

→ DESTINATION

# NICE FRANCE

Press kit 2017/18



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# Nice in figures,

## A multi-faceted city



As the Côte d'Azur's leading city following closely behind Paris as **France's second largest international tourism hub**, Nice is a modern bustling city that serves as **the economic heart** of the department. Established on 1 January 2012, the Nice Côte d'Azur Metropolis is made up of 80% mountainous terrain, stretching from the Mediterranean beaches to the ski resorts in Mercantour national park.

**Elegant and hugely popular**, the city's charm lies in its easy-going, idyllic pace of life that stems from the beauty of Nice itself as well as its **exceptional microclimate**. A Mediterranean city overlooking the sea and sheltered from blustering winds by neighbouring mountains, Nice's mild winters and 300 days of sun per year are legendary, lending the city a quality of light and luminosity that never fails to draw in the greatest of painters and artists.

With its **shops, beaches and vibrant nightlife**, the capital of the Côte d'Azur is a little piece of heaven on earth. A **host of major cultural venues** (museums, National Theatre, Opera, ect.) lie at the heart of Nice's cultural reputation and influence throughout Europe.

### The tourist economist

- Almost **5 million tourists** every year, with 57% coming from abroad in 2016,
- 97% of visitors describe themselves as being satisfied or very satisfied with their stay,
- The country's **second largest airport** after Paris, with over 11 million passengers,
- One visitor out of every 100 to Europe stays in Nice for at least one night,
- 2nd largest convention hub in France after Paris,
- France's **2nd largest cruise port**,
- One of France's leading networks of hotel facilities both in terms of quality and capacity,
- **2nd concentration of museums labelled « Musée de France »** after Paris, attracting over 800,000 visitors every year,
- France's first city to have been granted a wine-producing AOP (Protected Designation of Origin) label across its municipality.

→ **France's 5th largest city** and **France's largest Metropolis**,

→ 49 municipalities encompassing 550,200 inhabitants in cities stretching across 14,000 km<sup>2</sup> from the coast to Mercantour's ski resorts,

→ **343,123 inhabitants**, 50% of whom are under the age of 40, in an urban area comprising over **1 million inhabitants**,

→ **10 km of coastline**, with beaches making up 7.5 km,

→ **300 hectares** (740 acres) of green spaces and 1,500 hectares (3,700 acres) of wooded land across the municipality's 7,192 hectares (17,770 acres).





# Tourism,

## The gateway to large-scale projects and the city's dynamism



Authentic and buzzing, Nice is currently undergoing a real cultural, economic, artistic and architectural revolution. The main areas of development have already been defined for the upcoming months and years, with new facilities to be added to boost the Côte d'Azur's MICE tourism offer.

### The Eco-vallée

Construction work is to be carried out on the **Grand Arenas district**, an area that has the advantage of being located opposite the **Nice Côte d'Azur International Airport**.

Spread over 51 hectares of building land, the district is given over to business and will include accommodation, shops, and a multimodal transport exchange. Nice will also be treated to a new **international Exhibition Centre** within the Eco-Vallée, spread over **65,000 m2** and acting as a stage on which to showcase MICE tourism. This facility has been designed to complement the current Acropolis convention centre located in the city centre. The aim is **to host the largest trade fairs and shows**, with a capacity of up to 35,000 participants whose needs in terms of exhibition space continue to rise, and who will also benefit from the hotels currently under construction in the district - (with 65,000 m2 given over to hotels and public facilities).

### Additional projects for the city's development

**Tram lines 2 and 3 will ensure increased mobility and access.** Line 2 will connect the port district to Nice Côte d'Azur International Airport and the administrative centre in under 30 minutes, while Line 3 will serve the Plaine du Var, including the stadium. An overhaul of the bus network will take place in parallel to these developments in order to make connections between trams and buses smoother and easier.

Cultural and sporting components have been supplemented with major works, **renovations and the provision of cultural and sporting infrastructure** where needed. And finally, **les abattoirs** (former slaughterhouse) **are being renovated and transformed into artists' studios**, creating a 40,000 m2 space that is to become the city's new creative hub.

**The tone has been set, with tourism taking the leading role in Nice's future as the city is transformed into a pole of expertise.**

### Did you know?

Nice is the only city in France to have won **IBM's "Smart City" award** and is the **4th smart city in the world**.

Nice is the **European ambassador city for Sustainable Development** because of its renewable energy and control of energy consumption.

Nice is often high in the league tables of world tourist destinations.



# Infrastructures,

## Nice Côte d'Azur International Airport



Nice-Côte d'Azur airport is **France's second largest** after the Paris airports combined, with a total of **12 million passengers in 2015**. Nice connections to the international network make Nice-Côte d'Azur airport a privileged gateway to southern Europe: 56 airlines fly to **100 destinations** with over 1,250 weekly flights to 33 countries. In addition, **Nice is France's second biggest airport in terms of low-cost flights**, following hot on the heels of Parisian airports with 14 budget airlines and 4.2 million passengers. It is also the only airport in the country to offer **daily connections to New York and Dubai**.

Nice Côte d'Azur Airport is a **Sustainable Development airport**. Indeed, since 2015, 100% of the electricity consumed at the airport is renewable. It is also **the first French provincial airport to attain level 3+ of the Airport Carbon Accreditation programme** which aims to reduce the carbon footprint.

Nice Côte d'Azur Airport, with its «Family+» label, has the **2nd most beautiful airport approach in the world**. It is 3rd in Europe for speed of passenger transit, behind Berlin and Vienna.

## The port

Along with Cannes, Nice is home to **one of the Côte d'Azur's oldest ports**. Made up of a 10-hectare harbour, **7,5 hectares of platform** and around **10 quays**, **the port is ideally located close to the city's tourist centre** and has developed around key activities such as cruises, yachting, ferry transport to and from Corsica, cement shipping, as well as traditional activities (specialised). The Bassin Lympia Marina is nestled in the heart of the red ochre **Place de l'Île de Beauté**, one of the **city's three listed squares**.

The international cruise market is currently thriving, with **Nice-Villefranche serving as France's second largest cruise port** with over 467,000 passengers.



# Infrastructures,

## The Acropolis Convention and Exhibition Centre



### Awards and Labels

Nice Acropolis has a “**Disabled Tourism**” label.

Acropolis was elected “**Best International Provider**” in 2015 by the International Association of Professional Congress Organizers.

Nice is **70th in the world, 38th in Europe and 2nd in France** in the **ICCA tables** (International Congress and Convention Association).



The Acropolis International Convention and Exhibition Centre is **Nice’s leading light in the development of MICE tourism**. The Convention and Exhibition Centre underwent extensive renovation under the management of architect Jean-Michel Wilmotte.

This complex, made up of **Acropolis-Congrès and Acropolis-Expositions**, provides 5 auditoriums of 250 to 2,500 seats, 50 meeting rooms of 20 to 800 seats and 26,000 m2 of exhibition space: making Nice one of the only cities in France which can host large-scale conferences and exhibitions. Acropolis also has ISO 14001 certification.

### Hotel facilities

**Boasting one of France’s biggest hotel networks**, Nice is home to **200 hotels and tourism residences**, with a total of around **10,000 rooms**, ranging from 1-star hotels to 5-star luxury establishments. Youth hostels, holiday rentals and guest houses also add to an extensive array of different accommodation offers.

Nice’s hospitality sector has experienced a **renewal and revival** over the last decade or so, with the emergence of new establishments from boutique, hotels and resolutely innovative concept.

**NiceRes** is an online booking system set up by the Tourism and Convention Bureau, and was the very first of its kind, allowing visitors to **book tours, day-trips and excursions** in addition to accommodation. **[en.nicetourisme.com](http://en.nicetourisme.com)**

**As France’s second biggest international MICE tourism destination** with one trip out of every five made to Nice for international business purposes, the city is equipped with infrastructure recognised for the quality of its services across approximately thirty hotels (meetings, seminars and conventions to seat between 15 to 500 participants). Many sites are perfectly suited to hosting gala dinners and large-scale events: the port, the Cours Saleya, the Phoenix flower park, some of the museums and the Observatory, among others. **[en.meet-in-nice.com](http://en.meet-in-nice.com)**



# Infrastructures, Transport



## The « Lignes d'Azur » network



Lignes d'Azur is the Nice Côte d'Azur public transport network. Thanks to its **100 frequent services**, it serves 45 municipalities in the Metropolis. **The tram** has been designed to improve quality of life for locals, and has changed the face of Nice, particularly with respect to its artistic component. Since it has been up and running, **this sustainable mode of transport accounts for 40% of all journeys made**, allowing for great flexibility with respect to times as well as a **single-price**, highly appealing fare system. All city and inter-city public transport tickets are sold at €1.50 each. In addition, 5 «**Parcazur**» **Park & Ride schemes** are the perfect finishing touch to these facilities, allowing drivers to leave their cars behind and travel into town by tram or bus.

+ [lignesdazur.com](http://lignesdazur.com)

## The « Vélo Bleu » network and the others

The **vélos bleus** («**blue bikes**») are an alternative to driving for journeys within the city, a system established in 2009 in a bid to build awareness of environmental issues and concerns. This **automated bike hire service** is accessible **via 175 terminals equipped with 1,750 bikes dotted every 300 metres** and **available all year round, 24/7**.

+ [velobleu.org](http://velobleu.org)

The « **autos bleues** » : A tourist destination pioneering in **electric car sharing**. With a network of over 60 stations spread across local towns and cities and nearly 200 fully electric vehicles, Auto bleue provides a practical and accessible method of transport.

+ [auto-bleue.org](http://auto-bleue.org)

Alternative methods do exist. Another way to get around which allows you to **explore the city from an original angle**. It could be an electric tricycle, Segway, e-bike (electric bicycle), classic car hire...

+ [en.nicetourisme.com/discovery-tours-of-nice](http://en.nicetourisme.com/discovery-tours-of-nice)



The **French Riviera Pass** gets you free offers on the Nice Tourist Train, Nice le Grand Tour, Segway Mobilboard Nice and Nice Car.

+ [frenchrivierapass.com](http://frenchrivierapass.com)

## Thiers Train Station

Thiers Train Station and the surrounding district are undergoing vast renovation and urban improvement works. The objective is to make the welcome of 8 million annual users' experience **more consistent and pleasant**, by meeting requirements for transport development and access to main routes. The initiative is one of the SNCF's priority projects. A pedestrian area linking up to tram line 1 is also under way.



# Culture and heritage,

## Culture-Art

### What they said about Nice ...

“When I realised that every morning I would see this light, I could not believe my luck... I decided not to leave Nice and I stayed there practically my entire existence.”

**Henri Matisse** (20th century painter).

“I never found anything more beautiful than this inspired hill, neither Capri, nor the radiant bay of Salamine could compare with it. I have found my city, it's Nice.”

**Hector Berlioz** (20th century composer).

“Nice has all the amenities of a capital without its inconveniences.”

**Paul Valéry** (late 19th – early 20th century writer).

**W**ith historical treasures from over 400,000 years of existence, Nice excels in many domains, with its particularly rich history, its extremely diverse architectural heritage, its art in a wide range of museums, nature evident throughout the city at the seaside or looking towards the mountains, its award-winning Mediterranean gastronomy, its shopping...

## A panorama of heritage

Nice is characterised by a **wide variety of architectural styles**, from different periods. Down through the centuries of a very tumultuous history, Nice bears the imprint of every period in its walls...

### Antiquity

In **Antiquity**, the Greeks and Romans came, leaving sites like Cimiez, with its arenas, its bathhouse... Greek and mediaeval remains on the Château hill and under the place Garibaldi, where a major **archaeological dig** has brought to light a site of 2,000 m<sup>2</sup> in an exceptional state of preservation, looking back 700 years into history.



**Visit:** The 2 sites of the **Archaeology Museum: Nice-Cimiez** – the museum is near the ruins of the Roman town - and **Terra Amata** – the museum of prehistory where there is a reconstruction of the oldest dwelling found in Europe. The nearby **Grotte du Lazaret**, is also a place of some importance for the Stone Age period. **The Archaeological Crypt**, beneath the place Garibaldi has been a registered Historical Monument since 2012.

### Baroque art

**Baroque art**, along with **classical art**, was the first style to leave a genuine heritage in the city which is a perfect example of this dramatic architecture.

Palais Lascaris (17th Century), the Hall of Justice, Palais de la Préfecture (former place of the Kings of Sardinia), the former town hall, Palais Communal Masséna, and the former Senate illustrate the **richness and diversity buildings** in the old town. Religious architecture is well represented with such exceptional structures as Cathédrale Sainte-Réparate and Chapelle de la Miséricorde - a little jewel - typifying the baroque art of Nice with its specificity from the 17th to the 19th centuries.

# Culture and heritage,



## Belle époque

The most creative period remains, today, the **Belle Époque**, when the hills were occupied by winter visitors, hivernants, members of the European aristocracy or bourgeoisie, who gave free rein to their whims and imagination. This resulted in châteaux and palaces nestled in gardens as elaborate as the homes : Château de l'Anglais, baroque with oriental inspiration, the Fine Arts Museum, Château de Valrose, home today of the University's Science Division, one of Europe's finest campuses...

Another **jewel of the city, Saint Nicolas' Russian Orthodox Cathedral**, is testimony to the Tsars' interest in Nice. Built at the foot of the Parc Impérial, one of the finest secondary schools in France today, it is reputedly Western Europe's most splendid Russian Orthodox church, with its wealth of exceptional icons, wood panels and murals.

Of course, **Hôtel Negresco**, a listed historic building and selected by the **American press as one of the world's ten finest luxury hotels**, as well as the Régina, Grand Hôtel... are the witnesses of this privileged holiday resort, that survive in many parts of the city.

## Art deco

The period between the **two world wars** showed the need for a revolution in town planning... The Cornudet plan and the iron will of Jean Médecin combined to make Nice a **big modern city**. The Art Deco style was in fashion and met the requirements of the time: **use of modern materials and techniques**, mass-production methods, taking an overview of the entire way of life. The main thoroughfares were laid out, the **Promenade des Anglais was redesigned**, large buildings replaced villas. A new style for a new life.



A heritage of more than 4,000 buildings remains. Its flagships: the **Palais de la Méditerranée** (façade), the **Gloria Mansions**, the **Rotonde**, the **Palladium**... The churches Jeanne d'Arc and Notre-Dame de l'Auxiliatrice, two very different examples of art deco, each of which is a product of the art of the time, showing that art deco was not just about geometric lines...

**A tour:** Guided tour of the Promenade des Anglais, Jeanne d'Arc Church, Association Gloria Mansions.

# Culture and heritage,



## Contemporary Art

Contemporary art has been **at the heart of life and culture in Nice** since the day it was founded. **It is in the DNA.** The late 20th and early 21st centuries did not escape this ferment. Districts sprung up and changed the face of the city. L'Arénas, a business district near the airport and the Eco-Vallée, a district dedicated to sustainable development on the Var plain, are its shop windows.

In the city, some **remarkable buildings provide further evidence:** the **Chagall Museum** – Hermant - the **MAMAC – Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art** - the **Villa Arson**, almost brutalist, 20th century heritage - Marot – and the **National Theatre of Nice** – Bayard & Vidal; the **Museum of Asiatic Arts** – Kenzo Tange ; the Louis Nucera Library with the **square head by Sosno** ; more recently the **Allianz Riviera Stadium** – Wilmotte - .

The wealth of architecture selected above shows the same vigour as other art forms in Nice.

Without going back to time immemorial, **primitive people** marked this place with their styles which became benchmarks, **Durandi**, the **Bréa family**, or even the **Van Loos**, shortly thereafter. Nearer our time, the impressionists, early 20th century artists such as **Matisse** and **Chagall** found a warm welcome for their art. The famous “**Nice School**,” which spanned several movements, was a dynamic and inspiring art trend from the mid-20th century.

Nowadays, **contemporary art is very much in evidence in the city.** Artists’ studios, galleries and collectives and institutions are open to the public. Most of those involved are members of BOTOX(S), an association which promotes contemporary art in Nice, and now also beyond Nice itself.

This list of **pictorial and visual arts** is obviously incomplete. However, the same applies to **music, writing, cinema...** all the domains featuring expression. Every era is here.

Many places and events are evidence of this, for example: the **20 museums and institutional galleries** and all the **Botox(S) contemporary art galleries** and their Saturday or evening visitors and the artworks throughout the city, those which adorn the tramway development at the forefront.

The **CIRM**, Centre International de Recherche Musicale (**International Centre for Musical Research**) and its **Manca festival**, the baroque music festivals, **Nice Jazz Festival**, - the first jazz festival in the world in Nice in 1948 - **Nice Music Live** for current music, **CrossOver** for electronic music, the **Summer Academy and concerts at the Cloître de Cimiez**, a must for more than 50 years, the **Opera of Nice**.



The city has inspired **many writers** such as these natives: **Le Clézio**, **Van Cauwelaert**, **Nucéra**, **Gallo**; **others like: G. Apollinaire**, **L. Aragon**, **J. Romain**, **R. Gary**, **R. Martin du Gard**, **F. Nietzsche...** a particular mention for **Tobias Smollett**, a Scotsman whose writings drew the city to the attention of the English; nowadays they are of ethnological value, so precise are his descriptions. **Francis Gag** and his **plays in the Niçois language**.



# Culture and heritage,

## Art of living



Nice enjoys highlighting the charm of its difference and specificity. The cuisine of Nice is unique with Lyon in being known by the name of the city. The Nice Convention and Visitors Bureau has reinforced its approach of labelling, in order to, in all areas, to observe a level of excellence and quality... To this end, a Technical Committee, rules and an evaluation grid were created.

+ [en.nicetourisme.com/nice-s-cuisine](http://en.nicetourisme.com/nice-s-cuisine)

### Gastronomy

The cooking of Nice reflects the **art of living and respect for regional products** always accompanied by the reputed olive oil and many aromatic plants. La **Cuisine Niçoise** even has its own **quality label** (see page 15).

Many **young chefs have set themselves up and have become essential addresses** where the setting, the plate, the product and the welcome are the focus of the establishment. They absolutely have to be tried!

Ways of life change and with them the gastronomic offer. Menus are more accessible, **local seasonal produce** takes the spotlight. **Organic, vegetarian, even vegan and mixed restaurants** are more and more plentiful.

**A cosmopolitan city**, Nice has seen the arrival of many cooks from abroad. Marriages of styles or different techniques have given birth to little miracles of flavour which just have to be tried.

A little-known fact about Nice is that it is an **agricultural city with 2 AOPs (protected-origin labels) on its territory**. That fits well with its population, who have always been oriented towards the land. **The olives -AOP on the Nice olive, its oil and paste -**, citrus fruits, wine -**AOP for the Bellet wines, white, rosé and red** – and other **market-garden crops** have always been part of the local economy and have shaped the terraced landscape. For a long time, flowers were a feature, particularly carnations. The number of farms which use no chemical pesticides nor fertilisers in the Alpes Maritimes is 2.5 times the national rate.

### Picturesque Markets

The market remains a **very busy place** in the city. It also **reflects local farming** and changing ways of life: **organic food, sustainable production, reduced food miles, seasonality** are now features.

**Cours Saleya** is one of the busiest places in Old Nice. A « must » for tourists, it is above all a favourite meeting point for the local population.

**The Flower Market** is held there every day, except Monday, with its plants and flowers, many from greenhouses in the hills of Nice. The subtle fragrance is dominated by mimosa in winter.

**The Fruit and Vegetable Market** was selected by the **Conseil National des Arts Culinaires as one of the most exceptional markets in France**. On Mondays, a **market for antiques** replaces the foodstuffs. **Arts and crafts draw crowd** to the Cours every night from June to September.

In a **district which is under development**, where the most diverse shops are side by side with contemporary art galleries, the biggest market in the city is located, offering the full range of local produce: the **Libération market**. There is still an old covered market hall. Tuesday - Sunday 6am – 12.30pm.

### Points to note:

A **salade niçoise** with cooked vegetables is not “niçoise”, no potatoes, green beans, nor rice...

La **socca**, a chickpea flour pancake, is eaten as it emerges from the oven with lots of pepper. It is the “merenda” (“snack” in Niçois).



# Culture and heritage,

## Sport and Nature



On the basis of these strengths and the **award of «European City of Sport»** status in 2011, the Nice Côte d’Azur Metropolitan Area has for many years expressed its determination to place sport as **one of its priority areas for development**, through support for sports centres, high-level sportsmen and women and Nice’s many clubs, the creation of modern, innovative facilities and the introduction of a sports event policy... After 200 years of excellence, Nice has **embarked on a news cycle**, a new strategy, in which sport plays a leading role. In recent years, Nice Council has embarked on a number of projects aimed at **creating or renovating sports infrastructures** to provide the Metropolitan Area with structuring sports facilities and thus help to widen its influence and maintain its resident sportsmen and women at the highest level. The flagships structures are the **Aliaz Riviera Stadium -35,000 seats-** and the great aquatic centre.

### Did you know?

Nice has the **4th most beautiful “city beach”** according to National Geographic magazine. (beating Rio de Janeiro and Miami Beach)

Between the sea and mountains, Nice offers all the allure of Sport and Nature.

By the sea, with the **International Marine Mammal Reserve for fauna** and all **water sports** for relaxation. In the mountains, Nature invites visitors in winter to all the gliding sports under the sun...

In spring, the **Mercantour National Park** features wonderful hiking opportunities to discover marmots, eagles, chamois and even wolves. Unless they prefer to try their skill with a via ferrata, rock climbing or canyoning... Unique **rock carvings** can be seen in the **Vallée des Merveilles**, in the heart of the park, which is one of the 10 national parks of France.

For the most enthusiastic, other activities are on offer such as **via ferrata, rock-climbing** and **canyoning**... These are all less than an hour from Nice and offer unique moments.

**Perched villages** offer a chance to visit famous perfumeries, as well as pottery and ceramics studios and oil mills, thereby discovering the region’s typical arts and crafts.

Nice, **unique moments.**





# Nice's advantages,

[en.nicetourisme.com](http://en.nicetourisme.com)



The site has been completely renovated and given a **new look**: more space, more pictures, more information and **better ergonom**y. It offers simplified access to the **main site** ([en.nicetourisme.com](http://en.nicetourisme.com)) and **dedicated sites**: for the city card (French Riviera Pass - [en.frenchrivierapass.com](http://en.frenchrivierapass.com)), for business tourism ([meet-in-nice.com](http://meet-in-nice.com)) and, soon, for a different way of discovering Nice ([nice-greeters.com](http://nice-greeters.com)). The Convention & Visitors Bureau site will **be available in eight languages**: French, English, German and Italian, Spanish, Russian, Japanese and Chinese.

## Preparing a program

**More intuitive, adapted to all media** — smartphone, tablet, laptop, etc. — it is **an efficient facilitator for preparing stays** and provides a **comprehensive solution** for structuring an escapade. It includes complete information on all you need for a perfect stay, from accommodation to restaurants, and cultural and sporting activities to transport. To store the selected options, it can create a **travel plan**.

## Truly an integrated reservation platform

A basket is created for the services directly reserved from providers. It is so **much simpler to make travel plans** with a broad range of attractive activities and services.

## French Riviera Pass

### Visit more, spend less...

This pass offers visitors the opportunity to experience the Nice Côte d'Azur Metropolis and its surrounding area to the full, combining the vast majority of must-see sites with **access to Nice's most stunning locations**, such as the «**Nice, le Grand Tour**» tourist bus as well as entry to numerous sites and guided tours of both museums and the city itself. Cardholders can also **enjoy offers and deals from a number of carefully selected service providers** (shops, leisure activities, restaurants).

Available in **three versions** (24 h, 48 h or 72 h), the pass also features an extra add-on option that includes a city transport package. Keeping up-to-date with new technologies and client attitudes, the French Riviera Pass has joined forces with the «Digital City» projects run by the Nice Côte d'Azur Metropolis, and is moving towards NFC (Near Field Communication), to kick off in the summer 2014 season.

+ [en.frenchrivierapass.com](http://en.frenchrivierapass.com)





# Nice's advantages

## Exploring Nice

### Greeters



**G**reeters are locals who are passionate about their city and who want to help visitors explore it via tours that feature their own personal twist.

In June 2013, the Nice Tourism and Convention Bureau launched the «**Nice Greeters**» scheme in order to **develop participative tourism** in the area. This free service relies on the **work of volunteers**. Over the course of a 2-hour walk, all 35 greeters provide visitors with a **unique and original perspective on the city**, sharing their experience and insider knowledge along the way. Themes, shops, markets, cuisine and neighbourhoods take a back seat as the focus lies on **human experience, communication and exchange**. In 2015, over 300 visitors have called on the services of the city's greeters.

**Practical info:** Bookings online, appointments to be made within a 7-day period. Greeters are selected based on availability, languages (9 languages are available) spoken and the chosen theme.

+ [nice-greeters.com](http://nice-greeters.com)

### Guided tour of Old Nice

The **birthplace of Nice** is representative of the city's soul and history. A bustling area by both day and night, visitors will enjoy wandering down its narrow **cobbled streets, popping into its various markets and Baroque churches...**

The walk lasts two and a half hours and is a concise introduction to Nice from the Hellenistic period to the present day via the height of the Belle Epoque and the Baroque period. Tours take place every Saturday with commentary in French and English. Departure: 9.30 am at the Tourism and Convention Bureau.

**Practical info:** see reception desks at the Tourism Bureau for information and compulsory booking. Prices: €12 for adults, €6 for kids under 10 and free for kids under 5.



### «L'Art dans la Ville», Guided tour by night

Only groups

Designed by **fourteen world-renowned artists**, the artworks along Line A of the Nice-Côte d'Azur tramway form a genuine **outdoor museum of contemporary art**. Some of these works give a special stamp to the urban landscape at night thanks to their play on light. This tour is accompanied by qualified guides who have met the artists to ask about their work. Initiated in November 2007, it is organized in both French and English, only for groups.

+ [creative.riviera@free.fr](mailto:creative.riviera@free.fr) - Creative Riviera Guides Association.

# Nice, the natural excellence,



For the last 200 years, Nice is a reference destination regarding tourism. More than ever, the will of the CVB is to join this way, and first of all, the search for the **excellence and the quality**. All the business sectors are concerned. The promise made for the visitor of a safe, attractive and authentic destination has to come true beyond the expectation.

So, by creating or by subscribing to labels, the Office wished to offer a real legibility on the assets of the city and for the dedicated clientele. This choice of labels allows a better **structuring of the offer** and a **permanent control of the quality**.

## The labels

### The « Famille Plus »

This national label provides a list of **specialised quality offers** dedicated to family clients, offering a **personalised experience for families** and events and **activities suitable for all ages**. It features support materials such as educational booklets, colouring books, card games and a guide available in French and English from the Tourism and Convention Bureau.

+ [en.nicetourisme.com/family-friendly-nice](http://en.nicetourisme.com/family-friendly-nice).

### The «Nice Irisée naturellement»

Nice is the first city in France to have been granted the «**Gay Comfort**» label established by Travel Out Now and awarded by the IGLTA (International Gay and Lesbian Travel Association), of which the Tourism and Convention Bureau is a member. A jam-packed line-up (beaches, museums, night life, colourful events, etc.) and gay-friendly establishments are listed in the guide, available from the reception desks at the Tourism and Convention Bureau.

+ [en.nicetourisme.com/gay-friendly-nice](http://en.nicetourisme.com/gay-friendly-nice)

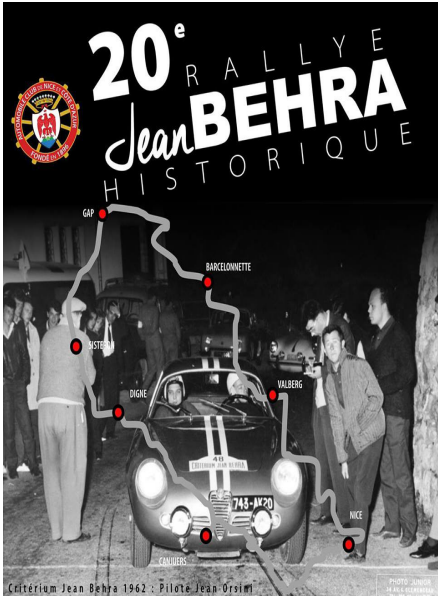
### The «Cuisine nissarde»

This label aims to **promote authentic Nice cuisine as well as its history and unique recipes**. In doing so, it ensures visitors enjoy certified quality Nice cuisine served at restaurants that have been awarded the label. 26 selected recipes are online to pass on this cuisine to an even wider audience.

+ [en.nicetourisme.com/nice-s-cuisine](http://en.nicetourisme.com/nice-s-cuisine)



# Nice celebrations,



More than **2,000 cultural, festive and sporting events** take place every year in Nice. Some of the most iconic are featured below.

## September

### - 20th Jean Behra Historical Rally

This rally combines tracks and regular roads over almost 700 km. This car race is a homage to the great driver, Jean Behra, and finishes on the Promenade des Anglais, 8,9 and 10 September, 2017.

### - Cycling Championship of Europe

Races start in Monaco and end in Nice, on the Promenade des Anglais. Ten titles will be contested, over distance and against the clock, for both women and men (elite, newcomers, juniors).

+ [ffc.fr](http://ffc.fr)

## October

### - One festival is too short!

The Nice short film festival highlights the creativity of European cinema. The 17th festival continues to be open to all forms of cinema: fiction, animation, documentary, experimental, from 1 - 59 minutes. It advocates auteur cinema and supports first productions. It is ranked as category 1 for professional development.

+ [nicefilmfestival.com](http://nicefilmfestival.com)

## November

### - Manca festival

This festival is organised by the CIRM - Centre International de Recherche Musicale (International Centre for Musical Research). It presents a wide repertoire of works, electronic or otherwise, and provides an opportunity to discover and meet those involved in contemporary music and their work. Children can have an introduction to music in the workshops which are provided. The festival takes place in various places with a programme which includes a daily place for research. It is a must for contemporary musical art!

+ [cirm-manca.org](http://cirm-manca.org)

### - Alpes-Maritimes Marathon Nice/Cannes

The Marathon of the Alpes-Maritimes Nice/Cannes is the second marathon in France after that of Paris.

This race has the benefit of a unique seaside route of 42.195 km on the Côte d'Azur between the sea and mountains. Three types of route are on offer so everyone can take part.

In 2015, 8,300 marathon runners from 63 countries took part in this event.

+ [marathon06.com](http://marathon06.com)





# Nice celebrations,



## December

- The «**Christmas Village**» - 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2017 - 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2018

In a winter decor setting the tone for the festivities, around sixty chalets provide a wide a range of craft products. The ice-rink and events take place in the city centre. A fun space provides something for toddlers. The illuminations on the Promenade du Paillon are a spectacle in themselves.

+ [en.nicetourisme.com](http://en.nicetourisme.com)

## February

### - Carnival

Since the end of the 19th century, this popular fete has acquired international renown for the quality of its services, the daring of its choices and the originality of its entertainment. The symbol of wild imagination and burlesque, each year, around Mardi-Gras, Carnival attracts hundreds of thousands of tourists from all over the world.

For a fortnight, all the city's neighbourhoods will come alive. The highlights are Carnival Parades, Parades of Lights, and the famous «Bataille de Fleurs» or Flower Parades. The parades, whether burlesque or poetic, are characterized by floats made of pasteboard or decked with flowers and accompanied by street players and musicians. Since 1996, the Convention and Visitors Bureau of Nice has been organizing these festivities with even greater diversity and dynamism and the support of regional socio-professionals. Over 1,500 people are mobilized for each parade accompanying His Majesty King Carnival, whose short-lived reign has a different theme each year.



In 2018, Carnival will be «**King of Space**» from **17th February to 3rd March**.

+ [nicedcarnaval.com/en](http://nicedcarnaval.com/en)





# Nice celebrations,



## April

- **The Festin des Cougourdons (Gourd festival)** - Early April  
In Cimiez, the Cougourdon festival is the first traditional festival. It celebrates the Annunciation and the return of spring. Cougourdons are gourds grown in the region which are turned into multi-purpose receptacles or ornaments.

+ [nice.fr](http://nice.fr)

- **The International Half-Marathon** – Late April

The second biggest foot race meeting of the Côte d'Azur, it brings together every year those with licences and those without, for a sporting and tourist weekend on several sites such as the Promenade du Paillon, the Place Masséna and the Promenade des Anglais. It is a qualifying stage for the forthcoming French Championships. In 2016, 11,500 competitors started.

+ [nicesemimarathon.com](http://nicesemimarathon.com)

## May

- **The Fête des Mai** - every weekend in May and the May public holidays

This festival welcomes nature's renewal, celebrating it with traditional Nice activities: folk spectacles, introductions to typical games and food every Sunday and public holiday in the month of May in the gardens of Cimiez.

+ [nice.fr](http://nice.fr)

## June

- **The Book Festival** - mid-June

The essential event for great readers on the Promenade des Anglais. This is a chance to meet the writers who are in the news, the big names and local publishers..

+ [lefestivaldulivredeNice.com](http://lefestivaldulivredeNice.com)

## July

- **Ironman France - Nice Triathlon**

The legendary and essential triathlon challenge in Europe, the Ironman invades the Promenade des Anglais and the Nice hinterland every year to the great delight of triathletes. This competition counts towards the World Championship. In 2016, almost 2,900 triathletes from 60 nations took part in the Nice Ironman.

+ [ironmanfrance.com](http://ironmanfrance.com)



# Nice celebrations,

SUMMER



## - Nice Jazz Festival

The first jazz festival established in France in 1948, it brought jazz great acclaim.

Every evening, the concerts start at 6.30pm, the most famous musicians perform on two stages, one on the Place Masséna and the second at the Théâtre de Verdure. A fringe festival supports the main festival in the suburbs.

+ [nicejazzfestival.fr](http://nicejazzfestival.fr)

## - Concerts at the Cloister - July and August

Classical music concerts organised by the International Summer Academy, in an exceptional location where the greatest virtuosos meet the most promising young artists. This has been one of the most important concerts for more than 50 years.

+ [concerts-cimiez.com](http://concerts-cimiez.com)



## - Nice Music Live by the Nice Jazz Festival

This festival represents the identity of contemporary music and emerging cultures. For the biggest pop rock festival of the Alpes Maritimes, a selection of international and French artists perform in three different locations: the Theatre Lino Ventura, Theatre de Verdure and the Forum de Nice.

+ [nice.fr](http://nice.fr)

## - Prom'party and Fireworks

During the summer the stages are set up on the Promenade des Anglais, pedestrianised for the occasion, with concerts in a variety of musical styles. There are two firework displays from the sea, opposite the Office of Tourism and Conferences, at 10pm, on 14 July and 15 August.

+ [en.nicetourisme.com](http://en.nicetourisme.com) - [nice.fr](http://nice.fr)





## Available press kits:

- Nice, projets et ambitions;
- Nice, Mice destination;
- Nice, green city;
- Nice, a sporting dynamism;
- Cuisine Nissarde;
- Carnival of Nice.

## Dedicated guides:

- Nice, Family guide;
- Nice, a natural iridescence;
- Nice, accessible.

## 4 bureaux in Nice:

- 5, Promenade des Anglais
- Gare SNCF - Avenue Thiers
- Port (en saison)
- Promenade du Paillon

## Marketing/Communication department:

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BP 4079 - 06302 Nice Cedex 4 (France)  
Tél : +33 (0) 4 92 14 46 10 - Fax : +33 (0) 4 92 14 46 49  
Internet : [en.nicetourisme.com](http://en.nicetourisme.com)  
e-mail : [marketing@otcnice.com](mailto:marketing@otcnice.com)  
[presse@otcnice.com](mailto:presse@otcnice.com)

## Convention & visitors bureau

Tel. for the general public:  
+ 33 (0) 4 92 14 46 14

[en.nicetourisme.com](http://en.nicetourisme.com)  
[en.meet-in-nice.com](http://en.meet-in-nice.com)  
[nicedarnival.com](http://nicedarnival.com)  
[en.nice-greeters.com](http://en.nice-greeters.com)  
[en.frenchrivierapass.com](http://en.frenchrivierapass.com)

