

Agence de voyages réceptive - Incoming travel agency - Incoming Reisebüro

## Lavender bloom in Provence

### Mid-June until the end of July

Lavender belongs to Provence. Its unreal blue can be admired in some area of Provence from mid June to the end of July. Lavender is also the symbol of numerous fragrant plants of Provence. This trip allows the discovery of the cultivation of Lavender and other fragrant plants through the countryside and the visit of a distillery workshop.



#### Day 1: Aix en Provence

Arrival in **Marseilles** airport. Welcome by your guide and transfer to **Aix en Provence** with an orientation tour of the university town. **Aix** capital of Provence and since 1501 host of a Parliament founded by Louis XII, challenges Avignon as Arts and Cultural Center. Dinner and overnight in a hotel in the Provence

#### Day 2: Sault, Roussillon, Apt

Day trip to discover **lavender fields** and visits related to lavender. Over a picturesque road, we reach **Sault**, the center for lavender in the Vaucluse. Detailed visit of lavender fields and of a distillery. After the very special "**Bleu Lavande**" we continue to **Roussillon** with its red and pink ochre fields and have a unique stroll in the so called "**Provençal Colorado**". Excursion ends with a visit of the **lavender museum** in Apt. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

#### Day 3: Avignon, Chateauneuf-du-Pape, Orange

After breakfast the journey continues to **Avignon**. The city of the Popes is dominated by a 58 meters high limestone, the Rocher des Doms, on which leans the Pope's Palace. Guided city tour and visit of the Pope's Palace. We continue to **Châteauneuf du Pape** for a wine tasting. Afternoon visit of **Orange** and its roman theatre. Dinner and overnight.

#### Day 4: Ile sur Sorgue, Fontaine-de-Vaucluse, Sénanque, Gordes

Departure to **L'Isle sur Sorgue**, a large Provencal market and then to **Fontaine-de-Vaucluse**, a small town at the foot of the plateau du Vaucluse, known because of its re-emerging source, one of the most popular natural sights of the Provence. In the vicinity of **Gordes** we visit the Cistercian Abbey of **Sénanque**, surrounded by lavender fields. We continue to **Gordes** with its castle and its nice restored old houses overlooking the valley. Stroll through the narrow streets of the village with its many craft shops. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

#### Day 5: Forcalquier, Salagon

Travel in the direction of **Banon** and **Forcalquier** to admire en route the beautiful lavender fields. We visit the monastery of **Salagon**: anyone interested in herbs, should visit the old monastery of Salagon. Here in the gardens one can learn a lot about the history and application of different Provencal plants. Among others, there is a collection of herbs from the early folk medicine, a scent garden and a presentation of native cooking herbs. The former Benedictine monastery from the 12th Century became since the early eighties, a museum responsible for the ethnographic and botanical heritage of the region. Last night in eastern Provence

#### Day 6: Departure

Transfer to Nice or Marseilles airport for departure

#### Our services:

- 5 x dinner overnight and breakfast in Provence
- Private coach and guide during the whole tour from/to Nice or Marseilles airport
- Admissions, according to the program: lavender distillery in Sault, lavender museum, Pope's Palace in Avignon, Roman theatre orange, Abbey in Sénanque, Monestary of Salagon
- 1 x wine tasting in Châteauneuf du Pape