Maps for 1) City walking tours incl. south & northeast area, 2) Bus-metro routes, 3) Cruise ship docks, 4) Tours to Cassis, Aix-en-Provence, Saint Remy, Carrieres de Lumieres, Le Baux, & Arles with photos & descriptions.

Whether you're interested in history, culture, art, gourmet food, beautiful beaches, scenic villages, hilltop historic towns, vineyards, etc., you'll find it all around Marseille.

Marseille is on the Mediterranean sea near a rocky, mountainous, coastline with limestone cliffs (calanques) around small inlets. The sea cliffs are the highest in Europe.

Cruise ships dock five miles from Vieux Port, the center of the city and starting point for exploring the area. Most ships provide a shuttle bus for a fee. You could also take a cab or a public bus from the port to the city.

Self-guided touring is easy. You can walk to many of the tourist sites and use the excellent public transit system to more distant sites. There are also HopOn buses, Le Petit trains, and boat rides.

NOTE: The Mistal (wind) can be strong in the Spring. On May 10, 2013, we left the port on a tour to the country. In a short time, I had an allergic reaction to pollen i.e., runny nose, headache, etc. The next time I visit Marseille in the spring “pollen and wind” season, I'll carry “Claritin (Loratadine)” when I leave the ship.

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CAVEAT
Information contained herein is believed to be accurate. PLEASE verify the information you use for your travel plans. Opinions expressed are my own. This port guide is protected by copyright law - see the last page of this guide for legal notices.

Tom Sheridan
Marseille Cruise Ship Dock Location

Cruise ships dock 5 miles (9.6 km) from “Vieux Port” (Center City Marseille).

Travel Options from the Cruise Ship to “View Port”

Shuttle bus service is provided by most cruise ships. See route map at left.

The ship's bus prices are ~ $20-30 (15-23 euro) round trip. I use the ship's shuttle to save time, avoid unnecessary walking, standing in line for a public bus, and get to/from center city quickly in the comfort of an air-conditioned bus.

Taxis are ~ 27-32 euros, including tip. Assuming 4 people, it's 10-16 euros/person round trip. I use a taxi to get to a specific location in the city.

Walking to the city is possible, but it takes 1 hour and 35 minutes walking along motorways.

Public buses stop at Porte Gate #4. Cost is 1.80 euro per ride. Buy the ticket on the bus. Take bus 35 from the port gate to Joliette, and transfer to bus 55 to Vieux Port, or walk 16 minutes to center city.

It takes ~ 22 minutes to walk from the cruise terminal to the port gate bus stop.

NOTE: There may be long lines waiting for the bus. Check the number of passengers in port the day you ship will dock. See www.cruisett.com. For example, there will be three ships docked with 10,745 passengers and crew on June 29, 2013. Can you imagine how long the lines might at the port gate bus stop?

It's your vacation; travel however you choose. My objective is to outline the options and travel issues.

GPS Coordinates

This guide includes GPS Coordinates for tourist sites and key locations. Open this port guide in one window on your computer and open Google Maps in a second window. Copy and paste the GPS coordinates into Google maps to find sites and get directions and time for travel by car, bus, walking, or bicycle. The coordinates can be used in any Google map format such as “map”, “satellite”, “earth”, and “terrain” views at any map scale.

These coordinates can also be used in hand-held or vehicle GPS devices. Note that these devices can accept different formats. It's important to set your device to accept data in this format:

 Degrees, Minutes, and Seconds shown as N ddd° mm' ss.ss", E ddd° mm' ss.ss"

The cruise ship terminal has these coordinates N 43° 20' 40.87", E 5° 19' 47.54".

This works fine in Google Maps, but your GPS device needs a specific number of digits such as three digits for the degrees. To input this to a GPS device, you will probably have to insert the leading zeros. My Garmin GPS needs the data in this format N 043° 20' 40.87", E 005° 19' 47.54". It's easy to add leading zeros.

GPS Coordinates for the Port

Marseille Provence Cruise Terminal (MPCT)  GPS = N 43° 20' 40.87", E 5° 19' 47.54"
Porte Gate #4  GPS = N 43° 20' 19.52", E 5° 20' 53.12"
Usual ship shuttle bus drop off in Vieux Port  GPS = N 43° 17' 46.01", E 5° 22' 11.64"
Bus Stop at Gate #4 Littoral Gourret TO Vieux Port  GPS = N 43° 20' 20.53", E 5° 20' 53.07"
Bus stop at Gate #4 Littoral Gourret FROM Vieux Port  GPS = N 43° 20' 18.83", E 5° 20' 56.44"
I entered GPS coordinates for the cruise terminal and Porte Gate #4 into Google Maps “Get Directions” to create the map at right.

The distance is 1.7 km.

Travel time is 3 minutes in a car/bus or a 21-minute walk.

NOTES:

There is a car parking lot next to the cruise terminal.

The port has dock space for five cruise ships.

The bus stops at Gate #4 are named “Littoral Gourret”. I entered GPS coordinates for the stops in Google Maps and magnified the screen in “satellite” view to see details of the bus stops. The bus stop just outside the gate is the route into the city. When returning from the city, you exit the bus at a lower-level motorway, climb the stairs (I estimate it's ~ 25 feet high), and cross over the motorway to the port gate. See the map below.
Marseille has an excellent bus, tram, & metro system
Whether or not you use the bus from the port to the city, you may want to use public transit to visit tourist sites in the city or ride a bus along the coast to view the scenery.

Download excellent maps from this link [http://www.rtm.fr/guide-voyageur/se-deplacer/plans](http://www.rtm.fr/guide-voyageur/se-deplacer/plans)

If you plan to use any of the buses, it's a good idea to download the schedules for the lines you plan to use.

### Travel via Public Bus 35 and Bus 55 from the Cruise Terminal to Marseille Vieux Port


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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>07:11</th>
<th>07:32</th>
<th>07:52</th>
<th>08:12</th>
<th>08:32</th>
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<td>07:54</td>
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<td>08:41</td>
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<td>09:21</td>
<td>20:09</td>
<td>20:41</td>
<td>21:21</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

You will be transferring from Bus 35 to Bus 55 at Joliette.

The public transit authority and the port authority publish maps showing bus stops near the port. I used a section of a port authority map and marked it with arrows showing the bus stops. **See map at right.**

Bus 35 and 55 stop at Place de la Joliette near Rue de Mazenod, and Av. Robert Schuman respectively.

Place de la Joliette is a large, open, park area.

**Bus 35 Joliette Stop is at**

GPS = **N 43° 18’ 16.80", E 5° 21’ 59.67"**

**NOTE:** The famous, new J1 Hangar, expo center, cultural center, and tourist site is shown in the map at right under T3. Unfortunately, it is not air-conditioned so it will be closed in the hot summer months. See [http://www.marseille-provence.info/marseille-marseilles/what-to-see-tourist-attractions/249-the-museums-of-marseille.html](http://www.marseille-provence.info/marseille-marseilles/what-to-see-tourist-attractions/249-the-museums-of-marseille.html)

GPS coordinates for the J1 Hangar = **N 43° 18’ 14.90", E 5° 21’ 52.29"**

For more guides, see [www.TomsPortGuides.com](http://www.TomsPortGuides.com)
Schedule for Bus 55 from Joliette to Metro Vieux Port on June 11, 2013

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>09:30</th>
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<th>10:00</th>
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<th>10:30</th>
<th>10:45</th>
<th>11:00</th>
<th>11:15</th>
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<tr>
<td>METRO JOLIETTE</td>
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<td>09:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>REPUBLIQUE DAMES</td>
<td>09:01</td>
<td>09:16</td>
<td>09:31</td>
<td>09:46</td>
<td>10:01</td>
<td>10:16</td>
<td>10:31</td>
<td>10:46</td>
<td>11:01</td>
<td>11:16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>METRO VIEUX PORT</td>
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<td>09:20</td>
<td>09:35</td>
<td>09:50</td>
<td>10:05</td>
<td>10:20</td>
<td>10:35</td>
<td>10:50</td>
<td>11:05</td>
<td>11:20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Metro Vieux Port bus stop is at GPS = N 43° 17' 45.16", E 5° 22' 27.32"

It's a 5-minute ride on Bus 55 from Joliette to Vieux Port. You could walk from Joliette to Metro Vieux Port along Rue de la Republique. It's 1.2 km and a 16-minute walk. See the map below.

Walking Route from Bus 35 stop at Joliette to Vieux Port

The **map above** shows some of the popular tourist sites between Joliette and Vieux Port.

I've also shown the *usual* location of the cruise ship shuttle bus stop near the Marie de Marseille City Hall. Your shuttle bus might stop at a different location.
Begin Your Self-Guided Tour of Marseille at Vieux Port

Vieux Port is the center of Marseille. It's a scenic area with gorgeous sailboats in the harbor. You'll find convenient public transit by bus, tram, and metro. The Saint Charles Train Station is only a short walk. There are regional buses at the train station to take you to tourist areas outside Marseille such as Aix en Provence.

The Le Grande Tour HopOn bus and the Le Petit Train begin their tours near Marie de Marseille City Hall.

There are many things to see and do. A good approach to planning your self-guided tour is to research and list more places to visit than possible during the brief time your ship is in port. That way, you can adjust your schedule if you find long lines waiting for the tourist site you planned to visit first. You can walk to many tourist sites, but you'll need transportation to some sites. I've included public transit maps to help you decide which bus, tram, or metro to use.

Popular Tourist Sites Listed by Area

This guide covers the top 30 tourist sites in Marseille. I have organized them by location relative to Vieux Port assuming that when you are in an area, you'll want to know what tourist attractions are nearby. Mairie de Marseille City Hall is the usual drop off location for the cruise ship shuttle bus. See map below.

NORTH: You can walk to the main tourist sites in Le Panier district in 30 minutes round trip. I've created a turn-by-turn walking tour Google map to visit the Cathedral, Vieille Charité, artisan workshops, museums, etc.

NORTHEAST: Includes Saint Charles Train/Bus Station and Longchamp Park, a 30-minute walk one way.

SOUTH: This is a large area with the most popular tourist sites i.e., Basilica Notre Dame de la Garde, Abbaye Saint Victor, Palais du Pharo, Vallon des Auffrès Fishing Village, the Tourist Information Office, the Prefecture, the boat ride to Castle d'If, etc. You can walk to some of these sites, but you'll need public transit or the HopOn bus to visit all of them. The Le Petit Train only stops at one location = the Basilica Notre Dame de la Garde.
Tourist Sites NORTH of Vieux Port - Walking Tour of Le Panier

Le Panier is an old neighborhood with churches, museums, cafes, shops, and workshops for artisans producing hand made and painted clay figurines and tile. There are several popular tourist sites in the area. Some of the streets are so narrow, they can be claustrophobic. Furthermore, Le Panier is on a hill. Be prepared for some inclined streets and steps in some sections of the neighborhood along pedestrian walkways.

Download the “Pedestrian Strolls” map below from the Tourist Office Website:

I've overlaid this “official” walking tour map above with GPS locations ( A, B, C, -). This “transforms” the paper map to a Google Electronic Map to take advantage of all the slick map features available from Google:

• Use GPS coordinates to pinpoint locations,
• Calculate walking distance and time between locations,
• Increase map scale to see more detail at points of interest, and
• Use aerial and street-level views to create turn-by-turn directions.
Below is a Google Map Showing Detail Near “A”, the Starting Point for Le Panier Walking Tour

A) Place aux Huiles  29 Place aux Huiles  Marseille, France  
GPS = N 43° 17' 51.94", E 5° 22' 10.52"

This is the starting point for the walking tour going west on Grand Rue.


Mairie de Marseille City Hall  
GPS = N 43° 17' 46.01", E 5° 22' 11.64"

This is the usual cruise ship shuttle bus drop off point. Your bus might stop at a different location.
Pavilion M  
GPS = N 43° 17' 48.92", E 5° 22' 12.72"

Pavilion M provides information on art, cultural events, and general tourist information. It has exhibits and movies about Marseille and the area. It's open 7 days a week from 11 am to 8 pm.

Maison Diamantée  3 Rue de la Prison  Marseille, France  
GPS = N 43° 17' 49.62", E 5° 22' 10.02"

The “Diamond Palace” is named for diamond shaped stones on the facade. It was built by wealthy merchants in the 1600s. It houses a museum with:

Eighteenth century Provencal furniture, domestic objects, and a large collection of santons from 1830 to the early 1900’s. There is also a relief model of Old Marseille from 1848 plus an area dedicated to 19th century paintings and costumes. Exhibits demonstrate the town’s rich history with artifacts of Provencal life. It is a museum of art and popular traditions. For example, the large wrought iron grip used to remove corpses in the street, during the great plague.

Musee des Docks Romains  
GPS = N 43° 17' 48.20", E 5° 22' 5.56"

The ancient commercial life in Marseille is evidenced by a variety of remains found in the wreckage of boats sunk in the harbor or nearby. The amphorae wall shows the diversity of forms made in Marseilles. The Dolia (large jars that contained probably wine), dating from the Hellenistic period to the Middle Ages, is the highlight of the visit. Finally measuring instruments such as currenctes and treasures, perfectly illustrate the importance trade in the ancient port of Marseille.

Hours: Tuesday to Sunday: from 10h to 18h  Admission 5 euro

The map below shows the walking route from Place aux Huiles “A” to the Cathedral “D”

The name of the road changes from Grand Rue to Rue Caisserie to Rue Saint Laurent to Esplande de la Tourette. The route is lined with businesses, restaurants, cafes, shops, etc. Google calculates the route from A
to B to C to D is 1.1 km and a 14 minute walk. An alternate route is to walk from A to B to D via Rue de Cathedrale from the northwest corner of Place de Lench. This route is 600 meters and an 8 minute walk, but you'll miss the scenic, postcard photo opportunities near point C on the map.

Here are the GPS coordinates to create the map above:

**A) Place aux Huiles 29 Place aux Huiles Marseille, France**

Restaurant.

**B) Place de Lench**

Place de Lenche is an attractive square with cafes and shops.

**C) Rue St Laurent intersection with Esplanade de la Tourette**

This is a scenic area with many photo opportunities.

**D) Cathedral de la Major**

Prince Louis Napoleon Bonaparte wanted a majestic church. It was finished in 1893. For details, see [http://www.marseille-provence.info/marseille-marseilles/what-to-see-tourist-attractions/140-the-churches-of-marseille.html](http://www.marseille-provence.info/marseille-marseilles/what-to-see-tourist-attractions/140-the-churches-of-marseille.html)

One of the really slick features of Google Maps is street-level photos. Open this port guide in one window on your computer and Google Maps in a second window. Copy and paste the GPS coordinates for A thru D into “Get Directions.” Click on the “walking man icon.” Then click on “Get Directions.” The route will appear as blue line. Drag the “yellow man icon” onto the map (photo below). The screen will split showing street level photos above the map. Move the “yellow man icon” along the blue line on the map to preview what you'll see and whether there are slopes, hills, and stairs along the route. In ports with steep streets such as Monaco, this technique will help you decide whether you want to walk a particular route.

Marseille-06-28-2013  For more guides, see [www.TomsPortGuides.com](http://www.TomsPortGuides.com)
Walk east from (D) in front of the Cathedral to (E) Rue Sainte Francoise; turn left.

Enter the GPS coordinates for the intersection at “E” in Google Maps. Then drag the little “yellow man icon” onto the map to see the street level photo (at right). As you can see, the road dead ends at this intersection so you have to turn left. Also, you can use the pharmacy at the corner as a landmark to find the intersection.
Continue north on Sainte Francoise and turn right on Rue de Petit Puits. I entered the GPS coordinates for “F” into Google Maps. Then I dragged the little “yellow man icon” onto the map and looked around the intersection. (Photos below)

Google Maps show there are two side streets near this intersection. Take the second street to the right as shown by the arrow.

This street level photo (below) shows two side streets to the right at point F.

The second, furthest, side street is Rue du Petit Puits
G) Arterra's  15 Rue du Petit Puits  Marseille, France  
Workshop for clay figurines:  

Housed in the old quarter of the "Shopping Cart" in Marseille, the Arterra workshop since 1996 came from the family of Santon. From the beginning Arterra has become a very personal style. A style that combines tradition and modernity sparked the enthusiasm of fans and collectors. Our collections are also very popular in the world of Santon nursery, in the decoration. Our collection is available in five sizes: 7, 9, 12, 18, and 30 cm. All our subjects are obviously clay and made entirely by hand. The different stages of production are successively: See [http://santons-arterra.com/](http://santons-arterra.com/)

H) Vieille Charité  
GPS = N 43° 18' 0.43",  E 5° 22' 3.99"

Old Charity Cultural Center - Centre de la Vieille Charité
Set in the heart of the "Panier" district is a beautiful, baroque chapel in a large courtyard surrounded by a building with three-tiered arched balconies, all made of a rose or yellow tinted Couronne stone. The Vieille Charité was built from 1671 to 1749 (and never actually finished) to house the poor and needy. Entrance is free to wander around in the courtyard, and visit the book store or stop at the café. Museums located in the "Charité" building include:

- Museum of Mediterranean Archaeology about 2 €,
- Museum of African, South Seas and American Indian Arts about 2 €, and
- Temporary Exhibits about 4 €

- Open: June-Sept, 11h-18h; Oct-May, 10h-17h
- Closed: Mondays, holidays

I) Sardine d'argile  5 Rue Du Petit Puits Marseille, France  
GPS =N 43° 17' 59.77",  E 5° 22' 7.31"

Workshop for ceramic tiles:
La Sardine clay is the appointment of Marseille artisans. Jean-Marc Saman, history buff and travel, creates ceramic tiles inspired Medieval and Renaissance Mediterranean, where the blue and white dominate: azuleiros (Portugal), Iznik (Turkey) (Delft below), Moustiers. Authentic style pleases its singularity

J) Rue du Puits du Denier  
GPS = N 43° 17' 59.93",  E 5° 22' 5.88"

Street level photo of intersection (below). It's a narrow street.

K) Rue du Panier  
GPS = N 43° 17' 57.69",  E 5° 22' 5.65"
This is the intersection at Rue du Panier; turn left.

**L) Rue des Moulins**  
GPS = N 43° 17' 57.34", E 5° 22' 8.44"

Continue walking east on Rue du Panier to the third street on your right. Ascend the stairs to Rue de Moulins.
The Map Below Shows the Remaining Section of the Walking Tour of Le Panier

From “L”, walk south on Rue des Moulins along the tree-lined square. Stop at the figurine workshop at “M”. Turn left (east) on Montee des Accoules. You'll see washed clothes hanging from the balconies as you pass Rue du Poirier. You'll find a flight of stairs at “N”. Go down the stairs to Grand Rue. Point “A”, Place aux Huiles restaurant is where you began the walking tour.

M) Lagnel André Robbe  
GPS = N 43° 17' 51.75", E 5° 22' 2.94"

Lagnel André Robbe is one of the famous workshops for fine clay figurines. It is located on Rue des Moulins near Montee des Accoules. See [http://www.culture-13.fr/annuaire/cabanon-des-accoules.html](http://www.culture-13.fr/annuaire/cabanon-des-accoules.html)
You’ll find a flight of stairs at “N”. Go down the stairs to Grand Rue. Point “A”, Place aux Huiles restaurant is where you began to walking tour.

The steeple next to the stairs is the remains of one of the oldest churches in Marseille.

Distance and Time for Le Panier Walking Route

It is 1.1 km and 14 minutes to walk from A) Place aux Huiles to D) Cathedrale de la Major
It is 1.1 km and 15 minutes to walk from D) Cathedrale de la Major back to the starting point A

List of GPS Locations Used for the Le Panier Walking Route Map

A) Place aux Huiles  
B) Place de Lench  
C) St Laurent  
D) Cathedrale de la Major  
E) Rue Saint Francoise  
F) Rue du Petit Puits  
G) Artera's  
H) Vieille Charité  
I) Sardine d'argile  
J) Rue du Puits du Denier  
K) Rue du Panier  
L) Rue des Moulins  
M) Lagnel André Robbe  
N) Stairs

GPS = N 43° 17' 51.94", E 5° 22' 10.52"
GPS = N 43° 17' 50.32", E 5° 21' 56.34"
GPS = N 43° 17' 44.32", E 5° 21' 48.42"
GPS = N 43° 17' 56.72", E 5° 21' 52.64"
GPS = N 43° 17' 55.38", E 5° 21' 59.18"
GPS = N 43° 17' 58.44", E 5° 21' 59.99"
GPS = N 43° 17' 59.43", E 5° 22' 3.94"
GPS = N 43° 18' 0.43", E 5° 22' 3.99"
GPS = N 43° 17' 59.77", E 5° 22' 7.31"
GPS = N 43° 17' 59.93", E 5° 22' 5.88"
GPS = N 43° 17' 57.69", E 5° 22' 5.65"
GPS = N 43° 17' 57.34", E 5° 22' 8.44"
GPS = N 43° 17' 51.75", E 5° 22' 2.94"
GPS = N 43° 17' 51.31", E 5° 22' 7.58"
Tourist Sites NORTHEAST of Vieux Port

A) Mairie de Marseille City Hall
GPS = N 43° 17’ 46.01”, E 5° 22’ 11.64”
This is the usual cruise ship shuttle bus drop off point. Your bus might stop at a different location.

B) Saint Charles Train and Bus Station
GPS = N 43° 18’ 10”, E 5° 22’ 46”

C-D) Palais et Parc Longchamp area
GPS = N 43° 18’ 13.37”, E 5° 23’ 36.05”

E) La Friche la Belle de Mai
GPS = N 43° 18’ 34.55”, E 5° 23’ 25.75”

F) Theatre Le Petit Merlan
GPS = N 43° 20’ 7.02”, E 5° 24’ 26.36”

Note the map scale of 2000 feet:

It's 1.6 km and a 22-minute walk from “A” Mairie de Marseille City Hall to “B” the Saint-Charles Train and Bus Station. See map at right.

B) Saint Charles Train Station
GPS = N 43° 18’ 10”, E 5° 22’ 46”
http://www.gares-en-mouvement.com/fr/frmsc/votre-gare/

Check this link for a virtual tour of the area
http://www.gares360.com/itiview/?project=108

The train station is also a major bus stop. We took a bus to Aix-en-Provence.
Walking Route to Palais et Parc Longchamp

C) Musee Grobet-Labadie  
Museum exhibits include 15th to 19th century paintings, tapestry, furniture, and medieval sculpture.

Hours Tuesday-Sunday 10 to 6pm  
Admission 3-5 euro  

D) Palais et Parc Longchamp  
GPS = \(N 43\degree 18' 13.37'', \ E 5\degree 23' 36.05''\)

Drought had always been a serious issue in Marseille due to low rainfall. A canal, series of aqueducts, and tunnels were built in 1849 to solve the problem.

Palais Longchamp was constructed in 1869 to “celebrate water.” It's a monument and park area with a beautiful setting of buildings, a staircase, fountain, waterfall, many sculptures, and a large park = a gorgeous site!

Metro  
Line 1 toward La Rose to Cinq Avenues Longchamp stop  
Tram line 2  
Bus 81

E) La Friche la Belle de Mai  
GPS = \(N 43\degree 18' 34.55'', \ E 5\degree 23' 25.75''\)

It's a cultural area built in the “wasteland.” Events include festivals, music, dance, theater and art. The walls around the area are covered with graffiti and murals. There are two entrance gates:

41 Rue Jobin, 13003 Marseille (photo right)  
12 Rue Francois Simon, 13003 Marseille  
Hours 8:30 am to 8:00 pm Monday - Friday  
Bus 49B toward Belle de Mai maternité to Jobin/Pautrier

F) Theatre Le Petit Merlan  
39 Avenue du Merlan 13014  
GPS = \(N 43\degree 20' 7.02'', \ E 5\degree 24' 26.36''\)

It's 6.2 km, an 80-minute walk from Marseille City Hall. Use public transportation.

The theatre is at the University of Saint Jerome Campus. There are musicals every night. A variety of entertainers perform at other times. See [http://www.theatre-petitmerlan.com/](http://www.theatre-petitmerlan.com/)

Hours: 8 am -10 pm M-W, 9am to 5 pm Thursday, 10 am – 11:30 pm Friday-Saturday. Cost: 15 euro  
Bus 33 et 34 Merlan-Brissac stop
A) Mairie de Marseille City Hall  
GPS = N 43° 17' 46.01", E 5° 22' 11.64"

The usual cruise ship shuttle bus stop is in front of Mairie de Marseille City Hall. Your bus might stop at a different location.

B) Ferry Boat Ride Across the Harbor  
GPS = N 43° 17' 45.32", E 5° 22' 13.64"

The route is shown on the map above. Crossing distance is 283m and time is 5 minutes. It's FREE and provides a great view of the harbor. Normal hours are 9 am to noon and 1 pm to 6 pm.

C) Tourist Information Office  
11 La Canebière, 13001 Marseille, France

Open daily, 9am – 7pm (10am – 5pm on Sundays and public holidays).

I entered the GPS coordinates for the City Hall and the Tourist Information Office in Google Maps “Get Directions”. I set the map to Earth view and clicked on the walking man icon to produced the map right. It's 500 meters and a 7 minute walk.
D) Boat from Vieux Port to Castle (Chateau) d'If

Castle (Chateau) d'If          GPS = N 43° 16' 47.28", E 5° 22' 27.82" 

In the early 1500s, François I built the fortress which we now call Castle (Chateau) of If. The initial use was as a general prison and a place to hold slaves. Later, it was deemed suitable to hold important people.

The Castle was made famous by imprisonment of José Custodio Faria when Alexandre Dumas immortalized it in the “Count of Monte Cristo”.

Admission to the Castle is 5 euro.

The Castle is closed on Monday from October through March

www.monuments-nationaux.fr

If Frioul Express Boat Ride from Vieux Port to Castle d' If

There is a regular boat service from Vieux Port to the Castle d' If by If Frioul Express from Quai des Belges - 13001 Marseille.  

GPS = N 43° 17' 39.54", E 5° 22' 27.82"

Look for the sign “Gare Maritime – Navettes Pour Les Iles Frioul-If”

Tel: + 33 (0)4 91 46 54 65  www.frioul-if-express.com

The boat ride is 4.6 km and takes 20 minutes.  Adult fare for the boat ride is 10.10 euro round trip.

NOTE:

There are several boats originating from Vieux Port to various island locations.

Check the  www.frioul-if-express.com website for information.  You may find this is a unique way to personalize your self-guided tour of the Marseille area.

www.TomsPortGuides.com
E) Musee Cantini

GPS = N 43° 17' 31.78", E 5° 22' 41.42"

The collection of the Musée Cantini includes Fauvism, the first cubist experiments, and different streams post-cubist or purists 1920s -1940. Some of these works reveal the fascination of many artists in the early twentieth century to light and southern landscapes. Another major focus of the collection is the Surrealist Revolution. Lyrical or gestural abstraction is also represented. A little away from historically defined streams, the collection has some great individuals who deeply marked the twentieth century, including Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse, Jean Arp, Balthus, Alberto Giacometti and Francis Bacon. Photographic collections offer a fairly rich panorama of the history of this art from the most historic period.

The museum has been closed for a year and will reopen in June 2013.
Hours: 10am-5pm Tue-Sun Oct-May, 11am-6pm Tue-Sun Jun-Sep Admission ~ 2 euros

F) Prefecture des Bouches du-Rhone

GPS = N 43° 17' 26.10", E 5° 22' 48.23"

Prefecture is the area for French government buildings and embassies of other countries. Map below.

G) Abbaye Saint Victor

GPS = N 43° 17' 25.25", E 5° 21' 55.90"

It's an old Gothic Church dating back to the 400s when it was established as two monasteries for men (Abbaye St Victor) and women. Most of the site was destroyed over the years. The church and crypt survived and are a very popular tourist site.

There are beautiful altars, stained-glass windows, statues, mosaics, frescoes, and the Black Virgin. Sarcophagi are in the church with many more in the crypt. Usually, there are musicians playing – a nice touch.

Website = [http://www.saintvictor.net/](http://www.saintvictor.net/)
H) Palais du Pharo

Palais du Pharo was an imperial residence of Napoleon. The site offers commanding panoramic views of the harbor area. It's excellent for photos and a great place to picnic! The site is used for meetings and conventions.

I) Vallon des Auffres Fishing Village

Vallon des Auffres is a small, scenic, fishing village along the rocky coast. It's a good place to picnic. It has two of the best seafood restaurants in Marseille; namely, L'Epuisette and Chez Fonfon.

Take Bus 83 to Vallon Des Auffes (map at right). The war memorial (photo below) for the Eastern Army in the First World War (Monument aux Morts d'Orient) is across the street from the bus stop.
J) Plongee Phoceenne

GPS = N 43° 17' 5.05", E 5° 21' 41.47"

Plongee Phoceenne offers snorkeling and scuba diving tours of the area. Training is provided for first time divers. The company is highly rated and is popular with divers.

Website = [http://www.plongeephoceenne.com/EnglishV.html](http://www.plongeephoceenne.com/EnglishV.html)

K) Basilique de Notre Dame de la Garde

GPS = N 43° 17' 3.08", E 5° 22' 16.46"

The Basilica of Notre Dame is the most popular tourist site in Marseille for good reason. It's one of the most beautiful churches you'll ever see and it's perched high on a hill providing a commanding view of the area.

The HopOn bus, Le Petit Train, and most of the tours stop at the Basilica. You'll want to spend some time here exploring the church and walking around the upper area for scenic views of the area.

I caution you there are several stairs to climb from the parking lot to enter the church. I believe there is a handicap access, but I'm not sure. Check with your tour guide or with the Tourist Information Office in Vieux Port.

The following page shows public transit to this area. Note that bus 60 goes to Basilica Notre Dame de la Garde.

I have also marked up the city map to show 13 stops of the HopOn bus.
This is a section of the public transit map. Download the full map from http://www.rtm.fr/guide-voyageur/se-deplacer/plans
Travel Options for Self-Guided Touring in Marseille

Walking

Bus, Tram, Metro
Download bus, tram, and metro maps from http://www.rtm.fr/guide-voyageur/se-deplancer/plans
Check schedules and routes at http://www.rtm.fr/

The real time network is AWESOME to locate bus stops near tourist sites!  http://map.rtm.fr/map.html
Public transit stops can be difficult to locate on Google Maps.  Use this website, change the view from “Map” to “Satellite”, magnify the view, and you can see all the bus, tram, and metro stops around the tourist sites you are interested in visiting!

Trains  Check  http://www.raileurope.com/index.html
The main train station in the city is Marseille Saint Charles

Boats from Vieux Port  www.frioul-if-express.com

Touring in a 1975 vintage car
This a unique and popular way to tour Marseille and the surrounding area in a vintage 1975 convertible.  Cost is 55 euro/hour with room for 3 people.  See  http://www.marseille-en-2cv.fr/en/

The bus makes 13 stops in Marseille.  Cost is 18 euros/person.  The “typical” schedule is shown at right.  I have shown location of the 13 stops on the map on the previous page.

The bus starts at Mairie de Marseille City Hall.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Vieux Port - Mairie</th>
<th>10:15</th>
<th>11:45</th>
<th>13:15</th>
<th>15:30</th>
<th>17:00</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Métro Vieux Port</td>
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<td>11:50</td>
<td>13:20</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Catalans</td>
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<td>15:45</td>
<td>17:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Vallon des Auffes</td>
<td>10:33</td>
<td>12:03</td>
<td>13:33</td>
<td>15:48</td>
<td>17:18</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Fausse Monnaie</td>
<td>10:36</td>
<td>12:06</td>
<td>13:36</td>
<td>15:51</td>
<td>17:21</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Notre-Dame de la Garde</td>
<td>10:48</td>
<td>12:18</td>
<td>13:48</td>
<td>16:03</td>
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<tr>
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<td>14:06</td>
<td>16:21</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Gare Maritime Internationale</td>
<td>11:15</td>
<td>12:45</td>
<td>14:15</td>
<td>16:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Cathédrale de la Major</td>
<td>11:17</td>
<td>12:47</td>
<td>14:17</td>
<td>16:32</td>
<td>18:02</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Fort Saint Jean / Mucem</td>
<td>11:20</td>
<td>12:50</td>
<td>14:20</td>
<td>16:35</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vieux Port - Mairie</td>
<td>11:25</td>
<td>12:55</td>
<td>14:25</td>
<td>16:40</td>
<td>18:10</td>
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</table>

The little train tour starts near the Mairie de Marseille City Hall.  There are a few different circuits at different prices.  The train only makes one stop at Notre Dame de la Garde.  Cost is 8 euros.
The Beaches and Tourist Sites South of Marseille

A) Mairie de Marseille City Hall
   GPS = N 43° 17' 46.01", E 5° 22' 11.64"
   This is the usual ship shuttle bus drop off location.

B) Stade Velodrome
   GPS = N 43° 16' 11.62", E 5° 23' 45.92"
   The Stade Vélodrome is a football stadium in Marseille, France. It is home to the Olympique de Marseille football club of Ligue 1, and was a venue in the 1998 FIFA World Cup and the 2007 Rugby World Cup. It's located ~ 3.5 km south of Vieux Port. Take metro line 2 southbound to Rond-Point du Prado or Sainte Marguerite Dromel located at different sides of Stade Vélodrome. Address: 3 Boulevard Michelet, 13008
   Website = http://www.stadiumguide.com/velodrome/

C) Cite Radieuse Le Corbusier
   GPS = N 43° 15' 41.19", E 5° 23' 46.38"
   If you're interested in architecture, you might wish to visit this site. It's a unique housing design built on stilts by a Swiss architect Charles-Edouard Jeanneret, A.K.A. Le Corbusier. It was designed to resemble an urban steamboat anchored in a park. The building has over 300 flats and is 165m by 24m and 56m high.
D) Parc Borely  
GPS = N 43° 15' 36.29", E 5° 22' 56.70"

Parc Borely is one of the most popular parks in Marseille. It's classified as “one of the Notable Gardens of France.” The park spans 42 acres with an “English” garden, a lake, a replica model of the Notre Dame de la Garde, a promenade, track, and a playground. Hours are 6 am to 8 pm. A botanical garden adjoins the park.

The 18th century Castle Borley is being renovated and will house the Museum of Decorative Arts.

E) Parc Balneaire du Prado  
GPS = N 43° 15' 47.09", E 5° 22' 22.33"

Prado is Marseille's beautiful, Mediterranean coast with five beaches. Secure your valuables in a free locker, rent a chair or umbrella and enjoy the activities. There are showers and public toilets. For details, see [http://www.marseille-provence.info/marseille-marseille/what-to-see-tourist-attractions/200-the-beaches-of-marseille.html](http://www.marseille-provence.info/marseille-marseille/what-to-see-tourist-attractions/200-the-beaches-of-marseille.html)

NOTE: The beaches and buses to/from the beaches can be very crowded in the summer depending on the time of day. Car parking space is very limited and may be crowded.
F) Plage de la Pointe Rouge Beach
GPS = N 43° 14' 41.15", E 5° 22' 18.02"

La Pointe Rouge Beach is one of the few sandy beaches of Marseille.
This beach is south of the Prado beaches. It's a sandy beach popular with families.
NOTE: The beaches and buses to/from the beaches can be very crowded in the summer depending on the time of day. Car parking space is very limited and crowded.

G) Calanque de Morgiou
GPS = N 43° 12' 45.46", E 5° 26' 36.12"

Calanque de Morgiou Google Earth View (see the tiny green arrow on map below)
A calanque is a steep-walled inlet to the sea in rocky mountains. There are many such rock formations along the coast of France. They are scenic and offer panoramic views of the area, but they're usually in remote areas where there is not much to do.
Hiking is a popular. The best time is in the Spring because heat is reflected from the rocks.
I'm not a hiker and prefer to view calanques on our ship's excursion tour to Cassis.

For more information on calanques, see

Photo (below) at Calanque de Morgiou. There's not much there.
Caution re Boat Tours:

You'll find many ports where there are small boat excursions to see the coastline, visit coastal towns or islands, see dolphins or whales, etc. I call your attention to two possible issues with small boat tours.

The first issue is discomfort i.e., motion sickness.
We've taken the boat from Naples to Capri many times without incident. On a recent boat ride, there was a rhythmic roll even though the seas were calm. A few people ran to the toilets at the front of the boat. The attendants handed out barf bags; several people got sick. On the return trip to Naples, we were on a huge hydrofoil boat. It was a very calm ride. Bigger is better!

Statement on Cassis Tourist Website re Boat Tours

Visitors to Cassis France can enjoy an adventurous boat tour of the spectacular Calanques fjords. The small vessels leave from Cassis every half hour or so. Tour durations are a minimum of two hours in length. Boat tours depart from the Port of Cassis, not far from the tourist information centre. Because the Mediterranean waters can be quite rough, the tours are not recommended for those who suffer from motion sickness or serious health conditions.

The second issue is travel delays.
Small boats slowww down due to slight wind and waves. If you're traveling a long distance on the boat, time can be significant! On our ship's excursion from Genoa to Portofino, our guide estimated the small boat ride would take several hours. The tour was changed. We rode the bus close to Portofino and only took a short boat ride to the harbor. Ship's excursions are a good bet when the tour includes a lengthy ride on a small boat because the ship will not leave without you.

H) OK Corral

GPS = N 43° 16' 3.52", E 5° 43' 46.30"


Here are the GPS coordinates for this section of the guide.

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</table>
| A | Mairie de Marseille City Hall
Usual ship shuttle bus drop off | N 43° 17' 46.01", E 5° 22' 11.64" |
| B | Stade Velodrome | N 43° 16' 11.62", E 5° 23' 45.92" |
| C | Cite Radieuse Le Corbusier | N 43° 15' 41.19", E 5° 23' 46.38" |
| D | Parc Borely | N 43° 15' 36.29", E 5° 22' 56.70" |
| E | Parc Balneaire du Prado | N 43° 15' 47.09", E 5° 22' 22.33" |
| F | Plage de la Pointe Rouge | N 43° 14' 41.15", E 5° 22' 18.02" |
| G | Calanque de Morgiou | N 43° 12' 45.46", E 5° 26' 36.12" |
| H | OK Corral | N 43° 16' 3.52", E 5° 43' 46.30" |
Aix-en-Provence is 31 km and a 25-minute ride from Marseille. (map at right) It's ideal for self-guided touring by train or bus from the Marseille Saint Charles Station. Bus 50 is very convenient. It departs every 5 minutes. The ride is 35 minutes, and cost is 5.20 euro one way. The bus and train stations in Aix-en-Provence are only a short walk from Old Town.

Cours Mirabeau is the place to begin your walking tour in Aix-en-Provence. It's a wide, tree-lined street with fountains, shops, and numerous vendor stands offering a variety of products.

The map below shows the bus and train stations in Aix-en-Provence. Be sure to stop at the Tourist Office to ask which events you should see. There are food, flower, clothing, or flea markets set up at different locations each day.

Stop to admire and photograph the famous fountain at Pl du General du Gaulle.

Your walking tour begins at Cours Mirabeau.

“Relaxing” is the operative word. Walkways are generally flat. You don't need to worry about steep slopes or climbing stairs.

Enjoy a leisurely stroll. There are many photo opportunities, places to shop, many restaurants, and cafes to enjoy a coffee or great French food.
This is a marked-up section of the “official” Old Town map

Note the full length of Cours Mirabeau is only 1500 feet. You can walk this distance in 6 minutes.

**St. Sauveur Cathedrale**  
34 place des Martyrs de la Résistance | 13100 Aix-en-Provence, France.  
A “must see” site in Old Town. It's a ten-minute walk north from Cours Mirabeau.  
Les Deux Garcons
This is a famous cafe that was popular with artists and intellectuals. Recent reviewers all agree the interior gilt décor is impressive, but many complain the food and service have been poor.

Musée Granet
Place Saint Jean de Malte  13100 Aix-en-Provence, France
See  http://www.museegranet-aixenprovence.fr/www/index5.html

Nearly 600 paintings, sculptures and archaeological pieces are on display: paintings from the 17th century French school, a room devoted to Paul Cézanne with 9 oil paintings, the Cézanne to Giacometti Collection (works by Giacometti, Picasso, Léger, Klee, de Staël, Tal Coat, Velde) as well as collections from the European schools (Flemish, Italian, Dutch) with Rubens, Rembrandt, a sculpture gallery, and an Entremont room (Celto-Ligurian sculptures from the Entremont archaeological site)

Summer hours:  9 am to 7 pm all week  except  9 am to 11 pm on Thursday
Admission:  4 euros

Getting from Marseille to Aix-en-Provence

My strategy for self-guided touring from a cruise port is to go to the furthest site first and travel closer to the port to visit other sites so that I can spend a full day without risk of being too far from the ship to get back in time.  We took the ship's shuttle bus from the cruise dock to Vieux Port and walked to the train station:

Saint Charles Train and Bus Station  GPS = N 43° 18' 10", E 5° 22' 46"
http://www.gares-en-mouvement.com/fr/frmsc/votre-gare/

Train schedules and fares:
See  http://www2.raileurope.com/
Trains run twice an hour, cost ~ 9 euro, and it's a 44 minutes ride.

Bus schedules and fares from Marseille Saint Charles Train Station to Aix-en-Provence
Go to www.rtm.fr

The screen below appears.

Fill in the form.  I used June 28, 2013 as the travel date.
Highlight the points of departure and arrival.

We want to arrive at Gare Routiere because that location is only 600 meters and an 8 minute walk from the tourist office and fountain on the main street in Aix-en-Provence.

Check “Le plus rapide” “the fastest route”

Check “Patte” for “departure time”
I entered the time as “09” “01”

Click on “Recherche”.

Bus 050 departs every 5 minutes during normal hours.

The ride is 34 minutes.

From other internet screens, I found the adult price is 5.20 euros one way.

When you get to the Saint Charles Train Station, check to see where Bus 50 picks up passengers. Normally, the buses depart from beside or behind the train station. There has been a lot of road construction in the area. The buses may be using another departure point near the station.

There are vending machines at the train station that sell bus tickets. We couldn't read the French instructions to use the machines. Furthermore, I am told that many of the machines do not work. You can always buy the ticket on the bus. That's what we did. As a courtesy to the bus driver, have the exact change.
Cassis


There are many shops and cafes around the harbor. It's a great area to explore.

[Image of Cassis beach and harbor]

Marseille-06-28-2013 For more guides, see [www.TomsPortGuides.com](http://www.TomsPortGuides.com)
Sponges for Sale

The 394 Meter High Cape Canaille Sea Cliffs
Getting to Cassis from Marseille

It's 38.5 km and a 45 minute ride from the cruise ship dock in Marseille to Cassis. We took a ship's excursion bus tour which included a drive through Marseille and a visit to Notre Dame de la Garde Basilica. Then the bus drove through the scenic mountains, past large limestone rock formations, to Cassis. We had a lot of time to explore Cassis, have lunch, walk along the beach, etc.

Here are the GPS coordinates if you wish to plot a Google Map.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>GPS</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cruise ship dock in Marseille</td>
<td>N 43° 20' 42.40&quot;, E 5° 19' 46.66&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassis Tourism Office at the beach</td>
<td>N 43° 12' 48.43&quot;, E 5° 32' 12.00&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A train ride from Marseille Saint Charles Station to Cassis takes 25 minutes. Check [www.raileurope.com](http://www.raileurope.com) for trains from “Marseille Saint Charles” to “Cassis France.” Trains run every 30 to 60 minutes depending on the time of day. Cost is ~ 9 euro; duration is 25 minutes. The only problem is that the train station in Cassis is 3.1 km and a 37 minute walk to Cassis town center. Take a cab to the harbor!

Here are the GPS coordinates if you wish to plot a Google Map for the walking route map below.

A) Cassis Train Station  GPS = N 43° 14' 2.30", E 5° 33' 10.02"

B) Cassis Tourism Office (at the beach)  GPS = N 43° 12' 48.43", E 5° 32' 12.00"
We joined an excellent private tour arranged by Ruth Ann Greyson with Provence Connection Tours: http://www.provence-connection-tours.com/1/ email = provence.connection@gmail.com
Our driver/guide, Christophe Juri, was very helpful.

We left the cruise dock around 8:30 am and returned ~ 3:30 pm. The driving route is shown on the map at right. Travel time is 2 hours and 20-minutes round trip for the 125 miles (200 km). The countryside is scenic, especially the mountains and natural park area. We were comfortable in the eight passenger van.

A) Cruise ship dock  
GPS = N 43° 20' 42.40", E 5° 19' 46.66"

B) Ville de Saint Remy  
GPS = N 43° 47' 18.36", E 4° 49' 47.43"

C) Carrieres de Lumieres  
GPS = N 43° 44' 55.13", E 4° 47' 46.01"

D) Les Baux de Provence  
GPS = N 43° 44' 42.41", E 4° 47' 44.44"

E) Arles  
GPS = N 43° 40' 36.57", E 4° 37' 49.54"

Ville de Saint Remy  
GPS = N 43° 47' 18.36", E 4° 49' 47.43"

The map at right shows the center of the town. It's a small area, so you can walk it in a short time.

Saint Remy is picturesque with narrow, winding streets, cafes, art galleries, boutiques, fountains, and squares. Walkways are shaded by huge “plane” trees.

There are musical festivals throughout the summer.

The town has sunshine 300 days a year and is in the heart of the Massif des Alpilles natural park area. This would be an excellent place to vacation.

Official website = http://www.saintremy-de-provence.com/home.html

Download maps from http://www.saintremy-de-provence.com/guide-decouvertes.html
Photos of Ville de Saint Remy

Hotel de Ville

Narrow street

For more guides, see www.TomsPortGuides.com
This site is amazing! I've never seen anything like it, and highly recommend it.

The setting is an abandoned limestone quarry carved into a mountain. You enter through an opening in the limestone into a huge cavern with perpendicular, white walls about 30 to 50 feet high. There are no lights except projectors which display paintings by French Impressionist artists. Music is playing in the background as the paintings move along the walls and floor. Unlike museums which are static, this experience immerses you in the art as the paintings slowly move across the walls and floor. People standing and moving about the room become part of the art. I loved it!

Entrance to the mountain cavern. (below)
This place is huge!!

Note that people standing in front of the photo become part of the image when it is projected onto them. When viewing and admiring the art, you become part of the art. (photo right)
The artwork “wraps” around corners as it moves to display on the side vertical walls. (photo below)

Another interesting visual effect is when the art is displayed onto ledges in the limestone as shown in the lower right hand corner of the photo below.
The exhibit includes animation such as this moving water (photo below). There are also video clips of flowers growing, planets moving, and other action scenes.
Hours: 9:30 am – 7 pm  March 8 – September 30
10 am – 6 pm  October 1 – January 5
Admission: 9.50 euro
You'll need an hour to see the entire show

Tips on taking photos:
There isn't much light. The camera has to acquire focus and render colors faithfully in very low-light conditions. I use a Nikon D7000 because it handles low light photography well in cathedrals, caves, museums, the cruise ship's darkened theater, etc. My camera takes “no excuse” photos at ISO 6400 without color separation. At the quarry, the camera automatically selected ISO 6400 and a shutter speed of 1/60 to 1/15 with an f-stop of 4.0. I leaned against a wall to hold the camera steady.

The limestone quarry supplied white limestone to build the castle and the town of Les Baux. Carrieres de Lumieres is only 850 meters from Le Baux. (map at right)

Les Baux de Provence
GPS = N 43° 44' 42.41", E 4° 47' 44.44"
Official site = http://www.lesbauxdeprovence.com/home.html
http://www.lesbauxdeprovence.com/les-baux-de-provence/local-information/index.html

Download the map in English

The Baux Plateau provides great views of the area from the top of the hill. The town was revived under the Ministry of Culture and Environment. Today, it is listed as one of the "Most Beautiful Villages in France."

The [www.Bing.com](http://www.Bing.com) aerial photo at right shows the parking lot at the entrance. Unlike many hilltop towns, I did NOT have to walk up a steep grade or climb many steps. Le Baux is a pedestrian-friendly town with low stress walking. There are some steps and inclined streets, but it's not bad.

This is a very scenic town with many shops, cafes, boutiques, art galleries, etc. It is a great place to shop, relax, stop at a cafe, and enjoy the views.
Photos of Le Baux
Typical winding narrow street (photo above)
Boutique (photo left)
Hand made soap (photo below)
Arles  

GPS = N 43° 40' 36.57", E 4° 37' 49.54"

Arles is a large, scenic town influenced by the Romans and the French:
- The most prominent landmark is the huge arena used by Roman gladiators two thousand years ago. There are several other well-preserved Roman landmarks.
- Arles was also influenced by famous painters such as Van Gogh. There are many art galleries and museums in the area.

Official website=  http://www.ville-arles.fr/
Download brochures  http://www.arlestourisme.com/download-brochures.html
For info on landmarks  http://arlesfrance.ca/attractions/landmarks.html

The www.Bing.com map below shows the Roman Arena. The blue dot is the location of the GPS coordinates. Our driver parked next to the arena. We had 45 minutes to explore the city and/or have lunch.

One of the advantages of a private tour is that I have the flexibility to spend time as I wish. I don't have to follow a guide walking through the city from a bus tour. It's not a marathon. It's our vacation. We chose to sit outside near the arena, drink wine, and have a great lunch at Creperie Chez Mam Goz. The other option was the Cafe-Restaurant-Glaces across the street.

After lunch, our driver took the narrow streets through Arles, to show us the Van Gogh Cafe area. Then he drove back to the ship. It was a great tour; a good time was had by all.
User Feedback Is Welcome

Goal
My guides are designed to help you plan a great cruise vacation by providing information such as where the ship docks, location of tourist sites, public transit, walking tour maps, things to see and do, travel issues unique to the port, etc. Knowledge of ports is important when planning shore excursions because you have to make many decisions and commitments long before your ship docks. I believe the information in this guide is accurate, however you are responsible to verify accuracy of the information that you use to plan your vacation.

Information on cruise ports frequently changes such as bus routes, admission fees to sites, rental car locations, etc. Cruise Critic is the best source for up-to-date, detailed information on travel details for shore excursions, reviews of cruise ships, etc. There are many knowledgeable people on Cruise Critic who are willing to share their expertise and travel experience. I highly recommend www.CruiseCritic.com; it's free to join.

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PLEASE Help “spread the word” about my website
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Fortunately, a friend of mine on that ship complained to the purser and the ship stopped violating my copyright.

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Tom Sheridan