



Domaine des Naiades,

St Pons-les-Mûres - Grimaud,
83310 Cogolin, France

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GPS co-ordinates

Latitude: 43.2853

Longitude: 6.5797



Campsite Information

Domaine des Nāïades, Port Grimaud

Domaine des Nāïades is rather special. Set in an exceptional location, where the dense forests of the Esterel Hills meet the azure waters of the Mediterranean, the site lies just above the resort of Port Grimaud. Known as little Venice for the wealth of canals that make up its centre, the pathways are lined with lively cafés, shops, and bars.

Arriving at Domaine des Nāïades

On arrival go to the main reception. They will then direct you to the Canvas reception. Your couriers will be here to meet you between 16.00 and 20.00.

Early/Late Arrivals

Please note if you arrive before 16.00, your accommodation may not be ready. If you arrive between 20.00 and 22.00, you will find directions to your courier and/or accommodation at the Canvas reception. Arrivals after 22.00 cannot be admitted onto the campsite, you have full responsibility for finding alternative off-site accommodation. A Canvas courier will be available on site from 09.00 the following day. Please telephone your couriers if you know that you are going to be late.

Reception

The campsite reception is open from 08.00 to 19.00.

Barrier

The barrier is closed between 24.00 and 07.00. Should you wish to depart before 07.00, please leave your car outside the barrier or you will not be able to exit the campsite.

Safety Deposit Boxes

Available for use at the campsite reception, for approximately €4 per day or €20 per week.

Telephone

There are card-operated phones on site. Phone cards are on sale at reception.

Web/Email Access

This service is available at the campsite reception, for approx. €6 per 30 minutes. There is also WiFi available everywhere on site, access cards are on sale at reception. There are also Cyber Cafés in St Tropez.

Shopping

The on-site shop is a mini-supermarket selling a wide variety of goods including fresh bread, croissants, fresh produce, alcohol and international newspapers. It is open daily from 08.00 to 12.30 and from 17.00 to 19.00 (hours may be shorter in low season).

Washing and Toilet Facilities

There are washing machines and dryers onsite (cost is €5 for both washing and drying tokens and are available from the campsite reception), free hot showers and standard toilets. You can hire an iron with a €100 deposit.

Post

Stamps are sold at the campsite shop, where you can also find the post box.

Eating and Drinking

Bar: The bar is open from 12.00 to 14.00 and from 18.30 to 22.00. It has satellite TV, pool tables and arcade machines. There is entertainment here in high season, including live music and karaoke.

Takeaway: Open daily from 12.00 to 14.00 and 18.30 to 22.00. Dishes include salads, fries, pizzas, burgers, 'plat du jour' and lasagne, all at reasonable prices. The takeaway is located at the bar.

Restaurant: Families are made very welcome in the ivy-clad restaurant, which offers a wide choice of food including an à la carte menu. There is a children's menu and high chairs are available. Open 18.00 to 22.00 (19.00 to 22.00 in low season).



Rules and Regulations

- Silence and no driving on site between 24.00 and 07.00.
- 10km/ph speed limit on site.
- BBQs are not permitted on the site.
- Swimming trunks are compulsory in the swimming pool, and wrist bands are required.

Nearby

Port Grimaud • Commonly known as "little Venice", Port Grimaud was designed in the 1960's to look like a traditional Provençal fishing village. With its bridges, waterbuses and pastel coloured houses each with its own mooring, Port Grimaud is very attractive, especially after dark.

St Tropez • Once a self-governing republic, the little fishing village of St Tropez was "discovered" by many artists, including Signac, Bonnard and Matisse. Some of their work can be seen in the excellent Musée de l'Annonciade housed in a former church. In the 1950's, St Tropez was popularised by the film 'And God Created Woman' starring Brigitte Bardot and has never looked back. Despite the crowds St Tropez has managed to retain much of its charm. From the hilltop citadel, there is a magnificent view over the Gulf of St Tropez.

Entertainment

The campsite organises a programme of entertainment in high season including live music in the bar, karaoke, disco nights, sports competitions and magic shows. Excursions can be booked from site to Les Gorges du Verdon, Monte Carlo and the largest open-air market in Europe at Ventimiglia.

Recreation

Swimming: The pool complex offers an Olympic-sized swimming pool, a children's pool and a twin double-spiralled waterslide. The pools are heated in low season and supervised all season. Opening hours are 10.30 to 19.30 in high season and 18.00 in low season. Wrist bands are needed for the pools, available from reception, a deposit of €10 is required (only in high season). Please note that shorts or bermuda style shorts are forbidden in the pool.

Cycling: Bikes are available for hire throughout the season. Prices begin at €15 per day or €70 per week for an adult's bike.

Table-tennis: There are tables on site, which are free to use. You may be able to borrow some equipment from the Canvas games chest.

Aqua aerobics: Aqua aerobics is available in high season, free of charge.

Other activities include boules, aerobics, football and volleyball. The children's playground has slides, swings, a roundabout and other fun features.



Local Information

Beaches

The coast is striking in its diversity. There are intimate coves and long open beaches of shingle, pebble and fine sand, often with a backdrop of exotic vegetation. There is a pleasant beach at Port Grimaud which has good disabled access, and a sailing school close by. Also worth visiting are the little coves belonging to fishing villages like Rayol and Cassis. Cap Ferrat is a promontory with numerous small beaches. Other notable beaches are Le Lavandou, Cavalaire, Bonporteau, Gigaro, Ste Maxime, St Aygulf, and of course the famous St Tropez. Further east are the sandy beaches of Menton, Antibes and Juan les Pins.

Shopping

Supermarkets: The nearest large supermarket is Géant Casino in La Foux, open 09.00 to 20.00 Monday to Saturday, closed on Sunday. There is a branch of E.Leclerc in Cogolin and a Champion in Ste Maxime.

Souvenirs: St Tropez and Ste Maxime have a good range of gift shops.

Local Markets

<i>Monday:</i>	Bouloris.
<i>Tuesday:</i>	St Tropez, Cannes, Roquebrun-sur-Argens and St Aygulf.
<i>Wednesday:</i>	Cogolin, Mandelieu-la-Napoule, Frejus and Agay.
<i>Thursday:</i>	Port Grimaud, St Tropez, Mandelieu-la-Napoule and Ramatuelle.
<i>Friday:</i>	Ste Maxime, St Aygulf, Théoule-sur-Mer and Roquebrune-sur-Argens.
<i>Saturday:</i>	St Tropez, Mandelieu-la-Napoule, Cogolin and Frejus.
<i>Sunday:</i>	Port Grimaud, Antibes, Cannes, Ramatuelle, Frejus Plage, St Raphael and Le Muy.

There are daily markets held in St Raphaël - Victor Hugo, Monaco, Grasse, Menton, and Nice. Over the border in Italy the largest open air market in Europe is held daily in Ventimiglia.

Facilities

Petrol: The Elf garage on the road to the Géant Casino is the closest filling station, but fuel is cheaper at supermarkets such as Géant in La Foux.

Chemist: There are chemists in Gassin and Port Grimaud, there is also a chemist at the Géant Casino hypermarket in La Foux.

Banks: There are banks with cash dispensers in Grimaud and Port Grimaud. The Géant supermarket in La Foux has a branch of Crédit Agricole with a cash dispenser.

Post Office: There is a post office in the centre of Port Grimaud, open 09.00 to 11.45 and closed on Sundays.

Web/Internet Access: There are numerous Cyber Cafés in St Tropez.

Tourist Information: The nearest Office de Tourisme is opposite the Géant Casino in La Foux. Open 09.00 to 12.00 and 14.00 to 17.00.

Distances

Port Grimaud: 6km (4 miles)
Grimaud: 3.5km (2 miles)
St Tropez: 11km (7 miles)
Ste Maxime: 13km (8 miles)

Local Transport

The nearest train stations are Fréjus and St Raphaël. They are on the Nice-Marseille line. Regular buses run along the coast road and it is also possible to catch a ferry from Port Grimaud to St Tropez.



Doctor

Doctor Simoni comes to the site.
Tel: 04 94 54 64 32. Mob: 06 11 55 95 70

Dentist

Eric Rallo, 6 Place du Marché in Port Grimaud.
Tel: 04 94 56 13 45.

Emergency Services

There is a two-digit phone number for emergency services:

Police	17
Fire	18
Ambulance	15

Eating and Drinking

You may like to try these restaurants and bars, which have been recommended by Canvas customers and couriers in previous years:

Café de France: *In Grimaud.* A friendly restaurant in a fantastic location. Its terrace overlooks the town square. The food is highly recommended, it can be pricey but great for a special night out.

La Reserve: *In Ste Maxime.* Situated opposite the port and serving delicious local specialities. It is advisable to book in advance, as this is a popular venue. Recommended by previous Canvas customers.

La Ciboulette: *In Gassin.* Good, inexpensive food, excellent service and marvellous views.

Monroes: *In Port Grimaud.* A friendly and lively restaurant, which serves traditional British food and pizza. Large portions are served here at great prices, a children's menu is also available. Located a 15min walk from site.

La Tartane: *In Port Grimaud.* A restaurant great for a special meal out without the children. Quite expensive but highly recommended.

Café Sud: *In St Tropez.* Inexpensive by St Tropez standards, this informal restaurant is tucked away down a side street, just off Place des Lices. You can dine outside in the courtyard and the 'beignets de langouste' are especially delicious.

La Pub: *In Port Grimaud.* Inexpensive and serves tasty French, Mexican and British meals, in a lively atmosphere. Please ask your couriers for directions.

Activities

There are opportunities for all manner of watersports all along this stretch of coastline. Options include waterskiing, jetskiing, parasailing and snorkelling.

There are endless opportunities for mountain biking, horse riding and hiking in the Pic de l'Ours, an hour's drive along the coast from the campsite

Nearby

Cogolin • The village of Cogolin attracts musicians of international renown due to its reputation for making reeds for wind instruments. The brightly coloured medieval houses, cobbled streets and tiny hidden squares provide a welcome escape from the nearby tourist hordes.

Nice • The capital of the Côte d'Azur and a delightful city with many fine shops, restaurants and museums. The old quarter is a maze of narrow streets and lanes lined with 17th and 18th century buildings. The buildings open into tiny squares, each with a chapel. Dominating the old town is the Colline du Château (castle hill). You can climb to the top (or take a lift) and wander around a garden of exotic flowers and the remains of a 6th century castle.

Ramatuelle • A typical Provençal village set among the vines, with vaulted passageways, winding streets, flower draped façades and sweet smelling fig trees. Its amphitheatre is the venue for the village's famous theatre and jazz festivals which are held each year.

Iles d'Hyères • These tranquil and unspoilt islands are also known as the Iles d'Or (Golden Isles) after the golden colour of their cliffs. Porquerolles, the most westerly and largest of the four islands, is covered in rich vegetation. To the north you will find beautiful sandy beaches. The south side is steep and rugged. There are few cars on the island and the best way to explore is by bicycle. Boats leave regularly from La Tour Fondue on the Giens peninsula, Hyères and Toulon. Ile de Port-Cros is a national park and has some delightful nature trails. The eastern part of the rugged Ile du Levant is closed to the public as the French Navy uses it. This island has the oldest naturist colony in France. Boats leave for Port-Cros and Levant from Hyères, Le Lavandou and Port-de-Marimar.

Regional Information

Côte d'Azur

This area is renowned for its wonderful climate. Its southerly location and the protective backdrop of mountains combine to produce good temperatures all year round. The scenery is very diverse. To the west lie the marshy lakes and lagoons of the lower Rhone valley and the Camargue salt flats. Eastwards the terrain changes to rolling hills, steep gorges and mountains, interspersed with fertile plains. Pine and cork trees crown the hills of Provence, and on the slopes of the Côte d'Azur tropical vegetation includes an abundance of orange, eucalyptus and mimosa trees. The coast, from Marseille to the Italian border, is one of the most beautiful in Europe with rugged headlands and wooded coves.



Eating & Drinking – Regional Specialities

Cooking in the region is generally à la provençale, which means it includes garlic, olive oil, olives, tomatoes and herbs. Fruit, spices and vegetables are abundant and can be bought fresh at local markets. Tomato, aubergine and courgette stewed together, along with green peppers, garlic and herbs produces a favourite Provençal dish, ratatouille. The local wines are the Côtes de Provence, of which the best known are the light and refreshing rosés. The reds of Bandol are smooth and full, and Cassis produces a refreshing, dry, white wine. There are many caves where you can sample them. For an aperitif try the aniseed-flavoured pastis, the Riviera's favourite drink.

Things to do and see

*A • an admission charge is payable for these attractions.

If you are planning to visit several museums and monuments it is worth buying La Carte Musée, which entitles you to unlimited admission to many museums and other sites in the Côte d'Azur. Please ask your couriers for more information.

Family Fun & Days Out

Aqualand • A waterpark with slides, toboggans, pedalos, playgrounds and much more. (Customer Tip - worth a trip for teenagers and older children but be prepared to wait in queues for the rides.) There are 2 parks - in Fréjus and in Ste Maxime (slightly smaller.) (Open daily. *A).

Marineland • A huge leisure park in Antibes containing: Marineland, with aquariums, dolphin shows, and a marine museum; La Jungle des Papillons, with exotic butterflies and an insectarium; La Petite Ferme with farmyard animals for children to pet; and Aqua-Splash, the biggest water park on the Riviera (all open daily, *A for each). The park also includes mini golf in an adventure setting with waterfalls and caves (*A). Also in Antibes is Antibes Land, an amusement park with a roller coaster and other fairground attractions (*A).

Musée Océanographique • A fabulous aquarium in Monaco with many rare species of marine life, and a fascinating museum. Underwater explorer Jacques Cousteau established his research centre here. (Open daily *A).

Village des Tortues • This tortoise village is dedicated to the conservation of tortoises. They have over 2500 tortoises that you can watch in their natural habitat. In Gonfaron. (Open daily. *A).

Park Zoologique de Fréjus • Walk or drive around this zoo amongst animals from all over the world. In Fréjus. (Open daily. *A).

Zoo du Cap Ferrat • Discover wild animals in an unspoilt setting. Children will enjoy daily "chimpanzee school". In St-Jean-Cap-Ferrat. (Open daily. *A).

Grottes de Baume • These amazing underground caves are the most ornate in the area, a 20 minute drive from Grasse. Guided tours are available in English. (Open daily *A).

Boat trips: Bateaux Verte offer different shuttles that run between Ste-Maxime, Port Grimaud and Marines de Cogolin to St Tropez. They also do some excellent excursions to the nearby islands for example as well as fishing trips. Check with your couriers for timetables(*A).

Places of Interest

Fréjus • A Roman town founded by Julius Caesar as Forum Julii in 49BC. You can visit the ruins of a Roman aqueduct, theatre and amphitheatre, where bullfights and concerts take place in July and August. A Gothic cathedral marks the entrance of the Cité Episcopale, which contains a wonderful complex of buildings.

Gorges du Verdon • A superb natural canyon formed by the River Verdon cutting through chalky mountains. The cliffs plunge to 700m in places. The Grand Canyon runs from Rougon to Aiguines. There are roads running along both the north (La Rive Nord), and south (Corniche Sublime) of the canyon. To do justice to the dramatic scenery, allow at least half a day for each side. There are specially constructed viewing points (belvédères) with fine views including the Point Sublime, which is not for those without a head for heights.

St Paul-de-Vence • A magnet for artists throughout the 20th century, this is the most famous of the 'villages perchés'. The first owner of La Colombe d'Or restaurant accepted paintings in exchange for hospitality from impoverished artists, including Picasso, Matisse, Modigliani, Léger and Bonnard. To view the collection you have to eat in the restaurant, which has a very good reputation but is expensive. A lovely hour or so can be spent browsing through the shops and galleries lining the narrow, winding, cobbled streets. There is a wonderful view from the 16th century ramparts. It is best to visit later in the day as the village can be extremely crowded. Just outside the walls is the Fondation Maeght, one of Europe's finest museums of modern art with works by Miró, Chagall, Matisse and many others (Open daily *A).

Cannes • A city of festivals and entertainment. The famous Boulevard de la Croisette, lined with gardens and palm trees, runs from the Palais des Festivals (where the International Film Festival is held in April-May) along the sandy beach. Look out for 'the hands of fame' - famous people's hands which have been set in concrete. The old town is centred around the Le Suquet district built on the slopes of Mont Chevalier. Here you will find the 11th century

watchtower, the Tour du Mont Chevalier, from which there are wonderful views.

Monaco • Worth a visit if only to see the pink palace and the wonderful Musée Océanographique (see Family Fun). A guided tour of Prince Rainier's Palace is available during the summer (Open daily. *A). Children might enjoy the Musée National with its collection of mechanical toys and dolls (Open daily *A). The Jardin Exotique has hundreds of varieties of cacti and interesting caves and offers brilliant views over the bay. In the gardens you will find the Musée d'Anthropologie Préhistorique, displaying bones, tools and other artefacts (Open daily *A). The casino in the district of Monte Carlo makes for a perfect end to an evening, but remember to take a jacket and tie if you want to play the tables. For a lightning tour of Monaco take the tourist train which takes you around the town giving views of the casino, the Palace, the port and some of the Grande Prix racing track.

Inland you will find Peille and Peillon, two beautiful villages perched atop adjacent hills. They have changed little since the Middle Ages and it is delightful just to wander through the narrow streets.

Menton • A resort town close to the Italian border, with all-year 'beach' weather and lemon trees. At the harbour you will find a small fort, which now houses the Musée Cocteau, exhibiting some fabulous examples of the writer, artist and filmmaker's work. The Salle des Mariages in the Hôtel de Ville (town hall) has vibrant wall paintings by Cocteau. To the east, the old town has a distinctly Italian flavour with narrow streets, arches, and houses bedecked with shutters. The square in front of the Baroque Église St-Michel hosts the Chamber Music Festival in August. Menton has some lovely gardens including the Jardins des Colombières to the east, and the Jardin Biovès to the west.

Antibes • An attractive old town with narrow streets and a colourful market. Picasso lived and worked here - you can see a collection of his work at the Musée Picasso in the Château Grimaldi (*A). Vauban, Louis XIV's military engineer, constructed the 17th century Bastion St-André. It now houses a museum, which exhibits a large collection of objects illustrating 4,000 years of regional history (*A). From the Plateau de la Garoupe, the highest point on the Cap d'Antibes, you get a marvellous view of the surrounding area.

Every effort has been made to ensure the information contained within this guide, to the best of our knowledge, is both helpful and correct at time of going to press (March 2010). Canvas Holidays cannot accept responsibility for inaccuracies contained herein.