

AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO AIX-EN-PROVENCE

Explore the historic center

Visiting Aix-en-Provence is just like discovering an open-air museum.

The Aix Saint Sauveur cathedral and its 12th century cloister. It isn't much to look at from the outside, but the inside is a completely different story. The cloister is magnificent!

Chapelle de la Visitation, rue Mignet. Beautiful baroque facade, especially in the evening.

Fontaine des Quatre Dauphins: Located in the pleasant Mazarin Quarter, the fountain stands in a small square a few blocks south of Cours Mirabeau.

The Oblats Chapel and cloister: by appointment only

Best views of “la” **Sainte-Victoire**: when you get off at the Aix TGV station, take a few moments to look at the view. Also from the terrain des peintres, a 10 to 15-minute uphill walk from [Atelier Cézanne](#).

Enjoy the Local Cuisine

L'Incontournable: A fancy restaurant by an old fountain under the shade of the trees.

De l'une à l'autre: Another nice and fancy restaurant with a patio garden. Great vegetarian dishes.

Hôtel de Caumont: Elegant 18th century mansion/art gallery with beautifully decorated coffee and lunchroom, and a pleasant garden.

Carrefour Bar: Quiet outdoor seating. The menu is a simple, French bistro offering.



Les petits plats de Trinidad: small place, savory dishes; for lunch only, reservations recommended.

La Pizza: Ok, it's an Italian restaurant. But it's one of the best! Fast service, big portions and great food.

Grab a snack or try local pastries

Porzione di Capri: Quick, easy, savory pizza you can carry away not long after you order.



Boulangerie Lavarenne: Bakery and pastry shop. Great chocolate cookies. Opens early and closes late.

Bécharde Pastry shop: delicious brioches and calissons (a mixture of finely ground sweet almonds, candied melon and orange peel).

Weibel Pastry shop: great “tropézienne” (halved brioche filled with a mix of two creams).

Madeleines de Christophe: delicious small sponge cakes. Quickly sells out.

Have a drink and enjoy a glass of local wine

Le Grillon: On the Cours Mirabeau, where the locals go for apéritif. Free tapas!

Le Vieux Tonneau: excellent selection of wine in a lovely setting.

Le Verdun: Quiet outdoor café.

Le Brigand: very small bar with a pub feel. Great music and young hipster crowd.

Shop Local

The Calissons of Aix: specialty candy, boutique Calissons d'Aix Léonard Parli.

Santons: Maison Fouque, a workshop that makes figurines (santons) for the traditional Provençal nativity scenes.

Daily Food market: Place Richelme. Great local produce: Marseille soap, honey and olive oil.

Enjoy Outdoor Activities

Relax in **Parc Jourdan**, ideal for picnics or short naps in the shade of a tree. Close to the university grounds. **Parc de la Torse**, with both shady areas and open spaces. Great place to go for a run.

Health

Pharmacie des Prêcheurs : open 24/24, 7/7.

Doctor/physician: Centre Médical Aix, 14 rue de la Fourane, no appointment necessary.