of alluviums, it arrives at the tap without any chemical treatment. What a precious gift from Mother Nature!

# BELLEDONNE • CHARTREUSE • VERCORS • OISANS







Enjoy an escapade at the heart of the Alps! With snowy summits, rocky peaks, and turquoise lakes, an exceptional natural playground waits just outside Grenoble. It's a region many unexpected surprises!



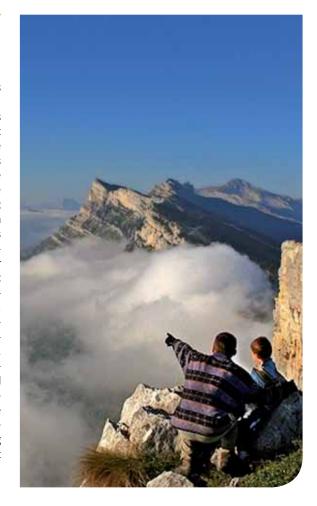


# > 360° of Alpine mountains

You can't do everything and see everything...unless you move to Grenoble! The summits form a continuous chain around the city, only interrupted by the Drac and Isère river valleys, where the city developed. More than just pretty landscapes, the mountains are a living environment full of surprising cultural, outdoor, manmade, and natural resources. With respect for the environment and the people who live there, come discover the Alps.

## The Vercors moutains

A natural limestone citadel, the Vercors covers nearly 200,000 hectares and includes peaks at up to 2,000 meters such as the Moucherotte and Saint Micheal's Peak. The highest point, the Grand Veymont (2,341 meters), sits on the edge of France's largest nature reserve. The Vercors Regional Nature Park was created in 1970. Throughout the mountains, deep gorges cut through the forests, crossed by vertiginous roads dug directly into the rock in the 19th century. By car or by bike, these routes offer fantastic ways to discover a site that lends itself as well to guiet contemplation as to outdoor sports like hiking, climbing, caving, canyoning, paragliding, and mountain biking, not to forget downhill and cross-country skiing. Here, the ski resorts are first and foremost villages where visitors will find local terroir products like Bleu du Vercors-Sassenage cheese and Vercors trout. The Vercors is also a memorial site where the French Resistance movement during WWII figures in some of history's most tragic tales.





# The Trièves and the Matheysine

South of Grenoble, between the Oisans and Vercors mountains, lies a hidden land of plateaus and valleys. Once a mining site, the Matheysine today takes pride in its industrial heritage with the Mine Image Museum thanks to the work of former miners. As for the Petit Train of La Mûre that once carried coal and passengers, it should soon be in service once again. And let's not forget that Napoleon once passed through here on his return from the island of Elba. A statue of the emperor stands as a memorial to this event in the Meeting Prairie, where the royal army who had come to stop his advance finally rallied with him! Today, you can still enjoy local murçon sausage here and then cure your sweet tooth with a Bouffette de Mens cream cake from the neighboring Trièves. Known for its rolling landscapes marked by ancestral farming practices, the Trièves happily blends alpine and provençal influences. Year round, by foot, by bike, or on horseback, it's THE place for environmentally friendly tourism, under the watchful eye of the Mont Aiguille, detached from the neighboring Vercors plateau.

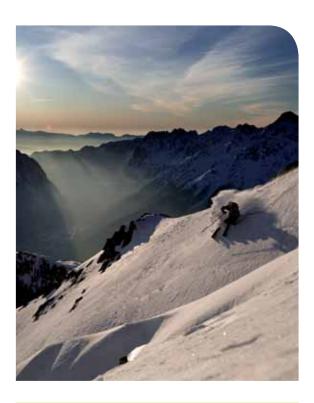


# The Oisans and the Ecrins mountains

As the cradle of alpinism with legendary summits like the Meije, the Ailefroide, and the Olan, this massif offers visitors and high-mountain buffs 150 summits at more than 3,000 meters in altitude. The highest point, the Barre des Ecrins at 4.102 meters. looks over some 700 kilometers of mountain trails that are maintained for hikers looking to discover the exceptional landscapes protected by the Ecrins National Park. The Oisans massif is also known—especially by cyclists--for its redoubtable roads and passes. Following on the trail of the Tour de France, skilled cyclists can have a go at the famous 21 hairpin turns of the Alpe d'Huez. There's also a sprawling ski area, accessible in both winter and summer!

# The Belledonne mountains

Reaching nearly 3000 meters at Grand Pic, the peaks of the Belledonne mountains form a chain well-known to the locals. Cradle of hydroelectricity, this massif is closely linked to the industrial history of the city. It was here that Aristide Bergès had the first high-head waterfall installations built at the end of the 19th century. The power harvested was used to remove fibers from wood to create paper pulp and later to produce electricity. Thermal baths at Uriage and Allevard les Bains and ski resorts have long been part of life here, where several ski resorts give visitors access to the snowy slopes. At Chamrousse, you can even relive the excitement of the 1968 Winter Olympics. The Belledonne mountains also provide an ideal setting for hikers and backcountry skiers.





#### A FEW FIGURES FOR THE PARKS & MASSIFS

Surface area and highest point

#### **CHARTREUSE**

76 700 ha Chamechaude: 2.082 m

#### **BELLEDONNE**

106,300 ha

Grand Pic de Belledonne: 2,977 m

#### **VERCORS**

205,806 ha

Grand Veymont: 2,341 m

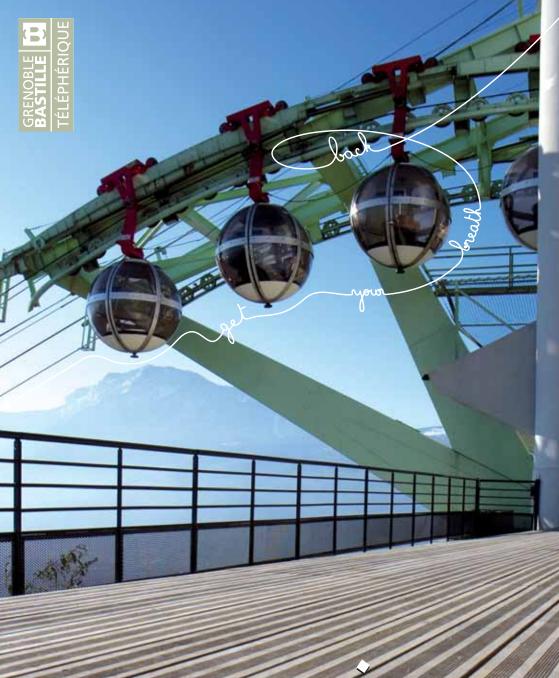
#### **OISANS**

Barre des Écrins: 4,102 m

### The Chartreuse mountains

The creation of the Chartreuse Regional Nature Park in 1995 is proof of the natural and cultural riches of this massif. Dotted with white limestone summits like Chamechaude, Charmant Som, and the Dent de Crolles that emerge from dense forest to reach 2000 meters in altitude, the Chartreuse mountains are ideal for hiking and snowshoeing. A trail running resort was also recently created in Saint Pierre de Chartreuse, at the foot of more than a dozen signposted tracks for beginning and experienced mountain runners. The Chartreuse is also home to the Icarus Cup, an international event that attracts free fliers of all sorts, including some surprising and audacious ones who go all out for the occasion. Last but not least, Chartreuse is also a liqueur distilled according to a centuries-old recipe kept secret in the Grand Chartreuse Monastery, nestled in a valley at the foot of the Grand Som.





# laBastille

DE GRENOBLE ET SON TÉLÉPHÉRIQUE

PETITE MONTAGNE FORTIFIÉE, GRAND DOMAINE DE DÉCOUVERTES A SMALL FORTIFIED MOUNTAIN, A GREAT PLACE TO EXPLORE



# Ski resorts for everyone less than an hour away

Our ski resorts all try to outdo each other and offer a wide range of unforgettable activities in both winter and summer. With family or friends, to relax or feel the thrill, you'll surely find a mountain to suit you!

# HERE'S A TIP!

Thanks to the Transisère bus network that covers the department fron its Grenoble hub, there's no need to take a car to get to the slopes! Timetables at **www.transisere.fr** 

#### Vercors

www.vercors.fr

#### **Belledonne**

www.chamrousse.com www.les7laux.com www.allevard-les-bains.com

#### Chartreuse

www.chartreuse-tourisme.com

#### **Oisans**

www.tourisme-oisans.com



# La Maison de la Montagne

For all you need to know about mountain activities around Grenoble

The one-stop place in Grenoble to get topography guides, maps, weather forecasts, tips, and up-to-date information is La Maison de la Montagne. Experienced and novice mountain enthusiasts alike come here to get the latest information on snow conditions, plan their weekend, or just flip through a hiking guidebook. Hikers, skiers, climbers, and mountain bikers, we share your enthusiasm here!



#### **MAISON DE LA MONTAGNE**

3, rue Raoul Blanchard 38000 Grenoble \$\int\$': 04 76 44 67 03

#### www.grenoble-montagne.com

OPENING HOURS From Monday to Friday: 9:30am-12:30pm/1pm-6pm Saturday; 10am-1pm/2pm-5pm



# Lakes and mountains: the perfect combination

Around Grenoble, several lakes make for a refreshing place to enjoy water sports or an afternoon dip. What's there to stop you from combining a mountain hike with a little lazy relaxing on the shore, your feet dangling in the water with your head (still) in the mountains. Some are only accessible by foot, others by bike or by car.



# **Lake Monteynard**

This lake is for kitesurfers and windsurfers, as well as for fishing and canoe enthusiasts. The lake stretches over 20 km at the foot of the Sénépy mountain and offers breathtaking landscapes that can be viewed from the deck of the boat La Mira during a surprising cruise right in the heart of the mountains. Less than 30 km away from Grenoble, the lake's turquoise waters, retained by an EDF dam built in 1962, are perfect for water sports, but that's not all. Visitors can enjoy the Mayres-Savel beaches, picnic areas, campsites, and restaurants plus mountain biking and hiking along the shore. Visitors can even walk between lake and sky thanks to two recently-installed suspended bridges measuring 180 m and 220 m in length, 85 m above the water! This attraction is the only one of its kind in Europe and can be reached after half an hour's walk. Finish off your hike with an unforgettable sky-high crossing.



# **Lake Laffrey**

Along the Napoleon Route, Lake Laffrey welcomes bathers who want to relax, enjoy a pedal-boat, windsurf, fish, or simply swim. Man-made beaches, campsites, and restaurants line the shore. There's also a ropes course for the more courageous. In winter, this natural lake (the 8th largest in France) can sometimes freeze over!

#### **Lake Taillat**

Just minutes away from downtown Grenoble, Lake Taillat is easily reachable by biking the paths along the Isère river and is classified as a "sensitive nature area" thanks to its ecological riches. There is a remarkably wide variety of amphibians as well as nesting and migrating birds.

#### Lake Paladru

5.3 km long and 800 m wide, Lake Paladru is France's 5<sup>th</sup> largest natural lake. Nestled in the wooded valleys of the Dauphiné, you can admire the Vercors, Chartreuse, and in the distance, the Belledonne mountains from here. Sometimes you'll even catch a glimpse of the Mont Blanc. All sorts of water sports are possible here, from swimming to boating, as well as windsurfing and diving.

The lake is also known for its underwater archeological digs that have uncovered remains of houses build on the shores at the end of the Neolithic period and at the beginning of the 11<sup>th</sup> century. An archeological museum houses the artifacts found during the digs and tells the story of what life was like here before water flooded the area and forced the inhabitants to flee.



#### Voironnais Area Tourism Office

Paladru Lake welcome center : 04 76 06 60 31 www.paysvoironnais.info

Southern Grenoble Tourism Office

: 04 76 68 15 16 www.sudgrenoblois-tourisme.com

Laffrey
Nautical Base

Grenoble Laffrey Sailing Club

1: 04 76 73 15 39 (in season)

Régie bateaux pédaliers ?: 04 76 73 16 37

Monteynard-Avignonnet

: 04 76 30 63 43 www.lac-monteynard.com

Find more information and news at: www.isere-tourisme.com

# Discover the Isère

# department's history & heritage

#### Museum of Contemporary Religious Art

This mid-19th century church located in Saint Pierre de Chartreuse brings together neo-Roman architecture and contemporary art works.

: 04 76 88 65 01

www.saint-hugues-arcabas.fr

#### Saint Hilaire du Touvet funicular

Get ready for a thrill! Enjoy a 20 minute ride up a 740 meter slope in the Chartreuse mountains, aboard one of the oldest touristic trains in the Alps

**?** : 04 76 08 00 02 www.funiculaire.fr

#### 3 The Bergès House

The former home of the 19th century engineer Aristide Bergès today houses the Museum of Hydropower, dedicated to the hydroelectricity industry.

: 04 38 92 19 60 www.musee-houille-blanche.fr

#### The climb up to Alpe d'Huez

Alpe d'Huez, a legendary climb of the Tour de France with its 14 km and 21 hairpin turns, welcomes many courageous cyclists every year.

#### The Meije glacier and La Grave

The "Chamonix" of the Oisans mountains. La Grave, a little high mountain village offers a stunning view of the Meije, legendary summit of the Ecrins mountains at 3.983 m.

£ : 04 76 79 90 05 www.lagrave-lameije.com

### 6 Notre Dame de la Salette

An exceptional site at 1,800 m in altitude, this sanctuary is France's 2<sup>nd</sup> most popular pilgrimage site.

\( \text{: 04 76 30 32 90} \) www.lasalette.cef.fr

#### Lake Monteynard, the La Mira boat, and the suspended bridges

A haven for water sports, Lake Monteynard is synonymous with its suspended bridges and the La Mira boat, both of which allow visitors to discover areas that cannot be reached from the lake shores.

: 04 76 34 14 56 www.sud-dauphine.com/lamira www.lac-monteynard.com

#### 8 Lake Laffrey

120 ha in surface area, this lake is an oasis of refreshment in the hot summer season.

#### The Vizille Estate

Combining history, nature, and culture, the Vizille Estate spreads out around the Chateau de Vizille. former home of the Dukes of Lesdiguières, which today houses the Museum of the French Revolution. It includes a park certified as a "Remarkable Garden" and a nature reserve.

: 04 76 68 07 35 www.domaine-vizille.fr

#### 10 Museum of Chemistry

This museum, specialized in the chemistry, the history, and modern uses of chlorine.

£ : 04 76 68 62 18 www.ville-jarrie.fr

#### 11 The Sassenage Cisterns

This classified natural heritage site invites visitors to discover the limpid waters of the Furon and a breathtaking view of Grenoble before delving into the chilly underground world.

£ : 04 76 27 55 37 www.sassenage.fr/content/grottes-les-cuves

# 12 La Magie des Automates

This exhibit showcases more than 350 automatons, which have been part of Grenoble culture ever since Jacques Vaucanson, to marvel the young and young at heart.

: 04 76 95 40 14 www.magiedesautomates.com

### 13 The Vassieux en Vercors memorial

The memorial pays tribute to the wide-scale resistance movement that developed in the Vercors during WWII and helps visitors better understand these tragic events.

🖍 : 04 75 48 26 00 www.memorial-vercors.fr

### 14 The Choranche Cave

Delve into the bowels of the earth, 300 m below the surface, to discover impressive stalactites and an emerald blue underground lake.

£ : 04 76 36 09 88 www.grottes-de-choranche.com



#### 15 The Water Museum

This museum puts the spotlight on water in all its various states and offers interactive exhibits.

: 04 76 36 15 53
www.musee-eau.com

#### 16 Thaïs Cave

At the foot of the Vercors regional nature park, Thaïs Cave is a veritable maze of prehistoric underground galleries.

/ : 04 75 48 45 76 www.grotte-de-thais.com

#### 17 Garden of Petrified Fountains

Take a tour of the botanical world with rare plants from the Americas, Africa, and Oceania.

: 04 76 64 43 42 www.jardin-des-fontaines.com

#### 18 The Vercors paddle boat

Climb aboard the paddle boat for a cruise on the Isère river at the foot of this famous Alpine chain.

( : 04 76 64 43 42 www.bateau-a-roue.com

#### 19 Carmes Convent

Built in 1343, the building houses the Museum of the Dauphins which tells the story of the Dauphins of France and the Museum of Vercors Plantlife.

: 04 76 38 01 01 www.couventdescarmes.com

### 20 Saint Antoine's abbey

A jewel of the Rhone-Alpes region's heritage, the medieval village of Saint Antoine l'Abbaye possesses a majestic gothic abbey.

: 04 76 36 44 46 www.saintantoinelabbaye.fr

### 21 Saint Antoine l'Abbaye Museum

Located at the heart of the medival city, the museum tells the story of the abbatial church from its construction in the 13th century.

(\*): 04 76 36 40 68 www.musee-saint-antoine.fr

#### 22 Le Grand Séchoir Museum

This old farm, located in a typical Isère walnut grove, tells the story of the region's veritable culinary treasure, the AOC Grenoble walnut.

: 04 76 36 36 10 www.legrandsechoir.fr

#### 23 Hector Berlioz Museum

The birthplace of the famous composer, which has been transformed into a museum dedicate to his music and life's work.

: 04 74 20 24 88 www.musee-hector-berlioz.fr

#### 24 The Chartreuse cellars

The famous liqueur is aged in these cellars by the Carthusian monks who have kept the recipe secret since the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. Visitors can tour the distillery and sample the divine nectar, with moderation!

: 04 76 05 81 77 www.chartreuse.fr

### 25 Paladru Lake

Paladru Lake is France's 5<sup>th</sup> largest natural lake and offers a great spot to relax. Splash around in the crystal clear waters at one of the lakes 6 life-guarded beaches.

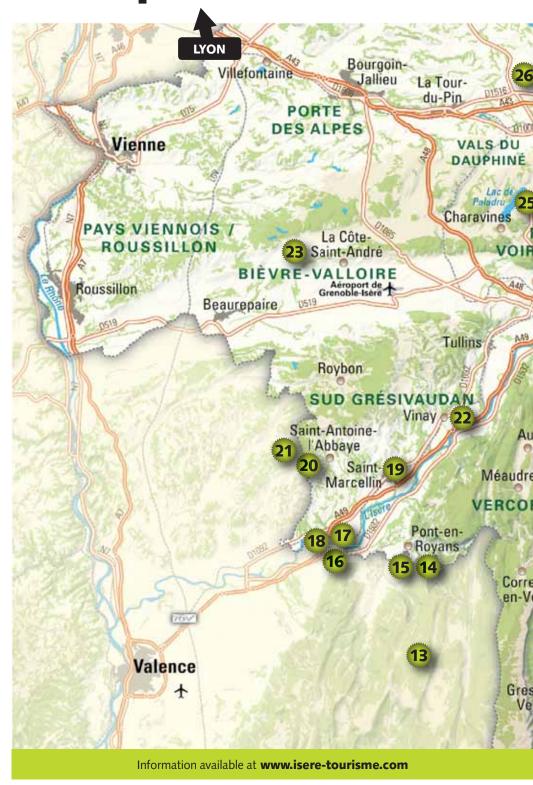
#### 26 Walibi

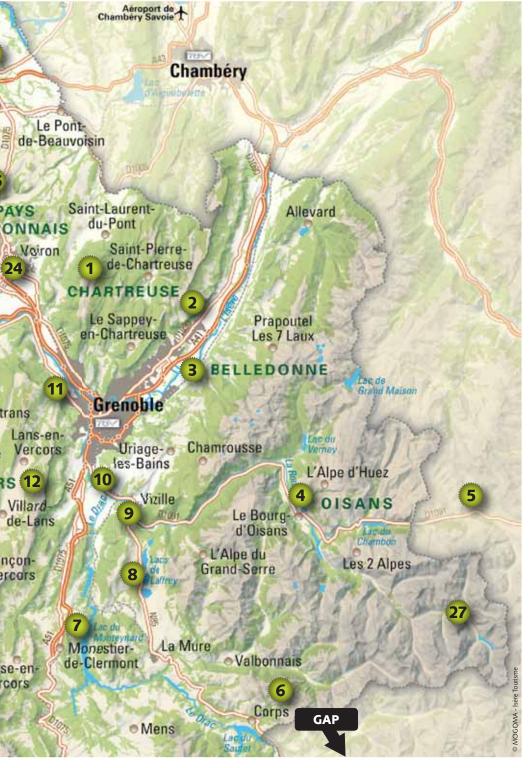
For an unforgettable family outing, Walibi Park offers many attractions both on land and water. www.walibi.com/rhone-alpes

### 27 La Bérarde

Base camp for reaching the principle peaks of the Oisans mountains, where the greatest names in mountain climbing have yet to be forgotten.

# Map of the region





# Grenoble and the surrounding area

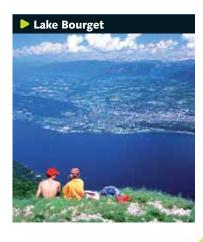








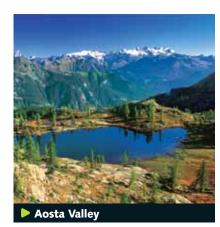




















# **Going to Grenoble**

# by plane, train or automobile

#### Airline connections



3 airports, 2 of which are less than an hour from Grenoble.

#### Lyon Saint Exupéry Airport

55 minutes from downtown Grenoble. 35 regular air lines, including 7 low-cost companies. 115 destinations on 3 continents.

#### Grenoble Isère Airport

35 minutes from downtown Grenoble. Regular low-cost flights.

#### Geneva International Airport

1h45 from Grenoble.

Shuttles buses run between the three airports and the Grenoble coach/train station.

#### Train connections

The train station is ideally located in downtown Grenoble.

#### 3 h from Paris by high-speed TGV

Round trip Grenoble-Paris Gare de Lyon: up to 10 departures per day.

- 2h30 from Marseille.
- 6h from Brussels,
- 6h from Nantes.

# **Motorway connections**



As a hub city, Grenoble boasts a welldeveloped motorway network that make it easy to get to other destinations in France.

#### Motorways

A 48/A 49 (Lyon, Valence), A 41 (Chambéry, Annecy, Geneva), A 51 (Marseille).

#### A few distances

From Grenoble to...

Geneva 147 km Turin 240 km Marseille 275 km Nice 343 km Strasbourg 535 km Paris 574 km Barcelona 640 km

Bordeaux 660 km Berlin 1215

### Office de Tourisme

www.grenoble-tourisme.com

14 rue de la République 38000 Grenoble | France Tel.: + 33 (0)4 76 42 41 41 Fax: +33 (0)4 76 00 18 98

Open 7 days a week all year long, except January 1, May 1 and December 25. From Monday to Saturday 9:00am-6:30pm Sundays and public holidays:

- 10:00am-1:00pm from October to April
- 9:00-2:00pm from May to September



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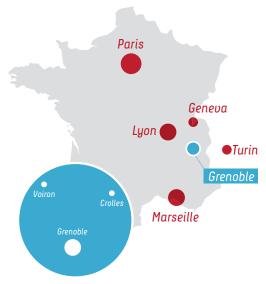


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