



201904-05 Singapore, UK, France, Singapore (Part A)

Our Europe trip started and ended with stopovers in Singapore to visit family and help with jet lag. Our first stop-off in Europe was to visit family in the UK, in Cheshire and London. Then we travelled to France on the EuroStar to Paris for the beginning of our Scenic adventure. The Scenic Sapphire took us from Challons-sur-Saône to Avignon (on the Rhône) with many side trips to châteaux, wine tastings and mediaeval villages. A great trip making wonderful new friends, consuming far too much and experiencing the föhn wind.

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Changi Beach Park, Singapore

We stayed overnight in the small village of Changi, quite close to the airport but a nice quite location. The very popular Beach Park was a short distance away...

8 images



Chester, UK

We visited family in Cheshire and made a return visit to Chester which we thoroughly enjoyed - and no jet-lag! We then took the train to London and visited more...

34 images



Paris and Dijon, France

Our Scenic experience started in Paris where we met many other cruisers, including lots of Australians. Our first day started with a TGV train trip to Dijon...

21 images



Challons-sur-Saône, Burgundy, France

We next travelled to Challons-sur-Saône where we embarked on the Scenic Sapphire and met many of our fellow passengers.

5 images



Beaune, Burgundy, France

Our first excursion was to Beaune, in Burgundy, famous for its Hospices (or Hôtel-Dieu) de Beaune founded in 1443 as a hospital for the poor. The beautiful old...

23 images



Tournus, Burgundy, France

Our second excursion took us to the Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, in Burgundy. We had a wonderful tour of the 17th century building, where our guide was...

20 images



Mâcon, Burgundy, France

Today's excursion was to the Château de Montmelas, near Villefranche-sur-Saône, in Burgundy. We greatly appreciated the views over the Saône valley and of...

17 images



Night arrival at Lyon, Rhône-Alpes, France

Our night arrival at Lyon, in the Rhône-Alpes region, was highlighted by a wonderful display of illuminated buildings.

8 images



Lyon, Rhône-Alpes, France

Our visit to Lyon started with a visit to the Cathédrale Saint-Jean-Baptiste, close to the river. Then, at the top of the hill overlooking Lyon, we joined many...

16 images



Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes, France

We continued southwards on the Rhône after the Saône river joined it at Lyon. The river is marked by several high locks and a hillier terrain. In the afternoon...

15 images



Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes, France

On the next morning some of us revisited the Château de Tournon for a tour of the building and another wine tasting.

13 images



Viviers, Rhône-Alpes, France

Remaining in the Rhône-Alpes region, our next excursion was to the small town of Viviers, with its spectacular natural fortifications providing excellent views...

18 images



Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, Rhône-Alpes, France

In the afternoon we travelled to the Ardeche, an area of spectacular limestone scenery including natural bridges, gorges and caves. The most important cave in...

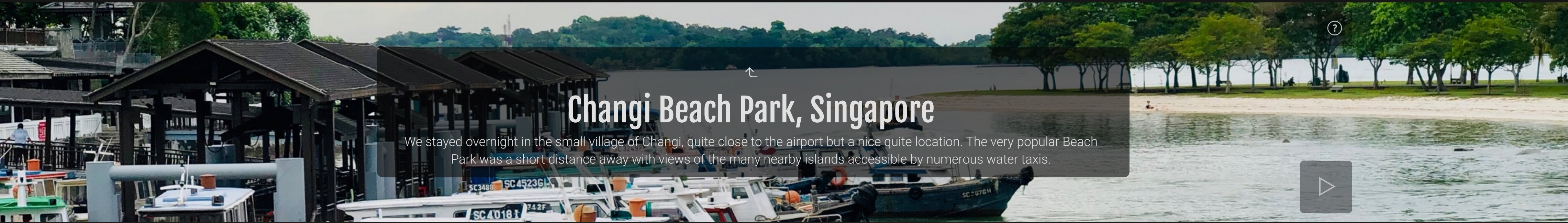
11 images



Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, France

Entering the region of Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, we travelled to the famous wineries and town of Châteauneuf-du-Pape. A feature of this area is the use of...

18 images



Changi Beach Park, Singapore

We stayed overnight in the small village of Changi, quite close to the airport but a nice quite location. The very popular Beach Park was a short distance away with views of the many nearby islands accessible by numerous water taxis.



UK and France 2019

[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Changi, Singapore

[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Bridge to Changi Beach Park, Singapore



Water Taxis at Changi Beach Park, Singapore



Aircraft coming in to land at Singapore Airport



Water Taxis at Changi Beach Park, Singapore (Pulau Ubin Island in background)



Changi Beach Park, Singapore



Changi Beach Park, Singapore



Chester, UK

We visited family in Cheshire and made a return visit to Chester which we thoroughly enjoyed - and no jet-lag! We then took the train to London and visited more family before embarking on the EuroStar for Paris.



Chester, London, Paris
[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Chester, UK
[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Eastgate, near St Werbergh St, Chester



Eastgate with Ye Olde Boot Inn, Chester



Eastgate Clock Bridge, Chester



Chester Cathedral from St Werbergh St, Chester



Eastgate, near St Werbergh St, Chester



St Peter's Church, Cnr Eastgate and Northgate, Chester



Eastgate near Northgate, Chester



Bridge St, near Eastgate, Chester



Bridge St, near Eastgate, Chester



St Peter's Church, Cnr Eastgate and Northgate, Chester



Three Old Arches, Bridge Street, Chester



Katie's Tea Rooms, Watergate, Chester



Watergate, Chester



Detail from Watergate, Chester



Chester Castle, southern end of Chester



Grosvenor Bridge near Chester Castle, Chester



Chester Castle, southern end of Chester



Don and Dave on the wall of Chester



Part of Handbridge, the Old River Dee Bridge, Chester



Wall crossing Bridge Street, Chester



River Dee near Handbridge, Chester



Weir on River Dee near Handbridge, Chester



Bird on Weir on River Dee near Handbridge, Chester



Terrace houses in Albion Place, Chester



Backs of Terrace houses near Albion Place, Chester



Roman Gardens near Hickory's, Chester



Roman Gardens, Chester



Roman Amphitheatre, Chester



Eastgate Clock, Chester



View west from clock down Eastgate with Ye Olde Boot Inn in background, Chester



View east from clock down Eastgate and Foregate, Chester



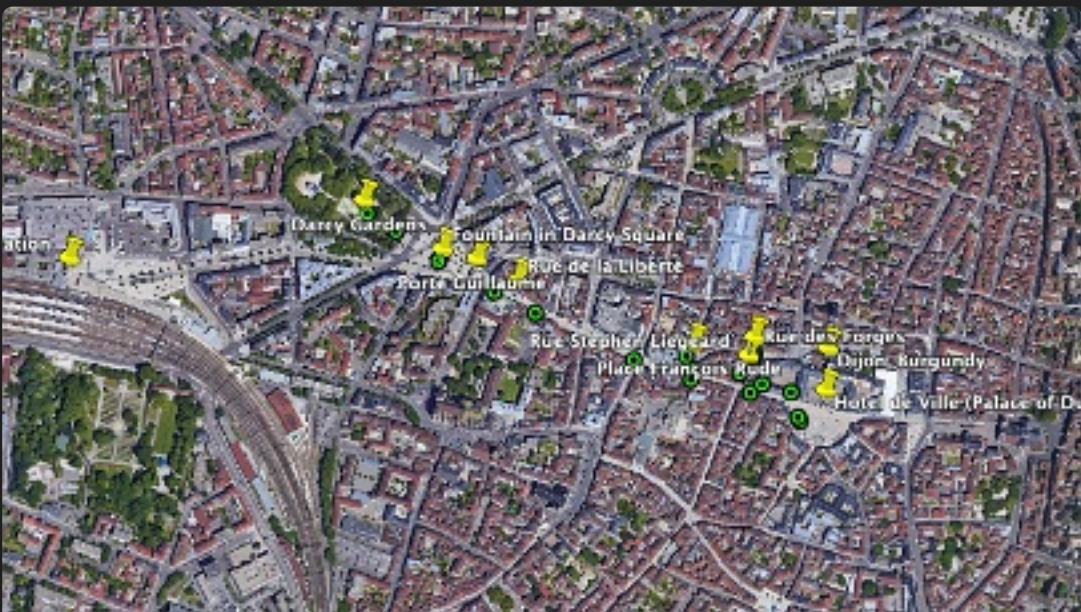
Eastgate Clock and Bridge over Eastgate, Chester

Paris and Dijon, France

Our Scenic experience started in Paris where we met many other cruisers, including lots of Australians. Our first day started with a TGV train trip to Dijon where we explored the picturesque town.



Paris to Challons-sur-Saône
[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Dijon, Burgundy
[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



McDonalds opp. Paris Hilton, rue Saint-Lazare, Paris, France



Palace of the Dukes of Burgundy, Dijon, Burgundy



Palace of the Dukes of Burgundy, Dijon, Burgundy



Palace of the Dukes of Burgundy, Dijon, Burgundy



Rue Stephan Liegeard, Dijon, Burgundy



Doorway on Rue des Forges, Dijon, Burgundy



Rue des Forges, Dijon, Burgundy



Tiled Roof on Rue des Forges, Dijon, Burgundy



Palace of the Dukes of Burgundy, Dijon, Burgundy



Corner of Rue de la Liberté and Place François Rude, Dijon, Burgundy



Place François Rude, Dijon, Burgundy



Corner of Rue de la Liberté and Rue Bossuet, Dijon, Burgundy



Galleries Lafayette, Rue de la Liberté, Dijon, Burgundy



Rue de la Liberté, Dijon, Burgundy



Porte Guillaume, Rue de la Liberté, Dijon, Burgundy



Sculpture in Darcy Gardens, Dijon, Burgundy



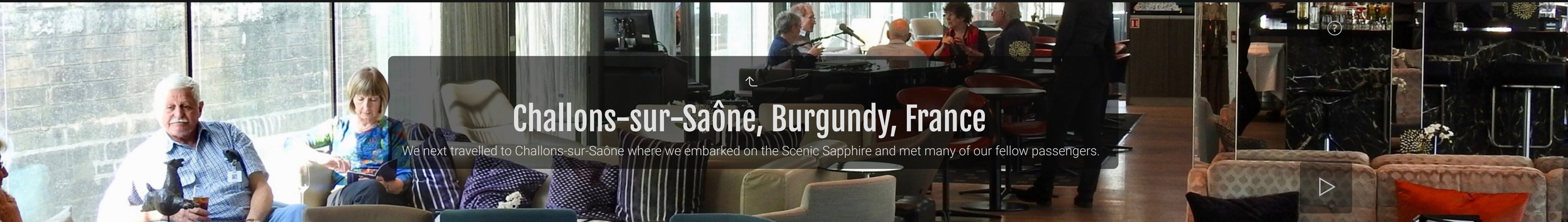
Darcy Gardens, Dijon, Burgundy



Fountain in Darcy Square, Dijon, Burgundy



Fountain in Darcy Square, Dijon, Burgundy



Old Hospital on l'île Saint-Laurent, Challons-sur-Saône, Burgundy



l'île Saint-Laurent, Challons-sur-Saône, Burgundy



The 15C Doyenne Tower on the l'île Saint-Laurent, Challons-sur-Saône, Burgundy

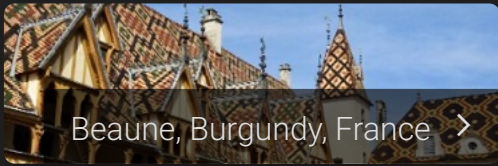


Scenic Sapphire cruise ship lounge, Challons-sur-Saône, Burgundy



Scenic Sapphire cruise ship stairs, Challons-sur-Saône, Burgundy

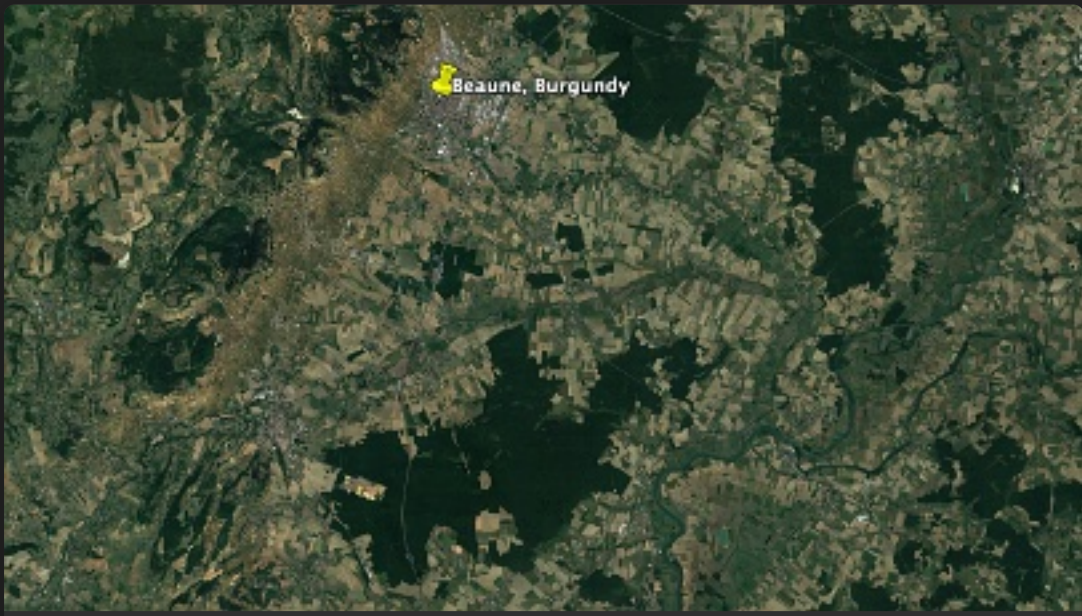
← Paris and Dijon, France



Beaune, Burgundy, France →

Beaune, Burgundy, France

Our first excursion was to Beaune, in Burgundy, famous for its Hospices (or Hôtel-Dieu) de Beaune founded in 1443 as a hospital for the poor. The beautiful old buildings are very well preserved and form an important focus for this lovely old town.



Beaune, Burgundy

[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Beaune, Burgundy

[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Beaune, Burgundy



Timbered walls, Beaune, Burgundy



Beaune, Burgundy



Beaune, Burgundy



Exterior of Hospices de Beaune, Beaune, Burgundy



Entrance to Hospices de Beaune (Hôtel-Dieu), Beaune, Burgundy



Courtyard view of roof of Hospices de Beaune, Beaune, Burgundy



Courtyard view of roof of Hospices de Beaune, Beaune, Burgundy



Well in courtyard of Hospices de Beaune, Beaune, Burgundy



Interior of Hospices de Beaune, Beaune, Burgundy



Interior of Hospices de Beaune, Beaune, Burgundy



Interior of Hospices de Beaune, Beaune, Burgundy



Interior of Hospices de Beaune, Beaune, Burgundy



Window statue in courtyard of Hospices de Beaune, Beaune, Burgundy



Courtyard view of roof of Hospices de Beaune, Beaune, Burgundy



Model of Hospices de Beaune, Beaune, Burgundy



Beaune, Burgundy



Place de Carnot, Beaune, Burgundy



Place de Carnot, Beaune, Burgundy



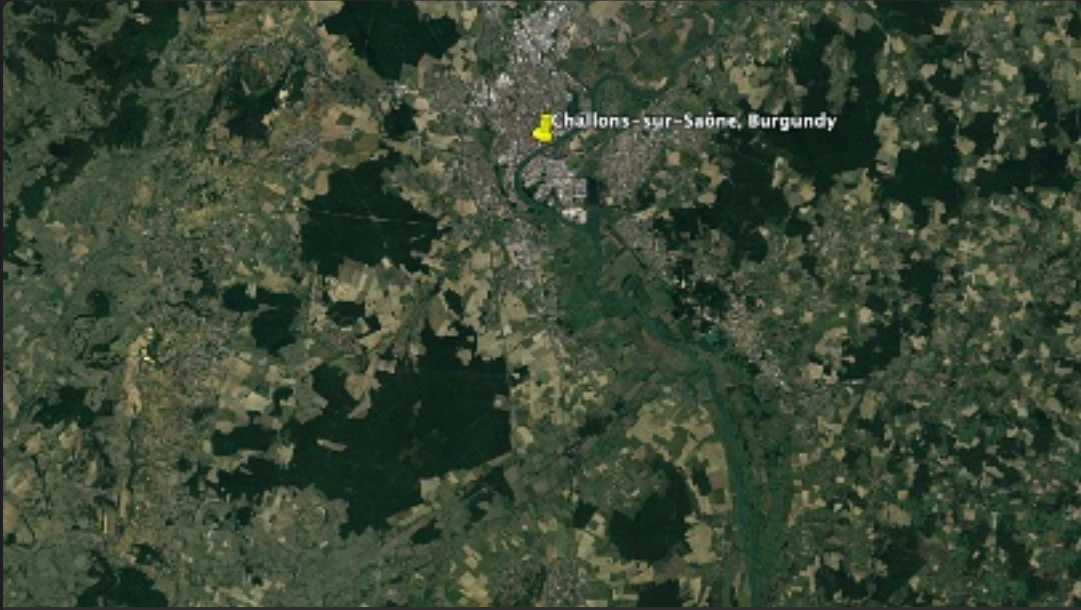
Place de la Halle, Beaune, Burgundy



Le lavoir de Saint Jacques, Beaune, Burgundy

Tournus, Burgundy, France

Our second excursion took us to the Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, in Burgundy. We had a wonderful tour of the 17th century building, where our guide was assisted by the current owner of the property. The Château is surrounded by a real moat and formal gardens.



Tournus, Burgundy
[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Model of Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, Burgundy



Kitchen of Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, Burgundy



Staircase roof in Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, Burgundy



A large painting 'Ronde Antique' by Feyen-Perrin in the Library, Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, Burgundy



Statue in the Library, Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, Burgundy



The Antechamber of the Marquise, Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, Burgundy



The Antechamber of the Marquise, Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, Burgundy



The Antechamber with painting of Louis XIII, Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, Burgundy



The Marquise's Bedchamber, Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, Burgundy



Roof of the Marquise's Bedchamber, Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, Burgundy



The Cabinet of St Cecilia, Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, Burgundy



The Cabinet of St Cecilia, Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, Burgundy



The Bedchamber of the Marquis, Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, Burgundy



The Bedchamber of the Marquis, Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, Burgundy



Gardens of Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, Burgundy



Gardens of Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, Burgundy



Château de Cormatin exterior view with courtyard, near Tournus, Burgundy



Château de Cormatin exterior view with moat, near Tournus, Burgundy

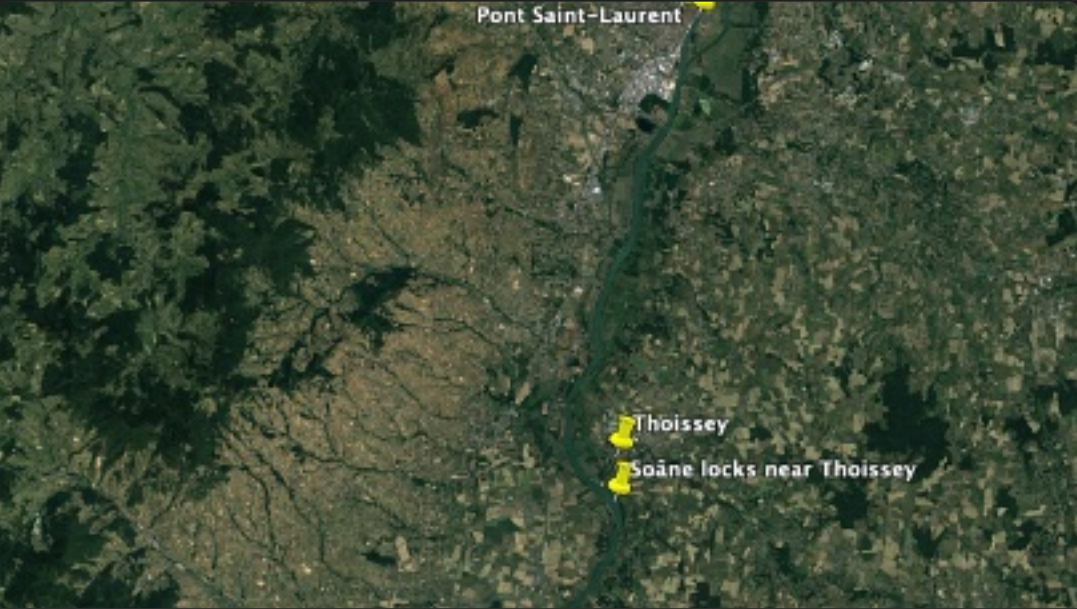


Château de Cormatin, near Tournus, Burgundy



Mâcon, Burgundy, France

Today's excursion was to the Château de Montmelas, near Villefranche-sur-Saône, in Burgundy. We greatly appreciated the views over the Saône valley and of course a little wine tasting. From Mâcon we continued downstream navigating several locks before arriving at Lyon.



Mâcon, Burgundy

[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Entrance to the Château de Montmelas, near Villefranche-sur-Saône, Burgundy



Courtyard view of the Château de Montmelas, near Villefranche-sur-Saône, Burgundy



External view of the Château de Montmelas, near Villefranche-sur-Saône, Burgundy



View from the Château de Montmelas, southeast towards Villefranche-sur-Saône, Burgundy



View from the Château de Montmelas, southeast towards Villefranche-sur-Saône, Burgundy



Courtyard view of the Château de Montmelas, near Villefranche-sur-Saône, Burgundy



Courtyard walls of the Château de Montmelas, near Villefranche-sur-Saône, Burgundy



Brickwork detail of the Château de Montmelas, near Villefranche-sur-Saône, Burgundy



Gateway in the Château de Montmelas, near Villefranche-sur-Saône, Burgundy



The riverside and buildings of Mâcon, Burgundy



Towers of Saint Pierre church from the riverside of Mâcon, Burgundy



The old bridge of St Laurent, Mâcon, Burgundy



Lock near Thoissey, Burgundy



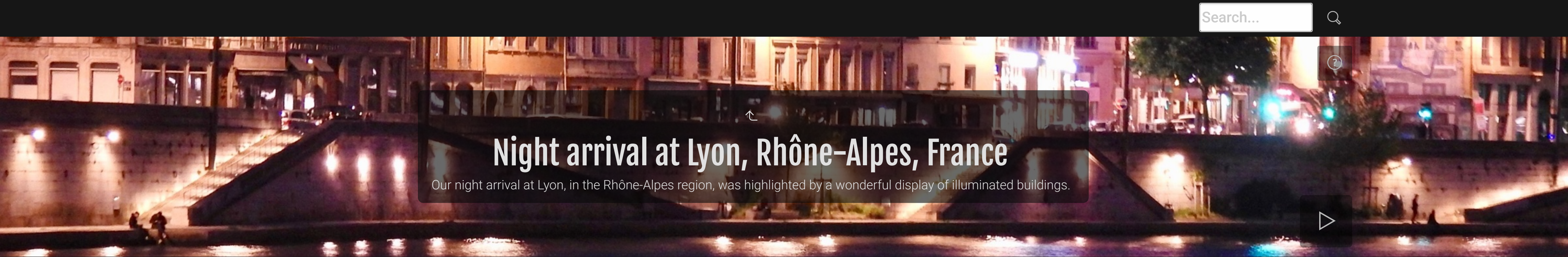
Leaving the lock near Thoissey, Burgundy



Leaving the lock near Thoissey, Burgundy



Barge entering the lock near Thoissey, Burgundy



Search...



Night arrival at Lyon, Rhône-Alpes, France

Our night arrival at Lyon, in the Rhône-Alpes region, was highlighted by a wonderful display of illuminated buildings.



Lyon, Rhône-Alpes

[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Lyon, Rhône-Alpes

[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



River view of lights of Lyon, Rhône-Alpes



River view of lights of Lyon, Rhône-Alpes



River view of lights of Lyon, Rhône-Alpes



Nighttime view of Basilique Notre-Dame de Fourvière, Lyons, Rhône-Alpes

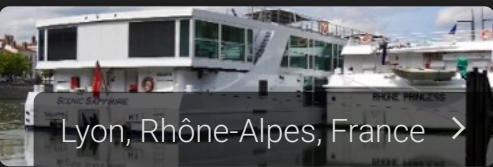


Nighttime view of Cathédrale Saint-Jean-Baptiste, Lyons, Rhône-Alpes (with Basilica above)



River view of lights of Lyon, Rhône-Alpes

< Mâcon, Burgundy, France



Lyon, Rhône-Alpes, France >





Lyon, Rhône-Alpes, France

Our visit to Lyon started with a visit to the Cathedrale Saint-Jean-Baptiste, close to the river. Then, at the top of the hill overlooking Lyon, we joined many other tourists visiting the very popular Basilica (La Basilique Notre Dame de Fourvière) and enjoying the views over the town.



Family of swans at Lyon, Rhône-Alpes



Cathédrale Saint-Jean-Baptiste, Lyon, Rhône-Alpes



Front of Cathédrale Saint-Jean-Baptiste, Lyon, Rhône-Alpes



Ceiling of Cathédrale Saint-Jean-Baptiste, Lyon, Rhône-Alpes



Interior of Cathédrale Saint-Jean-Baptiste, Lyon, Rhône-Alpes



Mural in Cathédrale Saint-Jean-Baptiste, Lyon, Rhône-Alpes



The 'Eiffel Tower' of Lyon, Rhône-Alpes



View from the Basilica with 'Pencil' and 'Eraser' buildings, Lyon, Rhône-Alpes



View from the Basilica with rear of Cathedrale, Lyon, Rhône-Alpes



View from the Basilica, Lyon, Rhône-Alpes



Part of model of Basilica and surrounding buildings, Lyon, Rhône-Alpes



View from the Basilica with Palais de Justice behind the trees, Lyon, Rhône-Alpes



Statue on Basilica Tower, Lyon, Rhône-Alpes



Interior courtyard in Lyon, Rhône-Alpes



The Scenic Sapphire moored at Lyon, Rhône-Alpes



Double parking at Lyon, Rhône-Alpes

Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes, France

We continued southwards on the Rhône after the Saône river joined it at Lyon. The river is marked by several high locks and a hillier terrain. In the afternoon we arrived at Tournon-sur-Rhône, in the Rhône-Alpes region, where we had a small excursion to the Château de Tournon enjoying the scenery, drinks, music and nibbles.



Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes
[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes
[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Entering lock near Sablons, Rhône-Alpes



Waiting for downstream gate to open at lock near Sablons, Rhône-Alpes



Leaving the lock near Sablons, Rhône-Alpes, (with water falling from above)



Whirlpools below lock near Sablons, Rhône-Alpes



Approaching Saint-Vallier, Rhône-Alpes



Riverside and church of Saint-Vallier, Rhône-Alpes



Vine terraces opposite Saint-Vallier, Rhône-Alpes



Entering the Château de Tournon, Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes



View of our cruise ship from the Château de Tournon, Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes



View across the river from the Château de Tournon, Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes



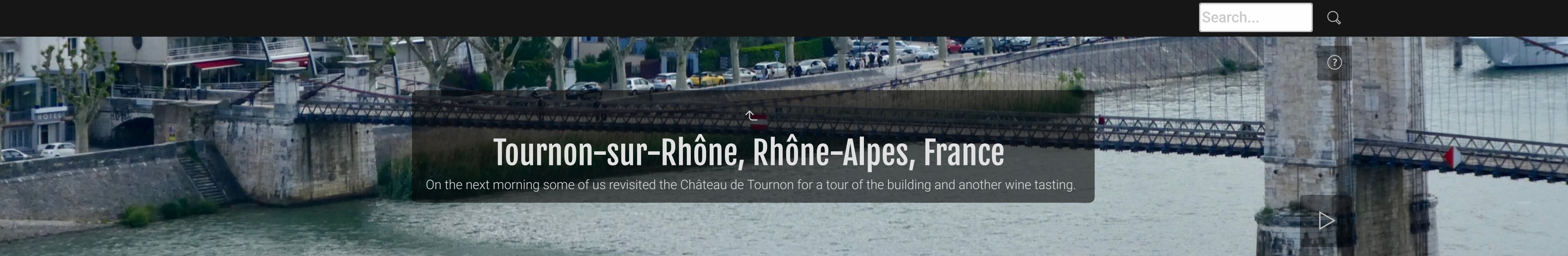
View downstream from the Château de Tournon, Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes



Tour de la Vierge near to the Château de Tournon, Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes



River panorama from the Château de Tournon, Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes



View from below of Château de Tournon, Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes



Entrance door to Château de Tournon, Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes



Interior of Château de Tournon, Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes



Dress on display in Château de Tournon, Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes



Antique cabinet in Château de Tournon, Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes



Bed display in Château de Tournon, Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes



Painting in Château de Tournon, Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes



Tain l'Hermitage from Château de Tournon, Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes



Roof top view of Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes



Gate to Château de Tournon, Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes



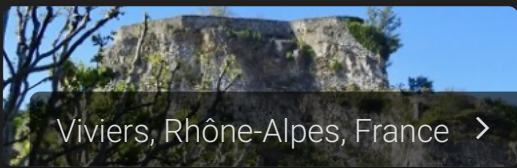
Gate to Château de Tournon, Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes



Wine tasting room in Château de Tournon, Tournon-sur-Rhône, Rhône-Alpes



Leaving the hydro-electric station and lock at Les Tourrettes, Rhône-Alpes



Viviers, Rhône-Alpes, France

Remaining in the Rhône-Alpes region, our next excursion was to the small town of Viviers, with its spectacular natural fortifications providing excellent views of the town and surroundings. The small Cathedral of St Vincent is located on this high ground and contains many sculptures and tapestries, as well as a wonderful organ we were privileged to hear.



Tournon, Rhône-Alpes

[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Viviers, Rhône-Alpes

[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Tree covered road into the centre of Viviers, Rhône-Alpes



Town centre with old walls above, Viviers, Rhône-Alpes



Narrow street in Viviers, Rhône-Alpes



House of Chevaliers in Viviers, Rhône-Alpes



Shop Mural in Viviers, Rhône-Alpes



Entrance to Cathedral of St Vincent, Viviers, Rhône-Alpes



Door into Cathedral of St Vincent, Viviers, Rhône-Alpes



Altar with paintings and sculptures in Cathedral of St Vincent, Viviers, Rhône-Alpes



Interior roof in Cathedral of St Vincent, Viviers, Rhône-Alpes



Interior of Cathedral of St Vincent, Viviers, Rhône-Alpes



Organ of Cathedral of St Vincent, Viviers, Rhône-Alpes



Tower of Cathedral of St Vincent, Viviers, Rhône-Alpes



Statue of the Virgin Mary at Joannade, Viviers, Rhône-Alpes



Cathedral from viewing area, Viviers, Rhône-Alpes



Town centre from viewing area near to the Cathedral, Viviers, Rhône-Alpes

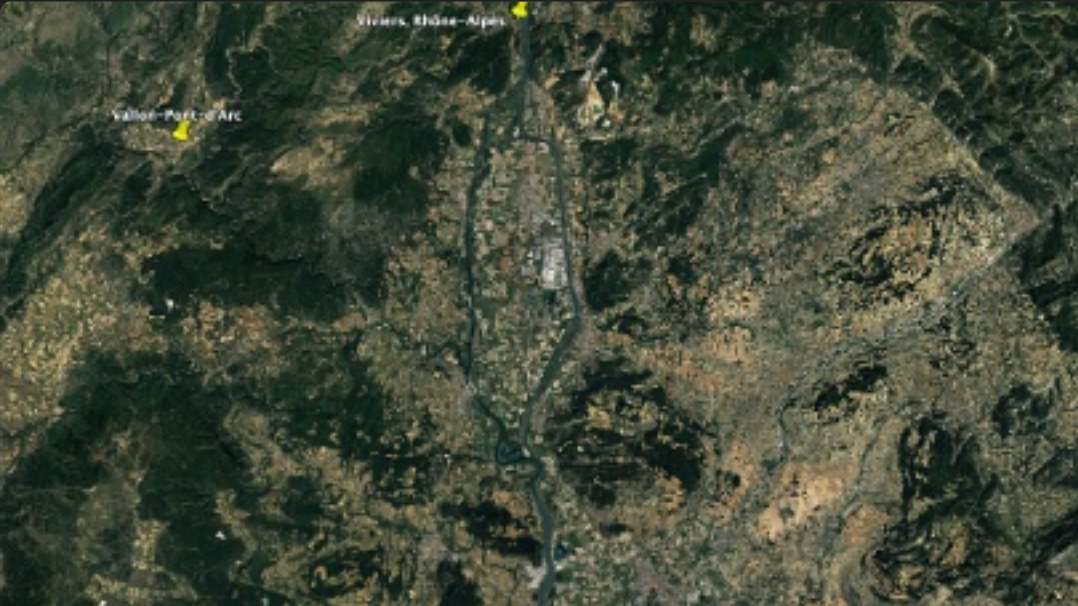


Town roofs from viewing area near to the Cathedral, Viviers, Rhône-Alpes



Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, Rhône-Alpes, France

In the afternoon we travelled to the Ardeche, an area of spectacular limestone scenery including natural bridges, gorges and caves. The most important cave in the area is the Chauvet Cave, discovered in 1994, with artistic works of Palaeolithic peoples and their interaction with many prehistoric animals. The cave has been re-created in the Grotte Chauvet 2 to enable visitors to experience the findings without impacting on them - a wonderful place!



Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, Rhône-Alpes
[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, Rhône-Alpes
[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Chauvet Cave with Paleolithic cave paintings and its discoverers, Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, Rhône-Alpes
[Grotte Chauvet 2 Ardèche]



View of the Ardèche River near Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, Rhône-Alpes



View of Chames near Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, Rhône-Alpes



Wild goat near Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, Rhône-Alpes



Pont-d'Arc, a natural bridge across the Ardèche River, Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, Rhône-Alpes



Some canoes on the Ardèche River, Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, Rhône-Alpes



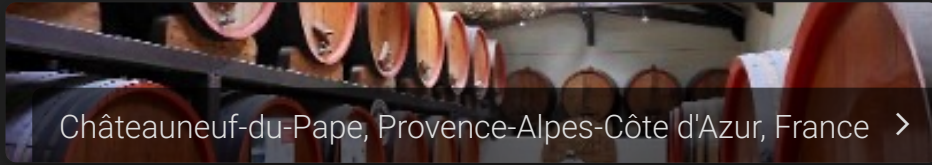
View from Caverne Pont d'Arc, Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, Rhône-Alpes

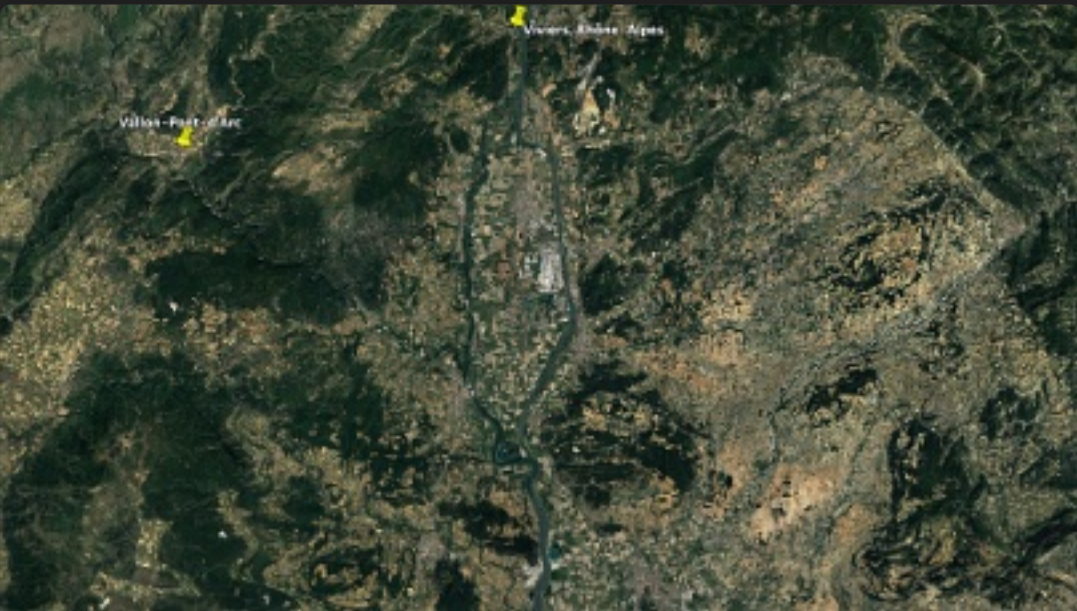
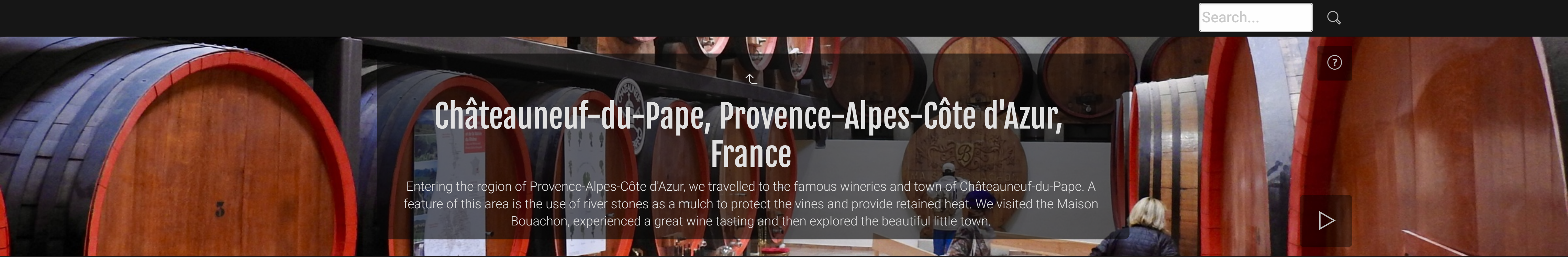


Entrance to Caverne Pont d'Arc, Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, Rhône-Alpes
[Grotte Chauvet 2 Ardèche]



Site view of Caverne Pont d'Arc, Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, Rhône-Alpes
[Grotte Chauvet 2 Ardèche]





Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur
[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur
[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Vines with river stones near Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



Vines with river stones near Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



Barrel Room at Maison Bouachon, Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



Maison Bouachon, Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



Château de Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



View eastwards towards the Alps from Château de Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



View eastwards towards the Alps from Château de Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



Narrow streets of Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



Church tower in Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



Church interior, Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



Church doorway, Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



Narrow streets of Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



Beautiful flower display in Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



Hotel de Ville, Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



Town centre with Hotel de Ville, Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



Waiting for our bus under a highly-pruned tree, Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur